



Zimbabwe News

Official Organ of ZANU(PF)

Department of Information and Publicity, 14 Austin Road, Workington, Harare
Volume 20 No. 5, May, 1989, Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

70c (incl. sales tax)



● **THE WORKER
IS THE KEY
TO OUR
DEVELOPMENT**



**“... We have achieved significant strides in
important areas ...” President**



Leyland (Zimbabwe) Limited



*Suppliers of Comet Trucks, Parts
and Service*

**Leyland (Zimbabwe) Limited
Watts Road
Southerton**

**Phone: 67861
Telex: 26387 ZW**

Zimofa Newsletter Launched

The launching of the first newsletter of ZIMOFA is a very important occasion — an occasion which creates a communication facility between ZIMOFA and its membership as well as an information exchange between the peoples of Mozambique and Zimbabwe and with the rest of the world. *page 10*

Foreign Films in Africa: Problems and Opinions

Over the past few years African public has been increasingly concerned about the large-scale influx of cheap Western TV and Cinema productions into the continent. *page 27*

For The Development of Agriculture in African Countries

I would like first to express my thanks to you for your great efforts to successfully wind up the Symposium of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production.

Today I have invited you to discuss a few matters arising in developing agriculture in the countries of Eastern and Western Africa. *page 30*

To Be a Student in Bulgaria

If you want to be a university student in Bulgaria you must pass an entrance exam. For most specialisations this means you must compete with several candidates and for the most prestigious studies even with ten or fifteen. Prestige in this case is a rather dynamic notion: in the 1950s and 1960s for instance medical sciences, law and technical subjects were considered the most prestigious. Since the early seventies anything that has to do with electronics has come into vogue. Today there is a drop in interest in technical institutions. This year many of them will admit students on the basis ... *page 36*

CONTENTS

Editorial	2
Letters	2
Celebrations for the Installation of the Executive President 18/2/89	3
President Speaks on Independence Day	6
Drought Relief Seminar: Water Resources Development in Masvingo Province	9
Mozambique forms ZIMOFA Counterpart	10
ZIMOFA Newsletter Launched	10
Zimbabweans Mobilize for Mozambique	13
Progress on Beira Corridor	14
Vital Road Links Repaired	14
The Aids Awareness Campaign	15
Chakari Leads the Way	15
Talking Point: Developing Countries' Debt Problem: The Nature, Causes, Impact and Solutions to the External Debt Problem	16
Namibia — the last Colony in Africa	17
Consumers Up in Arms against Controversial Safety of Foods	19
Profile of a Political Artist	20
Foreign Films in Africa: Problems and Opinions	27
For the Development of Agriculture in African Countries	30
International: To be a Student in Bulgaria	36
South African Aggression costs Frontline States Billions	37
Commonwealth in Support of Namibian Independence	38
NAM Communique	38
Fifty years since the Great Antiwar and Antifascist Demonstration in the Romanian Capital (1 May 1939)	39
Obituary: Maurice Nyagumbo — A Hero of the Zimbabwean Liberation Struggle Dies	40

South African Aggression Costs Frontline States Billions

South African Aggression has cost the Frontline States a minimum of US\$35 billion, the Southern Africa Research and Documentation Centre news release has said. *page 37*

Consumers Up in Arms Against Controversial Safety of Foods

The controversy over the safety of foods treated by irradiation still rages on and, to date, is the subject of testing and evaluation and consumers world wide are up in arms against the process. *page 19*



Zimbabwe News is the official News Organ of the Zimbabwe African National Union [ZANU (PF)] and is produced on the authority of the Central Committee by the Department of Information and Publicity, Jongwe Printing and Publishing Co., No. 14 Austin Road, Workington, Harare. World Copyright, Central Committee [ZANU (PF)].

Editorial Council: Cde. N.M. Shumuyarira; Cde. S.S. Mumbengegwi; Cde. C. Ndhlovu; Cde. J. Zvobgo; Cde. K. Batsirayi; Cde. M. Munyati.

Editorial

Workers of Zimbabwe Unite

The one million workers of Zimbabwe should unite and be organised. The workers who belong to organised unions are still few and far between. Consequently, their efforts at bargaining for higher wages and salaries, or at improving working conditions are undermined by the fact that the ZCTU leaders cannot speak for all workers. The ZCTU should join hands with ZANU (PF) to organise all the workers at every factory floor and at every work place. Divisions of any kind between workers only strengthen the hand of the employers and those who own capital.

We are delighted that this year the task of organising May Day rallies has been performed entirely by the ZCTU. In general, they did a good job. The organisation, and its affiliated unions, have now improved their capacity to administer the unions and to mobilise the workers. ZANU (PF) should give full and wholehearted support to the ZCTU and affiliated unions. As a progressive political party that is committed to the advancement of workers and peasants, ZANU (PF) must regard the organisation and mobilisation of the workers as part of its own programme. At present, party organs such as cells and branches, are organised on a residential basis only. We think they should also be organised at the work-place and the factory floor.

The Government has announced that in future the process of determining wages and salaries will be done by free and collective bargaining. That presupposes that the trade unions are strong enough to bargain with the powerful employer organisations, and especially the multi-national corporations. The unions have to prepare their case for higher wages and salaries will, and present it clearly and effectively. It is absolutely essential that the unions elect good, dedicated, and responsible leadership. A good leader is not necessarily one who speaks best, or one who just panders to the wishes of any group of workers who come his way. Rather, he is one who has the qualities of honesty and integrity, a clear understanding of the demands of the national economy, and an unquestionable commitment to the advancement of the labouring classes.

Cost of Living

The ZCTU and ZANU (PF) should join forces in tackling the problems of ever-rising prices. The value of the wages and salaries have been continually eroded by the ever-rising prices. This is a big problem for all of us. Those companies that control the means of production demand higher prices because of the equally continuing rise of the price of in-puts. In other words, we are importing inflation too. This problem cannot be tackled on a piece-meal basis. We need an alternative policy and system for re-organising the entire mode of production. The only viable alternative is a socialist system.

The ZCTU and ZANU (PF) should also join forces in establishing economic projects and organs based on socialist principles. Large scale cooperatives and companies owned and managed by workers, supported by state-run parastatal bodies, can be established to produce most of the basic needs of the national economy. In order to keep prices at reasonable levels in the long run, it is imperative that we establish our own economic institutions, that will use local raw materials for producing the basic goods required by the nation. We have most of the raw materials we need, except oil. We also have a hardworking and disciplined labour force that can produce the goods.

LETTERS

Unwarranted Criticisms

The Editor,

When "Summits are held at an unprecedented and alarming frequency" Masiphula Sithole once wrote, (Zimbabwe Struggles within the Struggle) "super-powers shuttle to the scene of delivery as if to determine the sex of the infant."

The now Political Science Lecturer at UZ was referring to the tense air of speculation that casts its shadow whenever a new turn of events is about to unfold.

In the Zimbabwean context, the tense air situation has been characterised by political malcontents bent on capitalizing on petty issues, albeit free of the political taint, magnifying and using the façade as a bargaining counter for their interests.

I say without fear from any quarter that our present Leadership both at Party and Government level, have veered the boat of nationhood in a commendable way and noone in His/her right mind would dispute this.

No country is without its troubles. Zimbabwe is no exception. However, this is not to say that we do not have incompetent office-bearers in our midst.

But the incompetence of one leader does not warrant the undue criticism and pointing of fingers at the entire Cabinet.

The people should be wary of extremist tendencies as this would result in the hijacking of the Revolution by malcontents geared towards fascist-type adventurism.

Watson Daika
HARARE

Celebrations for the Installation of the Executive President

The Editor,

On behalf of the Provincial Committee set up to organise and oversee the visit to Masvingo Province by His Excellency, The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, The Honourable R.G. Mugabe, on the 18th February, 1989 and the celebrations for Comrade Mugabe's installation as Executive President, I would like to express the Committee's sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Masvingo community at large for your support and participation which accounted for the resounding success that the occasion was.

Special thanks are due to the many individuals and organisations, listed below, who generously contributed towards the occasion in cash and/or kind, those who spared their valuable time to assist on the various organisational activities and to all of you for your attendance and participation.

Cash donations totalling \$26 443.06 were received from which a total of \$22 188.96 was spent on the purchase of foodstuffs, drinks, catering materials, the purchase of gifts and on transport with a resultant cash balance of \$4 254.10. The disbursement of the funds raised was extended to include the province's representation at the 21st February Movement celebrations in Harare and celebrations in the major centres in the province.

Once again, thank you all for your unstinting co-operation and support. It is our hope that the spirit of unity and co-operation demonstrated on this occasion will prevail on future events.

Below is a list of donations contributed by the Masvingo Province for the Celebrations for the Installation of the Executive President 18/2/89

Cash Donations

Donor	Amount \$	Donor	Amount
Aroma Bakery	50,00	Central African Building Society	50,00
Dept of Community Dev. & Women's Affairs	41,44	Founders Building Society	30,00
Enjay Sales (Pvt) Ltd	250,00	Comrade R.L. Gapare	50,00
National Museums & Monuments	50,00	Zimbabwe Banking Corporation Ltd	100,00
Omar Khayyam	150,00	Zimhide (Pvt) Ltd	25,00
Rothmans (Zimbabwe) Ltd	20,00	Comrade P. Zographos	100,00
Victoria Bakery	80,00	Comrade S. Chengeta	100,00
Champion's (Pvt) Ltd	50,00	Chikozho & Sons	100,00
Richards Holdings	50,00	Min. of Education: Primary & Secondary	
N. Richard & Co.	50,00	School staff	9 905,94
Balmain Stores	50,00	Department of National Parks	227,00
Norich Manufacturing (Pvt) Ltd	50,00	Masvingo Brick & Tile Co.	25,00
Min. of Local Government: Provincial		C.I.D. Masvingo	115,00
Administrator	77,03	Provincial Warden, Dept. of National Parks	52,00
Min. of Local Government: Physical Planning	21,00	Department of Natural Resources	40,30
Min. of Local Government: DERUDE	22,00	Department of Co-operative Development	8,00
C.M.E.D.	178,00	Ministry of Trade & Commerce	10,00
Provincial Registry, Min. of Home Affairs	6,55	Comrade A. P. Marima	10,00
ZANU (PF) Province	100,00	Reformed Church in Zimbabwe	50,00
Z.N. Family Planning Council	251,00	Masvingo Teacher's College	116,80
Renco Mine	500,00	District Administrator, Masvingo	107,88
P. Hall & Co.	100,00	Agritex	5,00
Hippo Valley Estates	600,00	Step-in Electrical Services	100,00
Puzey & Payne	100,00	Comrade R. Manjengwa	2,00
Z.R.P. Headquarters	639,00	Hebson Motors, Bulawayo	80,00
Standard Chartered Bank Ltd	50,00	Bulawayo Group	270,00
Comrade A. Maranda	10,00	Mashava District ZANU (PF)	75,75
Redd Barna Zimbabwe	100,00	O.K. Bazaar (Gift Voucher)	500,00
Ministry of Mines	15,00	T.M. Supermarket (Gift Voucher)	500,00
Agritex — Chiredzi	16,00	President of the Senate, The Hon. N.C.	
Agritex — Mwenezi	11,44	Makombe	100,00
Agritex — Province	26,60	Minister E.J.M. Zvobgo	100,00
Ministry of Water Development	13,00	Minister D.M. Mutumbuka	100,00
C.I.O	382,00	Minister S.V. Mubako	100,00
The Bargain Centre	100,00		
Belmont Press	100,00		26 443,06
Min. of Labour, Manpower Planning & Social Welfare	90,00		
Midlands Security Workers	50,00		
Ministry of Health	233,27		
Chiefs	200,00		
Walenn & Sons	360,00		
Duly's (Pvt) Ltd	50,00		
T.M. Supermarket staff	30,00		
Matibi II East ZANU (PF) Mwenezi district	49,00		
Comrade Makalima	10,00		
ARDA PPU & G.T.Z.	200,00		
Zaka District	1 220,00		
Mwenezi District	116,00		
Guni & Guni Legal Practitioners	100,00		
Bikita District	1 840,00		
Redstar Suppliers Workers	28,00		
Chivi District	2 115,11		
Min. of Public Construction & National Housing	46,04		
Agricultural Finance Corporation Staff	11,35		
Batanai District Council, Mwenezi	168,30		
Chiredzi District	1 729,00		
Longman Zimbabwe	100,00		
Fushai Butchery	100,00		
Thomas Meikles Stores	50,00		
Beverly Building Society	30,00		
Dr. P.S. Makurira	50,00		

Donations in Kind

DONORS

Aroma Bakery
Victoria Bakery
Jaggers Wholesalers
Chiefs, Masvingo Province
Headman, Masvingo Province
ARDA PPU & G.T.Z.
Schweppes (Pvt) Ltd.
Masvingo Farm Supplies
Masvingo Churches
Main Wing ZANU (PF)
Senator D.C. Mavhaire
C.F.U.
Jairos Jiri Association
Youth League
Bikita District
Z.N.F.U.

ITEM

30 Dozen Bread
30 Dozen Bread
1 x 50kg Roller Meal
36 head of cattle
47 goats and sheeps
2 Reams bond paper
36 x 2 litres Mazoe Crush
18 x 50kg Roller Meal
1 Wrist Watch
1 Kudu Skin
1 Pig
1 Cock
1 Sculpture of person
1 Map of Zimbabwe
1 Shield
1 Goat

"MEET MY WORKING PARTNER..."



Fairly new in your job are you? You may have started low but you'll be aiming high. You realize, like we do, that it will be a long haul to the top. As you progress in your work, your requirements in financial affairs will alter. We understand this and that is why we'd like to be your partner. Your life-long banking partner. You see, we are a bank with a great heritage and because we've been around a long time we appreciate the need for close, long-lasting relationships with our clients. We want to keep our reputation as a bank that will aid you in your early days and stay with you all the way through life. We are a progressive bank that looks to the future and identifies tomorrow's professionals. We want to be your banking partner in life. We want you to be secure in the knowledge that somebody close is looking after your interests. So, pop in for a chat and discuss your particular situation with your banking partner of the future. Just remember, when you need a bank, Barclays is the name.



BARCLAYS

THE WORLD'S BANK

Barclays Bank of Zimbabwe Ltd Registered Commercial Bank

MICHAEL HOGG **Y&R** 18173.

Rural Councils
 Buffalo Range
 Triangle Limited
 Hippo Valley Estates Ltd.
 Comrade J. Mandaba
 Comrade Diedericks
 Zimbabwe National Army
 District Development Fund
 Mwenezi District
 ARDA
 Nandi Banch
 Comrade Chigudu
 Chibuku Breweries Ltd

Mhunga Bus Company
 Z.O.C.
 P. Hall & Co. (Pvt) Ltd
 Dzivareshungu
 Ajay Motors
 Renco Mine
 Chikozho & Sons
 Kuwirirana
 Cheziya
 Kukura Kurerwa
 Magwizi
 Chiedza
 Mutendi
 Tombs Motors
 Morning Star
 Mandizvidza
 Madyira
 Super Godhlayo
 Manyanga
 Mamvura
 Zvinoira

1 Bull
 5 Impalas
 20 x 50 kg Roller Meal
 10 x 50kg Roller Meal
 Provision of Cold Room
 Provision of Cold Room
 Provision of 3 Big tents
 Provision of water bowsere
 3 Impalas
 2 Bags rice
 10 Impalas and Vegetables
 1 head of cattle
 2 500 litres chibuku beer
Provision of
 4 Buses
 5 Buses
 5 Buses
 1 Bus
 2 Buses
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 4 Buses
 1 Bus
 2 Buses
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 2 Buses
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus

Lennox Mine
 Mashava Mine
 Triangle Limited
 Hippo Valley Estates
 Mkwesine
 B and C
 Mhofu
 Plate Glass Co. Pvt.
 District Development Fund
 Walenn and Son
 Lutheran World Federation
 Red Barna Zimbabwe
 CADEC
 Manda Transport
 C.M.E.D.
 Comrade J. Cummings
 Masvingo Rural Council
 Masimba Import and Export
 Christian Care
 Comrade Chigudu
 P. Nana (Pvt) Ltd
 Comrade J. Mandava
 Ecological Designs (Pvt) Ltd
 National Museums
 Mujurus
 Ministry of Labour
 ZANU (PF)
 Z.N.F. Planning Council
 Ministry of Local Government

1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 2 Buses
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 1 Bus
 20 lorries
 3 lorries
 2 lorries
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 2 lorries
 2 lorries
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 1 lorry
 2 light vehicles
 2 light vehicles
 2 light vehicles
 3 light vehicles

D.C. Mavhaire
 CHAIRMAN, MASVINGO PRESIDENTIAL CELEBRATIONS
 COMMITTEE

7 DAYS FREE STOPOVER

INCLUDES HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN MALTA AND SOFIA

That's right! Stopovers in either direction!

7 days in a fully equipped apartment

in Malta or 2 days half board in a

5 star hotel. FREE!!

Fly the bonus airline

Discover old history, golden beaches,

winter ski resorts and

friendly people.

BALKAN

55 SAMORA MACHEL AVENUE HARARE: PH 729213 TELEX 4203

President Speaks on Independence Day

Address by His Excellency The President, Comrade R. G. Mugabe, on the occasion of the Ninth Anniversary of Independence, at The National Sports Stadium, Harare 18th April, 1989.

*The Honourable Vice President, Comrade Simon Muzenda,
The Honourable President of the Senate,
The Honourable Speaker of the House of Assembly,
Honourable Ministers,
Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Comrades and Friends.*

It is my great honour to address you once again on this historic day marking the ninth birthday of our nation. The past year, 1988, witnessed tremendous progress in the political, economic and social spheres and provides much hope and prospects for 1989. The political hallmark of 1988 was the consolidation of our national unity through the integration of ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU. We are all now set to embark on the next phase of the integration of the two parties which involves the election of the leadership cadres at the various levels of the party structure. This is soon to be followed by the holding of our women's and youth conferences. Later in the year, we shall hold the national party congress from which we will emerge with a new Central Committee that will lead the united ZANU (PF).

The unity, stability and peace which we gained in 1987/1988 are a hard blow against our enemies, particularly the racist apartheid

regime of South Africa. Economic and social development has now returned to all the parts of the Matabeleland and Midlands Provinces which for a long time had suffered grievously from the destructive activities of bandits.

Destabilisation

Zimbabwe, however, continues to be a target of South Africa's acts of espionage, sabotage and destabilisation. That regime's motives are now shrouded under the accusations that we render assistance and refuge to the ANC and PAC liberation movements. As a result, the regime has concentrated troops near our common border, poised to invade Zimbabwe under the camouflage of carrying out pre-emptive attacks against these liberation movements. We have, however, repeatedly stated that whilst we support the liberation movements politically, materially and morally in the context of our Pan-African obligations we do not harbour any military bases on our soil. This remains the position, South Africa's claims to the contrary notwithstanding.

Zimbabwe's border with Mozambique continues to suffer from sporadic cross-border attacks by South Africa-sponsored Renamo bandits. However, increased patrols and other actions by the Zimbabwean Security Forces have tremendously reduced the bandits menace. Despite the constant efforts by the enemy to sabotage

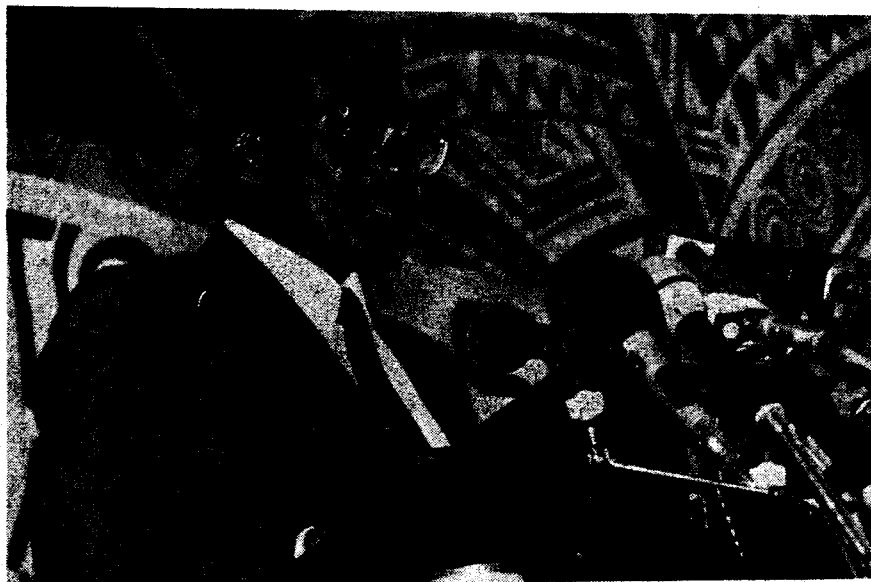
and disrupt our vital trade links through Mozambique, our security efforts in 1988 resulted in a marked decrease in bandit activity, not only on the Beira Corridor, but also along the Limpopo Corridor where our forces are fighting alongside their Mozambican counterparts.

