

# Zimbabwe News Official Organ of ZANU PF

Unity, Peace and Development

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## **Zimbabwe News**

**Official Organ of ZANU PF** 

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## EDITORIAL

### Meeting the people at work The President and First Secretary, Comrade R.G. Mugabe, has spent much of his time in the last three months touring the rural

The President and First Secretary, Comrade R.G. Mugabe, has spent much of his time in the last three months touring the rural areas and meeting the people. He has been received with much enthusiasm everywhere, and given solid support. The long tour is now coming to an end, but the results are already obvious.

The new feature in this particular tour is time being given to the inspection of development projects, as well as public works programmes. A lot of good solid work is being done by peasants and workers in each district in the continuing effort to raise living standards. Most of those projects initiated by and supported by the people themselves, have developed into successful production units.

The tour has silenced the irresponsible opposition papers, and sections of the overseas press, who were shouling very loudly that ZANU PF had lost its popularity. Even those opposition parties that were calling for an early general election, are now quietly licking their wounds in the bars and pubs. They know that if an election were called today all their candidates would lose their deposits in every seat; and they would lose the three seats they already have in the present Parliament.

The tour has promoted the concept of direct democracy that ZANU PF believes in. That means the leaders talking to and meeting the masses to communicate new ideas, and then listening to the people for their response as well as their own ideas. All ZANU PF leaders at all levels are required to practice this direct democarcy. On the current Presidential tour the people in every district have had the opportunity of expressing their grievances, desires, and aspirations directly to the President and First Secretary. At many meetings the genuine representatives of the people put forward both constructive criticisms and positive suggestions on how best to reduce the negative impact of the severe drought. The severest problem is the acute shortage of both surface and underground water supply.

The Provincial and District leadership of our party must strengthen and deepen the link that has been established with the broad masses. The two-way process of communication must be maintained and improved upon. As in the past, selected weekends and some selected evenings must be devoted to political rallies and meetings for disseminating information, countering the false propaganda of our enemies, and public education. Malpractices and corruption should be exposed, culprits punished, constructive solutions found.

## PLEASE! DON'T REMIND US

Two of the loudest and wildest critics of ZANU PF and the Government are Mr. Ian Douglas Smith and Sir Garfield Todd, both former Prime Ministers of colonial Southern Rhodesia. They are advising and supporting some opposition parties. Their common platform is that Government policies of the last 12 years have been disastrous. The differences between the two men are of degree rather than of kind. No reference is made to the natural disaster of 5 years of drought in certain districts; no reference is made to the progress made in various areas inspite of these difficulties; and, of course no reference is made of their own shortcomings in the many years they were in government. The hard truth of the matter is that these two politicians never wanted majority rule, or independence in Zimbabwe under the leadership of the black indigenous people of this country. Now that independence has been achieved, the indigenous people of this country, do not want to be reminded of -

- The institutionalised racial discrimination that was practised systematically against them when these two gentlemen were in government in Southern Rhodesia;
- The massive abuses of human rights including whipping and torture, and the losses of the lives of indigenous people;
- The denials of the basic right to vote, to own property, to work in the public services; and the denial of citizenship in the land of one's birth.
- The detentions without trial, deportations of freedom- fighters, long jail sentences just for asking for democracy, and regular torture of prisoners by Police;
- The systematic empoverishment of the peasant farmers by legislation and discriminatory pricing of their products;
- The massive slaughter of freedom-fighters at Chimoio, Nyadzonya, Tembwe, Lusaka et cetera at the hands of the Rhodesian armed forces;
- Institutionalised discriminatory labour laws and wage structures that robbed the indigenous people of millions of dollars that should have been theirs.

The list is long and painful. While we have forgiven these two gentlemen in the spirit of our correct policy of national reconciliation, we cannot forget that past record and their policies. The opposition parties they are now supporting and promoting may endeavour to return to some of the polices listed above. In that case, our duty is clearly to remind and warn our people against what is in store for them. As Comrade M. Mahachi, the National Political Commissar, rightly said, we do not want to open old wounds, if we can help it.

# Introduction to Cde. Mutasa's letter in response to an article which appeared in the Horizon, April . . .

The following letter was written by the ZANU PF Secretary for Administration. Cde. Didymus in response to an article which appeared in the April, 1992 issue of Horizon magazine. The article was titled "How ZANU PF Built A Capitalist Empire" and it listed numerous companies whose investment "at least" is made "on behalf of the people of Zimbabwe ... Since then the Party's portfolio has spread beyond the understanding of most Zimbabweans. Knowledge of the diversity of investments is confined to a handful of top functionaries. Those in the know today include Emmerson Mnangagwa, Adam Wenyimo and Sydney Sekeramayi. Others who have played key roles during the last ten years are Enos Chikowore, Didymus Mutasa and Fredrick Shava," says part of the article. Below is Cde. Mutasa's response ...

1. The title of the article "How ZANU PF built a capitalist empire" is misleading. It gives the impression that Zimbabwe is a socialist society which ŹANU PF is polluting. Zimbabwe is not yet a socialist society although that is, of course, ZANU PF's stated goal.

The other misleading part of the title is the use of the phrase "built a capitalist empire". We did not build any empire. We took joint ownership of the means of production. There is nothing wrong with ownership of property. That should be the objective of socialists. Marx's friend, Engels, owned factories in Manchester and used the profit from his factories to support Marx's work. Similar ly ZANU PF is owning property to support its work. That is why the title of the article is misleading because it gives the impression that it is wrong or unsocialist to own property. What is wrong is not ownership but how the owners of property use the profits that they obtain from that property. The profits should be used to promote socialism.

ZANU PF has not yet realised much profit, if any, from the property it jointly owns with its partners. We are, in fact, still in the process of buying our ownership in some of the companies. Some of our partners were very kind in that they allowed us to own shares in their companies and pay for the shares with the dividends that we receive from the profit. We are, therefore, gradually paying for the shares and, after that has been achieved, we shall then start to benefit fully from the profit that accrues from our shares in the companies.

The third misleading aspect of the title is that

it poses ZANU PF as an individual. ZANU PF is a Party — a group of individuals.

That group, the Party, owns shares that we hold in the companies mentioned. That is in line with socialist principles. The Party, through Government, encourages cooperatives where a group of persons own the means of production in agricuiture, industry or commerce. So the Party is practising what it preaches.

There is an error in the article. The Party has no shares in Unicorn. That company belongs to our overseas partners. ZANU PF has no shares or interest in it. The article mentions this company as belonging to us in order to paint a wrong picture that we own interests in companies beyond our borders. ZANU PF has no interest in any company beyond our borders.

Zimbabwe's move towards socialism must Start with the ownership of the means of production by Zimbabweans. This is where

Cde. Didymus Mutasa

our trade unions have missed the point. They have relied on wages and not ownership of the means of production. We must own our land and other means of production. Then we can employ or give our labour to our benetit. We refused to nationalise all means of production. So the alternative is to purchase. That is what ZANU PF is doing.

This trend that has been followed by some workers, who have purchased firms at which they are working, should be continued vigorously. Once our people own most of our Zimbabwean property, the profit (that extra value) will remain in this country and will be used for the benefit of our people.

If the author of the article in *Horizon* had these thoughts in his mind, he would have given it a different title. However he reveals his ignorance of ZANU PF's intentions of what is good for Zimbabwe.

Zimbabweans should not be content by seeing their profits going out of the country be-

#### **LETTERS**

author of the article in *Horizon* should not mislead' his/her readers by implying that ZANU PF has turned captalist because it Government and President. owns property. That kind of mentality ignores the reality in this country and the purto liberate our country: that is, the soil, its asked that question about white capitalists. so that we can talk in Parliament and to capitalists. He also accepts that black Zim capitalists.

Mbuya Nehanda who spurred us to struggle had a better understanding of what was at stake than the author of the article.

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cause they are unwilling to be sole or joint when Jongwe sells to profit?", by Cde. Jona owners of the means of production. The than Moyo PhD, there is no need to comment. I am most dismayed but in other articles that he has published, about our Party,

\_If his question, "Who pays when Jongwe sells out to profit?, was asked in a constructive pose of the war of liberation. We went to war manner, Dr. Jonathan Moyo would have people, fauna and flora. The Horizon article He does not do so because he accepts that seems to imply that we liberated ourselves it is better to be exploited by white leave our wealth to be exploited by foreign babweans should sit back and watch white capitalists exploiting them and do nothing to stop some of the profit from going out of the country. He writes as if he came into existence vesterday and discovered that the majority of our institutions are owned and 2. With regard to the other article "Who pays controlled by capitalists. That situation will

not change through uninformed criticism but through practical examples in the opposite direction. All that Dr. Moyo has offered in that article is uninformed criticism and that is most dismaving.

Maybe the letters PhD after Dr. Moyo's name stand for "Pull him Down", because his criticism is not constructive. He has never said anything useful or constructive about our society. With teachers like this at the University of Zimbabwe, should we wonder why students there behave as they do? Cde. Moyo's article is therefore not worth commenting on. There is nothing in it worth singling out for comment: more so when the author is an informed teacher of Political Science.

D.N.E. Mutasa SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION

# People have confidence in ZANU PF - President

he first secretary and president of ZANU PF, Cde. President Robert **I** Mugabe recently said that the re cent by-elections demonstrated that the people, by and large, still repossessed their confidence in the Party and its leadership.

Officially opening the second session of ZANU PF Central Committee at the Party Headquarters on June 26, President Mugabe said "the mini-parties have been taught another lesson of strength as they were further dwarfed and their false hopes of victory dashed. Even our own prophets of doom, men and women of faint hearts within our own ranks. must have been put to shame."

Cde. Mugabe admitted that apathy, ex isted in the Party and went on to say that some people do not quite know that apathy is not anti-party, but a mere attitude of temporary disinterest. "Of course apathy has the potential of easily Party to join the government in various turning into anti-party unless we take steps to revive the interest and confidence in the Party of those sections of ing them for the public works our followers who suffer from it," he programme. said.

