

050102

JPRS-SSA-85-111

12 November 1985

Sub-Saharan Africa Report

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED

19980226 134

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A

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ANGOLA

MAVINGA RAVAGED BY WAR

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 10 Oct 85 p 4

[Article by Sapa-Reuter]

[Text]

MAVINGA — Mavinga's decorative purple-blossomed jacaranda trees are blooming, but the town itself is an empty shell, victim of a 10-year-old African civil war that shows no sign of ending.

Not far from the overgrown fountain and the shattered buildings of this former Portuguese settlement in south-eastern Angola, the bodies of dead soldiers rot in the sun, crawling with flies and maggots.

The sandy earth just outside the town is honeycombed with camouflaged bunkers and foxholes, a Unita stronghold.

Jonas Savimbi's South African-backed forces recently routed a major offensive by the Marxist Luanda government, stopping the attackers in their tracks on the Lomba River just north of Mavinga and its vital airstrip.

But the Unita victory, costing hundreds of casualties on both sides, does not seem to have brought an end to the civil war any closer.

Unita guerrillas can move freely in many parts of this sparsely populated country, but the government, supported by sophisticated Soviet weaponry and about 25 000 Cuban troops, holds the major cities and the crucial offshore oil industry.

Difficulty

Savimbi acknowledges the difficulty of an outright military victory for his Unita forces and says he is trying to press the embattled government of the MPLA to negotiate with him.

"We need a transitional government ... then from there I think we will ask for elections," he told reporters in Mavinga. "I am not a soldier by profession."

I am a guerrilla leader. I have to combine politics with military knowledge.

"I am not afraid of anyone. I represent the biggest tribe in this country (the Ovimbundu)."

Savimbi, who previously fought the Portuguese colonists, came into conflict with the MPLA in the Angolan in-fighting that followed the Portuguese withdrawal in 1975.

He says he is prepared to spend another 10 years in the bush.

Savimbi's men appear to be confident, well-disciplined and highly organised.

Unita says it numbers 50 000, against a total of more than 100 000 on the government side.

Luanda has blamed its recent defeat on the intervention of South African air and ground forces, while Unita soldiers deny such help and say that they are better motivated than the MPLA forces, many of whom are conscripts.

Wreckage

Unita also appears to have made devastating use of light and heavy mortars, pounding the enemy mercilessly for days in the battle at Lomba River and bringing down at least one Soviet-made helicopter gunship as it delivered supplies.

Among the wreckage of the MPLA's vehicles, a charred leaflet of military orders in Portuguese hints that all may not be well with the government forces. It urges officers "to combat theft and alcoholism" among the troops.

One of Unita's officers, a 29-year-old lieutenant who asked to be referred to only as David, said: "It's much more comfortable than life on the other side."
— Sapa-Reuter.

ETHIOPIA

WPE CADRES GET ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME

Back From Gambella

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 1 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] The first round WPE cadre campaigners who were deployed in Gambella province, Illubabor region to help implement the rehabilitation programme, worked out by the Political of the CC of the WPE, were Sunday accorded a warm and enthusiastic welcome on arrival here after successfully completing their tour of duty.

On arrival at Bole airport the WPE cadre campaigners were welcomed by Comrade Maj. Mezgebe Worke, alternate member of the CC of the WPE and Military Commissar of Addis Ababa, representing the CC of the WPE.

Also on hand to welcome the campaigners were first secretaries of the WPE committees of the different zones of the capital, chairmen of Higher Urban Dwellers Associations and kebeles, other senior officials as well as relatives of the campaigners.

The WPE cadres, through their representative, submitted to Comrade Maj. Mezgebe the emblem and prizes which were presented to them by the WPE committees of Illuababor region and Gambella province to be turned over to the CC of the WPE.

Comrade Maj. Mezgebe said that the contribution of the cadres as first campaigners, to carry out the long, medium and short term programmes of the vanguard party to exploit the rich natural resource of the country and to extricate the country from backwardness was worth of emulation.

Comrade Maj. Mezgebe expressed confidence that the campaigners had derived moral satisfaction from having worked among the people and gained valuable lessons from the experience. He commended their contribution to helping implement party programmes.

Comrade Maj. Mezgebe went on to point out that the cadre campaigners had laid the foundation for making the compatriots at the rehabilitation centres become productive and self-supporting citizens. He said the effort towards overcoming the problem of recurrent drought should be continued in accordance with the programme worked out by the party.

A representative of the WPE cadres on his part noted that the group derived immense satisfaction from having contributed to the implementation of the rehabilitation strategy drawn up by the Politbureau of the CC of the WPE, adding that he and his colleagues had gained valuable experience from the campaign.

On departure from Gambella earlier, the campaigners were given a warm send-off by Comrade Simon Galore, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the regional WPE Committee, Comrade Tsegave Gabisa, First Secretary of the provincial WPE Committee, provincial party members and other senior local officials.

During the ceremony the cadres handed over 550 birr which they had raised through various programmes to help purchase books, stationery and other equipment for the literacy programme underway in Gambella province.

The money was handed over by Comrade Dadi Hunde, First Secretary of the provincial WPE Committee in rehabilitation zones of the first round campaign, to Comrade Mohammed Ahmed, his successor during the second round.

Comrade Mohammed commended the activities of the first round WPE cadres in various development projects and said the overall Rehabilitation drive in the province was proving a success.

Before departure from Assossa, Wollega region, the first round WPE cadre campaigners, were awarded a special prize Sunday in recognition of their outstanding performance in the rehabilitation programme and the contribution to the enhancement of productivity through co-ordinated work.

The prize, organized jointly by the provincial WPE Committee and the provincial disaster relief coordinating committee, was given to the campaigners during a warm send-off ceremony accorded them here in Assossa town.

Comrade Dejene Reta, First Secretary of the WPE Committee for the province, spoke on the occasion of the performance of the WPE cadres in implementing the party's rehabilitation programme.

Meanwhile, the first round WPE cadres deployed at rehabilitation centres in Gambella provinces of Illubabor region were given warm welcome Tuesday on arrival in Awassa, Sidamo and Assela, Arssi regions.

Comrade Girma Habte-Gabriel, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the Sidamo region WPE Committee, was among the top party and government officials on hand to welcome the campaigners on arrival at Awassa.

In Assela meanwhile, Comrade Sileshi Mengesha, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Arssi region led the top-ranking regional party and government officials who showed up to welcome the WPE cadres.

Comrades Girma Habte-Gabriel and Sileshi Mengesha underlined the important role the cadres had played in helping implement the rehabilitation programme worked out by the Politburo of the CC of the WPE.

Return From Metekel, Metema

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 2 Oct 85 pp 1, 5

[Text] The first group of cadres who had been deployed on a rehabilitation task in the past eight months returned yesterday after successfully accomplishing their sacred mission by actively participating in the rehabilitation campaign.

The campaigner cadres, who returned from Metekel and Metema rehabilitation sites, have handed over the emblem which they had received from the Revolutionary Leader at the time of their deployment to the second group of cadres who had replaced them.

The cadres had during their campaign politicized and organized drought victims, in addition to their participation in the construction of dwelling units for the settler compatriots, building of roads, establishment of new farming fields, while at the same time creating favourable conditions for the settlers to become productive and self-supporting citizens.

The cadres also organized mass organizations, built offices for these organizations and translated the objectives of the campaign into deeds guided by the emblem of the party.

It was also reported that the settler compatriots were enabled to become self-sufficient and productive with the guidance given them by the cadres in line with the rehabilitation programme of the Political Bureau of the CC of the WPE.

On arrival the campaigners were welcomed by Comrade Zewde Teklu, alternate member of the CC of the WPE, Chairman of the Addis Ababa City Council and Mayor of the City at the Sululta satellite station.

Present during the welcoming ceremony were also members of the Addis Ababa, WPE Committee, first secretaries of zonal WPE committees, members of higher UDA and primary organization WPE committees.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Zewde said that WPE considers them as worker-heroes for enthusiastically accomplishing their mission and that they would be given special honour and support in their future assignments.

Speaking on their part, Comrade Belew Teshale, First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Metekel rehabilitation site, and Comrade Tesfaye Girma, First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Metema rehabilitation site, stressed the satisfactory work accomplished by the campaigners.

Warm welcome was accorded to WPE cadres upon their return to different regions following their eight-month period of service at rehabilitation sites in accordance with the programme of the Political Bureau of the

CC of the WPE to withstand and ultimately tackle the problem of drought.

The WPE cadres from Gamo Goffa region were given a warm welcome yesterday upon their arrival at Arba Minch town. Similar welcome was given to the cadres from Hararghe at Harar town, Gojjam, Bahr Dar town, and Bale, Goba town.

Present at the ceremonies in the four regions were Comrade Kassahun Tafesse, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Gamo Goffa region, Comrade Gezahegne Workie, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Bale region, and representatives of the WPE committees of Hararghe and Gojjam regions.

It was noted at the welcoming ceremonies that the experiences the WPE cadres had gathered during their stay in Gambella and Metekel in support of rehabilitation activities would also contribute to economic and social construction within their respective regions.

Return to Regions

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 4 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] Warm welcome was accorded to WPE cadres from Gamo Goffa, Wollo, Arssi, Sidamo and Hararghe regions upon their return to their home towns on completion of their duties at the rehabilitation sites located at Metekel and Metema.

The WPE cadres were received in Arba Minch by Comrade Kassahun Tafesse, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Gamo Goffa region, in Dessie town by Comrade Girma Neway, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Wollo region, and Comrade Shimelis Alemu, member of the CC of the WPE and the regional administrator, in Assela town, by Comrade Sileshi Mengesha member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Aresi region, in Awassa town by Comrade Girma Habte-Gabriel, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Sidamo region, and in Harar town by Comrade Irkihun Folie, chairman of the regional WPE Committee Audit Commission.

Also in Goba, the first round WPE cadre campaigners from Bale region were given a warm and enthusiastic welcome on arrival upon the successful completion of their tour of duty at the Metema and Metekel rehabilitation centres.

The campaigners were greeted by Comrade Gezahegn Workie, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Bale region, along with members and alternate members of the CC of the WPE, regional WPE Committee members and representatives of government agencies and mass organizations. They were awarded with flower bouquets.

Comrade Gezahegn noted on the occasion the praiseworthy activities of the campaigners in translating into deeds the plan worked out by the Politburo of the CC of the WPE in areas of their deployment. He urged them to apply their experiences gained during their term of duty in their respective localities.

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ETHIOPIA

ROLE OF MILITARY COMMISSARIAT REVIEWED

Two-day Seminar

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 1 Oct 85 pp 1,2

[Text] A two-day seminar centered on the role of the military commissariat in organizing the people's army went under way at the commissariat's main assembly hall here yesterday.

Attending the parley are commissars and deputy commissars of all the 15 administrative regions and representatives of the ministries of interior and defence, the Revolutionary Police and mass organizations.

Opening the seminar, Comrade Major General Siyum Makonnen, member of the CC of the WPE and head, with the rank of Vice Minister, of the Military Commissariat in the Mi-organization was the source of strength. He said the youth have responded to the proclamation providing for the establishment of the National Military Service (NMS) and have been discharging their task alongside the regular army during the last two recruitment and training schemes. Other Ethiopians have been and are being organized and trained to defend the nation's unity and territorial integrity and the revolutionary process as revolution defence squad members in the urban areas and as territorial militia in the hinterland, Comrade Maj. Gen. Siyum stated.

The experience gained from the seminar organized the second round recruitment and deployment programme has proved valuable in strengthening the NMS scheme, Comrade Maj. Gen. Siyum said, adding that participants of the present parley should go about discharging their task in the belief that the outcome of their deliberations will contribute to the nation-building process currently under way.

Present at the seminar were also Comrade Endale Tessema, member of the CC of the WPE Minister of Interior, and other officials.

Effectiveness Praised

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 2 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] The seminar on National Military Service (NMS), and organization of the Territorial Militia wound up yesterday.

Reports on the second round of the NMS and on organization of the Territorial People's Militia were presented at the seminar attended by commissars and deputy commissars of all administrative regions, representatives of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of National Defence, the Revolutionary Police as well as of mass organizations.

The participants of the seminar discussed and exchanged views on the basis of the reports, including on measures to be taken to correct lapses and mistakes.

Closing the seminar, Comrade Maj. General Siyum Makonnen, member of the CC of the WPE and Head, with the rank of Vice-Minister, of the Military Commissariat in the Ministry of Interior, said that the Military Commissariat was effectively discharging the responsibilities entrusted upon it.

The participants of the seminar later visited an exhibition on subjects related to the NMS and the territorial militia.

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ETHIOPIA

BRIEFS

METEMA REHABILITATION CENTRE--METEMA--Encouraging results are being registered at the Metema rehabilitation centre in Gondar region in efforts towards helping make the compatriots there productive citizens. On land covering 2458 hectares, various kinds of crops and vegetables have been cultivated in seven rehabilitation villages. Over 96 kms of feeder roads were constructed to link the various villages with the main highway and a clinic and model dwelling units were also built. Seventy-six traditional midwives and 106 other settlers participated in skill-upgrading courses, the latter as kebele health representatives. The settlers are being organized into various mass organizations and most of them have been freed from the scourge of illiteracy. The first WPE cadre campaigners, members of the revolutionary army in the area and the local populace have made outstanding contributions to helping the compatriots become productive citizens, it was reported. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 1 Oct 85 p 1]

MILITIA RECEIVE CERTIFICATES--ARBA MINCH--Members of a territorial people's militia received certificates here yesterday on completion of a three-month basic military training and political consciousness course. Training to the militia members was given after they were drawn from provinces and districts in Gamo Goffa region. Certificates and prizes were handed over by Comrade Kassahun Tafesse, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Gamo Goffa region. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 6 Oct 85 p 1]

NURA ERA--An office complex built at a cost of over 700,000 birr by the Nura Era agricultural development organization of the Horticultural Development Corporation under the Ministry of State Farms Development in Merti, Shoa region, was inaugurated over the weekend. The facility was inaugurated by Comrade Yosef Muleta, member of the CC of the WPE and Minister of State Farms Development. Also present at the inaugural ceremony were Comrade Debela Dinsa member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee of Shoa region, Comrade Sileshi Mengesha, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Arssi region, other party members as well as senior government officials. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 1 Oct 85 p 1]

RESIDENTIAL UNITS NURA ERA--The construction work of the 30 duplex residential units that would accommodate 60 family heads built at a cost of over 3,000,000 birr by the Nura Era Agricultural Development Organization has reached completion. The dwelling units which took one year for construction were built by the Organization in an effort to improve the living and working conditions of its workers. Comrade Agegnehu Sisay, General Manager of the agricultural development organization, reported that a central garage and a central store will be built in the future to give service to four agricultural development projects registered under the agricultural development organization. It was also disclosed that a plan has been worked out for the construction of rooms for guests and a swimming pool. The construction cost of the reservoir and the water distribution centre is estimated at over 300,000 birr. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 2 Oct 85 p 1]

FOOD EXPORTS--NURA ERA--The Merti vegetable and fruit processing factory under the Merti Jeju Agricultural Development Unit is reported to be manufacturing up to 30,000 cans of tomato and tomato salad, orange marmalade and squash as well as various kinds of juice. The factory which was established in 1983 following an agreement signed between the government of Revolutionary Ethiopia and the Federal Republic of Germany has begun manufacturing canned vegetables and fruits for export and for local consumption. The factory produced 2,500 tons of vegetables and fruits from its farm in the 1983-84 production year of which it exported 1,500 tons, according to Comrade Daniel Kebede, manager of the factory. Comrade Daniel said that tomato salad from Ethiopia is becoming popular abroad. The manager also said that the factory had created job opportunities for the unemployed and has proved to be a good source of foreign exchange earning. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 3 Oct 85 pp 1, 6]

NURA ERA GRAIN PROJECT--The Nura-Era agricultural development project produced 266,208 quintals of grain in the 1984/85 production year by cultivating 5,703 hectares. The project is one of the largest state farms of the 51 under the Ministry of States Farms Development with 7,000 hectares and producing 30 kinds of agricultural produce including vegetables and fruits. Formerly known as the Upper Awash Agricultural Development Organization, the project used to produce 79 per cent cotton, 12 per cent teff and maize, six per cent vegetables and fruits and three per cent tobacco before it was restructured in 1979/80. However, as of 1984/85 production year it has started producing more fruits and vegetables. For export, the project has developed and additional 389 hectares for fruits. Employed in the project are 3,249 permanent and 10,913 temporary workers. The project is also conducting agricultural research work, according to Comrade Agegnehu Sisay, Manager of the project. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 5 Oct 85 p 1]

GENALE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE--The basic technology centre for education in Genale province of Bale region has established branch units in 63 of the 67 schools in the area to undertake and promote the centre's programmes. Established nine years ago, the centre has distributed over 150 types of arithmetic, science and community education tools among the 63 schools where experts have been assigned to oversee the execution of the project through the four zones. Comrade Alemayehu Mengesha, representative of the centre, said the centre has raised over 2,600 birr from among peasants' associations to help 22 schools, two kindergartens and 13 nurseries and to purchase essential equipment and toys. The centre is also taking care of children under the age of six and is building a 14-room dormitory for teachers undergoing familiarization training at its main office. Comrade Alemayehu said the centre has organized an exhibition where the local people may see chairs, tables, cupboards and sewing equipment built by the centre. Local handicrafts workers given skill-upgrading courses at the centre are being encouraged and assisted to share the benefit of their training and experience with other people. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 3 Oct 85 p 1]

KAFFA HOSPITAL--JIMMA--A nine million birr hospital which is under construction near Mizan town in Kaffa region, is nearing completion. The hospital accommodates 120 beds and is equipped with an operation, laboratory, X-ray and pharmacy facilities. A team led by Comrade Begashaw Atalai, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Kaffa region, which included heads of government agencies and mass organizations, recently visited the facilities of the hospital. When completed the hospital will treat 300 patients a day. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 4 Oct 85 p 1]

DIRE DAWA TECHNICAL SCHOOL--A technical school built here at a cost of over 3,000,000 birr opened its doors at the beginning of the week to the first batch of 130 students. The school receives students who have completed tenth-grade education in secondary schools in Harar, Dire Dawa and Asbe Teferi for a three year diploma course in automechanics, electricity, and woodworks and metallurgical technology as well as electronics. The technical school was built with 2,221,289 birr secured from the African development Bank and 800.00 birr raised by the inhabitants of Hararghe region, according to the public relations department of the regional schools administration office. The teaching staff presently consists of 13 Ethiopians and seven comrades from the Soviet Union which has also donated various equipment for practical training. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 4 Oct 85 p 1]

NMS SEMINAR--A four-day seminar organised by the National Military Service Civil Defence Main Department in connection with the third round military service wound up earlier this week. At the seminar, held at the assembly hall of the Tatek Training Centre, representatives of the different sections of the main department submitted reports on their achievements in the second round. Commanders of the training centres also gave reports on the preparations for the third round of the national military service.

The participants of the seminar pledged to exert unreserved effort to ensure the success of the WPE programme in this regard. Comrade Brig. Gen. Afework Wolde-Michael, Head of the National Military Service and Civil Defence Main Department, said at the closing session of the seminar that the training of the youth should be strictly done according to plans and programmes to achieve the desired objectives. Comrade Brig. Gen. Afework later gave special prizes to centres which had shown outstanding results in the second round of the National Military Service. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 11 Oct 85 p 5]

WPE CADRES WELCOMED--MAKELE--The first round WPE cadres who were mobilized from Tigray region and deployed in rehabilitation centres in Gambella and Metema were warmly welcomed on their return here yesterday after completing their tour of duty. On hand to welcome the campaigners were Comrade Mulugeta Hagos, member of the CC of the WPE and First Secretary of the regional WPE Committee, Comrade Maj. Gen. Kefelegn Yibza, member of the CC of the WPE and Head of the regional military command and regional administration, as well as regional WPE Committee members and representatives of government agencies and mass organizations. Comrade Mulugeta commended the activities undertaken by the WPE cadres in helping implement the rehabilitation programme worked out by the Party and the Revolutionary Government. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 11 Oct 85 p 1]

REGIONAL PARTY MEETINGS--Regional party committee meetings are presently under way to review political, economic, social and other fields in each region and to implement the resolutions adopted by the Third Regular Plenum of the CC of the WPE. Agenda items and reports were presented to these WPE committee meetings by the WPE committee first secretaries, following which intensive discussions were conducted. Discussions at the meetings also focused on the preparations for the implementation of the rehabilitation programme and measures to be taken to improve the productivity in the agricultural sector. In addition, discussions were carried out on the reports of regional WPE Control Commissions by the WPE committee meetings which also approved plans of their respective areas for the coming six months. The meetings were held in Kaffa, Tigray, Bale, Gojjam, and Gondar regions earlier and in Addis Ababa, Gamo Goffa, Sidamo and Arssi yesterday. Similar meetings will be held in Hararghe, Wollo, Eritrea and Illubabor regions today. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 10 Oct 85 pp 1, 6]

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CSO: 3400/244

LIBERIA

LAP BLOCKED FROM HOLDING RALLY IN MARGIBI

Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 4 Oct 85 pp 1, 10

[Text] A planned campaign rally for members and supporters of the Liberia Action Party in Margibi County, is reported to have met with serious setback, as local government officials there are said to be continuing to block the way of LAP members.

The reports which were quoted by a LAP press release issued yesterday, say that Superintendent Bohn has advised LAP officials that they can not hold any rally in Margibi County tomorrow because as he puts it, "the Head of State will be passing through Kakata, Harbel, and Smell-No-Taste, enroute to Bassa on the same day."

The release said, "LAP is of the opinion that Superintendent Bohn is suggesting that two political parties can not campaign in the same area on the same day, even though a letter advising him of LAP's planned rally was sent to him since Monday, September 30th."

"We do not want to believe that the officials of government cannot guarantee, LAP as well as other political parties other than the NDPL, protection during their campaign tours," the release noted.

According to the release, the matter has already been reported to SECOM, the agency responsible for electoral matters.

"However, LAP's Executive Committee has decided that the rally will go ahead as planned. We expect the Government to give Liberians, irrespective of political affiliation, full protection", the release concluded.

LAP's presidential candidate Jackson F. Doe and other top officials of the party, including Montserrado senatorial candidate Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, are expected to address the rally.

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CSO: 3400/260

LIBERIA

ALLEGATIONS OF HARASSMENT BY NDPL SUPPORTERS

Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 3 Oct 85 pp 1, 12

[Article by Joseph Too]

[Text] There are alleged reports that the airport in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County, has been closed and road transport in the area heavily restrained upon the orders of the County Superintendent, Col. Johnny Garley.

Additionally, it is reported that Superintendent Garley has allegedly stopped all communications in and out of the country to all other political parties, except those of the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL).

These reports were contained in a letter dated October 2, 1985, and sent to the Special Elections Commission (SECOM) by the Unity Party (UP), a copy of which was obtained by this paper yesterday.

In the letter addressed to the Chairman of SECOM, Counsellor Emmet Harmon, and signed by the Chairman of UP, Mr. Carlos Smith, the party complained to SECOM about alleged acts of harassment, intimidation and the manhandling of its partisans in Grand Gedeh County.

The letter indicated that Superintendent Garley allegedly led his soldiers in "this whole ugly situation" at the local radio station, and ordered them to arrest and detain the UP local chairman, Mr. G. Abraham Nyanteeah, "after beating him badly."

