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6 October 1982

# Sub-Saharan Africa Report

No. 2698

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**FBIS**

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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## SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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FURTHER GOVERNMENT CHANGES REPORTEDLY EXPECTED

Paris AFRICA AFP in English 7 Sep 82 pp 1-2

[Article by Jean Luc Porte]

[Text] LUANDA--Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, who has just celebrated his 40th birthday, has gradually asserted his own brand of power here in the past three difficult years of being the successor of the flamboyant Agostinho Neto.

Trained as a petroleum industry engineer in the Soviet Union, Mr. Dos Santos has adopted a style completely distinct from his predecessor's. Mr. Neto was the great crowd-puller and orator of the masses, and manipulated at will the various factions in his ruling People's Liberation Movement (MPLA) party.

The new President, with previous experience as foreign and then planning minister, is by contrast withdrawn, a fussy and abstemious man--even secretive, according to some of his close aides.

The Western press has dubbed him the man of compromise.

Mr. Neto's sudden death of cancer in 1979 left the MPLA at something of a loss. The party's so-called 'nationalist' faction--viewed in some quarters however as rightwing--was well placed in the government at that time.

Tighter Control

Mr. Dos Santos has moved bit by bit since then to shed some office-holders and give the party structures a new dynamism. Alteration in the past few months have been effected without any apparent clashes.

Very fierce criticism of Angola's economic and social situation were however aired at the party's 10th regular central committee session in June. A week later the President hit out at "mistakes" which he attributed to "amorphous and injurious elements" in the party's senior ranks.

In mid-July the government radio reported the sacking of the central committee's Secretary for Productivity, Manuel Pedro Pacavira, whose key post covered output in fisheries, agriculture and industry.

He had "deviated" from the party's farm policies and used "unsuitable methods", resulting in "stagnation", the committee said.

A public rebuke was also administered at that time to Health Minister Mendes de Carvalho for "lack of respect for the Head of State during a speech".

#### More Changes Expected

Those two decisions certainly involved political considerations and helped realign forces within the MPLA, but they were in the main a demonstration of the President's determination to get the economy and other sectors moving again under the supervision of competent officials.

Mr. Neto's forte was to impose his views in the diplomatic sphere. His successor is exerting himself to end the domestic economic crisis.

One step in that direction was the decision a fortnight ago to drop responsibility for external trade from the portfolio of Planning Minister Lopo do Nascimento. Interpreted in some western press reports as a demotion, the measure is in fact part of a reform to make a 'super-ministry' of Planning, with the task of overall supervision of the whole economy.

That economy is teetering on the brink of suffocation, as Angola's oil revenues are swallowed up by the expenses incurred in confrontation with South Africa in connexion with the protracted guerrilla war for independence in neighbouring Namibia.

As the Head of State's third anniversary in that post falls due this month, "boatos" (speculation) is persistent here that yet more changes are due in a bid to shore up the shaky situation.

CSO: 4700/1933

## BRIEFS

UNITA BATTLE CLAIMS--LISBON, September 7--The southern Angola guerrilla movement Unita claims to have killed 680 Angolan army soldiers since July and captured a large amount of military equipment, in a statement published by the Portuguese press today. The statement said that the South African backed movement led by Jonas Savimbi also killed one Cuban soldier whose identity was not revealed, and shot down a Soviet-made helicopter. The Unita statement, published in the Portuguese daily Correio da Manhã, said the guerrillas captured a 30-year-old Brazilian, Antonio Augusto, travelling with a military column of regular Angolan troops. [Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English 7 Sep 82 p 20]

CSO: 4700/1933

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

BRIEFS

FRANCE'S OIL DISINTEREST CITED--Madrid, 27 Sep (AFP)--The French Government has given Equatorial Guinea aid for the purchase of consumer goods, but has shown "little interest" in oil prospecting, the president of the West African former Spanish colony said here today. Lt Col Teodor Obiang Nguem was speaking before returning to Malabo from a European tour which included talks with French President Francois Mitterrand, Pope John Paul II and Spanish Prime Minister Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo. Lt Col Obiang said that he had discussed with Mr Calvo Sotelo the various aspects of Spanish aid to Equatorial Guinea, which he said was functioning "to the satisfaction of both sides." [Text] [AB271820 Paris AFP in English 1423 GMT 28 Sep 82]

CSO: 3400/7

## ISRAEL'S ROLE IN LEBANESE MASSACRE CONDEMNED

AB250812 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Press review]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The coldblooded massacre of hundreds of Palestinians, including children and women, at refugee camps in Beirut last week allegedly sanctioned by the Israeli authorities is a subject for comment by the Ghanaian TIMES. The paper says in view of Israeli lobbying in Africa and in Ghana through various local agents to restore relations, it is necessary to establish Israel's complicity in the cruel massacre of innocent Palestinians in order to expose the continuing immorality of the Zionist regime that spearheads Israeli expansionism in the Middle East and helps to push world imperialism's strategies in Africa.

The TIMES says the truth of the matter is that the Phalangist attack on the Palestinian refugee camps was well planned and it was linked with the assassination of Bashir al-Jumayyil, the former president-elect of Lebanon. It alleges that the Begin government plotted the murder of Al-Jumayyil to achieve two purposes with one stroke. One was to provoke the Phalangists and put them in emotional conditions to do what they did to the Palestinian refugees. The other was to halt Al-Jumayyil's move to unite all forces in Lebanon and establish the country's sovereignty and independence of Israel.

Continuing, the TIMES says the inhuman extent to which the racist Zionist dictatorship is prepared to carry out Israel's expansionist policies in the Middle East has been demonstrated by what it describes as the callous, brutal liquidation of unarmed defenseless Palestinian refugees. Have those who arm Israel for this kind of thing no conscience?

CSO: 4700/1972

## NEW PAPER LAUNCHED, ROLE OF PRESS EXAMINED

AB240803 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] A new weekly newspaper, THE COMBAT, published and printed by the Ghana Institute of Journalism, has been launched in Accra. Speaking at the ceremony, the secretary for information, Ato Austin, emphasized that the revolution is not against criticisms. All that it is asking for are healthy and constructive criticisms. It also wants newspapers that will promote the interest of the people. Any newspaper that fails to play this role must, therefore, be banned.

Ato Austin urged journalists to do investigative reporting based on in-depth research. He said the present mode of reporting leaves much to be desired. The secretary gave an assurance that there will soon be enough newsprint for the mass media. He said efforts will be intensified to eliminate ignorance among the people. Mass education programs will very soon be launched throughout the country. There will also be newspaper publications in the local languages.

Ato Austin congratulated all those who initiated and made the paper a reality. The secretary for greater Accra, Atukwei Okai, asked the students to use the paper to fight injustice in the society. The acting director of the school, (Kabral Blay Amehia), hoped the students, who will edit and run the paper independently, will use its pages to wage a relentless struggle against all factors that militate against their welfare and, above all, the factors that keep the people in slavery conditions.

The acting editor of THE COMBAT, Mr Abbey--a final year student--said the paper will not focus its attention only on the school. It will join, as he put it, other progressive forces in the fight to fight ignorance among the people.

CSO: 4700/1972

GUINEA

BRIEFS

SEKOU TOURE LEAVE CONAKRY--The head of state, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, left Conakry today Thursday morning for Jidda, Saudi Arabia. This mission of the supreme leader of the revolution to Saudi Arabia is within the framework of the meeting of the Islamic Peace Committee--of which he is chairman--charged with settling the Iraq-Iran conflict. The committee meeting in Jidda will discuss the latest developments in the situation in Iran and Iraq. The head of state was seen off on his departure from Gbessia, Conakry's international airport, by members of the National Political Bureau, the Central Committee, the government and the diplomatic corps accredited to Conakry as well as national cadres residing in the capital. [Text] [AB231442 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 23 Sep 82]

CSO: 4719/1422

BUTHELEZI SCORES UN RECOGNITION OF ANC, PAC

MB241322 Johannesburg RAND DAILY in English 24 Sep 82 p 1

[By Patrick Laurence, political editor]

[Text] By recognising outlawed African National Congress and pan-Africanist Congress leaders as the only legitimate spokesmen for South African blacks, the United Nations has created conditions which could lead to a civil war within the black community, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi said yesterday.

Speaking from Ulundi after his return from a visit to the United States, Chief Buthelezi, who heads the 350,000 strong Inkatha Movement, was elaborating on a memorandum which he submitted to the United Nations during his American trip.

In it he expressed opposition to UN recognition of the ANC and PAC at the expense of internally-based movements, but not to its willingness to give the underground movements a hearing.

"The tradition of the struggle is in the custody of the people of South Africa and not in any one organisation," he said in his memorandum.

Selective recognition could generate and harden rifts in the South African black community and create the conditions for strife and even civil war, Chief Buthelezi added.

--According to Professor Lawrence Schlemmer, of the University of Natal's Institute for Social Research, Chief Buthelezi and ANC leaders are ranked highly by blacks in Natal-Kwazulu and the Witwatersrand, with Chief Buthelezi taking top position in Natal-Kwazulu but yielding first place to the ANC on the Witwatersrand.

CSO: 4700/1969

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT EXPECTED 'TO EXPAND STEADILY'

AB240823 Paris AFP in English 0757 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Sep (AFP)--Industry in Ivory Coast has suffered badly from the world crisis but is maintaining its growth rate, and is expected to expand steadily in coming years, the Ivory Coast Chamber of Industry said at its annual general meeting.