Party to readjust its, organisational Committee levels must be as active parstrategy, taking into account the partice ticipants in the mobilisation process as ular problems facing the people, are Village Committees, district and province by province. He urged the provincial executive committees of the



Cde. R.G. Mugabe

projects of delivering relief to the people as well as in organising and mobilis-

"Our leadership organs at VIDCO, WAD-He also emphasised the need for the CO, DIDCO and Provincial Development Party," Cde. Mugabe said adding that the involvement of the grassroot leadership in organising the current drought relief programmes is a real necessity, as it activates or reactivates it.

Cde. Mugabe said a Party whose Government shows serious concern over the people's suffering and takes vigorous measures to end that suffering or, at least, to alleviate it, cannot be anything but their most trusted saviour, a friend in need who shall remain a friend indeed

"It is thus not enough for us to continue asserting ourselves as the country's liberators because twelve years after liberation we have to satisfy the people that we are capable of turning that liberation into an effective instrument for the improvement of their social and economic condition on a sustainable basis. Anything less will just not do," he said.

Cde. Mugabe also urged the Party to rejuvinate and strengthen the Youth and Women's Leagues as mainstays of the Party. He said the Youth League appears to be in shambles, while the Women's Lague is also gradually showing signs of Inertia. "This trend must immediately be errested by way of well-designed programmes that can generate the activities of the Youth and Women and lead greater meaning to their lives, thus

# **President meets** the people



#### His Excellency, The President Cde. R.G. Mugabe

Collowing his own suggestion during the 2nd Ordinary Session of the Cen-L tral Committee, the First Secretary and President of ZANU PF. Cde Robert Mugabe, embarked on an intensive meet-the-people tour on July 15. The nationwide tour scheduled to be wound up by October this year kicked off with

and have a chance to present their problems to the President.

Cde. Mugabe has already assured the nation that Zimbabweans will survive "no matter the severity of the current devastating drought". Addressing a ralthree star rallies in Matebeleland North ly in Matebeleland North at Dete Cross-Province, Matebeleland South, and the roads in the Hwange District, he said Midlands Province. Next, he will tour that although he could not promise to Mashonaland West and the other six attend to all problems besieging the na-

## **People have confidence in** ZANU PF Continued from previous page

and Government," he said.

The President commended the work being done by the Vice-President, Cde. Simon Muzenda and the Drought Relief Committee. "The overall food situation has shown dramatic signs of coming under control and the Drought Relief Committee should be congratulated on the effective manner in which the designed emergency measures have beer brought into operation," he said.

Cde. Mugabe pointed out that water resources were not easily available or reported acquisition of rigs able to drill so," he said.

stimulating their interest in the Party boreholes as deep as 400 metres should ensure communities of water for both domestic and livestock requirements.

> The President also pointed out that the Government's programme of assisting upwards of some 800 000 communal farmers this coming agricultural season with fertilisers, seeds, chemicals, tillage and expert advice, appeared to have ignored the need to incorporate measures aimed at the resuscitation of the depleted livestock.

"There is great need for a livestock accessible as those of food because of rebuilding programme to be undertaken the dryness of rivers, dams and the in an equally vigorous way. Our cattle general fall in the water table. He, farmers do certainly expect government however, expressed hope that the assistance, and they are right in doing

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provinces, and people would learn a lot

tion at the moment, he will personally supervise the implementation of those projects that require urgent attention.

The President toured most projects in the provinces he visited and after addressing a rally, he invited members of the local leadership to ask him questions on various issues affecting the people. Dominant in all guestion-and-answer sessions, were issues pertaining the scarcity of boreholes, clinics, "A" Level schools, transport, project funding, bad roads and the inadequacy of the drought relief food.

In his response, the President explained to the local learderships that problems of transport, boreholes and clinics would be given due consideration and by the end of year, something would have done. He, however, told people at the star rallies that the issue of the drought relief food would be given priority as more maize continues to arrive through Mozambigue and South Africa

#### Commitment

The President assured people that the Party and government were equally concerned with the welfare of every Zimbabwean. He added that the two will continue to explore and exploit every accessible means to feed the people.

"Water and food are our basic rights. We cannot afford to let our people go without these basic essentialities," Cde. Mugabe told a rally in Hwange. He repeated this message at Avoca Business Centre in Filabusi, about 65 kilometres north-east of Gwanda when he said: "Because the water in our rivers is dry, and nothing in our fields, cattle, the very means of our survival are gone. As such, the government has set up a task force at the highest possible level headed by the Vice-President, Cde. Simon Muzenda charged with the responsibility of securing food for the people and to ensure its distribution to every needy Zimbabwean."He told the gathering that even at the ports (of Mozambique and South Africa), responsible authorities there had been instructed to give food priority over other goods. "I am glad that the two countries co-operated and

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we are co-operating too on humanitarian grounds," he said.

Filabusi alone has 31 364 applicants for the drought relief food with a tonnage requirement of 470, costing \$300 000. Matebeleland South as a whole has 231 816 applicants and the government spent \$2.5 million on their food in July alone. During the same month, the government spent \$48 million to feed the 4 077 818 applicants nationwide.

"I am giving you all these figures to illustrate government's concern over the well being of the people," he said adding: "We have decided to shift resources to those areas that need urgent attention."

Cde. Mugabe said that some projects would be allowed to continue for the benefit of the localities. These, he said, included the construction of dams, hospitals, the drilling of boreholes and the building of schools.

He urged the gathering in Esigodini, about 40 kilometres from Bulawayo: "There is need for us to co-operate in order for us to defeat the adversity of the moment. 1992 should be remembered as a year of troubles, a year of near tragedy. It is also a year to be viewed as a basis for our way forward".

#### Land

The President urged the people to organise themselves, be registered and to work closely with Agritex. Local Government Authorities and the Party to ensure proper distribution of the agricultural packages such as fertilizers and seeds which will be given for free by the government.

should be more land for the people. Land belongs to us and we should have Administration at the Headquarters of it," he said. "It is, however, a sadden the Party. ing feature to the Party and to most people, I'm sure, that our cattle are dying when there are vast lands where our cat tle could graze.

That has to stop. We tried to be gentle if any men, adhered to the Lancaster Constitution and behave legally and orderly, but 12 years is enough. We will designate land, allocate it to the people as speedily as we can," he said.

cern in some quarters like commercial themselves or for any person a gift or farmers and Britain that the government was now acting against whites. He said they argued it was against the govern- done any act in relation to the affairs ment policy of national reconciliation pronounced in 1980.

We never said our policy of national reconciliation accommodates injustices such as racialism of the past. The people own the land, they must have the land. Our policy )! national reconciliation only sought to oring justice where there were injustices. equity where there was inequity and racial harmony where there was racialism," the President said much to the applause of the people gathered at Avoca Business Centre in Filabusi.

the exercise to designate land fearlessly, courageously and objectively. He, however, said that the government will pay for any de- Swithun Mombeshera, is scheduled to round velopments that might have been made on off his countrywide meet-the-people tour on any designated farm. "Come next year, this 31 October with the tour of Harare.

same time, we don't want to see cattle mov ing around people like donkeys," he told the gathering

The President addressed the question of boreholes at Mataga Growth Point, about 95 kilometres south of Zvishavane when he said rigs capable of drilling boreholes to the depth of 400 metres would soon be in the country from South Africa "To give water to the people'

Cde. Mugabe urged all who are involved in The President who was being accompanied by the Minister of State for Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, Cde.

# ZANU PF drafts **Code of Conduct**

ANU PF recently formulated a Code of Conduct by which certain limi-Latations will be imposed on all its members and office holders in respect of ownership of property and land. The Code of Conduct was discussed at the Party's Central Committee meeting which was held in Harare in July.

The Code of Conduct stipulates that every leader is forbiden from being engaged or in any way associated with corrupt practices and should make full disclosure of their property and such "The future solely lies on our land. There property to be recorded in a Register of Interests maintained by the Secretary for

Every Party leader will be obliged to make full disclosure of all property acquired by the leader on behalf of another person, while such leader is in "Land is ours, but the land is not ours. office, and source of funds for payment,

The leader should not be engaged or involved directly in the management or otherwise running their own business or undertakings whilst holding office, and avoid all situations likely to give rise to conflict of interests. They should also not The President noted that there was con- accept or obtain from any person for consideration as an inducement or reward for doing or omiting to, or having of the Party or Government. They should not give or offer any gift to any person

as reward for a favour obtained or to be obtained.

A leader should not make collusive arrangements with anyone or secretly obtain consideration for themselves or for another person or fail to disclose the full nature of the transaction to the Party or Government. They should also not decline to disclose their personal financial affairs or other assets to a properly constituted Party or Government Body investigating alleged corruption.

The following shall be delienated as leaders for the purpose of the Code of Conduct:

1.1 Members of the Politburo who hold a salaried high public office

2 Members of the Central Committee who hold a high salaried public office

1.3 Members of Government

1.4 Deputy Ministers of Government

1.5 Provincial Governors

1.6 Permanent Secretaries

1.7 Deputy Secretaries

1.8 General Managers of Corporations

1.9 Town Clerks

Rules that govern ordinary members of the Party it make incumbent on them to abide by the Party Constitution, and to observe and respect the policies, rules and regulations of the Party; and strive continuosly to raise the level of his/her



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political and social consciousness and understanding of Party Policies and Programmes.

- to strengthen, popularise and defend the Party and its policies at all times and to preserve personal dignity and that of the Party.
- to preserve the confidentiality of Party and Government communications and refrain from any acts likely to bring the Party and Government into disrepute
- to refrain from and oppose resolutely, tribalism, regionalism, nepotism, racialism, bigotry, corruption, dis-

crimination on the grounds of sex or religion and all forms of exploitation of man by man.

to make regular payment of his dues and subscriptions to the Party.