According to the letter, the host family of Mr. Nyanteeah in Zwedru were also allegedly beaten and detained, noting that "soldiers stripped the wife" during the incident.

The letter further alleged that NDPL loyalists, including Superintendent Garley, are "ridiculously harassing, intimidating and even manhandling anybody who dares proclaim to belong to another party other than the NDPL".

The letter continued: "It was out of this kind of chaotic situation that our Youth Wing Leader, Mr. Chumu-Kleyie Lexington, managed to escape to come and let us know what is happening in Grand Gedeh".

The letter went on, "It all started on September 28, 1985 when our partisans began to advertise the advent of the Standard Bearer and Vice Standard, who were expected in Zwedru on September 30".

The letter explained that as they were putting up pictures of the Standard Bearer, one Mr. Gao, said to be the commander of the NDPL Task Force in Grand Gedeh County, "forthrightly and boldly took upon himself to molest and intimidate our partisans".

"He told them that the Superintendent had ordered them (the Task Force) not to let anyone put up pictures or many any announcements in the streets for any other party except the NDPL", the letter said.

The letter noted that Gao later went to the photo studio of one Mr. Kardutu Kligbeh, the Vice Chairman of UP local branch in Grand Gedeh County and asked for Mr. Nyanteeah.

"Gao reportedly told Kligbeh that he (Gao) had come to kill Nyanteeah, but since he was not present, Kligbeh would be a good substitute," the letter noted.

The letter added that consequently, Gao allegedly collected copies of Dr. Edward Kesselly's booklet, "Liberia Today and Tomorrow: Some Personal Reflections," pointing out that "growing out of all this, Kligbeh was summarily beaten badly and we learn he is at the point of death." In the letter, the UP called for a stop to "the wanton harassment."

When contacted, a reliable source at SECOM confirmed receiving the letter and told our reporter that the Commission is to act expeditiously on the matter.

Meanwhile, all efforts made by FOOTPRINTS TODAY to contact Superintendent Garley through telephone for comment proved futile up to press time last night.

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CSO: 3400/260

LIBERIA

LUP FAVORS COALITION GOVERNMENT OF ALL PARTIES

Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 3 Oct 85 pp 1, 10

[Text]

A coalition government comprising of all political parties would be set up in the Second Republic by the Liberia: Unification Party (LUP), if the party wins the October 15 general elections, presidential candidate Gabriel W. Kpolleh, said yesterday.

He said upon coming to power, LUP would in addition ensure that the banned United People's Party (UPP) and the Liberian People's Party (LPP) shall be put into existence and be absorbed to contribute their quota to national development.

Mr. Kpolleh was speaking at the Chamber of Commerce building where he addressed journalists at the 5th lecture series organized by the Press Club of the Press Union of Liberia (PUL).

Mr. Kpolleh noted that one political party cannot rightly boast of having adequate manpower to properly and completely run the affairs of the country.

He said it is because of this that after winning the elections, LUP shall invite all other political parties to negotiate with them for the formation of our government, adding, "we shall treat all political parties with respect in all our dealings with them."

He stated that even if his party loses the elections, LUP is prepared to form a coalition with the winning party should the elections be "conducted fairly."

The LUP presidential candidate recounted that when he resigned as a school teacher in 1983 to

form a political party, "I did so with absolute faith and hope in God."

Mr. Kpolleh who was rather soft spoken, added that his aim was and remains to be the unification of all Liberians as a means of preventing any repetition of the evils which he said haunted the people of Liberia for 133 years leading to the April 12, 1980 coup.

He noted that he and all other politicians now found themselves campaigning with men and women in arms "under martial law for civilian political office, "thus making the democratic process rather difficult."

"LUP is however determined as ever before to remain in the race until it wins total victory for all of its candidates, and "the voters will decide the issue in our favour should we face any problem in exercising every effort to solve it," he pointed out.

Mr. Kpolleh stated that upon taking oath, his government shall institute prison reforms, and ensure the protection of human rights which he added, is of paramount interest to the party.

LIBERIA

LABOR PROBLEMS REVIEWED

Teachers Boycott Classes

Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 1 Oct 85 pp 1, 10

[Article by J. Gortor Kiazolu]

[Text] Students attending public schools in Monrovia and its environs had to return home yesterday when their teachers boycotted classes in demand of their July and August salary arrears and 1984/85 fiscal year transportation allowance.

Shortly after the boycott yesterday morning, nearly 100 representatives of the teachers converged at the headquarters of the National Union of Liberia Teachers (NULT) in Jallah Town, Monrovia, where a position statement, signed by 12 officials of the Union, was read by NULT President Saa Phillip Joe.

In the statement, the teachers said "there can be no education in any nation without qualified teachers and there can be no successful teaching without attractive and regularly paid salary and suitable condition of service for teachers."

They said "this being the concern of the teachers in Liberia, it becomes very expedient at this point in time to address ourselves to the present acute condition of salary delay confronting the teachers and the condition of service."

The statement said teachers have observed on many occasions the failure to recognize their importance in national development as evidenced by treatment given them as regards their condition of service.

"Therefore, we the teachers in Liberia being cognizant of our role in the nation building process; and seeing the low profile played to the teaching profession by our immediate authorities which has brought the profession to the lowest point ever in recent times, seize this opportunity to express our grievances and reactions to these maltreatments."

Regarding the delay in the disbursement of teachers' salary, the statement said, the government in an attempt to ensure the viability of the economy and speedy disbursement of salary cheques, in 1981 launched the National Saving Bond Scheme and also adopted the 16 2/3 percent salary deduction in 1983, but expressed regret that, despite these measures, teachers salaries are still not paid on time.

The statement further pointed out that the Head of State realizing the difficulties teachers face in getting to their various areas of assignments, announced to the nation that \$24.00 be added to teachers salary as transportation allowance to ensure that they get to work on time. But teachers have been greatly disappointed due to the delay in the payment of this allowance for the fiscal year 1984/85," the statement added.

The statement observed that "initially, the teachers of Liberia welcomed the setting up of the payteams by the Ministry of Finance with the hope of easing the escalating rate of payroll paddings. "However, we have evidence from all indications that this system has not only frustrated the teachers, but also disgraced the entire teaching profession and failed also to serve the intended purpose."

The statement noted that "due to the above prevailing circumstances, we the teachers of Liberia have resolved that all salary arrears due government-paid teachers must be paid in the shortest possible time" and "that the \$24.00 transportation allowance arrears owed by the government be paid current and hereafter said amount be added on the monthly salary cheque of each teacher."

The teachers requested that the Ministry of Education takes over the payment of their salary cheques through the Chief Education Officers, District Education Officers and also the Principals of schools.

The statement warned that "until these conditions are fully met, teachers in all public schools throughout the length and breadth of this country will have no other alternative but to remain at home in the most professional manner, effective September 30, 1985."

According to Mr Joe, the statement has already been circulated to all public schools throughout the country for the attention of all teachers and authorities.

However, when contacted yesterday by our reporter, the Minister of Education, Dr George S. Boley, expressed surprise at the decision of the teachers to boycott classes without the prior knowledge of the Ministry of Education.

Dr Boley said immediately he received the teachers' statement yesterday, he contacted the Head of State who, he said, instructed him to inform the teachers of the personal initiative taken by him to solve their problems and also to pay all government employees including teachers their salary arrears.

Dr Boley who also expressed concern about the continued delay in the disbursement of teachers salary cheques, noted that the action taken by the teachers to boycott classes "is very untimely", and warned that the teachers should be mindful that they do not become victims of circumstances.

He then appealed to the teachers to reconsider their decision and return to classes in the best interest of the students and the state.

He said teachers who are professional people, should be aware of the prevailing circumstances, so as to avoid being branded for any unfavorable condition in the country at this point of time.

Dr Boley said that the Ministry of Education is very much concerned about the welfare of teachers, and said that the government is doing everything possible to ensure that the teachers are properly taken care of by government.

Meanwhile, officials of the Ministry of Education yesterday invited the executive committee of the NULT to an emergency meeting with the view of resolving the situation and also to persuade them to return to classes. But up till press time yesterday they had not returned from the meeting.

Hospital Workers Begin Slowdown

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 10 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] In spite of vigorous denials by hospital authorities, it is now apparent that employees at the J. F. K. Medical Center are on a "go slow" strike and in some cases have refused to treat patients.

Our reporter who visited the complex Tuesday night said several expectant mothers in severe pain were turned away when they went to the Liberian-Japanese Maternity Hospital for delivery.

This paper has learnt that two of the expectant mothers that were refused admission to the maternity hospital delivered their babies in the taxis that were carrying them, while an accident victim turned down by the hospital's emergency section died en route to another hospital.

The acting general administrator of the hospital, Jerome M. Ngangana, denied strike rumours Monday in an interview with this paper saying that everything was well and the employees were expected to begin receiving their July cheques on Tuesday.

According to Dr Ngangana, the funds for the encashment of the July salary cheques were transferred to the National Housing and Savings Bank.

But yesterday morning, the situation took a different turn when nurses, doctors and other employees at the center decided to lay down their tools in demand of the three months arrears owed them by government.

Patients who had gone to the center for treatment yesterday morning waited for hours without being treated.

When the nurses director was contacted our reporter was told that the nurses director was not the appropriate authority to comment on the strike.

Neither the doctors milling around nor any top staff member were willing to comment on the issue. The acting general administrator, Dr Ngangana also declined to grant our reporter an interview because of "heavy schedule".

Most of the center's offices were empty as well, while a nurse said she was told by her colleagues to sign and "get out of the Office".

"We are just sticking around, said another, adding, "this is the strike we have been talking about. A laundry employee summed up the situation when he said "until we are paid for the remaining two months, as promised by the Head of State, we will just hang around doing nothing".

Editorial Calls for Worker Negotiation

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 10 Oct 85 pp 1,6

[Editorial: "Owning Up"]

[Text] A few weeks ago, we published an editorial pointing out the difficulties which government employees and other employees face during extensive delays in salary payments and we went ahead to propose some relief measures to tide the workers over hard times.

As government employees, we can understand and sympathise with employees who occasionally lay down their tools to draw attention to their plight. Such has been the case with the teachers and government hospital employees.

The response of government has generally been one of sympathy and concern, resulting to some special consideration being given the aggrieved group. This response is an obvious indication of the concern of government for the welfare of its workers, and one is left in no doubt that the spirit at least is willing, even if the purse is weak.

In view of these circumstances, we feel that workers should endeavour to be much more sincere in their negotiations with government over the payment of the delayed salaries. Where and when striking employees agree to resume work in response to assurances from government, it is only fair that they live up to their promise by faithfully carrying on their various tasks and duties while awaiting the fulfilment of the government's side of the bargain.

We find it necessary to stress this point because we feel that the present situation at the government's main hospital and the various public schools, gives cause for concern. It is now apparent that both the teachers and the hospital staff have not lived up to their promise to resume work after discussions with the appropriate authorities.

The situation is all the more babaffling especially after the Head of State personally went to the Finance Ministry and ordered that all government employees be paid their salary arrears before election day. There is no reason to doubt that the government is determined to carry out this directive. It is thus most unfortunate that the hospital workers and teachers should still be persisting in their decisions to lay down tools.

If these employees have reason to doubt the assurances given them by the authorities concerned, we feel that it is only fair that they make known their contentions and iron them out fully at the negotiating table. But to continue to boycott their duties after assuring government that they would resume work, creates doubts about the motives for the action.

It is for this reason that we would like to appeal to the teachers and hospital staff to immediately resume their avowed duties which are of such vital importance to the community. If they do not wish to resume duties, it is only fair that they present a position statement to that effect, indicating their reasons for doing so. Otherwise their actions could be likened to those of a coward who throws a stone and hides.

State Called To Provide Credit

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 11 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[Editorial: "Reading The Signal"]

[Text] The current disruption of services at the nation's leading hospital and various public schools as a result of work stoppage by hospital staff and public school teachers, is a danger signal that deserves urgent attention.

The Head of State must be commended for his personal intervention as a result of which salary arrears owed government employees are now being processed for disbursement.

While we hail the Head of State's efforts, however, we venture to suggest that efforts should be made by the Finance Ministry to work out a more permanent solution to the problem.

We are by no means oblivious of the acute economic crisis which has been the main cause of the long delays in salary payments. We are fully aware that the economic crisis is a deepseated problem which cannot be solved overnight.

However, we are convinced that some remedial measures can be adopted that would greatly lessen the suffering imposed by the excessive delays in salary payments and thus reduce, if not completely eliminate the temptation for employees to resort to strike action.

As we mentioned in an earlier editorial, some arrangements can be made by the Finance Ministry to have vital items such as food, medical services, and transportation available for government employees during delays in salary payment. We wish to suggest once more that credit lines should be opened with the LPMC (for rice and oil), MTA (for transportation) and the various government hospitals (for medical treatment) for the supply of these vital materials and services. The mechanics of such a scheme can easily be worked out with the agencies concerned.

Similarly, we would like to appeal to the Finance Ministry to reduce the suspense that attends salary payments by regularly giving some indication as to when employees may expect to be paid. Such information should help the workers, most of whom earn very meagre salaries, to budget more efficiently and thus be better prepared to hold out until the next pay day.

We are making these appeals because we are convinced that employees who have occasionally taken strike action in support of demands for salaries are forced to do so by the grave difficulties which salary delays impose on them. It is no secret that most Liberians are conscientious and consistent workers who have always demonstrated a willingness to make sacrifices for their country. Anything that could adversely affect that attitude must thus be avoided at all costs.

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CSO: 3400/264

LIBERIA

WEEKS CALLS FOR HIRING PREFERENCE FOR NATIONAL BUSINESSMEN

Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 7 Oct pp 12, 10

[Article by C. M. Harris]

[Text] The Managing Director of Liberia United Corporation, Mr. Rocheforte L. Weeks, Jr. has urged government to institute a policy of giving special consideration to Liberian businessmen before foreign businessmen, by giving awards to foreign businessmen only when competent nationals are not available.

He further said government must institute a policy allowing for proof or authenticity of Liberian owned businesses, which must be by the control of voting equity in the case of partnership and also the active involvement of the Liberian, whether a share-holder or partner, in the management of the enterprise as this is necessary to eliminate the possibility of Liberians fronting for foreigners.

Mr. Weeks was among several representatives from the Liberian Business Caucus speaking at the week-end at the regular meeting of the Rotary Club at the Ducor Hotel.

Speaking on the topic "Business Practices and Ethics in Liberia As Same Relates to Marketing and Procurement", he observed that the practice today of most businesses, most especially businessmen, is to prostitute individuals in authority and decision making positions in the public sector to effect contracts in their favour.

Mr. Weeks noted that most Liberians in business will not encourage such practices not only because they lack the necessary resources, as may be thought, but because of love of country and people which will not in anyway justify a sellout of the Liberian people's values.

"Foreign businessmen do not care if their actions result in the weakening of the national economy, because they are quite aware that their stay is transitory. Immediately upon the realization of their ends, which is wealth in the shortest possible time, they flee leaving our people to suffer due to their previous manipulation of our public servants", he said.

LIBERIA

DECREE 11 CALLS FOR NEW BANK

Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 3 Oct 85 p 3

[Text]

The Interim National Assembly (INA) has promulgated Decree Number Eleven authorizing the Head of State, CIC Dr. Samuel K. Doe, to establish a specialized bank known as the "Afro Continental Bank."

According to the decree, the Head of State has been empowered to take measures necessary to make and ensure that such banking system conforms strictly with guidelines to be promulgated later.

The INA further authorized Dr Doe to promulgate such rules and regulations for the establishment and operation of the security division within the bank and exempt the Afro Continental Bank from provisions of the Financial Institutions Act of 1974 as amended in 1978 and 1985.

The bank shall train Liberians in the specialized banking profession, provide access to banking for the population as a whole

with no minimum deposit required.

The decree said this would enable funds to circulate in the economy by making them available to stimulate business.

The decree further said the Afro Continental Bank, by treaty, shall share cash profits realized at the end of its fiscal year with government, and that the Chairman of the bank shall be appointed by the Head of State as permanent advisor to him and to the Director of Security Department to deal with the affairs of the bank.

The Head of State has also been empowered to appoint a Director of Security at the bank with the advice and consent of the executives of the bank

It would also have the aims and objectives of maintaining a gold reserve and other pecuniary modes of exchange to support and back the legally tendered currency in Liberia.

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CSO: 3400/261

LIBERIA

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROPOSED

Monrovia FOOTPRINTS TODAY in English 3 Oct 85 pp 6, 10

[Article by Moses M. Zinnah]

[Text] "...I frankly feel that the main reason why the growth of food production in Africa has dropped is simply that we, as Africans, have ignored the field of agriculture. And, the sooner we realize that in this world food comes first, the sooner we will be able to do something meaningful."

Indeed these words of John Malecela, who was Chairman of the 1978 Arusha Conference on the Regional Food Plan for Africa, have proved to be prophetic for Liberia. The development of agriculture - food production in particular - is now one of the major concerns of Liberia and most African countries. If the question were simply if agriculture is important to national development, the answer would certainly be in the affirmative. Without food people perish. One needs to only be reminded of the thousands of people that die annually of hunger in Africa and other parts of the world to appreciate the importance of agriculture in national development.

As an agriculturist, I have deemed it most important to share my views

as well as provoke discussion on the issue of self-sufficiency in food production in Liberia - an issue which most politicians and citizens discuss very loosely in public speeches and pronouncements as if it were something having quick-fixed solutions.

SOME PAST EXPERIENCES

Why has so much disappointment resulted from programs of food self-sufficiency in Liberia? Perhaps, a brief review of some past experiences may give us some clues.

From as far back as the early sixties up to date, the Government of Liberia has continued to place major emphasis on agricultural development as an important factor in its development strategies. The underlying assumption is that agricultural development can serve as a vital springboard for the

social, economic, political, and industrial development of the country since the bulk of the nation's population depends on agriculture for sustenance.

Liberia's population is estimated at 2.113 million of which 1.445 million (about 68.4%) make up the agricultural population (FAO, 1984).

However, until 1976, when the first Four-Year Comprehensive National Socio-Economic Development Plan was formulated, the Government of Liberia had no comprehensive agricultural development plan to provide the most suitable climate for the development of this very important sector of the economy. As Gedeo (1982) succinctly points out in his analysis of the Historical Development of Liberia's Agricultural Policy from 1960-1980, "...most of the agricultural development programs came about as a result of political speeches or were ideas conceived by few individuals in government and formulated into programs." Due to this kind of approach many programs geared towards agricultural development did not yield fruitful results - there was a gap between rhetoric and real action.

In 1964, for example, the Government of Liberia, through the insight of the late President Tubman launched "Operation Production", aimed at encouraging farmers to improve their production. That

program failed even though it had good objectives. The pre-requisites, such as trained specialists and extension staff, and other necessary inputs were lacking. As Lowenkopf (1976) states, "...Operation Production was administered by a two-man staff for the entire country, and there were no appropriations for its coordinating activities."

Another of such programs worth mentioning emerged during the latter half of the 1970's. Engineered by the late President Tolbert, it was aimed at making the country achieve self-sufficiency in rice production by 1980. The major slogan was "No joke, No More Importation of Rice By 1980," a common reflection again between rhetoric and real action. The program which was expected to achieve its goal within a given period of five years yielded no self-sustaining results.

During the period 1976-1980, according to a United States Department of Agriculture report published in 1981, the importation of rice in Liberia nearly doubled from 36,011 metric tons to 70,000 metric tons. This continues to be the basic trend even up to the present.

In yet another effort to bring about agricultural development in Liberia, the Government of Liberia, in collaboration with some international agencies has established three integrated agricultural and rural development projects

in strategic parts of the country. While full-scale impact studies are not yet available to ascertain whether these projects are on the right path of leading Liberia to solving its food self-sufficiency problem, indications are that these projects are centered around the production of export crops such as coffee and cocoa for foreign exchange as opposed to the production of food crops such as rice, cassava, etc., which are needed first. As John Malecela (1979) of Tanzania opines, making particular reference to the food problem in Africa, "...we have not considered seriously that what we need first is food. We have been geared to thinking about foreign exchange...But what is the use of getting a hundred million dollars in foreign exchange when you'll spend three hundred million dollars to import food?"

Least I be misunderstood, let me say here that there is nothing wrong with growing export crops, but to do so at the expense of food crops which we are in dire need of is completely out of place.

In recent times, we continue to hear on radio and television and read in the local newspapers about other government pronouncements urging Liberians to "go back to the soil and grow more food," and "to plant coffee and cocoa and other cash crops after each rice planting and

harvesting season." Surely no one with a sound mind can argue against such pronouncements since they are geared towards agricultural development. But frankly speaking, pronouncements alone can not get people to go back to the soil and grow more food to make the nation self-sufficient in food production. These pronouncements must be coupled with an explicit and comprehensive plan of action which takes into consideration, inter alia, the how, what and who questions.

Anything short of this will certainly yield no lasting results. Past experiences have already taught us enough lessons.

TOWARDS A GENUINE PLAN OF ACTION

Admittedly, there are many constraints which hamper the attainment of self-sufficiency in food production in Liberia, but there are several salient steps which, when taken seriously, can help to bring about the kind of agricultural transformation which we are longing for. Below are few of these action steps:

a) A sound Agricultural Research Policy must be worked out emphasizing local food crops, poultry, cattle and small ruminants. Such research policy must be backed by the needed financial and logistical support to ensure success. The recent efforts being made by the Government and USAID to improve the Central Agricultural Research Institu-

te (CARI) is commendable. Similar support should be given to the College of Agriculture and Forestry at the University of Liberia as it is the highest agricultural training institution in the country.

b) A comprehensive and more coordinated Agricultural Extension Program must be designed. Through agricultural extension programs, farmers can be made aware of and educated about research results regarding new or improved crop varieties and breeds of animals as well as government agricultural development policies. By the same token, extension can help researchers and government policy-making bodies get some feedback in terms of the needs and views of the farmers. The critical role of extension in agriculture has yet to be understood and appreciated in Liberia. Extension gives meaning to research and government's agricultural development efforts. But as the Ministry of Agriculture (1980) succinctly notes in its monograph entitled Liberia's Agricultural Development: Policy and Organizational Structure, "a comprehensive and cohesive extension program does not exist" and "relatively few farmers have been reached or affected by extension activities."

c) Attractive price and credit facilities must be given to farmers. Farmers, subsistence farmers for that matter, are willing to produce extra food be-

yond the subsistence level if they can expect fair prices for their produce. Along the same vein, credit facilities which may be in cash or kind (fertilizer, seeds, tools, etc) are necessary catalysts for food production. Yet, this is one of the major bottlenecks to food production in Liberia. According to Tarpeh (1982), of the total amount of \$2,129,848 given in agricultural loans between January and June 30, 1982 by the Agricultural and Cooperative Development Bank, only \$24,250 (1.14%) was given for the production of food crops. Such a situation certainly does not indicate any substance in solving the much publicized problem of self-sufficiency

in food production in Liberia.

d) Adequate storage facilities must be provided to preserve the seasonal local food production and reduce the chronic problem of post harvest losses. Also related to storage is the need to open up adequate channels for the distribution of food produced by farmers to reach all parts of the country.

e) Sound agricultural education programs for our secondary schools must be pursued. Such programs will not only be aimed at encouraging young people to go into farming, but will also create an awareness and appreciation in the young people for the important role of agricul-

ture in national development. If Liberia is to find new vitality in food production, the attitudes or value-orientation of the citizens (particularly the youths) towards agriculture will have to be changed.