With production up 10 percent in 1981, Industry Minister Maurice Seri Gnoleba told the meeting: "Ivory Coast will soon have sufficient surplus to finance new investment."

He noted that many of the country's resources were unexploited, and that many of its commodities were expected to see prices rise. Confidence abroad in Ivory Coast was an additional factor.

During 1981 the number of companies in operation rose 1 percent, capital rating was up 7 percent, turnover rose 24 percent.

The workforce dropped 2 percent while the wage bill increased 7 percent.

The chamber stressed that the number of companies had risen from 375 in 1971 to 711 in 1981. Of the latter figure, some 300 were small concerns: 200 bakeries and 96 print works.

Over the past few years, the capital invested in companies has been rising 10 to 20 percent per annum. Ivory Coast participation has steadily risen in terms of absolute value and is now 65 percent. The state accounting for 52 percent and private Ivory Coast investors 13 percent.

French capital has risen in absolute value but now accounts for 21 percent against 40 percent in 1976. More than a score of other countries have a 14 percent interest including Switzerland, Lebanon, the United States, the Benelux countries, Britain, West Germany and Japan.

Industrial investment has gone up about 15 percent yearly over the past few years, or some \$120 million. In 1980 there was a big jump of around \$700 million as a result of the commissioning of the Taabo Hydroelectric Plant, two sugar mills and the Belier oil site. In 1981 investment is estimated at \$500 million

The chamber said overall turnover by industry had been rising an average 23 percent over the past decade. As production rose 10 percent last year, prices went up 9 percent. The home market accounted for 60.5 percent of industry's total sales.

In 1980-81 exports were 37 percent of total turnover against 32 percent in the previous year and 26 percent before that.

However the pineapple sector was among certain industries meeting problems.

As to raw materials, 64 percent were from Ivory Coast against 51 percent in 1975.

The chamber also noted that Ivorians represented 75 percent of the industrial workforce in 1981, up from 61.7 percent in 1973, while other African workers accounted for 22 percent and other foreigners, largely French, 3 percent.

CSO: 4700/1969

BRIEFS

TURKISH TRADE MISSION PLANNED--South Africa is to send a trade mission to Turkey early next year. The Middle East area manager of SAFTO, the South Africa Foreign Trade Association, Mr Jonathan Smith, says there is good market for South African products and services in Middle Eastern countries. He says that trade delegations from some of these countries have visited South Africa, but because of the sensitive nature of the issue, he cannot reveal further details. Mr Smith says South Africa can compete easily in various fields with countries such as Taiwan, Japan and the United States. [Text] [MB241024 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Sep 82]

CSO: 4700/1969

## CHANGE IN FRELIMO AGRICULTURAL POLICY SEEN NEEDED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 2 Sep 82 p 23

[Article by Joseph Hanlon]

[Text]

**MAPUTO —** A village shopkeeper in Alto Ligonha took me into the warehouse where he stores the crops he buys from local peasants. The harvest was over yet there were only eight sacks of maize. Last year at this time the warehouse was nearly full, he said.

Here in the rolling hills of Central Zambezia Province in Mozambique it has been a fine agricultural year, with good rains. What went wrong?

Part of the answer is in the shop itself. The shelves are almost empty, with only salt, tea, curry powder, and a few men's clothes. With nothing to buy the peasants are returning to subsistence farming and growing less for sale.

Yet the area is not stagnating. A new main road passes in front of the shop. A new high tension electricity line will reach it soon. Elsewhere in the province several big state farms and a textile mill are being built. These are part of Mozambique's crash programme of "victory over under-

development" by the end of the decade.

Frelimo is diverting most of its resources to these big development projects. Imports of consumer goods have been cut sharply to allow more machinery imports.

The effect of this has been exacerbated by the worsening terms of trade: world market prices for Mozambique's agricultural exports are falling while machinery prices rise. At independence seven years ago, it "cost" five tons of cotton to buy a lorry; now it costs 13 tons.

Two other aspects of the development policy also hit the peasants. Village production of goods like soap and cooking oil for local sale is discouraged.

President Samora Machel explained: "We do not think of village soap production. We think of factories to produce Lux and Lifebuoy for the entire country." But it will be a decade before such factories can meet the demand. In the meantime, the peasants have nothing.

Finally, Mozambique has set a relatively high minimum wage while keeping food prices low. Thus

peasant farmers earn much less than workers on the new projects.

The peasants may benefit in the end but in the short term they are clearly losing out — and dropping out. This is more than an academic problem, because the economy still depends on peasants. They produce most of the marketed food crops and all of Mozambique's biggest export, cashew nuts.

Mocuba District in Central Zambezia highlights the problem. The district wholesaler, Ahmed Abdul Remane, said that consumer goods for sale to peasants have fallen each year since independence. This year he is distributing only two-thirds of what he did last year.

Each person in Mocuba District will be able to buy less than one-twentieth of the sugar and soap guaranteed to each Maputo resident. There have been no bicycle tyres or parts in the district for three years. There is even a shortage of basic farm tools like hoes.

Capulanas, the brightly coloured clothes used by women for everything from skirts to carrying babies, are a particular fo-

cus of discontent. Each woman expects to buy at least two a year. This year in Mocuba District there is only one capulana for every three women.

All food crop marketing is supposed to be channeled through the state company, Agricom. Alberto Ferreira, the district director of Agricom, told me just how bad the collapse has been. In colonial times this district marketed 5 000 tons of maize and 1 500 tons of cassava. This year Ferreira expects to buy one tenth of that. And he will buy no rice, sorghum, or peanuts — all important crops in colonial times.

Production has fallen in Mocuba — but not that much. For those prepared to pay a higher price, or who have goods to trade, there is food to buy.

This is tacitly recognised by a new policy. Because many peasants have money left from previous years, they could easily buy all the available consumer goods. So this year, the Government instructed shopkeepers to sell capulanas and bicycles only to peasants who sold crops to them.

This is in direct violation of the private commerce law approved by the Government only three years ago but it does work. Most of the crops sold to Agricom in Mocuba were traded for goods in that way.

And there is a flourishing two-part black market which far exceeds Agricom's business. First, traders come from the provincial capital Quelimane and exchange dried fish (an important part of a local diet ignored

by the State trading system) and illegally obtained soap, sugar, and batteries.

Second, is the government's own black market. The state tea, cotton, sisal, and sugar plantations all have to feed their workers, as do the army and the firms building the road, power line, and textile mill. Just one of these, the State Secretariat for Cotton, needs 1 500 tons of maize and cassava in Mocuba to feed its workers — more than double what Agricom will buy because of the drop in peasant sales.

Local officials admit that state organisations had no choice but to go out into the countryside and buy food at more than double the official price. It is illegal and was explicitly banned by the Government last year. But as I discovered, the ban is still being ignored.

Nor is it sensible to impose such a ban. Last year the Government cracked down on black market cassava trading in Mocuba and surrounding districts. Rather than sell at the official price, the peasants left the cassava in the ground. There was hunger among workers in Mocuba because of the resulting cassava shortage.

But even the stimulus of black market prices has its limits. Food sales, both legal and illegal, are probably less than half what they were before independence.

The state plantations are having trouble feeding their workers. With insufficient food provided and little to buy with the wages, workers are returning to family farms. The

plantations face a high labour turnover and fail to hire sufficient seasonal workers to harvest cotton and sisal.

This puts into question exactly the big development projects that Mozambique's policy is supposed to promote. State cotton acreage in this zone is supposed to be doubled in the coming year. But who will pick next year's crop when there were not enough people to harvest this year's?

Frelimo seems trapped in a declining spiral. Rather than import consumer goods to stimulate the peasants, Mozambique now spends more foreign exchange to import food which the peasants could (and did) produce and to import harvesting machinery for state farm crops that peasants could pick.

There are hints that some Frelimo leaders understand the problem. State farms are under some pressure to help family farms and agricultural cooperatives. But the collapse has gone too far to be solved by token support from state farms and the importing of a few (or even many) consumer goods.

It will require new seeds for the crops the peasants have abandoned, tools, and other farming assistance. And there must be help to establish local manufacture of basic needs like soap.

In effect, what is now needed is a concerted programme to rebuild the peasant economy. And that will require a significant shift in Frelimo thinking.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### BRIEFS

SUGAR EXPORTS TO PORTUGAL PLANNED--MAPUTO, September 6--Mozambique expects to resume sugar exports to Portugal next year after a five-year break, according to a report in the Diario de Mocambique newspaper. The paper said a Portuguese Government delegation is expected here next month to finalize a long-term agreement, by which Mozambique would be prepared to sell Portugal up to 42,000 tonnes of sugar next year. Mozambique, which also exports sugar to France, the United States and the Soviet Union, was a main supplier to Portugal during the colonial period, but excluded the former mother country when production fell in the years following the 1965 independence. [Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English 7 Sep 82 p 22]

TRADE FAIR RESULTS--MAPUTO, September 7--Mozambique has signed international contracts totalling 31 million dollars during a ten-day trade fair which ended yesterday. Trade agreements were signed with companies from Portugal, Britain, China, Bulgaria and East Germany. Eighteen countries sent representatives to the fair. [Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English 7 Sep 82 p 22]

CSO: 4700/1933

EKWUEME CALLS FOR STRONGER TIES WITH INDIA

AB141740 Lagos NAN in English 1710 GMT 14 Sep 82

[Text] Lagos, Sep 14 (NAN)--The vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, today in Lagos, called for stronger ties to ensure increased co-operation between Nigeria and India.

