



LET US FIGHT AND
REBUILD ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe News

Official Organ of ZANU(PF)

Department of Information and Publicity, 14 Austin Road, Workington, Harare
Volume 19 No. 7 July 1988, Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

70c (incl. sales tax)

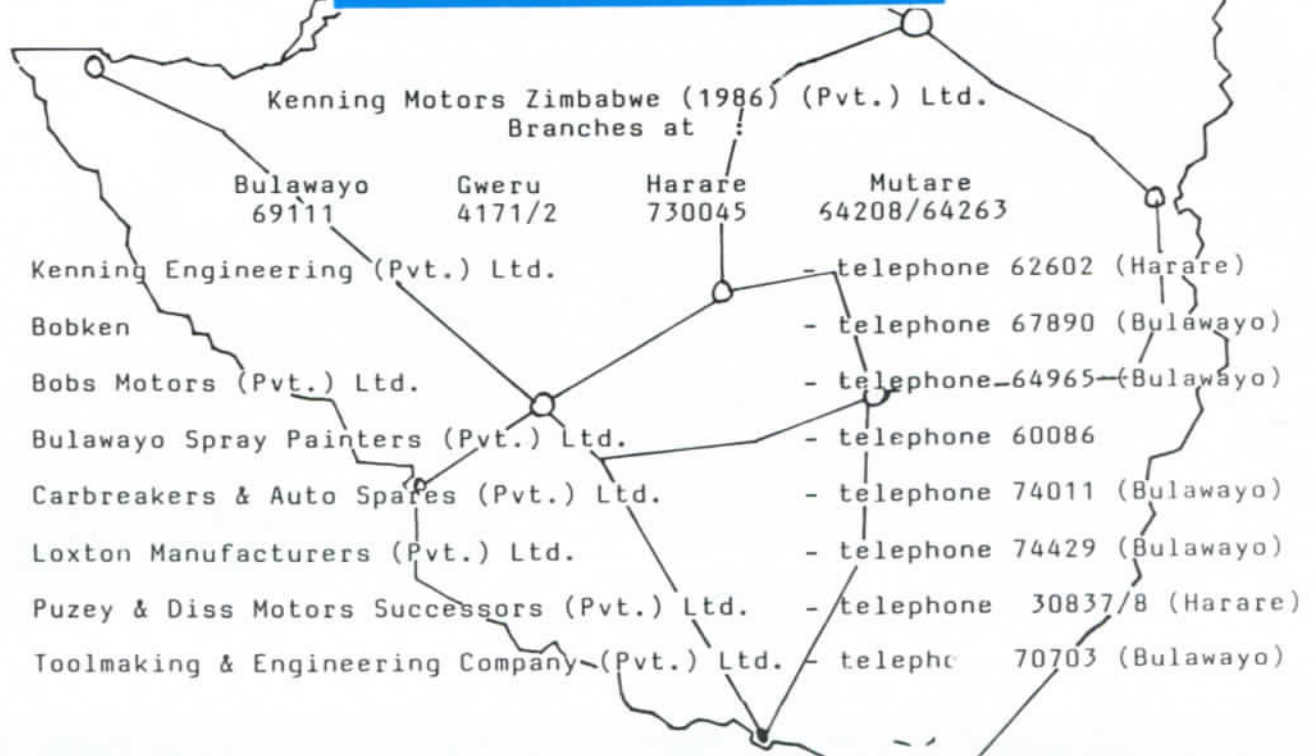
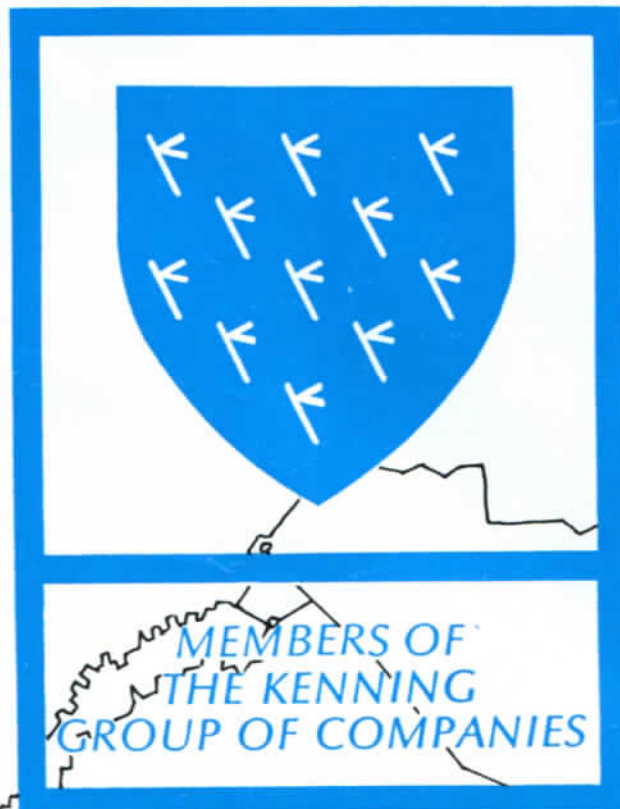


**PARTY
RESTRUCTURING**

**"EVERYONE HAS A ROLE
TO PLAY"**

ONE MAN, ONE BRICK

QUICKENNING THE PACE IN ZIMBABWE



News from the Central Committee: Unity of ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU on Course

The Central Committee of the ruling party, ZANU (PF) met in an Ordinary Session in Harare on the 5th of June under the Chairmanship of the President and First Secretary, Comrade. R.G. Mugabe. The main item discussed was how to enhance the unity exercise, and accelerate the pace towards the complete unity of the people of Zimbabwe. The exercise should be completed by the end of this year so that the integrated ZANU (PF) can prepare for the Third People's Congress to be held next year. That will be the final event in the unification process that started in 1983. . . page 3

South Africa Might Use Nuclear Weapons Against Africa

South Africa has increased Nuclear Research in recent years. This presents a real threat to the rest of Africa since evidence show that the apartheid regime might use these nuclear weapons.

In his address to delegates attending the Zimbabwe Organization for Nuclear Education Seminar recently held in Harare, the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Comrade Witness Mangwende spoke on the nuclear danger posed by the South African nuclear capacity development. . . page 22

Art should play a more significant role in Education

The history of a people is very closely linked with that of its art. From the ancient civilization such as the Sumerians, the Egyptians, the Greeks, the Romans and indeed the Africans to the Nineteenth Century neo-classical and the twentieth century modernism one can gather a lot of information on various ways of life, dress, housing, thought and the general intent of the Cultures, History and scientific concepts. . . page 37

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EDITORIAL

Reconciliation Tormented

Ever since the attainment of our independence in April, 1980, the government and people of Zimbabwe have been pursuing a very enlightened policy of racial and national reconciliation. It was announced by President R.G. Mugabe himself on the eve of the victory of ZANU (PF). This realistic and forward-looking policy has enabled the Europeans (and white Zimbabweans) in our society to live in peace and harmony, and the enjoyment of basic human rights. Even those among them who committed the most heinous crimes against the people of this country, including torture and murder, have been allowed to live comfortably in an independent Zimbabwe, drawing their pensions and extending their properties. While national reconciliation has protected the white citizens/residents of Zimbabwe, it has also restrained the black majority from taking any punitive action against their former oppressors and tormentors.

However, we are utterly dismayed that the main beneficiaries from this policy, namely the white citizens and residents of Zimbabwe are the ones who are actively undermining the base of that very policy. For the last eight years, many of them have not identified with the new order. They have sought material advantages from the new state, without supporting its political and social institutions. But, no incident has illustrated the disloyalty

of sections of the white population more than the current trial of five white saboteurs from Bulawayo for collaborating with South Africa, combined with the attempt by a group of white commandos to kidnap the saboteurs. The commando group was organised by Truesdale, a former Rhodesian, and led by Gerry Kaine, an employee of the Zimbabwe Air Force, and others. Continuing investigations reveal a very wide network of traitors and quislings within the white society of Zimbabwe.

The Party should now review the policy of reconciliation in the light of the experiences we have had in the last eight years. The majority of the remaining white citizens and residents have been loyal, and have made a solid contribution to the development of our country. We should not tar them all with the same brush as the traitors. Indeed, some of the white citizens and residents have shown a high degree of commitment, and even made sacrifices greater than those made by some black Zimbabweans. But, just as much as we should not tar them all with the same brush, we should also be selective in our acceptance of them, and reposing trust in them. Citizenship and residence should be earned over a long period. Applications for citizenship and residence should be scrutinised more carefully than in the past. Deeds of sales of immovable property should also be carefully scrutinised. □

The Ever-Rising Prices

In our last issue we commented on the struggle of the workers to keep the wolf away from the door. We expressed our great satisfaction that the government had approved certain increases in wages for the workers, by removing the freeze on the wages and salaries. The increases made it possible for some workers to pay at least all their monthly bills, and to eat one decent meal of sadza, some meat, and vegetables per day.

To our shock and dismay, before the workers had received the very first envelope with the increased salaries, the government announced the lifting of the freeze on prices. The companies that produce or process most of our basic commodities must have put pressure on the government to remove the price freeze. We are informed that some even threatened to stop or reduce production of basic goods, especially in the urban areas. We will now see a sharp rise in prices of several items in the shops, and elsewhere. Bus fares and rents have already gone up. With the announced rise in producer and selling prices of agricultural products, the workers can expect a chain increase of prices of several items, probably including the very basic food items — maize meal, bread, milk and meat.

The directors of the private companies that produce or process these basic commodities, are rubbing their hands gleefully to collect back all the additional monies given to the workers last April. Every year, the prices go up whenever a wage or salary increase is announced. The

pattern is quite clear and regular. The directors want the money to increase the dividends and profits for their shareholders and fellow capitalists. Admittedly, some of the money does go into the production process, and higher costs. But, the workers can never have a fair share of the available cake in a capitalist situation such as we have in Zimbabwe at present. That is a fact of capitalist life.

The Government must think again and take drastic measures to cut this vicious circle. An Income and Prices Commission should be set up to relate incomes to prices, and vice versa. A large number of inspectors should be engaged to check on over-charging, especially in rural areas. More importantly, the cooperative movement must be strengthened and broadened, so that it takes over the production and processing of most of the basic commodities. This can be done easily, even in the present situation. The middle-men can be eliminated or limited. For example, there is no reason why the simple grinding of maize into mealie-meal should not be done by a cooperative. At present, government buys maize from private producers, and then sells it at a loss to private millers, who in turn sell it to the private wholesalers, who also in turn sell it to private retailers. At each stage, each middleman is entitled to a mark-up (meaning price increase) of about 15 to 20 percent. This marking up by a large host of middlemen, makes it impossible to keep prices at levels that can be considered reasonable. Government should step in many areas of our economy and eliminate the unnecessary middlemen. □

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

I write to express my views on the development of political Unity.

The signing of the Unity Agreement between ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU is a milestone in our country's history. It will guarantee national development.

The Political Leadership in Matabeleland North and South should be commended for its tireless efforts in transforming the agreement practically. The benefits of a united nation are immense. People no longer fear dissidents nor can they be victims of dis-

nity or political division. Noone will be accused as a sell-out because there is only one national commodity to sell: Unity!

With Unity, our war for economic independence intensifies. In districts of Matabeleland South Province for instance Gwanda, Esigodini and Filabusi, co-operative projects show signs of expansion as a result of the Unity accord.

A luta continua!

C. Senga
(Bulawayo)

News from the Central Committee: Unity of ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU on Course

The Central Committee of the ruling party, ZANU (PF) met in an Ordinary Session in Harare on the 5th of June under the Chairmanship of the President and First Secretary, Comrade. R.G. Mugabe. The main item discussed was how to enhance the unity exercise, and accelerate the pace towards the complete unity of the people of Zimbabwe. The exercise should be completed by the end of this year so that the integrated ZANU (PF) can prepare for the Third People's Congress to be held next year. That will be the final event in the unification process that started in 1983.

The meeting discussed the progress that has been made in the process of uniting and integrating ZANU and ZAPU. A report was received from the co-chairmen of the ten-men joint committee that was charged with the responsibility of integrating physically the organs of the parties, from the village cells to the Provincial councils. The joint committee has been moving from Province to Province establishing in each area task forces to integrate all organs and to issue new ZANU (PF) membership cards. The new cards will have the head of the President and First Secretary.

In his address to the Central Committee, President Mugabe recalled how the people of Zimbabwe, as one, had risen in revolt against colonial and imperialist rule, "finally waging a bitter and protracted armed revolutionary struggle led, on the one hand, by ZANLA, and on the other, by ZIPRA forces. It was, therefore as one, that . . . they attained independence in 1980. This perspective of our historical oneness is indeed the phenomenon that has made it easi-



Comrade R.G. Mugabe, 1st Secretary and President of ZANU (PF)

er for us to forge our present unity as the most effective and dependable political instrument for charting the future destiny of our people".

The President also referred to the positive results of the two Congresses held last April which set the two parties the task to unite. "That task has to be achieved whilst the popular enthusiasm and political momentum still exists". The ZANU (PF) Congress gave the President wide powers to effect the integration of the organs of the two parties.

The Amnesty

The President stated that the amnesty grant-

ed to ordinary criminals, had been extended to the dissidents. "The dissident response to the declaration of amnesty has, indeed, been total and practically every dissident, save perhaps some very odd ones, has surrendered to the security forces. At least some 115 dissidents are known to have surrendered, and Matabeleland North and South and the once dissident affected areas of the Midlands have all returned to normal. This is a most happy and welcome development". He also expressed the hope that the 3 000 Zimbabweans at Dukwe camp in Botswana will return home. Government would assist returnees to settle in the country and get rehabilitated. □

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Indaba Zeqembu le Central Committee mayelana Lokubambana kweZANU (PF) le PF-ZAPU

Iqembu le Central Committee ye-ZANU eyiyona ebusayo eZimbabwe, libe lomhlango kunyanga esanda kwedlula edholobeni leHarare, mayelana lodaba lozokubambana kwele-Zimbabwe. Bakhuluma ukuthi abantu bonke bakangelwa ukuthi babambane bepansi kwepathi yeZANU umnyaka esi-kiwo lo ungeka pheli.

Kumhlango lo kwakhangelwa njalo ngemphumelelo eyaba kumsebenzi wokubambana ibandla leZANU le ZAPU. Omunye wabakhokheli beqembu elibe lisebenza ngokulungisisa ukubambana abantu, walandisa udaba lokubamba

umhlango omutsha kunye lamakadi amatsha.

Umthungameli welizwe uComrade Robert Mugabe wakhuluma ngodaba lokusebenzelana kwamaqembu la womabili eZANU leZAPU. Ukusebenzelana lokhu kwasukela ekubambaneni kulwiswa abathumbi belizwe kunye lokulwisa okwaba khona kumpi yabokhokho (chimurenga) eyesivili eyiyona eyaletha inkululeko lweleZimbabwe. Salwela inkululeko le sibambane, ngakho ke kufanele sihlale silokhu sibambane sisakha impilo yethu yakusasa.

Ibandla leZANU leZAPU azinikela

ukuba ngakhulumayo ebantwini kudaba lokubambana. Yikho nje sonke sifanele sibambane. Amaqembu la womabili i-ZANU leZAPU azabanjaniswa lawo.