CONCLUSION

The stability of the Second Republic will undoubtedly depend on agriculture, and the sooner we can realize this the better.

I am of the strong opinion that if agriculture is viewed by all as the basis for a better life and the overall development of our nation, and if all of us (that is, from the highest official to the ordinary citizen) are convinced of its vital role, its planning will become less rhetoric and become more action-oriented.

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/12851
CSO: 3400/261

MAURITIUS

BRIEFS

PLANS TO TIGHTEN LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA--Mauritius is renewing a campaign for tighter links with South Africa. A trade agreement between Mauritius and SA, which will eliminate import duties on Mauritian products, is being negotiated. Mauritius is going through a boom with a 21% growth in the manufacturing sector last year. The Mauritian Trade Office claims it offers "one of the most generous and attractive packages of incentives in the world". Mauritian trade representative Jean-Michel de Senneville says South Africans can benefit from its international trade links. "We are getting a good response," he says, "Mauritius is already known as a tourist paradise with 33,000 SA visitors a year and increasingly South Africans can see the country as a place to do business in. "We hope that subsidiaries will be set up to finish products for export and re-export." /By Stephen Cranston/ /Text/
/Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 14 Oct 85 p 4/

/12851

CSO: 3400/275

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL'S U.S. VISIT SEEN AS TRANSFORMING RELATIONS

Lisbon DIARIO DE NOTICIAS in Portuguese 21 Sep 85 p 8

[Commentary: "From Presidents to Friends"]

[Text] In 1983, when Samora Machel decided to hold an open dialogue with the Pretoria government, terminating in the signing of the N'komati Accord in March of the following year, he realized that he would be confronted, so to speak, with criticism from all of black Africa. But he did so proving that, to him, the interests of his country took precedence over ideologies and regimes. And when he began to understand that it was in the direction of the West that those interests were beginning to point, he did not hesitate to raise, not his fist, but rather his hand, in a first gesture of friendship toward Washington. The official visit which, at Ronald Reagan's invitation, has just been paid there and which is ending today, came following a gradual reinforcement in those relations during the past 3 years; 3 years which have, concurrently, been marked by an increasing dissociation from his previous stringently Marxist policy in exchange for another much more pragmatic one, aimed in the direction of recovering the country's impoverished economy.

As a high-ranking American official claimed, the Mozambican president has, during this entire process, proven to be "extremely cautious." For example, although not "dismissing" the Soviets established in Mozambique 10 years ago, he informed them that they had not accomplished what Mozambique had expected of them and that, therefore, it was time for the Mozambican Government to start turning its attention to other areas.

The fact that Washington placed particular emphasis on this first visit by the Mozambican leader is proven by the extremely heavy schedule that filled it, particularly with regard to talks on various levels, from the president to congressmen, including senators. In fact, the latter is the most critical sector for Samora Machel, inasmuch as it contains, in its most conservative and particularly anticommunist group, the real support that RENAMO [Mozambique National Resistance] has in the States. Reagan himself, despite his unswerving anticommunism, has not been spared the epithet "traitor" attributed to him for having allowed the Mozambican president, an avowed Marxist, to be invited.

Obviously, the problem of the country's internal guerrilla movement was omnipresent throughout this visit, most especially in the talks between the two

presidents. And there the Mozambican leader played a trump card, attesting to his good faith and his (real or forced, it doesn't matter) effort for peace in that part of the African continent. We are referring to the stated acknowledgment by Pretoria, by way of an admission made almost on the eve of Samora Machel's departure for Washington, that there had, actually, been violations of the N'komati Accord on the part of South Africa.

However, the invitation offered by Samora Machel for American investment in a country as filled with potential as his is too tempting for the U.S. to remain indifferent. It is just that no one is unaware of the fact that it would only be worthwhile investing in Mozambique if the conditions of stability and security which have ceased to exist for the present, because of that guerrilla movement, were created.

To what extent would a Reagan administration, really counting on "ensuring" a country so strategically established within the context of Southern Africa as Mozambique, in fact, is, be concerned over having the rug pulled out from under RENAMO quickly? To be sure, this would entail yielding and compromising on both sides; but the fact is that Samora Machel has already given evidence of being good at fulfillment, at least insofar as N'komati is concerned. And it might well happen that this very "movement," fabricated and nurtured by the West, has already fittingly played the role reserved for it.

Yesterday, when they met for the first time, Ronald Reagan and Samora Machel were merely two presidents. But when they took leave of each other, they were already more than just that: they were two friends. At least, that is what Samora Machel claimed.

The future will tell how far that friendship will lead.

2909
CSO: 3442/16

MOZAMBIQUE

IMPLICATIONS OF MACHEL'S WASHINGTON VISIT CONSIDERED

Lisbon O DIABO in Portuguese 24 Sep 85 p 17

[Article by Nuno Rogeiro: "Machel in Washington: Between the Lines"]

[Text] Washington, D.C. and Atlanta--Rediscovering some of the elements backing the "liberation movements" that are enemies of Portugal, Samora Machel went to the U.S. primarily to submit to a conservative president a "certificate of good behavior" from the government which he (only?) outwardly heads. Reading between the lines of the official speeches, and disregarding the incidental courtesies and the usual statements of principles, there is an essence to this visit that cannot escape observers: Machel is seeking progress in the continuity of the Maputo regime even though, for this purpose, he may have to swallow some enormous and extremely live toads.

Several conservative individuals and organizations questioned, very vocally, the visit paid by Machel (for example, Howard Philips, of the Conservative Caucus; Paul Weyrich, of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress; Richard Viguerie and Newt Gingrich, a neo-rightwinger, the Heritage Foundation, and the Ingersoll Foundation; magazines, such as NATIONAL REVIEW, CONSERVATIVE DIGEST and HUMAN EVENTS; and newspapers such as the NEW YORK POST and A. de Borchgrave's WASHINGTON TIMES, etc.); and various congressmen promptly expressed the intention of seeking a majority opposed to any type of military aid for Mozambique. But were there such pressing reasons for alarm?

On the War in Africa

It is a fact that Samora formally requested aid (before, during and after a 2-hour meeting with Reagan, also attended by Shultz and Bush, and at a meeting with "Cap" Weinberger) in combating RENAMO [Mozambique National Resistance], a movement which was recently the target of a Zimbabwean military operation; but Ronald Reagan confined himself to remarking, with circumspection and some ambiguity (which leftist sources interpreted as mental reservations) that he hoped to be able to see a reconciled Mozambique again, forgetful of the violent civil war being waged there at present.

This circumspection on Reagan's part has been attributed to the pressure from conservative circles, such as Heritage (an institution that recently listened to the RENAMO leader, Evo Fernandes, at a meeting on African problems), which

is going to publish a confidential bulletin detailing the "internationalization" of the conflict in Mozambique. But it has also been speculated that Washington, although desiring to intensify the economic ties with Maputo (and possibly acquire coastal military facilities that would allow for control of the Indian Ocean and the Cape route), is not seeking to commit itself right now, essentially, to the "a outrance" [extreme] defense of Machel, owing both to the unknown quantity that RENAMO still represents and to the RSA's military force in the region, as well as to the the constant reports claiming that Mozambique has been divided up into zones of foreign influence.

Investment and Leadership

Sources that we contacted in the White House and the Defense Department confirmed the fact that Machel submitted conclusive documents attesting to "violations" of the N'komati Accord on the part of Pretoria; but noted that these activities had already been reported to the Reagan administration by the South Africans themselves. On this occasion, the RSA reportedly justified limited types of assistance to RENAMO, as a means of responding to the "Vietnamization" of the war in Mozambique.

There are several American business firms interested in investing in Mozambique, either to offer preliminary competition for a European (particularly British) penetration, or to offset the impossibility of investment in Angola, where Washington views the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] as the best Soviet ally in all of Africa (with the exception of Ethiopia). Reagan informed Machel of this, but he did not conceal a certain amount of ironic paternalism when telling the Mozambican leader that this was a good opportunity for him to look toward the "outside world" beyond the barriers of propaganda.

On the other hand, there are some who claim that, while in Washington, Machel attempted to "free himself" from FRELIMO's hard line established primarily by individuals of Indian origin, and to display an independent leadership even ready for major reconciliation. We shall return to the topic but, for the present, all this remains recorded between the lines of the formal official comments.

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CSO: 3442/16

MOZAMBIQUE

DOCUMENT DEFINES TASK OF MOBILIZATION, POLITICAL EDUCATION

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 21 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] A document disseminated by the FRELIMO Party Central Committee defines the general aspects of the work to be done by the Democratic Mass Organizations [ODM] and related institutions in the area of mobilization and patriotic education for the defense of the fatherland and the revolution, through an extensive group of organizational activities involving all sectors and strata of Mozambican society. The document constitutes a summary of the work done after the Central Committee's fourth session, which approved the plan for the initiation of a mobilization offensive aimed at supporting and consolidating the patriotic summons announced by the head of state in his speech of 11 March of this year.

As the Central Committee's document notes, the action to be taken with regard to mobilization and patriotic education is aimed essentially at taking the effort for mobilization and patriotic education to every work site and residence through the party and state agencies and the Democratic Mass Organizations, and the active involvement of all sectors of the society.

Cited as main guidelines for the work to be done in this area are specific tasks assigned to each of the Democratic Mass Organizations which, as a whole, must direct the essential part of their activity toward the goals of the current offensive, subordinating to it and integrating into it their other programs.

Specific Tasks

The Mozambican Workers Organization (OTM) has been assigned the main task of engaging in mobilization and patriotic education activities in enterprises, factories and other production and service units, aimed at raising the workers' patriotic consciousness and mobilizing them for an increase in production and productivity.

On all production sites, the OTM will have to organize the workers for the defense of that site and for vigilance against all types of sabotage, theft and black market activity.

Among other activities, the OTM must organize direct methods for backing the production units and military units, as well as methods of cooperation that will intensify the relations between the workers and the combatants.

It will also be required to analyze the existing work force in each production unit in order to learn which workers could be made available for direct involvement in the defense tasks, mobilizing among those workers volunteers for the army.

Women's Role

The Organization of Mozambican Women [OMM] has as its main tasks the involvement of all women (in districts, villages, enterprises and services) to back the war effort, either through collective action or individual action; for example, the creation of the soldier's farm, the making of clothing and needlework as well as other items to be donated to the army. And it must engage in direct action to conscientize the families (especially the mothers) which have sons of military age.

The OMM has also been assigned the organization of concrete types of social and moral support for the families whose heads or other members have been victims of the armed bandits, and the organization of the same type of support for the families of combatants who are on the battlefield.

The selection of women for first aid courses, to be promoted with the aid of the Red Cross, the organization for aid to war orphans, specifically mobilizing families to take care of them when this is warranted, and the mobilization of women to participate in the People's Militias and the People's Vigilance Groups are also some of the activities assigned to the OMM, as well as the organization of systematic visits to military hospitals to give moral support to the sick and wounded, and to give donations.

Tasks of the OJM and Other Organizations

The Mozambican Youth Organization (OJM) will concentrate its action within the armed forces, in schools and in districts, finding new, creative methods for attracting the youth so as to raise their patriotic consciousness.

These methods may be through sports activities, theatrical and music activities, various festivals, literary and art competitions, and contests on history and geography, as well as others.

Specific tasks have been listed for other organizations and associations, such as the ONP [National Teachers Organization], ONJ [National Youth Organization], AEMO [Mozambican Students Association], AMASP and the Mozambican Photography Association.

In the area of patriotic education, the critical work is that done in schools, with younger generations, as the Central Committee's document indicates.

In this regard, tasks have also been assigned to the Ministry of Education and to the cultural and sports sectors.

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CSO: 3442/15

MOZAMBIQUE

HUNDREDS OF YOUTHS JOIN ARMED FORCES IN XAI-XAI

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 21 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] During the first half of this month, over 600 youths aged from 18 to 30 years were incorporated, in the city of Xai-Xai, Gaza Province, in the first activity carried out in this city in connection with the "fatherland's summons." During this second half of the month, that effort will be extended to this province's eight districts, preeminent among which are those of Chibuto, Bilene, Chokwe, Xai-Xai and Manjacaze.

Just as has been happening in other parts of the country, in connection with the youth's incorporation in response to the appeal issued to young people by President Samora Machel at the closing ceremony for Youth Week, part of the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of national independence, in Gaza Province the activity associated with the aforementioned incorporation has been accompanied by an intense mobilization effort carried out by brigades consisting of members of the provincial committee and government.

The work done by the aforementioned brigades which also include members of the FDS and ODM [Democratic Mass Organizations], as well as professionals in the social area, is aimed more at enlightening the youth of this province regarding the necessity and importance of the fatherland's defense.

The state enterprises, and various sectors of activity, schools, and also residential districts, constitute the main locations where the brigades have been concentrating their mobilization activity, because it is in those places that one finds a large number of people who are of age to join the military.

Recruitment in the City of Xai-Xai

In the city of Xai-Xai, the recruitment of youths to join the ranks of our army began on 10 September, extending until 15 September. During the first 2 days alone, over 600 youths were incorporated, a number considered to be relatively higher than that in the recruitments carried out in previous years.

"We consider this recruitment the best of all time, because it has afforded the inclusion of a larger number of young people, based on the measures previously

adopted on the central level, to prevent certain irregularities," commented Domingos Parafino Roque, chief of the Gaza recruitment center, the site where the documents of the youths joining from the city of Xai-Xai are put in order.

Discussing the specific advantages of the current recruitment, the subject of our interview reported, "There are many youths residing in this city who were recounted in other provinces and whose location for recruitment purposes was considered impossible, because some of them did not comply with the instructions and action stipulated by law for purposes of moving," thereby hampering the process of their being called for SMO [compulsory military service].

He then added that, in order to surmount this difficulty, all youths between 18 and 30 years of age, regardless of whether or not they have been recounted in this city, must appear at the recruitment center.

At one point, Domingos Roque remarked: "During this first phase, locally regarded as experimental, we are also observing the principle of not incorporating teachers, those married before January of this year, workers with specific responsibilities and those over 30 years old."

There Is Not Even Time to Eat...

The flow of youths to the Gaza recruitment center for incorporation is such that the local officials "don't even have a minute for lunch."

By way of example, during the first 2 days after this work began, over 500 youths were incorporated, in an effort which started at 0730 hours and lasted until 1800 hours.

When asked to comment on the situation, Domingos Parafino Roque remarked: "Under normal conditions, work of this 'size' is done taking over a week."

There is no doubt that the youth of this province, especially from the city of Xai-Xai, is responding in a worthy manner to the fatherland's appeal.

Estevao Joshua Macamo, aged 60, a resident of the Marien N'Gouabi Communal District and the father of Alfredo, one of the youths recently incorporated into the ranks of the FAM/FPLM, told our reporter the following:

"I am happy to have a son in our army. Although it may be indirectly, I think that I am participating in the liquidation of the BAs [armed bandits]. It is hard to be older; I would like to be there personally. Besides, I have another son who has been a soldier for over 5 years. If it weren't for my advanced age...."

Work Extended to the Districts

During this second half of the month, the work to incorporate youths into the fatherland's defense is being extended to this province's eight districts; noteworthy among which are Bilene, Chokwe, Chibuto and Xai-Xai.

As in the case of the city of Xai-Xai, capital of Gaza, the effort for incorporation will be accompanied by intensive mobilization work, carried out by brigades consisting of members of the provincial committee and government, the FDS, the ODM and professionals from the social area.

In connection with this phase, Domingos Roque informed our reporter that the district recruitment centers would be responsible for ensuring the success of this work, and must receive direct backing from the provincial party and government agencies.

Domingos Parafino Roque noted: "We think that the backing from the provincial party and government agencies is an essential action."

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CSO: 3442/15

MOZAMBIQUE

CONDITIONS IN MILITARY TRAINING CENTERS IMPROVE

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Sep 85 p 8

[Text] The first results of the efforts to improve the country's military training centers are starting to appear. In Maputo Province, civil construction work is being done on the main military training centers. The Manhica Politico-Military Training Center is one of the examples to be cited. Established a relatively short time ago, this center has not failed to reflect all the effort to create the necessary conditions for training the young recruits from all parts of the country, as our war correspondent, Filipe Ribas writes.

Rather than a training center, Manhica is now an organized community, where the effort of each individual contributes to the welfare of everyone. A hundred hectares of garden produce and a pigpen actually show the course of action that they are attempting to follow in order to achieve self-sufficiency, by improving the recruits' diet.

The Boane Training Center, now benefiting from major improvement projects, may come to be an exemplary site with regard to the training of our military. The improvement projects are aimed at rehabilitating the barracks as a whole as well as other related facilities, including all the backup infrastructures.

According to our war correspondent, the Manhica Politico-Military Training Center begins its activity during the early hours of the day, when the recruits start their physical training. For nearly an hour, several groups of youths engage in running exercise, while singing revolutionary anthems. It is an awakening marked by the joyful rhythm of song which is heard in various parts of the center, in a combination of languages indicating the national unity that has become a reality.

To keep the center's facilities impeccable, immediately after physical training the youths start the cleaning work, with such care that one cannot see either papers or small heaps of rubbish in the surrounding area. Rather than obeying an order, the youths are so familiar with this activity that they do it to the joyful rhythm of song and clever joking.

After these activities with which the center comes to life, the youths go for military instruction per se, which is only interrupted for meals.

Each company does its best to excel over the others, so as to be in first place; and, on these occasions, a mere expression of praise suffices to encourage the youths to redouble efforts aimed at perfection.

Moreover, the effort is even greater the more their awareness that, at any time, they could come in confrontation with the enemy (which must not be underestimated) increases.

An example of this was shown by the youths in training when the offensive that was to bring a certain amount of calmness to the Manhica area was begun. Aware of the mobilization that was under way, many members of the military taking instruction expressed a willingness to interrupt their training in order to go and fight.

Initiatives and Self-Sufficiency

Relying on one's own forces: that is the great investment on which the Manhica Politico-Military Training Center is bent. Something of which the center can be very proud is the production of leafy vegetables.

In this respect, the center has achieved not only self-sufficiency, but also sales of garden produce to the public in Maputo, at the producer's price, which has made possible a net profit of 800,000 meticals for the center. This profit is less than what could be accrued if the conditions for transporting the produce were normal. Because of this problem, a certain amount of the vegetables produced ends up spoiling in the field.

The center's director, Col Mateus Oscar Khida, claimed that they are in the initial phase.

Colonel Khida said: "It is our intention to cultivate the largest possible expanse of land, so that our soldiers will feel as well received as if they were in their own homes; if possible, so that they may feel better here at the center."

During this initial phase, a pigpen was built which currently has only 100 units, properly selected for reproduction. The facilities are not extensive and they were constructed based on the principle of relying on local resources. There are no livestock experts at the center, but the good will of all those working will bring its results, and it is in practical work that new technicians are trained.

Furthermore, the center is quite replete when it comes to initiatives. This fact is noticeable from the embellishment and decoration of the center's premises, with small streets on which the esthetic touch is not lacking. A mere stone or broken tile is useless for building, and properly utilized for decoration on the small streets and rest areas. Every day, at the center, one notes the heightening of the effort to create pleasant conditions for all those passing through it.

2909

CSO: 3442/15

MOZAMBIQUE

GEOMOC DENIES COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF GAS FINDING

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 25 Sep 85 p 10

[Article by Jorge Costa: "Biogas Pocket Burned in Gaza"]

[Text] A gas eruption took place while GEOMOC [expansion unknown] was opening a water well in Gaza and caused a blaze which continued at a rather low level for 5 days and practically burned itself out. The news spread and gave rise to much speculation which has now been denied by engineers who were on the spot and studied the phenomenon. "This was gas from the swamps which has no commercial value," they assured us in describing the event.

GEOMOC has a drilling team in the Province of Gaza which is busy supplying water to the local population. During its routine work program a new well was started on 15 September in Magula, 10 kilometers from Xai-Xai.

The work was started and a depth of 34 meters was reached quickly. Suddenly there was an eruption of gas which was found to be flammable and that started the combustion; the fire burned for 5 days with a height of less than 1 meter and it died down gradually as the well was being opened up.

In view of this situation, the GEOMOC team contacted its headquarters in Maputo which, in turn, also alerted the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Mineral Resources.

A GEOMOC engineer, an engineer from the National Hydrocarbons Enterprise, an official from the Ministry of Interior, and a fire-fighter went to the spot on 21 September and arrived in time to see that the fire had practically died out by itself.

Engineer Adriano Saraiva, of GEOMOC, described events at the site.

"The gas which escaped from this well is biogenic and comes from the swamps. It is called swamp gas. The place where the event occurred is located in the Limpopo Valley, a region which promotes the decomposition of organic matter."

"As for the rest, all indications, even the surface data, point to that. The fact is that the gas escaped from a depth of a little more than 30 meters which is considered to be rather superficial and also because the machine that drills that hole was working only 80 meters away and had already finished another drillhole at a depth of 250 meters and there was no new occurrence of this kind."

Engineer Saraiva also reported that gas samples have already been taken out for a detailed analysis. He then added:

"This careful handling is part of our work ethic and methodology. An analysis is mandatory."

Swamp Gas Has No Economic Value

Engineer Arsenio Mabote, of the National Hydrocarbons Enterprise, in turn explained the formation of gas, saying:

"This type of gas can occur anywhere and here this is even more natural since we know that the area is extremely humid and rich in vegetation. This vegetation is decomposed gradually, in successive layers, and that creates the gas which is released when the mass is stirred up. It is of no interest from the economic viewpoint."

Here, then, are the explanations given by the engineers about this event which, after it became known, and after the news spread rapidly, caused a sensation.

In Mozambique, petroleum is the hope in which the government is investing in the country's North, Center, South. We keep hoping for big news and this is perhaps why the small fires in Gaza became enormous conflagrations. This time, petroleum was not found accidentally while engineers were looking for water.

A petroleum engineer also told us that petroleum is not being found today practically in the earth's crust, as in the case of the Magula drillhole, at least in amounts permitting profitable exploitation. The big sheets of "black gold" which are currently being worked are at a depth of more than 3,000 meters.

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CSO: 3442/12

MOZAMBIQUE

EDUARDO ARAO PRAISES EFFORTS OF CARBOMOC ENTERPRISE

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] Governor Eduardo Arao praised the efforts expended by the workers of CARBOMOC [Mozambique National Coal Enterprise] in combating famine. The leader of Tete Province voiced this praise at the end of a visit that he paid to that enterprise's collective farm, an area extending for 30 hectares, completely green with various crops.

Eduardo Arao visited the CARBOMOC workers' farm during the course of a working tour of the Moatize district, where he attempted to procure information on the progress of the province's various development programs and, in particular, on the action to combat the armed bandits.

In Moatize, the governor of Tete visited various sectors of the state and private areas and, in connection with the private producers and those in the family sector, he recommended the planting of fruit trees, citing the need to try to grow rice on their land.

The recommendation for rice production on the state and private sector farms resulted from the observation that growing that grain could have positive results on much of the land in Moatize, an example of this being the farm of the CARBOMOC state enterprise.

Eduardo Arao expressed appreciation for the work done by some private farmers and peasants, urging them, however, to strive to expand the growing areas in every agricultural campaign and to start raising animals of small species as a means of contributing to the raising of the quality of the population's diet.