The vice president, made the call, when he received the visiting Indian minister of education and culture, Mrs Sheila Kaul, at the State House, Ribadu Road, Ikoyi.

He praised India for its role in international affairs, especially its support to the international movements in southern Africa.

The vice president noted that Nigeria and India had identical views at finding solutions to world problems and praised the existing relations between the two countries.

Briefing the vice president on the outcome of the agreement signed earlier between the two countries, the minister of social development, youths, sport and culture, Mr Adebisi Ogedengbbe, said that the agreement would go a long way to cement the cordial relations existing between both countries.

Replying, the Indian minister told the vice president that her country placed much importance on the co-operation with Nigeria.

She described the agreement as a sign of better understanding and good relations between her country and Nigeria.

CSO: 4700/1925

## OAU URGED TO PUT ASIDE DIFFERENCES

AB161043 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Since after the unsuccessful OAU summit in Tripoli last August, some African leaders have been making efforts to salvage the image of the organization by calling for the postponed summit to be reconvened before the end of this year. A number of talks have been held between African leaders on the crisis in the organization. Two of such talks were recently held in Lagos between President Shehu Shagari and his counterparts from Guinea and Zambia. It was understood that their talks centered mainly on ways of resolving the crisis in the OAU. Only recently, the vice president of Nigeria, Dr Alex Ekwueme, held discussions in Tanzania on the same situation in the organization. In Monrovia, the Liberian head of state, Commander General Samuel Doe, in a recent meeting with President Sekou Toure of Guinea, called on the chairman of the OAU, president Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, to convene a special session of the OAU to discuss the present deadlock in the organization. In a communique issued after their meeting, the two leaders called for action to be taken now to avoid any further extension of the political limbo in which the OAU now finds itself.

The abortive 19th summit, which was postponed for lack of quorum, saw the massive boycott of the conference by more than 20 member states. This unusual phenomenon precipitated by the controversial admission of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic into the organization has almost dented the image, efforts and achievements of the organization since 19 years of its existence. At the end of the abortive summit in Tripoli, a special committee made up of some member states was set up to examine and work out a strategy for persuading those states that refused to attend the meeting to attend the next summit scheduled to be held before the end of this year. Some other factors also contributed to the failure of the Tripoli summit last month. One of such factors is the misgivings which some African countries have against the activities of the Libyan leader, Col Mu'ammad al-Qadhafi, in Africa. Colonel al-Qadhafi has often been accused of subversive activities and territorial expansionist ambition in Africa.

Another contributive factor to the failure of the summit was the increasing wave of internal commotion and disorder in several member states at that time. For instance, President Moi of Kenya, who was to hand over the chairmanship of the OAU to Colonel al-Qadhafi, was just struggling to put down an armed rebellion by a faction of the Kenyan air force to unseat his government. This must have been responsible for his absence in Tripoli. There is no doubt that foreign influence played a role in bringing about the failure of the Tripoli summit. For instance, during the time of the unsuccessful summit, some superpowers were lobbying member nations of the OAU to boycott the conference and they succeeded in contributing to the lack of quorum and consequent postponement of the summit.

OAU members must not allow their only bond of unity to be put under fire by external influence. They have to sink their differences, change their minds and place all hands on deck in bringing about a successful summit not far from now. It is hoped that the African leaders this time will once again demonstrate a sense of responsibility, understanding and maturity which is needed to preserve the continental body from total collapse. The 30 countries that attended the abortive summit must try to live up to expectations by convincing others to attend the next summit. OAU leaders must reconvene to discuss matters of common interest to Africa, including the postponed election of a new secretary general for the organization. They must be loyal to their earlier commitment of fighting together to uproot colonialism, neo-colonialism and apartheid in the continent. The current difficulties facing the OAU are quite surmountable if only there is good will of all member states.

The OAU must now be reminded of its pledge to remain one and indivisible and it is only by resolving their differences at the conference table that the OAU's principles will be achieved. The unity which the organization has tried to achieve in the past 19 years must not be allowed to be destroyed by power plays and foreign influence. African leaders have to realize that by their falling apart, the apartheid regime in South Africa gains more ground in perpetrating its obnoxious policies in Namibia and South Africa. Let the OAU member nations come together once again to prevent the continental government from collapse. African leaders must work to salvage the image of the OAU now or never!

CSO: 4700/1925

S.G. IKOKU RESIGNS SECRETARYSHIP OF PRP

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Aug 82 pp 1, 21

[Text] Mr. S.G. Ikoku has resigned his post as Secretary General of the Peoples Redemption Party (PRP).

He indicated this in a letter to the leader of the party, Malam Aminu Kano.

Mr. Ikoku further said that his stay in the party would depend on the Anambra State directorate of the party.

Reacting to the resignation of Mr. Ikoku, Dr. Junaid Mohammed, Chief Whip in the House of Representatives remarked that Mr. Ikoku's action had put paid to the speculations about his ideological orientation.

Speaking to the New Nigerian yesterday, Dr. Mohammed expressed surprise at the decision by Mr. Ikoku to leak the contents of the letter to the media without waiting for Malam Aminu's reaction.

Our correspondent was made to understand that some senior members of the party yesterday travelled to Kano to discuss with Malam Aminu on what steps to take in reaction to Mr. Ikoku's exit.

Early this month, Malam Aminu wrote to Mr. Ikoku urging him and other party members to stop public speculations about the party's chances in the next elections.

Dr. Mohammed alleged that Mr. Ikoku had betrayed the trust reposed in him by the party. "Respect and trust are like souls, once departed, they can never be regained. One would like to see how S.G. would justify his controversial career to history and to this country".

Also commenting on Mr. Ikoku's resignation yesterday, another member of the Aminu's PRP, Senator Usman Dambatta said the former general secretary's action did not come to him as a surprise.

He, however, described the action as "very unfortunate".

The party is expected to issue a statement today.

CSO: 4700/1781

POLICE URGED TO 'DO SOMETHING' ABOUT SECRET SOCIETIES

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Aug 82 p 4

[Letter by Faruk Goddy Agber Tso'co in the column "Your Views"]

[Text]

I WISH to draw the attention of every humble citizen of this country to the cases of secret societies influencing almost the whole world today.

It is surprising to realise that such a thing has been existing in a great country like Nigeria and yet nothing is done about it.

It is a proven fact that most rich men today do suck the blood of poor innocent citizens to achieve their wealth and influence.

But they know that the act is not only a crime, it's also a big sin before God.

We read daily from newspapers and radios of missing people, but why they miss is not known. Some few years ago, a lodge house in Zaria went ablaze. After the fire, people got into the den of friends and watched many marvelous things.

Some people even identified skulls of their missing ones. Also documents, daily agenda, and list of names of members belonging to this insidious society were found. But nothing was done about it by the police.

Shortly after the incident, no news was heard about it.

Recently, the same thing happened at Zaria again, but on a different den of friends. The same type of documents were seen.

Pictures of top members of the insidious society were brought out from boxes (in the hall's inner rooms after a war on these boxes) and displayed at the gate and wire fence of these den of friends.

Lots of members of the law enforcement agents were there and they did witness everything. We've since then not known or seen any step taking towards it.

The documents always found in the den of friends do bear both residential and official addresses of members of these societies which could help the police in their investigations. But nothing is done.

If the police could make one good move towards them, at least, they could be cut to size.

The police should please do something before God's visitation.

CSO: 4700/1781

POLICE ARREST 35 AFTER FURTHER VIOLENCE IN KANO

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Aug 82 p 21

[Article by Abdulhamid Babatunde]

[Text] Police in Kano have arrested 35 persons in the wake of renewed violence by rival groups of local hunters known as "Yan-Tauri" the "invulnerables."

The Deputy Police Commissioner, Mr. Emmanuel T. Allaga confirmed the arrests yesterday. He said those arrested were caught with dangerous local weapons.

He said they would appear in court as soon as police investigations into the matter were concluded.

He gave the assurance that police had intensified night and day patrols. The measure which led to the arrests had brought the situation under control.

Commenting on the situation the Assistant Police Commissioner in charge of 'B' Department, Alhaji Yahaya Othman explained that the clashes took their root many years ago from competition among local hunting groups who equipped themselves and their hunting dogs with magical charms in a bid to prove their invincibility.

The assistant police commissioner also explained that with the return to politics, some of such hunters were recruited into political parties as vanguards adding another dimension to the traditional rivalry. He said there were others who seized the opportunity of unrest to commit other crimes like kidnapping of women by a group known as "Yan Daukan Amarya."

Alhaji Yahaya said that enlightenment had greatly reduc-

ed the membership of the rival hunting groups but that there were still some groups who occasionally demonstrated their potential to cause chaos.

He assured that the police would sustain the patrols currently going on and appealed for comprehensive information on individuals and groups involved in order to assist the police in putting an end to the clashes.

Briefing newsmen on the incident, the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Ado Bayero observed that the rival groups had been causing unrests resulting in loss of lives of innocent citizens in certain parts of Kano City.

Most affected areas, he said, were Gyaranya, Fuskar Yamma, Zage, Kofar-Mata and parts of Fagge.