Ukuxolisa

Umthungameli welizwe ulozwelo, waxolela izoni, amaqhili ndawonye lababulali kumsebenzi yabo yonke. Abantu laba ababeyizibotshwa, bamukela uzwelo olwanikezwa ngezandla zombili ngumkhokheli welizwe. Lokhu kwaletsa ukuthula elizweni. Siyathaba kakhulu ngalokhu okwenzakalayo elizweni lethu. Siyathaba kakhulu ngokwenzakalayo lokhu sithemba ukuthi labo ababe balekele kwele Botswana bezama ukuzivikela kumisebenzi eyayisenziwa okungaphandle komthetho, bazaba lethuba lokuphenda emakhaya abo. UHulumende uzabaphathisa ekwakeni imizi yabo. □

Nhau dzeCentral Committee Maererano Nezvekubutana kweZANU neZAPU

Central Committee yebato re-ZANU riri kutonga muZimbabwe yakaita musangano muHarare mumbwini wakapfuura. Mutungamiriri webato Comrade Robert Mugabe vakataura pamusangano uyu maererano nokukurudzirwa kokubutana munyika yeZimbabwe. Vakataura kuti vanhu vose vanofanira kubatana pasi pebato riri kutonga reZANU gore rino risati rapera kuitira kugadzira Congress yeVanhu yechitatu gore rinouya.

Musangano wakaongororawo nekubudirira mubasa rokubatanidza vanhu ve-ZANU neZAPU. Mumwe mutungamiriri webato rinoona nezvekubatanidza kwevanhu akapa nhorondo yebasa rokuumba musangano mutsva pamwe chete namakadhi matsva.

Comrade Robert Mugabe vakataura pamusoro poukama hweZANU neZAPU. Ukama uhlu hwekubambana mukurwisa vapambevhu navapambepfumi uye nomuhondo yeChimurenga yepiri iyo yakazouisa rusununguko munyika yeZimbabwe. Takarwisa vavengi takabatana saka naizvozvo tinofanira kuramba takabatana tichivaka hupenyu hwedu hwamangwana. ZANU neZAPU dzakazvipira kutaurira vanhu kuti vabatane. Saka tinofanira tose kubatana. Mapato eZANU neZAPU ahabatani-dzwawo.

Ruregerero

Mutungamiriri wenyika ane ngoni akaregera vatadzi, matsotsi navaurayi kana kuti mhondi muzvitadzo zvalo zvese. Mhondi, kana kuti vapanduki, dzakatabira tsitsi dzomutungamiriri wenyika namaoko maviri. Izvi zvakaunza runyararo munyika. Tinofanira chaizvo nezvakaitika izvi. Tinovimba kuti vapoteri vari ku-Botswana vachadzokawo kumusha ku-Zimbabwe. Hurumende ichavabatsira kugadira nezvekuvaka misha yavo. □

The Fourth Session of Zimbabwe's Second Parliament Opens



The First Executive President of Zimbabwe Comrade R.G. Mugabe opens the Fourth Session of Zimbabwe's Parliament

The Fourth Session of the Second Parliament of Zimbabwe was opened by His Excellency the President Comrade Robert Mugabe on the 28th of June, 1988. The President's wide-ranging speech encompassed both the domestic and international issues. Among the internal issues the President hailed the achievement of national unity through the signing of the unity agreement between ZANU (PF) and PF-

ZAPU on 22 December, 1987. He also noted that the process of merging the two parties was well underway. Racial representation has also been abolished and the Executive Presidency introduced.

On the security front, Comrade Mugabe said a reduction of troops in the western provinces and in Mozambique would depend on the prevailing situation. The President

said Zimbabwe would be opening two missions in Australia and Egypt thus bringing the number of external missions to 31. He reiterated the need to impose comprehensive mandatory economic sanctions against the racist-South African regime so as to create peace in the region.

Diplomatic support and material assistance would continue to be given to the ANC, PAC and SWAPO through the OAU. The President noted that the subject of disarmament had been firmly placed on the United Nations Agenda following the Summit meetings between the USA and the USSR. There was a need to shift the allocation of resources from the arms race to the issues of economic development. The President also stressed the need for urgent solutions to regional conflicts in Southern Africa, the Middle East, Iran-Iraq War, Central America, Afghanistan and Kampuchea. A host of activities on the economic front were currently underway regionally and internationally.

The Industrial Development Corporation would enter into joint ventures in the industrial sphere with other industrial enterprises in SADCC/PTA states. The President said through the Export Promotions Programme, an export Promotion Organisation would be instituted in 1989. Its functions would be to undertake the country's export promotion activities.



Comrade Mugabe addressing Parliamentarians

The current EEC funded Export Promotion Programme is worthy nearly Z\$10 million. In the education field, the training of Zimbabwean examiners is due for completion this year. This will facilitate the takeover of the examination system from Cambridge University.

Much work was being done in the fields of Health, Resettlement, Conservation, Housing and Information and Communica-

tion. Sixteen new Health centres are due for completion.

Cde. Mugabe said an umbrella organisation for all Non-Governmental Women's organisations and the National Women's Council would be set up to ensure greater coordination of their work. Agricultural and income-generating projects would receive \$759 000 in loans and grants. □

Avoid a Nuclear Catastrophy Guarantee the Survival of the Human Species

The Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Comrade Robert Mugabe recently addressed the 42nd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on Nuclear Disarmament. In his wide-ranging speech he pointed to the dangers of a nuclear war and also to the practical measures which the international community should take to guarantee the survival of humanity and civilization.

The arms race threatens the very existence of a human race on this planet, earth. An increase in arms breeds fear, it threatens the security interests of citizens of the world. Humanity is insecure because of this "assured mutual destruction". What citizens want is assured mutual survival and not mutual annihilation.

Unilateral Security is Unattainable

Security cannot be assured by one nation or group of nations. It can only be assured by all the nations the world over. One would want to witness a disarmament measure

rather than a mere arms control measure such as SALT I and SALT II, the ABM Treaty and the INF Treaty.

The superpowers' effort to reach a 50 per cent reduction in their strategic nuclear arsenals is welcome. If achieved, such an agreement would constitute a significant milestone in ensuring the continued existence of the human race.

Measures

The International Community should assure its sacred duty of removing the threat of nuclear catastrophe which is the greatest danger to mankind and the survival of civilization. There are two actions to take; firstly, the possessors of nuclear weapons must declare non-use of those weapons because "A nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought." Secondly, eliminate means of waging a nuclear war, that is, destroy nuclear weapons! The international community must also urgently adopt a comprehensive programme for disarmament. This is a sound measure to prevent mass-destruction which would also affect the non-nuclear states. The creation of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone is an important disarmament measure that should be encouraged.

Africa Nuclearized

Nuclear weapons introduced into Africa constitute a danger to the survival of the continent. The situation created by the nuclearization of South Africa is extremely serious. South Africa might use nuclear weapons against Africa.

Satellites

Satellites that can be used for military purposes should be brought under international control. There must be urgent negotiations to conclude agreements aimed at preventing the extension of the arms race to outer space.

States with the largest military arsenals have a special responsibility to start the process of limitation and gradual reduction of conventional weapons and armed forces with a view to achieving security. Military activities and rivalry of the great power blocks must be stopped.

These are some of the measures which Comrade R.G. Mugabe suggested in order to guarantee the survival of the human species in this nuclear age. □

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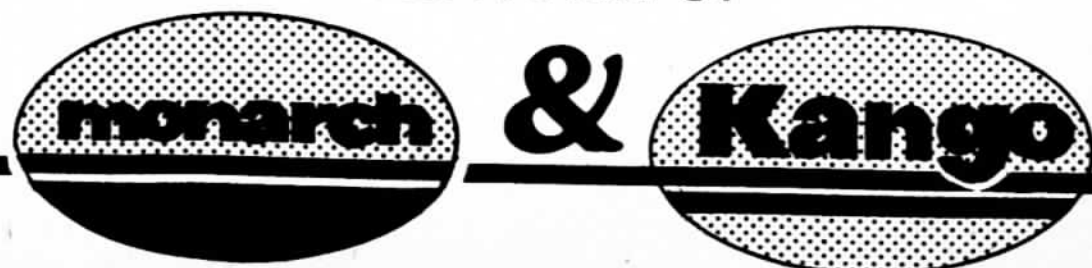
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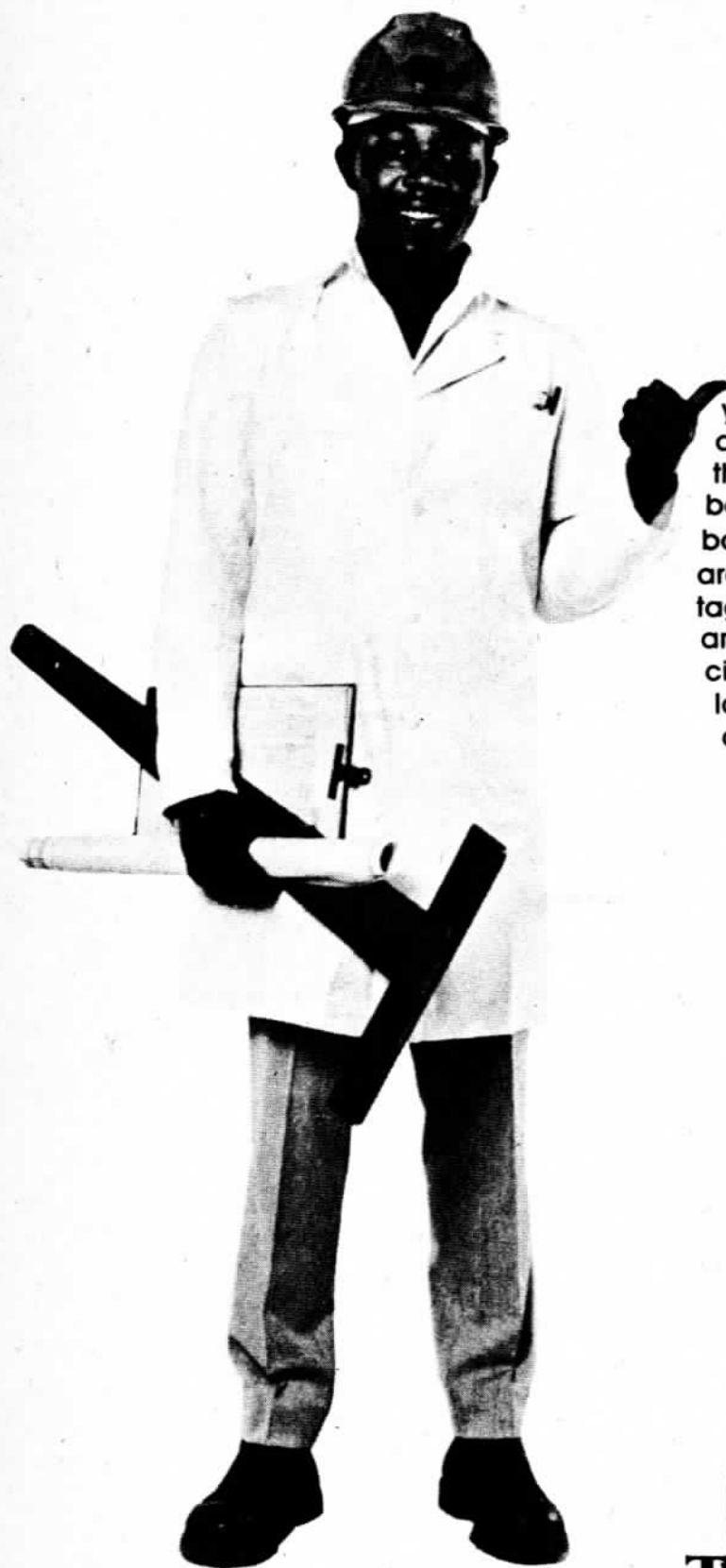
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Integration Exercise in Fullforce

*Interview with Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo:
Secretary for Administration and Acting Secretary for the Commissariate*

The December 22, 1987 Unity Agreement between ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU ushered in a new era in Zimbabwe's political development. Not only has the accord yielded a cessation in dissident activity in Matabeleland, it has also allowed for the formation of a government of national unity that includes the leadership of PF-ZAPU. However, in order to achieve total integration from grassroots level the two parties have set in motion a national integration exercise headed by a National Integration Committee consisting of members from PF-ZAPU and ZANU (PF). The Zimbabwe News conducted an exclusive interview with Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, the ZANU (PF) Secretary for Administration, to examine the progress the exercise has so far made.

QUESTION: *There have been progressive developments over the last seven months particularly the Unity Accord. In order to make that concrete in as far as the grassroots are concerned, it was necessary to set up a National Task Force. Would you kindly outline the terms of reference of this task force and the forces in motion to achieve the total integration of the two parties?*

ANSWER: The President has set up the National Integration Committee which is composed of five members of ZANU (PF) and five PF-ZAPU members. The tasks of the Committee has been to create Provincial Task Forces. The District Task Force will create Branch Task Forces which in turn will build cells or village Committees each of which is composed of 100 members.

Integrated in the village or cells are the Women's League and Youth League. The executive is composed of seven members namely a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and two Committee members.

After the formation of the cells, the branch task forces will dissolve.

QUESTION: *Are ex-dissidents also allowed to become members of these task forces?*

ANSWER: The structure starts from the new cells going up to Branches, Districts and Provinces. The District Task Forces dissolve once the District are constituted. After the formation of Districts the Provincial set up will come into play. When that process is through, the integration process will take place at the Central Committee and Politburo levels.

QUESTION: *If the integration process at Central Committee and Politburo level takes place after the formation of the Provinces, will there not be a Congress?*

ANSWER: There won't be a Congress this



year. This year, we want to integrate the parties as soon as possible so that we can be able to arrange or prepare for the congresses next year. Perhaps in early or at the end of January, we should have the Women's League Congress which is to be followed by the Youth League Congress sometime. The main Congress would be in August next year.

In other words, we have planned to have this initial phase through by the end of the year.

QUESTION: *At what stage would you say the process is now?*

ANSWER: We are at the stage where the Provinces are creating branch Task Forces. The two Matabeleland Provinces have already reached that stage and they have since been asking for the Party cards which are in the process of being printed now.

QUESTION: *Now that you have mentioned cards, can you clarify the question of the membership cards? You find that in both Parties, there are people who have been contributing subscriptions. How will that be reflected on their new cards?*

ANSWER: We will have to start afresh everyone from top to bottom will have to be issued with a new card to start paying 'new' subscriptions.

QUESTION: *At what or which stage would you consider the merger of the assets of the two parties?*

ANSWER: That will be after the final integration process. We will sit down and assess what assets and liabilities each party has.

QUESTION: *Apparently, the National Press has not carried a lot of news about the National Integration Committee. Can you give us information about it? Who are the members of this Integration Committee and what was the criteria for their selection?*

ANSWER: The criteria for the selection was that they are long standing members of the two political Parties, they rank in political seniority and they are knowledgeable of party structures. In ZANU (PF) for instance, there are people like Comrade D. Mutasa, who is in the Party, a member of the Politburo in charge of External Affairs; Comrade E. Zvobgo, Comrade H. Ushewokunze, Comrade N. Mawema and Comrade N. Nhwatiwa. From the PF-ZAPU side, we have Comrade Mabheba, Comrade George Marange, Comrade Cyril Ndebele, Comrade K. Dube and Comrade Mrs A. Masuku.