The government claimed that the raising of small animal species would help greatly to improve the diet of the population, because the drought is still being felt with some degree of severity.

Priority for Family Sector

With a view toward ensuring agricultural production in the city of Tete, the family sector was determined as a priority in the development of the green

zones. In fact, the Agricultural Machine Operation Mechanical School (EMOMA) was assigned responsibility for cultivating the peasants' productive areas located on the outskirts of the provincial capital, so as to guarantee that every family will have a growing area of at least 2 hectares.

This decision was made by the first secretary and governor of Tete, Eduardo Arao, during his recent visit to the family sector farms in the city. It is a deciding factor for the expansion of the production areas, primarily for the family sector, in the provincial capital of Tete.

In fulfillment of the instructions from the governor of Tete to have famine really eliminated through the recruitment of the population for farm production, EMOMA is working on the farms of the Matundo District peasants.

Two weeks ago, when the cultivation work was started in the Matundo District, an area of 60 hectares was completed. At present, all that is needed is a team from the city of Tete's executive council which will divide this cultivated area into plots, so that every family will have at least 2 hectares of land for the 1985-86 agricultural campaign.

The EMOMA tractor operators are expending efforts to fulfill the established plans, so that the cultivation will be completed within the stipulated planned time. "We don't want to jeopardize the peasants' production plan," our reporter was told by one of the EMOMA tractor operators working in the Matundo District. He also disclosed that, for the cultivation, two machines and four tractor operators had been assigned, working in shifts during the morning and afternoon.

The director of the Agricultural Machine Operation Mechanical School in Tete claimed that the peasants in the Matundo District have expressed great enthusiasm for the government's action in preparation for the 1985-86 agricultural campaign. Most of the family sector producers hope for success in this campaign, because their preparation was started at the proper time.

In the area where the cultivation is under way, water tanks may be built to bring in irrigation through gravity. In that area, one can also observe water tanks that were used years ago for irrigation. The family sector farmers must be mobilized for this purpose, so as to organize them for the acquisition of a pump and engine. The head of EMOMA later remarked: "We think that this is the only way in which we can stop depending on the rain."

It should be noted that the collection of money for the cultivation carried out by EMOMA on the peasants' farms will be provided for by the executive council, following the division of the areas into plots.

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CSO: 3442/16

MOZAMBIQUE

SOVIET ECONOMICS EXPERT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 27 Sep 85 p 5

[Interview with Professor Nikolay Grib by Antonio Souto: "Socialist Agricultural Changes Strengthen Mozambican Nation"]

[Text] Nikolay Grib, a doctoral candidate in economics, is a professor of Soviet nationality who has known Mozambique since January 1977. With an interruption between 1980 and 1983, he worked at the School of Economics of Eduardo Mondlane University. His activities however were not confined to teaching. As a specialist in the field of political economy and agricultural policy, Nikolay Grib visited some of the country's provinces on several occasions in an effort to study cooperation development problems on the spot. Seeking to pass a little bit of his experience on to our readers, we noted some of his viewpoints on problems we face in developing the country. Regardless of the position which each of our readers may individually have as to the opinions expressed by Professor Nikolay Grib, these opinions are, as far as we are concerned, points of reflection on which we urge all interested individuals to contribute so that we may together develop the significance of the agricultural transformation strategies that have been carried out in this country in greater depth. We will soon present other comments by this Soviet specialist on the problem complex of cooperativization and other specific areas connected with the agricultural issue in Mozambique.

NOTICIAS: As a Marxist-Leninist economist, how do you interpret the agricultural changes that have taken place in Mozambique since independence?

Nikolay Grib: The first point to keep in mind regarding these changes is that the proclamation of political independence in 1975 put an end to the first stage of the Mozambican revolution--the revolution of national democracy--after which the country began to carry out the tasks of the second phase--the phase of the people's democratic revolution. As we emphasized in the documents of the FRELIMO Party, that was the period during which the political

ideological, scientific, technical, and material foundations were laid for the transition to the socialist revolution or socialism as such.

The construction of socialism calls for profound changes in society's social life and in all branches of the national economy. These changes are coming about during the period of socialist orientation and during the period of transition from capitalism to socialism which covers a certain interval of time.

One of the general laws governing the construction of socialism is the achievement of gradual socialist changes in agriculture, so oriented as to establish socialist production relationships--that vital branch of the national economy. In the practical implementation of this law, each of the countries following the socialist way takes into account its own specific particular features, deriving from the initial level of its economic development, the class structure in society, the population's activity level and its location in the country, the level of its political and social awareness, the existing national wealth and other domestic as well as foreign factors.

Soon after the conquest of independence, the land nationalization law was proclaimed in the People's Republic of Mozambique and the fourth session of the People's Assembly passed that law in 1979. The nationalization of the land formed the political basis of the worker-peasant alliance because, in this case, both main classes in Mozambican society are united by the social ownership of the means of production which are important in enabling them to move forward to the joint goal together. The recovery of the land by the Mozambican people also means that:

the land ceased to be capital and cannot be purchased, sold, mortgaged, or pledged;

the political, economic, and social base for the formation of the socialist sector is created in agriculture and that sector, by virtue of its nature does not differ from the other branches of the national economy;

agriculture can and must be integrated into the national economic planning system and must develop at corresponding rhythms and in corresponding proportions.

Therefore, the nationalization of the land created all of the premises necessary for the radical reconstruction of agriculture, for the commitment of the peasants to agricultural production on a large scale, and for their active participation in the construction of socialism. It opened the way to the implementation of the revolutionary agrarian reform in the rural areas which--by virtue of its political and economic significance, as V. Lenin said--can be equated to the political revolution for the conquest of power.

The main tasks of the agrarian revolution consist in the abolition of feudal and semifeudal production relationships in agriculture, in the elimination of

exploitation of the peasant masses and in the implementation of the slogan: "The land belongs to him who works it."

But why are we talking about the objective need for agricultural changes in the Mozambican rural areas? There are many reasons for this and, as we see it, the main reasons are as follows.

Without the organization of collective production, on a large scale, moreover, the country cannot effectively use its main source of wealth and national asset--the land--as an essential means of production in agriculture.

The People's Republic of Mozambique is one of the world's few countries to be well supplied with land although at the same time the land use rate is low. It suffices to say that, according to data supplied by the 1970 agriculture survey, land for agricultural use and nature protection occupied only about 15 million hectares or 19 percent of national territory. Out of this arable land, areas with permanent crops and pastures, in other words the land that feeds the country, constitute about 5 million hectares or less than 10 percent of the area that can be cultivated. At the same time the country has 52.8 million hectares of as yet unoccupied land which however can be used for farming; that area constitutes 66 percent of the country's total surface. Only 0.4 hectare of land is being used per-capita in Mozambique for agricultural purposes, while in the future it will be possible to use more than 5 hectares. By way of comparison, almost the same cultivated area on a per-capita basis (0.3-0.6 hectare) is used in the economically developed countries, but at an extremely high level of intensity in terms of exploitation and with a per-hectare harvest yield which greatly exceeds this country's figures. Mozambican soil has been waiting for man--that intelligent and concerned peasant.

The weather conditions and the land, the existence of many rivers and lakes--these make it possible to organize modern agriculture in the country, such as it is necessary to supply the population with food and to supply the country's industry with raw materials and stop almost all import of food products. It can and must regain its position on the world market and step up the export of farm products in order to earn foreign exchange which is so necessary for the reconstruction of the existing sectors and the creation of new branches in the national economy. On the basis of the stocks accumulated in agriculture, it is now possible to move forward to the country's industrialization and to the creation of new jobs, as well as the strengthening of the country's economic independence. But organizing modern agriculture in the broadest sense of this word, based on the existing family sector, is impossible. This is why agricultural changes, the radical reorganization of the family sector, in which the majority of the country's population is employed, is becoming the main thrust of the further development of the entire national economy.

The changes are also aimed at developing an agriculture that will be well balanced in terms of its branch-by-branch composition, suitable for diversifying production and for producing the necessary quantity of products and improving the diet. According to UN data ("1983 Third World Guide," p 47),

the country's per-capita consumption in 1978-1980 was 1,891 calories and 38.4 [illegible] grams of proteins, instead of 2,500 calories and 100 grams of proteins necessary for normal life. Malnutrition and the severe shortage of proteins in general, including those of animal origin, had a negative effect on the population's health.

On the basis of joint production organization, the rural population, rallied in the communal villages, has the opportunity to improve its cultural living standard, to make use of the achievements of culture, modern science, and medicine, and to give its children an education in keeping with this modern century.

In addition to the material and cultural problems, the changes in agriculture are aimed at radically reorganizing the productive life of the vast peasant masses. Today, the peasant in the family sector is helpless as he faces nature and uses rudimentary work equipment; this is why he cannot increase the cultivated area without mechanical production equipment and a sufficient number of draft animals, nor can he apply modern agricultural technology on his small piece of land; by the same token, he cannot increase and diversify his output and is restricted to the production of the means of subsistence and, in some cases, a small surplus. He cannot increase his labor productivity without the use of modern machinery, selected seeds, chemical fertilizer, pesticides, irrigation, pure-bred cattle, etc., and is forced to continue the way of life that was characteristic to his forebears for past centuries. The daily manual and exhausting work of today's peasant, inherited from the past, does not and cannot give him satisfaction in moral or material terms. There is a growing gap between reality, such as it exists in the family sector's small-scale economy and the possibility the peasants can derive from the application of the gains of science and modern technology which often facilitate his work and which would make it more attractive and more efficient. While a peasant in the family sector is now in a certain way accustomed to working under such working conditions, his sons and daughters, educated in the schools, will need new working conditions, new living conditions that will be characteristic of the new times.

Looking ahead to the future a little bit, many sons of farmers will leave agriculture and constitute the working class in the cities, turning their backs on the rest of the farmers whose numbers will have shrunk; those farmers will have the task of increasing the output of food products and raw materials for the growing working class and industry. Extrapolating the existing situation in the family sector to the near future, it becomes evident that, without profound changes, it cannot accomplish the tasks that will arise. This situation will become an obstacle to the country's subsequent development because the level of produced product sales is low. Here is an example. In 1983, the country's agriculture produced 291,000 tons of corns, including 249,000 from the family sector or 85 percent. In that same sector, 24,900 tons were sold, in other words, 10 percent of the quantity produced. The respective statistics for rice are 85,000, 43,000, 68 percent, 1,500, and 3.5 percent. The main body of the country's labor force is now employed in the family sector and that sector in 1983 produced 85 percent of the corn, 66 percent of the rice, 100 percent of "mapira" [a grain], beans, cassava, 85 percent of the

citrus fruit, and 51 percent of the cotton. But its specific share in the sale of these products was low. This labor force could make a much greater contribution to the country's economic growth if it were placed within the molds of modern production, of collective production.

In surveying the situation for the near future, the Ministry of Agriculture prepared some estimated calculations regarding the country's requirements for farm products for 13 million inhabitants, based on minimum per-capita consumption standards. Here are the requirement figures for the main product items, compared to the output actually achieved.

Products	Output Level Reached (1,000 t)	Necessary Output Level (1,000 t)
Corn	324	936
Rice	65	624
"Mapira" [a grain]	198	156
Potatoes	5	312
Cassava	2,609	3,900
Soybeans	2	78
Sunflower Seeds	2	156
Peanuts	37	78
Beans	10	156
Vegetables	50	962
Citrus Fruit	224	624
Sugar	160	352

Increasing the output of farm products to reach the planned level is a task for all sectors in agriculture--state, cooperative, private, and family. But the decisive role in the attainment of this goal must be played by the state and cooperative sectors on the basis of an increase in the cultivated area, an increase in the land utilization intensity, and the large-scale use of modern machinery.

The state's opportunities for giving the peasants modern agricultural equipment at the price at which the equipment is bought abroad are increasing and there will also be more of an opportunity to produce that equipment domestically.

The equipment and the other production tools cost much money in terms of foreign exchange on the world market and this equipment must therefore be used in a skilled and efficient manner. It is therefore impossible to use this equipment in an agriculture system that is scattered over small pieces of land throughout the vast national territory.

Many economic and social factors thus underscore the need for profound changes in agriculture. Here we might cite the words of V. Lenin after the victory of the October Socialist Revolution in Russia with which he characterized similar conditions: "If we continue to use the old ways, even though the citizens will be free on free soil, we will be threatened with imminent failure in all cases."

NOTICIAS: During the years you spent in Mozambique, you studied some of the country's social-economic phenomena and you became an expert on our way of life. On the basis of your personal experience, what, in your opinion, are the chief political implications resulting from the agricultural changes that have taken place in Mozambique?

Nikolay Grib: In addition to the economic and social advantages, there are political advantages deriving from the nationalization of the farm sector.

The establishment of collective production in agriculture provides an opportunity for doing away with the exploitation of man by man and preventing the differentiation of the peasantry into groups of rich and poor peasants, with all of the negative consequences deriving from that.

Nationalization of the farms is one of the main routes to the transformation of social relations in society and the creation of the Mozambican nation. As we know, the main index determining nation status is the common character of economic life. On that basis, within a people who lives over a long period of time in the same territory and speaks the same language and finds itself under the influence of the same conditions of existence, the common features of national identity are found to take shape. The establishment of the community of economic life with a national character takes place through the abolition of the division of the country's inhabitants into groups or tribes and by means of the establishment of economic, social, and cultural vehicles between the individuals making up society.

The changes in agriculture are currently taking place in two ways:

creation of state agricultural enterprises;

development of various forms of cooperation and primarily its higher form of agricultural cooperation.

The experience of the agricultural changes that have taken place testifies that the state enterprises are being organized above all on the basis of the old capitalists (foreign and national) sector in agriculture which has been nationalized by the state. The poor peasants become involved in socialist construction through agricultural cooperativization, in other words, the organization of cooperatives in the rural areas.

Avoid Errors That Discredit Cooperation

NOTICIAS: In your theoretical approach to the problem of cooperation among peasants, you talked about different forms and levels. How do you interpret the Mozambican experience and what are the characteristics which it presents, what problems exist here?

Nikolay Grib: During the first few years of independence, parallel to the establishment of the state sector, cooperation was launched in Mozambique in

the rural areas in the form of Law No 9/79, approved by the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly; that law defined the foundations of the organization of the cooperatives in various branches of the national economy. The law called for the organization of the following cooperatives throughout the country: (a) agricultural production; (b) fishing production; (c) industrial production; (d) crafts production; (e) consumer cooperatives; (f) housing; (g) services.

The five first forms were developed in the process of cooperativization although at a pace that was not equal in all cases. Here, the consumer cooperatives and the agricultural producer cooperatives revealed faster paces, thus reflecting the country's vital needs.

Worldwide experience shows that agricultural producer cooperatives, during their process of organization, make a transition through a line of simple cooperatives to higher-level producer cooperatives. There are various types of simple cooperatives which differ from each other in terms of the following:

level of socialization of labor and means of production;

manner of distribution of yields obtained in the cooperative;

the attention devoted to agricultural cooperativization during the first few years provided an opportunity for gathering experience in the organization of cooperatives throughout the country which must be studied and which must be enriched for its subsequent application.

One of the first forms of agricultural cooperation consisted of the collective plantations. Here, a specific number of peasants, under the leadership of the political agencies (party cell, GD [motivation group], OMM [Organization of Mozambique Women], OJM [Mozambique Youth Organization]) gathered together in order jointly to cultivate a piece of land with their own work equipment. Here, the leadership bodies are not elected and the work participation of each individual in common work activities is not accounted for. The results of common labor in most cases are not distributed to the benefit of each participant but are used for collective investments. This is the lower form of collective establishments where the peasants acquire practice as to the advantages of common labor and where they organize themselves politically in order to move on to the higher form of cooperation. Each of them has his own family plantation or farm to produce the products necessary for his family.

This form opens the way toward the recovery of abandoned land and the increase in the planted area throughout the country and this quite obviously makes it possible to increase the farm output. On the basis of the money earned from the sale of the products of the collective farm, the peasants now have the opportunity to purchase the necessary means of production and to earmark a portion of that for social purposes (construction of schools, medical stations, wells, literacy training, strengthening the political and defense agencies). Looking at the specific conditions, the experience of the collective farms can be extended to rehabilitate the cashew plantations and to start

the joint raising of small animal species, etc. The collective farms are the germ of the future cooperatives and their organization has an economic, political, and educational significance, although it forces some additional efforts upon the peasants (in addition to the family farm) which, in the final analysis, will not be useless as far as they are concerned. Very often, these efforts can make up for the effects of part-time employment in agriculture and provide additional impetus for the development of monetary and mercantile relations in the rural areas.

There were 27 collective farms in the Province of Niassa in 1980, consisting of 668 peasants who cultivated 833 hectares of land. In the Province of Inhambane the figures were, respectively, 11,523 and 86. In recent times, the attention devoted to this form has declined for various reasons. I want to emphasize that, in addition to the collective farms as a form of peasant involvement in the cooperativization process, there are also the precooperatives. We can consider them as an intermediate form between the collective farm and the agricultural cooperative. Organized on the same basis, the precooperatives organize the distribution of the yields obtained in proportion to the work done in collective farm work or, in some cases, in proportion to the number of family members. They still lack the duly elected management structures and the internal structures for production and labor which are necessary to establish permanent in-house accounting. The yields obtained in the precooperative complete those derived from the family farm, thus raising the living standard of the peasants. Here the level of labor socialization is raised, the foundations are prepared for distribution in accordance with work done, and in going through this form, the peasants acquire habits of common work and they appreciate its moral value, labor discipline, the need for adequate organization of the collective, and through this a bridge is built toward the institution of the principles of the producer cooperative in reality.

Early in 1980 (although the data are still incomplete), 145 precooperatives were organized throughout the country. They included 9,558 peasants and the cultivated area came to 4,535 hectares. The average size of a precooperative is 65 peasants and 31 hectares of land. There were 16 precooperatives in the Province of Nampula with a total area of 717 hectares, supported by the work of 2,034 peasants; in the Province of Inhambane, the corresponding statistics are 14,692 and 2,843; in Zambezia, they are 14,649 and 1,400 hectares. The good experience in the organization of the precooperatives is now spreading to all provinces. It only takes a qualitative step from the precooperative to the agricultural cooperative. That step can be taken by means of the gradual application of the principles of the standard charter for the cooperative. In this case, the work of the government agencies, of the democratic mass organizations, of the state's economic and financial aid associations as well as the time required constitute the factors which can help the peasants take this step.

The precooperative contains a modified form of cooperatives on a lower level, organized in other countries, but geared toward the country's specific conditions.

Both of the forms mentioned here cannot be viewed as finished forms in the process of cooperativization. They are different degrees in the transition from the lower cooperative form to the higher form, in other words, to the agricultural producer cooperative. This likewise does not mean that the cooperative movement necessarily has to go through these forms. The specific conditions as to the level of awareness of the peasants in a cooperative sense, the development level of the agricultural production forces in a specific region, the government aid which can be given through MECANAGRO, the possible supplies of seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, loans, and other items many times can suggest to officials of the cooperative movement to what degree it is possible to begin cooperativization. This process can start with the collective farm and the precooperative and even the agricultural cooperative. It all depends. The only thing necessary here is for the process to be well prepared so as not to discredit the idea of the cooperative with all of the negative consequences as far as the future is concerned.

So far I have been talking about the lower forms of cooperation in agricultural production. But this does not mean that, parallel to this, the farmers themselves, through these forms, cannot organize other forms of cooperation. On the contrary, the need for consumer cooperatives in this case is quite evident. But here, again, the consumer cooperative, by expanding its activities, can take over the functions of the supply cooperative of the peasants in the communal village, furnishing them industrial articles, and it can organize the shipment of agricultural product surpluses turned out by the partners. Here we come to the rural consumer cooperative and these functions can be characteristic of it.

The peasants of the private sector, which may be adjacent as far as the territory is concerned, can organize sales cooperatives together with the producers of their specialty, the joint agricultural equipment utilization cooperatives (machinery pool), and others.

In addition to this, to employ the labor force of the communal village effectively, it is possible to organize a crafts cooperative, a construction materials producer cooperative, a coal, wood, and other producer cooperatives. They can be organized separately or their activity can be integrated in the form of sections or workshops of the agricultural cooperative of the particular village. We think that the second way is preferable since it does not presuppose the dispersion of the village's labor force outside the activity of the agricultural cooperative. This depends on the specific conditions of a communal village.

But, the interest of the agricultural cooperative in the village must somehow be dominant since the production of food products is the main task of agriculture.

State Sector Is Good or Bad, Management Is Something Else Again

NOTICIAS: You made reference to the state sector as an important element in agricultural changes. How do you view the role and experience of this sector in Mozambique?

Nikolay Grib: The general outlines of agricultural reconstruction on the way toward socialism were charted in the resolutions of the Third and Fourth congresses of the FRELIMO Party in the documents of the meetings of the party's Central Committee and the People's Assembly.

"The satisfaction of food needs, the supply of raw materials for the nation's industry, the export and organization of cooperatives and communal villages constitute central objectives which must be attained," it says in the report of the Central Committee to the Fourth Congress (p 30) and it continues: "Thus, during the period that separates us from the Fifth Congress activities aimed at rural development must provide broad support for the cooperative, private, and family sectors and for the reorganization and consolidation of the state agricultural sector" (p 34). "The cooperatives deserve special attention" (p 35). Soon after the proclamation of independence, in an effort to lay the foundations of socialist producer relationships in the rural areas and in order rapidly to regain the farm output level under the conditions of the massive abandonment of the former owners, it was decided to create the state sector in the country's agriculture within the context of the state enterprises. Throughout the years of independent development, the state sector has been expanded and the number of state enterprises reached 122 with a cultivated area of 225,000 hectares. The dimensions varied from 1.5 [as published] to 10,000 and more hectares per enterprise. In 1984, this sector sold about half of the cotton, 54 percent of the corn, 60 percent of the rice, 65 percent of the sunflower seeds, 100 percent of the tea and citrus fruit, 34 percent of the coprah, 58 percent of the sisal, 52 percent of the beef, 66 percent of the pork, 100 percent of the chickens, and 95 percent of the eggs. Together with the agricultural cooperatives, the state enterprises constitute the country's socialist agriculture system where the agricultural detachment of the working class and the cooperativist peasantry are at work, thus in practice forming the united alliance.

In looking over the situation in the state enterprises at the time of the Fourth Congress, the Central Committee report states the following: "The state enterprises have not yet reached the desired levels of organization and the output and productivity indexes are not satisfactory"(p 31). "The central task of the state enterprises during this phase is to achieve higher yields and lower costs so as to upgrade the investments that were made and to turn the sector into a source for accumulation. It is necessary to define the limits of responsibility of each enterprise in the light of the results of its management" (p 35).

On the basis of these guidelines and to provide an incentive for the work of the state enterprises (and also the other agriculture sectors) and to raise the level of their economic effectiveness, the cabinet of the RPM [People's Republic of Mozambique] approved a series of measures to revive the production and sales circuits in the country (NOTICIAS, 13 May 1985). They are oriented toward the expansion of the autonomy of the enterprises, the rights of their managers, and along with this the producer purchase prices are also being raised (BOLETIM DA REPUBLICA, Series II, No 21, 23 May 1985). This is how the economic and organization foundations of the work of the state enterprises are

laid and everything else depends on the management level of the enterprises, the extent to which the economic calculation system is being used by them.