The destabilisation and bandit activities perpetrated in Mozambique have resulted in the displacement of its nationals who have flocked to neighbouring countries including Zimbabwe in search of refuge and assistance. This inflow has placed a heavy burden on both the Government and international relief organisations in providing food, clothing and shelter for these people. Amongst the ranks of these displaced persons have been some Renamo bandits and their collaborators who have been flushed out, apprehended and brought to book.

Our successes against the destabilising activities of the enemy are due to the vigilance of our people, state of readiness as well as commitment and dedication of our state security forces. The sacrifice and endurance of our defence forces in areas of conflict, particularly in the border areas and in Mozambique, have been remarkable. The police force and other security agents have scored numerous victories against saboteurs and other evil doers.

As Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, we have been actively involved in international efforts to find just and peaceful solutions to conflict situations in the various regions of the world. In this regard, we have been encouraged by some positive developments in the Gulf region and in the middle East, where we have given full support to the call for an international peace conference on Palestine. Our position on the Kampuchean question and the continuing conflict situation in Afghanistan, has been equally unequivocal.

Nearer home, we have lent support to all efforts to peacefully resolve the crisis situation in our region. We are cautiously optimistic that given the good-will of all concerned, the tripartite accords signed at New York on 22 December 1988 by South Africa, Angola and Cuba, under American mediation, may bring peace to Angola, and genuine self-determination and freedom to Namibia. We have, however, expressed grave concern and horror at the recent events in Namibia where hundreds of innocent people have been killed by the South



His Excellency, The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Comrade R.G. Mugabe



Attending the 1988 Independence Celebrations in Unity are from left to right: The Vice-President Comrade Simon Muzenda, The President Comrade R.G. Mugabe, The Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture Comrade D. Kwidini and the Senior Minister in the President's Office, Comrade Joshua Nkomo

African occupation army in circumstances in which the United Nations should have been in full control of the situation. As a member of the Frontline States and the Commonwealth and as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Zimbabwe will continue to remind the United Nations of its responsibility over the territory of Namibia until that country is totally decolonised, and the rights of all its citizens are guaranteed.

Our opposition to and abhorrence of the inhuman apartheid system of South Africa continue, as we see no intention on the part of the Government of that country to abandon its unjust system and philosophy. We are, moreover, convinced of the moral justification of the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions as the only way of peacefully persuading the South African rulers to abandon apartheid. We view the apartheid system as the biggest threat to peace in the Southern African region.

Economic Trends

The economic performance in 1988 was in general an improvement on 1987, a trend which we hope will be sustained in 1989. The agricultural season was very favourable and our farming community responded positively to the good climatic conditions, good producer prices and Government support. We did achieve some remarkable output, particularly, in the peasant sector which before Independence had made an insignificant contribution to our production. Of the record maize output of 1.1 million tonnes sold to the GMB, this sector contributed a record 63 percent. In cotton, the sector's contribution was 52 percent. These are but two examples of a generally very favourable trend.

The positive trends in the agricultural sector have not been recognised in Zimbabwe only, but have been applauded by the world at large. The award of the Africa Prize for Leadership for the Sustainable End of Hunger to Zimbabwe in 1988 as a clear recognition of these achievements. It is our sin-

cere hope that our farming community and other sectors will continue to build on our past success and thus maintain our balanced production base that satisfies both internal demand as well as meeting our export requirements.

As a result of the good farming season and the buoyant international commodity prices for both our mineral and agriculture exports in the period under review, the manufactur-



Celebrating Independence

ing sector registered a positive growth rate of between 5 and 6 percent. For the first time since independence, manufactured exports exceeded the \$1 billion mark, an increase of 20 percent over the previous year. The sector achieved a similar level of import savings of just over \$1 billion by increasing the local manufacture of goods which would have been otherwise imported. The manufacturing sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased to slightly above 30 percent emphasising the

strategic role industry is currently playing and will continue to play in the overall development of our economy in future.

These are not the only successes we have made in the past year. There have been many more, in such fields as education, health, transport and the mining sector, which time and space do not allow me to go into in detail here.

However, despite these successes we do have to face up to the fact that some of the major problems confronting us do require equally drastic and urgent solutions. Some of these problems of the economy, in particular, have been of long duration. They and the solutions we propose for them can better be appreciated in the context of the performance of the economy since Independence.

Since 1980, the economy has experienced uneven rates of growth, characterised by, first, the 1980/81 boom period, then recession from 1982-83, and recovery beginning in 1984. Growth slackened again in 1986 and 1987 and then picked up in 1988. Preliminary figures for 1988 indicate a real economic growth rate above 5 percent.

Although figures on the whole indicate a positive real rate of growth for the period between 1980 and 1988, the pattern of growth has been highly unsatisfactory, and, if continued, will hamper Government's objective to steadily improve the standards of living of the country's population. To this

end, Government is committed to creating socio-economic conditions conducive to a sustainable rate of growth, well above the population growth rate.

Given the inherited structure of the economy, we have achieved significant strides in important areas, particularly by rendering available to the majority of our people, various economic and social services. In this respect, the areas which have been targeted have included education, health, rural

development, including communal (peasant) farming facilities.

Economic Problems

The economy, however, is still faced with major problems, which need to be addressed immediately in order to move towards meeting the objectives which we have set ourselves in the First-Five-Year National Development Plan, and to facilitate successful planning for subsequent years. This is so despite policies which have over the years been adopted to address the sources of poor growth performances.

In the forefront of problems facing the economy is the present high levels of unemployment. Particularly disturbing are the numbers of yearly additions to our unemployed labour force, for example illustrated by the number of school leavers every year, expected to reach 300 000 by 1990. There are initiatives in Government, as part of an overall economic policy reform programme, to identify ways of solving the unemployment problem, including other pressing though short-term problems such as transport.

But Government believes that, central to solving the unemployment problem, is the issue of stimulating investment. In the long-term, the achievement of a sustainable rate of economic growth will be dependent on the country's ability to mobilise resources for investment into growth areas.

It is in this context that we decided to embark on a major exercise to review the existing investment regime, with a view to making it more conducive to investors. My Government is aware of the concerns of investors, and the constraints which are presently inhibiting investment. Foremost amongst the constraints of course, is the current shortage of foreign exchange. Government is examining, in the context of an overall macro-economic programme, ways and means of solving the problem of foreign exchange shortage.

Investment Code

But I am pleased to announce that Government has now taken important policy decisions directed towards encouraging investment. These will be made public in detail soon, in a new policy document to replace the existing "Foreign Investment: Policy Guidelines and Procedures". I will, however, outline in summary form the major elements of the policy decisions taken by Government.

In devising policy on investment, Government recognises the interdependence between public investment, local private investment, and foreign investment, local investors are expected to take a leading role in investment, providing the base for economic development. It is further recognised that foreign investment can play an important role in the investment process when making applications for investments. In this context, a decision has been taken to set up an investment centre, which will be the focal point for investment applications by foreign investors.

In time, the Centre will also build up capacity to provide an advisory service to local investors, so as to assist them in developing implementable projects. There will be a public announcement to inform investors as soon as the Centre starts operating.

Although the Centre will initially operate as a Department under the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, it is Government's intention that it will eventually operate as an independent body, when the necessary legal arrangements have been put into place. The setting up of the Centre will greatly speed up the process of investment decision-making.

At present, there are already wide-ranging constitutional and legal provisions which protect property rights and Government is committed to maintaining a legal framework conducive to the operation of both local and foreign investors. We have, in examining existing provisions, taken into account the perceived fears of investors in relation to protection of investment. In this respect, Government has taken a decision to institute arrangements to accede to the Convention of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency. A decision has also been taken

the Senior Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, to examine further incentives which may be needed for particular sectors, such as mining, and to study other countries experiences in relation to incentives offered to special economic zones.

Price Policy

Since independence, my Government's incomes and prices policies have been influenced by our desire to narrow the wide gap in wealth and income distribution characteristic of the pre-independence economic structure and to ensure that ways are found to protect the rural and urban poor from changes in the price structure of basic food stuffs, rents and public transport charges.

Such controls have, however, also contributed to the slow economic growth and high levels of unemployment and Government is conscious of the concerns of investors in relation to constraints imposed on enterprises by the operation of these controls.

Government recognises the need for a more rational and market-oriented method of determining prices and incomes. Salaries and wages are to be determined through



The Positive trend in the agricultural sector

to negotiate bilateral agreements with countries whose nationals are likely to invest in Zimbabwe, and to sign such agreement on the case by case basis if the terms are acceptable to Government. To provide additional confidence to investors, Government has also decided to institute arrangements which will provide for international arbitration in case of disputes.

Government operates an exchange control policy designed to achieve balance between the needs of investors, whilst maintaining a healthy balance of payments position, which is essential to promoting economic growth and creating a healthy economic environment conducive to investors. There are, however, important elements of Exchange Control which Government has reviewed in order to further encourage investment. The new investment policy regime will therefore include, for example, greater flexibility in the divided remittance policy, a more liberal definition of foreign investors, and more flexibility in the utilisation of surplus and blocked funds.

There is a wide range of incentives which exist in the fiscal system. However, Government has made a commitment to mandate

collective bargaining within parameters established by Government. Government would however continue to set minimum wages in these sectors where employer organisations and unions are not yet well organised.

It is also necessary to have flexibility in determining prices for those commodities which are controlled, whilst limiting the range of commodities under direct control by Government.

Against this background, it is my Government's conviction that the country should enter a new phase of sustained growth and development so that the economy responds more adequately to the challenges we face and the aspirations of our people.

We, as the people and Nation of a liberated Zimbabwe, must be prepared, at every stage, to set the developmental pace through our hard work, total commitment to Zimbabwe, upright conduct and disciplined behaviour. The lessons learnt over the last nine years must surely provide us with good experience for the future. Let us move forward together in unity, freedom and hard work! □

Drought Relief Seminar: Water Resources Development in Masvingo Province

By The Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Development

Masvingo Province for the past six years has been experiencing severe drought, with an average precipitation of 471mm per annum for the whole province. This is a very low figure compared with the world's annual average of 800mm, or the country's average of 675mm. (Page 2 shows the annual rainfall figures recorded at four centres in Masvingo Province since 1974/75 rainy season). This year the total average precipitation recorded to date is 415mm for the whole province which without any shadow of doubt is a more severe drought year because we are now nearing the end of the rainy season. As for those patchy areas which have recorded slightly higher falls, the farmers there were faced with the big problem of unreliable falling pattern of the rains such that most of the crops withered and dried up. Most of the rivers and streams are now drying up although we are still within our rainy season. So to sum up, the Province is faced with two major problems of (i) shortage of food and (ii) shortage of water for domestic, livestock, irrigation and commercial purposes both in the communal areas and commercial areas, but the worst affected would be of course the communal areas. A lot of work has been done every year since 1982 by government when the province started experiencing severe effects of drought and the struggle will continue to free the province from this drought menace. This paper will brief on the works completed to date, works in progress, works planned for the years to come and problems being encountered, all by Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Development.

Water Resources Works Completed to Date

These are the dams which are now holding water, the water supply stations and boreholes in the province. The following is the list of major dams in Masvingo Province with their present capacities expressed as percentages of full capacities.

1. Kyle Dam	15.74%
2. Manjirenji Dam	60.18%
3. Manyuchi Dam	
4. Dangala Dam	32.25%
5. Siya Dam	37.71%
6. Mushandike Dam	52.21%
7. Mbindangombe Dam	15%
8. Woodlands Dam	100%
9. Turgwane Dam	100%
10. Nyatari Dam	100%
11. Makonese Dam	
12. Gozho Dam	100%



The struggle will continue to free the province from the drought menace.

The above dams are multi-purpose in that they are serving several of the following purposes effectively:

- Drought Control
- Irrigation Water
- Water for Municipalities and related centres
- Maintaining the normal function of running water in rivers.

In addition there are over fifty small dams in the province. A total of around 2 000 boreholes are listed in our office records, most of which were drilled and equipped with hand pumps under the EEC programme against drought, since 1983. Most of these boreholes are in the problem areas of Chivi District, Mwenezi, Bikita and Chiredzi. These boreholes have been a very effective way of providing safe clean water up to now especially to the communal people, but it should be borne in mind that they would

continue to do so if they are recharged i.e. if heavy rainfall season do occur in between so that more water seeps into the ground.

Dams serve as a very good source of recharging underground water. Hence the province really needs many more dams to recharge the underground water resources. In recent times, we have encountered boreholes which suddenly went dry and could not supply any water and yet it was tested and found to give a yield of 12m³/hr before this happened. On Water Supply Stations, we have eleven stations which treat and purify raw water from rivers and fifty borehole water supply stations. All these stations supply water to district growth points, rural service centres, government institutions and hospital in the province.

Works in Progress

HI Projects. The Ministry is constructing the following dams in Table 1

Name of Dam Project	Capacity/Water Resources Being	Expected Completion Date	Main Water Uses
Generated			
Mushwe Dam	x 10m ⁶ m ³	1990	1. Irrigation 2. Domestic & Industrial Use by Mashaba Mines
Rozva Dam	3.08 x 10 ⁶ m ³	December 1989	1. Nyika Growth Point Water 2. Supply 3. Irrigation
Chingami Dam	360 x 10 ³ m ³	early 1990	1 Neshuro Growth Point Water Supply
Svazva Dam	250 x 10 ³ m ³	early 1980	1 Nemupiri Rural Service Centre Water Supply

J2 Project already complete started in the beginning of the financial year are:

- (i) Basera Water Supply
- (ii) Mabalauta W/S Works
- (iii) Bikita W/S Works
- (iv) Ngundu W/S Works
- (v) Masvosva

The only J2 projects in progress are Buffalo Range Workshops.

(d) **Borehole Drilling**
Borehole drilling and equipping is progress in Tarkwane/Ngundu to resettle the displaced people in Manyuchi Dam. A total of 22 boreholes will be drilled, 17 having been drilled already. Construction of headworks for the boreholes is to start soon, its being delayed by shortage of transport.

Work in progress for the other Ministries and agencies. In addition to the above, the Ministry is doing the following projects:

- (i) Nyangambe Resettlement Water Supply — funded by DERUDE.
- (ii) Dewure RSC Waer Supply — funded by DERUDE.
- (iii) Mushandike Resettlement Water Supply — funded by DERUDE.
- (iv) Chambuta Refugee Camp Water Supply — funded by the Baptist Mission in Zimbabwe.
- (v) Gutu South Resettlement — funded by DERUDE.

Work Planned 1989/90 and 1990/91

In anticipation of this drought, an additional \$300 000 is earmarked for borehole drilling this financial year. An urgent request has been sent to the Provincial Administrator to give us a list of areas most hard hit in order to speed up the process of getting the funds.

J1 Projects in Progress, Financial Year 1988/89

Name of Project	Background and Justification	Estimated Date of Completion	Expected Results
Ngomahuru Water Supply Uprating	Existing Water Supply had become unreliable, plus demand as higher than we were pumping.	June 1989	Adequate water supply for Ngomahuru hospital and Chibi Rural' hospital
Gutu Water Supply Uprating	Expansion and Development at the District Growth point necessitated uprating because demand was higher than supply.	June 1989	Adequate Water for Gutu Growth Point.
Ndanga W/S Uprating	Augmented to meet increased demand due to expansion of Ndanga Government Hospital.	June 1989	Adequate Water for Ndanga Hospital and Rural Service Centre.

Problems

1. Transport

This is the problem which is crippling all the Ministries activities and efforts

- (a) in the maintenance of the water supply stations,
- (b) in the construction of dams, water supply stations etc, in the borehole drilling programme for drought relief, and in the survey and planning of future projects. Almost three quarters of our fleet is in CMED everytime and without transport (or with unreliable transport) it is very difficult to attend in time to breakdowns on Water Supply Stations resulting in consumers going without water for sometime.

Without transport its very difficult to carry out construction work which often results in serious overexpenditures because everything would not be done according to schedule. The borehole drilling programme cannot be a success if the present state on transport continues. But nevertheless we will try our best.

2. Shortage of Construction Equipment.

This is another problem which is always disturbing our construction programmes and in most cases results in overexpenditures because of the idle time and labour.

3. Shortage of Trained Manpower

This results in the few technical personnel being overloaded with work to the extend that they spent even their weekends at work.

Summary Schedule Planned New Projects (\$' 000)

Project Name	Total Estimated Cost	1989/90 Expenditure				1990/91 Expenditure				1991/92		
		GVT	VOC	OWN Resources	LOAN	GVT	VOC	OWN Resources	LOAN	GVT	VOC	OWN Resources
Capital Expenditure												
J1												
Chibi Uprating	750	750										
Chirumanzi RSC	550	550										
Nerupiri RSC	200	200										
Rutenga W/S	650	650										
P/Man's Quarters	75	75										
Nyika W/S	723	723										
Borehole Drilling	500	500										
Mapanzure RSC	210					210						
Rakavarasha	250					250						
Chinyika R	200					200						
Sese R.S.C.	400					400						
Razi R.S.C.	150					150						
Chatikobo R.S.C	125					125						
Fuve Panganai	300					300						
HI												
Munzwiru Dam	7 000	7 000										
Rozva Canal	150	150										
Japanese Dams	6 000	6 000				4 000						

- Key:**
- (i) VOC refers to donor funds included in the Vote of Credit including External Loans via Government;
 - (ii) OWN RESOURCES (C.R.) refers to funds made available from the revenue of the organization/parastatal;
 - (iii) LOANS refers to those loans made direct to the organisation i.e. not via Government.

Mozambique forms ZIMOFA counterpart



Solidarity in the struggle against the common enemy — Apartheid South Africa. Seen in the picture from left are: The Former President of the Republic of Zimbabwe Comrade Canaan Banana, The Current Executive President Comrade R.G. Mugabe and The President of Mozambique, Comrade J. Chissano

When Mozambique's President Joachim Chissano held his first official meeting with the Patron and the National Executive Board of ZIMOFA last March, he announced that he intended to create a Mozambican counterpart to ZIMOFA. Within a few months he had kept his promise and the *Comite Mozambicano de Amizade con Zimbabwe* — COMAZI — (the Mozambique Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with Zimbabwe) was established.

COMAZI is a unique organisation within Mozambique's Party and Government structures.

While attached to AMASP (*Associação Mozambicana de Amizade e Solidaridade*

con Os Povos), FRELIMO'S coordinating body with international solidarity groups, COMAZI has its own independent board and staff and is planning to open separate offices. This points to the importance that Mozambique attaches to its relationship with its closest neighbour, Zimbabwe, as well as a willingness to experiment with new, more flexible structures.

As President Chissano explained during his meeting with ZIMOFA, "There are things that Governments cannot do." He went on to say that there is no limit to the activities that can be undertaken by an independent organisation like ZIMOFA.

He pointed out that material aid was necessary because of South Africa's

destabilising campaign in Mozambique. "We did the same thing when we started the solidarity fund," he stated, "when we gave one day's salary a month on a permanent basis." He stressed, however, the importance of promoting cooperation in various fields — economic, social, educational and cultural.