Alhaji Ado also noted that the most recent outbreak of violence at Rimi and Yakasai areas had made it necessary for him to appeal to people to assist the authorities and the police to combat the incidents until peace was restored.

The emir added that such disturbance of peace was likely to have adverse effect on the position of Kano as a major commercial and religious centre in the country and urged well-meaning citizens to avoid involvement in groups which were not peaceful in their activities.

## NIGERIANS URGED TO END ELECTION CHAOS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Aug 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Restraint Please"]

[Text]

THE current registration of voters has now entered its second week amidst allegations of rigging and intemperate threats of court action against the Federal Electoral Commission, FEDECO. And some have called for its cancellation. It would be foolish to pretend there isn't some justification for the negative public reactions. The registration has not fared well. Its handling by FEDECO right from the beginning was rickety. And once it got off the ground, it is inexcusable that it has been slowed down for lack of registration forms and personnel. It is as if FEDECO officials were anxious to write their epitaph on a tablet of insouciant ineptitude.

But much of the problems facing the registration stem largely from our inability to trust ourselves. The registration of voters, ordinarily, should not generate so much political rivalry and belligerence. There must be something terribly wrong with us as a people. There is no limit to politics in this country. Census, registration of voters, appointments, name it, we have politicised it. It is shameful.

The shortcomings of FEDECO in respect of the current registration are legion. But they constitute an indictment of the executive, the legislature and our political leadership. It took the National Assembly one whole year to sort itself out over the electoral bill. The ex-

ecutive failed to release funds in good time. FEDECO was unable to map out its own strategy. And the political leaders still seek to confuse and mystify the people over the registration by rattling the sabre of sectional domination.

Time to put a halt to this mess. All of us have a duty to make the registration succeed. The politicians have a greater responsibility. Their reactions so far have been an indecent exhibition of adolescent pique. The situation demands maturity and tact, not emotionalism.

The registration has to go on. To cancel it now is to create confusion and uncertainty. It will succeed if our political leaders behave themselves with decency and decorum. FEDECO needs their understanding and co-operation. Only so can it sustain public confidence.

FEDECO officials meet tomorrow. They should review their unenviable performances. On their shoulders rests the destiny of our democratic process. If they do better, the public will forgive, if not, they will crucify them. There should be no argument on the extension of the registration period for at least one week. We appeal for restraint. A chaotic registration will almost certainly be a dress rehearsal for chaotic general elections. This is as good a chance as any to demonstrate our political maturity as a people.

NPP LEADER URGES POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS

AB161325 Lagos NAN in English 1228 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Lagos, 16 Sep (NAN)--The national secretary of the Nigerian People's Party (NPP), Dr Alex Fom, yesterday in Lagos called on the National Assembly to postpone the 1983 elections by one year to enable the country to conduct a national census.

Dr Fom told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the census would enable the FEDECO [Federal Electoral Commission] to compile out better planning. "We cannot continue to project the population from an unknown number of people by just adding 3 percent to the 1963 figures," he said.

He said that it was wrong to use the 1963 population figure as "the denominator of all our planning because, at present, there are probably about 150 million to 200 million people in the country."

Dr Fom said if a national head count was not embarked upon, a lot of eligible voters who had not been registered would turn around and say that the election was not proper. He said that if next year's election was going to be based on outdated population figures, nobody should shift the blame on FEDECO. "The blame should go to everybody who is responsible for the administration of this country," he said.

CSO: 4700/1925

ASSEMBLY DECISION PRESUMABLY MEANS ONLY TWO NEW STATES

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Aug 82 p 1

[Article by Clement Eluaka]

[Text] Only two states are likely to be created in the country going by the decision arrived at yesterday by the Joint Conference of the National Assembly while considering the Creation of States (Procedure) Bill.

These are Katsina State from the present Kaduna State and Ogoja State to be carved out from the present Cross Rivers State.

This is because these are the only two requests which had complied with Section 7 of the Constitution which states that local government councillors to sign requests for states must be elected in accordance with the Local Government Act of 1976.

Consequently, these are the only requests prepared and duly signed by elected councillors and submitted to the National Assembly early in 1980.

Local government councils were dissolved in the country in 1979 and up till date, there has not been any local government law or local government election after that of 1976.

From available records, most of the requests for states presented so far were only signed by hand-picked local government

councillors otherwise known as local government caretaker committee chairmen.

Another great impediment in the way of creating states as adopted yesterday by the Joint Conference was that "people" when used with respect to referendum means persons registered as voters in the electoral register of the area where the demand for a new state originated.

It was also resolved by the Joint Conference that it should be the Clerk of the National Assembly, and not the Senate President that should communicate the directives of the National Assembly within 30 days to FEDECO in form and in a manner prescribed by the States Creation (Procedure) Act.

The National Assembly received 38 requests for states and six for boundary adjustments.

CSO: 4700/1781

NIGERIA

SAUDI ARABIAN BLACK MARKET IN NAIRA REPORTED

AB151523 Lagos NAN in English 1440 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Article by Abdulraheem Adisea]

[Text] Jidda (Saudi Arabia), Sep 15 (NAN)--Massive illegal trafficking in Nigerian currency notes is now going on in Jidda, an investigation by the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) has revealed.

The investigation carried out by a NAN correspondent in Jidda shows that as a result of the illegal trafficking, the value of naira has dropped by fifty percent.

Twenty naira (N20) which is an equivalent of 100 Saudi riyad is being exchanged for only 50 riyad in the black market while commercial banks in Jidda pay less than that amount.

The fall in the value of the naira, the investigation further revealed, was due to large sums of Nigerian currency in circulation in Jidda which was brought into Saudi Arabia by well-to-do Nigerians and some Ghanaian and Chadian nationals.

These people hawk the naira from camp to camp and display them like ordinary wares along corridors of buildings in Jidda.

A Nigerian official blamed security agents for not detecting such huge amounts in Nigeria.

CSO: 4700/1925

OFFICIAL ON DEVELOPMENT OF PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY

AB161607 Lagos NAN in English 1500 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Lagos, Sep 16 (NAN)--Poor commitment by previous administrations is responsible for the late development of a petrochemical complex in the country, an official of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mr Odoliyi Lolomari said today in Lagos.

Mr Lolomari, NNPC's general manager, petrochemicals division, noted that the development of the complex has always featured in the country's development plans and that there was cause for relief that the project has now become a reality.

The NNPC's general manager who was briefing newsmen on the three-day international seminar-exhibition on petrochemicals and the Nigerian economy opening in Lagos on Monday, said that the development of the petrochemical complex had been split into 3 phases.

He said that under phase one, four plants, one to be sited in Kaduna and three in Warri, would manufacture base stocks, detergents, carbon black, printers ink and electrodes. A plant to upgrade motor spirits would also be built.

Mr Lolomari said that funding for the first phase, expected to cost about 280 million naira, would come from Britain, France, Italy, the federal government and other foreign sources.

The federal government is expected to be responsible for 15 per cent of the project cost while the three West European countries would provide 172 million naira.

The loans, he said, are repayable over 13 years at 7.75 per cent interest.

Mr Lolomari also said that the second phase, a more sophisticated venture estimated to cost 1.5 billion naira would produce intermediate chemical products, plastics and foams.

No site has been chosen for this phase, but Mr Lolomari said that the federal government was considering siting the plants in either Imo or Cross River states.

According to the NNPC official, the phase III of the project was still at the planning stage.

The country's natural gas would be used at the complexes with about 650,000 cubic litres to be used annually.

On manpower, the NNPC official said that about 700 people would be needed for the first phase who would form the core of the staff for the complex.

The first phase of the complex, Mr Lolomari explained, would be commissioned in 1985.

CSO: 4700/1925

RIVER BASIN AUTHORITIES ASSURED OF FUNDS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Aug 82 p 9

[Article by Mohammed Salau]

[Text]

THE Federal Government will continue to finance all river basin authorities in the country for the execution of their on-going projects.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources, Chief Eteng Okoi Obuli gave this assurance to newsmen last week in Makurdi.

He was on a four-day visit to all the projects of the Lower Benue River Basin Development Authority (LBRBDA) in Benue and Plateau states.

The minister however said that new projects not on the present development plans of all river basin authorities in the country would not be started.

This, he said was because of the dwindling economy of the country, adding that all on-going projects which were viable would be given urgent attention.

Chief Obuli commended LBRBDA for its achievements in all its projects in both Benue and Plateau states. He added that the authority had by its prudent spending justified the provision of more funds.

He said that what he had seen in all the basin authorities he

visited pointed to the fact that by 1985 the various authorities would be in position to give sufficient food to feed the nation and also export food items.

He commended both the Benue and Plateau State governments and their people for the cooperation they had given LBRBDA by providing them with land.

Chief Etteng Okoi Obuli remarked that lack of adequate publicity of the achievements and problems of basin authorities in the country had made the people to be unaware of the importance and existence of the authorities and their achievements in the execution of Green Revolution programme.

The minister then appealed for publicity for the activities of the authorities, pointing out that with such support the people would know the benefit of basin authorities in their states.

Earlier, the General Manager of the LBRBDA, Dr. Yahaya Ad-dah had given an assurance that the authority was out to justify its existence and commended the minister's visit.