It must be mentioned that the vast state sector in agriculture works in all socialist countries and reveals a high degree of economic efficiency. It has become a big producer of food and raw materials, giving the state budget a significant portion of the profits. I would thus like to say a few words now in defense of the state enterprises to forestall any false interpretations of the ineffectiveness of the state sector under the conditions of a transitional and mixed economy, in other words, interpretations which often are made by some outsider or which are disclosed by incompetent persons. It is necessary to differentiate the state sector as such and its bad or good management. An enterprise in any sector cannot reveal the necessities inherent in its nature if it is poorly managed.

5058

CSO: 3442/12

MOZAMBIQUE

GUIJA PRIVATE FARMERS INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] Private farmers in the Guija district of Gaza are bent on putting an end to famine in that area, striving to produce the greatest possible diversity of crops, even during hot seasons, and annually expanding the planted areas. The best-known farmers in the area, who have distinguished themselves in all the campaigns through their efforts to end famine, are Victor Pereira, Gabriel Geane and Alexandre Chiboa, the first two located in the communal village of Tomanine, and the other in that of Chinhanganine.

Victor Manuel Nunes Pereira, a private farmer in the communal village of Tomanine, in the district of Guija, Gaza, prepared 17 hectares on which he planted tomatoes, cabbage, potatoes, onions and broad beans. He also had a hectare of banana trees, a quarter of a hectare for growing papayas and another quarter of a hectare with hot peppers.

According to Victor Manuel, the production from the 1983-84 agricultural campaign brought good results. On the same area, he produced 153 tons of green vegetables, 907 kilograms of bananas, 886 kilograms of papayas, 669 kilograms of mangos, 75 of grain and 75 of hot peppers. According to the farmer, he sold the products to the population of Guija, Chokwe, Xai-Xai and Maputo. At the conclusion of the campaign he netted 12,596,177.00 meticals.

The farmer lacks fuel for a pump and engine and tractors, as well as hoes. He raises small animals, consisting of 272 pigs, 13 small goats and 12 chickens. He has 24 employees who work from 0700 until 1200 hours, and then from 1400 to 1700 hours.

In Chinhanganine

Another private farmer from the communal village of Chinhanganine, in the same district, prepared 15 hectares. He planted 8.5 hectares with green vegetables, 4 with cassava, 1 with butter beans and another 1 with corn. Gabriel says that, during the 1984-85 agricultural campaign, he produced cotton on a quarter of a hectare.

He is engaged in the harvesting of the cotton from the 1984-85 agricultural campaign.

According to Geane, during the 1983-84 agricultural campaign, he produced 16 bags of nhemba beans, 15 bags of peanuts and a ton of cassava and leafy vegetables on 10 hectares. He sold the leafy vegetables to the village population and made 200,000 meticals. The other products were used for his own consumption.

To cultivate his farms, Gabriel Geane uses four yoke of oxen and a MECANAGRO [Agricultural Machinery Enterprise] tractor, which has aided him. To irrigate, he uses three pump and engine units. Two are damaged as a result of a lack of parts (piston and casing).

The farmer raises animals: 70 oxen, eight sheep, 25 chickens and eight ducks. He works with 25 employees, from 0700 until 1200 hours and from 1400 to 1700 hours. He has 400,000 meticals deposited in the bank.

In Tomanine

The last farmer, also private, is located in the communal village of Tomanine, also in Guija district. He prepared 10 hectares for the 1985-86 agricultural campaign, planting tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, sweet potatoes, onions, garlic, lettuce and butter beans. He is engaged in preparing 4 hectares on which he will plant corn during the hot season of the 1985-86 agricultural campaign.

According to Alexandre Lumbela [sic], during the 1983-84 agricultural campaign he planted corn, black beans, nhemba beans, peanuts and tomatoes on 20 hectares. The production was not satisfactory, owing to the rats and the cold. He earned 200,000 meticals, purchasing a pump and engine for 150,000 meticals.

The farmer lacks transportation for removing his products, fuel for the pump and engine and hoes. To work, he uses four yoke of oxen with two plows; and for irrigation he uses a pump and engine. He has seven workers, who work from 0500 until 1200 hours, and from 1400 to 1700 hours.

2909

CSO: 3442/15

MOZAMBIQUE

EFRIPEL TO HARVEST FISH TOGETHER WITH SHRIMP

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] There has now been created an agency of EFRIPEL [Mozambican-Japanese Fishing Enterprise], which has been operating since last year in the Pebane district headquarters. According to the agency's head, Joaquim Ribeiro, it was created in that area as an immediate response to the provincial government's decisions associated with the complete utilization of fauna accompanying the shrimp caught by the EFRIPEL and PESCOM [Mozambican Fishing Enterprise] trawlers. Previously, the small fish had been thrown back into the water.

According to that official, EFRIPEL made two motor-boats available, which made the transfer from the fishing vessels at sea, collecting the fish, which is later sold to the population, either fresh or dried.

From the beginning of its activity until the end of the first half of this year, over 174 tons of fish were unloaded. The subject of our interview added that the fresh fish is sold in the vicinity of the district headquarters, and the dried fish, besides supplying the local FAM, is used to supply the districts of Gile, Maganja da Costa, Ile and Alto-Molocue.

The agency is currently faced with the problem of a lack of transportation for rapid removal of the fish from the port to the agency headquarters, which has entailed expenses for paying freight charges. Moreover, the lack of spare parts could seriously affect the vessels, which are already showing constant damage.

The agency intends to expand and remodel the site where the fish is sold, so as to better serve the public.

2909

CSO: 3442/16

MOZAMBIQUE

MANJACAZE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANCED SOCIALIZED FARMING DISTRICT

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 21 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] The provincial director of construction and water in Gaza considers the district of Manjacaze to be the most advanced in the socialization of agriculture. Victor Malapenda made this assertion at the conclusion of a working visit of nearly a month to the district, where he observed over 100,000 persons now living in 72 communal villages, with a minimum of infrastructure and organization.

That member of the Gaza provincial committee expressed the view that the success of the rapid organization of the population into communal villages was due to the exhaustive mobilization action that the party and state agencies are still carrying out in the entire district, aimed at better pooling of the efforts to combat famine and the armed bandits.

Addressing the members of the district government, Victor Malapenda claimed that the increase in the communal villages and the influx of the population into the production centers and organized living must be matched with an equal effort to create social infrastructures that will ensure a rapid stabilization of the population's existence, in the areas of health, housing, and water in particular.

Commenting on features associated with his field, Victor Malapenda gave precise instructions so that the survey of the requirements in equipment for the water supply for the population would be completed as quickly as possible; at the same time announcing that he would place a tractor at the district's disposal to facilitate the travel of technicians to repair damaged wells.

In his assessment of the work in the district, that official said that the construction of schools and hospital units must be intensified in all the communal villages. He recommended that the district government, starting now and in cooperation with the provincial government, should study the status of the school system, to respond to the new conditions that the socialization of agriculture has imposed.

Victor Malapenda praised all the agencies of the communal villages, particularly those of Chicogolo, for their high degree of organization, which is reflected in the collective life-style and the extent of the village's infrastructural development.

The provincial director of construction and water spent nearly a month visiting the district of Manjacaze, heading a brigade from the provincial government which was commissioned to check the degree of fulfillment of the territorial programs in Gaza.

2909

CSO: 3442/15

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

FOOD EXPERTS TRAINED--A few days ago, at the facilities of the FO-2 Project in the locality of Michafutene, in the district of Marracuene, Maputo, the nutrition course sponsored by the Red Cross of Mozambique provincial agency, concluded. Participating in the course were 15 cooks from social centers and child day care centers of the Uaimbale, Mucapana, Marracuene and Michafutene production units. According to a source from the Red Cross of Mozambique agency in Maputo, the course was aimed at instruction on the use of nutritious foods, relying on local facilities and diversity in meals. The necessary care for the diet of expectant mothers and children, individual hygiene and grooming and that in residences and work sites, as well as the preparation of "loa," a nutritious food made from milk, were also subjects discussed during that meeting. According to the same source, the experience gained from the course will make it possible for the nutritionists who were trained to disseminate this information in communal villages, especially those housing populations recently recovered from the armed bandits. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Sep 85 p 3] 2909

AGREEMENT WITH NETHERLANDS--Last Monday, Mozambique and Holland concluded a round of talks intended to review the cooperation programs in the field of agricultural water supply. Initial contacts were made last February. The second phase of these contacts was concluded during the week which has just ended with the signing, on Monday, of a protocol in which the two parties stressed their intention to continue the same programs in the future. The photo shows the moment at which the protocol was being signed. The document was signed for the Mozambican side by Secretary of State for Agricultural Water Supply, Rui Gonzalez and, for the Dutch side, by Dr P. C. Harkema, director, Southern Africa Division, Ministry of Cooperation and Development, of that country. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 25 Sep 85 p 10] 5058

CSO: 3442/12

NIGERIA

RADIO VIEWS COMMONWEALTH STAND ON RSA ISSUE

AB221355 Lagos International Service in English 0950 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Viewpoint]

[Text] [Words indistinct] African governments to dismantle the apartheid system and the existence of state of emergency as well as release the leader of the African National Congress [ANC] Mr Nelson Mandela. South Africa was also asked to initiate dialogue. The Commonwealth conference also agreed on a series of economic sanctions. These include an end to governments' loans to South Africa as well as an end to new government subsidies for tourism and exhibition. The interesting thing about these measures is that Britain, an avowed opponent of sanctions against racist South Africa, was part of the agreement. This is a welcomed development in the sense that Britain has realized the publicity of its hard-line stand against the rest of the world on sanctions against South Africa. But come to think of it, Margaret Thatcher's government had no choice on this issue against the rest of the Commonwealth members. As the leader of the Commonwealth, Britain would have found itself completely isolated if it had dragged its feet. The entire world community has all along realized that only tough and far-reaching measures against the agents of darkness in South Africa can bring about meaningful changes in that country.

It is a well-known fact that the racist regime is being sustained by influx of capitals from western countries like Britain. But ironically, public opinion in these countries is very much in favor of dismantling apartheid without further delay. For example, over the weekend, two European cities, London and Amsterdam, were scenes of protest against South Africa. In London about 3,000 students demonstrated outside the South African Embassy. In Amsterdam, there were attacks on banks and companies with business ties with South Africa. Therefore, the measures taken by the Commonwealth conference in Nassau, Bahamas, conform with the trend of laws against apartheid world-wide. It is only through such measures that genuine changes can come to South Africa. But we only hope that every Commonwealth country, without exception, will line up to the letter and spirit of their commendable agreements on South Africa.

This is because the only language the Pretoria regime understands is the language of force. And this is what the Commonwealth leaders are trying to impress on racist South Africa.

/12929

CS0: 3400/259

NIGERIA

FOREIGN POLICY SUCCESS DEPENDS ON STRONG DOMESTIC BASE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 28 Sep 85 pp 1, 7

[Text]

NIGERIA's ability to overcome its domestic problems would earn her much more respect and provide the country with durable arsenals for successful thrusts in foreign affairs and defence

against external threats.

This was the view expressed by a former Chancellor of the University of Ibadan and the Chairman of the New Nigerian Newspapers Limited, Professor Tekena Tamuno while delivering a lecture titled: "Nigeria: its people, its problems", in Lagos on Wednesday at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs as part of activities marking the country's 25th anniversary celebrations.

Professor Tamuno was also of the view that the country's defence posture and stature in international relations flow directly and indirectly from our strength at home as President Babangida also agreed.

He said participation of Nigeria in African and world affairs "needs to be strengthened and sustained with a home-made diet — rich, complete and competitive.

Professor Tamuno was further of the view that "to do otherwise is to inflict incalculable damage on Nigeria's image at home and abroad."

The chairman argued that a demonstration of strength with firmness of purpose would convince actual and potential friends and enemies alike of the country's ability to defend its genuine national interests outside the country.

He therefore suggested that Nigeria's foreign policy for the 1990s and beyond needs a redefinition in terms of what its economy and sustainable resources could bear.

He argued that foreign policy which is understood "as the embodiment of the national interest extra-territorially makes little sense without a viable nation-state which successfully resists all attempts to sell its body and soul to the creditors and interests of other nations."

Professor Tamuno attributed the success of Nigeria's overt and covert interventions in the crisis over independence for Angola and Zimbabwe in the 1970s stemmed from her strength and confidence at home.

He said, "no such ventures over Namibia or South Africa can compel a similar turn of events for as long as Nigeria's economy and domestic fortunes do not impress vested interests abroad."

The chairman was of the view that some of these vested interests happened to be not only Nigeria's principal trading partners but also South Africa's best friends.

Professor Tamuno also argued that the country's domestic problems also affect our defence mechanisms and posture outside the country adding that the country's image would suffer in the comity of nations and among

trading partners who value both stability and security of investments.

Professor Tamuno argued that it was because of such reasons and many more others that the crisis of development strikes at the roots of at least three key issues.

These, he said, are underpinning of political independence, the satisfaction of the ascertained and agreed needs of the people as

well as the ultimate survival of the nation in its perennial struggle with the grim realities of change and complexity both within and outside the country.

He was also of the view that costly and perhaps extravagant cultural and similar fiestas of the FESTAC 1977 would achieve only transient objectives.

Professor Tamuno said that regional commitments of the ECOWAS type, another product of Nigeria's era of oil wealth as events in 1983, last and this year have demonstrated combined unmistakable pluses and minuses.

/12828

CSO: 3400/232

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA ADDRESSES TRADITIONAL RULERS

Kaduna SUNDAY NEW NIGERIAN in English 6 Oct 85 pp 1,4

[Article by Nkem Agetua]

[Text] Traditional rulers in the country have been assigned the responsibility of promoting the spirit of unity and integration amongst all Nigerians.

The President, Major General Ibrahim Babangida, in his first meeting with the nation's traditional rulers yesterday at the State House, Marina, said that they should be the main stabilizing agents in the society.

He told them that "the peaceful co-existence of citizens therefore rests on your shoulders squarely and I expect that as part of your contribution to the success of the government, you will ensure the stability."

General Babangida urged them to be showing examples in the "singleness of purpose in upholding and enhancing unity of the country in your inter-actions with your peers and relationship with the other people's of Nigeria."

He pointed out that a credible role has been outlined for traditional rulers where they perform as impartial advisers who should see the entire society as their area of operation.

The president advised them that as traditional rulers they were expected to serve as fathers to their people "guiding them in the path of rectitude as you embody the accumulated wisdom of the land enshrined in our customs, traditions and culture.

He expressed the administration's belief that the burden of rulership would be considerably more bearable, socially more acceptable and truly more effective where the people from all walks of life were genuinely encouraged to regard the government as their own.

General Babangida pointed out that this they would do if the opportunity was offered them to contribute in ideas, time and resources to the solutions of the problems that beset the nation.

He reaffirmed that the government would at all times be disposed to listen to the aspirations and yearnings of the people and would be appreciative of the significant contributions of any group with the interest of the nation at heart.

General Babangida disclosed that the government was seriously looking into the recommendations of the Local Government Review panel with a view to applying those aspects that would make the duty of government easier and burden of creating an egalitarian society lighter.

He then assured the traditional rulers that he would create a forum whereby, he would be meeting them from time to time "to hear the views of your subjects and also seek your advise in aspect of government."

Earlier in an address on behalf of the traditional rulers, the Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Mustapha Umar El Kapemihad pledged their support and cooperation to the government.

He prayed to God to help the leadership to ensure a peaceful, prosperous and stable country.

All the 19 state traditional council of obas, emirs obis and chiefs were represented at the occasion.

/12828

CSO: 3400/235

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA CALLS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COUNCILS

Kaduna SUNDAY NEW NIGERIAN in English 29 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Nkem Agetua]

[Text] **THE various services of the Armed Forces, including the police, have been urged to set up "services advisory councils" at various levels to ensure the full participation of all members of the armed forces in the affairs of government.**

The President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Major General Ibrahim Babangida, gave the directive last weekend while addressing officers of the Armed Forces and the Police Force at the National Assembly Complex, Lagos.

General Babangida said that the council would be charged with responsibilities for advising the various commanders on topical issues.

He said that the council

would meet at specified times and debate issues that concern government, and "pass on recommendations to appropriate commanders who will forward them through members of the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC), state governors or ministers to the president to enable him to make decisions for the good of everybody."

General Babangida said that in this way, it was hoped that all officers would be given an opportunity to participate in the governance of the country.

The president pointed out to the officers that if the govern-

ment failed "it is we the armed forces that have failed."

He then advised them that as members of the Armed Forces, they must accept responsibility for the actions and pronouncements of government.

President Babangida then restated the objectives of the government which include making the nation's economy stable ensuring a disciplined, united, patriotic, productive and secure Nigerian society and commendable industrial and commercial growth.

He said the government would also strive to achieve self-sufficiency in food production, cash crops, good and clean drinking water, sufficient and efficient health facilities, abundant opportunity for functional education and jobs, a balanced and efficient civil service and effective and efficient armed forces.

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CSO: 3400/233

NIGERIA

BABANGIDA CRITICIZES COUNTER-TRADE AGREEMENTS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 28 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

THE President, Major-General Ibrahim Babangida, has criticised counter-trade agreements entered into by the previous administration.

He said that most of the things Nigeria purchased under the counter-trade agreement during the last military regime were consumer items like milk, sugar and rice.

General Babangida who hinted at the Federal Government's present position on the issue of counter-trade on Monday, said that Nigeria's engagement in counter-trade may yet continue but will be for projects that are very vital

to the economic development of the country.

He said that this time around, the government would continue the trade on vital projects like petro-chemical or even development of power but certainly not on consumer goods.

Asked what the Federal Government was doing on import licences issued against the counter-trade agreement deals with some countries but later recalled, the president explained that such action was more or less what happened in the past whereby contracts were signed and contractors later called to renegotiate some of the terms.

He said that government's recent action in setting up a panel to look into the issue of counter-trade was to determine "whether this time around, some of these things are necessary."

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CSO: 3400/232

NIGERIA

AIR FORCE RANKS TO BE REPRESENTED IN ADVISORY PANEL

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 5 Oct 85 p 19

[Text]

THE Air Officer Commanding the Logistics Command of the Nigerian Airforce (NAF), Air Commodore Nura Imam, said that each of the 19 ranks of the

force would be represented on the military advisory committee to be set up by the command.

Air Commodore Imam who was addressing airmen under his command, said that this was in keeping with the present administration's open-door policy.

He said that the committee would include commanders of units, senior officers, warrant officers and airmen on the rank of sergeant and below.

He explained that the committee would deliberate on the actions and policies of the government and make suggestions which would be forwarded to the AFRC through him.

Air Commodore Imam said that the problems of welfare, accommodation and uniforms within the command would be solved as soon as possible.

He urged the airmen to show more devotion to duty and to ensure the maintenance and cleanliness of their barracks through the planting of trees to beautify their surroundings.

Air Commodore Imam, who later held a closed-door meeting with senior non-commissioned officers of the command, is expected to address the senior officers today.

President Ibrahim Babangida said last week that the armed forces and the police should set up services advisory councils in their various units to advise the government. (NAN).

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CSO: 3400/234

NIGERIA

NEW AIR FORCE ASSIGNMENTS ANNOUNCED

Kano THE TRIUMPH in English 5 Oct 85 p 16

[Text]

THE Nigeria Air Force Headquarters in Lagos has announced the re-assignment of two Air Commodores, nine Group Captains, nine Wing Commander Squadron Leaders.

According to a statement by the Air Force, the former military governor of Kwara State, Group Captain Salaudeen Latipwo replaces Group Captain Y.O. Ajisefinni as Director of Administration while the former incumbent moves to Tanzania as defence adviser.

The statement said that Group Captain M. Aliyu has been appointed Director of Personnel and that Wing Commander I.M. Ita has been posted to Kaduna as Base Services Organisation Commander.

Wing Commander B.R. Suara, one-time acting governor of Kaduna.

State and Base Commander, Kaduna, moves to Makurdi as Bantomeneer while the Ikoyi Base Commander, Wing Commander M.O. Salami has been posted to Ikeja, as Base Commander.

The base commander, Ikeja, Group Captain Patrick Ugbana is now the Director of Supply at the Air Force Headquarters. Group Captain E.O. Adeleye has been appointed Director of Operations in the Ministry of Defence and Group Captain I. Alkali moves to the post of Commander, Equipment Supply Department, Ikeja, Lagos.

Group Captain Joseph Femi takes over as Commandant of 301 Flying Training School, Kaduna while Group Captain J. Mbeka, becomes Director of Plans.

Air Commodore C.U. Ugah, former Deputy

Commandant of the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) is now the Director of Operations NAF, headquarters, while Air Commodore N.Z. Adama, former Director of Plans has been re-deployed to NDA as deputy commandant.

Other postings are Wing Commander M.B. Johnson, Director of Weapons, and Wing Commander. E. Ombu, Deputy Defence Adviser, Washington: Wing Commander M.O. Ikpeazu, Commander 207 Wing Kano, Wing Commander L. Agbebi, Commander Nigerian Air Force Station, Benin.

Also affected are Sqn. Ldrs. Jim Adun, now Deputy Defence Adviser Cairo, J.O. Okoie, Commander 201 Wing, Enugu.

Group Captain R.U. Emaiku, becomes Commander Military Train-

ing Group, Kaduna:
Wing Commander J.A.
Akawo, Commander,
National Air Defence
Corps, Ikeja, Wing
Commander J.A.
Alagbe, Commander
Regiment Training
School, Jos and Wing
Commander J. Uku,
Group Captain Operations
Headquarters.

The statement signed
by the Director of Air
Force Public Relations
Wing Commander Tola
Adediji, said that most
of the postings and ap-
pointments take im-
mediate effect while
others have up to Janua-
ry to assume duties.
(NAN).

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CSO: 3400/234

NIGERIA

INFANTRY SCHOOL COMMANDANT ASSUMES DUTY

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 4 Oct 85 p 19

[Article by Bala Mohammed]

[Text] Brigadier Malami Mahe Nasarawa has assumed duty as the new Commandant of the Nigerian Army School of Infantry, Jaji.

Brigadier Malami who was the Adjutant-General of the Nigerian Army succeeds Brigadier M.B. Haladu.

According to a statement by the Army public relations department the new Commandant enlisted into the army as a Cadet in March 1963 after the completion of his secondary education in 1962. He had his cadet training young officers' course and subultant's course in Canada and also attended Junior Division Staff College and Intelligence course.

Brigadier Malami had his company Commander's course at Westminster in 1972, received the PSC. (passed staff college) in TRADOC 1981-83.

Brigadier Malami has held various civil appointments among which are Director, NNSC 1976 - 78; member Bayero University Senate 1970-81; member Bendel State Committee on the Prerogative of Mercy, 1975 and member Lagos Zone of the military tribunal, 1984-85.

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CSO: 3400/233

NIGERIA

DEBT SERVICING FIGURES, NEW CONTRACT AWARDS

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 30 Sep 85 p 32

[Article by Raheem Mohammed]

[Text]

THE Federal Government spent N1.13 billion in the first half of this year to service the nation's external debts.

This figure was contained in the Standard Chartered Review for the month of September published in London.

According to the review, the flows of foreign exchange during the first six months of the year resulted in a net surplus of N33.7 million since N5.52 billion was spent out of N5.55 billion realised during the period.

On petroleum, the Review revealed that Nigeria's oil production for the month of August stood at 1 million barrels per day.