Comrade Graca Machel, the Minister of Education and wife of the Late President Machel, is the Patron of COMAZI while the First Secretary is General Munhepe. Other leading officials are Comrade Manuel Tome, Director of Radio Mozambique and Secretary-General of the Union of Journalists, and Lt. Col. Cara Alegria Tembe.

COMAZI has set up branches in Sofala, Manica and Tete Provinces to carry out joint projects with ZIMOFA in these areas.

While members of COMAZI and ZIMOFA often meet informally, the first official joint meeting was held in Chimoio on 15–16 September 1988. Delegates to this meeting proposed a joint plan of action and streamlined channels of communication and methods of operating. They also visited the solidarity farm and Chinyambudzi Resettlement Project and resolved to work together to make these projects a success.

COMAZI was one of the principal organisers of a week of fundraising activities for displaced persons which was held in Maputo from 5–11 November. Various sports clubs and cultural groups participated in this event, to which ZIMOFA contributed several trophies.

COMAZI was also the forefront of organising this year's solidarity week celebrations which were held simultaneously in Maputo, Beira and Chimoio to commemorate Cde. Samora's death. □

ZIMOFA Newsletter launched

Adapted from Venceremos, Vol. 1, February 1989

The launching of the first newsletter of ZIMOFA is a very important occasion — an occasion which creates a communication facility between ZIMOFA and its membership as well as an information exchange between the peoples of



ZIMOFA CHAIRMAN, Comrade Clemence Gaza

Mozambique and Zimbabwe and with the rest of the world.

"I am aware that the editorial committee of the newsletter includes people from both COMAZI (*Comite Mozambicano de Amizade con Zimbabwe*) and ZIMOFA which in itself is a milestone.

"I wish the editors and writers of this newsletter many more successful publications and encourage them to see this as only the beginning.

"I would like to see the newsletter become one of the most informative magazines in the sub-region — a magazine that seeks to tell the world about what is happening between our two peoples; what our plight is; what the experience of our people is without any fear or favour. I believe it will be a revolutionary publication in as far as it depicts the experiences of ordinary people and I wish it every success. [Message from ZIMOFA Chairman, Comrade Clemence Gaza.] □

DEALING IN AFRICA?



Deal with the 100% African Bank.

When it comes to banking in Africa, no-one understands the market as well as Zimbank.

Being wholly Zimbabwean and independent, Zimbank does not have to negotiate with, or request approval from, an externally based parent. That means greater flexibility and speedy, professional decisions in both Zimbabwe and the rest of Africa.

If you deal in inter-Africa trade, or internationally, the Zimbank team will put together the best possible competitive package on your behalf.

Just call our International Division on 735011.

Dealing in Africa? Speak to Zimbank.

It's your best deal.

It's your bank. We're here on your account.



Zimbabweans Mobilize for Mozambique

A major achievement of ZIMOFA has been the mobilisation of the total people of Zimbabwe towards support for Mozambicans, both those in refugee camps and those that are displaced within their own country, declared ZIMOFA Chairperson and Deputy Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, Comrade Clemence Gaza. "ZIMOFA is an organisation that seeks to complement the relations that already existed between ZANU (PF) and FRELIMO before both our Independences when cadres of ZANU and FRELIMO fought side by side to liberate their countries", said Comrade Gaza during a recent interview with VENCEREMOS.

An ex-combatant himself, Comrade Gaza said that after attaining independence in both countries, those relations must be consolidated.

"We need to ensure that as we develop our economies, we cooperate and ensure that development strategies are shared between our two peoples. Cooperation should encompass all areas including technical fields, cultural and academic, in fact, all facilities must as of necessity be shared between the two peoples."

Exchanges Promoted

ZIMOFA encourages the exchange of students and other specialists. "The Chimoio Agricultural College already has two lecturers seconded at Chibero for the next three months and there is a similar exchange from Chibero to Chimoio," he explained.

"This gives them a whole experience of what it is like to work with Mozambicans, to be in a Mozambican environment.

Similar exchanges should be extended to teachers colleges, polytechnics and other institutions of higher learning, said Comrade Gaza.

Solidarity Farm

Comrade Gaza disclosed that ZIMOFA has been offered another solidarity farm — this time in Tete Province. This becomes the second such farm, following the 1 300 hectare farm handed over to ZIMOFA early this year along the Beira Corridor in Manica Province.

The farms are given to ZIMOFA by Mozambican authorities as part of a development and training programme to revitalise Mozambican agriculture.

"We are earnestly going to revamp the agricultural sector jointly with the participation of our counterpart or organisation COMAZI," said Comrade Gaza.



The Patron of ZIMOFA, Comrade Simon Muzenda

Solidarity Fund

He said selections for next year's candidates for the scholarships were currently being done in Maputo.

The ZIMOFA Chairman appealed for more contributions to the Samora Machel scholarship fund set up to assist Mozambicans to pursue their studies in Zimbabwe.

"You will appreciate that any selected students will have to undergo language courses to enable them to undertake course work in Zimbabwe," said Comrade Gaza.

Relief Aid Needed

ZIMOFA's Chairperson also challenged Zimbabweans to match the will and sacrifices made by Mozambicans for Zimbabwe's liberation.

"I am talking about a people who en masse gave their whole country as a rear base for the liberation initiative of Zimbabwe. A people who were giving a day's wage every month into a liberation bank — that is a lot of will.

"I am saying that is a very serious resolution. Have we reached that proportion? I think we have a lot to achieve," he said, referring to Mozambicans' sacrifice for Zimbabwean independence.

Gaza said there was need to create more awareness of the plight of Mozambicans among Zimbabweans. He suggested that films and videos must be shown around the country.

"I think our people by nature are soft-hearted. If one were to quantify what was spent by the totality of our people, towards

our liberation effort — soap, meals, cigarettes, clothes and so on, it amounts to millions if not billions of dollars," he said. If Zimbabweans gave Mozambicans as much as they had given the freedom fighters, the suffering would be substantially reduced.

He admitted that some of ZIMOFA's objectives have been overtaken by the need for urgent relief aid.

"We still have a long way to go but we have succeeded greatly in alleviating suffering in Tete, Manica and Sofala Provinces and also in Gaza by deliveries made through Espungabera.

Membership Growing

Gaza said that ZIMOFA membership was increasing on a daily basis. Branches of the Association now exist in Bulawayo, Mutare and in Mashonaland West.

The Chairman said for the time being ZIMOFA will rely on the good offices of the Provincial Governors to coordinate its activities in most parts of the country as "accountability is better because of the state machinery."

On business ties, he said ZIMOFA had been asked to host a conference for Zimbabwean businessmen interested in open ventures in Mozambique. However, he warned that mercenary-type business people were not welcome. "We want business people that go there genuinely to help the situation in Mozambique," he said.

Comrade Gaza headed the Zimbabwe delegation to the commemoration of Comrade Machel's death in Mozambique last October.

Mozambique: Facts and Figures

- ★ Population: 14 739 830 (projection for January 1988)
- ★ Head of state: Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Republic
- ★ Independence date: 25 June, 1975.
- ★ Ruling Party: The Frelimo Party
- ★ Surface area: 799 380km² (coastline 2 470km)
- ★ Capital: Maputo (formerly Lourenco Marques), population approximately 1 000 000
- ★ Provinces: Niassa, Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Zambezia, Tete, Manica, Sofala, Gaza, Inhambane, Maputo
- ★ Official language: Portuguese
- ★ National currency: Metical (plural Meticaís): official exchange rate February 1988: US\$1 = 450 Meticaís
- ★ Main imports: Petroleum products, agricultural and industrial semi-finished products, spare parts, textiles, consumer goods
- ★ Main exports: Prawns, cashew nuts, cotton, tea, copra, citrus, textiles, tyres, coal, timber
- ★ GNP (per capita), US\$121 (estimate 1983, National Planning Commission, Maputo)
- ★ Population growth rate: 2,6%
- ★ Population distribution: 13% urban/87% rural
- ★ Literacy rate: 30% (1986) □

Progress on Beira Corridor

By a Correspondent



Rehabilitating the railway line to lessen dependence on apartheid South Africa

Being Zimbabwe's natural, shortest and cheapest route to the seas, the Beira Corridor is attracting increasing attention from businessmen.

Not only are they diverting more and more of their imports and exports through Beira rather than South Africa, but they are also considering investing in various projects in the corridor, ranging from hotels to farms and warehouses.

Helping along this increased business involvement in the corridor has been the Beira Corridor private sector interest group, BCG Ltd, chaired by former Cabinet minister Mr Denis Norman and directed by leading local businessman Mr Eddie Cross.

Established in early 1987 with 200 Zimbabwean debenture holders who each paid \$5 000 to join up, BCG now has an extra 32 debenture holders from Malawi and Bot-

swana and is actively considering ways and means of establishing itself on a more permanent financial footing.

It has been a highly visible, sometimes aggressive if not abrasive, grouping, but it has made considerable strides in its active lobbying for the Beira Corridor both in the region and among businessmen, donor agencies and multilateral agencies in a bid to make more exporters and importers use the route and to raise funds for the development of infrastructure and service companies.

The latter has been seen as being particularly important because long years of South African-backed destabilisation have wrecked much of what infrastructure Beira once had.

Services such as hotels, car hire firms, shipping agents' offices and the like were, until recently, virtually non-existent.

Double-edged Interest

So, while the Mozambican government and its SADCC neighbours and donor agencies look after the rehabilitation of the railway line and port, businessmen in Mozambique and neighbouring countries are being encouraged to set up ventures to rehabilitate and manage hotels, construct bulk handling facilities, run farms in the corridor and most of all, create jobs and therefore stability for the population in the corridor.

In this there is a sort of double-edged self-interest. Not only can such ventures be profitable but it is recognised that stability and prosperity in the region depend very much on those two factors being present in Mozambique itself and businessmen should do whatever they can to help.

As time has gone on, business interest has broadened out to cover the other alternative transport routes in the region; namely the Limpopo rail line to Maputo and the Ncala line as well as the Tazara line to Dar es Salaam.

Work on these is progressing well with Mr Cross recently predicting to ZIANA that by the end of next year, 70 percent of SADCC's foreign trade should be carried by these alternative routes, a dramatic reversal of the situation two years ago.

BCG's monthly bulletin chronicles these developments and keeps businessmen in touch with latest government and private sector initiatives in the region.

BCG's counterpart organisation in Mozambique is Empresa Austral de Desenvolvimento. These two hold regular meetings with Mozambican government's Beira Corridor Authority and the Zimbabwean government's Machipanda Beira Authority, which oversee all development and investment activities in the corridor by both the private sector and the international community.

The address of the BCG is: Box 1697; Harare. 207 North Avenue; Tel: 739302/3. □

Vital Road Links Repaired

Mozambique has rehabilitated the 250 kilometre road linking Zimbabwe and Malawi through Tete Province, Beira Corridor Group managing director Eddie Cross said recently . . .

He said only 10 kilometres of the Tete road remained to be resurfaced under a programme which began during winter.

"Mozambique authorities have done an excellent job this winter in rehabilitating the road which is Malawi's lifeline," he said.

Describing the project as a success story, Mr. Cross said the all weather roads now carried 70 percent of Malawi's foreign trade, about 60 000 tonnes per month.

He said about 3 500 to 4 000 heavy duty trucks were now using the route every month.

Last year the road was in a very bad condition and some truck drivers preferred going via the Zambian capital, Lusaka, en route to and from Malawi.



Revitalising road links

He said the Zimbabwean national army was also doing an excellent job in protecting the road.

Security Situation Reasonable
"We have had a number of incidents but

apart from two when we lost vehicles to landmines and drivers were killed, the security situation has been quite reasonable."

The completion of the resurfacing of the road also boosts security "because in both

landmine incidents, the landmines were laid on detours where there is earth surface".

Mr. Cross said he could not say the same about the Mutare-Beira road.

"The road to Beira is in very poor condition, particularly across the Pungwe Flats, and it will require complete reconstruction over that section next winter.

About 32 million US dollars provided by Sweden, Holland, the African Development Bank (ADB), and the Mozambican Government was available to resurface the road.

Mr. Cross said work should start about April or May next year.

"But during this coming summer, I think it will be necessary to halt road traffic at times because of heavy rain," he said.

The road work will be carried out by the Mozambique state construction company. □

The Aids Awareness Campaign

The Herald of 22.04.89 published an article "How to get that vital message over to all" by Authur Kaseke.

In the article, the author raises crucial issues of Aids Awareness Campaign. While he commended the Government for the campaign, he correctly pointed out "... its elitist approach and limited nature of its audience".

The Aids awareness campaign has been restricted to hotels and only to a few people in the urban areas. "... this service has not been extended to ... growth points, community centres, beerhalls and taverns", read the article.

Briefly, the author suggests ways for effectively spreading the Aids awareness campaign to the majority of the people: To combat ignorance on the part of the majority:-

1. the campaign message should reach all sexually and economically active age groups at/in workplaces, homes, beerhalls, beergardens, night clubs, the fields, buses, trains, schools, mines, communal areas etc;
2. Aids literature should be cheap and accessible to all the people; simplify it to make people understand the message;
3. Simple language on TV and Radio Aids programmes and signs and posters is easily understood by most readers and listeners;
4. The Ministry of Health is urged to adopt a popular instead of an elitist approach, in order to take the Aids Awareness Campaign to the people;
5. At growth points, schools, communal and urban areas, use of the mobile cine-

ma Units on Aids should be constantly encouraged;

6. Companies, churches, non-governmental organizations, co-operatives, government and so on should sponsor commercial adverts on Aids on Radio and TV to raise awareness;
7. Politicians should speak on aids at rallies;
8. Trade Unions have a duty too to include the campaign in their work education programmes;
9. At workplaces, canteens, offices etc, employers must stick or place posters on AIDS.

This is in essence, what Mr. Kaseke suggests in order to make the Aids campaign message reach more people. However, I would like to add a few points

- (i) Aids Awareness Campaign should also be directed to Medical doctors, researchers, students, scientists, nurses, ZINATHA and so on.

The Awareness to be spread to these persons and institutions is much broader. They must do a lot of medical or herbal research in order to speedily find a medicinal cure (treatment) for Aids, a disease presently threatening the continued existence of mankind.

- (ii) Everybody has a duty to conquer aids; a diligent scientist or medical researcher is one with the highest form of consciousness or awareness on Aids. He/she is the one who, in religious terms, may be termed the "Messiah of the Space-Age". □

Chakari Leads The Way

Chakari in Mashonaland West Province is the first district of ZANU (PF) to be constituted as the new United Party. At a recent meeting the 5 000 members waived their new cards, and elections were held. Both former ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU officials found places on the new executive of the District, as follows:-

Chakari District

Chairman Murehwa
Vice Mike Zimuto
Secretary Gara
Vice Joseph Madi
Treasurer Murape
Vice Philimon Matibi
P.C. Gwerekwere
Vice Selestine Masine
Security Eliah Sharuko
Vice Erestina Banda
Secretary for Information and Publicity Mulambalila
Vice Sam Mapfumo
Transport & Welfare Mudzamba
Vice Mai William Chakara
Production Lina Magorimbo
Committee Member 1. Mai Moyo
Committee Member 2. Leonard Mazhata

Although Chakari has taken the lead in the integration process, other Districts of Mashonaland West Province are still far behind because they have no cards. Only 200 000 cards were given to a Province that has 500,000 members. Sanyati district for example has not had a single card. □

TALKING POINT

Developing Countries' Debt Problem: The Nature, Causes, Impact and Solutions to the External Debt Problem

By Lawrence Tshuma and Luke Gurure

A lot is being said and written about the developing countries' external debt problem. Judging by media coverage and collective efforts taken by developing countries, the debt problem is very serious. It is therefore important to explain what the external debt is, its causes, its effects and possible solutions to it.

In simple terms the external debt problem is the money that developing countries owe to capitalist developed countries and financial institutions like the International Monetary Fund. Why is the external debt a problem? A debt only becomes a problem if the debtor lacks the capacity or ability to pay back the money as and when the creditor expects payment. It follows therefore that the developing countries external debt poses a problem because these countries are unable to honour their obligations.

Causes of External Debt Problem

How and why did developing countries end up in this problem? The answer to this question is to be found in the history of developing countries. Since the history of developing countries is tied to the history of developed capitalist countries like Britain, France, The Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America, then the answer to the above question is also found in the history of capitalism. In short, the answer to the above question lies in the history of colonialism.

One of the major aims of colonialism was to extract raw materials like minerals and agricultural products from the colonies while at the same time creating markets for finished products from the colonial powers. The result was that the economies of the colonies were only developed for purposes of providing raw materials and markets. Thus, primary or extractive industries were developed at the expense of manufacturing industries. This resulted in the creation of backward and underdeveloped economies. At independence, developing countries inherited these backward and underdeveloped economies. These economies posed a major problem and challenge for developing countries. The developing countries were faced with the taunting task of socio-economic transformation at the time of independence. They needed large sums of money for extending health and educational facilities to the indigenous populations of their countries who had long been excluded by the imperialists from the enjoyment of these facilities. They needed to develop modern agriculture and industry. They were faced with the challenge of raising the standard of living

of their populations. They needed considerable financial resources to do all these things. However, the underdeveloped and backward economies they inherited could not provide the financial resources needed. The developing countries were thus forced to seek funds from elsewhere; that elsewhere was from their former colonizers, countries like Britain, France, Germany and also from the U.S.A., Japan and Financial institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Indirect Control

The developed capitalist countries saw that by lending money to the developing countries they reassert their control over them. Having lost direct political control, they saw this as an opportunity to assert indirect political control through economic control. According to their reasoning, if they provided developing countries with money and other forms of aid, then they could dictate what socio-economic policies should be followed by the receivers of this "aid". Thus Lenin's theory that the export of capital is one of the essential features of imperialism as a system was demonstrated. Under imperialism, the export of capital determines and governs the international economic relations of states. Aid from developed capitalist countries to developing countries was thus a new form of capital export designed to shape and condition the economic relations between the two groups of countries. The economic relations desired by the developed capitalist countries were those that would place developing countries in a position of dependence. In short, the economic relationship desired was like that of a horse and its rider.

Financial aid for the developing countries was a solution to their serious problems of inadequate financial resources for their development projects. Looked at from the point of view of imperialists, aid represented a new form of control that would ensure that former colonies were constantly kept under a tight leash. Developing countries were thus forced to rely on this form of aid which over the years accumulated to constitute the external debt problem of today.

How did the debt accumulate to reach its current astronomic proportions? There are several answers to the above question. When a developing country receives a loan, it has to pay back not only the loan but also interest. Interest is defined by capitalists as the reward to capital. Developed countries thus gave loans at very high interest rates and this increased the indebtedness of the developing countries.

Foreign Currency

Over a long period of time, developing countries found that in a given year, they paid out more in debt-servicing than they received from creditors. Debt servicing means the amount of money spent on paying back a loan plus the interest. As an example, in 1984, African countries paid US\$3 billion to Commercial banks more than they received over the same period of time from those banks.

To make matters worse, the debt has to be paid in foreign currency, that is from the money that the debtor countries earn from their exports. Thus a country's ability to pay depends on the level and prices of its exports. Developing countries exports are chiefly raw materials. This is because colonialism did not develop manufacturing industries. The prices of commodities are controlled by capitalist countries. For example, the price of gold and copper is determined in capitalist countries where the markets are located. Capitalist countries fix very low prices for commodities, thus leading to a fall in their foreign currency earnings; developing countries are thus unable to pay what they owe and this leads to a further accumulation of the debt. As an example between 1985 and 1986 Africa's earnings from their exports fell by US\$19 billion (29%) from US 64 billion to US\$45 billion. Over the same period, Africa's exports of manufactured goods rose by 14%.

Capitalist developed countries also increase interest paid on debts. This leads to an accumulation of debt. For example between 1974 and 1985, the average interest rate on new lending increased from 5% to 10%. What it means is that the cost of loans increased by 100% over that period.