Limitations to Ownership of Land Regulations governing the ownership of land stipulate that no leader shall:

own or lease land other than as prescribed by law as applicable to all persons - provided that nothing shall be interpreted as prohibiting a leader from engaging in any lawful enterprise upon the said land

receive more than one salary from

either the government, Quasi Government Body or Party

except for or in his own business or enterprise, not serve as a director of a private firm of business organised for profit

not personally manage, engage or directly operate his own firm or business

Any member or leader in breach of any provision of the Code of Conduct or any other rule or regulation of the Party shall be disciplined in accordance with the provisions of the Party Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

## Interview with Cde. Makombe -**Democracy prevails in Zimbabwe**

Up to now some people do not believe that democracy prevails in Zimbabwe. Following is an interview with the Speaker of Parliament, Cde. Nolan C. Makombe, on the existence of democracy in the country.

- Q. . The last few years have seen a resur gence of the democratic movements in Africa and other Third World Countries. How do you view this trend and in what way has it impacted on Zimbabwean politics?
- A. THE resurgence of the democratic movement in Africa and other Third World Countries has manifested itself in two ways, first, in the form of demands for the creation of multiparty system as opposed to the single party system and secondly in the form of demands for a recognition of the sanctity of human rights. These developments are indeed positive and healthy. This is because democracy is an important human ideal, to strive for and aspire to. I believe that the hallmark of any civilised society is its recognition and respect for democratic principles, practices and conventions. Any government which does not respect human rights and democracy is sowing the seeds of its own demise as people are always ready to consent enormous sacrifices to secure these. The impact of these developments in Africa and other Third World countries have not been very significant in Zimbabwe. This is because, since independence, the government has acted within the letter and spirit of the constitution which provides for a comprehensive Bill of Rights and protection of the fundamental rights of the human being.
- There are some politicians who feel that 0. Zimbabwe is undemocratic. How do 0. you respond to them?



Cde. Nolan Makombe

A I do not agree with those politicians who say that Zimbabwe is undemocratic. My own conception of a democratic system is one which accommodates the following, Inter-alia freedom to form and join organisations, freedom of expression at all levels, the right to vote, eligibility for public office, the right of political leaders to compete for public office, free, fair and periodic elections and the respect of the rule of law and for the human dignity. All these rights in my view are enshrined in the Zimbabwean Constitution. There are also various institutional machinery to ensure that these rights are observed and respected.

Has the present Parliament done enough justice to the electorate in terms of meaningful debates on national issues?

In terms of meaningful debate on national affairs, I feel that generally the present parliament has done justice to the electorate. I would refer you to the Hansards in which debates on the following issues are recorded: the Constitu tional Amendment No.11 Bill, the Infanticide Bill, Land Acquisition, Unemployment problems, Aids, the economic reform programmes (ESAP) and most recently the drought and its consequences. I want to say that the level and quality of debate on all these issues was extremely high. Members have also made full and rewarding use of the question time their probing questions on government policies and programmes.

Q. What have been the highlights of the present Parliamentary term?

The present Parliamentary term to me has been one of the busiest in terms of work covered and also the approach taken in addressing various national issues. However, I would say, the major highlights of the term have been the passing of Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment No.11 Bill, which allows the government to seriously address the land question which, under the provisions of the Lancaster House Constitution, tied its hands in its efforts to achieve its lifetime objective of equitable land redistribution to satisfy the land hunger amongst the underprivileged majority of our people.

Parliament also passed the Infancticide



air zimbabwe

A tradition of caring.

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Bill whose purpose seemed not only to be misunderstood by some members but also aroused strong feelings against the seeming condonation of the murder of infants by their mothers.

The University of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill as you are aware and the National University of Science and Technology Bill were also passed during the present term.

The discussion and passing of the Land Acquisition Bill, and the debate on the maize shortage must also rank as major highlights of this particular term.

Are the opposition parties playing any meaningful role in Parliament?

- I don't think they are insignificant. I think the role of an opposition party should be that of questioning the very foundation of the entire political and economic system. They must also examine whether the institutions of the State work satisfactory and whether they should continue to look in their present form. I do not think that their role in Parliament should be that of vociferously and insistently opposing the programmes of government. I therefore feel that at the moment, opposition parties are playing a very minimal role in as far as my understanding of what an opposition party should stand for in Parliament.
- In the absence of a viable opposition 0. in Parliament, do you think it is necessary for ZANU PF to operate on the basis of caucus or should ZANU PF MPs be allowed to challenge policy openly?

Athink it is generally understood that the ruling party should demonstrate democratic principles. The ruling party usually calls its members to streamline or straighten up certain issues the party believes in. It has been our policy in the Party to allow and to accommodate free debate and free expression of views.

- Some people notably the State Presi-Э. dent feel that there is emerging an opposition party from within ZANU PF ranks, as Speaker, have you noticed such a trend in the House
- Many ruling party MPs have expressed Α. views critical to the government. However, whether they would emerge as an opposition party in the future is still to be seen. As I said earlier, the Party has always welcomed free expression of views, in and outside Parliament.
- 0. How do you view Cde Eddison Zvobgo's public statement that an upper house be reintroduced?
- A. My views on the Senate are well known, infact Comrade Zvobgo is only express- Cde. John Nkomo

ing what I have always believed in I have always believed and its on record that second chambers have a very useful part to play in adding to the democratic process by:

(a) giving a voice to diverse groups whose representative might be swamped in elections to the Lower House.

(b) provision of special expertise on the form and content of legislation and hearing of expert evidence on pending legislation largely free from the poor preoccupations of party political concerns and

(c) scrutiny of Bills and subsidiary legislation with a view to protecting the fundamental rights in the nation

But this is a party issue. The party decided we have to go unicameral. We are not a static society. We can always change and I think the views by Zvobgo is just a repetition of what some of us have been saying for some ten years.

0

How do you see the next five years in Zimbabwean Politics against a background of mushrooming political parties and pressure groups?

As I mentioned earlier on, the mushrooming of political parties and pressure groups is indeed a health development and is welcome but I do not see major changes in the political climate besides the numerical increase in the number of the parties. However, I

also believe that parties formed by opportunists guided by selfish motives would not be a positive phenomena. If the results of the recent by elections are anything to go by, then my view that there is not going to be much change in the next five years is further strengthened

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Recently there were reports that MPs were not receiving their subsistance? Travel allowances. What led to this and what is the position now?

The case of Members of Parliament not receiving their subsistance/travel allowances was a result of unavoidable overspending by Parliament. But I am pleased to say the situation is now normal. We will be cutting down our expenditure because of our financail expenditure in terms of our economy. Has the Parliament shelved its plans to construct new Parliament buildings at the Kopje?

As for now, plans to construct the new Parliament buildings have been shelved. It could cost the taxpayer almost \$1 billion and the present economic hardships in the country do not allow us to embark on such a project.But we are going to renovate this present Parlia ment and Ministry of Public Construction and National Housing have reached an advanced stage of the plans of renovating this Parliament at a cost less than a million dollars.

he Minister of Public Service,

Labour and Social Welfare, Cde.

John Nkomo, who is also ZANU PF's

Secretary for Production and Labour, re-

cently announced that a Social Development Fund (SDF) has been created to

minimise the adverse effects of the Eco-

nomic Structural Adjustment

Programme (ESAP). This fund will ad-

dress two main issues comprising the

employment creation and training com-

ponent and the Social Welfare aspects.

The two components will be co-

ordinated by the Co-ordination Unit

The Employment and Training

Programme (ETP) will enable casualties of ESAP to earn income and those

retrenched to retain or find alternative

means of self-employment. This compo-

nent is mainly concerned with small scale forms of employment creation

whose head is already in place.

## Social development fund to minimise suffering



#### kers have already submitted applications for retraining and skills development assistance under SDF and that 26 applications for financial assistance to set up business ventures have also been received. "This shows that people are aware of this facility under SDF," he said.

However, he said no request for training or skills development have been received. "It would appear this is due to failure by ministries, PSC and other commercial companies to follow laid down procedures for pre-retrenched counselling on the existence of ETP. This counselling requires that people are told of ETP before they are laid off." Cde Nkomo said.

Ide. Nkomo said 112 retrenched wor-

Cde. Nkomo said retrenchment exercise has gathered momentum and that 4 664 and 2 064 people from the civil service and the private and parastatal retrenched. He however, expressed his dissatisfaction on the arbitrary retrenchment procedures.

He said that the majority of applications received so far for assistance to set up business enterprises, do not satisfy the requirements of SDF: that the applicants be people affected by retrenchments or that the proposed ventures be small and to some extent be labour intensive. "Campaigns in this direction will be mounted to educate the people what SDF is all about, lest we are accused of hijacking the spirit of SDF," Cde. Nkomo said

He said consultative meetings on the implementation of the SDF programme have already been held with some institutions and organisations and that numerous recommendations have been made. It was recommended that SDF be used to strengthen the entrepreneurship sectors respectively, have already been training programmes, counselling and

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activities.

NATIONAL

consultancy services of the business development institutions. It was also recommended that more funds should be provided to these institutions for disbursement towards employment development institutions.

Cde. Nkomo also said that pupils who fail to raise school and examination fees will be identified by school authorities together with his ministry and given assistance. "During the first term, 100 000 pupils applied for assistance and 8 481 of them were successful. The SDF spent approximately \$1 million on this assistance." he said

He said the ministry has also exempted people who earn \$400 and below per month from paying hospital fees (covering medical examination, drugs, et cetera). "These people are entitled to free treatment at any Government or Government supported health establishment, he said. 

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#### NATIONAI -

he new member of Parliament for Mount Darwin, Cde. Younis Patel recently told The Zimbabwe News that the district administrators, district party leaders and the governor of Mashonaland West and himself should get together and formulate a plan of action to uplift Mount Darwin District, which he said has been starved of meaningful development since independence.

Cde. Patel attributed the lack of development in the district to the absence of coordination among party leaders, governors and districts administrators.

"Roads in the district are in poor condition, the schools are not up to standard and there is severe water shortage in some parts of the district. About three quarters of the boreholes in the district are dry and something should be done about it," he said

Cde. Patel said one of his objectives was to see more industries and self-help projects established at the district's growth point. "This will create employment for school leavers who are lying idle at their homes." he said.