It however stated that

official figures for January-May revealed output running at 1.56 million barrels per day.

The standard chartered Review also revealed that a major contract worth N5.5 million for the cleaning and lining of some 18km of trunk water mains from Iju Water Works near Lagos has been awarded to Tate Pipe Lining Processes of Manchester in the United Kingdom.

According to the review, work on the project is expected to start in November.

The review also revealed that Cadbury Nigeria Limited is to establish a N5 million tomato puree factory at Kura and is to obtain 90 per cent of its raw materials locally from UTC's new N10 million factory at Tenti also in Mangu area of Plateau State.

NIGERIA

HIGH LEVEL MANAGEMENT CHANGES AT NATIONAL PETROLEUM

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 5 Oct 85 p 24

[Text]

MANAGING Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation. Chief Festus Marinho has been retired along with three general managers and a manager.

The retirement which was the aftermath of a reorganisation announced last September 18, by the Minister of Petroleum Resources, Professor Tam David-West, after the Secretary to the Federal Military Government, Mr. Grey Longe.

Chief Marinho served in the same capacity in 1977 when the former Head of State. Retired Major-General Muhammadu Buhari was Chairman and Com-

missioner for Petroleum Resources.

A memorandum after his retirement stated that "with immediate effect, Alhaji A.M.S. Hashim, is being requested to take over responsibilities for the management of the NNPC pending further announcement on

the return of the minister from the OPEC meeting in Vienna.

In a message titled "retirement in the public interest" to all members of staff of the corporation, Chief Marinho bade them farewell on, what he called, his sudden retirement from the public service of the nation with immediate effect.

Before his reinstatement as managing director by the government of General Buhari last year, the Shagari government had sent him on an indefinite suspension in 1981, during the 2.8 billion Naira NNPC oil probe.

BUMPER HARVEST BRINGS DROP IN FOOD PRICES

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 3 Oct 85 pp 1,3

[Text]

PRICES of food items have fallen sharply in most towns in the northern states with the exception of Sokoto.

A New Nigerian survey showed that because of the bumper harvest this year, prices of food items in Kaduna, Jos, Kano and Yola have gone down by as much as 300 per cent.

However in Sokoto, prices have virtually remained the same because of the activities of some traders who hoard essential items to raise prices.

Our State Editor, Ibrahim Salihu, reports that one measure of millet still sells at two Naira, the standard measure of rice sells at 6.50 Naira and the medium measure at three Naira while a standard measure of guineacorn sells at three Naira.

In other parts of Sokoto State, prices have fallen by as much as 300 per cent. Maize, guineacorn and millet which sold between two and three Naira per standard measure now sells at their cheapest in more than 15 years.

At Yan Wanzamai, for example, a bag of maize which sold at over 100 Naira now costs 30 Naira. In Gusau one standard measure of millet sells at 1.30

Naira while a measure of guineacorn sells at 1.50 Naira against their 2.50 Naira and 3.00 Naira previous prices respectively.

At Chafe, the story was found to be encouraging because a standard measure of millet sells at 80 kobo or 1.00 Naira, while guineacorn was sold at 1.20 Naira.

At Argungu, where rice is grown on a large scale, a medium-sized measure is now sold at 2.00 Naira.

In Kalgo, a town not far from Birnin-Kebbi, a medium-sized measure of maize sells at 60 kobo against its previous price of more than one Naira. The situation in Zuru was the same. A similar measure of millet sells at 40 kobo.

The cost of detergent and other toiletries has continued to fluctuate because of the manipulation of prices by the traders and other commercial houses.

In YOLA, Abu Tapidi reports that prices of grains, vegetables and other foodstuffs have fallen in most markets.

A market survey in seven of the 17 local government areas of the state showed that the prices have declined drastically compared with the prices during the same period last year.

The local government areas visited were — Numan, Guyuk, Zing, Mayo-Belwa, Fufore,

Yola and Song. The differences in the prices of the food items from one market to the other were also relatively low.

A bag of maize now costs between 25 and 40 Naira in Nguroore, Girei, Dwarm, Zing, Guyuk and Fufore markets, especially on market days.

A bag of millet in the same markets now costs between 30 and 50 Naira, the early maturing variety of sorghum costs between 25 and 45 Naira and locally produced paddy rice with short gestation period costs between 25 and 30 Naira.

A bag of yam flour now costs between 20 and 30 Naira and a bag of rice costs between 25 and 30 Naira in the southern parts of the state.

Prices of livestock are also low compared with the same period last year.

However, the cost of a bag of imported rice is still high in the open market. A bag which costs 65 Naira from the co-operatives, cost between 140 and 170 Naira in the open market.

A bag of semovita and wheat which costs 6.50 Naira in the co-operatives, the same bag costs 13.50 and 15 Naira in most of the markets visited during the survey.

The prices of tomatoes, pepper, onions, vegetables and other locally produced related items are now cheaper when compared with prices during the same period last year.

In KANO, Yusuf Ozi Usman reports that a measure of beans had dropped from 6.50 Naira to 2.50 Naira; a measure of Gari from

2.30 Naira to 1.50 Naira.

A tin of palm oil had dropped from 60 Naira to 32 Naira but the prices of guineacorn and wheat remain at 2.50 Naira and 2.30 Naira.

Prices of maize dropped from 2.50 Naira to 1.20 Naira; a bag of semovita now sells for between 12 and 13 Naira while a large size of detergent fell from seven Naira to 3.50 Naira.

In JOS, Andrew Orolua reports that measure of gari, beans and yam flour dropped from 80 to 40 kobo.

A mudu of rice fell from 3.50 Naira to 2.50 Naira and that a bottle of palm oil from three Naira to 2.20 Naira.

In Lafia, Akwanga and Shendam, a mudu of corn sells at 25 kobo while 500 tubers of yam is sold for 200 Naira.

Prices of processed foodstuff recorded high prices. A bag of semovita sells for 12.50 kobo; a tin of Peak milk, 1.30 kobo and a large bottle of groundnut oil sells at four Naira.

Traders told the *New Nigerian* that the fall in prices was due to the increase in the supply of goods to the market. They said the "go-back-to-land" call had helped in the increased production of foodstuff.

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CSO: 3400/232

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

NEW AIRLINE SERVICE--Kaduna--Nigeria Airways is to start operating private airlines to Gusau, Katsina, Minna and Bauchi, the Minister for Transport and Aviation Brigadier J. Useni has said. Brigadier Useni said when he paid a courtesy call on the Governor of Kaduna State, Major Abubakar Umar at Government House Kaduna yesterday that the plan was to further enhance air travel in the area. The minister requested the governor to direct the state Water Board to supply water to the new Kaduna International Airport. Responding, Major Abubakar Umar appealed to the Federal Military Government to extend railway lines from Kaduna to Katsina because of the havoc being done to our roads by the movement of billet to the steel rolling mill in Katsina. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 28 Sep 85 p 16] [Article by Aliyu Modibbo]

BORDER DISPUTES ON INCREASE--The Military Governor of Bauchi, Lt.-Col. Chris Garuba, has expressed concern over the increasing rate of border disputes between emirates and districts in the state. Exchanging views with the Emir of Bauchi, Alhaji Mohammadu Manga in continuation of his familiarisation tour of the state, the governor said that boundary disputes strained the relationship between emirs and chiefs and had often led to violent clashes resulting in deaths. He said that there were numerous cases of border disputes in the state and expressed disappointment that traditional rulers had not been able to effect the settlement of such disputes. [Text] [Enugu DAILY STAR in English 28 Sep 85 p 16]

BORDER OPENING CONFERENCE SCHEDULED--Ministers from Benin, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo will meet in Lagos early next month to work out plans for re-opening Nigeria's land borders, a member of Nigeria's Armed Forces Ruling Council said in Accra on Wednesday. Naval Commander M. Nyako was speaking at a Press conference after delivering a message to Ghanaian leader Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, Radio Ghana, monitored in Abidjan reported. He said the Lagos meeting will also discuss military matters. All four countries agreed earlier this year to cooperate on security and combating crime. [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 4 Oct 85 p 1]

STUDENT UNIONS SEEK MERGER--Polytechnic students have begun moves to reunite all member unions of the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS), who opted out of the association last year following a disagreement over an election. Students of Yaba College of Technology, Nigeria's premier higher institution, who are holding brief for their colleagues, will on October 24 host a reconciliatory meeting among three major associations involved in the rift. They are: the NANS, now made up of mainly university students, the National Association of Technological Students (NATS) and the Association of Teachers Training Colleges and Colleges of Education Students Association of Nigeria (ATTCCESAN). Claiming that the division within the national students organisation had weakened their stand as a strong pressure group, the students said most of their programmes failed because they lacked unity of purpose. According to a statement signed by Mr Omotosho Oluyemi, chairman of the students' union and Ibegbu Osadebe, secretary-general, all the students' groups need to come together now to let the government know that they are serious and united. [Text] [London TALKING DRUMS in English 14 Oct 85 p 24]

CSO: 3400/248

SIERRA LEONE

BRIEFS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORTS DEATHS--Amnesty International has reported that 241 prisoners died of malnutrition in jails in Sierra Leone. According to the Organisation's report for 1984 government killing of prisoners by execution, assassination or torture reached new and totally unacceptable levels during the year under review. Chad was listed among countries where outright political murders often taking place during counter-insurgency operations accounted for thousands of deaths. [Text] [London TALKING DRUMS in English 14 Oct 85 p 22]

CSO: 3400/248

SOUTH AFRICA

METAMORPHOSIS OF BUSINESSMEN INTO POLITICAL ACTIVISTS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 13 Oct 85 p 25

[Article by Brian Pottinger]

[Text] FRANCIS BACON once observed that men in great places are thrice servants: to the state, fame and business.

The political and economic crisis in South Africa has mixed the order somewhat and led to the emergence of a remarkable new band of political reformers and diplomatic emissaries.

Businessmen are putting aside their Keynes and Friedman and picking up their Machiavelli and Plato.

Why? For these reluctant courtiers it is no longer simply a concern for widened profit margins. The decay of political leadership in South Africa, the explosion of black radicalism and mounting international pressure convince many that the survival of the free enterprise system itself is at stake.

This week saw the largely unheralded return of the front-group of organised business from an overseas trip that gave entrée to foreign trade unionists, financiers, politicians and pressure groups.

On September 18, for example, they addressed a United Nations hearing on transnational corporations in South Africa.

Thus, by omission of the South African Government, did the businessmen become the country's ambassadors and reform's emissaries.

It has been a bizarre metamorphosis of a traditionally supine business community into quasi-political activists; a checkered history.

A bevy of academics have made livelihoods from arguing the toss: apartheid served capitalism or vice versa.

Control

A perhaps middle path now suggests that in the initial stages of economic take-off apartheid might have served capitalism but that the later increased technological sophistication of the manufacturing and mining industries led to a fundamental clash between the Government's desire to control black South Africans and capitalism's self-interested needs to advance them.

A Government-business truce came under the P W Botha administration.

The Carlton and Good Hope conferences were basically a trade-off. Business support for the decentralisation initiatives and the enormous costs of "apartheid-in-quasi-transformation" against a Government "hands-off" promise to business: de-regulation, diminished intervention, control on Government spending, flexibility in ideology.

The November 1983 referendum was perhaps the high point in the honeymoon.

Since then the fading Government performance in reform — a function of clumsiness, hesitancy, limited

leadership, weak communication and adventurism — has led to an unprecedented souring of relations.

In the same way that the emergent black trade unions, like Fosatu, were drawn inexorably into the political vortex because of the escalating polarisation between the community and the authorities, so too was big business.

From the years of clandestine but still influential ministrations of the Urban Foundation — the socio-political arm of business — has come an escalated business activism proportional to political inaction:

The November protests last year against the detention of trade unionists, the January statement to Senator Kennedy, the March meeting with Minister Viljoen, the evidence to the President's Council on influx control and, finally, a statement on citizenship, federalism and civil liberties.

Salvage

Individual businessmen have become associated with salvage attempts:

Gavin Relly in Zambia with the ANC, Mike Rosholt at the Convention Alliance, Chris Saunders among 92 names in a declaration of intent, Raymond Ackerman in a deputation to the President with American businessmen, Fred du Plessis's "car without a steering wheel" speech at Potchefstroom, Anton Rupert through AGM reports, public statements and private missions to the President.

And in towns across the country, small traders facing destruction from the consumer boycotts, calling for more rapid Government action towards reform.

What will come from this inchoate groundswell?

The delegation that returned this week is already working at a definitive charter or manifesto: a comprehensive statement of political belief and principle to which it hopes all organised business and industry will subscribe, and through which it seeks to keep the Government's nose to the reformist grindstone.

It may not be an easy task: some of the members of the delegation — Assocom is an example — believe the successive statements in the last year are sufficient charter. And they also believe it should be channelled through the existing business organisations.

"Enough has been said. Now is the time for action," observed one Assocom member.

That Government must increase the momentum is beyond doubt.

In the face of a wall of international scepticism, the best the businessmen could plead was "conditional interaction", a slow restoration of international business involvement in South Africa conditional on the pace of domestic reform.

The problems confronting the business community in its crusade for normality are enormous.

Unholy

On the domestic front the key target group — black South Africans — remain highly sceptical. The principle of an "unholy" alliance of State and capitalism is easily grasped for a community

which has seen little of the acceptable face of capitalism and even less of the Government's.

Business's representation to the UN was quite honest about it: "It is essentially both self-interest and social responsibility which are driving the business community towards active promotion of the reform process in Southern Africa."

For many blacks, however, it appears more the former than the latter.

A second and major problem relates simply to credibility. Members of the group were astonished at the level of scepticism in international business communities about the South African Government's good faith.

Angola, Cabinda, the Covenants, the standstill, Nkomati have all taken their accumulated toll. Even hard-nosed foreign financiers simply no longer believe a word Pretoria says.

The South African business emissaries were also amazed at the extent of damage done by President Botha's Durban speech. A common refrain from foreign businessmen was the credibility crisis created by the "August 15 speech".

"We had even forgotten the date of that speech," observed one member of the group. "But the foreign businessmen had not."

Ironically, one of the more encouraging indications stemmed from the shock the international business community experienced at finding the fragility of the South African economy.

The lesson for them was that further pressure would only serve to slide the country down the slope of a siege economy; the long-term implications of that being chaos in the region and a severe setback for the West's geopolitical and economic interests.

With that perception, then, the role of South Africa's new ambassadors-by-default becomes even more vital.

SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL IMAGE PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE IN NATION'S FUTURE

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 13 Oct 85 p 25

[Article by Darryl Phillips]

[Text]

PARAMOUNT to the future of South Africa will be its standing, both financial and political, in the outside world.

Carefully orchestrated sanctions campaigns do not hurt us as much as private actions by major foreign banks and corporations and at the nub of the problem lies *image* rather than purely economic factors.

We have to make our international public relations programme as viable as we possibly can in an attempt to restore some vestige of international credibility.

The first way to tackle this is to consider the unique problem of South Africa as both a first and third world country. We have been trying to run a sophisticated first world economy in a third world environment.

In the context of our public relations this is blatantly apparent.

On the one hand we try to run a first world Press with all the trappings of Press freedom and public accountability this entails.

On the other, the Government limits Press freedom and free flow of information.

One cannot have a little Press freedom just as one cannot be half pregnant.

The result is that foreign countries do not know how to take us.

Are we a third world banana dictatorship, or are we a fully fledged member of the sophisticated first world (in which case we probably deserve the criticism)?

Once we have decided how we would like to be accepted we have to set ourselves realistic objectives as to the kind of society we would like to attain. And these objectives have to be communicated.

Marketing our "new image" must be a major concern. Let us have a look at our public relations performance in the past.

Too often we attempt to whitewash situations and so undermine our credibility.

In the notorious Rubicon speech, the most widely televised exposure ever given a single individual in our history, the President tried to minimise the impact of the state of emergency by referring to it as "the partial emergency in less than 14 percent of the magisterial districts of the RSA".

In a speech some three weeks later, the Minister of Law and Order told us that only 6,2 percent of South Africa's land surface was under the state of emergency.

Misleading

Such calculations are hardly the point. That 6,2 percent of South Africa's land surface encompasses most major urban centres and a considerable portion of its population.

Even this number is misleading, whatever its quantum. The facts of the matter are that a state of emergency exists in South Africa and attempts to minimise it strain credulity.

One wonders if the term state of emergency had to be used at all, given its emotive and negative connotations, and if the emergency measures could have been better communicated.

A sudden and harsh TV appearance by the State President did nothing to allay fears both internal and external.

The first law of effective communication is that it should be open and honest. The Government does not speak with one voice.

Ministers do not speak with the same voice to different constituencies or over time use the same terminology to the same constituency.

South Africa has expended energy on finding different ways of phrasing the same concepts so as to make them sound more just. In the process we become confused by our own semantics and lose sight of the underlying problem.

One wonders how many names the old "Department of Bantu Affairs" has had in recent years.

Disjointed

Can anybody tell what our latest policy of "orderly urbanisation" means? A phrase is coined but nothing is offered by way of definition.

By changing names without changing the concepts they define, we gain little in the way of international credence.

Even if there is a genuine attempt to ameliorate a situation, name changing is perceived by outsiders as a semantic exercise to obscure the facts.

Another negative South African ploy is the inability to admit mistakes. By frankly admitting a mistake one calls an end to any particular discussion.

In pursuing an argument, nobody ever wins, one merely incurs a long-term enemy.

Doubtless, the current international anti-South African hype is, in large measure, based on ignorance of South Africa and its very complex problems.

But what have we done in major Western countries to explain these problems on a pro-active basis?

Certainly we attempt reactive explanation, but have we ever undertaken a composite and integrated statement of the South African reality?

This should not be done as a whitewash, it should be full and frank and should face up to our shortcomings without excuses.

We do not make use of what marketing opportunity is given to us to attain maxi-

mum positive media impact.

Trickling out a stream of disjointed reform promises over a succession of party congresses means that they do not receive exposure as a comprehensive package and lose impact when maximum impact is needed.

Sporadic announcements of reform also appear as concessions to placate the growing voice of discontent.

Antagonism

The business community in South Africa has influential contact with its international counterparts.

It would be ideally placed to undertake an unofficial ambassadorial role if the Government would take it into its confidence and if it had faith in the Government's long-term methods and intentions.

The business community, however, operates very differently from the Government. It is used to formalised planning with set objectives and methods.

The Government has not shown much evidence of either. Business, therefore, is not given the tools. It is not being addressed in a language which it understands.

Many of our senior state officials do not seem to understand the notion of public accountability.

By misunderstanding the notion of public accountability and the right of the Press to inform the public, the Government feels a deep-rooted antagonism towards the Press.

It tends to keep certain matters from media attention and makes no attempt to win the Press over by full disclosure, even if it's off the record.

The first world Press, used

to working within a framework of accountability of public officers, does not react favourably to the apparent scant regard for accountability it finds in South Africa.

The result of this misunderstanding is a sort of mutual recrimination club whereby world media constantly point out the faults of the Government and the Government blames the ills which

have befallen the country on the media.

If understanding of the first world notions of the Press seems to have escaped the Government, its comprehension of the international electronic media is even less marked.

It simply does not understand that television services are able to transport people into living rooms across the length and breadth of the world so that politicians on the screen are talking, intimately and directly, to the viewer on a one-to-one basis.

A successful TV appearance is nothing short of an act. Like any actor, anyone appearing on television should be mindful of all the elements that go into creating an actor: tone, style, lighting and make-up.

Sympathetic

The Cabinet would do well to take a leaf from Ronald Reagan's book. His television appearances are perfectly calculated to create maximum advantage.

Setting, clothes and lighting are carefully chosen to draw the viewer into as warm and sympathetic a milieu as possible.

Each gesture is carefully rehearsed so that it conveys an image of warmth and humanity.

His texts are painstakingly edited to be as clear, as universally intelligible and as unambiguous as possible.

The time has come to take bold initiative which is action orientated.

Announcements that certain ideas have been referred to Cabinet committees, joint standing committees, President's Council committees or the like are not good enough.

Let us remember that a state of emergency exists in the country. Just as the police are given powers to circumvent the courts, legislation can be introduced to circumvent the tortuous processes of discussion.

If a state of emergency can be declared while Parliament is not in session, remedies to counter the causes of the emergency can be introduced without Parliament.

These then are the considerations if we are to engineer even the smallest positive impact on our standing in the international community.

If image is of no concern to us then we might as well put up the shutters and become a third world republic. To be a member of the world club, we will have to abide by its rules.

Image building, or public relations, is a crucial and complex task. Gains will not be achieved merely by creating a new government department.

Rather, existing departments should be given a positive example of what free, frank and honest public accountability really means. And such an example must start at the top.

Impact

Effective public relations, to gain maximum impact in the domestic situation and the fickle international arena, will have to be defined and acted out by the State President himself.

To do this he will have to show true understanding of, and commitment to, a full and open communications programme in his every word, deed and act.

Ultimately it is the State President who is the chief image-bearer of South Africa both at home and in the outside world. Creating an information bureau is a start, but it is not enough.

He himself will have to become South Africa's marketing man of the year if he is to help the country now when it most needs help.

SOUTH AFRICA

BLACK LEADERS SAID TO ACCEPT MINORITY RIGHTS PROTECTION

MB230531 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2145 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Text] Kragbron (Free State) Oct 22 SAPA - All the black leaders with whom the government had thus far negotiated had accepted the principle that minority rights would have to be protected in a new political order, the deputy minister of development and land affairs, Mr Ben Wilkens, said tonight.

The acceptance of this principle was an important breakthrough for the government searching for solutions on the accommodation of whites, blacks, Coloureds and Indians in a new political order, Mr Wilkens told a public meeting in the Escom [Electricity Supply Commission] town of Kragbron. With the acceptance of this principle, the people had reached a point where they no longer accepted one man, one vote in a unitary state, Mr Wilkens told the meeting.

Speaking in support of Dr Willem Odendaal, National Party candidate for the by-election in the Sasolburg constituency, Mr Wilkens said negotiations with recognised black leaders on the constitutional future for blacks in South Africa had progressed very well. None of the leaders of the national states were prepared to give up their independent or self-governing status and would rather have more autonomy on the matter of responsibility for their own affairs, he said.

The minister added that there were some community leaders who had been identified and had come forward to speak to the government. However, because of the present unrest situation, it was not in these leaders interests to have their identities publicised.

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CS0: 3400/273

SOUTH AFRICA

COMMENTARY CLAIMS UN HAS 'PERVERTED' IDEALS OF CHARTER

MB240629 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Station Commentary: "The UN Record"]

[Text] The United Nations celebrates its 40th anniversary today. Among the representatives of its western founder nations, no doubt there will be those who will reflect on the extent to which the world body has perverted the high ideals with which it was founded. But they are not likely to speak their thoughts out loud.

Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, when he was still fairly new to the office, ventured to say publicly that the United Nations had strayed far from its charter and to warn that we are perilously near to a new international anarchy. Since then he has learned better than to cross the Soviet-Third World coalition that rules the General Assembly.

Forty years ago today, the original 51 members of the United Nations came together to sign the charter. Their main purpose as set out in the preamble written by General Smutts was to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. Since then, according to figures available at the organization's own headquarters in New York, there have been 154 conventional wars in the world affecting 71 countries and resulting in 20 million casualties. There are no records relating to the civil wars, international terrorist killings, or, naturally, violent annexations of the kind the Soviet Union has perpetrated against Afghanistan.