Protectionist Policies

Another reason that led to the accumulation of the debt was the growing protectionist policies in developed capitalist countries. What these countries do is to make it difficult for manufactured exports from developing countries to enter their markets. They do this by increasing customs duties on manufactured exports from developing countries. This is what protectionism means. They also offer subsidies to their producers so that they can sell their products at prices below those of manufactured exports for exports from developing countries to sell well. As a result the foreign currency earnings of developing countries fall, making it difficult for them to pay the debt.

The activities of transnational corporations in developing countries also contributed to

the debt problem. They inflate their contracts so that developing countries end up paying them large sums of money in foreign currency. They also overinvoice imports so that foreign currency is taken out of the developing countries to capitalist centres. On the other hand, they underinvoice exports so that very little foreign currency comes in the country. The difference is of course paid to them outside the developing country.

Developing countries are also to blame for the size of the external debt. Under neo-colonial governments, they failed to transform their economies. As a result, these economies still depend on the export of raw material. As has been shown above, the export of raw materials makes the economies of developing countries which pursue capitalist development policies susceptible to external control. Developing countries which have transformed their economies and pursued socialist development programmes have no debt problems. This includes countries like Cuba and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Neo-colonialist regimes in developing countries have used the loans for personal enrichment and for buying consumer goods. Instead of using the loans to build productive industries, the comprador bourgeois uses the money to line its pockets and buy itself consumer goods which do not improve the economy of the country at all. Most developing countries are governed by kleptomaniacs who obtain loans in the name of the country for their personal use. Thus the masses find themselves indebted to developed capitalist countries and their financial institutions when they did not benefit from the loans. The masses have to suffer by going without essential goods, because the foreign currency earnings they generate have to pay for the enjoyment of the kleptocrats. Kleptocracy is the government of thieves. It is therefore a sad reality that workers and peasants in developing countries are forced to pay for benefits they never enjoyed.

Effects

What are the effects of the debt? The external debt has many detrimental effects on the economies of developing countries. A large portion of their export earnings go towards debt servicing. As a result, developing countries are forced to divert precious foreign currency earnings from essential development projects towards debt servicing. For

example, development programmes like agricultural and industrial transformation which were cornerstones for the OAU's recovery programmes contained in the Lagos Plan of Action and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery could not be implemented because funds which could have been productively employed were diverted to debt servicing. The result has been that developing countries have not been able to implement economic reforms that would have resulted in self-sufficiency.

Because large sums of money have to be paid in servicing the external debt, living standards in developing countries have fallen considerably. Developing countries are thus faced with mass unemployment and underemployment and poverty in both urban and rural areas. The diversion of development funds to debt servicing has thus led to a lot of misery among the workers and peasants who are never consulted when debts are incurred and who never benefit from them in most cases. Theirs is the sad lot of paying back the debt they are not responsible for.

Solutions

What are the possible solutions to this global calamity? Since the debt problem is a result of the inequality that is found under capitalist international economic relations, its elimination therefore lies in the elimination of that inequality. That inequality can only be removed by the restructuring of capitalist international economic relations that would result in the total elimination of colonialism and neo-colonialism. With this in mind, developing countries are calling for a new economic order based on the principles of equality among countries. The call has been made by organizations like the OAU, the Group of 77, Socialist countries and the Non-Aligned countries. Developing countries are opposing the call. A new economic order based on the principle of equality would deprive them of a vital method of controlling developing countries. To this end, capitalist creditor countries have formed themselves into creditor clubs like the London and Paris Clubs.

Another method of solving the debt crisis would be to reschedule the debt. i.e. allow developing countries longer periods to pay back their loans. This method is

however inadequate as it postpones rather than solves the problem. Rescheduling actually results in the increased market-related interest rates which have to be paid during the rescheduling.

The debt burden can be reduced by expanding the export of goods and hence increasing export earnings. This however depends on the elimination of protectionism on the trade with developing countries. It also depends on increasing commodity prices. Since the removal of protectionism and the increase of commodity prices would spell doom for imperialism as a system, this solution is a pie in the sky.

Another solution is the total cancellation of the debt by the creditor countries. This depends on the goodwill of capitalist countries and this has never been a hallmark of imperialism. Thus given the desire of capitalist developed countries to keep developing countries indebted to them and the desire to exploit the natural and human resources of the latter, the above solution falls far too short of the elimination of the debt.

The most radical solution to the problem is to refuse to pay the debt. Imperialist countries exploited developing countries during the many years of colonialism. The money given to developing countries as aid rightly belongs to those developing countries. Why should developing countries be expected to pay for what is rightly theirs? Resources that could be used for debt servicing could be used for development purposes. However, most developing countries prefer compromise to confrontation. Given the above preference, the solution is not likely to be resorted to. It is however within the realms of possibility that the magnitude of the debt and its unrepayability will force some developing countries to refuse to pay the debt.

As our concluding remarks, we shall quote Sabacar N' Diaye, President of the African Development Bank. Commenting on the African external debt he said: "The African debt problem is like AIDS and as such requires a global solution".

The words are applicable to the debt problem the world over. The global solution required is a restructuring of capitalist international economic relations and the setting up of a new economic order based on the just principles of equality. □

TALKING POINT

Namibia — the Last Colony in Africa

By Dr. Donald P. Chimanihire of ZIDS

ZIMBABWE NEWS MAY, 1989

The US, Cuban, Angolan and South African diplomatic initiative on the future of the south-west African region may soon see the end of colonial rule over Namibia.

For the greater part of the century Namibia has been the most intensively exploited country in Africa, and since 1915 has remained under South African domination — a domination that resisted the waves of decolonization that swept the continent during the 1950s-1960s and the successful national liberation struggles of the 1970s.

Namibia is a country rich in natural resources (diamonds, copper, tin, uranium, lead) and agricultural potential. Yet an estimated 30-35 percent of this wealth has for years been channelled out of the country into the foreign bank accounts of the colonial settlers and the giant trans-national corporations that "invest" in Namibia.

Even then, Namibia remains a wealthy land, far more so than many independent African states, but the average income of black Namibians is one of the lowest in the world. South African colonial exploitation

is coupled with rigorous political control of the country affected through harsh repression equal only to the apartheid regimes' treatment of the majority of its own citizens.

Nationalistic Resistance

The 1950s saw the first stirrings of nationalistic resistance to South African rule. The 1960s saw the introduction of apartheid into Namibia and the concurrent launch of the



Dr. Donald P. Chimanikire of ZIDS

armed national liberation struggle by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO). The 1970s was a time of increased struggle by SWAPO, its recognition by the United Nations as the sole authentic representative of the Namibian people and the adoption by the UN Security Council of Resolution 435 for Namibian independence. The 1980s have been marked by South African attempts to create and maintain a puppet administration in Namibia to delay or circumvent independence. This decade has also been marked by crises for the apartheid regime as opposition to it has redoubled at home and its military hold over Namibia has become untenable.

The implementation of the Namibian independence plan worked out under UN auspices began on April 1, leading to free and fair elections in November of this year. The UN Security Council asked the UN Secretary General to arrange a formal ceasefire between SWAPO and South Africa.

Role of United Nations

There is a lot of scepticism about the willingness of the South African regime to follow the Brazzaville tripartite agreement. However the arrival of the first members of the United Nations peacekeeping force in Namibia on February 17 — The UN Commissioner for Police, Mr. Steven Flanning and the UN Legal Representative Mrs Rachel Myanga had a positive side-effect of virtually forcing the sceptics to believe that independence for this South African colony could at least be a reality.

There are, however, still fears that the reduced UNTAG force of 4 650 members would not be enough to cope with overseeing the implementation of UN Resolution

435. Fears have been expressed that the ratio of one UN policeman to every twelve Namibian-South African policemen is hopelessly inadequate. In this regard the Frontline Heads of State met in Gaborone in early March this year to discuss mainly the implementation of United Nations-Resolution 435.

Summit

The summit was attended by the heads of state of the six frontline states who included Presidents Kaunda of Zambia (Chairman), Dr. Quett Masire of Botswana, Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, Ali Hassan Mwinyi of Tanzania, Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, and Mr. Afonso Van Dumen Mbinda, Member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of External Affairs of the MPLA Workers' Party in Angola.

Also present were Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress (ANC), Sam Nujoma, President of South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) and Johnson Mlambo, Chairman of Pan Africanist Congress (PAC).

In a final communique issued at the end of the summit it was stated that the frontline leaders reviewed the situation in Southern Africa and in that respect underscored that apartheid is the root cause of problems in the region and reaffirmed its total support to the Democratic and mass organisations inside South Africa in their struggle to eradicate apartheid.

The summit further regretted that resources necessary for the effective implementation of resolution 435 had been reduced despite protests spearheaded by the Frontline States and that it noted the situation on the ground in Namibia called for more, rather than, reduced resources.

The summit strongly felt that the reduction in the size of UNTAG by the Security Council would prejudice the ability of the UN to fully carry out its mandate to ensure the early independence of Namibia through free and fair elections under its supervision and control.

In that regard the frontline leaders called upon the International Community, including the Permanent Members of the Security Council, to give their full cooperation to the Secretary-General in the event of him deciding that the situation on the ground calls for the increase in the military component of UNTAG up to the upper limit of 7 500 personnel.

The summit underscored the crucial role of the Frontline States, the Liberation Movements and Democratic Forces in the search for solutions to the problems facing the region, as well as the need for the International Community to support the Frontline States, Liberation Movements and the Democratic Forces in their search for durable peace, security, democracy and cooperation in the region.

In this regard they called upon the International Community to bring pressure to

bear on the South African Government to abandon apartheid.

In conclusion the Frontline leaders condemned the Anti-SWAPO campaign being mounted by the the South African Security Forces in Namibia and urged the UN Secretary-General, Dr. Javier Perez De Cuellar, to ensure that such campaign is brought to an end and that SWAPO is able to campaign freely in all parts of Namibia occupied by South African Forces aimed at tipping the scales against SWAPO in the forthcoming elections. The outbreak of fierce battles between the Security Forces and SWAPO guerillas in Northern Namibia on April 1 clearly illustrates that peace is more difficult to wage than war. Close to 300 people died in eight days of continuous fighting in Ovamboland in a period which should have ushered in a "New Era" in Namibia.

Independence Process

The people of Namibia struggled for 74 years to free themselves of South African Rule and April 1 was regarded as the starting date of a process that would lead them to freedom.

The events that took place during the first week of the implementation of UN Resolution 435 was, however, not a good start to this independence process agreed upon by the International Community and which is to be implemented by the United Nations.

Surprisingly, it was the United Nations and not South Africa which drew the fire of criticism from the International Community and the Namibian people for the bad



Comrade Sam Nujoma, President of SWAPO

start to the implementation of the Independence plan.

Many questions still remain unanswered. Although the South African Government has repeatedly claimed it was SWAPO's military forces (PLAN) which broke the ceasefire which went into effect on April 1 at 6H00, there is no independent or documentary proof to support this assertion. The same goes for assertions that South Africa was responsible for the carnage.

It is clear, though, that during the past two weeks, SWAPO came under heavy international criticism for the eruption of the war

in the north which started on April 1 near Okahenge in northern Ovamboland.

History will be the judge as to who was really responsible for the bloodshed — The South African police which were engaged in the first shootings with SWAPO Fighters, the UNTAG monitoring contingent which had not been in place on April 1 as had been envisaged, or SWAPO which is blamed for having violated resolution 435 for not having been north of the 16th latitude in Angola.

Whatever the answers to these questions, the most important is that a start has been made to restore the situation that prevailed for the seven months period up until March 31.

Latest Developments

The latest developments have shown that the implementation of the UN Plan of granting independence to Namibia is being hampered. So who is against establishing peace in Namibia torn by wars, despite the unanimous will of the United Nations. Of course it's the ultra-reactionary forces in South Africa, unwilling to accept new historical realities they are ready to split Namibia into puppet Republics A La Bantustans. The possibility of SWAPO's victory during the elections scares the apartheid regime in South Africa. The Ultra Rights in Namibia itself fear SWAPO's advent to power. They fear the loss of economic privileges even more than the loss of political power. At present

the living standards of the white minority are 25 times higher than those of the blacks.

It is against this that SWAPO and other progressive elements must fight shoulder to shoulder in order to defeat an attempt by South Africa to create and maintain a puppet administration in Namibia.

Finally when Namibia finally reaches the day of independence, several people, including Ahtisaari and the UN Secretary General, will surely raise a toast to this day in relief. But for this to happen SWAPO and the UN must cooperate and work together in order for resolution 435 to take its logical course. □

TALKING POINT

Consumers Up in Arms Against Controversial Safety of Foods

By Zephania Taruvinga

The controversy over the safety of foods treated by irradiation still rages on and, to date, is the subject of testing and evaluation and consumers world wide are up in arms against the process.

Consumers have objected to the process of preserving food by irradiation because of four main concerns that have not been adequately addressed or properly resolved — need, safety, wholesomeness and labelling.

The primary aim of food irradiation is supposedly to "extend shelf-life" and "improve food hygiene". But despite experimentation since the early 70s, the process is still highly controversial. In fact, presently only some thirty countries have okayed the process — and only for a limited category of food products. Further, not all these countries permit the sale of irradiated foods domestically.

Though most developing countries, Zimbabwe included, do not use the process, there is only one danger which is a cause of fear — trafficking of irradiated foods to the Third World. This is the reason why Zimbabwe's Government Analyst's Laboratory, also a member of Codex, has laid stringent regulations aimed at promoting the quality and safety of domestically manufactured and imported foods or ingredients.

There is now a call for a measure against possible influx of such foods because of a major drive to sell both irradiated foods and irradiation facilities to Third World countries as part of aid packages.

Commenting on food irradiation in Harare recently, a member of the International Organisation of Consumers Union (IOCU) based in Malaysia, said that "the speed and assertiveness with which vested interests are pushing this technology, causes

great concern. A powerful and not impartial consortium is creating the illusion of control and safety while Third World governments are being seduced with grants to take on wholesale a technology which is a raging controversy in many developed countries."

The IOCU delegate, who refused to be publicised, had made a special visit to the Consumer Council of Zimbabwe (CCZ) to map out strategies of curbing the threat of irradiation technology in Africa and education campaigns on the dangers of food irradiation.

The delegate's visit was also a blessing because it coincided with the reviewing and overhaul of the Food and Foods Standards Act, which sets out new regulations ensuring safe food on our markets.

Dangers of Irradiation

The Managing Director of the Consumer Council of Zimbabwe Comrade Muchaneta Nyambuya, a member of the IOCU, and also advisory committee to Food Standards, expressed his council's reservations to food irradiation. He said the basic food for the majority of consumers in Zimbabwe are locally produced agricultural produce and subjecting these to irradiation deprives them of freshly harvested and nutritious foods.

He said though Zimbabwe is a member of the Codex Contact Points, it has never experienced problems of irradiated foods. "Its food-stuff stalls are free of such foods and consumers are assured of fearless shopping errands, unapprehensive of coming across either food or ingredients preserved by irradiation methods."

"No food manufacturer practices this and with the reviewing of the Food and Food Standards Act recently, it is guaranteed that

the controversial method will not plague our food industry," he said.

Comrade Nyambuya said, "However, the only danger consumers face is mainly the sale and consumption of food trafficked by the rampant cross-border shoppings and smugglers. The safety of some of these foods is questionable especially in South Africa where irradiation is practised by some food manufacturers. Consumers buying food in SA are therefore urged to scrutinize the labels first and if a similar label is imprinted on the product, they are advised to be cautious."

However, a lecturer in Biochemistry at the University of Zimbabwe, Dr. John Gooch, supported the process of food irradiation and welcomed the proposals of having the technology transferred to the Third World countries.

Dr Gooch, an advocate for consumption of natural and unprocessed foods, said, he saw "nothing technically wrong or harmful with irradiated foods if done properly." "In most developing countries where climatic conditions are unpredictable and constantly ravaged by droughts, the process would facilitate storage of food in times of bumper harvest."

"The only problem", he said, "is that the nuclear industry is trying to commercialise the technology and thereby wrongfully carrying out the exercise. This is the only danger developing countries have to guard against, otherwise they are only scared of anything new".

But the big question is, with very little expertise in most developing countries, who will do the close monitoring of the process to ensure that it is proportionally done? The

(Continued on page 26)

Profile of a F

Jephson Liberate Matewe of Les Brown Swimming Pool, Box 1976, Harare, contact phone 720755, is an unknown Political artist.

He was born in Masvingo Province at Chibi Clinic on the 4th of June, 1962. He did primary and secondary education in Harare at Yamuranayi Primary School respectively. Unfortunately he was not able to sit for the "O" level exams, though he prepared for them, due to circumstances beyond his control.

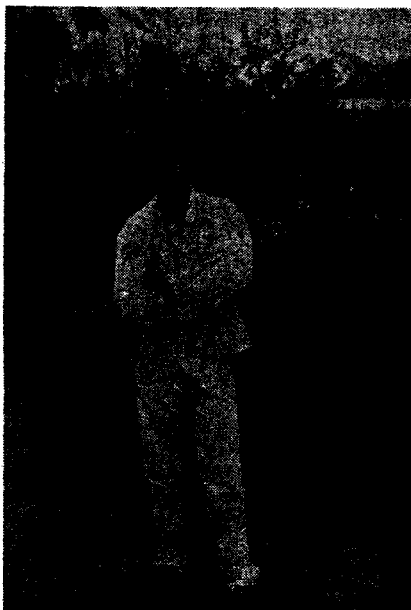
Artistic Interest

Comrade Matewe developed great interest in drawing at primary education stage. In Form II, he joined an "ART CLUB" to do Oil Printing. On leaving school, he was engaged in war activities since he was staying with the freedom fighters in Masvingo at Chinyaradzo near Morgenster Mission. During the period 1978-1980 he developed an interest in drawing guns and other weapons of war.

When his brother left the country for Mozambique, the Smith Regime hunted him. He had no alternative but to join the struggle. Unfortunately, the freedom fighters said he was too young to go to Mozambique. So he had to stay with the liberation fighters within the country. It was during that stay that Comrade Matewe started to develop "Political Art". He drew guns, armed people and many other political pictures. By so doing, he developed a talent of drawing and art with a "political rhythm" or "Political illustration", for instance see the pictorial political art below.

A good example, is picture No. 3. When Comrade Mugabe was addressing a rally after the death of Comrade Samora Machel of Mozambique, he concluded by saying "We will die to the last man," and from that statement Comrade Matewe drew picture No. 3 "Comrades-in-arms-Zimbabwe-Mozambique".

This artist's art imports a political message, solidarity message through pencil and paper. Thus he can express the people's feelings through "Art". Below are some of Matewe's artistic pictures; His Excellency the President, R.G. Mugabe, The Senior Minister in the President's office, Comrade Joshua Nkomo; Nelson Mandela; Apartheid; When shall you love Azania; Apartheid portrayed as a Snake; The Burning Feet of Africa; The Nation's Heritage — Zimbabwe Ruins; Dambudzo Marechera, Working for the Party and AIDS — SAVE THE World, You can Be a Victim!



Comrade Jephson Liberate Matewe

The Burning Feet of Africa: (Picture No. 8)

On this picture, the artist is trying to attract or mobilize the international community to do something to end apartheid in South Africa. Africa should be free. The Botha Regime torturing sons and daughters of South Africa must be destroyed. And as Africa belongs to its people, the pain in South Africa is the pain of all Africa.

Comrades-In-Arms (No. 3)

This picture depicts the effects of South African destabilization in our region. By killing Camarada Samora Machel, the enemy thought it had defeated the FRELIMO Government of Mozambique. Contrary to the enemy's thinking, all the Mozambicans and Zimbabweans intensified their efforts to eliminate banditry in Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Comrade Matewe's every picture conveys a message; historical, social or political.

Post Independence Artistic Experience

After independence, Comrade Matewe went to live in Sanyati in Kadoma District under Chief Sachuru. While in Sanyati, he joined the ZANU (PF) Youth Brigade. He was responsible for Art and Drawings. Some of his drawings and art were used for politicization and political-campaigning for ZANU (PF) in the area of Sanyati where ZIPRA operated during the armed struggle.