QUESTION: *There are five members from either side; has this partly presented any problems and if so what are these problems?*

ANSWER: We have not encountered any problem at all. These people have equal status. They even interchange the chairmanship all the time. We have always regarded the two commissars in taking up the chairmanship Comrade N. Mawema may chair one meeting and Comrade G. Marange may chair another. If or when they are sitting as a group Comrade D. Mutasa chairs at one time and Comrade Mabheba at another time. It is as you can see seniority in their respective parties that influences their status.

QUESTION: *The Committee has issued a statement saying there is to be no meetings of individual parties. We would like to seek further clarification on the meaning of this directive?*

ANSWER: There has been a misunderstanding. They themselves believe they have been misquoted. They haven't issued a statement to that effect. They only said that they wish to see the smooth creation and integration of the cells.

When all the organs are created and integrated there will be de facto one Party State we felt that no meetings by individual parties will be held.

Up to now, Comrade Dr. Nkomo is still President of PF-ZAPU. We have not dissolved.

ZANU (PF) Comrade R.G. Mugabe is still President of the old ZANU (PF). When the integration exercise has been completed, then there will not be any individual party meetings because there will be only one party ZANU (PF).

QUESTION: *Until the final merger, will there be a joint Congress of the Integrated Party? How many stages do you see if we say this is the first stage?*

ANSWER: After completing the phase of integrating all the cells, branches, districts, and Central Committee and Politburo levels; Once that is completed, no-one will have individual meetings. As one party we will prepare a congress for next year.

QUESTION: *Can you at this stage be in a position to enlighten us on the composition of the organs of the Integrated Central Committee and the Politburo in terms of how you are to go about it since PF-ZAPU Central Committee is far larger than that of ZANU (PF)?*

ANSWER: When the time comes, we will let you know the mechanics of that particular integration process.

QUESTION: *Comrade Minister, people are raising a few questions about some of the parties that might have been left out of this integration process; that is the minority parties, such as ZANU Sithole which has one seat for Chipinge Constituency and the UANC of MUZOREWA who might feel they still have a role to play in politics. Can you comment?*

ANSWER: We believe every human being has a role to play in politics whether one is white, black or yellow. Every one has a role to play. We appeal to every individual to come and join us. We welcome all those who believe they have a role to contribute economically and politically to the development of this country. We appreciate the involvement of everyone but we will always look at our history.

In Zimbabwe, there has always been a need and desire to unite the two big political parties. During the liberation war, we united under the umbrella of the Patriotic Front in order to present a common front to the British Government the then rulers of this country. We presented our feelings together as a Patriotic Front, we fought the war to liberate ourselves as a Patriotic Front but decided of course to fight from different angles. The essence was that we were fighting for one thing — to liberate our country. That is what we did.

The minority parties such as UANC, ZANU-SITHOLE and others agreed in 1978 to form a force to sign an Internal Settlement. They also agreed to fight against the liberation movement: ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU.

However, we adopted, immediately after Independence the spirit of reconciliation which encompasses everyone. There was no need to negotiate with the whites to join us nor with any of the minority Parties which have always wanted things we have never wanted ourselves; i.e. things which are anti-African as we saw it.

However, we will be equally happy to see them joining us. We won't persuade them. They may join us by themselves. We do not force them. That applies to Whites, Indians and Coloured. They should willingly and voluntarily join without being forced.

QUESTION: *Recently Comrade N. Mawema announced the lifting of the suspension of some members from the Party ZANU (PF) and he categorically said those cases subjected to the decision of the Central Committee fall outside the lifting of the suspension. Can you elaborate?*

ANSWER: The lifting of the suspension is only limited to Mufakose in Harare where we had that problem involving Comrade Chiheya who had been wrongly suspended. However, we also blame Chiheya for having caused violence because if he had reported the matter to the province which would have channelled it to the Central Committee we would have settled the matter amicably without quarrel or fighting. So we asked the Province to re-instate Comrade Chiheya after requesting him to resign from his seat as a member of the City Council. This was in anticipation of the fresh by-elections which he unanimously won.

Sixty-two people who stood up in support of Chiheya were also suspended. We in-

structed Comrade N. Mawema in his capacity as Deputy Political Commissar to issue a Statement that the suspension of those people was to be lifted forth-with. The lifting only applies to the Mufakose Constituency but not to every Province or District.

QUESTION: *Comrade Minister, what would you say are the general achievements of the integration exercise?*

ANSWER: We have achieved peace as a result of Unity. We are enjoying wonderful support at the grassroots. This is most encouraging. The people of Matabeleland are very happy, every one feels very free. There is that achievement of peace in the former troubled areas. Conflict which lasted for eight years is now over.

QUESTION: *Apartheid South Africa is against all such achievements, do you foresee any counter manouvres it might use to further destabilize our country?*

ANSWER: The enemy will not rest. He will continue to manouvre one way or the other but we have to be more vigilant. □

Dingindlela Agricultural Co-operative gears towards development

Dingindlela Agricultural Co-operative which was started by 22 members is found in Matebeleland South in Insiza District Ward 2 South of Filabusi.

History

Dingindlela is a Ndebele term which in Shona means *Tsvaganzira* (look for a way). Narrating the history of the co-operative project, Comrade Nduna Mpofu, in his capacity as Chairperson said, "Though we formed our co-operative in 1982 being 22 members we now number 16. Some have already left because of their laziness. Among the present

membership, eleven are women. Mrs Lia Mpofu (61) is now our Secretary. We have also an important figure as a committee member. His name is Comrade Ndube, a local chief of the area covering Wards one and two. There is no youth member. Dingindlela (Tsvaganzira) Co-operative was registered in 1982 as an institution to engage in agriculture activities, that is in vegetable, maize and sunflower growing.

Aims and Objectives

Most of the above-mentioned agricultural activities are implemented in order to materi-



Co-operators venture into Cotton production



Co-operative members say "Collective co-operation and hard work make us produce first class maize quality"

alize the aims and objectives of the co-operators namely practice of agricultural theories, solution of their hunger problems, getting more money out of the sale of their produce to enable themselves to educate or send their children to school.

The majority of the members of Dingindlela co-operative have learnt and acquired agricultural theories at Maholi, the local training centre in Matebeleland South. They received agricultural certificates after two years' training under the guidance of Government Agricultural Extension Officers. The certificates prove that the co-operators have mastered the theoretical part of agriculture. By forming a co-op it facilitated them in to marrying theory with practice, that is, to implement agricultural scientific methods to a particular reality.

Only three co-operators do not have farming certificates.

Capital Finance

The Secretary of Dingindlela Co-operative, Comrade Lia Mpofu informed that the seven-hectare-land on which the co-operative functions was donated by the District Council. Christian Care, a non-governmental organization based in Bulawayo donated fencing materials, irrigation pumps and pipes, hoes, engine for pumping water from Insiza River, 10 picks, 10 shovels, 10 forks, 10 harrows, 19 racks, fertilizers, 24 bags of maize, 2 bags of beans, maize seeds, sunflower seeds and cement for the water tanks which were constructed by local builders.

The Secretary did not disclose the exact figure in monetary terms. However judging from the above list of items donated, one can easily and fairly infer that the Christian Care contributed quite a substantial amount of the initial capital of the co-operative. Other sponsors of the co-operative are Zimbabwe Project and the Government.

Zimbabwe Project finances the co-op in

the field of skills training. For instance, Comrade Mandhla Dube is a co-operator who has been sent to Bulawayo to study book-keeping and accounts while Frank Ndhlovu went on a Harare Mission to learn building skills. These co-operators benefit from the facilities provided by Zimbabwe Project.

The Government also played its part by assisting to pull down trees to clear the land. At one time the government donated fertilizers to enable the co-operators to improve soil fertility.

Progress

Commenting on the progress so far registered by Tsvaganzira co-op, the chairperson had this to say.

"We have been making steady progress since we started farming activities. During the period 1985-1986, we managed to bank \$100 00 profit. In 1986, our co-operative participated in the Agritex Competition and won \$500 00 in hard cash. The secret to winning the competition was collective co-operation and hard work. It is essentially this aspect which made us produce first class maize and vegetable quality."

Bulawayo Youths in Development Projects

An optimistic gardener is one who believes that whatever goes down must come up. This is an inscription to be found at a garden project in Magwegwe in Bulawayo.

The "Scientific Horticultural Project" is a market gardening project of four boys and three girls. It derives its name from Scientific gardening, a course taken by three of

In 1987, each co-operative member was able to pocket \$72,00 after deducting a considerable amount for banking, re-investment and for covering farming expenses. Some co-operators were able to use some of the monetary benefits to pay school fees for their children.

Setbacks

Though Dingindlela has been progressing since 1982, the 1987-88 season has been effected by problems drought which hampered the expansion of irrigation system, and acquisition of adequate farming equipment. Financial support is dwindling.

"We need a little dam to supplement the little and unreliable rain in the lowveld area," one of the co-operators added as he contributed to the discussion concerning the problems which the co-operative faces.

Future Perspective

Once the co-operative members get a tractor they intend to expand their farming activities as well as help the local people by leasing it to them at fair charges. The aim is to generate more funds.

Enhancing agricultural productivity and increasing output will make it possible for Tsvaganzira co-operators to sell their produce to the local people at reasonable prices. Sunflowers are sold to the Grain Marketing Board while vegetables and tomatoes find a ready market in Zvishavane. The co-operative also intends to supply local schools and people in the nearby Filabusi town.

At the moment, the co-operative members have ambitious plans: provided funds are forthcoming, they want to buy a grinding mill in order to grind their cereals and also those of the people in the vicinity. In the pipeline is also a plan to build a grocery where they will be able to market or sell their products and to order sugar, soap, salt and so on for the co-operative members.

All the members of Dingindlela co-op work hard being guided by the principles of selflessness, self-reliance and "he who works less receives less," and "he who does not work neither shall he eat." □

the participants at Solusi College some 51 km out of Bulawayo.

The secretary of the project, Comrade Gilbert Sibanda, said that at first they used a piece of land that had been allocated to a group of girls. However, they were later evicted and spent five months looking for another piece of land to resume their project, until the Bulawayo City Council's Director

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Young gardeners involved in scientific horticultural project

of Housing and Community Services, Comrade Mtshena Sidile, came to their rescue.

The group started working on the present two-hectare land in January with a membership of three. "We managed to contribute \$19 to buy seeds and the Lutheran Church sold us some tools at half price, said Comrade Sibanda.

The group has managed to build a channel that is now distributing water from a nearby tank to the different sections of the garden. Comrade Sibanda said that they got this knowledge at a seminar organised by the Lutheran Church.

"The garden is slowly creating an almost satisfactory subsistence means of living for the participants", said Comrade Sibanda. He said that they are now able to bank about \$300 00 a week from which they pay the participants at least \$100 00 every month.

Comrade Sibanda said, "Despite the efforts we are putting into the project, we have not been able to overcome many problems facing us.

He said that one of the major problems they are facing is that of finance. "We have applied for assistance from both the British and the United States Embassies although we have not yet received any response", said Comrade Sibanda.

Comrade Sibanda also said that they would like to increase their managerial skills by way of attending seminars. He said that so far they have attended seminars organised by either the Bulawayo City Council or the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture.

"We are, at the moment, looking for sponsors to send two of our colleagues for an accounting course", said the secretary.

Problems

Comrade Sibanda said that thieves have broken into the project on four occasions and stolen implements and vegetables. he said that they are at present looking for money to buy a security fence. They would also want to buy a wooden hut or two from which they would drive off the thieves.

The other problem mentioned by Comrade Sibanda was that of transporting their produce. Their main customers are Haddon and Sly and the Produce Markets. He said that they hire emergency taxis which charge them high rates.

Future Plans

Asked about what their future plans are Comrades Sibanda said, "As our funds increase we are going to start on poultry farm-

ing. "He said that their major plan is to expand by acquiring a plot or something bigger and take in more members.

As advice to the youth in the Province, and indeed the whole country Comrade Sibanda said, "Our youth are not aware that working on the land is more profitable than going to the industry where jobs are hard to get."

Ministry Organises Seminar

Meanwhile, a one day seminar on project planning and management was held in Bulawayo.

The seminar which was organised by the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture was aimed at Preparing the Youth to:-

- Improve the quality of Project proposals.
- Improve organisational and management efficiency.
- Acquire basic accounting skills for better financial management.

The seminar was attended by youths involved in projects, those intending to start projects and those from ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU.

In an interview with a *Zimbabwe News* reporter, Comrade Erah Mhlanga, a Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture officer, said that a number of projects failed because of lack of managerial skills. He said that seminars had helped to improve the situation in some of the projects.

Some of the youth at this seminar had attended previous seminars. Following up on this, Comrade Mhlanga said that their performance has increased because of the knowledge they gained from the seminars.

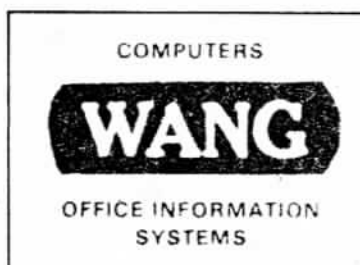
"None of the projects in the city has received any Financial assistance and this has contributed to the reasons why most projects don't do well", said Comrade Mhlanga.

Comrade Mhlanga said that those youths who left school in the rural areas often moved into urban centres in search for employment. "They should be made aware that urban areas are not the right place for this kind of exercise," he said.

Comrade Mhlanga went on to say, "Youths in the rural areas should be encouraged to start projects in their respective areas. This would also assist Government policy of decentralisation." □

The Editor wishes to inform readers that they are free to open debate in the column Talking Point and on the Letters page.

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Nutritional Problems concern Co-operators

To the people of Ward 5 Insiza District in Matabeleland South, Mbabale Garden Projects have become to be known as Nutrition Projects the reason being that Mbabale No. 1 and Mbabales 2 and 3 have been created by a Nutrition Group to focus on nutrition gardening. The aim of nutrition gardening is to solve — malnutrition problems through the supply of vitamin-rich vegetables; beans, carrots, tomatoes, onions, rape, cabbages and so on.

The project was initiated by the Ministry of Health because a lot of malnutrition cases had mushroomed in the area.

Area

Mbabale No. 1 Garden occupies 2 400 square metres. This area, plus that of Mbabale No. 2 and Mbabale No. 3 was surveyed in July, 1986, by the official workers of the Agritex Topo graphical Section based in Matabeleland South. All the land upon which the cooperative nutritionalists carry out their specific activities has been provided by Insiza District Council.

Expansion of the Project

The Mbabales 1, 2 and 3 are basically three similar vegetable farming projects. No. 2 and 3 were created primarily to accommodate increase in membership which could not find a place in No. 1 Project.

Mbabale No. 1 Project was started as a collective entity in 1986 and its present membership comprises 13 women and 3 men. All the three projects were organized through the Association of Women's Clubs in Matabeleland South after they each con-

tributed \$1,00 annually to buy vegetable seeds.