He said at the moment there were only two small industries at the Growth Point one which manufactures stockings (I and K Enterprise) and Tasandra Welders. which manufactures scotchcarts and windmills among other things.

"The Growth Point itself should be seri-





Cde. Younnis Patel, MP, Mount Darwin constituency

## **Fiscal reforms on** course - Chidzero

The Senior Minister of Finance, Cde. Cde. Chidzero said that a total of 490 for communal farmers free of cahrge. He said that the government realised that the drought had weakened the agricultural inmake loans owed it by commercial and supply. small scale farmers dormant.

Turning to the Zimbabwe Investment Centre Bill, Cde. Chidzero said that the Bill had been drafted to make the ZIC more autonomous and speed up the approval of projects.

"The Bill will also empower the Minister responsible to introduce special incentives for domestic investment especially by indigenous investors as He said that progress had also been well as powers to demarcate certain areas as extensively earmarked for domestic investors," he said.

Bernard Chidzero told the Party Cen- expansion and new projects had been tral Committee Meeting held in Harare approved by the ZIC to date at a cost recently that the government will distrib- of \$2.7 billion, and that of these, 350 ute 800 000 seed packs and plough fileds are locally-controlled. He said that of those projects which had not taken off the ground, most had been affected by either the devaluation of the Zimdustry and that a directive had been issued babwe dollar or liquidity measures to the Agricultural Finance Cor-poration to which had limited the money in

> He said that his Ministry had adopted several measures aimed at keeping government spending at a minimun in line with the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme. He said that as part of the fiscal reforms, the Government budget deficit had dropped from 10.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product during 1990/1 to 8.6 percent in 1991/2.

made in the freezing of vacant posts and that those on superflous posts had been retrenched.

ously looked into. Since independence only ten houses were built by the district council and acquiring a stand is difficult as the council has no surveyor. The absence of a surveyor is also the reason why buildings are built in a haphazard manner. No planning has really been done to locate the buildings in a logical way," he said.

Meanwhile, people in Mount Darwin are happy with their new hospital whose establishment, they said has gone a long way in alleviating health problems in the district. However, the hospital is facing a serious shortage of staff. At present there is only one doctor at the hospital.

The MP also pointed out that Mupfurudzi Game Reserve, which he said is lying idle, should be utilized to generate money which can be used in developing the district.

Cde. Patel, Mowever, has expressed disappointment at some reports he received recently alleging that people in some parts of his constituency did not have access to drought relief food "because they voted for me during the primary election". I am currently investigating the matter because people can not starve while the food is there.

# **ZBC** flouted Tender Board procedure

he Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG), recently finished investiga-L tions he carried out to establish whether or not the allegations levelled against the suspended Director-General (DG), Dr. John Tsimba of the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation were true.

The investigations were instituted by the ZBC Board of Governors which suspected that some irregularities with regard to finances, assets and personnel were being perpetrated by the Chief Executive. The report has since been presented to the Parliament.

In. his report, the Comptroller and Auditor-General (AG) stated that contrary to standing instructions of the Corporation, Tender Board authorisation was not obtained in respect of the purchase of an Outside Broadcasting (OB) van. The van was originally budgeted for \$1 million, but more than \$2,7 million in custom duty is allegedly still to be paid. The report said that about \$3,7m (in foreign currency) allocated for the acquisation of the Mutare transmitters was diverted without appropriate authority to pay for the van. The van was also hadly used since its receipt in September, 1991 and it is said to be parked outside the Corporation's premises, in Pockets Hills, uninsured and unregistered pending formal clearance by Customs and Excise.

The Report said the van is not a 4-wheel drive and does not meet the requirements of the ZBC.

The CAG also found out that the Director-General also offered higher salary to the Chief Publications Officer than that recommended by the recruitment committee. On another occassion Dr. Tsimba is said to have offered a lady without 5 'O' levels employment as Stenographer Grade II. The DG is again said to have gone against the recommendation of the recruitment committee when he offered employment (Executive Secretary) to a lady with 2 'O' levels. The post required a person with 5 'O' levels and shorthand qualification.

In the CAG's Report, Dr. Tsimba is quoted as having said "I am exercising my discretion as the Chief Executive to employ

"The Director-General has had the use of three ZBC generators for private purposes for a period in excess of 15 months and no payment has been bawas still on suspension and his law with by way of ZBC tender



ZBC Satelite dish made," the Report said. The second generator is said to be in a partially dismantled state. At the time the Report was completed the last generator was still in Dr. Tsimba's possession. In reply to audit enquiries, the Director-General submitted that he was of the view that this particular piece of equipment had been sold to him as scrap although he admitted that all the sale formalities had not been done between himself and the Corporation, the report said.

In all the instances quoted above, the Report said, no formal contracts of rental/hire were entered into. "Accordingly, hire charges have neither been collected nor determined. This appears as misuse of authority," the Report said.

The CAG recommended that the Corporation should exercise control over its vehicles. "When Dr. Tsimba was on leave, he used a hired car, which covered 14 927km between January 23 and March 19, approximately 271km per day. This appears to be excessive," the Report said

yer Stumbles and Rowe, had issued a statement to the Senior Minister of Finance, Dr. Bernard Chidzero, stating that everything done by Dr. Tsimba, while he was Director-General, was done in the interests of the corporation and Zimbabwe. The statement was also addressed to President Mugabe as an open letter.

NATIONAL

The statement accused the Permanent Secretary of Information, Post and Telecommunications, and the Acting Director-General of ZBC, Cde. Christopher Mustvangwa of wanting him out of his

On accusations in the report that Dr. Tsimba did not obtain authorisation from the Tender Board when purchasing the OB van, the lawyers said at no time since the creation of the Tender Board — whether it be the staff at ZBC, the Ministry, its auditors or Board or any Government department had ZBC sought authorisation from the Tender Board to buy broadcast equipment

The lawyers said the issues in question At the time of going to press Dr. Tsim- including the Mutare transmitter were clean

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# medical school

British woman with links to the unregistered Complementary A Health Practitioners Association (CHPA) is allegedly running an illegal medical school from Greendale. Harare.

According to sources close to the family and some nurses who visited the Greendale home pretending they wanted to enrol for holisitic aromatherapy, she has been offering the course since last year. She allegedly had her candidates' certificates sent from London. An enrolment form made available to The Zimbabwe News states spiritual healing, massage, herbal medicine, nursing, counselling, homeopathy/Osteopathy/chiropractic, yoga/tai chi, environmental work, vegan as some of the areas of study.

Subsequent investigations revealed that this is the last time the woman is offering the course in Zimbabwe. Further courses will be offered in Cape Town, South Africa. From July 4 — 5, 1992, she surgeries cropping up in Harare was allegedly offering a foundation course for \$130. The foundation course no legal powers to inspect premises or thin the Ministry of Higher Education was also offered from July 25 - 26. There would be two-day \$200 massage that these schools and surgeries are be CHPA is unregistered. Informed about courses in August and September, \$130 ing run by under qualified and un- this workshop, the Ministry of Health October theory, 50 hours in anatomy registered CHPA members whom the and Child Welfare insisted that it has no and physiology. The course is said to Ministry intends to recognise by bring- legal powers to halt the workshop from becost \$7 900 and diplomas would be is- ing them under one umbrella with the ing conducted.

The Harare City Health Department said no permits to practice were issued to the woman who lives in a house belonging to a Zimbabwean living in Zambia. The department said no application was made to incorporate that ancillary activity on the residential area. Contacted for comment, the woman initially denied she was teaching but when told that the paper had spoken to some of her nurses, she claimed she was cleared by an international medical body and a Zimbabwean authority both of which she refused to identify. The Ministry of Health, City Health Department and the Natural Therapists Council of Zimbabwe denied clearing the woman who came to Zimbabwe late last year.

Sources at the Immigration Department in Harare said the woman will shortly be applying for a permit following their and The Zimbabwe News visits to the Greendale home. The news come in the wake of reports of illegal medical schools and with the Ministry of Health saying it has

and Wildlife Management has begun an operation to rescue thou sands of wild animals from starvation Reacting to reports which appeared in in Gonarezhou National Parks. Dr. Wil-

he Department of National Parks and several other species unless the plan cidental killings when some shooting occurs and also to allow for a smooth reaches its target. movement of animals," Dr. Ndugu said adding that his department is going to capture and transfer some of the The Times of London, that the Park has animals at Gonarezhou National Park to been closed to the public, Dr. Ndugu said areas with water. He pointed out that it was only closed to day visitors and some buffalos are going to be killed. He that those who booked in advance are said the meat will be given to local comstill welcome. The Times also reported munal farmers in the form of drought that four hippos have already died at relief Gonarezhou.

"This move was taken to prevent ac- Continued on 18

lie Ndugu, the department's director said

Gonarezhou National Park is experienc-

ing the worst drought in living memory.

The drought threatens to eliminate all

its hippos, buffalo, the rare Lichtenstein's

hartebeest, wildbeest, sable, antelope

the operation started recently.

Woman running illegal

NTCZ, and the unregistered 500 Gabellah-trained nurses.

Their application for registration has since been referred back to the NTCZ amid allegations that the Ministry is entertaining 22 under-gualified and unregistered CHPA nurses who have not been referred to the NTCZ. To facilitate for the nurses' registration, the NTCZ in 1990 submitted a draft Act to the Ministry which is yet to respond to the council. The present Natural Therapist Act only provides for the registration of qualified doctors and not nurses.