## MONEY SPENT ON AGRICULTURE SINCE 1979 DETAILED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 26 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] THE Federal Government has spent 1.6 billion Naira on agriculture since its inception in 1979.

A substantial portion of the amount was spent on the Green Revolution programme which was launched in 1980 to bring down the country's food import bill which had risen to 9.6 billion Naira that year.

These were disclosed in Lagos on Tuesday by Minister of Agriculture, Malam Adamu Ciroma while briefing newsmen on the activities of his ministry in his office in Lagos.

On the Green Revolution programme, he said that it would be unrealistic to expect dramatic changes in the agricultural situation 'given the careful planning and mass mobilization necessary for a national programme of this nature.'

He disclosed that there were nine agricultural development projects under implementation at a total cost of 1.1 billion Naira involving two million farm families scattered in nine states.

The states currently benefiting from the projects include Plateau, Benue, Kwara, Niger and Bauchi. Others are Kano, Oyo, Ondo and Sokoto states.

New projects, Malam Adamu disclosed, had been prepared for the remaining states while the Accelerated Development Area project (ADA) was being implemented in Borno and Gongola states.

The projects, he said were being implemented through a tripartite arrangement involving the federal and state governments and the World Bank which had provided 520 million dollars (about 370 million Naira) in loans in the past two years.

A total of 5,393 kilometres of roads and 430 agro service centres had been completed under the projects while 140 earth-dams with a capacity of about eight million cubic metres of water, 95 wells and 215 boreholes had been constructed for human and livestock consumption and for minor irrigation.

Other areas in which the ministry had made significant progress, Malam Adamu said include livestock, poultry production, fisheries, crops, the national rice production scheme and afforestation.

On the problems facing the implementation of the projects, Malam Adamu admitted that the major one was insufficient flow of credit to the agricultural sector.

CSO: 4700/1781

PREFERENCE FOR AMERICAN RICE SAID AFFECTING IMPORT SITUATION

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 27 Aug 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Bauchi Rice"]

[Text] / IF Malam Adamu Ciroma, Minister of Agriculture, needed an honest, non-political comment on our remarkably ambivalent attitude towards agricultural development, he got it last week from the Emir of Bauchi, Alhaji Suleiman Adamu. Alhaji Suleiman was full of praise for the Federal Government's Green Revolution Programme. But, said His Royal Highness, tonnes of precious rice produced by his subjects are rotting away because no one wants to buy them. Shocking? You can say that again. With all the social prestige in sitting down to a good meal of imported American long-grain rice who wants to be seen with a ten-foot spoon with the Bauchi-produced brand?

So, here we are. The Federal Government has so far sunk 1.6 billion Naira into the Green Revolution Programme to revamp our ailing agriculture and free the country from

dependence on imported food.

But we seem to be hooked on imported food. In the circumstances, yams, cassava, beans, corn and other staple food may be rotting away in various parts of the country. Meanwhile, businessmen and their collaborators in the corridors of power create artificial scarcity.

Malam Adamu Ciroma himself told newsmen in Lagos earlier this week that it would be unrealistic to expect dramatic changes in the agricultural situation "given the careful planning and mass mobilization necessary for a national programme of this nature." Point is, there are healthy changes already. We hardly need dramatic changes to demonstrate the success of the programme.

Consider what this country has been through since last year in the new politics of

rice. A lot of noise was made about its scarcity. So, we had to import. And new millionaires sprang up from the bags of imported rice.

We have enough food here—if Nigerians are prepared to eat the local brand. The Presidential Task Force on Rice should turn its attention to Bauchi.

CSO: 4700/1781

## BRIEFS

MORE FRENCH INVOLVEMENT ASKED--Lagos, 15 Sep (NAN)--The vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, today in Lagos called on France to be more involved in the development programme of Nigeria. Dr Ekwueme who made the call at the State House when the new French ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Michael Dumetz, called on him expressed satisfaction with the cordial relations existing between Nigeria and France. Earlier, the French ambassador told the vice president that he had been studying the situation in Nigeria in the last three months, and that he was confident that he would succeed in his mission to the country. [Text] [AB151728 Lagos NAN in English 1648 GMT 15 Sep 82]

REAGAN'S MIDEAST PEACE PLAN--President Ronald Reagan's latest plan for resolving the Lebanon crisis involving the Israelis and the PLO attracts commendations from the NEW NIGERIAN. More importantly, the paper is satisfied with the response of the two sides as well as the Arab league to the new proposals. But in its opinion, the NEW NIGERIAN senses some degree of danger which is most likely to frustrate the plan, one of which is the absence of a clause for America's recognition of the sovereignty of the Palestinians. This clause, says the paper, is a precondition for the Washington peace plan to succeed. [Excerpt] [AB161026 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Sep 82]

CSO: 4700/1925

P.W. BOTHA'S 'REAL BATTLE' STILL AHEAD

MB161148 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 16 Sep 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Next Hurdle for the PM"]

[Text] All credit to him, the prime minister has challenged the cherished shibboleths of his own party and won. This week he sold to his most recalcitrant province, the Transvaal, a plan for reform that will bring the coloured and Indian communities into the structures of political power. With only the cape congress left, it should now be plain sailing for him on the party political front. The extent of that achievement should not be underestimated. But neither should it be overblown into a massive and ultimate triumph. The real battle has yet to begin.

Mr Botha won the National Party to his banner partly by appeals to Christian principle and fairness; partly by a carefully contrived woolliness that left potentially divisive aspects of the constitutional plan fuzzy and undeveloped. The furore over a rightwing leading article in OGGENBLAD should not disguise a central truth. What the author was complaining about was that the party would not spell out the implications and consequences of its proposals.

This newspaper has made it clear that while it welcomes the commitment to reform, it does not believe the reform proposed goes anywhere far enough. Yet, if we are not mistaken, it still goes far too far for many of Mr Botha's supporters. This is going to make life increasingly uncomfortable for Mr Botha. His task now is to sell his plan to millions of non-nationalist coloureds and Indians whom he proposes to enlist. They are not going to be satisfied with woolliness. They are going to want to provide their own input on questions of principle. They are going to expect real consultation. They will not want to be rubber stamps.

If the prime minister simply imposes the constitutional plan willy-nilly on these communities he will create more problems than he solves; dangerous problems.

CSQ: 4700/1928

'BETRAYAL' BY HOMELAND LEADERS SCORED

MB170853 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 14 Sep 82 p 4

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The various homeland leaders will have the dreadful betrayal of their act brought home to them as the government tightens the screws on influx control and labour regulation by sending thousands of people back to overcrowded homelands.

After the Riekert commission report back in 1979, there is a trend to the Verwoerdian days when 90 percent was going to be turned "white" almost overnight. It did not work then, but, with the stubbornness of the ostrich with its head in the sand, the government is pressing ahead.

It is one of the most puzzling things to us, especially after there had been thoughts that the military thinking in the Botha oligarchy was turning pragmatic, if not exactly reformist.

South Africa's proposed orderly movement and settlement of black persons bill is the climax to this incredible move back to the ox-waggon days. It simply does not make sense in that everybody, including most whites, sees that there is necessity to adapt or die. The excuse, which some of us actually wished to use for the government's sake, that its radical rightwing was thrown out with the bathwater.

There is therefore no way in which we can see any of the changes or proposed moves towards reform accepted in terms of the white power structure earnestly out to hold onto that power.

It now seems the whole thing is falling into pattern with the department of cooperation and development insisting that the west rand board refuse black contract workers permission to change their jobs. In the meantime, certain Witwatersrand towns have been speaking about keeping their towns white by night with the degrading night-pass system.

Things will be getting pretty tough for us blacks, but we are getting used to that. What is more important is the future and what all this is going to do to the whole country.

It is our particular hope that those blacks especially, who have been instrumental in the setting up of these reservations for us, the homeland leaders, be they "independent" or not, should look to their sin. They will be held accountable for the mess that this whole country will face because of the government's senseless move to get rid of many blacks out of the so-called "white" areas into the backwoods.

They are going to find themselves in the most awful situation, with swollen populations and the grave need to feed the thousands of jobless people forced back into the rural areas.

If the so-called homelands are in for a bad time, then the rest of the country will suffer in the long term. Overpopulated, poverty-stricken neighbourly states can lead only the malaise to spread into the mainland. If that does not happen immediately, we can expect other sociological, economic and even political problems surfacing from these homelands.

CSO: 4700/1928

ALIENATION OF DTA SEEN AIDING SWAPO

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

IT WOULD be a tragedy if the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance fell out with the South African Government.

Or if, at this late point in time, the Government did anything that destroyed the DTA as a factor in South West African politics.

Not that we think the DTA has much chance of winning a UN-supervised election against Swapo. All signs point to Swapo winning hands down.

With this in mind, the temptation might be for the South African Government to consider an alternative set-up which might give the non-Swapo forces, to Pretoria's mind, a better chance of staving off a Swapo victory.

That might explain why there is now a suggestion that there should be a near-autonomous government of "national unity" in South West Africa.

Mr Dirk Mudge, the DTA chairman, says the plan involves replacing senior DTA members of government with five of their ethnic counterparts from the second tier of the South West African administration.

### Broader spectrum

Press reports from Windhoek say there will be greater involvement in the Namibian National Assembly and Ministers' Council of a broader spectrum of political parties, the territory's ethnic second-tier authorities, and private interest groups such as the Chambers of Commerce and Industries and the SWA Agricultural Union.