In the Youth competitions held in 1982, 1983 and 1984 organized by the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture, the unknown

artist won, first a shield and a certificate in Art (1982), second a shield (1983) and a third shield and jersey. All the annual competitions (festivals) involving art, sports and marching were held at ARDA in Sanyati when, at that time, the Chairman of the Youth in Mashonaland West was Alfgyo Ticharwa.

Some of Comrade Matewe's art works were taken to the Kadoma ZANU (PF) office where they are still displayed on the walls.

His artistic works landed him into trouble. Some people informed the dissidents about his political art and the drawings on the walls of the ZANU (PF) office. He and his brother were captured by the dissidents on the 30th of October 1984. However, they later managed to snatch guns from the dissidents and turned against them. Solomon Matewe, the artist's brother was shot four times (by the dissidents) and he became paralysed from the waist downwards.

Solomon Matewe, the artist's brother, is a demobilized ex-ZANLA combatant whose Chimurenga name was Comrade Tafirenyika Tafirakureva. After the dissident shooting incident, the Matewe brothers went back to Masvingo. While there, the artist was referred to Jongwe Printing and Publishing Co. by Comrade Kadanhamabwe of Kadoma so that he would do art there; unfortunately, the artist failed to secure employment there. Later, ZANU (PF) officials, Comrade Amos Midzi and Smith Marara referred him to the City Council of Harare which offered him employment.

olitical Artist



1. His Excellency — The President R.G. Mugabe
2. The Senior Minister in the President's Office, Comrade Joshua Nkomo
3. Comrades in Arms — we will die to the last man; Today, like yesterday, we will always be one People (Zimbabwe-Mozambique)

ZMFA

WE WILL DIE TO THE LAST MAN

After work, Comrade Matewe develops his artistic skills through drawings which tell of many situations. Some of the drawings are given free to people in an attempt to solicit sponsorship.

Matewe faces a problem of funding. He

needs financial assistance to enable him to study art and become a professional artist. He appeals to the Government, the Party and Non-governmental organizations to offer him monetary assistance to enable him to utilize his potential to the maximum. This artist in the making is also hoping for a

chance to be employed where he can do art and drawing.

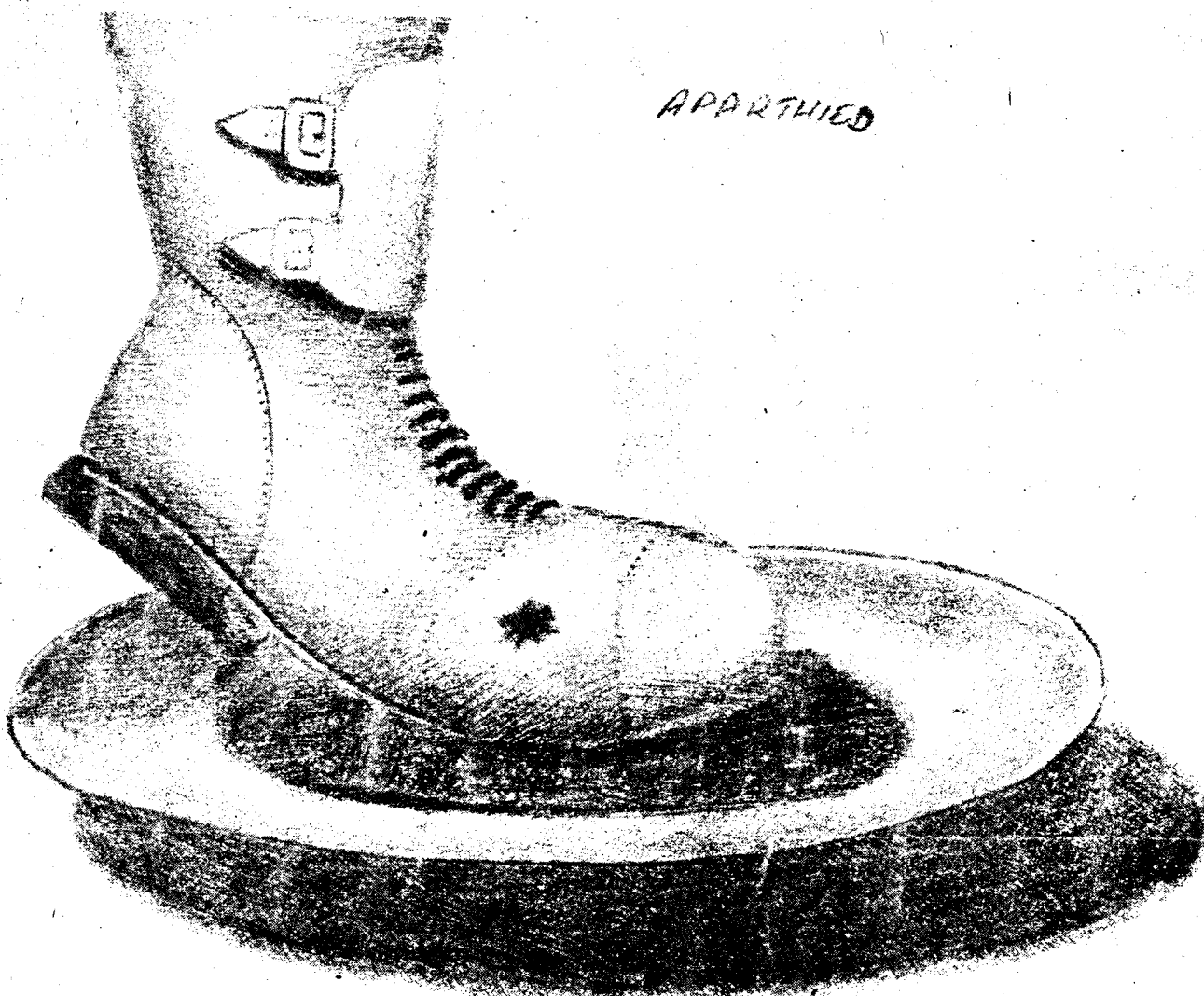
Contact him at: Les Brown Swimming Pool

Box 1976
HARARE Phone 720755



4. Nelson Mandela — They prison, so as to avoid criticism

5. Apartheid — How inhuman it is! Foot in the food plate!





6. When shall you love Azania?

7. This picture depicts Paul Matavire's song; Apartheid is portrayed as a snake. The apartheid thinking is similar to a snake's — blacks develop the economy but at the end of the day the boers kill them — bite them!

8. — The Burning Feet of Africa

— The pain to South Africans is the pain of the whole of Africa!



9



10

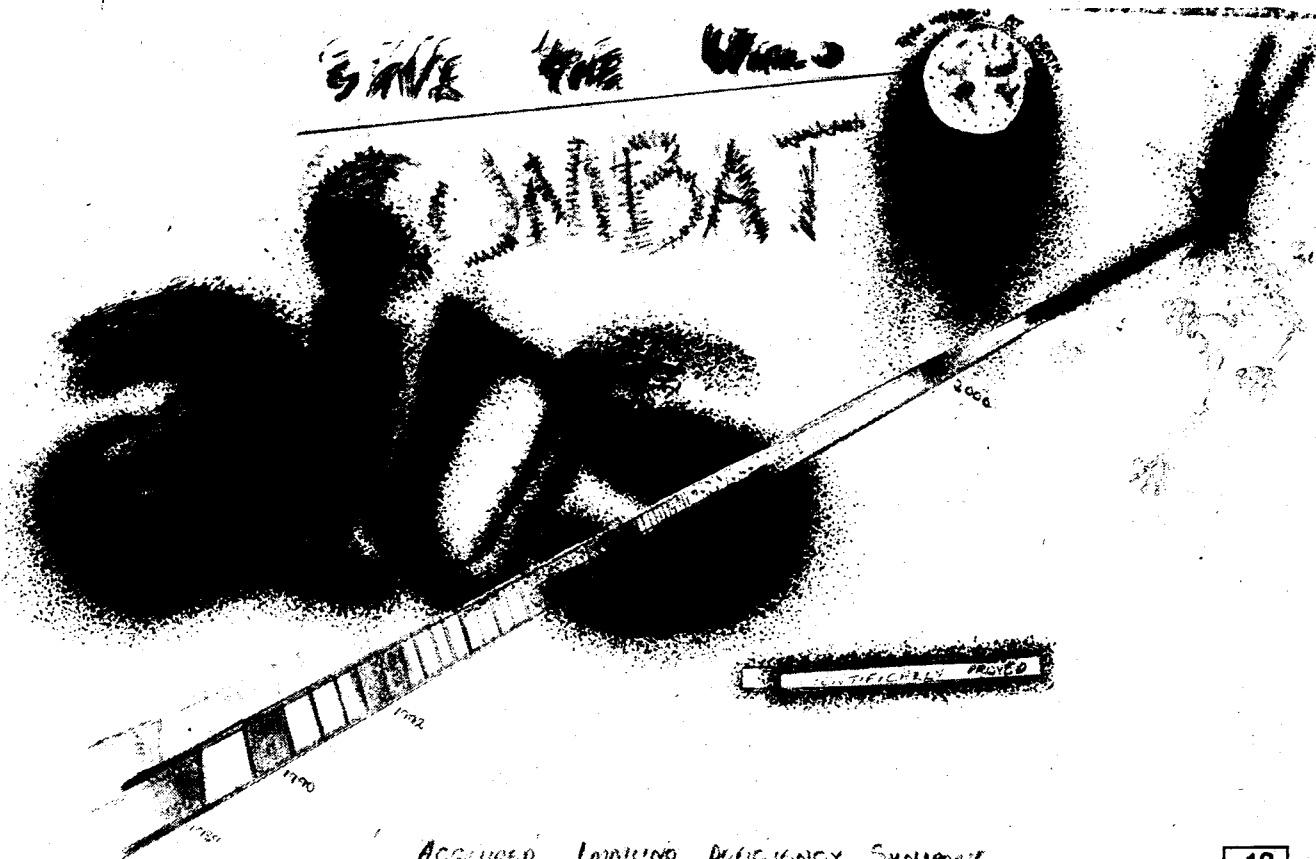


11

9. The Nation's Heritage — Jongwe rakarira, haka ndokufashuka mumasango

10. Dambudzo Marechera (HOUSE OF HUNGER) "I am against everything against war and those against war against whatever diminishes Th' individual's blind impulse!

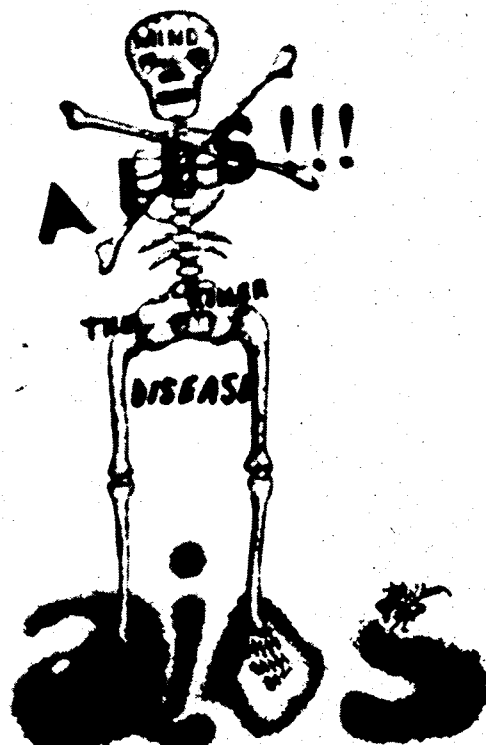
11. Working for the Party



ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME

12

By JEDISON L.W. N.
03-04-89



YOU CAN BE THE
VICTIM

12. AIDS — SAVE THE WORLD

13. You can be the victim

13

Consumers Up in Arms against Controversial Safety of Food (continued from page 19)

process has evoked mixed reactions in developed countries because of gross misuse.

When the British Government decided to keep the current ban on food irradiation, it cited as the principal reason that the technology could not be controlled, and that abuses could not be prevented.

There has already been a serious abuse of the technology in Europe involving a Dutch irradiation facility which irradiated reject food for re-export. Considering that, together with the recent nuclear equipment tragedy in Goiania, Brazil — which showed the sheer lack of even minimum safeguards — the Third World would do best to keep away from this technology for the present, consumer groups say.

Call For Moratorium

The IOCU, a federation of some 170 consumer groups in some 70 countries, has unequivocally called for a moratorium on the further use and development of food irradiation worldwide, unless issues relating to its need, safety, wholesomeness, control and labelling have been fully resolved.

There is, at present, no clear evidence to justify a real need for food irradiation — a fact well reflected in poor consumer acceptance and limited government clearance. It offers little, if any, advantages over the existing methods of food preservation and processing. The process may, instead, pose a host of health and safety problems.

Controversies surrounding the process may also prompt consumers to legitimately ask "if the food had to be irradiated, what was wrong with it in the first place?" The process is likely to require the use of various chemical additives to counter "off flavours" or "texture changes" in irradiated foods.

The history of health and safety data on irradiated foods is riddled with fraudulent research, dismal experiments, unsatisfactory tests and inconclusive results ranging from poor to questionable.

The situation is all the more pitiful with regard to long-term health and safety data. Some test results do indicate that irradiated foods pose a potential public health and safety hazard.

Other health and safety hazards include workers and communities living in the vicinity of food irradiation facilities and accidents at food irradiation plants. The process has also been used to mask indicators of spoilage, in that some good bacteria which cause food to smell bad when it spoils, are destroyed. So when food is irradiated people will no longer be able to use this age-old method to know when it has gone bad.

It is scientifically argued that the process can destroy certain nutrients, particularly some of the vitamins (A, C, D, E, K and

some types of B). Such nutrient losses are in addition to those normally encountered during cooking and storage of food prior to consumption.

Such nutrient losses are aggravated by further losses during prolonged storage, as one of the principal goals of food irradiation is to extend shelf-life. Extended shelf-life and prolonged storage also mean less choice for consumers of freshly harvested nutritious and wholesome foods.

Since food irradiation is presently permitted in some countries, consumer movements around the world have embarked on a concerted lobbying for clear and explicit labelling of irradiated products, taking into account practical and potential problems in date marking, inspection and certification. There is a call for a worldwide moratorium on the further use and development of food irradiation until there is satisfactory resolution of issues of nutrition, safety, labelling and detection.

Thus, labelling of irradiated food is the key subject to dominate the deliberations of the next meeting in Ottawa, Canada, by the Joint FAO/WHO Codex Committee and the



The disputed radiation logo supposed to be labelled on all irradiated foods. This "internationally" accepted logo is the current centre of controversy between pro-food lobbyists and consumer groups as inadequate and misleading

IOCU from April 3-7 — 1989. There is a sturdy move by the pro-food irradiation lobby to use this Codex Committee meeting to amend the existing Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Irradiated Foods.

Codex is an internationally recognised food code, aimed at promoting the quality and safety of domestic and imported foods or ingredients. Codex Contact points were therefore established in various countries — of which Zimbabwe's Government Analyst's Laboratory became a member in 1985.

Inadequate Labelling

It has been generally found out that irradiated foods are inadequately labelled, thus, depriving the consumer the right to information and to choose. Such a food does not

look different to the consumer and there are no simple, or even complex, reliable tests which can prove that a food has been irradiated — which makes irradiation different from other processes.

It is partly because of this difference and partly out of fear and distrust of the process itself that there is such an intense lobby for labelling.

The labelling of irradiated foods in other countries, usually done in conjunction with attempts to educate the consumer has elicited varying responses from consumers.

In South Africa, the label is a symbol with the word "RADURA", which is promoted as being the emblem of quality. The symbol, first developed by the Dutch, is now accepted as the international logo for irradiated foods. Accompanying the symbol must be a list of all irradiated ingredients.

There is, however, opposition to the so-called "RADURA" logo, especially from the international consumer movement (IOCU). The logo is construed as ambiguous and incorrect and does not conspicuously highlight the consumer's right to know and freedom to choose.

Even the World Health Organisation (WHO) has stated that "Consumers have the right to know how the foods they eat have been processed and treated. Consumers also have the right to make their own food choices on the basis of this knowledge" — hence WHO regards the clear labelling of irradiated food as obligatory.

According to the results of tests carried out in South Africa on irradiated food in selected supermarkets, scientists and promoters do have some reason for sticking to the RADURA logo and doubt of substantiating it by including the word "irradiated".

Labelling the word "irradiated" or any information indicating that the food or any ingredients were exposed to ionizing energy would scare consumers and put them off buying it, they argued.

Most manufacturers argue that the symbol is enough and there is no need to confuse consumers with processes they do not understand. But, on the other hand, pasteurization, a process the use of which is not evident to consumers of milk, is indicated on the label of milk containers.

Food irradiation is analogous to pasteurization in that the consumer has no tangible means of determining whether a food has been irradiated. In the absence of a label, a consumer would likely believe that an irradiated food has not been subjected to any kind of treatment. Furthermore, there are presently no reliable tests which can be carried out to identify irradiated foods or to establish the dose of irradiation employed.

The inability to identify irradiated foods makes the labelling of these products imperative. This will be the issue, therefore, consumer groups, FAO and WHO Codex Committees will be battling out in Ottawa on their week-long April meeting. □

TALKING POINT

Foreign Films in Africa: Problems and Opinions

Over the past few years African public has been increasingly concerned about the large-scale influx of cheap Western TV and Cinema productions into the continent.

"The situation is rather alarming", said Brendan Shehu, the General Director of the Nigerian Film Corporation. "Presented as 'innocent entertainment', thrillers, Westerns, horror and porno films propagate violence, cruelty and venality, as well as repulsive conduct. These blood-curdling films corrupt the audiences, especially the young generation, who are to build a new life in Africa".

Nigerian Minister of Information and Culture Tony Momoh shares Brendan Shehu's concern. He stated in one of his speeches that not only did Western films adversely influence the audiences, they were directly to blame for corruption, violence and drug addiction taking deep root in Africa now...

Nigeria gives only one, yet very typical example of the consequences of foreign mass culture's penetration into Africa. The first African Nobel Prize Winner, writer Wole Soyinka believes that Western mass culture is an instrument of the newly-established African states' spiritual enslavement. "Western ersatz culture imposes alien ways and patterns of African peoples with the help of advanced technical means", he says. "It is much easier to buy a Western porno film on a video tape in Africa, than one about the black continent's cultural traditions."

Low prices on Western films account for the fact that they are currently widespread in the continent. As a rule, feature films and

documentaries enter the African market only after they have done the rounds in the West. The film is sold only when it has paid for itself many times over. Therefore even low export prices can bring colossal profits. On the other hand, African countries find it much more profitable to buy Western films than to make their own, and African businessmen, who are aware of the market laws, cannot help but take this fact into account.

Measures to Curb Cultural Junk

In an effort to save the day and erect a barrier to cultural junk, a number of African states have introduced severe censorship on foreign films. However, far from all film supply procedures are above the board, not to mention tens of thousands of video-taped films, which makes the preliminary screening utterly impossible. Besides, not taboo has ever removed a single tricky problem.

Many African countries see a way out in the improvement of national cinemas, which could become powerful rivals to foreign ersatz culture. More money is currently being allocated for the development of film industries in these countries. The logic is simple — whatever the expenses, they are bound to pay back eventually in such an important sphere as the community's morality and spiritual life.

This policy has yielded tangible results as far as national TV programmes are concerned. The third All African Conference of TV Programmes' Producers, held in Nairobi in October 1988, was an important event. Producers of 31 countries showed 120 TV programmes, feature films and documentaries concentrating on the African

man-in-the-street's everyday joys and concerns. The audiences were spared the horror and chills of thrillers and detective films. Young producers told about Africa's past and present, about African peoples' effort to eradicate the aftermath of colonialism and the shameful South African apartheid regime. The films highlighted the issues of African countries' economic development and the improvement of education and public health systems. The Conference also became a festival of the highly original African folk art. A number of films were devoted to folk dances, songs, sculpture and festivities, rooted in Africa's remote past.