Meanwhile, realible sources have informed the Zimbabwe News that the CHPA has organised an Aura-Soma workshop which is expected to run from 23-25 October this year in Harare. Two therapy specialists from England, Mike Booth and Margaret Cockbain, are expected to conduct the training. Aura-Soma is a non-intrusive, self-selective therapy to heal the body, mind and spirit by regenerating, revitalising and rebalancing the human aura. Sources wistop the practice. There are allegations said the workshop is illegal since the

WILD LIFE

# The Times of London was incorrect

15



## **INTERNATIONAL Boudiaf** assassination pushes Algeria nearer to civil war that the country is rudderless, with the



#### Muhammed Boudiaf

he assassination of Muhammed Boudiaf, the Algerian leader. L pushed the country closer to a civil war that many fear is inevita • ble and sent a shiver of apprehension through the other Arab regimes struggling to hold back the rising tide of Islamic fundamentalism, reports The Times of London.

Although the attack was on everyone's lips, there was no muted reaction on the streets of Algiers. In the Islamic fundamentalist strongholds of the city, youngmen discussed the assassination without anger or passion.

Policemen armed with heavy machine guns surrounded the presidential palace. but there were few other signs of an increase in security. Some public buildings were already well guarded, including the government offices in central Algiers, protected by soldiers with armoured cars.

As news of the assassination filtered through, Algerians were asking themselves who would take over from Mr. Boudiaf. There is a general impression military competing with civilians in the government for influence.

'Even before Boudiaf's death we did not know who was running the country. said Madjid. "We did not know who to speak to. Every government official would tell you something different."

There appeared to be few tears shed for Mr. Boudiaf; instead, a widespread feeling of disappointment and bitterness. particularly among the young. When Mr. Boudiaf returned from exile in January to take over the presidency of the ruling council of state, many were prepared to give him a chance to tackle deep social and economic problems. Six months later, all they see is broken promises.

They are all liars and thieves," said Alı, 18. "I had hoped that they would kill the former president, Chadli Benjdid."

After five months in office, there is little sign of the Boudiaf pledges to create thousands of jobs, build new houses and bring to book government officials in volved in corruption. Instead, Algerians have had to stomach an end to food subsidies, which led to steep rises in the prices of staple foods. Mr. Boudiaf's of the army grew daily



#### Abassi Madani

project to bring together the various political forces in the country under one roof aroused only suspicion. To many Algerians, his plan for a National Patri otic Rally sounded like a return to a one party system.

Since March 4, when the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was outlawed and driven underground, the risks that it would mount a spectacular attack against the presidency of five members which was seen as running the country on behalf

## The Times of London was incorrect

Continued from page 15

Dr. Ndugu said a few hippos will be moved from Sabi River and Lundi (Runde) to Mwenezi where water will be made available. Other animals are going to be moved to the highveld. "The Ministry of Energy and Water Resources has agreed to release water from the Manyuchi River into Mwenezi Dam." he said.

"The rescue operation is aimed at reducing the number of all animals in Gonarezhou, so that the remaining ones will have enough food until the rains come," he said. He revealed that some

animals are already being hand-fed because there is nowhere they can graze. Dr. Ndugu said the Park is receiving great help from the local farmers and non-governmental organisations, who are donating feeds and money for buying feeds.

The director, said the Bengi Dam is almost dry and that the water will only last up to October. At one time in February, temperatures reached 47°C and birds, bats and insects dropped dead from the air.

#### INTERNATIONAL

round of December's fateful general election, only to have the process negated before victory could be assured, one Algiers-based envoy predicted. This is only a miracle they can turn around the economy, they are in for a struggle."

leadership, which took over in a thinly disguised coup, had no legitimacy, although its backers insisted that, despite the voting figures, most Algerians were against an Iranian-style Islamic state.

Mr. Boudiaf left his job running a Morrocan brick factory to try to become the unlikely saviour of his country. With the help of Sid Hamed Ghozali, his prime minister, he tried to float the idea of a "patriotic rally" to fill the credibility gap. a pot for ideas from ageing nationalists and the disenchanted young from which only the FIS was kept out.

25 million where Islamic guerillas began mounting daily gun and bomb attack The same observers regarded the interand publishing newsletters inciting a vio- ment of up to 20 000 fundamentalists lent uprising. Opponents accused the , in hellish desert camps as a second mispresident of wanting to return to a Jtake. "Each one of those detained had "unique party" like the National Libera- a family, so hardcore backers of the FIS

On the day of the court order banning tion Front (FLN), which ruled tor nearly the party, which triumphed in the first three decades after independence was gained from France in 1962.

Analysts claimed that the attack was in part designed to expose the military nature of the January coup by forcing the army into an even higher public profile. A goal of the FIS is to provoke Despite protests to the contrary, the mass desertions from its mainly conscript ranks.

> The killing came after June's chaotic break-up of the trial of Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadi, the two FIS leaders, on charges carrying the death penalty. A source close to the organisation said that its postponement until July 12 after a lawyers' walkout was "a political victory for the FIS which has unveiled the militarist character of the regime.

Even anti-fundamentalists in Algiers, a city of poverty and crippling shortages Al Belhadj behind the deceptive white colonial facade, feared that the banning of the FIS would radicalise it, boost its extremist But the idea did not grip the country of armed wing and weaken its moderates.

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were multiplied all over the country." a Western security expert said. "We tried to point out the dangers but the regime would not listen."







## INTERNATIONAL **SA liberation organisations** commemorate massacre

sands of black students, from all the later known as the Soweto Students' corners of Soweto, marched peacefully Representative Council (SSRC). to Orlando stadium to protest against The struggle about education was carried a directive by the department of Bantu out democratically with broad coneducation imposing Afrikaans as a medium of instruction in black schools.

The protest march was a culmination of frustration on the part of the students when their pleas on the authorities to revoke the directive fell on deaf ears. The students together with their parents made presentations to the school boards, school committees and the department without any success.

The presentations and the pleas were spearheaded by the South Africa Students' Movement (SASM) a Black Conscious Movement student wing. At a meeting called by SASM on 13 June

much beacefully marked the six- 1976, a decision to march peacefully march peacefully to Orlando stadium to teenth anniversary of that fateful was agreed upon. This was to be led by voice their protest. On their way, in day, 16 June 1976, when thou an elected Action Committee which was

> sultation with the student body, parents, workers and the community. The struggle had a sense of purpose and was carried out with the full respect of consultation and consensus.

> When the regime tried to instigate violence by pitting hostel residents against students and workers living in family units, the militants of 1976 moved in and made peace with hostel based migrant workers. By August 1976, peace was re-stablished in the townships.

> When consensus was reached, the stu-

Orlando West, they met a horde of armed police who opened fire, without any provocation, killing more than 800 young people. Hundreds were maimed and others arrested.

This changed the face of South African struggle. The youth took the lead. Convinced that the South African racist regime knows no language but violence opted to go into exile to swell the ranks of the armies of the liberation movement and acquire military skills to engage the enemy in the language he understands best

What started as a protest against Afrikaans as a medium of instruction soon became an attack on the entire Bantu education and apartheid system. The uprisings spread throughout the dents, on June 16 took to the streets to country involving black students and

ZIMBABWE NEWS JULY/AUGUST, 1992



The 1976 Soweto Massacre resulted in the death of more than 800 young people



Since 1990 more than 8 000 blacks have lost their lives through the regime-sponsored violence

youth from all nation's communities South Africa in the 1990s. calling for the scrapping of the entire education system.

With full consultation, consensus and support of parents, workers and the community the students led stay-aways, white shops and black Christmas boycott of festivities. Another major de through the regime sponsored violence. velopment of this spirit of oneness was the demise of the Urban Bantu Council, a dummy body appointed by government to run the affairs of Soweto but rejected by the community.

The anniversary was this week jointly commemorated by the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), Black Consciousness Movement of Azania (BCMA) and Pan African Congress of Azania (PAC) in conjunction with the Student Representatives of the Harare Polytechnic at the Polytechnic.

Hundreds of South Africans and Zimbabweans listened to speakers from the liberation movements recount the events of 1976. The speakers also gave The ANC speaker believed that all the an overview of the current affairs in problems besetting South Africa "Lie in

They lamented that education is still as bad as in 1976. That the country is gripped by the so called black on black violence and De Klerk is further dividing the liberation movement with his CODEbus boycotts, rent boycotts, boycotts of SA gimmick. Since 1990 more than 8 000 blacks have lost their lives

> A speaker from the BCM(A) said "education is still as bad as in 1976, teachers just go on strike and the students do the same thus delaying the process of liberation. There is no consultation with the community, instead issues are forced upon the community." "The Pan African Student Organisation, a student wing of the PAC, held the view that our liberation is incomplete until a new unitary dynamic and compulsory education system is in place. However, we urge students to return to classes to learn and become achievers. The boycott must be used as a tactic and not as a principle," a PAC speaker said.

the unity of the masses in struggle to uproot apartheid." He said the violence gripping the country on the ground appeared to be black on black when infact they are sponsored by De Klerk to create a climate of fear to discredit the liberation movements."

The liberation movements called for a constituent assembly, based on one man one vote in a united South Africa to draw a constitution for a free South Africa. However, they differed on the structure. The BCM(A) and the PAC demand that such a structure be put in place outside South Africa, at neutral venue and chaired by an impartial mediator. The ANC is already participating in such a forum called CODESA, inside South Africa.

Currently, CODESA 2 talks on an interim government have stalled with the ANC threatening to call mass action and strikes of an unprecedented nature.

An ANC poet at the commemoration warned de Klerk that "suspension of armed struggle is not termination, Mkhonto we Sizwe is still alive and on the move all the time and is present among the people.'

## INTERNATIONAL India discusses what shape relations should take with South Africa

he Africa-India Society in New Delhi, India, recently held a panel dis-L cussion on how India should relate with South Africa in face of the changing world political climate set forth by the demise of the former Soviet Union as a political entity.

The discussion was attended by diplomats accredited to India, journalists. academics and some prominent Indians. from the private sector, a number of whom had recently visited South Africa.

Among the panelists were Dr. Saxon, a University Lecturer, Mr. Venktasussaran, former Foreign Secretary and Dr. S. Mahishi, veteran politician.