The Administrator-General's role would be reduced to that of a mere figurehead, with transfer of powers to the central authority.

Political parties would retain the bulk of the National Assembly's seats, while representatives of the ethnic authorities would be accommodated as far as possible in an enlarged central government.

The third largest bloc of seats would go to delegates from the private sector to provide "specialised knowledge" in the legislature and executive.

With a scaling down of the Administrator-General's role, this would be tantamount to self-rule, it is said.

While it is true that such a plan could not be openly broached, for fear of stirring up immediate public controversy, the way in which it was handled seems to have given the DTA the feeling, rightly or wrongly, that the South African Government was sidetracking it.

In the event, a storm blew up over the plan and the role played by the Administrator-General, Mr Hough.

Mr Mudge said that the attempt by Mr Hough to restructure the interim government constituted gross interference in SWA politics.

The President of the DTA, Mr Riruako, called for Mr Hough's immediate withdrawal.

Allegations were also made that senior military intelligence officers were involved in the matter.

Mr Mudge claimed he attended a meeting in Pretoria at which Mr Hough and senior military officers "confronted" him with a plan to change the interim government.

### His reply

Mr Hough, in turn, maintained his talks with DTA leaders took place with Mr Mudge's knowledge.

Guidelines emerged, and it was decided that once these had been cleared with the South African Government, they would be put to the various parties, he said.

He denied there was a specific plan, or that Mr Mudge was confronted with it.

Claims and counter-claims will be bandied back and forth, we expect, with each side making allegations about the other.

It is all most unfortunate, since if the DTA and the South African Government fall out, it will only be to the advantage of Swapo.

We hope, therefore, that the storm will blow over, that the proposals will be considered on their merits, and that complete consensus will be reached before there is any question of the plan being introduced.

Under no circumstances should the territory's trusted leaders be abandoned in order to gamble on a new set-up that might or might not be any better than the present one in avoiding a Swapo victory, but could easily facilitate it if the DTA were compromised or jettisoned.

CSO: 4700/1921

ZIMBABWEAN DISPOSAL OF SADF BODIES HIT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 6

[Article by Aida Parker: "A grisly charade--with big gaps"]

[Text]

FEW would claim that South African-Zimbabwean relations are cordial. But, for most South Africans, they soured heavily this week following Robert Mugabe's nauseating performance over the bodies of the three Rhodesian-cum-South African SADF sergeants killed last month in the dusty, drought-stricken Sengwe area.

First, the frozen bodies, strangely kitted out, were presented as a public spectacle at the Harare Hospital. Next came the nonchalant statement that they had been "disposed of" (presumably cremated).

Considering the earlier history of Zimbabwe's former terrorist chieftain and his Zanla associates, one should perhaps not be too surprised at the staging of this grisly charade.

But this is a story with some mighty big gaps in it, with aspects which simply do not hang together.

On August 22, Mugabe addressed selected correspondents and foreign diplomats on the incident at his official Harare residence.

Those present later privately commented that

Mugabe was far from his normal eloquent self. They said he appeared uncomfortable, his delivery was halting, and the general impression was that he was perhaps not telling the entire truth.

That impression is confirmed if you study the record.

First, propaganda. This incident came like manna from heaven to Mugabe, adding immensely to his world-wide campaign to discredit South Africa and incite hatred against us.

Imagine the international publicity triumph had Mugabe, a slick and sophisticated operator in the war of words, been able to stage a dramatic handing over of the bodies to SADF. But this did not happen.

Instead, the bodies were "disposed of", indicating that there were probably very good grounds for the Zimbabweans not wanting to risk post mortem examination.

This particularly applies to Sergeant John Andrew "Bluey" Wessels (24), described by his old comrades as a handsome, light-hearted man.

Chief of the SADF General Constand Viljoen stated that in the contact with the Zimbabwe border patrol Wessels was shot in the leg and was still alive when last seen by other members of the ill-fated expedition.

Certainly, when the bodies were displayed, two were in a far more advanced state of decomposition than the third — that of Sgt Wessels.

Most significant of all, "Bluey" Wessels had a bullet hole in the centre of his forehead, indicating that he had been shot some considerable time later: in short, executed in cold blood.

From that point of view, then, the chances are that it would have been highly embarrassing for the Zimbabwean authorities to hand over the bodies and risk them coming under autopsy scrutiny.

Next, the arms they were allegedly carrying. These included RPK machine-guns, AK-47s, 60 mm mortar shells, anti-tank mines, grenades, rocket launchers, TNT, claymores and other landmines.

Additionally, there was medical equipment, radio sets, signal lights and large quantities of field rations.

Quantitatively, this appears a very heavy load. There must be some doubt whether the men could have managed such a weight of equipment, especially when you remember such heavy items as rocket launchers and landmines. Was much of this hardware added for "special effects"?

Then there is the mysterious "fourth body". That there were three

bodies is undeniable. They were identified, and efforts were made to claim them.

General Viljoen had denied that any other men in the party were missing. Yet, in the Harare Sunday Mail this last weekend, considerable play was again made of the alleged "fourth man".

No body has been produced. No identity has been given to it.

Is there, or was there, a "fourth man"? Or was he conjured up to maintain the focus of international attention?

Most mysterious of all, what were the men doing in Sengwe, on what is officially described as an unauthorised mission? The suggestion is that they went there in an effort to release some prisoners.

Many former Rhodesians now living here accept that this was more than possible. And they quote to you the records of the old Selous Scouts.

Acting on information, the Scouts once raided a Zipra camp near the Zambezi. Here they found an intricate web of underground prison cells, containing Blacks, many of whom had been tortured over a long period and confined in the dark for months on end.

Were these three sergeants busy on a similar rescue mission? If so, the Zimbabweans would be unlikely to talk about it.

Finally, Mugabe and his men unblushingly state that Zimbabwe "does not deal with Pretoria". Therefore "why should we talk to South Africa?" Again this is a blatant lie dished up for external consumption.

There is an official South African trade rep-

representative in Harare, Mr Walde Kuhn. And official figures confirm that the RSA remains far and away Zimbabwe's chief trading partner.

Indeed, last year Zimbabwe did record business with South Africa, with South Africa providing 25 percent of its imports at a total cost of R360-million, taking 21,6 percent of its exports, total value R270-million.

In March this year Pretoria, after a long series of secret negotiations, renewed its 18-year-old preferential trade agreement with our northern neighbour.

Had that agreement been allowed to lapse (as many South Africans hoped) Zimbabwe stood to lose around R70-million a year and 7 000 jobs.

Such action, alone, would have been sufficient to bring collapse and instant chaos to Mugabe's shattered economy — another subject he chooses not to discuss in public.

Rhodesia was the home country of these three sergeants, one they still loved deeply and which all hoped one day to see restored to peace, prosperity and racial unity — all qualities destroyed under the attrition of Mugabe's Marxist rule.

They were brave men prepared to die for an ideal; for their homeland, against communism.

To disown or repudiate them in any way would be the grossest betrayal: and not to them alone, but to all those still prepared to fight and die for the ideals which inspired them.

CSO: 4700/1921

SATS DISPUTE WITH LABOR SUPPORTED BY TRANSPORT MINISTER

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 2

[Text]

THE Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman has come out firmly on the side of South African Transport Services over the recognition of trade unions.

Mr Schoeman said that he agreed wholeheartedly with Sats' policy of not recognising trade unions unless they consisted entirely of members currently in Government service.

Mr Schoeman's support comes after the strike at Port Elizabeth harbour in which 425 workers lost their jobs.

The Minister also issued a warning to stevedores in the harbour who were threatening industrial action in support of the strikers. He said he hoped they would remember that they performed their duty in the harbour under licence from South African Transport Services.

Mr Schoeman said if Sats recognised one outside trade union more would spring up and the whole situation would get out of hand. It would be impossible to negotiate

with an unmanageably large number and in the end it would lead to the disintegration of more than 50 years of labour peace.

Mr Schoeman also recognised the part played by the registered Black trade union and acknowledged that they had made a considerable contribution to the smooth running of the harbour.

The labour situation in the harbour was now normal, the Minister said.

Mr Schoeman also said Sats was a strategic infrastructure service and also a State-controlled enterprise. The workers had extraordinary privileges such as job security, but on the other hand they could not strike.

A number of Sats' workers in Port Elizabeth harbour had joined an outside trade union and had pressed for its recognition in spite of the fact that there was already a recognised trade union to represent them.

Mr Schoeman said Sats already had an agreement with 11 trade unions.

CREATION OF MILLIONS OF JOBS FOR BLACKS URGED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 4

[Article by Marilyn Cohen]

[Text] About half the estimated six-million new job opportunities which will have to be created for Blacks by the year 2000 will have to be created in the national States if the population ratio between these areas and the Republic of South Africa is to be maintained.

This was said by Dr J Adendorff, managing director of the Corporation for Economic Development, at the congress of the South African Bureau for Racial Affairs in Pretoria yesterday.

"If we do not provide these new job opportunities, we will have to cope with labour unrest and a drop in living standards," he said.

**Spend**

For this reason South Africa would have to spend at least R1 200-million each year in the national States to maintain the current employment status quo.

Yet even the status quo gave cause for concern.

Although the unemployment figure among Blacks had decreased from 1978 to the beginning of this year, Dr Adendorff said he expected unemployment to rise rapidly because of the

current drop in economic growth.