Such festivals are not only reviews of the Africans' accomplishments in cinema, they open up new opportunities for the exchange of TV programmes throughout the entire African continent, where some national TV companies still have very little to come on the air with. The Union of National Radio and Television Organisation of Africa, set up back in 1960, coordinates the exchange of TV programmes. The union is still in desperate need of finance and skilled personnel, including interpreters. Yet, TV viewers in different parts of Africa are getting used to the bright letters "URTNA" appearing on their TV sets in the evening. "URTNA" is the French abbreviation of the name of the union, which draws African peoples closer together with the help of national cultures.

All African meetings of TV programmes' producers and the URTNA's activities prove convincingly that African nations can jointly oppose the mass influx of cheap foreign cinema production. □

TALKING POINT

Moscow-Pretoria?

By Vladimir Bushin

Reports have appeared in the South African and Western press of late about contacts between the Soviet Union and South Africa and a "thaw" in relations between the two countries. These reports say that relations between the two countries testify to a 'change' in the Soviet policy in Southern Africa.

Such allegations come as a surprise to everyone who knows history. The kernel of the matter is that not only contacts but friendly relations have existed between the Soviet Union and South Africa for a long

time and have been expanding each year. But these relations are not with the Pretoria authorities, who are trying to usurp the right to represent South Africa in the international arena, but with a broad spectrum of anti-racist social and political forces in that country, especially the African National Congress, the spokesman for the majority of the population of South Africa.

Speaking in 1987 on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, ANC President Oliver Tambo said that 60 years before when the 10th

anniversary of the Revolution was celebrated, the then leader of the ANC, Joshua Gumede, participated in a congress of the friends of the Soviet Union in Moscow. "I say a new world in the making. I was in new Jerusalem", the man educated in Christian symbolism wrote about his trip to the Soviet Union.

South African communists had visited the Soviet Union earlier. The founders of the Communist Party of South Africa, Ivon Jones and Sidney Bunting, came to the Soviet Union in the twenties to participate



Comrade OLIVER TAMBO, President of the ANC celebrating the 75th Anniversary of his Party

in the work of the Comintern and Eugene La Guma, one of the first "coloured" communists in South Africa, met with Nikolai Bukharin, the then Chairman of the Comintern Executive Committee.

Among the South African communists who studied in Moscow in the thirties were Albert Nzula, the first black secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of South Africa; Mozes Kotane, the man who had been the leader of the Party for almost three decades since 1939; and John Marks, who was later to become the leader of South African black miners and National Chairman of the Communist Party.

Progressive Forces

The Second World War and the Cold War that followed shortly afterwards made contacts between the progressive forces of South Africa and the Soviet Union extremely difficult. But as soon as the international situation showed the first signs of improvement in the middle of the fifties, South African democrats received the opportunity to visit the Soviet Union. Among them were Sidney Bunting's son, Brian, who was elected by black South Africans as deputy to the country's Parliament but was expelled by racists; Duma Nokwe, future Secretary-General of the ANC; and Ruth First, a prominent journalist and member of the Communist Party, who later died at the hands of the South African secret services.

"Since then the ties between the USSR and South African democrats have never been broken. The Soviet Union is giving the African National Congress wide-ranging moral, political and practical assistance. A large part of this aid goes to the ANC from the Soviet Peace Fund, which is composed of citizens' donations, through the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and other pub-

lic organisations. For example, the Soviet Union has supplied cement and other building materials, transport vehicles and teaching aids for the ANC training centre at Morogoro in Tanzania. During the past 25 years hundreds of young South Africans have acquired an education in the Soviet Union and many injured and sick South African freedom fighters received treatment.

Yet, there was a time when the Soviet Union and South Africa had relations at government level, too. That was at the height of the Second World War, in which South Africa participated on the side of the allied powers. However, the two countries never went as far as exchanging ambassadors. There was no South African mission in Moscow, but the Soviet Union had a consulate in Johannesburg and a consular agency in Capetown. Economic relations also existed between our two countries at that time.

The situation began to change when the National Party came to power in South Africa and proclaimed the racist policy of apartheid. In 1950 the suppression of communist act was passed and in the early sixties the South African government unleashed terror against the anti-apartheid forces, banned the ANC and arrested many national liberation leaders and activists. In 1962 the Soviet Union, other socialist countries and many countries of Asia and Africa supported a General Assembly calling for the severance of diplomatic, economic and other ties with South Africa and ever since the Soviet Union has complied in good faith with the decision of the international community to isolate South Africa.

Campaign for Isolation

The Soviet Union is campaigning for isolation of the racist state, of what the anti-apartheid forces call "the White Republic

of Black Misery" but not of the South African people. In spite of all difficulties, our ties with the democratic forces of South Africa have been expanding, especially since the middle of the eighties when a new rise in the liberation movement in that country brought about the emergence of many legal democratic organisations and stimulated the activity of the organisations created earlier.

During the past two years prominent leaders of South African trade unions, university professors and representatives of youth and women's organisations have visited the Soviet Union. There were among them personalities as different as Andre Brink, a famous Afrikaans writer, and Fareed Essak, a Moslem preacher. During the celebrations of the 1000th anniversary of Christianity in Russia, Soviet people accorded a warm welcome to the Rev. Desmond Tutu, the Nobel Prize winning Archbishop to Capetown, and Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and one of the founders of the United Democratic Front (UDF). In spite of their political differences, these people are united by their opposition to apartheid.

In the summer of 1988, Alex Boraine, Executive Director of the Institute of Democratic Alternative for South Africa, visited Moscow and as a result of his efforts in late October a delegation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee met with representatives of white South African democratic organisations in Leverkusen, West Germany. That meeting was attended by members of the Executive Committee of the African National Congress.

From time to time, South African scholars come to Moscow. Naturally, the Soviet scientific establishment supports the UN-inspired boycott of those South African

scientific organisations and individuals therein who "endorse apartheid, or are supported by it". Equally natural, however, not all scientists and scholars from that country come into this category.

Learned Associations.

Something else that has to be taken into account is that international scientific and learned associations, when holding their conferences in Moscow, not infrequently demand that the South Africans be able to attend. Unfortunately, the latter's visits to this country are not always followed by objective and truthful accounts of what they have seen. Of all the visits by South Africans here, the one that most likely received the widest coverage in South Africa was the trip to Moscow in August 1987 of Dr. Philip Nel, the Director of the Institute of Soviet Studies, Stellenbosch University. He came to Moscow to take part in an international congress of philosophers.

A glance at what was written in the South African press in connection with Mr. Nel's visit leaves one with mixed feelings. Some of the articles represent a serious attempt to examine and analyse various aspects of Soviet policy, others are either disingenuous or just downright inaccurate.

For example, the "Star" newspaper carried an article by Mr. Nel with an accompanying statement that he had met "senior Soviet Africanists" where else but . . . in the Kremlin. In the article itself, an interview with V.I. Goncharov, the Deputy Director of the Institute of Africa, by "Work in Progress", a South African magazine, is transformed into an interview with Gorbachev . . .

There are also strange complaints that not only has Mr. Nel not exactly afforded an "overwhelming reception" in Moscow, but that he even had to spend his first night on a bench in the airport, since "in sorkers' paradise there is too much bureaucracy". Mr. Nel has only himself to blame for his night in the airport: he arrived before the start of his entry visa. But there's worse to come. The very fact of Mr. Nel's presence in the USSR was taken advantage of to reinforce his false conceptions about, for example, changes in the Soviet Union's attitude towards SWAPO, and the dropping by the USSR of its demand that South African troops be withdrawn from Namibia.

Turn Soviet Policy

In their attempts to turn Soviet policy on its head, they in South Africa often speculate over the terms "perestroika" and "new thinking", forgetting that the most important principle of this thinking in the Soviet Union's approach to world affairs is the right of peoples to choose for themselves . . . a right denied to the people of South Africa.

Both the South African Defence Minister, Magnus Malan, and President Pieter Botha himself have joined in the campaign to distort Soviet policy towards Southern Africa. Whilst holding forth upon the willingness of the Soviet Union to withdraw from An-

gola in an interview with "The Observer", Botha mentioned that he was familiar with Gorbachev's book on perestroika. The very fact that this book has made its appearance in South African shops (where it was an instant bestseller) says a great deal: for the first time in many years South African readers have had the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the opinion of a Soviet leader directly, and not through the usually hostile interpretation of others. Just how carefully the South African President read the book, however, is open to doubt. It's hard to believe that he didn't notice one particular section, of direct relevance to South Africa: "Our country", writes Gorbachev, "had always acted, and will continue to act, in support of the national liberation struggle of African nations, including those in Southern Africa, where one of the last bastions of racism is situated."

"When I met Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress of South Africa, I said to him: 'we side with you in your struggle against the apartheid regime and its henchmen, for a democratic state and independent development, for equality of all races and ethnic groups'".

Policy of Distortions

Why this burst of activity by the powers that be in South Africa? What aims lie behind their analysis (or rather distortions) of Soviet policy?

At least two reasons come to mind. Firstly, in order to restrain the West from imposing effective sanctions on South Africa, Pretoria is not above "playing the Soviet card", raising the spectre of the region adopting a non-aligned position, or even a possibility of rapprochement with the USSR. The second reason, however, is more substantial: an attempt to drive a wedge between the USSR and the national liberation movement. The South African government demanded that the ANC break its links with the Soviet Union and its alliance with the South African Communist Party, and renounce the use of violence (i.e., give up the armed struggle), as preliminary conditions to allow talks to be held. However, when the ANC rejected the ultimatum, Pretoria set about achieving its aims from the other direction, trying to sow doubt towards Soviet policy in the minds of the South African freedom-fighters.

Also, fanciful stories about trade links between Moscow and Pretoria began to circulate. A number of Niva cars, hunting rifles and jars of raspberry jam mysteriously appeared in South Africa, and the "Star" has already begun writing about Soviet "raspberry diplomacy". Surely the author of the article (that's what it was called: raspberry diplomacy) knows perfectly well that the USSR does not trade with South Africa, and that such goods could only have got there via third parties, without our permission.

All this begs the question: Is this merely smoke without fire? Are there no facts whatsoever backing up the pronouncements by

rank and file South African Sovietologists and their superiors? Unfortunately, not quite.

Degree of Incompetence

The fact is that some Soviet researchers and journalists on occasion display a degree of incompetence, which is made worse by their conjecturing. Some of those who were recently proclaiming the "Agony of apartheid" are now casting doubts upon the chances of success of a national liberation revolution in South Africa, now that Pretoria has managed to beat back the wave of mass unrest for the time being. At the same time, the political settlement and the struggle against apartheid, the armed struggle included, are regarded by them as opposing ends, rather than as cause and effect. They forget that Zimbabwe was finally able to achieve independence due to compromises for a political settlement, albeit after many years' fighting. The situation surrounding the solution on the Namibian problem is essentially similar.

"The Soviet Union", wrote Gorbachev, "has no special interests in Southern Africa. We want only one thing: nations and countries in the region must at last have the chance to settle their development issues, their home and foreign affairs independently, in peace and stability".

The USSR is ready to contribute, and indeed is already contributing, to this process. It is within this context that recent meetings between Soviet and South African representatives during the course of the quadripartite negotiations on the settlement in South-Western Africa should be viewed.

The negotiations' successful conclusion and the carrying out of Security Council Resolution 435 concerning an independent Namibia have now created a new situation in Southern Africa. But however important the Angolan-Namibian solution may be, this does not mean that there are no problems left in the region. Real peace and true stability in Southern Africa will only be established once apartheid has been destroyed.

Apartheid is Doomed

The Pretoria regime is doomed. Its continued existence is against the interests not only of the oppressed black majority, but, in the long run, of the white South Africans themselves, since it is only in a democratic South Africa that they will be able to live in freedom, without having to fear for their future. Moreover, the destruction of apartheid is a humanitarian and political task for all mankind, since it threatens the peace not only in Africa, but throughout the entire world.

The question remains — What is the best way to get rid of this anachronism? Will it take yet more years and thousands of victims, or will Pretoria come to its senses and embark on honest and open negotiations with the ANC and other democratic forces that will lead to a political settlement? One would hope so. □

For the Development of Agriculture in African Countries

The Leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Comrade Kim Il Sung spoke on the Development of Agriculture in African countries at the Consultative meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture from Eastern and Western Africa who have attended the Symposium of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production, on August 31 of 1981.

Below is the full text of the speech delivered by Comrade Kim Il Sung:

I would like first to express my thanks to you for your great efforts to success fully wind up the Symposium of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production.

Today I have invited you to discuss a few matters arising in developing agriculture in the countries of Eastern and Western Africa.

Currently we have many friends in Africa. I have met almost all heads of state of the African countries. They are all my friends and brothers.

I know well about the food situation in the African countries. Countries of Eastern Africa are now in the most difficult position as far as food is concerned. It cannot be said that the countries of Western Africa have completely solved their food problem. Of course, although their agriculture is not developed, countries with rich mineral resources are meeting their demands for food by purchasing cereals from other countries with the foreign currency they earn through the sale of crude oil and the like. But those with no money cannot buy cereals from other countries. I think they will have to go through many difficulties before they develop agriculture and solve the food problem by themselves.

Symposium

At this symposium the delegates have put forward many problems, discussed the ways to solve them, heard the experiences of our country, and visited many places for inspection. The symposium adopted the declaration on increasing food and agricultural production.

It will be wrong to think that all problems will be solved by themselves just because we have held the Symposium of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production and adopted a declaration. Any declaration



Leader of the DPRK, Comrade Kim Il Sung, appreciating rice crop

will be meaningless and will remain a mere sheet of paper if we do not take organizational steps to put it into practice. In the past years, the leaders of the non-aligned states held meetings and adopted many decisions, but in fact they could be of no use if no effective measures were taken to realize them. This time, too, if we just adopt a declaration and then disperse, the people of the developed nations may laugh at us,

saying that we broke up after making an empty talk.

We should not stop at merely holding the symposium and adopting the declaration, but we should proceed to take practical actions to put the declaration into practice.

It is very urgent for the countries in Eastern and Western Africa to rapidly develop agriculture.

For this purpose, it is important, first of all, to accelerate the development of agricultural science and technology in these countries.

Agriculture Research

Today I would like to propose to you the establishment of agricultural research centres in Eastern and Western Africa.

If we set up such centres for agricultural scientists and technicians from our country and the countries where the research centres are to be set up as well as from neighbouring countries to conduct joint researches on agricultural science according to the actual conditions of Africa, and a model is created and its examples are popularized, I think the Eastern and Western African countries will be able to develop agriculture rapidly and attain self-sufficiency in food.

These research centres would study and disseminate new farming methods agreeing with the geographical conditions and climate of the African countries.

In my opinion, if new farming methods are studied and crops are raised in a sci-

kilogrammes of maize and one or two tons of rice *perchongbo*. So we decided that we should boldly apply new farming methods to increase grain output. But when we set about farming by new methods, we found out that we did not know about many aspects of agriculture. Because I have been giving guidance in farming for a long time, I know quite a lot about it now. But I did not when I began giving guidance to it. I have never been a farmer, and I am neither a farm expert nor an agricultural scientist. My father was a revolutionary and I also joined in the revolutionary struggle in my young years, and so I have had no opportunity of doing farm work. However, for the solution of the country's food problem I had to find out ways of increasing grain output at all costs and grow crops by new farming methods.

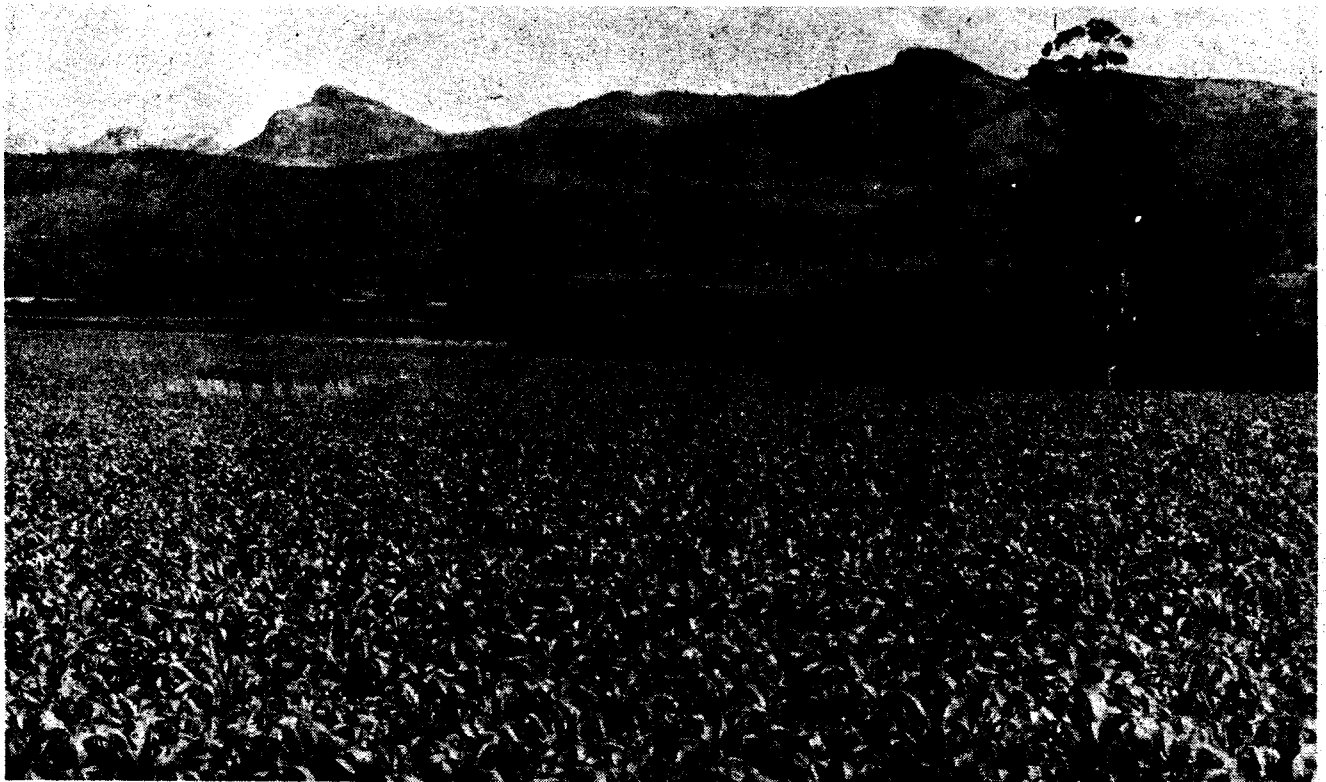
The first step we took for the improvement of farming methods was to send students abroad. From 1946 we sent a number of students to foreign countries, where they studied for five years or so. But they did not learn a farming method that suited our specific conditions; the methods they learned were suitable only to the country where they

tion used by other countries, the people would have starved to death. Those who studied abroad failed to learn a manuring system suitable for our country, either. After all, we gained nothing special from the education of so many students abroad. At that time, I thought I must have farming knowledge to lead the state. So I began studying new farming methods in keeping with our specific conditions. First of all, I went to farmers and had talks with them, listening to their experience, and also systematically read foreign technical literature for two hours every day.

New Techniques

I am still studying farming situations and technology in other countries. I carry with me the tape-recorded information on farming situations and new techniques from various countries and listen to it during a walk or when I am eating. When I consider that a foreign farming method could be beneficial, I give assignments to the Academy of Agricultural Science and farms to conduct experiments on that method before it is disseminated throughout the country.

We markedly raised the crop yields per



African agriculturalists urged to promote grain production

tific and technical way in the African countries, agricultural production can be increased by five or seven times as much, even in the present conditions. Needless to say, it is not a simple matter to introduce new farming methods. From the experience of our country we know well how difficult it is to apply such methods.