In recent years, it has only been the administration of President Ronald Reagan that has been prepared to speak out strongly against the way the United Nations conducts its affairs. The last American ambassador, Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, described the nature and purpose of activities in the General Assembly as more closely resembling a mugging than either a political debate or an attempt at problem solving.

In one of the innumerable debates on South Africa, this time ostensibly on human rights, another American delegate remarked: Faced with the litany of one-sided resolution, one is forced to wonder whether they arise from a serious concern with human rights or an underhand desire to distract attention from the mass of violations of those rights by some members of this body whose voices are the loudest in condemnation of South Africa.

On another occasion, Deputy Ambassador Charles Lichenstein invited UN members to close down shop in New York and sail into the sunset. In all honesty, however, such expressions of disillusionment had made no discernable difference. The United Nations remains committed to promoting what it calls a new world order, in information and economy, an order amounting to authoritarian socialism worldwide. It remains the most important forum for constant attacks on western international interests. It sanctions, by a resolution adopted in 1970, the violent overthrow of sovereign governments and provides a political base, source of funds, and propaganda organ for Soviet-supported terrorist organizations.

SWAPO and the PLO have permanent observer status with the right to address the General Assembly. No freedom fighters from Afghanistan have ever been heard in the General Assembly.

The United Nations today is ruled not by ideals but by a tyranny of the majority, a tyranny that substitutes for right the might derived from superior numbers. It is as Patrick Moynihan put it, a dangerous place.

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SOUTH AFRICA

POPULATION CENSUS 1985

Johannesburg IIR INFORMATION SHEET in English Aug 85 p 19

[Chart]

POPULATION CENSUS 1985

The first results of the 1985 Population Census indicating the geographical distribution of the population have been released:

Provinces and national states	Year	Total	Whites	Coloureds	Asians	Blacks
Cape	1985	5 044 419	1 212 052	2 398 489	29 167	1 404 711
	1980	4 510 103	1 140 622	2 098 735	29 800	1 240 946
Natal	1985	2 147 902	560 797	94 235	638 488	854 382
	1980	2 280 427	510 935	84 380	598 808	1 086 304
Transvaal	1985	7 579 888	2 468 159	265 460	123 264	4 723 005
	1980	7 083 596	2 227 690	211 907	109 438	4 534 561
O.F.S.	1985	1 775 722	330 802	62 095	70	1 382 755
	1980	1 647 826	314 769	54 588	0	1 278 469
Kwazulu	1985	3 744 380	1 800	2 837	2 941	3 736 802
	1980	2 801 732	16 405	2 413	8 070	2 774 884
Kangwane	1985	390 103	452	854	14	388 783
	1980	142 166	1 488	176	29	140 473
Qwaqwa	1985	183 142	381	118	14	182 629
	1980	135 027	374	516	0	134 137
Gazankulu	1985	495 993	839	167	0	494 987
	1980	418 699	1 475	463	656	416 105
Lebowa	1985	1 844 315	1 403	692	14	1 842 206
	1980	1 402 616	4 251	4 382	558	1 393 425
Kwandebele	1985	232 726	5	147	6	232 568
	1980	128 108	203	266	33	127 606
Total R.S.A.	1985	23 438 590	4 576 690	2 825 094	793 978	15 242 829
	1980	20 550 300	4 218 212	2 457 826	747 392	13 126 870

(Central Statistical Services 2/8/85)

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CSO: 3400/275

SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT REVENUE UP, SPENDING DOWN

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by John Tilston]

[Text] GOVERNMENT revenues are up 24% on last year's levels while spending has been brought into line, according to figures published in the *Government Gazette*.

In the first six months of the fiscal year central government spent R16,01bn, which amounts to 50,9% of revised spending estimates for 1985/86 of R31,458bn.

Finance Minister Barend du Plessis warned in his budget speech in March that spending in the first few months of the year would be higher than the average for the year.

Revenue collected in the first six months totalled R14,12bn, 24% higher than in the corresponding period last year, but marginally under 50% of budgeted revenue for the full year.

However, in March, the last month in the financial year, the fiscus usually receives higher tax receipts than in other months.

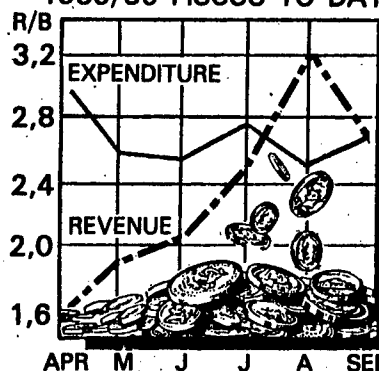
In addition, revenue is likely to be boosted further this year by higher tax payments from the mining sector, as producers benefit from high rand prices of their metals, especially gold.

GST collections on consumer spending will improve on the back of pre-Christmas spending. And while current company profits may be depressed, it now seems certain that revenue will exceed budgeted amounts this year.

The financial authorities did not have to resort to any deficit spending during the month and in fact put more money into the market than they withdrew, which is in keeping with the desire to bring interest rates down.

The exchequer account reveals that foreign loans worth R64m were repaid during September, the first month in

GOVERNMENT FINANCES 1985/86 FISCUS TO DATE



which the moratorium applied.

So far this fiscal year R347m in foreign loans have been repaid. No foreign credits or loans were raised during the month. The total raised in the year so far is likely to remain constant at R227m (\$87m at yesterday's exchange rate).

The figures also suggest that a capital market issue, maturing in 1994 with a nominal coupon rate of 15%, worth R275m, was placed exclusively with the Public Debt Commissioners.

Most government departments' spending seems to be under control, but a number are in danger of overshooting. The biggest chunk of an allocation has been spent by the department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing which has spent 71% of its budgeted R578m.

Other government services such as the police, the department of defence and the prison service have all spent more than 50%, but at this stage are still under the 60% mark.

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SOUTH AFRICA

INDUSTRY TO CALL FOR TALKS WITH ALL LEADERS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Oct 85 p 10

[Text]

SOUTH Africa's most immediate problem is to normalise its international payments position by demonstrating that the Government is capable of managing its political and economic problems by effectively implementing the necessary reform initiatives.

This was said by the president of the South African Federated Chamber of Industries (FCI), Mr John Wilson yesterday, regarding the forthcoming executive council meeting of the federation in Durban next week.

"The FCI will be debating the extremely serious situation facing South Africa and reviewing the role that the business community is playing in the areas of political reform and economic reconstruction," he said.

"The FCI has accepted that a return to peace and prosperity is only possible through a process of genuine negotiation between Government and all com-

munity leaders on an open agenda for power sharing," he said.

Among the speakers at next week's FCI meeting will be Dr Nthato Motlana, Professor Laurence Schlemmer and Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Some of the topics to be discussed are: "Business and Reform in South Africa", "Labour Relations, unemployment and unrest," and "Business and a positive urbanisation strategy."

Chief Buthelezi is likely to give his views on the proposed development of a Natal/KwaZulu dispensation, strongly supported by industry and commerce in Natal.

The Chamber will also review its activities for the year and ratify its programme of action for 1986. Particular attention will be given to the effectiveness of its lobbying operations within the new tricameral political structure.

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CSO: 3400/274

CONSUMER BOYCOTT IN CAPE, TRANSVAAL INTENSIFY

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 16 Oct 85 p 5

[Article by Joshua Raboroko]

[Text]

THE consumer boycotts in the Cape and Transvaal seem likely to last until after Christmas, destroying retailers' hopes of strong seasonal buying to offset previous loss of business.

A spokesman of the retailing committee of the CBD said if the consumer boycotts go on until December it could have a "disastrous effect" on business.

The boycotts have been initiated by trade unions and community-based organisations in the wake of the state of emergency and the desire by the parties to force employers to pressurise the Government to bring meaningful change in the country.

The boycotts appear to be intensifying in some areas of the country while dying out in others. They are watertight in the Easter Cape, intensifying in the Western Cape, but relatively poorly supported on the Reef.

• Trade union unity talks aimed at forming a

"super federation" took another twist this week when participating unions expressed opinions that they wished to open doors to all unions to be involved.

The opening of doors means that the unions are subtly inviting the Council of Unions of South Africa (Cusa), which withdrew from the talks and the Azanian Confederation of Trade Unions (Azactu), which was excluded from subsequent talks following the July summit in Soweto.

Cusa is willing to discuss the invitation with its members, while Azactu has remained silent. The unity unions are to meet next week to discuss the final stages of the inauguration conference on November 30 and December 1.

• Two leading unions in the electrical trade — the Electrical and Allied Trade Union (EATU) and the Electrical and Allied Workers Union (EAWU) — are merging to represent all black workers in the industry.

The new union will

have between 25 000 to 30 000 members when the merger is completed and intends seeking affiliation with the South African Co-ordinating Council of the International Metalworkers Federation.

• Toyota manufacturing in Durban has the first automobile company to agree to pay maternity leave. The agreement, signed with the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu), has provided for four months maternity leave.

A formula has been agreed upon whereby the company will ensure that any woman on maternity leave will receive 70 percent of her normal benefits.

• N A A W U and BMW have signed a recognition agreement — probably the second in the country — giving workers limited but effective right to strike. The newly signed agreement provides that in the event of a strike authorised by the union, workers will not be dis-

missed for four weeks. The union may only authorise a strike after it has gone through the agreed negotiation and disputes procedures.

- Naawu has resolved to extend its bursary scheme to the dependents of members who are entering university. The scheme, started two years ago, previously catered for dependants of members who were studying for standard 9. Applications for high school and university bursaries should be forwarded to: The General Secretary, Naawu, PO Box 4097, Port Elizabeth, 6014.

- Naawu has joined other Fosatu unions in calling for the State of Emergency to be lifted. Fosatu has also called for troops to be removed from the townships. Naawu also called for the release of all detainees and the granting of political rights to all South Africans.

- Thousands of workers throughout the country observed a moment of silence or held prayer meetings in honour of the National Day of Prayer called by the National Initiative for Reconciliation, according to union sources. The sources say some

employers had given

- The Minister of Manpower has not as yet appointed a conciliation board to settle the wage dispute between the Black Allied Mining and Construction Workers Union (Bamcwu) and Samancor company.

Bamcwu's secretary Mr M Motsomi said the company has written to the Minister not to appoint the board, but they have been informed by officials of the Department of Manpower that the department will appoint the board.

- REPRESENTATIVES of the private sector and trade unions met the Minister of Manpower, Mr Piet du Plessis this week to discuss details of State-assisted job-creating projects as part of the recently announced R600-million economic relief package to counter widespread unemployment.

- The Industrial Court has rejected an application by the Engineering and Allied Workers Union to have 65 workers sacked by a multi-national, Winding Wire, reinstated. The workers were dismissed during a strike over wages.

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CSO: 3400/274

INCREASE IN STRIKE FIGURES REPORTED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES (Business) in English 20 Oct 85 p 3

[Article by Amrit Manga: "Strike Figures Well Up On Last Year"]

[Text]

MORE than 500 000 man-days have already been lost through labour unrest this year, with wage demands triggering almost half of all strikes.

This is almost more than 30% up on the number of man-days lost during the whole of last year.

Says labour expert Andre Levy: "The exact figure will never be known because of the difficulty in monitoring mine strikes."

Significantly, though, the highly strike-prone mining industry ranks second to the motor industry in the number of strikes. Motor unions, which were the strike leaders in the early '80s, have again taken pole position.

Mr Levy says the number of wage-related strikes is significant, as these are expected to level off because of depressed economic conditions.

He sees the drop in dismissals as encouraging because it indicates that fewer employers are using mass sackings to combat strikes. It also showed that collective bargaining was playing a greater role in settling disputes.

Heavy retrenchments have led to the traditionally strike-prone textile and retail industries dropping out of the top five ranking of sectors most affected by labour unrest.

The food sector remains the fifth most strike-affected sector, being dominated by one of the most militant unions, the Sweet Food and Allied Workers Union.

The marathon AECI/SA Chemical Workers dispute pushed the chemical industry to fourth position.

Says Mr Levy: "A feature of strikes this year has been their co-ordinated nature. Most were industry-wide, with rival unions joining hands against employers."

He cites the AECI threat of national sympathy strikes and the bread and Corobrick strikes as examples of co-ordinated labour action which characterised unrest in the first three quarters of the year.

The metal industry is down on man-days lost mainly because employers seem to have the upper hand in most disputes. But the labour situation in the industry remains volatile.

The Metal and Allied Workers Union is, however, still locked in wage disputes at about 70 factories, and has threatened strikes at the end of the month.

Selfsa president and Iscor chairman Floors Kotzee says a combination of economic recession and inflation made wage negotiations extremely difficult.

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SOUTH AFRICA

JOBLESSNESS MORE DRASTIC THAN PERCEIVED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES (Business) in English 20 Oct 85 p 11

[Article by Angus MacMillan]

[Text]

EMPLOYERS are putting job vacancies on hold as they contemplate many more months of battling with the bottom line.

One need look no further than recruitment advertising turnovers in the Star and the Sunday Times for evidence of a continuing downward trend in the job market.

Add the steep increase in registered white, coloured and Indian unemployment this year — black unemployment has been high for some time — and joblessness takes on a more frightening perspective than many people realise.

Recruitment advertising is a good barometer of the state of the economy and the number of new jobs it is creating — and they are few and far between at the moment.

Though 1981 can hardly be used as an accurate yardstick by which to measure job vacancies — or anything, for that matter — the drop in

recruitment advertising since then has been phenomenal.

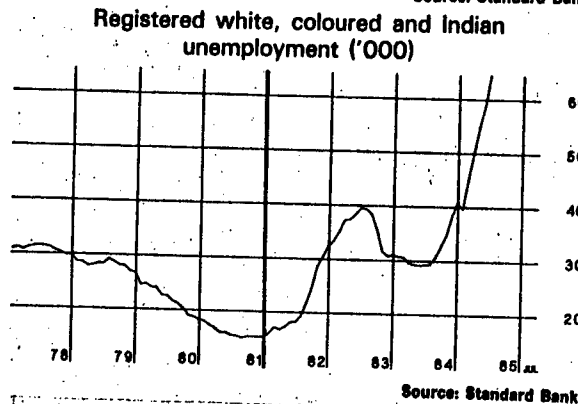
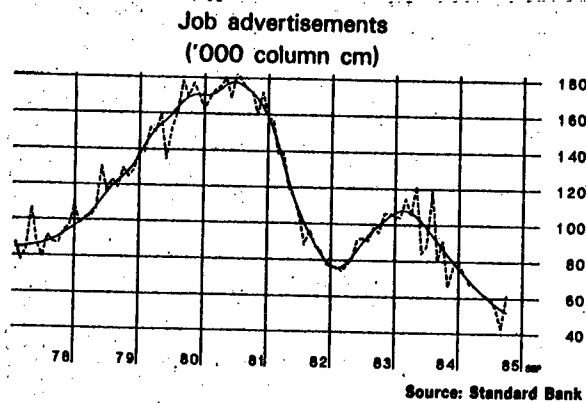
In July 1981 the Star and the Sunday Times carried almost 180 000 column centimetres of job carrots. In September 1985 the two newspapers are at the 50 000-column-centimetre mark.

The gold boom pushed many industries to new and perhaps artificial heights, job advertising being no exception.

What is worrying to job-seekers, advertising agencies and newspapers is the fall-off in job openings in the past 18 months and a comparison between now and seven years ago.

According to the Standard Bank's moving graph which accompanies this article, job advertising in the two newspapers mentioned has halved since July last year and volumes are less than at the beginning of 1978.

Registered white, coloured and Indian unemployment has rocketed this year, and the Department of Man-



power is running out of money to finance unemployment payments.

The accompanying graph shows that registered non-black joblessness has nearly doubled this year to more than 70 000.

This figure comes from the Department of Manpower and does not include people who have not informed them that they are out of work.

Registered black unemployment is around the 500 000 mark, but a more realistic figure is four times as high.

Clichés are usually frowned upon by writers and readers alike, but this is one case where they are necessary in the telling of a story.

Recruitment advertising agencies, which are arguably having their toughest time in the SA job market, relate several when commenting on the state of their industry.

Employers tell them that they are keeping things on ice, or shelving plans, or sitting on the fence ... simply other ways of saying that business is bad and they are freezing vacancies.

Reluctant

Jack Bensch, of Bates, Clive, Wheeler & Bensch, says many employers are indecisive and reluctant to commit themselves (and their money) to taking on new staff — even if they need them.

“Even the mining and technical areas, which have traditionally been major clients for recruitment advertising agencies, are cutting back on staff requirements.”



While agencies are aggressively looking for new business, they often find that new clients they gain do no advertising.

Second half

Still, they reckon that it is worth improving their market share now for better times.

When these times will come is anybody's guess, but the agencies are not optimistic. Paul Brand, managing director of Altolevel, is looking to the second half of next year and maybe only 1987 for a recovery.

"Traditionally, we feel the crunch six months before it hits most businesses, and we also feel the good times about six months ahead of the general economy.

"We use the car industry as an indicator of where the economy is going, and look where that is now. So we are still in for a rough time."

Nevertheless, there are still jobs around for good people, especially in computers, engineering and the financial world.

But many of the vacancies that companies would fill in normal times, and would be desperate to fill in boom times, are being left open indefinitely.

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CSO: 3400/274

SOUTH AFRICA

WEAK RAND CAUSES MINE-SHARE BUYING FEVER

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES (Business) in English 20 Oct 85 p 2

[Article by Brendan Ryan]

[Text]

PRIVATE and institutional investors piled into mining and mining financial shares this week.

The buying activity brought smiles to broking firm partners totting up their commissions, but put frowns on the faces of many of their analysts, who feel a day of reckoning may be at hand.

Key reason for the buying activity is the weakness of the rand, which will boost the earnings of export-oriented companies.

Local investors are searching for hedges against the increased inflation which many economists predict will follow the government decision to stimulate the economy with the inflation rate still largely undefeated at levels around 16%.

They see one answer in the export-oriented mining sector and also in shares such as the Rembrandt group, which is a hedge against the rand because of its overseas business interests.

Hard to fault

As a result Remgro has been pushed from a low of R28 on November 16 last year to a high of R47 on October 9.

Another popular choice has been steel exporter Highveld Steel and Vanadium, which has moved to its present high of 575c from 350c in December last year.

Given the circumstances facing the South African investor, a decision to dive into

these shares is hard to fault.

The underlying assumption for shares on this basis is that the rand will remain weak, boosting expected yields.

Until now there has been caution on this assumption.

The buying spree may reflect a change in investor expectations, indicating a belief by many that the rand will remain weak.

That seems a safe enough assumption as the currency hovers around the levels where the Reserve Bank temporarily pulled the plug on the forex market at the end of August.

However, if by some miracle the rand strengthens markedly, the adverse effects on the share prices could be severe. A stronger rand means lower expected earnings for the companies, and also many investors may take profits and sell off their holdings because of the better rand/dollar rate.

The pattern of Wednesday's trading on the JSE reflected precisely this. Investors bought during the rand's initial plunge in the morning and then took profits by selling out in the afternoon when the currency recovered.

One dealer sums up: "I can see why the market is doing what it is doing, but it still scares the hell out of me, especially given the situation for gold."

"The dollar gold price has been trying very hard to break upwards out of its trading range but has not succeeded. The gold price has done this before and then

dropped sharply when it was perceived to have failed.

"At the very least we are getting near a short-term top and correction in the JSE share prices."

He points out that the buying has been local with minimal overseas interest.

However, an investor looking for cover against inflation over the next year or two seems to have little choice but to invest selectively in the export stocks, particularly on the gold boards, where historic dividend yields are near, and in some cases over, the inflation rate.

Industrial-share prices largely remain at levels which anticipate heavily the long-expected recovery in the South African economy. The dividend yields on offer are pathetic.

As far the recovery goes the message this week from

Stellenbosch University's Bureau for Economic Research (BER) was: "Don't hold your breath."

Suffer

The report expects conditions to get worse during the rest of this year and the first quarter of next with increasing unemployment and bankruptcies.

A slight recovery in some sectors is expected in the second half of 1986, but sales of durable goods are expected to suffer throughout 1986.

The BER's Attie de Vries pointed out this week that during 1977-78 consumer confidence had taken such a pounding that it was 18 months before consumers started to react to the measures taken by the Government to stimulate the economy.

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SOUTH AFRICA

GROSS INCOME OF FARMERS INCREASED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES (Business) in English 20 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by Ciaran Ryan: "Farmers' Gross Income Leapt Despite The Drought, But. . ."]

[Text]

FARMERS' gross income increased by 24,4% to R9,4-billion in 1985 over the previous year despite the drought, according to the annual report of the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU).

However, the total debt burden of agriculture is a similar figure — R9,49-billion, an increase of 28% over the previous year.

The ability of farmers to repay their debts fell dramatically between 1983 and 1984. Their debt burden as a proportion of net farming income was slashed from an index of 1 001 in 1983 to 570 in 1984.

More than 30% of the total lending to farmers last year came from commercial banks, 23% from the co-operatives and 20% from the Land and Agricultural Bank.

Farmers' short-term debt as a proportion of total debt was 54,8% in 1984 compared with only 28,6% in 1970.

Grain farmers have the highest gearing in the agricultural sector. Maize production in 1985 was 7,4-million tons compared with 4,4-million in 1984.

However, the financial position of maize farmers was not improved due to the fact that no maize price increase was granted by the Government this year, and a maize surplus of up to 1,5-million tons will have to be exported at a loss.

Expenditure on intermediary goods and services amounted to R3,99-billion in the 1984/5 season, which is 11,5% more than the previous year. However, the expenditure on capital goods in 1984/85 decreased by 8,3% to R858,8-million from R936,6-million.

On the other hand, expenditure on maintenance and repairs in 1984/85 was R652,3-million — 8,4% more than in the previous year.

The SAAU report says that the decrease in expenditure on capital goods "may be attributed to poor economic and agricultural conditions".

The value of agricultural products exported amounted to more than R25,4-billion in 1984, an increase of 23% over 1983. The total value of agricultural exports in 1985 is likely to exceed this amount.

Farmers are getting a smaller slice of the end consumer price for their produce. In 1985 farmers were paid only 46,9% of the consumer price compared with 49% in 1983, indicating that middlemen are swallowing up an increasing share.

The consumer price index (CPI) of food increased by 10,7% during 1984/85 in spite of the abolition of sales tax on certain basic foods.

In general terms, the report concludes, agriculture in SA did not experience a boom time, yet it can be regarded as a good sign that the 1984/85 season was better than 1983/84.

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SOUTH AFRICA

'REBEL' FARMERS GIVE FREE GREENS TO PUBLIC

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Oct 85 p 10

[Text]

A GROUP of Witwatersrand farmers, known as the "Rebel Farmers", have been giving out free vegetables to the public because they have a surplus at present.

With one outlet in City Deep and another in Roodepoort, the farmers explained that instead of ploughing the surplus vegetables back into the land or having them destroyed at market level, they had decided to rather pass them on to the public.

"Given the current economic crisis, I think it is a more appropriate move to help out the public than destroy food," said one of the farmers, Mr John Pedra.

"We're not going to recover our costs for the vegetables anyway, so we'd rather see some people benefiting than no one at all," said Mr Pedra.

Once-off

He explained it as "a once-off thing so that we can get back to normal supply and demand situations again."