All the members of the panel were unanimous that India should now have recognised South Africa, and that it should take immediate steps to do so. A variety of arguments were put forward to support this contention. The main argument of the panelists was that apartheid was dead, and since this was the initial aim of the embargo on trade. the aim was achieved. South Africa therefore should immediately be recognised. It was argued that India had diplomatic relations with Israel, a much more volatile area, while doing nothing to establish the same with South Africa beyong proposing a criket tour. It was alleged that African countries (Kenya was quoted) were virtually stampeding to recognise South Africa in order to gain lead in trade links, and India was being once more left in the cold by its tardy reaction. It was stated that the Indian government's argument that the ANC had not yet given the "greenlight" indicted that India's foreign policy on this issue was being dictated by the ANC and not by the national interest of India, and that the ANC was only one party among others in South Africa and had not the status to do this

The national interest was enunciated by the panelists mainly in terms of trade, but they also stressed the need to take care of the South Africans of Indian origin, whom they said were Indians by virtue of cultural heritage. An Embassy in South Africa would therefore take care \* of their interests by advising them on ' act immediately to recognise, South how to involve themselves in the political process.

A rather unsettling aspect was in-



Cde. Nathan Shamuyarira

Africa was concerned, India was of a very low priority on its list in terms of diplomatic relations. Dr. Saxon interpreted this to mean that India, if she did not act immediately, would have difficulties in dealing with a future independent South Africa. He quoted Namibia, where he said that although India had done much to assist SWAPO, at Independence SWAPO totally ignored India and instead rushed to set up shop everywhere else. It was therefore likely, he alleged, that the ANC, on attaining power would summarily dismiss India. This unfortunate atby the other panelists.

The panel being unanimous, the response was supportive of the thesis that India should take the initiative and Africa.

a Mr. Hilamayi, a Nehru Fellow, who in parties as the panelists alleged.

troduced in the discussion by Dr. Saxo- troduced an element of caution. He obna. First he read out a letter written to served that the Indians of South Atrica him by the South African Trade Mission were citizens of that country and should which stated in part that as far as South take care of themselves as such. India should not adopt an "avuncular" attitude to them as this might in fact be negative. He corrected the allegation that African States were rushing to open up Embassies in South Africa. Most importantly, he observed that aparthied was not dead. He quoted the Zimbabwe Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. N.M. Shamuyarira's statement in Abuja to the effect that aparthied was like a structure with scaffolding, and the revocation of the Group Areas Act only took out the scaffolding while leaving the structure intact. He was against the immediate titude was reflected in the presentations opening of an Embassy in Pretoria but thought that India could perhaps open consular offices, explore the possibilities of cultural exchange and air travel agreements and so on in the light of the lifting of the person-to-person sanctions by the Commonwealth. This could also provide the listening post so that Informa-However, there was an intervention by tion would not be received only from third



From left to right: Judge Giovanni Falcone, Judge Paolo Borselliono and Salvatore Riina

## **Resurgence** of the Italian Mafia By Ed Vulliamy

L again re-emerged. This time with of political life in Italy. more brutal force. They do not tolerate anyone coming along their way. If you happen to, and you are an undesirable element, make no mistake you will be blown to pieces.

Barely seven weeks after the assasination of Italian Judge, Giovanni Falcone, an anti-mafia figther and one of the few is their game. men ever to momentarily check a squalid advance of the Mafia, his successor Judge Paolo Borselloin also met the same fate. Borselloin had been tipped to fill the vacancy left by Falcone's death as the head of a new anti-Mafia government agency in Rome. But the assasins got him first. With this simple message of triumphant mockery, the Cosa Nostra has confirmed that it will wage its latest - and potentially its bloodiest - battle against Italian society with a sick blend of fury and cool, diabolical arrogance. Judge Paolo Borselloin was killed in a car bomb attack together with five of his bodyguards.

Following the murder of Borsellino, the Italian authorities sent in troops for the first time against the Cosa Nostra. However they were accused of shadow boxing. Not for nothing are Italy's heads of state jeered, showered with mocking bank notes and called "bastards" and "murders" when they attended the state funerals of Mafia victims. Neither is this for nothing as the Mafia have virtually infiltrated the whole of Italian civil structure. Everyone knows that the state and

hey are an indomitable lot. After a the Mafia are entwined and synonyfew years of silence, they have once mous. This marriage is one of the pillars

> Almost everytime the judiciary peels away the covers of Italian high finance, construction, tourist development, local politics or public sector spending excesses, they find the Mafia. Every illegal arms deal and, of course, every drugs haul leads directly to the Mafia. Money

The Mafia knows no borders. It was born out of a transatlantic axis, and since then the Mafia has forged alliances



. . comforting a Mafia victim





wherever it has felt and needed to do so, either sponsoring local crime syndicates or helping rivals to wipe each other out.

The manipulations of the Turkish heroin "Babas", or the barons of Columbia have been models of how to operate an empire to the conquering power's — but also the natives' - advantage. Internationally, the Mafia is stronger than ever before (except in the US) and recent arrests show them to be expanding with speed in Russia and other postcommunist countries, buying up chunks of the economy, laundering their money, dealing with local gangsters, and preparing to create and cultivate an eager market for hard drugs. Their profits, from South America, the US or the Far East, are cleaned, laundered, recycled and hidden by the best wizards in the money business across an impenetrable labyrinth of "legal" industries and commercial activities, and in bank accounts which used to be focused on Switzerland and run from the Cayman Islands to Moscow. Mafia has become a worldwide household catch-word.

Within Italy, the Mafia empire has four centres, each with its own style and modus vivenda. They are the Holy Crown of Puglia, the Ndarangeta of Calabria, The Camorra of Naples and the giant Mafia - the Octopus - also called the Cosa Nostra of Sicily. The man behind the Mafiosaempire is Salvatore Riina, the world's most wanted man and on the run since 1969. He was the right hand man of Luciano Liggio, arrested one FOREX RETENTION RETAINS WATER A pipeline for development. TUBE AND PIPE INDUSTRIES CAN MAKE STEEL PIPING LOCALLY TO MEET A MAJORITY OF NEEDS. IF YOU HAVE A FOREX RE-TENTION OPPORTUNITY, OR ANY OTHERSOURCE OFFOREX, WE CAN MAKE IT CARRY

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A pipeline for deve

night in 1973 while reading Kant's Critique of Pure Reason and imprisoned ever since. Liggio buit up the Corleonese clan, who were the main victors of the Mafia war of 1981-83, obliging defeated clans including newer, post-war players like the Madonia (who claimed the death of Judge Giovanni Falcone) to work as clients subject to approval.

Riina and his partner, Bernardo Provezano "the Beast" carried out Liggio's orders. Riina is himself wanted for instructing some 150 murders and is fia killers. said to have committed 40 himself.

On the other hand the Ndarangeta is party coalition, which commands a best known for its raw savagery. In May last year, the head of Giuseppe Criminaldi — a local butcher and one of the men killed within 36 hours around the town of Taurinovaa, in Calabria — was hacked

US nose dive into judicial tyranny

he United States Supreme Court has just ruled that it is "legal" for L the US government to kidnap citizens of foreign countries from their own soil. bring them back to the US to stand trial on charges that may be trumped on them by the Federal government, reports the Executive Intelligence Review of June 18, last month in an article published by The New Federalist of June 8. Besides, the Supreme Court is not considering whether new evidence of innocence of a convicted death-row prisoner is sufficient or reason enough to delay an execution.

Outlining in detail the injustices inherent in the present American judicial system regarding death-row prisoners, the report states that the present capital punishment laws in the United States is not only fought with racial predujice, but does not favour the poor, sick the ignorant, the powerless and the young. According to a quote of the former US Attorney-General Ramsey Clark,"... the law leaves to the uncontrolled discretion of judges and juries the determination whether defendants committing grievious crimes should die or be imprisoned."

Instead of showing signs of rescinding capital punishment laws in the US have taken a nosedive into the world of "judicial tyranny and barbarism". Of the present 2 500 death-row inmates in the

US, 19 have already been executed this year, five times more than those executed in 1991. Experts in the field of death prisoners say that, with the US Supreme Court removing most of the impediments to the ritual of legalised murder. it is likely that the number of executions might top the 250 mark in 1992. Most of them, the report says, will not get a fair hearing in the courts.

**Racial Prejudice** Perhaps still fresh in the minds of most Americans and the world at large is the Rodney King verdict delivered on April 29, of this year. The acquittal of four Los Angels white police officers by an all white jury was seen by most Americans, black and white, as blatant racism meted out through the judicial system. It was difficult to justify how four white police officers could inflict 56 beatings in 86 seconds and not call that excessive use of force. The verdict alone was enough to plunge the city into the worst riots seen in the United States this century.

In 1987, the question of racial prejudice in the imposition of the death penalty was back before the Supreme Court, but this time with a very different result.

In the McCleskey v Kemp case, the defendant presented evidence demonstrating a strong state wide statistical link between race of victim and the im-

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killers. Witnesses told the police that they saw the four men who decapitated the corpse toss the head in the air for a while, using it for mobile target practice with their pistols, before dumping the bloodied scalp in the road ten yards from the body.

Meanwhile, as the people of Italy buried Judge Borsellino, the Italian senate passed legislation designed to give the state increased powers to fight his Ma-

The legislation drafted by the ruling fourrazor-thin majority, will go to the lower house, the Chamber of Deputies. If passed, there will be a new anti-Mafia chief prosecutor and other investigators who will have wider, streamlined powers to

to death with his own cleaver by his fight gangsters, including the use of undercover sting operations, wire-taps and infiltrators.

> But the people of Palermo were apparently unimpressed. About 8 000 of them turned out at the funeral to show solidarity with Borsellino's struggle against the Mafia. Protestors at his funeral hurled insults at Italy's police chief, Vincenzo Parisi, jeering, whistling and shouting "Parisi buffon" as he followed the hearse.

> Borsellino's widow, Agnesse refused a state funeral for her husband but invited President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, the justice minister Claudi Martelli, and Commissioner Parasi to the private rites.

The struggle against the Mafia continues but will the Italian state be able to control them?

position of death. The data - accepted as valid by the court - revealed that prosecutors sought the death penalty in 70 percent of the cases where black defendants were implicated in the killing of white people, but only 19 percent of the cases implicating white defendants in the number of black people.