Even in our country crops were raised by backward methods right after liberation, so our grain production was small and the food situation was very difficult. In those years we did not produce more than 600-700

had studied. Some of them argued that crop rotating should be introduced in our country by cultivating only half of the farmland and leaving the rest to lie idle just as they did in a big country. As you know, our country is small in area. It has only two million *chongbo* of cultivated land, of which 200 000 *chongbo* is for fruit cultivation and another 200 000 is sloping land. What could have become of it if we had raised crops only on half of the farmland while keeping the rest idle as was done in a big country? Had we adopted the method of crop rota-

unit area by farming on a scientific and technological basis, as required by the Juche farming method. But in this course we have had a lot of hard problems. Farmers have a low level of ideological consciousness; so they are conservative in adopting new farming methods, and they prefer to persist in old ones. They do not believe words; they only believe what they see. Our farmers would neither believe in the Juche farming method at first. When we had the task of boldly increasing the number of maize plants *perpyong*. At that time, we persuaded them

and combatted their conservative attitude, and managed to increase the number from 20 000 plants to several times per *chongbo*. Now, no one objects to it. It took us a long time to persuade the farmers and agro-scientists to accept the idea of increasing the number of maize plants per *chongbo* to the present level. The same can be said as far as the struggle to increase the number of rice plants per *pyong* is concerned.

We also have made a great deal of painstaking efforts to establish a scientific manuring system. Formerly, in our country crops were raised by fertilizing them once or twice. Just as a man cannot digest too much food at one time, a crop cannot take in all the benefits from the fertilizer if it is given too much at one time. Our country is now fertilizing the fields a number of times in accordance with the Juche farming method. This is a very good method.

Growing crops is harder than raising domestic animals. Quite a long time and a lot of painstaking efforts are needed to improve farming methods, increase agricultural production and attain self-sufficiency in food.

Outdated Methods

We have striven for a long time to discard outdated farming methods and to raise crops as required by the Juche farming method. In an effort to make the Juche farming method more perfect, we decided to replace two elements of the old farming methods with new ones every year and have gradually improved the work of water conservancy, the manuring system, the ensuring of the required number of plants per *chongbo*, the prevention of damages from insects and blights and so on. At the same time, we have organized a short course on the Juche farming method every year for the chairmen of cooperative farm management committees, their chief engineers, the secretaries of the ri Party committees and other officials in the agricultural sector, to raise their scientific and technological levels.

We have evolved the Juche farming method and raised our farming to a high scientific and technological level. If African countries were to adopt the same method, they will have to do so in keeping with their respective conditions. The Juche farming method suits our specific conditions but may not be applicable to the African conditions in certain aspects. Therefore, it is necessary for African countries to study in detail such problems as to when to plant maize and harvest it, when to sow sorghum and bean and reap them, how many plants of these crops are to be sown per *chongbo*, how many times each crop is to be manured, etc., in the light of their climatic and soil conditions.

Research Centres

The agricultural research centres should also conduct studies into seeds.

The seed problem is very important in increasing grain yield. If the African countries plant good seeds, they will be able to boost

grain output by two or three times.

Our country, too, had failed to bring about the growth of grain yield as good seeds were not sown before. In the past, we could not produce much rice by whatever good method it was planted, but after sowing new species of rice seed we got through researches, the per-*chongbo* yield increased three or four times more than before.

As far as maize is concerned, after the introduction of the system of first filial generation, we produce an average of 6.3 tons per *chongbo* throughout the country currently, we are reaping only three to four tons of maize per *chongbo* of sloping fields. However, were we to cultivate it in flat areas, we would produce at least eight or nine tons. In maize growing it is important to introduce the first filial generation system. If we continue cultivating one variety of maize seed alone, it will degenerate and the yield will not be sufficient. The same applies for vegetable cultivation. Our country could not even produce 20 tons of vegetables per *chongbo* before. So, we could not supply enough vegetables to the people though we had wide tracts of vegetable fields. But now each cooperative farm which is good at vegetable cultivation produces 200 to 300 tons per *chongbo* and those which are not good, produce 100 tons each. There is not comparison between 20 tons and 300 tons. The remarkable rise in the per *chongbo* output of vegetables is due to the improvement of vegetable seeds. Because we have improved the seeds and made vegetable cultivation intensive and raised the per *chongbo* output, we are now fully meeting the demand for vegetables, while at the same time expanding the area sown to grain by reducing that for vegetable cultivation by tens of thousands of *chongbo*.

According to our country's experience, seed-breeding is not a difficult matter. Science is considered a hard nut to crack if one does not study it, but very easy, once one grasps it.

Green Revolution

Our agro-scientists are now saying that they will help attain the 15 million-ton target of grain production at all costs by making the green revolution. If the green revolution is carried out successfully, it will be quite possible to achieve this target.

I think that if African countries train agricultural scientists and technicians they will be able to obtain their own good seeds suited to the climatic and soil conditions of their countries. Countries where agriculture has developed to a certain degree, are now selling maize of the first filial generation to developing countries at high prices, propagandizing it as something special. The present price for one ton of maize seed is between 2 000 and 3 000 dollars. Even if African countries want to purchase it for planting, they cannot afford its price.

It is advisable that the agricultural research centres set up seed farms from which the seeds they gained by imparting seed-breeding technique and making the

green revolution are provided to state farms or cooperative farms and sold to individual peasants as well.

The agricultural research centres should also study solutions to the problem of fertilizer.

African countries do not have many chemical fertilizer factories and so they are not in a position to apply enough chemical fertilizers to paddy and non-paddy fields. It may be difficult for them to build chemical fertilizer factories right now to meet the demand.

I think that it is good for African countries to solve the current fertilizer problem by planting green-manuring crops. Since Africa has a hot climate, it will be possible to do three-cropping a year. Were African countries to do this farming, they would be able to plant crops once, green-manuring crops the next time, and again sow crops after upturning the land. Then they would neither need to build chemical fertilizer factories immediately nor import chemical fertilizers. Even though they now want to import chemical fertilizers, there is no country which intends to sell them.

The problem of farm machinery should also be solved in African countries.

Animal-drawn Machines

Under the present circumstances, I think, it is desirable for them to widely use animal-drawn farm machines. With these machines alone ploughing, weeding and manuring can be done easily. In our country, too, animal-drawn farm machines were in extensive use before when tractors were not available in large numbers. In those days tilling was perfectly done with draught cattle. As to threshing machine, they can make and use hand-operated threshers not using power, because of lack of electricity.

African countries should strive to introduce modern farm machines on the one hand and, on the other, use conventional ones along with them. In my opinion, this will fit in with their current conditions.

The agricultural research centres will be able to foster experts in irrigation, if the need would arise.

If African countries are to increase grain production, it is important to carry out irrigation projects well.

We have undertaken an irrigation project capable of watering 1 000 *chongbo* of cultivated land in Madagascar and it is at the finishing stage. Back home from his recent visit to Madagascar, the Premier of our Administration Council proposed to send farm machines and electric equipment to that country and I agreed to do so. If Madagascar brings 1 000 *chongbo* of land under irrigation and sets up a good experimental farm there, the experience will be widely shared.

Irrigation projects can be undertaken by building pumping stations to transfer the water to the fields, or by building water

reservoirs, or by drawing up and utilizing underground water. Big reservoir dikes should be built with cement, but earth may be used for small ones.

The peasants, the masters of the countryside, should be encouraged to take an active part in carrying out irrigation projects. If you develop a nationwide movement, you can easily build such things as earth banks.

Irrigation Work

After the war we carried out irrigation works through a nationwide movement and brought 300 000 *chongbo* of land under irrigation in a matter of one year. At present we have more than a million *chongbo* of irrigated area. There are more than 1 500 reservoirs in our country.

In order to carry out irrigation projects in a nationwide movement, you need a large number of irrigation engineers including designers, surveyors and civil engineers. African countries are capable of manufacturing simple equipment such as pumps on their own, and so all that they need are irrigation engineers.

Irrigation engineers can be trained by different methods. African countries may train them by sending a certain number of people to our country to take courses which would last a few months, during which they will inspect irrigation facilities and undergo practical training. They may also send young people to our agricultural universities to train them under a long-term plan; and they may invite our teaching staff to help them in training their own engineers by using schools located near the agricultural centres.

It will also be a good idea if agricultural research centres were to be built in all Eastern and Western African countries to help them. But this is beyond our power. I think it is necessary to set up an experimental farm in each country where an agricultural research centre is not established. After the farm makes experiments with the results obtained from the research centre to suit the actual conditions of the country, it will be able to popularize the good results.

Crop Cultivation

Africa has favourable conditions for experimenting on crop cultivation, for it is so hot that crops can be raised several times a year. In our country crops can be grown only once a year, so we carry out experiments on crop cultivation in hothouses. But African countries will be able to make such experiments well without building hothouses.

I hope that on your return home, heads of the Tanzanian and Guinean delegations will tell Presidents Nyerere and Sekou Toure of my suggestion that they allot the farmland necessary for research work when the agricultural research centres are established. These centres will need about 100 *chongbo* of land at first, and then, with the expansion of the centres, the area can be increased to 200 or 300 *chongbo*. This amount of land is wide enough to cultivate any crops for experiment. The experimental farms to be created in other African countries, too, need farmland. It will be advisable to allot some 50 *chongbo* to an experimental farm at first and to gradually expand it up to 100 *chongbo*.

salaries to our scientists and technicians sent to the agricultural research centres. Just let them eat as you eat, say manioc or maize if this is your food.

Next, it is important to solve the question of training agro-technicians in order to develop agriculture in African countries.

Only when you rear a great number of your own agro-technical cadres, can you develop agriculture rapidly. Each province in our country has an agricultural university where a large number of agro-technicians are trained annually. In order to solve the problem of agro-technicians, African countries, too, should have many agricultural colleges. To make it clear, it is no simple task to build an agricultural college. If such a college is to be set up, there should be experienced teachers with profound knowledge of agriculture.

Agricultural Colleges

Agricultural colleges would be useless if they use translated foreign textbooks without modification. They should teach the students farming methods suitable to their own countries.

When the first agricultural university was set up in our country, it used translations of foreign textbooks as they were, for the education of its students. As a result, it failed to teach the students useful knowledge. The graduates from this university and other agro-scientists and technicians who had studied abroad in those years were reluctant to adopt the Juche farming method.

Let's take an example.

Once I proposed the idea of sowing tobacco closely to increase the number of its



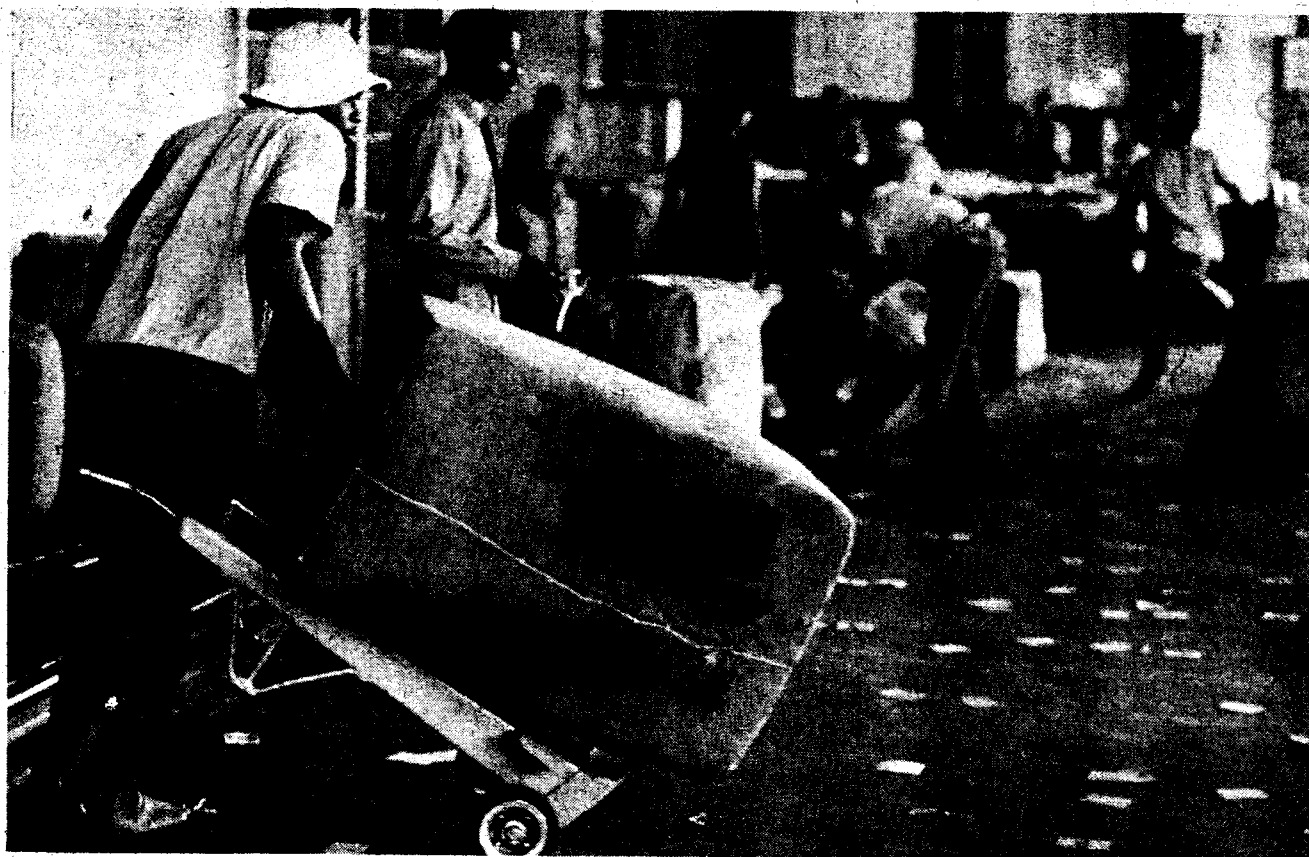
Farming methods must be geared to attain self-sufficiency in food production

I think it is advisable to set up an agricultural research centre both in Eastern and Western Africa, preferably in Tanzania and Guinea. I believe that the Presidents of these two countries will actively support my suggestion, because they have already discussed this problem with me several times. These research centres may eventually be developed into academies of agricultural science for these countries.

We can send some ten agricultural scientists and technicians to each of the agricultural research centres to be set up in Tanzania and Guinea, and three to five to each experimental farm that is to be started in other countries according to their request.

As for trucks, tractors and other equipment necessary for research work, our scientists and technicians will take them along with them. We do not ask you to pay

plants per *pyong* by a large margin, but agro-scientists and technicians did not readily accept it at first, saying that such a closely planted crop would not thrive. They were eight agricultural university graduates who had been educated before the Juche farming method came into being or graduates who had studies in other countries. So I gave the task of applying the new method directly to a certain farm and got them to culti-



Workers at one of the Tobacco Auction floors in Harare — Agricultural success in a Third World country

vate the crop on a scientific and technological basis, and they reaped a very rich crop of tobacco. I took the agro-scientists and technicians to the farm and said that the close planting of tobacco grew well and asked why they had refused to adopt the method. Only then they did not object to the idea. Since then, we have harvested four tons of tobacco per *chongbo* by that method. In former days the per-*chongbo* yield of tobacco had been only several hundred kilogrammes so that we could not meet the domestic needs, although we planted it in 30 000 *chongbo* of land. But, nowadays, we produce more than four tons per *chongbo* and so we are not only meeting the domestic demands for tobacco but we are also selling a large amount of it to other countries every year, although we have considerably reduced the area sown to tobacco.

We trained a large number of students at agricultural universities, but they turned out to be useless in the initial years because of the improper textbooks. We saw to it that all textbooks of the agricultural universities were examined and they were then newly compiled to suit the actual conditions of our country.

African Countries

In African countries, too, if textbooks written by Frenchmen or Englishmen are used as they are to teach the students, they will not fit in with their actual conditions. Although the general principles of biology are the same, the specific environments and conditions in which crops grow differ from one country to the other.

If African countries find it difficult to train agro-technicians on their own, our country

may do it for them.

When the Tanzanian President visited Korea this year, I told him that we would expand our Wonsan University of Agriculture to train African agro-technicians. If we train them, they will, upon returning home, become the central figures in striving to set up agricultural colleges. We are now expanding the Wonsan University of Agriculture as we promised the Tanzanian President.

If necessary, our country will train not only their agro-technicians but also engineers and cadres to manage other sectors of the economy.

If African countries send students to our country, it will take about two years for them to learn our language. So, I agreed with the Tanzanian President that Tanzania would send people who speak English to our country so that they could teach the students in English according to our lecture materials. This will save them the time to learn Korean. If African students intend to study agronomy after learning our language, they will not be able to study very much before they return home.

In the past our students studied abroad and came back, but they digested only 30 per cent of what they were taught because of the language difficulty. I call them "30-percent persons". If African students try to study after learning our language, they will also become such persons.

African Students

Even if African students attend our agricultural university, they will be fully able to

understand lectures if they are taught in English, French or Spanish respectively according to their linguistic knowledge. If Tanzania sends those teachers who know English, Guinea dispatches those who know French and other countries, too, send teachers to our country so as to teach the students, the teachers themselves will become independent scholars and, after returning home, will strive to compile textbooks suited to the actual conditions of their countries, and to set up agricultural schools.

I deem it advisable that African countries start the work of training agro-technicians without delay by sending their students to our country. We are ready to admit to the Wonsan University of Agriculture not only students from Africa but also students from Latin America and other parts of the world.

Today I have told you my views about developing agriculture in Eastern and Western Africa. You may either convey my suggestion to your Presidents or heads of state and governments when you are back home and inform me of the results or if you are invested with full power, may speak your resolutions just now. Then, we will take concrete measures to give effect to the matters raised at the consultative meeting today.

I am very grateful to you for sparing your precious time to attend this meeting. I have told you everything without reservations because I regard you as my brothers and as my ministers. If there are any mistakes in my remarks, please excuse me.

I hope that back home, you will convey my greetings to your Presidents or heads of state. □

**No other airline flies
to so many places in Africa.**

**Abidjan, Accra, Addis
Ababa, Asmara, Bamako,
Brazzaville, Bujumbura, Cairo,
Dakar, Dar-es-Salaam, Dire Dawa,
Djibouti, Douala, Entebbe, Harare,
Khartoum, Kigali, Kili-
manjaro, Kinshasa,
Lagos, Lilongwe,
Luanda, Monro
via, Nairobi,
N'Djamena,
Niamey.**

**ETHIOPIAN
AIRLINES**

Bringing Africa together

CABS Centre, 4th Floor, Stanley Avenue, Harare, Zimbabwe
P O Box 1332, Tel: 790705/6 795215/6

To be a Student in Bulgaria



Students from Climent of Ochrid University in Sofia during lectures

If you want to be a university student in Bulgaria you must pass an entrance exam. For most specialisations this means you must compete with several candidates and for the most prestigious studies even with ten or fifteen. Prestige in this case is a rather dynamic notion: in the 1950s and 1960s for instance medical sciences, law and technical subjects were considered the most prestigious. Since the early seventies anything that has to do with electronics has come into vogue. Today there is a drop in interest in technical institutions. This year many of them will admit students on the basis of their graduation diploma only. The aim is to attract those who fear competition. Art schools and the languages remain on the top of the universities' chart. However these subjects' appeal is often due to the wrong idea of their being all too easy.

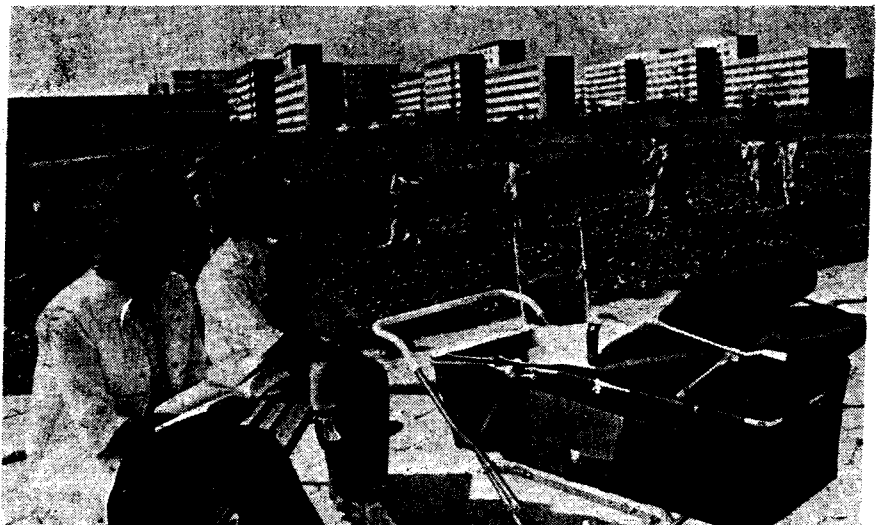
The successful candidate joins the academic community, which is a matter of prestige, regardless of the subject he or she is doing. Failure to enter the university is generally considered a disaster.