Sponsorship

Mrs. M.D. Ncube, a 69 year old member explained that: "Besides monetary contributions by members, ZIMFEP has been sponsoring us. It provided a loan totalling \$162,00 which we, as co-operators, used to buy a wheel barrow, one pick, one fork and 2 watering cans which we use in vegetable gardening."

It is expected that the loan, which we got last year, is to be paid off by the end of July this year."

Problems

Thirty-two year old Comrade Edith Dube, in her capacity as Vice-Chairperson of Mbabale No. 1 Project said, "Sidzibe River is a source of water which we use to irrigate our vegetables. However, the government promised that it was going to provide piping equipment for irrigation purposes."

Comrade Isabel Siziba, the Secretary, focussed on the difficulties which the Project faces, for instance, lack of adequate financing lack of insecticides, fertilizers, hybrid seeds, tools and other gardening equipment, good storage facilities and lack of materials for toilet construction.

"Though the Ministry of Health assisted by donating fence, it is not enough because local goats penetrate our gardens and cause nuisance. We are seeking fencing materials or possibly a loan from the government. We promise to repay the loan," said Cde. Siziba, the Secretary of Mbabale No. 1 which

has so far made progress in providing high content nutritional products and a variety of oils and foods to the local people.

"The local children have gradually become healthy and they have improved in weight as shown by the local baby clinical records."

The chairperson of Mbabale no. 2 project explained the benefit derived from the gardening projects. "We implement the principle of equal distribution when we share the vegetables which we use to feed our children to combat malnutrition. Our children have greatly improved healthwise. Now we do not have any problems of relish (usavi). We urge all the cooperatives nationwide to work together to improve the lives of the children." She was supported by Comrade Anna Nyoni and Councillor Samson Siziba, all being Committee members of Mbabale No. 2.

Formed in 1987, Mbabale no. 2 co-operative is composed of 10 members of which 8 are women who are very much concerned with the health of their families. To these women co-operators, a balanced diet is essential to the health of any family. That is why they are collectively nutrition-conscious. □

**Kushayika Kwekudya
Kwakakwana mumuviri
kunoshungurudza
veMishandirapamwe**

Ku vanhu vepa Ward 5 paInsiza District muMatabeleland South, paghadeni reMbabale pari zvino vari kuzivikanwa sevanhu varikushanda mune-zvemaghadeni muzvirimwa zvinovaka muviri (Nutrition Project). Chikonzero chokuti veMbabale No 1, 2 ne 3 vauze chikwata chinoona chete nezvemaghadeni ezvirimwa zvinovaka muviri. Zvirimwa zvavo zvinovaka muviri zvinosanganisa zvinoti beans, carrots, tomatoes, onions, rape, cabbages nezvimwe zvakadaro.

Basa iri rakakuridzirwa nevebazi rinoona nezveutano sezvo kwakava nekushayika kwekudya kwakakwana kunovaka muviri mudunhu iri.

Nzvimbo

PaMbabale No. 1 gadhena iri rine masquare metres 2 400. Nzvimbo iyi pamwechete nenzvimbo dzinoti Mbabale No 2 ne-Mbabale No 3 dzakatarisiswa mukuzowumbwa kwadzo, mumwedzi waJuly wegore ra 1986, nevashandi veAgritex muMatabeleland South. Nzvimbo yemushandirapamwe iyi irikuitirwa mabasa ezvirimwa zvinovaka



Co-operators use vegetables to combat malnutrition



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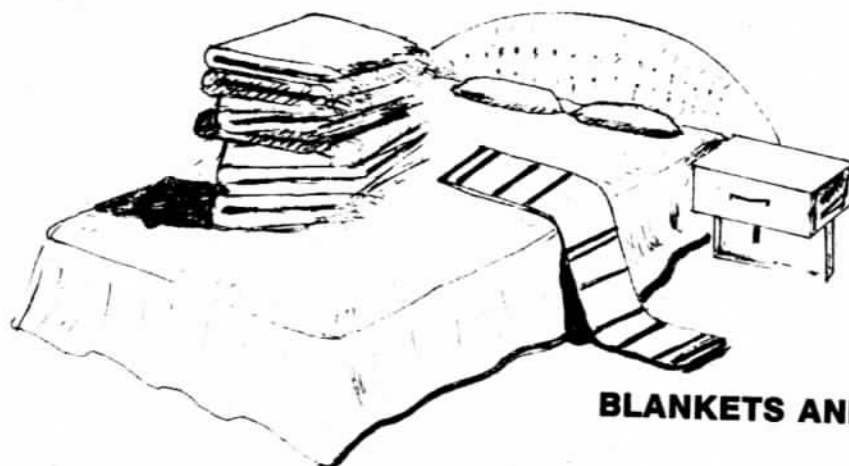
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Kukuridzirwa Kwebasa Iri

Nzvimbo idzi dzinoti Mbabale 1, 2 ne 3 dzinova nzvimbo nhatu dzakafanana dzezvimirwa zvinovaka muviri. Mbiri dzinoti No 2 ne 3 dzakawumbwa zviku kuwona vanhu vakanga vawanda mu No 1.

Mbabale No 1 yakatangiswa iyine vanhu vayo vakakwana, mugore ra1986, vayiti vakadzi gumi nevaviri, nevarume vatatu. Nzvimbo nhatu dzemabasa aya, dzakawumbwa pasi pe-Association of Women's Clubs, muMatabeleland South mushure mekuwunganidza mari inoti mumwechete \$1,00 pagore, inova mari yakashandiswa kutenga mbeu.

Varipiri

Amai M.D. Ncube vanova nemakore ekuzvarwa makumi matanhatu nemapfumbamwe vanotsanangudza vachiti, "Tisingaverengi mari inokokorodzwa kubva munhengo imwe neimwe, (veZIMFEP) vaitipa rubatsiro. Vakaitipa mari ye-loan inoita \$162 00 inova yatakashandisa isu vemushandirapamwe, kutenga bhara, piki, foshoro, nemakoni maviri emvura, atinoshandisa mukudiridzisa gadheni. Tinovimba kuti loan yatakawana gore rapfuura, ichagoneka kuripirwa mukupera kwemwedzi wa-July gore rino".

Matambudziko

Comrade Edith Dube, vanova muredzvi wemutungamiri weMbabale No 1, vanoratidza pfungwa dzayo seizvi: "Tinoshandisa mvura inobva murwizi rwunonzi Sidzibe mukudiridza zvirimwa zvedu izvi. Zvisinei hurumende yakavimbisa kupa pombi yekudiridzira mubasa iri".

Comrade Isabel Siziba, vanova nechigaro chemunyori, mubasa iri, vakaratidza matambudziko anowanikwa mubasa iri, anova kushayika kwemari inoshandiswa mune zvakasiyana-siyana, mishonga inouraya zvipuka mumbeu, mahudze, mbeu, maturusi pamwechete nezvimwe zvinoshandiswa mubasa regadheni nezvinoshandiswa mukugadzira zvimbu.

"Kunyange zvazvo vebazi rinoona nezve-utano vakabatsira nekupa fenzi, izvi hazvina kunyatsopedza dambudziko iri, sezvo mbudzi dzichipinda mumagadheni dzichibvurudza mbeu. Tirikutsvaga loan kubva kuhurumende, kuti tigotenga fenzi. Tichivimba kuti tinozodzorera mari iyi. Vanodaro Comrade Siziba.

Comrade Siziba vanoenderera mberi vachiti, vana vemudunhu iri vanoramba vachiratidza utano hwakanaka, mune zvakabudiswa paclinic yevacheche.

Mubati wechigaro wepaMbabale No 2, akatsanangudza nezvekubudirira kunowneka mubasa remumagadheni. "Tinotevedzera mitemo yekuyenzanisa zvinhu apo

tinge tirikupa zvirimwa izvi zvinovaka muviri kune vechidiki. Vana vedu vanova neutano hwakanaka, zvichikonzerwa nezvimirwa zvedu izvi. Parizvino hatina kana dambudziko reusavi. Tinokurudzira zviku kuneve vemishandirapamwe munyika ino kuva vanosimudzira utano hwevana".

Izvi zvakatsigirwa naComrade Anna

Nyoni pamwechete navaCouncillor Samson Siziba vese ava vanova nhengo dzepa-Mbabale No 2.

Mbabale 2 inova yakawumbwa mugore rapfuura, iyine nhengo dzinosvika gumi, madzimai achiva anosvika vasere vanoratidza kufarira kusimudzira utano hwevacheche zviku".

Ukuswelakala Kokudla Okwaneleyo okwakha Umzimba kuyinto Ehlupha abenza Imsebenzi Yokusebenzelana Ndawonye

Kubantu bakuWard 5 eInsiza District eMatabeleland South, engadini yeMbabale, okwakathesi basaziwa ngomsebenzi wabo owengadini kuzilimo ezakha umzimba (Nutrition Project). Lokhu kwenziwa yikuthi abeMbabale No 1, 2 le 3 baqhoqhana babumba iqhembu labo lezengadini kuzilimo ezakha umzimba. Izilimo zavo ezakha umzimba lezi zihlanganisa ezithi ibeans, ama-carrots, ama-tamatisi, ihanyanisi, imibhida ye-rape, amakabishi lokunye okunjalo.

Indawo

EMbabale No 1, ingadi le enkulu okungaba ngama square metre ayi 2 400. Indawo le, ndawonye lendawo ezithi Mbabale No 2 le 3 saqaliswa emveni kokuba sezixwayisise kunyanga kaJuly kumnyaka ka 1986, kumsebenzi wabasebenzi beAgritex kweMatabeleland South. Indawo yabasbenzelana ndawonye le, kuzilimo ezakha umzimba, yahloliswa ukuqakatheka kwayo, ngabeInsiza District andubana ivulwe.

Ukuthuthukiswa Komsebenzi Lo

Indawo ezintathu lezi ezithi iMbabale 1, 2 le 3, yindawo ezifanayo ezenzelwa umsebenzi wezilimo ezakha umzimba. Indawo ezimbili ezithi iMbabale 2 le 3, zakhiwa emveni kokubona iqhembu selikhulile okwedlulisileyo kuMbabale No 1.

Iqhembu leMbabale 1 laqaliswa lilabantu abaneleyo, kumnyaka ka 1986, ababehlanganisa abesifazana abalitshumi laba bili, kuthi abesilisa abathathu. Indawo ezintathu zomsebenzi lo zabunjwa zingapansi kogatsha lweAssociation of Women's Clubs eMatabeleland South, emveni kokuqoqa imali ethi omunye, lamunye i\$1,00 ngamnyaka munye, eyiyona mali eyasetshenziswa ukuthenga inhlangano.

Ababhadali

Unkosikazi M.D. Ncube oleminyaka yokuzalwa engamatshumi ayisithupha lasitshiya ngalo mbili, ulandisa udaba lwakhe ethi: "Ngaphandle kwemali ekhithwa ngumuntu munye lamunye, olunye uncodo lwavela kuqhembu le (ZIMFEP). Basinikeza imali ye-loan efika amadola ayi \$162,00, eyiyona mali eyasetshenziswa yithi abezokusebenzelana lapho sathenga ibhara, ipiki, ifotsholo, lamakoni amanili okuthelazisa engadini. Sithemba ukuthi sizakuba lethuba lokubhadala imali ye-loan le kunyanga kaJuly kuwonalo umnyaka".

Indubeko

UComrade Edith Dube onguye olandela ngemva komkhokheli waseMbabale No 1, ulandisa olwakhe udaba esithi: "Amanzi esiwasbenzisayo, siwakha kusifula seSidzibe, kunjalo nje uHulumende usithembise impompi yokuthelazisa kumsebenzi wethu lo".

UComrade Isabel Siziba, olesikhundla sombali kumsebenzi lo, wasibonisa ngendubeko ezitholakala kumsebenzi lo, ukukhangela emalini esetshenziswa kokutshiyeneyo, imithi yokubulala izinanakazana ezitholakala kuzilimo, umquba, inhlangano, okunye lakho okusetshenziswa kumsebenzi wezingadini kunye lokusetshenziswa ekulungiseni izambuzi.

"Lanxa nje abogatsha olubona nge zenhlazeko, baphathisa ekunikezeni ifensi, lokhu akuzange kungqobe kuloludubo, njengobana nje imbuzi zingena ezingadini zicithize izilimo. okwakathesi sidinga ifensi, kungaba yi-loan enikwa nguHulumende. Sithemba ukubana singenelisa ukubhadala imali le ngemva kwesikhathi esithize." Utsho njalo uComrade Siziba.

UComrade Siziba waqhubekela phambili esithi, abantwana bakulesi sigaba okwakathesi batshengisa imizimba ehlangekileyo, kumbiko owakhithwa e-Clinic yensane. UMmbiko weMbabale 2, watshengisa intuthuko ebonakala kumsebenzi wasezingadini.

"Silandela umthetho wokulinganiswa kwezinto lapho siyabe sinikeza izilimo zethu ezakha umzimba kwabasakhalayo. Abantwana bethu balemzimba ehlangekileyo, okubangelwa yizilimo zethu lezi. Okwakathesi kasila hlupho lwesitshebo. Sithanda ukuqonqosela ikakhulu kibo bonke abezokusebenzelana kwelakithi, ukuze bathuthukise ukuhlazeka kwabasakhalayo."

Lokhu kwabekwa sobala nguComrade Anna Nyoni kunye lo-councillor Samson Siziba bonke laba bangamalunga eMbabale No. 2

IMbabale 2 liqhembu elaqhaliswa kumnyaka osanda kwedula. Ligoqela abantu abalitshumi, abesifazana beyisithi ngalombili njalo betshengisa ukuthakazelela ukuthuthukisa inhlangano yabasakhalayo.

Car Prices Uncontrollable



Dr. Oliver Munyaradzi — the Minister of Trade and Commerce

The Ministry of Trade and Commerce has lost control of vehicle prices, the Minister, Comrade Oliver Munyaradzi, has said.

Addressing the Motor Trade Association Annual Congress in Nyanga on June 2, Comrade Munyaradzi said in a shortage area where demand for any commodity or item is higher than the supply of the said commodity or item, no amount of stiff legislative prescriptions or policing will control prices.

The theme of the Congress was "Reality and Opportunity — the Motor Industry 1988". The reality of this industry in as far as it infringes on the Ministry of Trade and Commerce is a nightmare. The nightmare reality is compounded by a number of unpleasant factors such as a shortage of foreign, currency exorbitant prices of new cars and used cars. The Ministry's Department of Price Control has lost control of price a fact many people are aware of.

A shortage area where demand for any commodity or item is higher than the supply of the said commodity or item no amount

of stiff legislative prescriptions or policing will control prices. The Minister of Trade and Commerce discussed this issue with his officials. One of them interjected "... how can our Ministry be expected to control the business Community of Zimbabwe?"

The only way to control prices is to adequately supply the market with its requirements. As far as controlling prices, the market forces are rarely effective if left alone to operate in a vacuum.

Causes of High Pricing

We are victims of economic manipulation by those with the power to do so, this power does not only reside in a particular race. It does not reside in a particular political ideology or even economic management system; be it in the so-called free economy or planned economy. The forces of manipulation are found in all these systems. The results of this manipulation reveal themselves in a much more vicious way in developing countries of which Zimbabwe is one.

At independence in 1980 the changes that occurred were not political changes only but also economic and social changes. Many people quickly entered the social and economic spheres, taking up jobs of fairly high salaries.