McCleskey's evidence persuaded the court that "a discrepancy that appears to correlate with race" existed in the state of Georgia's death sentence laws, but the court described the disparities as "an inevitable part of our criminal justice system," and declined to find a constitutional violation.

Many more similar cases of unfair trials have been reported across the United States of America. Georgia's State Senator Parker, who has represented many capitally charged defendants, in recent testimony before the US House of Representatives Subcommitte of Judiciary on Civil and Constitutional Rights, said, "When it comes to the death penalty, we have two systems of justice - one for those who kill whites, and an altogether different one for the killers of blacks."

The list of unfair trials for the death penalty imposed on blacks is not restricted to the state of Georgia alone. Such cases abound in many other states such as Alabama, Philadelphia, Mississippi, Arkansas and many others. In

Philadelphia, for example, a single judge of the coin than a delicate balancing of once sentenced 26 people to death. Of these, some 24 of them were blacks. Of the 175 people executed nationwide since 1977 for killing white people, nearly 90 percent were sentenced for killing white people, though blacks continue to be victims of murder at a rate six times greater than whites. And, although blacks comprise only 18 percent of the total population, they comprise 50 percent of the death-row population.

#### Quality of Justice

The notion of "equal justice under law," already undermined by racial discrimination, is further eroded by the quality tle as 15 minutes to three hours, often with of legal representation in capital cases. An investigation by the National Law Journal in the US into the way capital murder clients were defended in the Southern States of the federation revealed that "southern justice in capital court drunk and had to spend the night in Such is the contemporary state of the Ameri-

the scales," because lawyers who delend the accused are "too often illtrained, unprepared and grossly underpaid."

The Journal's month investigation found that trial lawyers representing death-row inmates in the six states they studied had been either disbarred, suspended, or some time been imprisoned. Capital murder trials often took one or two days, compared with two weeks to two months in states with sophisticated indigent systems. And the all important penalty stage to set punishment took as litlittle or no defence lawyer effort to present mitigating evidence.

In Alabama, a capital trial had to be delayed for a day when the defense lawyer came to murder trials is more like a random flip lock-up. The trial resumed the next morning can judicial system.

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and his client was sentenced to death. In four capital trials in Georgia, defense lawyers referred to their clients as "niggers". The death penalty was imposed on all four.

#### Execution of Juveniles

International Law prohibits the execution of people who were under 18 at the time the crime was committed. However the report says that the USA, together with five other countries namely Bangladesh, Barbados, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan have over the past decades executed juvenile offenders.

Of the 39 states that have death penalty statutes in the US, 13 states do not specify a minimum age at the time of the offence for which the death penalty might be imposed. ourteen states have set the minimum age of less than 18 years; in Mississippi it is 13; Missouri, North Carolina, and Utah set the minimum legal age at 14.

# **Bill Clinton** - The "Comeback Kid"

ill Clinton is a true-grit survivor B from a dirt-door childhood who by his own efforts wound up at Ox ford and Yale Universities and now is just one step away from becoming President of the most powerful nation in the world

It would be the American dream come true for a boy from Tiny Hope, Arkansas.

But, in a few short months this year, that dream almost died in a series of scandals that would have wrecked the career of another politician.

With steely reserve and remarkable grace under pressure and long odds. Clinton survived charges of adultery and draft evasion and even an evasive answer on whether he ever tried marijuana.

Now, at the politically young age of 45. the Arkansas Governor is only one election away from the prize he has covet-- the Presidency.

But, in January, at the start of the tough In a now-familiar drawal, he softly depolitical grind, the 6-foot-2-inch, beefy Southerner with a hoarse from talking, was almost counted out.

Hardly a day went by without seemingly some new..allegation - a bleached As allegations mounted, some thought



President George Bush.

Flowers claim that she had an affair with him and a debate over whether he ed since his Arkansas high school days schemed to get out serving in a war he opposed.

> nied all allegations, including one that he smoked marijuana as a youth. He tried, he explained lamely, but "didn't inhale", provoking ridicule.

blonde ex-nightclub singer Gennifer that Clinton's candidacy was doomed as

early as the first-in-the nation on February 18 in New Hampshire.

But after he came in second among five Democratic presidential aspirants that snowy Northern State, an elated Clinton virtually proclaimed victory. "New Hampshire tonight has made Bill Clinton the comeback kid," he said that night. in one of his more memorable lines.

He explained his refusal to cave in: "I may not be perfect, but I will hang in there and fight until the last dog dies." and he fought on.

"This year, he has endured . . . and survived ... the false and misleading political attacks on him, his family and his character," former President Jimmy Carter said.

But it was more than "this year" that Clinton had endured, Clinton truly came up the hard way. Three months before he was born in Hope in 1946, year after World War II ended, his father William Blythe died in a car accident.

His mother, Virginia, put young "Billy" with his grandparents who raised him while his mother learned nursing,

After his mother remarried when he was seven, Clinton took the last name of his father, Roger Clinton, whom his mother called a "good man" but was an alcoholic who abused her.

But 69 year-old Virginia Kelley, her name after a third marriage, said young Bill was stand-up guy at the age of 14.

"He asked his father, the only father that he ever knew, to stand up, he had something to say to him. And he was a little slow in doing that, and he said, "daddy, if you are not able to stand up, I will help you but you must stand up to hear what I have to say."

"And he very quitely, very calmly said: 'don't ever, ever lay your hand on my mother again," she said he never did.

In high school, Clinton, a saxophone player, and Elvis Presely fan, also was captivated by politics.

Clinton admired Martin Luther King and boned up for his acceptance speech on Thursday with videotapes of past convention speeches and a videotape of King's historic "I have a dream" speech at a huge civil rally in Washington in 1963

Always a top student, Clinton, a baptist, worked his way through George town University, a catholic school, in Washington. He later won a coveted Rhodes scholarship to Oxford, and graduated from Yale law school where he met and later married his wife, Hillary, now a law-

hourhood. His wife is on the left yer who kept her maiden name until it Michael Dukakis for the presidency, he proved to be a political liability in seemed anything but slick. Arkansas.

Clinton became the youngest Governor in the country at the age of 28 when he was elected in 1978 and has been Governor since then with the exception of two years.

# Historic declaration as **Europe meets**

urope came closer to speaking with one voice on future world political Lissues when 51 Heads of State of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which included the Presidents of the United States and Russia, George Bush and Boris Yeltsin respectively, as well as heads of new countries to have emerged following the collapse of the former Soviet Union met on July 9-10, in Helsinki, Finland to discuss a "solid pack" on international relations in a post cold war Europe. The only conspicuous absentee to the historic meeting was Serbia-Montenegro which now constitute what has been left of the former and now tribal-strife torn Yugoslavia.

The result of the confernce was Helsinki Declaration which saw the establishment of CSCE Security Forum to over-

see among other things arms control peace-keeping operations, the preven tion and management of European conflicts and the creation of a post of Commissioner to deal with minority issues. The creation of the CSCE Security Forum has pushed the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation to the background. Although CSCE has no military arm it can now draw on the troops and resources of both the east and west bloc countries - once cold war enemies - to monitor cease-fires, supervise troop withdrawals and ensure that humanitarian aid reached refugees.

The Security Forum will also try to reduce military uncertainty through "confidence and security building measures", such as exchanging information on military activities, force levels and equipment in Europe.

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Democratic president candidate Bill Clinton (R) displays a giant bagel that was presented to him at the Bagel Restaurant while campaigning in Chicago's northside Jewish neigh-

His speech bombed so badly that the audience cheered only when he reached the line, "and in conclusion." He faced up to the embarassment by appearing on the Johnny Carson show and making jokes about how badly he did.

Political opponents in Arkansas gave It was another sign of what his supporthim the nickname "Slick Willie" but in ers call an amazing resilence. He and Hillary 1988 he was chosen to nominate have a daughter, Chelsea, 12.

> On the other hand, the Commissioner for minorities would have the power to investigate disputes, issue an "early warning" of potential conflicts and launch consultations to reach a settlement.

At the request of one or more member states, the Security Forum would consider such missions on a case-by-case basis under strict guidelines and in close cooperation with the United Nations. CSCE peacekeeping operations may be undertaken in cases of conflict within or among participating states to help maintain peace and stability in support of an ongoing effort at a political solution, said the Declaration. However, it would not step in to stop the conflicts, ruling out immediate action in Yugoslavia. where the Serb-dominated army continues to attack targets in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a republic in the former Yugoslavia.

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For the first time the President of the As a result, the western nations, shamed Baltic republics but blasted the CSCE for of the conference. failing to force the pace of the withdrawal.

na. one of the states to have emerged norms must be singled out, criticised, from the collapse of communist Yugos isolated, even punished by sanctions. lavia, demanded at the conference that Let Serbia's absence today serve as a Serbia and its ally Montenegro be ex- clear message to others." pelled from the membership of the CSCE. The tribal contlicts which have emerged However, the demand was resisted by across Europe following the demise of Russia which argued that the two republics which make up what is remaining of Yugoslavia, should only be suspended temporarily rather than be expelled.

newly established republic of Estonia by ethnic bloodspilling on their dooralso attended the summit. Speaking to steps banned Yugoslavia from the sumjournalists the President of Estonia, Mr. mit of the 52 nations under a 100-day Arnold Ruutel, cautiously welcomed a suspension giving the new government pledge by Russian President Boris Yelt- time to end the war in Bosniasin to pull out ex-Soviet troops from the Herzegovina and respect the principles

Reacting to the decision of the conference to ban Serbia from the summit Another newly established state. Croa Bush said, "those who violate CSCE

> the Soviet Union have created acute problems of social insecurity which threatens to engulf the former eastern bloc countries in another revolution of

unprecedented scale. Political frontiers formerly recognised as inviolable, of the states which emerged from World War II are changing on an everyday basis. The CSCE has now changed tack, while it formerly recognised that the frontiers and political unity of the states which emerged from World War II are inviolable, nows it accepts that the political map of Europe can be changed while recognising that its prime task is to ensure that this is done peacefully. Efforts to this end so far in Yugoslavia and the ex-Soviet Union have brought little success.