There are over 100 000 young people in Bulgaria studying in 30 higher educational establishments. Two or three thousand of them study abroad. There are also several thousand foreign students in Bulgarian universities and polytechnics.

Average Spendings

It is a good thing to be a student in Bulgaria but it is also a financial burden for the parents. Owing to the specific nature of relations in the Bulgarian extended family, the children are often financially dependent on their parents even after marrying. This is all the more valid for students.

The average spendings of a student's family range between 60 and 80 per cent of the income of a working Bulgarian. A large proportion of their spendings is for rent, especially in Sofia where the rent for a room is one third of the average monthly salary. For over half the students this is no problem because they live in students' flats for a



Rest hours in the Faru of Christo Bolev Students' town

token rent. This applies mostly to student families who enjoy all the benefits provided by the students' townships: day care centres, creches and kindergartens.

Students have their own incomes too. A quarter of them take odd jobs. But nearly all receive grants, the size of which depends on their marks at exams and on their parents' incomes. Excluded from the scheme of grants are only students with poor marks and from families with higher incomes. Orphans, children of big families and student mothers are entitled to certain allowances. Excellent students receive grants regardless of their parents' incomes. A top student's grant usually bears the name of an outstanding Bulgarian writer or poet of the past and is about the size of the minimum working salary.

Active Social Group

Students are generally acknowledged to be the most active social group. Their activities are concentrated within the youth or-

ganization in Bulgaria — the Komsomol. Its units enjoy substantial rights in the higher educational establishments. The Komsomol distributes students' flats and grants, runs the holiday homes for students and the sports facilities. It also has its own infrastructure and budget. Komsomol leaders represent the students' interests at academic and faculty councils where they have the last say on many matters.

Amateur art activities are among the students' most popular free time occupations. Students' troupes constitute one third of all Bulgarian amateur art companies. A great number of students in their last two years of study are engaged in clubs and circles led by lecturers.

Unlike other countries student sport is not so widespread in Bulgaria. Water and sea sports and those connected with tourism and holidays seem to have a greater appeal. Sports clubs of the higher educational establishments are not particularly popular and are generally structured as branches of the

several academic clubs where sport is practised on a semi-professional basis.

Length of Studies

The length of studies in Bulgaria range between four years for the polytechnics and six for medicine. For most of the students this is a process of maturing and proving themselves because many of them leave their parents' home. The joy of independence prevails over the homely sense of security in their native town or village, which accounts for the highest rate of migration from rural to urban areas among university graduates. In a small country like Bulgaria this means living and working some 400km away from one's home town, at the farthest, which is not a distance that could break family ties. But unlike other countries the academic centres in Bulgaria are as a rule the biggest cities. This leads to a shortage of qualified personnel in smaller towns and villages.

Student years are generally considered the best time in one's life, when deep and long-standing friendships are made. □

INTERNATIONAL

South African Aggression Costs Frontline States Billions

South African Aggression has cost the Frontline States a minimum of US\$35 billion, the Southern Africa Research and Documentation Centre news release has said.

South African pressure on the six countries has been extended to the imposition of economic sanctions. The costs incurred also include infrastructural damage caused by the regime's direct sabotage and by South African supported surrogate groups. This had increased defence spending and higher freight rates true to destruction of transportation routes.

The news release says that South Africa's projection of itself as southern Africa 'peacemaker' is misleading because military activity against Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana has escalated. Schools and health centres have been destroyed especially in Angola and Mozambique resulting in massive displacement of people. The release, quoting a Commonwealth interim report, says that after independence, South Africa began to effect co-ordinated interventionist policies towards neighbouring states under the rubric of total strategy with the objective of protecting apartheid from military or economic pressure.

The release says 3 000 schools have been destroyed with 7 000 teachers affected in Mozambique. Ten rural hospitals have stopped functioning. Turning to Zimbabwe it says the country has lost over Z\$1,5 billion almost US\$800 million with additional military costs amounting to Z\$2,1 billion (US\$1,1 billion). The cost of direct South African sabotage is a staggering Z\$66 mil-



The Work of South African-backed bandits. Inspecting the damage are the late Senior Minister of Political Affairs, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo (left) and the Governor of Matabeleland South, Comrade Mark Dube

lion (US\$35 million). According to his report quoting the Commonwealth report locomotive ventral, and losses of fuel have cost a further US\$36 million.

More than 1 000 people have been killed, injured or abducted in increased cross border attacks between Mozambique and Zimbabwe by the South African backed MNR bandits. A South African brigadier gave the "green light" for these incursions, Tanzania on the other hand, lost about US\$300 million in maintaining its 4 000 soldiers in

Mozambique. Zambia has also suffered dearly losing US\$2,5 billion.

The report says that there were recommendations to tighten the international arms embargo and other sanctions improving access for journalists in the region boarder circulation of accurate information on the detail and context of the regional situation and presentation of this information to governments and international organisations including the United Nations Security Council. □

Commonwealth in Support of Namibian Independence

The Committee recalled that at its meeting in Toronto it had welcomed the consultations between the Governments of Angola, Cuba and South Africa under the mediation of the United States. It noted that those negotiations had since culminated in the Brazzaville Protocol of 13 December and the New York Agreements of 22 December which have opened the way for Namibia's independence under Security Council Resolution 435/78. The Committee welcomed these opportunities and committed its support to their genuine fulfilment. The Committee stressed that Namibia was the sole responsibility of the United Nations and that the Commonwealth looked to that body to bring Namibia to independence through free and fair elections under its effective supervision and control.

The Committee recognised that the Commonwealth — which has long waited to wel-

come Namibia as a member — had a particular interest in safeguarding the integrity of the process for implementing Resolution 435 and the plan for Namibia's freedom. It was, therefore, deeply disturbed by the continuing differences in the Security Council on the implementation of Resolution 435 involving a possible substantial reduction in the military component — as set out in paragraph 49 of the Secretary-General's Report to the Security Council of 23 January, 1989.

The Committee hoped that these differences would be resolved without recourse to such a revision of the UNTAG plan. The over-riding consideration, however, must be the ability of the United Nations to carry out its full responsibilities in relation to the implementation of Resolution 435 and the early independence of Namibia through free and fair elections held under its supervision and control.

To this end, the Committee called on members of the international community to assure the United Nations Secretary-General that the required resources will be provided, if necessary by additional contributions, to permit him to deploy, within the upper limit of 7 500, the full military component judged by him to be necessary for carrying out effectively all the relevant tasks specified in the UNTAG plan.

In the view of the Committee, the UN Secretary-General's efforts to sustain confidence all round during the transitional period could be assisted by the presence of observers from as many member states as possible. Accordingly it expressed the hope that Commonwealth members should respond favourably to requests from the Secretary-General for personnel in constituting observer components of UNTAG. □

INTERNATIONAL

NAM Communiqué

Below is the text of a Communiqué issued by the Coordinating Bureau of NAM following a briefing by SWAPO and by the chairman of the African group for this month, Botswana, on the current developments in Namibia:-

The Coordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned countries held an urgent meeting in New York on 6 April, 1989 to consider the grave situation in Namibia.

The Bureau expressed shock and dismay at the brutal and genocidal campaign of the illegal occupation regime of South Africa against the Namibian people at a time when the process of bringing genuine independence to Namibia was already underway. It was outraged to note that the murder squads of battalion 101 and Koevoet were operating with the full authority of the special representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Marti Ahtissari. The Bureau judged Mr. Ahtissari's action to be ill-conceived and a violation of Security Council Resolution 435 (1978). It is a betrayal of the sacred trust the United Nations has for the Namibian people and brings shame on all members of the United Nations.

The Bureau was scandalised to learn that

the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group was wholly unprepared to assume its responsibilities by April 1, 1989, the designated date for the commencement of the implementation of Resolution 435. It was an act of irresponsibility and naivety to proceed with the 1st of April date when logistically the date could not be met. The Bureau reaffirmed that the SWAPO combatants who, as is well-known, have always been operating on the ground inside Namibia since the beginning of their liberation struggle, have legitimate right to remain in their country, and to be assigned to bases of confinement in accordance with the Secretary-General's report S/13120 of 26 February, 1979 which stipulates that "any SWAPO armed forces in Namibia at the time of the cease-fire will likewise be restricted to base at designated locations inside Namibia."

The Bureau denounced and rejected the unfounded and deliberately contrived basis proffered by the illegal occupation regime of South Africa for leaving their bases to at-

tack SWAPO combatants in Northern Namibia.

The Bureau called upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to confine the South African forces to their bases without delay in compliance with Resolution 435 and to effect the immediate full deployment of the 7500 military component of UNTAG in Namibia as provided by Resolution 435 (1978) in order to ensure free and fair elections without intimidation. Furthermore, the Bureau expressed concern at the poor judgement shown by the special representative of the Secretary-General in his handling of the present crisis in Namibia and called on the Secretary-General to ensure that the same does not happen in future.

The coordinating Bureau requested the Non-Aligned group of 17 on Namibia to continue monitoring the implementation of Resolution 435 to establish a mechanism for receiving information from the United Nations Secretariat on a regular basis and to report to the Bureau. □

Fifty Years since the Great Antiwar and Antifascist Demonstration in the Romanian Capital (1 May 1939)

Long live the country's national independence!", "We demand the observance of frontiers!" "Long live Romania's territorial integrity!" "We want a free and independent Romania!" "Down fascism, Down the Nazi aggressor!" read the placards and shouted the people at the great antiwar and antifascist patriotic demonstration of 1 May 1939 in Bucharest and in other Romanian towns. A most impressive demonstration which vigorously expressed Romania's will to oppose the policy of expansion and aggression of Nazi Germany, of other fascist and revisionist states.

The 1 May 1939 manifestation proceeded at two levels: an official one and a mass one. Confronting the danger posed at the national independence and Romania's territorial integrity, the government presided over by Armand Călinescu (who would be shot on 21 September 1939 by Iron Guard members, agents of the Nazi regime in Romania) considered that a demonstration of national solidarity was necessary to prove that beyond any economic or socio-political tensions, the broadest circles of the Romanian public opinion were determined to defend the country's frontiers and sovereignty. "I want to state" — the Prime Minister said in his speech to the Guilds Congress, called on that day — "in order to dispell any doubt, that Romania wants to have relationships of good neighbourliness and friendship with all neighbour countries; she is willing to work to further strengthen these links in the cultural and economic fields. But whenever any attempt is being made anywhere to encroach upon our territory, it will meet with the firmest and fiercest resistance. This policy is not only the policy of the government or the policy of a group of people; this is the policy of the country, it is the national policy".

Great Demonstrations

In parallel with the actions carried out by the officials, the left forces at head with the communists requested the organization of great demonstrations which should express the masses' will to oppose fascism, to defend the country's independence and integrity. Back in June 1933, upon the initiative and under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party, the National Antifascist Committee had been founded, the aim of which was to rally all the democratic and antifascist forces of the Romanian society. Founded shortly after the establishment of the Nazi regime in Germany, this committee was one of the first antifascist organiza-



President Ceausescu of Romania (right) being received by President Mugabe at the Harare International Airport on July 14, 1983

tions the world over, based on the principle of the union of all democratic forces, antifascist forces of the nation in the defense of the independence and liberty, threatened by fascism. In the management board of this committee — dissolved by the authorities in the next year — was also the young communist campaigner Nicolae Ceausescu.

He played a crucial role in the preparations for the big demonstration of 1 May 1939, carrying out an intense organizational and political activity. Elena Petrescu (Ceausescu) was also among the promoters of the demonstration.

Bucharest Demonstration

The Bucharest demonstration took place in an international context overcast by the clouds foretelling the storm of the second world war. It was the first powerful movement in Europe which called the Romanian people, the workers throughout the continent to fight fascism, to defend the right to freedom and independence of all states. The dismemberment of Czechoslovakia through the annexation of Bohemia and Moravia to the Nazi Reich (15 March 1939) cast light on the delusion of Chamberlain and Daladier in thinking that they had fully appeased the Fuhrer's territorial greed under the Munich accord (29 September 1938). The "Prague coup" showed that Hitler was determined to continue his policy of expansion and aggression, to annex also territories with non-German populations. Pursu-

ing the disastrous diplomacy of appeasement, Great Britain and France awoke, in the spring of 1939, to the fact that they had to revise their policies through and through: the London and Paris governments vis-a-vis the Hitlerite aggressor. Instead, the circumstances forced the concerned big powers to conduct unsuccessful negotiations which ended with "solutions" that dealt a serious blow to the interests of peoples in central and eastern Europe.

Progressive Forces

Against this background, the big antiwar and antifascist demonstration of 1 May 1939 took place in Bucharest, when all the progressive political forces at head with communists spoke up for democratic liberties, in defense of the country's independence and integrity, principles which guide Romania's internal and international policy to this day. The same Ceausescu of 50 years ago, now at head of the communist party, of Socialist Romania is steadily working for broad international collaboration devoted to the peace and progress of all peoples; for a world of justice and equity in which each nation may develop freely and self-reliantly.

Just as they did fifty years ago, the Romanians firmly and courageously express their will to be masters of their own destiny and send the world a message of hope. Hope in a world of freedom, peace and cooperation. □

Maurice Nyagumbo — A Hero of the Zimbabwean Liberation Struggle Dies



The late Senior Minister of Political Affairs Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo

The longest serving political detainee and prisoner during the liberation struggle, Comrade Maurice Tapfumanei Nyagumbo, died at Parirenyatwa Hospital on April 20, 1989. He had been admitted at the Hospital on April 19, 1989.

The late Comrade Nyagumbo was a renowned veteran of the nationalist movement. He spent nearly 21 years in detention or prison for his part in the country's liberation struggle.

He was born on December 12, 1924 in Rusape and was educated at St. Faith's Mission and St. Augustine's School in Penhalonga. He left the country to look for employment in South Africa in 1940, but this was hard to come by and in the next few years, he worked as a vegetable seller, butler and waiter in Port Elizabeth.

Politics

He was introduced to politics when he was 24 by a fellow Zimbabwean who helped him to become a member of the Communist Party which was banned in South Africa in

1948. He later moved to Cape Town where he helped found the Central Social Club, a quasi-political body of Zimbabweans.

During all that time he worked in collaboration with Comrade James Chikerema. In 1953 Comrade Nyagumbo became the Secretary of the Central Social Club. He remained in South Africa until 1955 when he was deported for having contact with Mau Mau sympathisers in Kenya.

Back home, he joined forces with Comrade Chikerema, becoming founder member of the African National Youth League.

When the African National Congress was formed in 1957 he became Secretary of its Rusape branch. In 1959 the ANC was banned, and Comrade Nyagumbo began what was to become his long life in prison, as a political detainee.

He was detained and restricted to Gokwe in 1959 and released in 1962. He immediately joined ZAPU after its formation, but later joined ZANU as soon as it was formed in 1963.

Organising Secretary

He was elected organising Secretary. He was again detained in 1964 and spent the next 11 years before he was released in 1975. A few months after his release, he was charged with recruiting young men and women for guerrilla training and sentenced to 15 years' jail.

The life of Comrade Nyagumbo as a detainee and political prisoner eventually came to an end in December, 1979 when he was released to attend the last ceremony of the Lancaster House Conference which brought independence to Zimbabwe.

During his long periods of incarceration by the Rhodesian authorities, Comrade Nyagumbo studied various subjects but most of his time was devoted to writing. This resulted in a book on his prison experiences entitled "With The People", which was published soon after independence.

When the new Government came into office on April 18, 1980, Comrade Nyagumbo was appointed Minister of Mines after successfully contesting one of the Manicaland seats in the 1980 elections. He also became ZANU (PF's) Administrative Secretary.

Through hard work, Comrade Nyagumbo's responsibilities were soon added to when he became Minister of Mines and Energy Resources in May, 1980.

In 1981 (March), Comrade Nyagumbo was awarded the Martin Luther King Memorial Award for his book — "With The People."

Following a cabinet reshuffle, in January 1984, Comrade Nyagumbo was appointed Minister of State for Political Affairs and Provincial Development Co-ordination.

He was also elected to the ZANU (PF) Central Committee at the Party's Second Congress in 1984 and appointed Secretary for Administration in the Politburo.

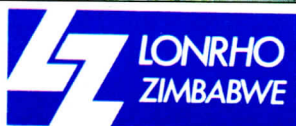
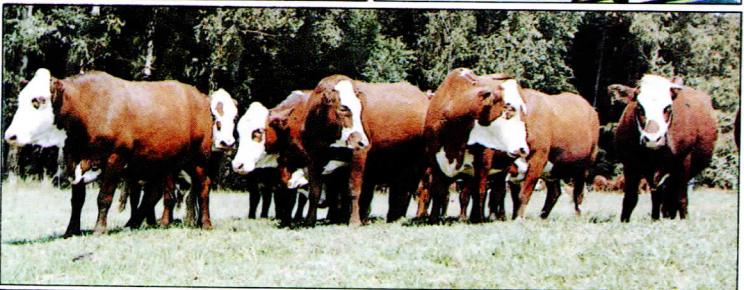
In January 1988, after winning the Dzivaresekwa Seat in the 1985 elections Comrade Nyagumbo became a Senior Minister for Political Affairs in the President's Office, a portfolio he held until his resignation on April 12, 1989 from both his ministerial and ZANU (PF) Politburo posts following the report of the Sandura Commission to President Mugabe.

Comrade Nyagumbo is survived by a wife and six children.

He was buried at the National Heroes Acre on April 23, 1989 with full military honours. □

LONRHO

The associated companies of the Lonrho Group combine to make Lonrho one of Zimbabwe's most effective income generators in the areas of mining, manufacturing and agriculture.



Part of the strength of Zimbabwe

Ace Engineering (Private) Limited

Construction Associates
(Private) Limited

Corsyn Consolidated Mines Limited

W Dahmer & Company (Private) Limited

Crittall-Hope Limited

David Whitehead Textiles Limited

Eastern Districts Engineers
(Private) Limited

Engineering Research and
Manufacturing Industries Limited

Gramma Records Company
(Private) Limited

Homestake Mining and Technical
Services (Private) Limited

Independence Mining (Private) Limited

Italian Coachbuilders (Private) Limited

Lonrho Motor Industries Limited

Mobile Motors (Private) Limited : Associate

National Blankets (Private) Limited

Savannah Wildlife Division

Simms Electrical and Diesel
Services (Private) Limited

Teal Record Company (C.A.) Limited

Turnpan Zimbabwe Limited

Unity Woodworking Division

The Wattle Company Limited

Willoughbys Consolidated PLC

Zambezi Coachworks Limited

Zimoco Limited

Zimparts (Private) Limited

Cost effective telephone systems with a new high degree of versatility and clarity make Philips telephone systems the first and final choice in many countries. Philips telephone systems expand to fill needs. Design and variable facilities ensure against system obsolescence.

Philips make direct benefit systems, featuring; abbreviated dialing, call charge monitoring, call forward group hunting, automatic ring back; features that generate great savings and reduce frustration to a minimum.



It's Philips in every language



No need for separate 'exchange' office. The equipment needs no special environment, it is light and noiseless, indifferent to temperature change.

The proof of Philips systems viability and economy must be the number of installations working and giving satisfaction.

Philips will be glad to talk to you.



PHILIPS

We want you to have the best.