Turning to agricultural development in the national States, Dr Adendorff said 23 percent of the total amount of arable land in South Africa was in these areas.

Together, the national States produced only about 11 percent of South Africa's total agricultural produce, yet they had the potential to produce food for 25-million people.

**Difficult**

This potential could not be exploited, he said, because prices, as a result of surpluses, were so low that it was difficult to farm economically.

Dr Adendorff suggested there should be greater co-ordination between agricultural projects in the national States and the rest of South Africa to ensure that production levels did not force down the price of produce to unrealistic levels.

CHAMBER OF MINES RECOGNIZES NONWHITE UNION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 12

[Text]

FOR the first time in the 95-year history of the Chamber of Mines, it has formally recognised a union representing non-White employees.

This breakthrough in the mining industry was made this week when the Chamber signed a recognition agreement with a trade union representing Coloured and Asian workers.

The Chamber has agreed to recognise the newly formed Federated Mining, Explosives and Chemical Workers' Union as representing vehicle drivers, handymen and painters on two gold mines in the Western Transvaal, Hartebeestfontein and Vaal Reefs.

In terms of the agreement signed this week mines will grant the union stop-order facilities for the deduction of union subscriptions from wages.

The Chamber has also agreed to negotiate a range of important matters with the union.

These include wages, hours of work, leave arrangements, recognition and shop stewards and their role, security of employment of union members, redundancy procedures, training and retraining, procedures for the resolution of grievances and disputes and for the monitoring and administration of agreements reached with the Chamber.

Although the union has not yet signed up 50 per cent of the employees on the two mines, the Chamber has agreed that it is significantly representative among the workers and will extend the recognition agreement to additional categories of jobs and to other mines as the union's membership spreads.

The Chamber recently agreed to grant the Black Mineworkers' Union access to mines for recruiting purposes.

CSQ: 4700/1921

PRETORIA UNIVERSITY REFERENDUM ON ADMITTING NONWHITES SCHEDULED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Sep 82 p 7

[Article by Dan Marais]

[Text]

**THE date for a referendum in which the students of the University of Pretoria will cast their votes on the recent decision of the council to admit non-White students under certain circumstances will probably be set at the next meeting of the Student's Representative Council.**

This decision arose from a motion carried by the vote of only 253 students, 1,26 percent of the student population, at a meeting this week.

At a mass meeting called by the SRC on Thursday evening to discuss the decision of the council, the student body was clearly divided in their acceptance of the decision.

Many students who came to the meeting expecting fireworks were disappointed and many left the amphitheatre after the address given by Professor P Oosthuizen, the vice principal.

Only a handful remained long enough to vote on the motions put forward by student leaders in which they pledged the acceptance of a decision

reached by the council to admit non-Whites in exceptional circumstances.

Prof Oosthuizen made it quite clear to the students that the council wielded an iron fist in a velvet glove and it would not change its decision, neither would it give in to pressure exerted on it by the students.

Prof Oosthuizen denied that the council was playing up to the wishes of the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, or any other organisation.

A snap survey conducted among the students after the meeting indicated that the speech made by Prof Oosthuizen was accepted by the majority of students although some were rather sceptical about the admission of selected non-Whites to the university.

This action was seen as the thin end of the wedge to open the university to non-Whites.

Prof Oosthuizen called on the students to trust the council in their efforts to maintain the exclusively White character of the university.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON SWAZI LAND DEAL

MB160739 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 16 Sep 82 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] Pretoria: The South African government was aware of the possible pincer effect on the lowveld centres of Malelane and Komatipoort, should the Kangwane-Swaziland consolidation plans become reality, minister of foreign affairs Pik Botha, said in Pretoria yesterday.

He assured the congress of the Transvaal National Party the government would for as long as it was in power, ensure the country had the ability to secure corridors and narrow passes through independent national states and foreign territories.

Two matters delayed any further negotiations with Swaziland at this stage, he said. The first was the pending court action which made the matter sub judice, while the second was the recent death of King Sobhuza II.

Botha was reacting to a motion by the divisional committee of Barberton which expressed concern at the effect of territories in the area being consolidated with Swaziland. The motion also expressed concern about the forced movement of people from the Insignaas area.

"The government is aware of these problems and the concern that Maleland and Komatipoort could be subjected to increasing pressure and that a pincer effect could develop," Botha said.

"But as long as the National Party governs we will ensure that we have the ability to keep open passages and corridors.

"If they are threatened then South Africa is threatened," he said.

CSO: 4700/1928

ELAND CREDITED WITH KNOCKING OUT RUSSIAN TANKS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Sep 82 p 8

[Text]

SOUTH Africa has knocked out 14 Russian tanks in the operational area in the past 13 months, using a modern version of tried and tested Boer hit-and-run tactics.

The most effective weapon against the Russian tanks in the war zone has been the fastmoving little Eland armoured car.

With its ability to hit hard and then withdraw to safety until it can come in again it has been found to be the answer to the Red Vehicles.

Newsmen were shown captured Russian T55, T34 and PT76 tanks and a Red BTR 60 amphibious troop carries cum tank.

The Army has been concerned in a fine assessment of the vehicles over a considerable period — and is putting what it has learnt to good use in the development of the country's own Olifant tank.

Technically, the T34 has a five-man crew, weighs 30 tons, has a maximum speed of 55 km/h and a range of 300 km and is powered by a 500hp V12 motor.

Its armour is an 85 mm gun.

The PT 76 has a three-man crew and a top speed of 40 km/h. It weighs 14 tons, has a range of 266 km and carries a 76 mm cannon.

The BTR 60 carries a crew of two plus 16 troops and can travel at a speed of 10 km/h on water. It has a range of 500 km and is powered by two 90 hp motors.

The big tank in the group is the T55. It has a top speed of 55 km/h and weighs 36 tons. Powered by a 12-cylinder/motor, it has a range of 550 km.

Armour experts at the School of Armour said the equipment and planning of the Russian tanks was simple — and this could be clearly seen in their primitive finishing-off and lack of concern for the crew.

They said that the Russian tanks, particularly the T34 and T55, were efficient machines and deadly if operated properly — but it had generally been found in action that they were badly crewed by poorly trained operators.

UNVEILING OF NEW OLIFANT TANK REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Sep 82 p 8

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

**SLEEK, deadly, fast and highly manoeuvrable, with tremendous punch — and nearly as comfortable at speed over rough terrain as a sedan car on the highway.**

This is South Africa's answer to any possible threat from Russian-made tanks — the Republic's own Olifant tank.

The tank was shown to military correspondents near the Tempe military base at Bloemfontein this week.

In complicated manoeuvres three tanks "took out" enemy armour with a devastating display of gunnery.

The 56-ton tank has a top speed of 44 km/h, a 12-cylinder diesel engine and a range of about 200 km, or 16 hours' operating time.

It bears a relationship to the British Centurion Mark 13, but it has come a long way since then.

It has been adapted to South African conditions and based to some extent on Israeli modifications to the same unit.

The punch of the massive vehicle is a South African-developed 105 mm cannon of great accuracy.

Newsmen watched from racing Ratel troop carriers in the veld as the tanks slid over rough terrain, firing on the move and devastating an "enemy" tank.

Colonel Reg Otto, Officer Commanding the School of Armour, told newsmen he was satisfied the Olifant was a far better tank than the T34 and T55 Russian tanks encountered by South African forces in the operational area.

South Africa, he said, had the capability to build its own tanks from the ground up — but this was not regarded as economically viable.

For instance more than 800 factories had to be maintained in Great Britain to build the Russian Leopard tank.

He said tanks still made up the spinal column of military action in a conventional war, and the

role of tanks was becoming ever more important in Africa.

Estimates were that the Russians now had 22 000 tanks, against the 8 000 of the West.

Russian tanks had long been known to be in Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

It was therefore important for South Africa to keep on the move in technological developments.

At present the Olifant could outgun the Russian tanks available in South Africa.

CSO: 4700/1921

## BRIEFS

CHURCHES TALK--Cape Town--The moderature of the Western Cape synod of the NG Kerk will meet the moderature of the NG Sendingkerk in Cape Town today for talks in connection with the Ottawa meeting of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. Local newspaper reports said Dr Allan Boesak, newly elected president of the WARC, would not be present as he is not a member of the moderature of the Sendingkerk. The general feeling, however, was that he would have to be involved in all future talks between the two churches. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 3]

REES IN COURT--Mr John Charles Rees, former general secretary of the South African Council for Churches, appeared briefly in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday in connection with fraud allegations involving R250 000. The charge sheet claims that the fraud, alternatively theft, was committed between February 10, 1975, and May 10, 1978, at the offices of the SACC. At a previous appearance, the court was informed by defence counsel that the charges had come about from police investigations into another matter and had not followed a complaint for the SACC. Bail of R30 000 was extended. Mr Rees is due to appear in court again on September 28. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 9]