Suddenly, some earned money to afford houses in the low density areas. They could afford to buy cars. At the same time, the government had to re-construct the infrastructure, especially in rural areas.

The economy had to provide for needs of more people than ever before, and this happened at a time when the returns from our exports plummeted in value. The government bought less number of new cars and even fewer spare parts. It is on this background that the reality of our situation should be viewed. While this may appear dismal, it is not yet irretrievable. Basic allocation are supplemented wherever possible by the use of commodity import programmes or barter or counter-trade. In 1987, there were supplementary allocations of \$700 000 made to rural transport operators. An amount of \$11,6 million was made available for motor vehicle spares and kits through commodity import programmes of West Germany, Canada, Great Britain and Holland. Barter and counter trade deals totalling \$34,9 million was allocated for the purchase and import of spare parts.

So far this year (1988) supplementary allocations of \$6,5 million have been made to truck and bus operators and \$3,5 million has been set aside for the importation of vehicle kits for the agricultural sector. Under the export promotion programme, \$900,000 has been made available under commodity import programmes whilst others are under consideration.

As far as consultation with the Motor Industry Sector is concerned, the government officials have always maintained an open-door policy and the Motor Industry has quite often taken the opportunity of discussing with the officials any thorny issues.

As far as the lifting of the price freeze is concerned, Motor Industry may not be happy with the stipulated level of five percent but it is known that they are free to state the level they think is adequate.

While the Motor Industry must represent the interests of their members, the Government has responsibilities to the nation as a whole and to other sectors like agriculture, mining industry and service sectors of transport and energy to mention a few. It is in the face of the interests and needs of various sectors of the economy that the Government has to look at the situation in the motor trade sector and see what can be done to alleviate the problems that it faces. To revert to a situation of survival of the fittest is not possible. □

Counter the Anti-Sanctions Lobby

The Anti-Sanctions Lobby consisting of a loose alliance of conservative politicians, businessmen and bourgeois ideologies is headed by the British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in opposing the application of the mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa.

Politically, the anti-sanctions case rests upon the three Thatcherite premises namely that sanctions will internally hurt the black population of South Africa and externally hit the Frontline States hardest and that they do not work as the case of Rhodesia showed.

The apartheid regime supports the Thatcherite thinking which is inconsistent with the oppressed people's interests and aspirations. The South African Government argues that sanctions will most affect those (blacks) they are meant to help.

However, the real leaders of black South Africa recognize the sanctions' short-term negative impact on black employment but they are willing to pay a price. In any case, they are already suffering.

The American economist Linda Farina sees sanctions as having a negative effect detrimental to both blacks and whites. One should visualize the manufacturing sector in the South African economy as the most vul-

nerable to economic sanctions because it depends on imported inputs, foreign technology and machinery. Sanctions will hit hardest at the most sophisticated sectors of the economy where white employment is concentrated. Their effect will scarcely be felt in the poverty-stricken bantustans where a significant portion of the black population is dumped.

The Frontline States

The South African regime has developed over the years, a combined strategy of economic, political, diplomatic and military destabilization which has become a dominant feature of daily life in Southern Africa. The undeclared war of destabilization has affected the Frontline States.

We contend that a trade boycott would not in itself be harmful to most SADCC States but there is a possibility of damage arising from South Africa's retaliatory military and economic measures.

One of the counter-measures by SADCC States is to restructure their economic relations so as to reduce dependence on South Africa. The Western countries can also help by redirecting major aid flows to the Frontline States.

Do Sanctions Work? The Example of Rhodesia:

It is objectionable that sanctions do not work, the reason being that sanctions had an immediate and devastating impact on the monocultural, import-dependent Rhodesian economy in 1965-1966. Exports fell by over one-third; imports by 30 per cent. Tobacco production fell by half if measured in volume and by two-thirds if measured in price. The Sale of tobacco became a highly unprofitable enterprise. In the end, the government had to subsidize tobacco farmers to the tune of US\$16 million a year. In the mid-seventies, oil price rise hit Rhodesia hard. The country could no longer finance the war — Part of the reason was sanctions.

South Africa

Two key factors make South Africa more vulnerable to economic sanctions namely its dependence on foreign technology for its sophisticated manufacturing sector and a major economic crisis with the rate of inflation in 1986 rising to over 29 per cent, the highest since 1920. The rand has fallen against the dollar by 74 per cent in less than four years. □

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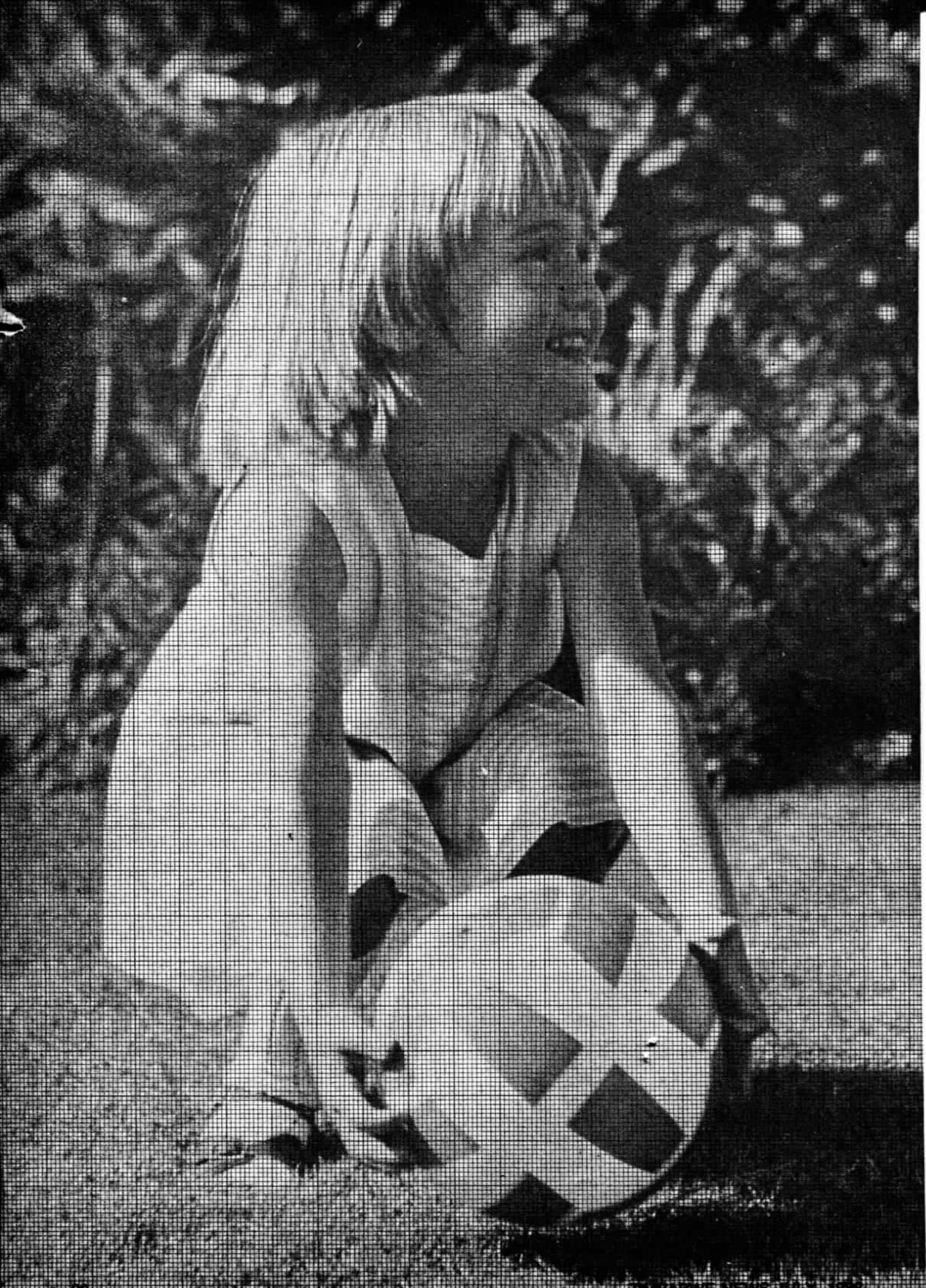
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South Africa Might Use Nuclear Weapons Against Africa

South Africa has increased Nuclear Research in recent years. This presents a real threat to the rest of Africa since evidence shows that the apartheid regime might use these nuclear weapons.

In his address to delegates attending the Zimbabwe Organization for Nuclear Education Seminar recently held in Harare, the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Comrade Witness Mangwende spoke on the nuclear danger posed by the South African nuclear capacity development. He also touched on the objectives and goals of the South African nuclear programmes and on the need to adopt a rational approach to convince the nuclear powers and to curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Nuclear Danger

Large sums of money (about US\$850 billions) are spent each year by the superpowers in their quest to dominate the arms race. The result is the creation of stockpiles of nuclear weaponry which pose a threat to human existence.

The Zimbabwean citizens must know that the nuclear debate is not the business of Europeans, Americans and Russians only but it pertains to them too because nuclear technology and arms race are spreading all over the world. They are already in South Africa. This development poses a serious political and security problem especially because this nuclear technology falls on irresponsible hands of the racist Pretoria Regime.

South Africa Develops Nuclear Capacity

With the assistance, of USA, UK, Japan, Federal Republic of Germany and Israel, South Africa's nuclear energy activities began towards the end of the Second World War. By 1955 USA and Britain played a major role in training nuclear scientists and engineers from the racist republic. This was in exchange for uranium supplies.

By 1970, ninety South Africans had received training in the US under the agreement in nuclear science, engineering and physics. It is with these nuclear experts at its disposal that the Pretoria Regime has started a pilot uranium enrichment plant in 1975. Nearly 2 000 people are employed by the South African Atomic Energy Board at the Nuclear Research Centre at Pelindaba and Koerberg. This fact indicates that the Pretoria regime is committed to its nuclear programmes. As a result, there has been a considerable nuclear weapons development.

Objectives of the Nuclear Programme

The South African Regime is fighting desperately to preserve its privileged position based on apartheid. The masses of South Africa and the liberation movements of the ANC and PAC have mounted growing internal opposition to apartheid. The Frontline States have for many years expressed their strong abhorrence and opposition which spark the South African unprovoked attacks. To that extent, the South

African's acquisition and use of nuclear weapons is consistent with its policy of dominating the Southern African Region politically, militarily and economically.

Adopt a Rational Approach

It is the duty of every civilized people to press for the creation of a nuclear free zone. We must all play an active role in local and international attempts to curb the proliferation of nuclear armaments. Speak constantly and consistently in favour of nuclear disarmament so that the vast sums of money spent on nuclear weapons research and development could be used to alleviate many problems affecting mankind today. It is the role of the media to educate people on the realities of the present arms race and stockpiles of weapons of self and mass-destruction.

The nuclear powers must also be convinced that the gravity of the international situation caused by the arms race and superpower rivalry is a real fact. Every reasonable person must fully support the initiatives of all peace movements advocating the total eradication of all nuclear arms and all other armaments.

South Africa needs to be told that militarism and adventurism are futile in Southern Africa. The International Community is urged to apply pressure on the racist regime so that it can abandon its nuclear build-up and destroy the nuclear weapons in its possession. □

Towards Africa's Total Liberation



Delegates to the 50th Session of the OAU Liberation Committee at Harare International Conference Centre

The 50th Session of the OAU Liberation Committee was held in Harare from May 14 to 16. The Committee members reiterated that Africa should develop appropriate strategies and co-ordinate its efforts effectively in order to liberate Namibia and South Africa.

Opening the session, the Senior Minister of Political Affairs in the President's Office,

Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, noted that the Liberation of Namibia and South Africa was going to be tougher than the struggle against Portuguese colonialism and white settlers in Zimbabwe. Comrade Nyagumbo warned that the Pretoria regime was prepared to go to any lengths to defend apartheid and called on Africa to recognise the possibility of a military confrontation with the racists.

"The reality of the situation in Southern Africa in general and in South Africa and Namibia in particular is that we are dealing with a regime prepared to go to any limit in the protection of the interests of a white minority group. It is prepared to resist the march of history. In this regard the boer-rulers are prepared to sacrifice stability, peace, development and progress in the en-

tire sub-continent," Comrade Nyagumbo stressed.

The outgoing Chairman of OAU Liberation Committee and Nigerian External Affairs Minister, Major General Ike Mwachukwu, criticised African Government that were failing to pay their debts. Thirty-nine of the OAU's 50 member states are in arrears to the Liberation Committee's special fund, according to Major General Mwachukwu.

"How can we Africans have any sense of pride and dignity when we are not meeting these vital financial obligations?", he asked the Committee. "None of us can feel free when we know our brothers and sisters are being systematically trampled upon by the apartheid forces in South Africa and Namibia".

The PAC Chairman, Mr. Johnson Mlambo also took OAU members to task for their lax attitude towards contributions to the fund. He pointed out that OAU budget was minuscule compared to South Africa's annual military expenditure of more than \$1 billion.

Comrade Mlambo also lambasted Western countries for continuing their lucrative trade relations with South Africa.

During the deliberations of the Commit-

tee the Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira was elected Chairman of the 50th Ordinary Session of the OAU Liberation Committee, a post he will hold until the next ordinary meeting. He described the Liberation Committee as the cutting edge of the OAU in the struggle to liberate the whole continent and expressed the hope that there would be an escalation of the struggle in South Africa and Namibia to remove the last vestiges of colonialism and racism from Africa.

Resolutions

The 50th Ordinary Session of the OAU Liberation Committee ended in Harare on May 16, with a passionate plea for the intensification of the campaign for universal imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against Pretoria.

The Committee also resolved to increase financial, material and military assistance to liberation movements fighting to overthrow the apartheid regime in South Africa.

A declaration drawn after the three day meeting called on the national liberation movements to intensify the armed struggle since apartheid was based upon, nurtured and sustained by violence.

"Since the struggle against apartheid is

a struggle for the restoration of human dignity, the OAU invites all those states that believe in the sanctity and equality of the human beings to increase material, financial and military assistance to the national liberation movements."

The Committee also invited all peace-loving peoples to exert pressure on the United States, Japan, Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany to subordinate economic, commercial and strategic interests in favour of human dignity.

The Committee further called for an international ban on the purchase of all gold products, including the Kruger rand from South Africa, an oil embargo and denial of all bank loans, credit and trade facilities "in order to tighten the financial noose around the neck of the white minority regime."

It urged OAU member states that have not done so to expedite the formation of anti-apartheid groups at the national level and ensure co-ordination of their activities with the liberation movements.

Lastly the Committee appealed to OAU member states to popularise the anti-apartheid campaign at grassroots level and organise fund-raising activities in support of the armed liberation struggle especially on Africa liberation Day on May 25 of every year. □

Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) Visit Zimbabwe

On behalf of the Party Comrade D. Mutasa welcomed on 13th June 1988, the distinguished guests from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union led by Comrade I. Skiba. The visit served to strengthen the existing relationships between the two countries.