"There is completely free enterprise in the supply and demand of veg-

etables and this is why we are able to just give them away, whereas if we were subject to a government board of control, the price of vegetables would probably have been pushed up instead," Mr Pedra said.

The current excess is mainly due to a drop in consumer demand coupled with good growing conditions. There is not a surplus of fruit however, because it is only the beginning of the summer fruit season so it is in short supply.

The group of about 15 Rebel Farmers started up about six years ago when they started giving the public free vegetables off the back of their trucks. "Then again, we were faced with a surplus and we decided it was the best thing to do," said Mr Pedra.

Good response

"We received such a positive response from the public that we decided to set up our own permanent outlets where we could sell vegetables direct from the farms to the public."

The give-away started at noon yesterday and will continue through to Sunday night. When The Citizen visited the City Deep outlet, people were crowding round to get their vegetables.

Each person was given a free cabbage, lettuce, cauliflower, bunch of carrots and beetroot. About 4 000 people had already collected their vegetables in the space of a few hours.

Mr Pedra said that in addition to giving away the vegetables, the farmers hoped to make consumers aware that vegetables were in plentiful supply at present so that they should watch out for being overcharged.

SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT NEGLECT BLAMED FOR PORT CITY'S DECLINE

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Oct 85 p 6

[Text]

FOUR YEARS ago P W Botha, at the time Prime Minister, unveiled before about 350 business leaders in Cape Town a regional development strategy for Southern Africa. Central to the strategy was "the promotion of a regional order within which real freedom and material welfare can be maximised and the quality of life for all improved".

Today that "Good Hope Plan" for SA is aflame. And popular wisdom is that nowhere in the country do the flames burn brighter than in the Eastern Cape in general and Port Elizabeth in particular.

An irony? Or predictable, since the Eastern Cape — or "Region D" — was then singled out not only by the state/business alliance for priority attention but also, some argue, by those activists deliberately aggravating the cycle of violence and repression in the country. This one-dimensional view of PE's regional politics echoes the popular and equally inaccurate assumption that it is the "strike centre" of the country.

The truth is that the tensions are little different to those dividing whites and blacks elsewhere in the country, and the early start to trade unionism which earned PE its undeserved reputation has now yielded a sophisticated, experienced and, hence, generally less volatile industrial relations arena.

Neglect

The truly distinguishing political characteristic of the country's fifth — and in many respects lowest — ranked metropolitan complex is rather to be found in systematic government neglect. It is this programme of deliberate neglect which is principally responsible for the economic decline of Cinderella City.

Indeed, for many critics omission has long since been replaced by commission. Hence the city's former mayor, Ivan Krige (whose term recently ended in controversy), last year bluntly stated that PE was being "ripped off" by government.

This is a sentiment which is widely supported among resident industrialists, businessmen, academics and politicians, who disagree only on whether it is wise to say so publicly and consequently draw attention to the city's Cinderella status, or whether to argue for redress privately.

Some samples:

□ "The manufacturing industry in PE/Uitenhage is more likely to suffer than to gain from the regional economic development scheme." — Dr Charles Wait, department of economics at UPE.

● PE was in danger of becoming a "second Walvis Bay" unless something concrete was done to boost the economy. — Lou Wilking, who returned to the US in July after nine years as MD of General Motors SA.

● "I cannot understand what lies at the root of the government's discrimination against PE. But it regards (PE) as a sort of black stepping stone to the Western Cape, and I have little doubt the government wishes it was not there." — Andrew Savage, PFP MP for Walmer (PE).

● And in one of his final public appearances as chairman of Anglo American, Harry Oppenheimer made a general observation of government's regional development programme which perfectly captures the current deepest suspicions of its PE critics: "The general thesis on which the government's new policy (regional economic development) has been based requires to my mind a great deal

more critical examination by the business community that it has so far received. We have to ask ourselves whether this policy of decentralising industry is really socially motivated, or whether there is not also a considerable admixture of much more doubtful political considerations . . .

"I am afraid there are too many people in positions of influence and authority who press for the dispersal of industry because it appeals to them as a neo-Verwoerdian plan for slowing up or even bringing to an end development in the major centres, with the object of transferring economic growth to the borders of the homelands."

The ideologues of apartheid, who wield power sufficient to translate their bizarrely expensive dreams into reality, argue that such natural economic growth must be cauterised, and with a little persuasion the bud and its attendant problem — a politically awkward proletariat — will take root elsewhere.

The instrument with which this pruning operation is today conducted is the selective subsidy. The programme of subsidies were introduced in April 1982 and at the time *ad hoc* concessions had to be wrung from government for PE after it had been argued by regional planners that PE/Uitenhage was a metropolitan complex and was hence able to generate its own growth (an argument, incidentally, which was not applied to Bloemfontein).

The statistical evidence to the contrary, presented in my previous article, was of course available to the regional planners, as was the evidence of the impact on the city's economy of such strategic economic decisions as local content for the motor industry, the location of an ore terminal at Sishen-Saldanha and the location of a diesel engine plant in the Cape.

It was only after fierce complaining (including the PE mayor's now famous "rip-off" speech) that a number of additions were made to PE's incentive package.

The result is that today an investor in PE will qualify for a 40% transport subsidy on outward-bound products, a 40% interest subsidy for capital investments (not exceeding R7m), a 4% tender preference and a wage subsidy con-

cession for industries with an investment of less than R500 000.

In PE's case such crippling economic planning by central government had its precursors in the form of a "local content" programme which shut the country's harbours to the motor industry and forced a programme of local manufacture on assemblers.

The result was that, whereas in 1965 some 60% of the country's motor industry output originated in PE, today this has shrunk to half that market share. The advantage of importing CKD containers to an uncongested SA port-site and distributing built-up vehicles inland was eliminated with the stroke of a legislative pen. With it went the *raison d'être* of PE's post-war manufacturing revival.

Strategic

Two major opportunities subsequently arose at which government could have remedied this regrettable regional side-effect of a "strategic" decision made in the broader interest of SA:

□ The investment in a new off-shore ore terminal; and

□ A plant to manufacture diesel engines — the latter once again a strategic decision, motivated very largely by the desire to be self-sufficient in the production of military hardware.

In the case of the former, an Algoa Bay scheme costing a fraction of the investment required in the ill-conceived Sishen-Saldanha operation, was turned down by government. And overlooking the presence in PE of an infrastructure that once served half the country's motor industry requirements and was now facing steady declines in capacity utilisation, government located a diesel engine plant at hugely greater expense in the dunes of Atlantis.

The next major opportunity to boost employment in a centre which government claims enjoys the highest priority in terms of its regional development programme is the location of a refinery to convert gas into oil.

With precedent firmly on their side, PE sceptics have ruled out the remotest chance that investments of this order will be channelled to Cinderella City.

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SOUTH AFRICA

POSSIBLE MAIZE SURPLUS EXPECTED

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 21 Oct 85 p 5

[Article by Alan Sendzul: "Maize Sales Drop May Mean More For Export"]

[Text]

THE one-channel system, whereby all maize is sold to the Maize Board at a regulated producer price, insulates the market from price fluctuations. Of more importance, however, is the probability of there being a surplus which could then be sold on the world market.

This year's crop was 7,4-million tons. On average, 6,5-million tons are consumed domestically. Indications are that, with shrinking living standards, local needs for 1985 may be at least 10% down.

This means that part of this year's excess inventory will be up for sale to international buyers. The graph reveals an estimated world spot maize price by using a futures contract approaching maturity — that is, very close to the current market price.

Maize exports appear to be better placed now compared with the first half of the year. Export proceeds also rely on private arrangements with suppliers and distribution channels are politically sensitive.

SA's premium-quality maize could also be a positive pricing factor.

Maize prices on the Chicago futures — which indicate the expected pattern of maize demand and supply, as opposed to spot world prices — have been moving upwards.

Commodity broker Holcom is not too despondent about the effect of a bearish US Department of Agriculture maize-crop report. Holcom regards this as a buying opportunity, because a weaker long-term dollar could improve US grain exports and lead to a higher price within the next two months.

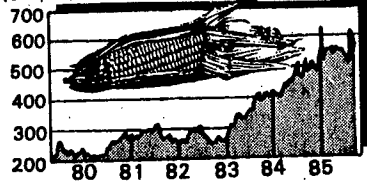
Meanwhile, the SA sugar industry is optimistic about the outlook for spot sugar after several months in the doldrums. Sugar producers will no doubt be pleased to receive higher-than-expected revenue for exports.

On sugar futures, West German analyst F O Licht put a slight damper on hopes with an estimate that world sugar stocks would decline by only 1,74-million tons. The mild setback to expectations of a faster running-down of inventories — by about 2-million tons — has put a lid on the sugar-futures price temporarily.

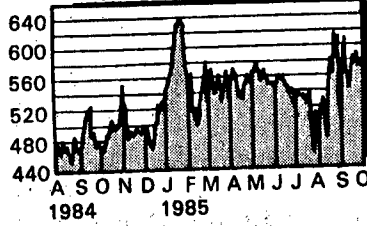
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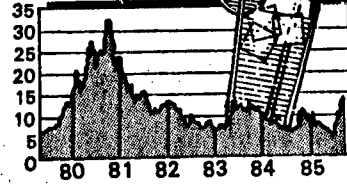
SA cents per Bushel



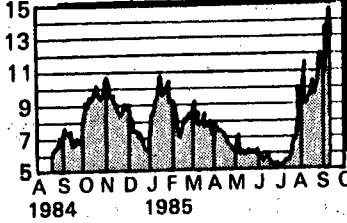
SUGAR

FUTURES

(SAc/lb)



SA cents per lb



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SOUTH AFRICA

IMPORT LEVY SEEN HURTING FARMERS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Oct 85 p 23

[Article by Madden Cole: "Import Levy Seen As Heavy Blow For Farmers"]

[Text]

THE introduction of the 10 percent levy on certain imported goods could prove a catastrophe for South African agriculture, says South African Tractor Manufacturers' Association (Satma) chairman Robin Phillips.

Mr Phillips said that this levy would lead to higher inflation with more farmers going insolvent, an acceleration in the depopulation of the plateau as well as more unemployment and the collapse of suppliers of capital goods to agriculture.

Pointing out that it was only with a healthy agriculture sector that South Africa could rid itself of its economic problems on a macro-scale, Mr Phillips said that Satma failed to understand why this additional artificial strain should be loaded on to agriculture at this critical time.

"The weak value of the rand is already acting as an automatic brake on imports and has caused the prices of imported

goods to double over the last two years.

"A self-propelled combine harvester selling at R65 670 retail in 1981, today costs R160 781, an increase of 145 percent before adding the 10 percent surcharge."

This dampening effect on imports was so effective that the country's stocks of agricultural capital goods have reached dangerously low levels, Mr Phillips said.

He pointed out too that suppliers of capital goods to the agricultural sector were under extreme pressure as demand for agricultural implements had dropped by 50 percent since 1981 and that sales of tractors had dropped from 24 862 to below 7 000 in that period.

"We will have to pass the entire 10 percent on to the farmer, because in an attempt to keep the farmers and dealers on their feet, the entire industry absorbed heavy losses over the past three years. But now the purses are empty," Mr Phillips said.

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SOUTH AFRICA

SHARP RISE IN BALANCE OF TRADE REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Oct 85 p 25

[Text]

SOUTH Africa recorded a favourable trade balance of R8 521-million in the first nine months of this year, according to Government figures released in Pretoria yesterday.

Preliminary statistics from the Commissioner for Customs and Excise indicate that by the end of September, exports totalled R25 633,3-million and imports R17 112,3-million.

The trade balance at the same time last year stood at R2 005,7-million.

The import and export figures have been adjusted to bring them into line with the requirements for the compilation of the balance of payments, says the statement.

A breakdown of world trading zones showed that Europe remained South

Africa's largest trading partner.

Exports totalled R6 488,9-million, compared with R4 804,2-million in the same period last year, while imports totalled R8 022,8-million (R6 992,6-million).

Asia was South Africa's second largest export partner with a total of R3 720,6-million (R2 394,4-million).

These were followed by America, with R2 518,9-million (R1 773,5-million), Africa with ~~R1 663~~ 1 662-million (R1 171,1-million) and Oceania, with R171,1-million (R137,4-million).

After Europe, American imports rated second, with R2 706-million (R3 045,7-million).

Asia was next with a total of R2 449,9-million (R2 986-million), followed by Africa with

R322,9-million (R310,8-million), and Oceania with R217,3-million (R222,8-million).

Other unclassified goods and balance of payments adjustments totalled R11 523,9-million for exports (R8 083,6-million), and R3 393,4-million for imports (R2 320,5-million).

Ships and aircraft stores exported totalled R38,7-million (R25,4-million).

Other official figures show that year-on-year consumer price inflation rose slightly to 16,56 percent in September after rising to 16,36 percent in August.

This followed a monthly rise in the all-items index (base 1980) of 1,12 percent to 197,8, after a 1,03 percent increase to 195,6 in August.

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SOUTH AFRICA

DU PLESSIS: NO BAN ON CHROME EXPORTS ENVISIONED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Oct 85 p 9

[Text]

SOUTH Africa yesterday ruled out an embargo on supplies of strategic metals vital to the West in retaliation for anti-Pretoria sanctions.

Platinum prices rose sharply on world markets on Wednesday after dealers interpreted remarks by the State President, Mr P W Botha, as a possible threat to cut off a mineral supplies.

Mr Botha told a by-election rally on Monday that a block on exports of chrome from South Africa, which faces a barrage of sanctions over its race policies, could put one million American jobs at risk and close down the European Car industry.

Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis said in an interview yesterday: "The President mentioned that to illustrate his firmly-held opinion that boycotts and sanctions of any kind are fundamentally foolish.

"It was definitely not a threat but an indication that that kind of action is not only foolish in terms of the country of origin but that it cuts both ways," he said.

Sanctions wrong

"It indicates why we still maintain that sanc-

tions are wrong and not the way to achieve political or other objectives," he said.

South Africa produced about 72 tons of platinum last year or about 84 percent of world supply. Its share of total world chrome production amounted to about 31 percent.

Asked if he completely ruled out a minerals embargo, Mr Du Plessis said: "The President himself, in the way he worded his speech, was virtually categorical in his statement that he rejects sanctions against us or by us."

Mr Du Plessis, in a wide-ranging interview, said he was optimistic that South Africa could reach an amicable agreement with its creditor banks on rescheduling its debt.

Debt frozen

Pretoria has frozen, for four months until the end of December, repayment of foreign debt, totalling about \$24-billion, after a financial crisis when foreign banks refused to renew credit lines in August.

Creditor banks and a delegation from Pretoria met on Wednesday in London for talks on how to repay the debt.

Mr Du Plessis said progress had been made. He declined to give details of

the talks or South Africa's objectives.

Some commercial bankers have said Pretoria might seek to extend the repayment moratorium until the end of next year.

Mr Du Plessis said: "I am optimistic that an amicable agreement will be reached eventually because of the fact that South Africa is in an entirely unique position as a debtor.

"We have been able to meet our interest and dividend and other commitments which find themselves outside the (standstill) net. We don't need to borrow money to keep on paying our interest and dividend payments," he said.

Recovery

Mr Du Plessis said the South African economy was on the road to a moderate recovery, forecasting growth next year after eliminating the effects of inflation of about three percent compared with a decline of about one percent this year.

He sharply attacked foreign media coverage of South Africa.

"The perception of South Africa up to now is definitely way beyond, far away from the reality. In the media representation

of what is happening in South Africa the perspective was completely and utterly lost," he said.

"The reality is that not the whole of South Africa is going up in flames. That we have turbulence, that we have a degree of unrest, that is true," he said.

Reforms

Mr Du Plessis added that, at the same time, the country was undergoing dramatic reforms. "The impression is created that this is a total clash between Blacks and Whites and it is fundamentally untrue," he added.

He said Pretoria hoped to keep inflation next year to around current levels. Consumer prices rose 16,56 percent in September.

He said much depended on whether increasing demand from the more lively economy next year could be concentrated on locally-produced goods.

"If an increase in demand generates an awful lot of new imports at this exchange rate then obviously it will give an added impetus to inflation," he added.

Mr Du Plessis said he was disappointed that the rand, currently trading around 38,70 US cents near its all-time low, had not rallied further after the debt standstill was imposed at the beginning of September.

"We look forward to a more stable and gradually rising rand," he added. — Sapa-Reuter.

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SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

ALTOLEVEL QUILTS CAPE--Altolevel, one of South Africa's largest recruitment advertising agencies, is pulling out of Cape Town and will in future concentrate its efforts on its operations in Johannesburg and Durban. "It is with enormous reluctance and regret that we close our doors in Cape Town after nine years, but the market is frankly not big enough to sustain the type of professionalism and professional talent we consider necessary," said Paul Brand, managing director of Altolevel. Mr Brand said that companies on the Witwatersrand and in Natal have been quick to understand that recruitment advertising, like conventional advertising, must be based on good research in order to be effective. "For instance, a large proportion of Natal's recruitment advertising is now being channelled through specialist agencies like ourselves." [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Oct 85 p 23]

ROAD CONSTRUCTION FUNDS--The level of government participation in public projects was not the sole reason for the construction industry's dilemma, Deputy Director-General of Transport Ronnie Meyer has said. He told the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors' annual meeting, in Johannesburg last week, that the National Road Fund and the Transvaal would have spent R1,022bn on rural roads and road maintenance this year. Since January the National Transport Commission had awarded 32 contracts worth R310m to the private sector. They varied between R80,000 and R44m. He said the purchasing power of NRF funds, taking into account inflation, had in real terms been only half of what it was in 1976. The Cabinet would soon consider offers from businessmen for the Springs-Krugersdorp road and sections of the national road between Durban and Johannesburg. For these projects, Meyer said, the private sector would provide finance, construct sections of the routes and operate toll roads for certain periods until the NTC took over. [By Pretoria Bureau] [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 21 Oct 85 p 5]

CONTAINER SHIPPING RECORD--Conference Lines container shippers have set a new record in refrigerated exports to Europe. For the first time since the introduction of a refrigerated cellular cargo service in 1977 by SAECS -- the Southern Africa Europe Container Service -- more than 500,000 freight tons have been exported to Europe in one year. A Conference Lines spokesman said the total for the year to June 30 was 504,000 tons. Of this, 54% went to north-west Europe, 40% to Britain, and 6% to Mediterranean countries. Among the major export improvements were: Avocado pears, up to 18,837 freight tons from 10,372 the previous year; Chilled/frozen beef exports up 20% from 19,792

tons to 23,665; Frozen vegetables almost doubled from 7,742 tons to 14,638; Venison, up from 825 tons to 1,290. The spokesman said main refrigerated exports remained citrus and deciduous fruits, with 36% and 40% of the total respectively. There had also been "promising" experiments in the export of Transvaal bananas, while fruit juice concentrates and pulp had both grown. [By David Furlonger] [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Oct 85 p 2]

COAL, PARAFFIN SALES--Domestic gas consumption has given way to the cheaper paraffin and coal as a consequence of price increases totalling about 31% this year. "The steady decline of the rand against the dollar has been directly responsible for a 60% price increase in liquefied petroleum gas over the past four years," said Easigas marketing manager Harry Orchison. Blacks, the major consumers of gas for domestic purposes, have turned away from gas and electricity to paraffin and coal. However, Orchison believes this trend will be reversed when economic conditions improve. Mark Johnson, promotions manager for Cadac, which sells gas appliances and paraffin stoves, confirms the trend towards paraffin. Electrification of the townships has not had the expected poor effect on the use of optional sources of energy, Johnson says. Coal stoves are still the main way of cooking for most black families. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 21 Oct 85 p 5]

PROPERTY PRICES--Political instability in South Africa is having a major influence on property values. So says Robin Roper, newly appointed manager of the valuations division of the Standard Bank-backed property company, the Property Partnership. "Whereas economic factors have in the past been the major determinants of property values, political instability is now playing havoc with these traditional forces," he says. Mr. Roper says a valuer's job is to interpret the market, using sound, universally acknowledged principles. When valuing an office block, for example, the valuer would consider its location, existing lease terms and expected yields. "One analyses what the market has paid historically, what it is paying today and what the projected income will be. "With the unstable political situation in this country, long-term predictions are now more difficult to make and the traditional approach is taking a back seat," says Mr Roper. He says a trend towards more conservative values is evident. "Property has in the past been a safe form of investment with a vibrant market where the entrepreneur featured prominently. "This has changed, and it is the institutions that are now in the front line trying to peer through the present murky waters into a long-term future. "Their approach is far more cautious and the political unrest and instability have caused this conservatism." [Text] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES (Business) in English 20 Oct 85 p 32]

TELEVISION CREW IN CUSTODY--Cape Town 24 Oct SPAP--Several overseas television crews were taken into custody in the Bo-Kaap this morning when police were busy asking a large crowd of school children in the area to disperse. Most of them did so, SABC radio news reported. Roads in the vicinity of coloured schools in the Zonnebloem area have been closed due to disturbances in them. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 0949 GMT 24 Oct 85 MB]

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS DESPITE BOYCOTTS--Matric examinations would definitely start on Friday since the majority of schools in the country were not affected by the unrest and boycotts, the chief public relations officer of the Department of Education and Training (DET), Mr Job Schoeman, said today. He said requests from some areas to have the examinations postponed, had been submitted to the deputy minister of education, Mr Sam de Beer. Mr Schoeman said a relatively small percentage of the schools was affected and that would not stop the examinations as a whole. Mr Schoeman said his department did not control the matric examinations. "There are other education departments and bodies involved. They too have to investigate the possibility of postponing the examinations before any final decision can be taken." He said his department might release a statement tomorrow about the writing of matric examinations. The Soweto Parents Crisis Committee told pupils and parents at a weekend meeting that it had negotiated with Mr de Beer that high school examinations should be postponed to next year. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 0759 GMT 22 Oct 85 MB]

DEATH THREATS RECEIVED--Cape Town, 23 Oct, SAPA--Progressive Federal Party MCP [member of Provincial Council] for Gardens, Mrs Di Bishop, and her husband, Brian, both received death threats in the post today. Mr Bishop, the vice-chairman of the Civil Rights League, said the letter addressed to him read: "You and your darling wifey, Di, are on an extermination list. Your family is up for consideration. A white pro-white." The letter to Mrs Bishop, which was in a different handwriting and in a different type of envelope read: "Die you bloody hag. I'll kill you." Mr Bishop said both letters had been posted on October 16 and bore Cape Town postmarks. He said they would not "bother" to report the threats to the police. The death threats come shortly after the Bishop's home was teargassed after the End Conscription Campaign peace rally in the Cape Town City Hall on October 7. [Text] [Johannesburg SAPA in English 1543 GMT 23 Oct 85 MB]

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ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

NEW ZEALAND DIPLOMATIC MISSION--New Zealand has announced that it will open a diplomatic mission in Zimbabwe the country's first in Africa. It named former Commonwealth official, Mr Chris Laidlaw, as the high commissioner. Prime Minister David Lange announced the move in a speech to the UN special committee against apartheid in New York yesterday. Mr Laidlaw, a former leading all blacks rugby player, is a noted critic of apartheid. He worked as an assistant to Commonwealth Secretary General Sir Shridath Ramphal before returning to New Zealand as a special adviser on African affairs to the government of Prime Minister Lange. He will also be credited to Kenya, Zambia, Botswana, Lesotho. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Oct 85 MB]

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