NAVY CHIEF CANCELS PARADE--The retiring Chief of the Navy, Vice-Admiral Ronnie Edwards, has volunteered to cancel his traditional farewell parade in support of the South African Defence Force's stringent savings campaign brought about by the country's economic situation, the SADF announced yesterday. The battalion-strength parade, made up of men mainly from Simonstown and Durban, was to have been held in Pretoria on September 24, and arrangements had almost been finalised. The statement said Vice-Admiral Edwards' offer had been accepted with much regret by the Chief of the SADF, General Constand Viljoen. A reception will be held at the Naval Mess in Pretoria for 600 invited guests and naval personnel for the formal handing-over of SA Navy Command. The Navy will take leave of their admiral in a more traditional manner in Simonstown on September 14, when he reviews the ships in the harbour and will be cheered by each ship in turn. His place will be filled by Rear Admiral A P Putter, who will be promoted to Vice-Admiral on October 1. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 9]

SECONDED TO CISKEI--Zwelitsha--Two acting judges of the Supreme Court of South Africa have been temporarily seconded to the Ciskei Supreme Court. Mr J J Nepegen of the Eastern Cape Division is due to assume duties on September 13. Mr J W Edeling of the Orange Free State Provincial Division is expected to assume duty in the Ciskei Supreme Court on September 20. Their appointments follow the death last month of Mr Justice C F van den Heever of the Orange Free State Provincial Division. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 4]

CRASH PILOT EJECTS--A 26-year-old SAAF pilot escaped by parachute as his Impala Mark I aircraft crashed during a routine training flight near Cape Town yesterday. SADF headquarters in Pretoria announced that the pilot, Lieutenant P C McMillan of 7 Squadron, ejected safely near the Flying Training School at Langebaan. A board of inquiry has been convened to investigate the cause of the accident. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 3]

KWAZULU AGRICULTURE--The Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, says industrial development alone is not the solution to the problems facing KwaZulu. Opening the Ladysmith and District Farmers' Association fatstock show, Dr Koornhof said it was of paramount importance that more dynamic steps be taken to develop the agricultural potential of the territory. The emphasis should be shifted from the traditional form of subsistence farming to the development of agriculture on a commercial basis. He said the matter was being investigated by his department and the KwaZulu National Development Corporation. Referring to the removal of people from the Driefontein complex, Dr Koornhof said it would not be affected by the new consolidation plans. "This resettlement action will receive the highest priority in giving effect to the consolidation proposals for Natal," he said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Sep 82 p 13]

STUDENTS' BIKO WALKOUT--King William's Town--Pupils boycotted classes at Fordes Grant secondary school in Ginsberg for the third day yesterday. Students said they were mourning the death of Black consciousness leader Steve Biko, who died in detention on September 12, 1977. They said yesterday would be their last day of boycott. On Monday, a large number of pupils walked away from their classrooms chanting freedom songs. The principal, Mr J. Moses, exhorted them to go to classes, but they declined. A spokesman for the Department of Education and Training said no action would be taken against the students. He said the department hoped that the situation would be normal by next week. The Biko family lived at Ginsberg where Steve was born. He passed his junior certificate at the same school. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Sep 82 p 4]

CSO: 4700/1921

JAMAL DISAPPOINTED IN EAC ASSETS DISTRIBUTION

AB281056 Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Text] Nairobi, 28 Sep (AFP)--Tanzania last night expressed its disappointment over the delay in the distribution of assets and liabilities of the defunct East African Community (EAC), among the former three partners--Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania--Radio Tanzania monitored here today reported.

Tanzania Finance Minister Amir Jamal expressed his country's views during a meeting with the World Bank appointed mediator in the matter, Victor Umbritch, in Dar es Salaam, the radio said.

Mr Jamal's concern comes in the wake of an abortive meeting of relevant ministers of the former partner-states scheduled for last Friday in the Ugandan eastern town of Mbale, near the border with Kenya.

The meeting aborted following Kenya's failure to attend, which observers here linked with a recent Tanzanian court decision to free two Kenyan fugitives wanted here on kidnapping charges following the coup attempt by the air force on 1 August.

Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi, in a recent public rally here, hinted that Tanzania was not one of Kenya's best friends. "We know who our friends are and who are not," he said.

The border between the two neighbours has been closed since the East African Community collapsed in 1977 because of political and economic differences between the partners.

The radio said that Mr Umbritch, who arrives here later today, has promised to find out why Kenya failed to turn up and tell the others.

Yesterday Mr Jamal was quoted by the Tanzanian DAILY NEWS as saying that there was still a big gap between Kenya and Uganda on one hand and Tanzania on the other regarding the proposal of equal distribution of assets and liabilities.

The last tripartite meeting here early this month suggested that the liabilities should be distributed according to geographical location and equality of ownership.

Assets of the defunct community are valued at nearly 1,210 million dollars. Kenya currently has the biggest proportion, and is supposed to share it more equally among the rest.

When the community broke up, Kenya was accused by Tanzania of benefitting most from the partnership.

CSO: 3400/7

## LAWYERS APPLY FOR RIGHT TO MEET WITH DETAINED AIR FORCE CHIEFS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Sep 82 p 5

[Text]

**HARARE.** — Lawyers for three White Zimbabwe Air Force commanders detained for alleged complicity in the sabotage of 13 warplanes on July 26 yesterday applied to the High Court for the right to have access to the men.

Mr Adrian de Bourbon told Mr Justice John Pitman that Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slatter, the Air Force Chief of Staff and second in command, had been held for eight days, Air Commodore Philip Pile, Director of Air Force Operations and third in command, for seven days, and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, Staff Officer (Training) for 18 days.

They had not been charged and lawyers had been denied access to them, he said.

The three officers were detained by police after saboteurs blew up the warplanes, a quarter of Zimbabwe's combat fleet, at Thornhill Air Force Base in the Midlands town of Gweru (formerly

Gwelo).

Attorney-General Godfrey Chidyaisiku, representing the State, said Air Vice-Marshal Slatter was being held under either Section 21 or 49 of the Emergency Powers Regulations, but he did not know under what regulations the other two were held.

The Home Affairs Minister, Mr Herbert Ushewokunze, who signs detention orders, can hold suspects indefinitely without charge.

The Minister, questioned about detainees in Parliament on Wednesday, said only that "the proper legal procedures have been followed in relation to the persons presently being detained."

Questioned specifically about the Air Force officers, he told Parliament: "It is not customary to discuss matters which are still sub judice."

The High Court judge adjourned the case for further details about the detainees. — Sapa-AP.

## Arrests Paralyze Air Force

THE Citizen has established that at least 18 Whites, including most of the Zimbabwe Air Force's top jet pilots, plus an unknown number of Blacks, are now in detention following the spectacular sabotage of 13 jets at Thornhill Air Base, near Gweru, on July 25.

The arrest of the ZAF's No 2 and No 3 command officers, Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter, Chief of Staff, and Air Commodore Phillip Pile, Director of Information, was announced earlier this week.

The latest names to be added to the list are Wing Commander Peter Briscoe of ZAF Headquarters Staff, Harare; Wing Commander Rex Taylor, Director, Air Force Intelligence and Squadron Leader John Cox, Commander, Air Force Regiment.

Ten of the 18 men detained, all incommunicado, have now been identified.

Other known to be held are Squadron Leader Nigel Lewis Walker, Security Officer to the ZAF; Flight Lieutenant Neville Weir, jet pilot; and Neville Forrester, Pete S Loots and Dave Rautenbach, all technical staff.

Wing Commander Peter Briscoe is a former SAAF jet pilot who joined the old Rhodesian Air Force in 1970. He is described as a first-rate pilot and "a very loyal Zimbabwean".

So many jet pilots are now under arrest or have resigned as a result of the current detentions that the ZAF is currently virtually immobilised.

According to my information, the ZAF is at present reduced to using

three old Dakotas, of early World War II vintage, two or three Islanders and possibly up to six helicopters.

I was told: "The position is now so critical that it has virtually rendered the Air Force ineffective, to the point where it is having problems getting pilots to fly against the dissidents."

Revised estimates indicate that the replacement costs of the sabotaged aircraft will be between R90-million and R100-million.

Of the four Hawks, delivered only 10 days before the explosion at a cost of around R50-million, one will never fly again. The other three will have to be returned to Britain for repairs, and it will be a

long time before they will be seen again in Zimbabwe.

There are now serious doubts whether Britain will agree to deliver the remaining four Hawks on order, largely because it is far from clear whether in present circumstances the ZAF would be in a position to find pilots sufficiently advanced to be able to handle them, or technicians to maintain them.

Of the pilots and technicians who went to Britain for special training with the Royal Air Force on the Hawks, a number are under arrest, others have broken their contracts.

I was told: "You can bet your bottom dollar a lot of guys are not going to stick around after this lot."

As far as the Mugabe Government is concerned, the detention of the top-ranking ZAF command officers probably suits it very well.

I can disclose that in a closed-door decision taken earlier this year, it was agreed that many of the White command and administrative staff would be replaced by Zanla (not Zipra) personnel.

Agreement has already been reached with the Nigerian Government that these replacements will be trained for their new tasks by the Nigerian Air Force.

As far as is known, the board of inquiry set up

immediately after the sabotage strike is still sitting.

The board is faced with some tough questions, notably: How did the saboteurs succeed in getting through the perimeter security fences? And why were all the ZAF's fighter aircraft assembled at one station?

As far as is known the OC, ZAF, Air Marshal Norman Walker, is still in Britain, attending the Farnborough Air Show.

CSO: 4700/1921

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

SHORT OF WHEAT--Harare--Zimbabwe would face a wheat shortage during the second half of 1983 and would either have to import or ration its allocations, the Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, said yesterday. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Sep 82 p 4]

CSO: 4700/1921

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