Comrade Mutasa and Comrade Skiba toast to the continued friendship of the Soviet Union and Zimbabwe at the reception hosted for the visitors in Harare recently

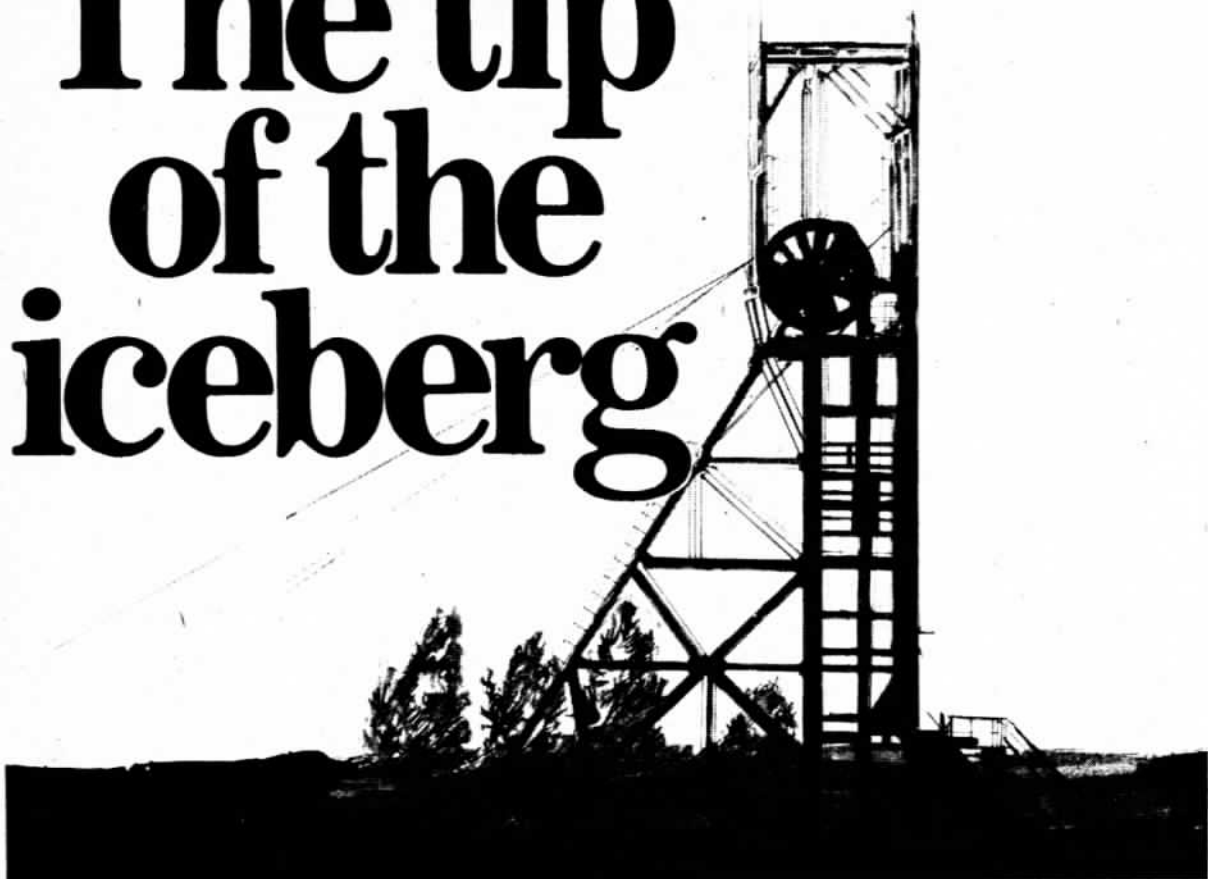
The struggle of the people of Zimbabwe for Independence derived great inspiration from the great October Revolution, its ideals of a just egalitarian society and the abolition of all forms of exploitation. The government of Zimbabwe, like the government of the USSR cherishes and upholds these ideals which are viewed as being central to general human development.

Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union enjoy bilateral relations in a number of fields, notably that of manpower development. The Soviet Union will continue to assist Zimbabwe in that area. Zimbabwe Soviet relations have risen to a new level with the recent signing of the wide ranging protocol of agreement of co-operation between ZANU (PF) and the CPSU. It is necessary to exert every effort to promote success of the agreement.

The timely visit of the Soviet Delegation to Southern Africa also afforded them the opportunity to evaluate the political situation in Southern Africa at close quarters. The continued existence of apartheid regime is central to the turmoil in Southern Africa.

As long as apartheid exists, no independent country is safe from Pretoria's aggression. It is for this reason that Zimbabwe has continuously called on the international community and the West in particular to desist from assisting apartheid. In that regard, Comrade D. Mutasa, Secretary for Foreign

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Affairs (ZANU PF) said, "We want the West to impose mandatory economic sanctions against that evil regime. Although we welcome the recent peace initiative on the Angolan question, we believe that only a regional solution can bring about a lasting peace to the region. We view your visit as an expression of solidarity with us in our efforts to re-construct the country and safeguard our hard won independence from colonial tyranny."

The Non-Aligned Movement welcomes the recent initiative between the Soviet Union and United States on the reduction of nuclear weapons, but however, Zimbabwe believes that the only solution is the destruction of all nuclear weapons.

In this nuclear age, the old adage that "to guarantee peace, prepare for war" no longer holds true. War can no longer be viewed as a continuation of policy by other means be-

cause mankind is facing destruction through improved weaponry such as nuclear weapons. It is for this reason that INF agreement and the Pre-test agreement signed between the Soviet Union and America have received universal attention.

The visit by the Soviet Delegation paved the way for further co-operation between the two countries and their ruling parties. □

Protocol on Co-operation between the Zimbabwe African National Union — Patriotic Front — ZANU (PF) and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union — CPSU

The Zimbabwe African National Union ZANU (PF) and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU).

Recognising the Existence of strong links, solidarity and friendship between them;

Noting their common objectives in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism, apartheid, neo-colonialism and reactionary tendencies;

Conscious of their desire to promote peace, disarmament, progress and social justice;

Aware of the importance of co-operation between them in the development of Zimbabwe-USSR relations;

Hereby resolve to consolidate and expand this co-operation in the interest of the peoples of Zimbabwe and USSR;

And to this end both Parties agree that:

Article 1

They shall exchange regular visits of party delegations (up to five delegations from each side during the first three years) to hold talks on party and other political issues with a view to exchanging experiences and discussing problems of mutual interest.

Article 2

They pledge to act for the development of relations between the governments and parliaments of both countries and deepen fruitful co-operation between the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Article 3

Representatives of ZANU (PF) and CPSU participating in international conferences shall exchange opinions and information concerning their parties and countries as well as international problems and issues affecting their respective interests.

Article 4

Both Parties shall promote direct contacts and co-operation in the area of printing and publishing with particular emphasis on the development of ties with ZANU (PF) Jongwe Printing and Publishing Company (Pvt) Ltd.

Article 5

In order to get closer acquainted with their respective activities both Parties shall exchange shall exchange documents and publications and information on major events in the lives of the respective parties.

Article 6

Both Parties shall extend invitations to each other to participate in congresses, conferences and other ceremonies and party events in pursuance of the customs and traditions of each party.

Article 7

Both Parties shall endeavour to promote the development of contacts and co-operation between social organizations of both countries in order to establish lasting links between such organizations by, among other things, mutual exchange of experience.

Article 8

Both Parties shall encourage mutual exchange of visits by their leading members to each other's country on holidays.

Article 9

Both Parties shall endeavour within the means at their disposal, to provide scholarships on a mutual basis to each other's party and other cadres in their respective countries.

Article 10

This Protocol may be expanded by additions of other provisions mutually agreed between the Parties.

The External Affairs Department of ZANU (PF) and the Respective Department of the CPSU shall take steps to ensure the realisation of the provisions of this Protocol.

Article 11

This Protocol made in two identical copies in English and Russian shall take effect from the date of signing and will be in force as long as the parties agree.

World Marxist Review Conference, Prague

A conference in Prague, Czechoslovakia on the international journal, World Marxist Review was recently held between 12 and 17 April. Delegations from 93 communist and socialist parties attended the Conference. The publication is run collectively by 68 communist and workers' parties in 40 different languages. ZANU (PF) was also represented.

The journal is a forum for debate for the fraternal parties and it publishes the stand point of these parties. It is run by five regional committees. The journal has a staff of 70. The composition was criticised by the conference and urged to become more democratic and international. At present the majority of the composition is Soviet.



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The 19th Conference of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union

The 19th Conference of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) took place from 28th June to the 2nd of July. It was opened by the General Secretary of the CPSU, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev who called for the deepening of the New Thinking that is currently taking place in the Soviet Union today.

The New Thinking is based on the principles of the policies of perestroika and glasnost (restructuring) and openness.

The economy of the USSR is alleged to have been malfunctioning over the years from Stalinist through to Khrushchev and Brezhnev. To use Gorbachev's term, it underwent "deformations" in terms of perestroika. Therefore the workers and the peasants must be included in the planning of the production and be involved in profit-estimations and instrumental in meeting production targets. It also means adopting new modes of management. According to Gorbachev, it was gross mismanagement that was killing the Soviet economy, which resulted in low productive outputs and failure to meet targets and the ineffective use of raw materials and products. This was a consequence of maladministration of the economy. There has therefore arisen the need for transforming the enterprises into self-supporting entities with autonomy in production, planning and financial spheres. This also means that managers have to have popular mandate from the workers in a particular entity. So today managers are democratically elected.

Two years of perestroika, the Soviet economy has shown signs of growth. Since 1986 the gross national product has grown by 8%. 1.1 million flats have been built to house 22 million people. The average monthly pay has increased by 5.9%. Though self-efficiency is still far from being achieved,



Moscow: Soviet leaders attending the 19th Conference of the CPSU

the annual grain output has augmented by 17%, meat by 13%, milk and eggs by 9%.

The Soviet leadership says that most of the changes envisaged by Gorbachev cannot succeed without openness. This therefore calls for debate and the assessment of the past era.

Radical structural changes in the political system are also taking place. Several proposals were tabled at the conference. The first is that the functions of both the state and the Party should be separated according to how Lenin envisaged the communist state. The Party should remain the political vanguard of society and the Soviet state, an instrument of government by the people. The executive President should be elected by the Supreme Soviet to which he should be answerable.

The People's Congress would be increased from the current 1 500 Deputies to

2 250. A Supreme Soviet (Parliament) would be composed of 450 members elected from the Congress. Nearly 5 000 delegates from all over the Soviet Union represent the Party.

Not everyone is a party member of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union. But most of the people are members of one organisation or another. Though the question of perestroika has taken root in the society as a whole, it still threatens the old guard. Gorbachev summed it up very aptly, "What we need are qualitative changes in our development and that calls for cardinal solutions and vigorous and imaginative action. We are facing many intricate questions but which one of them is the crucial one?"

It will be interesting to find out whether the light Gorbachev sees at the end of the tunnel is seen by every Soviet citizen, not only for the Soviet Union, but largely the rest of the world. □

Palestine: Arab Summit — a battle of Algiers and Pledge of a National Home

The children of stones" scored a resounding victory when leaders of the Arab world threw their weight behind the half-year-old uprising and reaffirmed the right of the Palestinian people to independent statehood under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as their sole legitimate representative.

The children who throw stones in Palestine say "we will fight on", a jubilant Yasser Arafat told reporters at the end of a three-day extraordinary Arab Summit convened in Algiers to discuss ways and means of sup-

porting the Palestinian revolt against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"It's a victory for our people inside... It shows the Arab world stands behind the Palestinian uprising", the Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman said.

US Peace Proposals Rejected

The final communique endorsed by all 21 Arab League members effectively rejected US Secretary of State George Shultz peace proposals by demanding Palestine Libera-

tion Organisation participation in a proposed UN sponsored international peace conference on an equal footing with other parties and reaffirming that a Middle East settlement should be based on the principles of the 1982 Fez plan.

These principles included the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian State in the West Bank and Gaza, with East Jerusalem as its capital, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The Shultz plan speaks only of Palestini-

an "legitimate rights" and calls for a ceremonial international conference in which the Palestinians would be represented in a joint delegation with Jordan excluding the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

It envisaged a period of limited self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza pending a decision through negotiations on their final status.

The US Administration has ruled out an independent Palestinian State and will not talk of the Palestine Liberation Organisation unless it "unequivocally" accepts UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which treat the Palestinian problem as one of refugees.

Arafat has said he accepts both resolutions as part of all other UN resolutions relevant to the Arab-Israel dispute and the Palestinian question, i.e. including those which speak of the right of the Palestinians to self-determination.

Pro-Israel Policy Denounced

The Summit denounced Washington's pro-Israeli policy and its hostility towards the Arab nation and Palestinian national rights.

Though the Palestine Liberation Organisation would have undoubtedly preferred Arab rejection of the Shultz plan by name, the condemnation of US policy as well as the clear endorsement of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and independent Palestinian statehood meet the basic demands it put to the summit conferees.

This is in sharp contrast with the resolutions of last November's summit in Amman, which failed to mention an independent Palestinian state.

The Algiers communique called on the UN Security Council to ensure Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories (i.e. the territories occupied in 1967). It also called for a temporary UN mandate in Palestinian territory, i.e. the West Bank and Gaza, to protect its people and allow them to exercise their national rights.

The demand for a temporary UN mandate was made by Arafat in his speech to the conference recently.

Uprising

The Summit hailed the "heroic" Palestinian uprising and pledged to extend all kinds of assistance to enable it to continue until it achieves its goals, but the communique gave no details about the proposed aid.

Similarly, it promised to continue financial aid to the "confrontation states" (Jordan and Syria, in addition to the Palestine Liberation Organisation) without mentioning any figures.

A \$3.5 billion-a-year aid package to confrontation states pledged by oil-rich Arab Gulf countries at the 1978 Baghdad Summit expires this year.

Arafat declined at this press conference



Chairman of the PLO, Yasser Arafat — Authentic Leader of the Palestinians with Comrade R.G. Mugabe

to give a figure for the financial support the Palestine Liberation Organisation had won, but Palestinian sources said a practical step was taken behind the scenes, with a confidential decision to set up a special fund to help sustain the uprising.

Some delegates said the Arab leaders had accepted the Palestine Liberation Organisation paper with few changes, indicating Arafat had obtained satisfaction on the financial front as well.

It was not disclosed either whether all financial aid to sustain the uprising would be channelled through the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Summit sources said it would, but Al-Ra'i alleged that at a meeting on Wednesday between Jordan's King Hussein and Arafat, a "compromise solution" was reached whereby the Palestine Liberation Organisation and International Organisations would cooperate with Jordan to find the appropriate ways to channel aid to the Occupied Territories.

According to the Kuwait daily al-Qabas, a "mini-summit" hosted by Algerian president Chedli Benjedid Thursday decided on the funds to be allocated to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Syria and Jordan, but again no figures were mentioned by the paper.

Gulf States at Mini-Summit

The meeting was attended by the leaders of the oil-rich Gulf states (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar) in addition to Hussein, Arafat and Syrian President Hafez Assad, the paper claimed.

Al-Qabas also said Arafat and Hussein agreed that the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader would visit Amman after the summit and added the two sides would resume coordination of their policies.

Its report, attributed to "very high-level sources," is significant since the Kuwaiti daily, which is well-informed on Jordanian

affairs, had dwelt at length on Jordanian-Palestine Liberation Organisation differences before the summit.

On Friday, it was confident that Amman and the Palestine Liberation Organisation would bury enough of their differences to ensure both Palestinian and Jordanian interests, indicating King Hussein was no longer talking of severing links with the West Bank.

In the same report by its editor-in-chief Mohammad al-Sakr, al-Qabas said Arab leaders had come under "heavy American pressure" to accept the Shultz plan and had also received several Soviet messages urging them to take a joint stand on the proposed international peace conference.

Sakr argued that even though it was premature to predict the kind of Arab cooperation that would follow the summit, there was no doubt that the uprising had "imposed itself on the Arab political map" and strengthened the hand of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Gulf

Although the summit was called by Algeria to discuss the uprising, a large section of the final communique was devoted to the condemnation of Iran for rejecting peace initiatives to end the Gulf war and for the "terrorism it practices against Arab Gulf states." This was seen as a victory for Iraq and its conservative allies such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Libya

The statement, which was read by Arab League Secretary-General Chedli Klibi, condemned US "aggression" against Libya — an apparent reference to 1986 American air raids on the North African country.

Libyan leader Col. Moammar Qadhafi was delighted, saying it was the first time an Arab summit had roundly condemned US policy. □



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Jesse Jackson a Formidable Force in US Politics

The Black civil rights campaigner-cum-politician — Jesse Jackson who started his bid for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination in 1984 was most likely to end up as running mate to Michael Dukakis, who clinched the Democratic Party nomination, in the United States Presidential elections.

Although Jackson had expressed his interest in the Vice-Presidency should the Democratic Party win the elections, Michael Dukakis has already chosen a white compatriot, Texas Senator-Lloyd Bentsen. However Jackson is widely seen as the one to play a balancing role in the democratic Party and indeed US politics.

"His folks arrived in an immigrant ship and my folks arrived in a slave ship" said Jackson of Dukakis and his role as a power broker. Jackson who used to head the Chicago-based organisations PUSH-People United to Save Humanity is also an associate of the assassinated civil rights campaigner Rev. Martin Luther King.

In 1984, Jackson became the first Black to mount a serious campaign for the



The President, Comrade Mugabe and the Rev. Jackson inspect the debris/rubbies of the ANC house bombed by the racist South African agents. — Ashdown Park, Harare

Presidency winning two democratic primaries. In the same year he battled the opposition of white racism, and prominent black politicians, among them Atlanta Mayor, Andrew Young and Chicago Mayor, Harold Washington who thought he was still politically immature to be United States President.

However, his bid for the Presidency in 1988 has not been without much hurdles. It has been difficult.

In the 1988 campaign Jesse Jackson widened his cross-section of voters and sought to form what he called the "Rainbow Coalition" of Blacks Hispanics, urban liberals farmers, the unemployed and the working poor, single mothers — all those he felt had suffered oppression of "economic violence" similar to that experienced by Blacks. Jesse Jackson's base for support had doubled between 1984 and 1988 from between 10 per cent to about 20 per cent. Political analysts believe that the Jackson Coalition could become a majority coalition by the turn of the century as long as his base broadens. □

TALKING POINT

The Value and Role of the Print Media

By Comrade Charles Chikerema

The written word I am sure we can all agree, unless it is rubbed off or otherwise disturbed is an indelible mark not only upon the minds of people who may come across it but also upon the object, material or paper it is printed on. The written or printed word then because of its permanents and as a ready source of reference is of lasting influence. Maybe it is for this reason that wise minds have thought of and regard the pen as being mightier than the sword. In physical terms, there is of course no comparison between a sword and a pen. A sword is heavier and if anyone took it into their heads to test the saying literally and went into a tournament or combat with a ballpen as weapon against opponents wielding swords, the results would of course be disastrous for the one with a ballpen as a weapon.

What I mean is that the wise thought that the pen is mightier than the sword, is a figure of speech, denoting what the pen can

produce in the form of the written or printed word, and its power and influence upon the minds of human beings at every stage of their social development.

Where the sword might destroy civilisations the pen builds up civilisations and by putting down on paper ideas and new ways of thinking, which human beings put into practice in their daily lives, ideas which guide man's way of thinking and behaviour, the pen thus becomes mightier than the sword because it wields the power, through men's ideas and attitudes towards life to lay down the conditions when and where the sword may be used or may not be used. It is in this way and because of this that the pen becomes mightier than the sword. Because of the pen's ability to write down and explain where the sword has been used for purposes of aggression or defence, the pen has given man a framework of ideas that govern our conduct in life and towards other human beings.

Once the ideas or way of thinking that the pen puts down or which the printing machine produces, once these ideas catch on, and the people become convinced of the correctness of those ideas and decide that they should be guided in their daily lives by those ideas then the ideas become a material force mightier than the sword, mightier than armies because they move people into action in one way or another.

Power of Knowledge

Ideas about life, about development, human behaviour and convictions are not ready made. They are not born with us. They are implanted into our minds through experience in life. That is why our elders have said *Kuziva ambuya or amai huudzwa*. Unless you are told who your mother or father is, and how to behave towards them, no child can know at birth the facts of life. This is what demonstrates the power of knowledge and knowledge is obtained through learning. It is acquired in the realities of life, it is ac-

quired orally or through reading. Isolation and lack of exposure inhibit development. And this is how societies have developed from one stage to another. There are things we take for granted today, such as the sun or the moon and the roles they play in our lives. Yet it was not always that way. Today we believe that the world is round and that there is life after death. Yet there were times in the history of man when it was a crime punishable by death to harbour the notion that there was an entity called god with more powers than earthly kings. What I am trying to say is that even the most popular ideas of today had to go through fire and brimstone in order to succeed and be taken as they are in our times. Like I said earlier on even in those countries that today regard themselves as the custodians of the values of human freedom such as the freedom of the press and so forth, people were burnt at the stake for daring to affirm the existence of a god who presided over an everlasting kingdom. And when later on in history the powers that be believed it to be in their interests to sponsor and support the existence of a God they killed and persecuted those who thought otherwise.

But due to struggle and ideas written or printed which represented progress and the interests of the people, all those social forces that tried to hold back progress and development, failed and as a result millions of people throughout the world enjoy various freedoms and rights, have freedom of thought and expression which they did not have before. People use and should use these freedom to develop and to improve their lives, their environment, their status in society and their communities.

And this is how human life has progressed throughout the ages guided, moulded and governed by a body of information or a network of intelligence and knowledge in written print or oral form, gathered, processed and placed at the disposal of society or community.

Disseminators of News

And this is where we come in as journalists, as gatherers of information or information officers, as disseminators of news charged with the task of gathering, reporting and of checking the accuracy of information, processing it and finally having it printed as news and as knowledge for our communities and the people at large.

It is only the times and social conditions that have altered to which we are having to adjust ourselves in order to march with the times and be competent and relevant. Otherwise our profession is as old as societies and in many cases its norms and ethics have remained the same. Before the printed word came into being the oral word was used to pass information within the family circle, from one individual to another, from one community to another as even from one country to another.

Signs etched on stones and trees, the tying of a note or indications by sticks or stones were all forms of informing people

about the nature of life in a given environment. And as is still required in the journalism of today even that kind of old journalism and information, in oral form or signs was principally required to be accurate and as swift as possible. The lives and security of individuals and whole communities depended on the nature of information and knowledge they were able to gather and that which was passed on to them.

If in a given locality the wrong kind of information was given in sign or any other form, this was disadvantageous to the traveller or the hunter. They would die of thirst or they would be victims of animals of prey. The talking drum passed information from village to village summoning elders and peoples to a gathering at the chief's place.

We do the same today when we publish in the press or when we broadcast that there will be a political or any other kind of rally to be addressed by so and so at a given place.

Freedom of Press

Those who talk so much today of the freedom of the press as if it were a philosophy which they alone invented out of the goodness of their hearts, should be reminded that even we too in our own ways and at our levels or development upheld the principles of freedom of information gathering of information gathering and passing it on. It is for this reason that there is a saying among our people that "mutumwa haana mbonje". This was meant to protect the gatherer of news. This does not mean to say he or she did not get into trouble just because the principle was there. There were capricious authorities, individuals and communities that roughed up those they considered to have brought or were disseminating what they considered to be bad news. Even to this day journalists and writers still get into trouble for writing and publishing what may ruffle the feathers of the powers that be.

But if the profession of journalism is in many cases a risky one, it is all due to the power and influence that information wields in society.

Yet for the news media or the printed news to be useful for the people it depends on its purpose and objective. And the nature of its purpose and objectives depend on who owns it.

Before independence all the news media on radio, printed or televised form was owned by and used to further the aims and objectives of the colonialists. They aimed at keeping the African stupid and unsure of himself or herself. The media highlighted the superiority of settler culture and values. Whether they liked it or not the journalists, then irrespective of the colour of their skins were obliged in many ways to slant their news to suit the desires of the colonial order. The country-side was isolated from urban life and development programmes, and was solely used as a source of cheap labour for the colonial industries in the same manner the entire country and its labour force

were subjected to the interests of the colonising power and its values.

Even if a country is politically independent if its economy succumbs to neo-colonialism the news media depending on who own them in whatever form will be forced to promote value judgements inherent in the neo-colonialist social order. Under neo-colonialism, development programmes are dependent on multinationals whose principal objectives are to achieve, the status of mini states within a state to the detriment of overall independent development programmes that seek to end the imbalance between the country and town. Under such conditions the press in whatever form falls into captivity. It is forced to extol fictitious advantages of dependency and fails to play the role of organising, informing and awakening the consciousness of the people to strive for self reliance and economic independence.

Now what is the nature of the Zimbabwean news media? What role does it play or should it play in our society?

Struggle Against Capitalism

Although the economy of the country is still under control of the private sector and therefore predominantly capitalist, the country has opted to struggle against capitalism. The outcome of this struggle will determine the nature of the press and the role it should play in our society.

As the struggle is still unfolding in this period of transition, ours is also a press undergoing a period of intense struggle between the forces advocating progressive social transformation and those working for neo-colonial subjugation.

We have said before that neo-colonialism just as colonialism before it neglects the country side whereas a country struggling for socialist transformation such as Zimbabwe strives to bring development to the country side. In this connection the role of the information officers as journalists in the provinces is to bring the country side — the rural areas to the towns by highlighting its problems and identifying targets for development.

Now that the mass media trust has embarked on a programme to establish rural newspapers when this programme is completed it should constitute a real revolution in the print media in which the role of the Zimbabwe Information Services, that of information officers and journalism in the provinces and rural areas in general will be vital and decisive in the two pronged approach of bringing news of towns to the countryside and that of the countryside to the towns.

Unlike other countries where people have a tendency to look down upon country life, Zimbabwe is unique in that our people love rural life. This is a fact which is demonstrated at every holiday when our rural transport system barely copes with crowds of commuters to the countryside.

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So already there exists the psychological and subjective disposition on the part of our people in favour of a long term rural development programme to transform our rural landscape. In this process our print media and its orientation should play a leading role under the direction of politically conscious information officers. These are those in the profession of journalism who either out of naivety or out of a desire to confuse others and to keep them ignorant advocate the views that all politics and ideology should be kept out of journalism and that journalists should only deal as they put it "with facts as they are."

This of course as I have said earlier on is naive.

It was one of the founding fathers of the OAU Dr Kwame Nkrumah who said, 25 years ago "Just as the capitalist press serves the interests of capitalism, the African press should serve the interests of the African revolution."

This revolution is to strive for egalitarian societies in which a country should not have a few wealthy individuals whatever the colour of their skin dominating and subjugat-

ing millions of others, deliberately kept in poverty.

Even if we were to agree with those who say journalists must only deal with the facts and live out politics!

The question would have to arise? What are the realities and what are these facts about our lives. We would have to answer if we are truthful that our lives are governed by under-development out of which we must extricate ourselves mainly through our own efforts. This answer would bring us smack Dab or squarely into politics because in many cases our under-development was not self induced but brought about by the colonial systems which enriched foreign powers and financial houses.

Corruption in Higher Places

Since independence the press was liberated in Zimbabwe to deal with all these issues. All the newspapers owned by the Mass Media Trust under-went a dramatic reorientation abandoning the South African connection which for years had sought to extol the myths of white supremacy inducing inferi-

ority complexes in us from which we still suffer as a people. With the press thus liberated it is up to journalists in the rural or urban areas to use their skills for development. There are those who say that the press is not liberated enough and that it should be used to expose corruption in higher places more than is being done at the moment. I will say alright, let all that be done and in many cases it is being done. But at the same time I will say that above everything else let those who corrupt our African leaders also be exposed. Because it is they who give billions to some leaders to divert them from patriotic causes and to weaken and destroy their resolve to fight for the complete emancipation of their people.

It is often said people like reading about themselves, about their communities and about the things that affect them most yet the extent to which our print media will satisfy these aspirations is being threatened by the advertiser. So long as the profit motive is dominant and it cannot be otherwise during this period of transition it will be difficult to use our newspapers for purposes of mobilising and educating our people for development. □

GDR and FRG on European Security

The GDR's leading party, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), and the FRG Social Democratic Opposition Party (SPD) released on Thursday joint proposals for a zone of confidence and security in Central Europe.

Explaining them at a well-attended news conference here, senior officials of the two parties, Hermann Axen and Egon Bahr, said they had been approved by the SED Politbureau and SPD Presidium. All states participating in the conference on security and cooperation in Europe (CSCE) are urged to further reduce their armed forces' participation in military exercises and to stop holding manoeuvres in areas 50 km either side of the dividing line between the two military alliances.

It is also recommended that the naval and air exercises be included in prior notification and that observers be invited to all exercises.

Manoeuvres involving more than 20 000 soldiers should be announced two years in advance and those involving over 40 000 discontinued, the proposals say.

Centres to promote confidence-building should be set up in all Central European

states and permanent mixed observer posts established at strategically important points. The parties also propose joint European satellite surveillance and the installation of "hot lines". The SED and SPD already submitted proposals for a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Europe, which have attracted worldwide interest.

Last year, the two parties signed a joint document on "conflicting ideologies and common security", which said that despite ideological differences every effort had to be made to safeguard peace and boost disarmament.

The Government of the German Democratic Republic is prepared, in line with the joint proposal of the SED and the SPD on a "zone of confidence and security in Central Europe", to enter immediately into negotiations with the governments of states in that region with a view to implementing that proposal, as GDR Foreign Ministry spokesman Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer stated on Friday before the press in Berlin. After the entry into force of the INF Treaty and the beginning of nuclear disarmament the underlying motive of this initiative was to ensure that there be no lull in and not even a slackening of the disarmament process, the spokesman underlined.

Ambassador Meyer pointed to the statement by Erich Honecker at the international meeting for nuclear-weapon-free zones in Berlin, i.e. that it is in Central Europe where the sensitive divide between the most powerful military coalitions of our time runs and that here a terrifying potential of weapons of mass destruction has been accumulated. The spokesman further noted that the initiative was highly confidence-building and, therefore, a significant link-up to further disarmament measures.

Creating in Central Europe a zone of confidence and security posed no threat to anyone, nor would it put anyone at a disadvantage. On the contrary: such a zone would meet the legitimate security interests of all sides, the spokesman underscored.

The proposal was a potential intermediate step on the road towards a nuclear-weapon-free corridor in Central Europe. At the same time, it underpinned and promoted such major disarmament initiatives as the Jaruzelski plan for the reduction of armaments and the enhancement of confidence in Central Europe as well as the Jakes plan for the creation of a zone of confidence along the dividing line between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO, Ambassador Meyer added. □

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Toxic Waste Dumping in Africa — A Concern for Consumers

By Zeph Taruvinga

National Consumer Organisations in Africa are now up in arms against the dumping of toxic wastes in the continent and it was "toxic imperialism" that was the dominant subject for discussion at the recent conference held in Nairobi, Kenya in June.

Delegates to the Conference, "Consumers in Africa Meeting the Challenge" expressed concern on the developed countries' tragic act of treating Africa as a dumping ground. This Conference, convened by the International Organisation of Consumers Union (IOCU), was specially held in Kenya to bring the international world's attention on the gravity of the situation, climaxed by the recent discovery of toxic waste dumping in Nigeria.

Most applaudable significance of the Conference is the awareness and affirming of consumers in Africa, to stand up on their rights and challenge the developed world for dumping into the continent, products whose consumption has been banned, withdrawn and severely restricted. As consumer, Africa has given an emphatic objection to being treated as a consumer of all that the developed world has regurgitated and neither does it want to be treated as a landfill for all toxic wastes. Through the IOCU, the umbrella body of all national consumer organisations, Africa aired its views on this global debate on the inhumane and indiscriminate dumping of hazardous and toxic industrial waste.

Describing how serious the problem of toxic dumping in Nigeria is, the president of Consumer Education and Protection Council of Nigeria, Chief Solomon A Durojaiye, said "it is a wicked and criminal act to be condemned by civilised people all over the world." He said Nigeria is a peace loving country and is recovering from the aura of oppression and civil wars, and so it is regrettable that it has been used as the first dumping ground for Europe's toxic and nuclear wastes in the guise of exportation of commodities.

Africa is already suffering more than enough under the yoke of IMF and the World Bank conditionalities, for debts taken and which they will never be able to pay. Exposing it to toxic and nuclear wastes will be adding more insult to injury. Comrade Durojaiye said the dumping lies in monetary attraction and soon this will be used as a precondition for lending money. Delegates, therefore, forwarded the responsibility to the IOCU to "stoutly and loudly condemn this distasteful act of intent to kill consumers in Africa on their own soil". Not

only will it kill consumers but is a hazard to the environment as well.

The developed world has taken advantage of Africa's inadequate national legislation that govern the import and export of certain commodities. They have capitalised on this laxity and so have engaged in this international 'trade' or trafficking of hazardous wastes uninhibited in Africa.

Africa then calls for more emphasis on the right for information and to be given all necessary information concerning toxic and dangerous products and wastes. There is also need for the continent to reinforce individual countries' capacity and ability to detect and halt any illegal attempt to introduce toxic and hazardous wastes into the territory or any state, in contravention of national legislation and relevant international legal instruments.

The delegates, through the IOCU, called upon responsible bodies as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) to assist in the prevention and control of the potentially harmful effects of traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes.

To put the public on the lime-light on what a toxic waste is, there is no single universally accepted definition of hazardous wastes and it may vary from one country to another.

Generally speaking, however, a waste can be considered hazardous if it meets with one or more of the following criteria according to the Consumer Interpol Memo No. 2/88 (45)b of 25th February 1988:

- i) Ignitability: wastes that pose a fire hazard during the routine management. Fires not only present immediate dangers of heat and smoke but also spread harmful particles over wide areas.
- ii) Corrosivity: wastes requiring special containers or segregation from other wastes because of their ability to dissolve toxic contaminants.
- iii) Reactivity: wastes that tend to react spontaneously, to react vigorously with air or water, to be unstable to shock or heat, to generate gases or to explode.
- iv) Toxicity: wastes that, when improperly managed, may release toxicants in sufficient quantities to pose a substantial hazard to human health or the environment.
- v) Incineration.

All these wastes are a result of economic activities and wastes has always been an integral component of human activities — but

why is there so much concern. This is solely because of the misplacement and ill-treatment of these wastes.

The disposal of toxic wastes is not a new story — perhaps to Africa — but in developed countries, it accelerated during the past two decades.

The incidents at Love Canal, USA where large families near the area of Niagara falls were evacuated in 1978 was a result of the disposal of toxic chemical wastes due to residues buried in the area some 25 years earlier. This, together with the tragedy of Bhopal in India where 20 000 people died after the explosion of a chemical plant resulting in poisonous gas spill, and the destruction of aquatic life in the Rhine in Switzerland due to refuse disposal in the valley, triggered off the establishment of hazardous wastes management and industrial safety as priority concerns in both developed and developing countries. But Third World countries have been lagging behind in establishing these structures, a defect which developed countries capitalised and trafficked all the toxic waste uninhibited.

Disposal of toxic wastes has been a perennial problem for the developed countries because all landfills have been depleted and areal expansion of residential and urban centres due to population increases has consumed all possible areas where the waste can be disposed off. They had resorted to dumping and incineration at sea, rivers and other water resources but UNEP brought it to an end after it had caused excessive destruction of aquatic life.

What the developed world does not know is that even in Africa, landfills are closing. Africa lives off the land and so the land has better priorities to accommodate. Its waters are even inadequate for the much needed irrigation and as a source of power.

Incineration as a solution is out for certain because evidence has shown that highly toxic dioxins are created as byproducts during the process.

Why should Africa always be on the receiving end? One congressional representative said in 1983 when they were discussing possible solutions for safe disposal of waste in USA, "Like water running downhill, hazardous wastes invariably will be disposed off along the path of least resistance and less expense. Conditions are ripe for finding 'safe havens' for hazardous wastes around the globe."

The 'safe havens' he referred to was the

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Third World (Africa) — but was it safe after all and if so, whose safety was he referring to? How can transshipment of toxic waste to Africa be revered as a safety measure and also deemed as a 'solution' when they are merely transferring the problem to countries which even have meagre means of treating and thus prevent or mitigate adverse health and environmental impacts?

The ash, including lead, cadmium, and benzene, are among the harmful materials

reportedly difficult to treat once disposed off.

Panama is currently faced by the problem of 660 000 tons of toxic ash destined for the island from Philadelphia. The tons are apparently for one road bed project alone.

What makes this deal a major concern is because the area for the road is a wetland district with extensive mangrove forests — a critical ecological link as breeding grounds

for all types of marine life. Secondly, the area is one of the most important breeding grounds for the white shrimp, which is Panama's chief food export. All these will be endangered once the ash is deposited.

Perhaps one possible solution could be that there should not be any export of hazardous wastes until and unless it can be shown that the receiving country possesses the disposal, treatment and monitoring system. □

Art Should Play a More Significant Role in Education

By Gil Scot Heron



Art by 5 year-old Sebastian Seanell of Mt. Pleasant Nursery

The history of a people is very closely linked with that of its art. From the ancient civilization such as the Sumerians, the Egyptians, the Greeks, the Romans and indeed the Africans to the Nineteenth Century neo-classical and the twentieth century modernism one can gather a lot of information on various ways of life, dress, housing, thought and the general intent of the Cultures, History and scientific concepts. Modern African Art is a mirror of these very same topics. Here in Zimbabwe the artists, especially the young, have a preoccupation of drawing soldiers, the President in a motorcade or at a Rally, themselves at play, Fathers, Mothers and things dear to them. Whatever the good intention of these works, they are, however, persistently beleaguered by gross, technical problems. Walking through the currently running children's annual exhibition will give the viewer an idea of this problem's gravity. The multi-racial schools perform better than the predominantly black rural counterpart. Here is a crisis which can no longer be ignored. This article is intended

to show its nature and suggest effective ways of combating the art illiteracy.

Obviously the problem is educational, as opposed to one of intellect or the lack of ideas on the part of the school child and the general public. The multiracial schools traditionally have rightly considered art an important subject. In every one of them is a teacher specifically for art with studio facilities whereas the rural school teacher is a jack of all trades who most probably is not aware of the importance of art in the teaching of other subjects. How many crippled maps of Zimbabwe or Africa does the geography or history examiner have to put up with?

The answer lies in Art. Yet the irony is that all and sundry feel Art as a subject in its own right is a waste of time. Some headmasters have been known to stifle and frustrate well meaning teachers. The writing is on the wall. Furthermore the quality of art teachers being produced by our colleges leave a lot to be desired. This is due to the fact that many if not all the student teachers are only introduced to art at college without any previous formal encounter for example 'O' level art. Seke Teacher's College brought in their students to see the schools exhibition and they openly admitted that their own work was not as good as work produced by some 14 — 15 year olds, let alone by older groups. Admittedly this is no fault of their own but this is a sign that all is not well in the schools and the situation certainly calls for remedy. These young men and women are going into the schools with paper qualifications which in themselves are probably of no more worth than the paper they are drawn upon. The result is the inevitable poor entries from schools especially the high density and rural schools. The full statistics are astonishing yet it is known that there is so much untapped talent in our same schools.

A talk with Paul Wade the instructor at BAT Workshop revealed that less than a quarter of BAT graduates continue to make

art either free lance or by absorption into the advertizing industry. The rest are forced into industrial menial jobs or back to the rural areas to become farmers yet in any opinion, these young men and women are top class artists, by any standards, and could function profitably for the art Movement given the right incentive and support. They have proved themselves by making it into the prestigious Nedlaw Baringa Exhibition, the show case of contemporary Zimbabwean Art. Some have been selected for scholarships abroad and their teaching ability cannot be ignored, a good example being Joseph Mzondo at ZIMFEP in Bulawayo and others at Jongwe Printers. Some rules have made it impossible for some to work in our primary schools let alone in the secondary schools. One has to have a teacher's certificate, and to enter college one has to have five 'O' levels including Maths and English which most BAT students do not have, despite the fact that they arguably have a better training and understanding than the college lecturers and students. Now, is the nation looking for teachers who have excellent command of English etc. or is it looking for people who will get on with the job, that is teaching art effectively?

On these grounds the following suggestions should be considered. The Ministry of Education should be made aware of the existence of BAT Workshop and its worthy artists if they are not at all already aware. Secondly, way must be found of entrenching these artists into the Education System of which there are various ways. The students' syllabus could be made in such a way that, after their term at the workshop, they would also have teachers certificates bearing in mind their educational short comings. They could on the other hand go through BAT for the duration of the course and then either spend another year at teacher's college and in time arrive at certificates or take part time lectures with the college. If all quarters concerned understand the dire need for meaningful art education, then a more radical solution would be to give these gradu-



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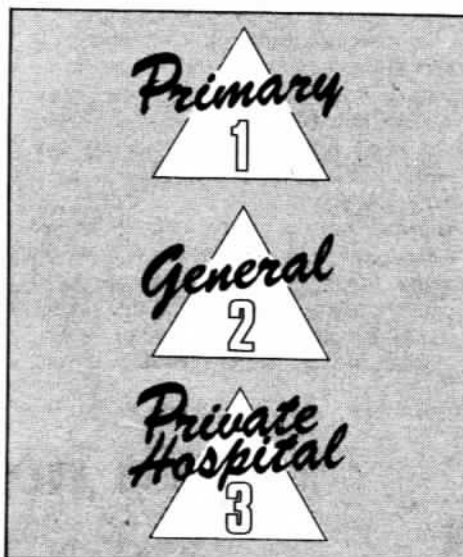
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Blueprint for a healthy Zimbabwe.



Art by 18 year-old Anna Pearch of ILSA College

ates a crash course and release them into various schools with all the benefits of a trained teacher. In the meantime ways would be under scrutiny to upgrade the next batches of BAT students.

In this way the teacher trainees at Seke and Hillside would benefit from a placement at such places as BAT and Mzilikazi because here art is made as art, in a dedicated way and participants could gain invaluable experience in the life room, the facility for the many processes of making art.

By now the reader must be wondering why this sudden fuss on the Arts, a useless subject in life? On the contrary, art is not useless, but the summary of the life experience of a given society as seen and expressed through the eyes of a given member who happens to be the artist. It is acknowledged in the modern world that our condition of existence today has a direct connection with High Renaissance Art and thinking. It is the author's opinion that the future of this country lies with that of the Arts in terms of cultural and even scientific ad-

vancement, hence serious attention must be paid to this relationship through concerted education in the arts. Some of us have had the benefit of such an education, yet in the beginning there was nothing but a void and to gain recognition was and still is an uphill struggle. Many found it impossible to go on, some found a niche but of economic necessity they have to dance to the tune. All this would have been naught if artistic talent was nursed from the cradle enabling it to attain fruition and advancement at an early age.

It is also a great pity that the practicing artists of this country seem to work for something else other than the people. One is greeted with profound silence in a classroom on the mention of the name of a "top" sculptor or painter. To which culture do these people belong? Zimbabwean culture is based on the child, the inheritor of tomorrow, so the artists must work toward this time honoured code of conduct.

Now is the time to put things right. Art studios must be built now, because whom ever the nation's well being concerns will live to regret this error in their old age.

It goes without saying that if a tight and better organized art policy were implemented at grassroots the country in the long run will stand to benefit because it will be producing the finest of artists, designers and craft persons.

The revolution should not be televised or be speechified, it should be live. □



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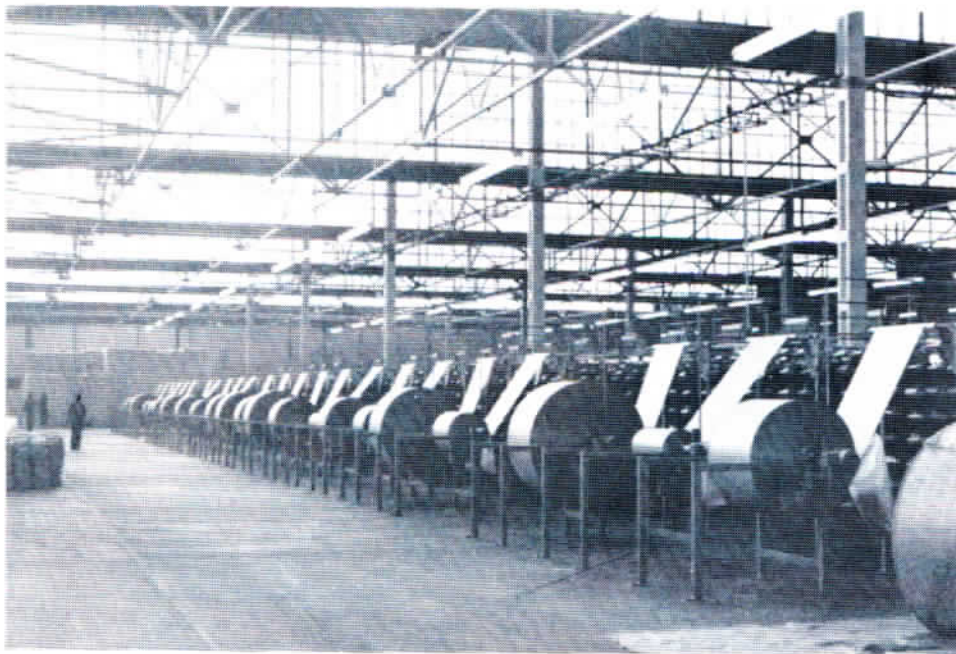
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