At the same time talks it has brokered between the warring former Soviet republics of Azerbajenia and Armenia seem to be making no headway. May CSCE now view with apprehension the future of Central Europe as Czechoslovakia moves to break-up. 

## Aftermath of the Gulf War "A mother of all wars" turned into environmental disaster

dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in and British aircrafts on to Iraq vehicles. Japan, were used against the Republic The toxic chemicals and toxic materials of Iraq during the Gulf War, said its threatens overs the long run hundreds Prime Minister, Mr. Tariq Aiz, address of Iraq lives, Mr. Tariq Aziz said. ing delegates to the Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio De Janeiro in June.

These explosives, added to the impact caused by the movement of the vehicles and entrenchment operations, he said, caused great damage to the surface of soils on Iraq territory. The green layer that took hundreds of years to develop in the desert environment, was destroyed by the attacking forces. This, he went on to say, has greatly increased the number of dust and sand storms in both Baghdad and the countryside. For example, compared to 1990, Mr. Tarig Aziz said that there were five times more storms in May 1991 than in previous years.

Perhaps one of the most dangerous facet of the gulf war and supported by a British Atomic Authority report, was the use by coalition forces of armourpiercing rockets or napalm. The rockets made of depleted uranium contained toxic chemicals and radio-active materi-

ver 108 000 tonnes of explosives, al that threatens Iraq with unprecedentwith a destruction power similar ed environmental disaster. Hundreds of to that of six atomic bombs such weapons were dropped by the US

> In his address, the Iraq Prime Minister gave an impassioned account of how US tanks and those of the coalition forces



Saddam Hussein

fired 5 000 uranium rocket against the Iragis. The amount of uranium in each rockets surpassed 50 000 pounds. This amount of radio-active material alone, he said, was enough to endanger the lives of half a million Iraqi people. According to Mr. Tariq Aziz, the Gulf war was a crime against humanity which needed to be condemned by the international community.

The military agression launched against Iraq created complex. evironmental problems affecting Iraq's water, air and soil. Added to this, he said, was the great shortage of foodstuffs and medicine. According to the Iraq Prime Minister, sick people were being treated in hospitals without electricity or medicines, as a result of the blockade against Iraq. Adding that the number of contagious diseases registered in 1991 was much higher than that registered in 1989 and 1990 respectively.

"What the coalition forces did against Iraq is the greatest violation of human rights ever perpetrated by a military operation ostencibly conducted in the name of international legitimacy." Mr. Tariq Aziz said, adding, "The real credibility of international law is now questionable. No one can now remain silent in the face of these events."

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He went on to say, "the ngures I have reported have not been supplied by Iraq; they are part of studies conducted by UN commission agencies and independent organisations such as the USA's Harvard University." The only solution. he said, that can decisively end illness and polution problems in Iraq is to lift the comprehensive blockade imposed on Iraq.

From the first day of the military operations, Iraq refineries, ports, oil pumping stations, loading terminals and its four main refineries — Nasiriyah, Alshiaiba, Dawra and Bayji - were subjected to intensive bombing. The bombing operations and destruction also included or extended to include large production and storage centres located in Rumilah and Zubayr oil fields as well as the Kirkuk refineries.

Over thirty million barrels of oil and assorted by-products were burnt, spilled or emptied into the ground or water resources.

The bombing, which was specifically targeted at Iraq's energy sources resulted in serious environmental problems. According to Mr. Tariq Aziz, 70% of the units of water treatment in the country were damaged during the bombings seriously depriving Iraqis of drinking water. The damage also extended to the units for treating industrial water. According to Mr. Tariq Aziz, work at 12 of them has been entirely stopped, while

been seriously reduced. Industrial and 2 701 -swamps in the process.

The drainage facilities that allowed Iraq to use sea water were also damaged. As a result, 1.4 million hectares of land has ceased to be productive. Dams and irrigation facilities were also directly bombed causing a 50 percent reduction in rice production for 1991. Besides the Iraq Prime Minister told delegates to the Conference that currently his country had a high number of agricultural related illnesses.

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Aziz told the delegates that the only solution to Iraq's environmental predicament was to lift the comprehensive embargo imposed on Iraq. However, he went on to say, "I do not want to begin a political debate at this podium. However the relation between Iraq's environmental situation and the blockade imposed on us has been made very clearly, including in UN reports."

made in implementating resolution 687 imposed on Iraq by the UN Security Council, Mr. Tariq Aziz said, "It is imperative, however, that we emphasise the fact that: despite the differences in evaluating what has been implemented as resolutions imin their implementation. Iraq has had a trary to the principles of the UN.

# UN embargo puts Iraq hospital patients' lives in danger

he Iraq Minister of Health, Dr. Umid Mubarak, said in a recent television L interview monitored in Baghdad that his country's health services had been severely crippled as a result of the economic blockade imposed on Iraq by the United Nations Sanctions Committee.

Dr. Mubarak said that as a result of the blockade, it was anticipated that some 170 000 Iraqi children would die before the end of this year due to the combined effect of malnutrition and shortages of medicine.

He said that the mortality rate of children in the under-five age-group was

in 1989.

The Minister said that the blockade had resulted in the skyrocketting of the price of most basic commodities, adding that the rationing system now in force in Iraq meets only one third of each family's needs.

The Factory of Medical Gases had to stop producing nitrous oxide which is essential in the manufacture of anaesthetics used in surgical operations The UN Sanctions Committee has forbidden Iraq from importing the necessary element to produce the nitrous oxide, considering it a prohibited chemical ingredient.

productivity at 20 other refineries has responsible attitude regarding the Security Council resolutions and is ready to continue heavy water leaked into rivers creating cooperate with the Council and thus fulfil the obligations imposed on it in accordance with Security Council Resolution 687 and others. We will be cooperative as long as the Council continues to respect Iraq's sovereignty as an independent state, to preserve the legitimate basic interest of Iraq, and to guarantee that there will be no interference in Iraq domestic affairs

He went on to say that the Security Council. however, under the influence of a small number of its members and the leadership of the USA, and for political reasons not related to the Council's own resolutions did not take any step up to now towards lifting the comprehensive and unjust blockade imposed on our people, and thus allow the Iraqis to resume their normal lives and face the great problems caused to the environment and their health by the military operations and blockade. The military operations, he said. ended one and a half years ago, and since then the resolutions began to be responsibly and incessantly implemented by Iraq. During the Security Council meeting last March, we proved through documents (that Emphasising the progress that has been our environment and our people have been affected by the military operations and the blockade). The Council's position, he said, has remained unchanged and the blockade against Iraq continues. He urged the Security Council to adopt serious measures to lift the blockade and insisted that it not be used posed on Iraq, great progress has been made as a political tool to achieve objectives con-

#### now 21 per 1 000, up norn 5 per 1 000

Health experts in Iraq anticipate that even larger numbers of deaths will occur among women who need Caesarean operations and children who need operations in which use this ingredient is essential.

Dr. Mubarak charged that the United States and its allies had exerted pressure on drug companies to block shipment of medicines that Iraq had paid for in advance from reaching the country.

"As a result of this pressure, the drug firms have refrained from sending medicine to Iraq, thus causing severe shortages of medicine and medical equipment which inturn led to deaths which could have been avolded." he said.

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## Cuba updates constitution but preserves one-party communism

uba's National Assembly recently approved a package of constitutional reforms that updated politi cal, economic and social laws but zealously preserved the island's oneparty communist system.

The 469 Parliament deputies, made changes to the 1976 Constitution since it was introduced following a refendum 16 years ago.

The centrepiece of the reform package was a decision to introduce direct secret voting to elect the National Assembly. This would replace the existing indirect voting system.

"We are going to show that you can have a revolution with democractic principles, we are going to show that you can have democracy with a single party," Castro told Parliament.

He added that the next "decisive step" would be the drawing up of a new electoral law which is expected to be ready for approval by the Cuban Parliament in October.

While endorsing the new voting system, the Assembly widened Castro's powers by giving him the right to declare a state of emergency in cases of attack and natural or other disasters. It also made him head of a new body, the National Defence Council, which would run the country in times of war or during a State of Emergency.

the Constitution's article three, describing national sovereignty, which appeared to contain a stern warning to all those who might dare to challenge Cuba's one-party Communist system. The clause read:

"Against all those who try to overthrow the political, social and economic order fore established by this Constitution, all citizens have the right to fight with any means, including armed struggle, if other methods are not possible.

The constitutional reform package also dealt with issues as far apart as religious freedom and foreign investment.

But, in defiance of outside pressures. they left firmly intact the basic tenets of Cuba's Communist ideology and oneparty system.



Fidel Castro

"I think we can feel proud of what we have done ... that we have not made the slightest concession in these difficult times in which we have practically been left alone defending socialism in the world," Castro said after the approval of the changes.

The reforms did represent, however, an acknowledgement that Cuba's situation had changed dramatically over the last three years, in which the island lost longstanding political and economic allies in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Reflecting this, the revised constitution dropped references to the now defunct Soviet bloc and inserted instead a commitment to closer ties with Latin America and the Caribbean.

Underpinning a new economic strategy, the Assembly introduced a new article Number 23, providing a legal framework for the creation of joint ventures with foreign capitalists.

Cuba's rulers are looking to foreign investment to provide capital, technology and management skills at a time when the island is facing a deep economic recession because of the collapse of its economic lifeline to the former Soviet Bloc.

Also approved were other economic modifications which loosened the state's respect for religious freedom. A new article' Number Eight, declared the state's respect for religious freedom and the separation of church from state.

Insertions forbidding discrimination on religious grounds were introduced into clauses detailing citizens' rights.

These changes followed moves by Castro and the ruling Communist Party to give greater freedom to religious believers, who had long complained of discrimination following the 1959 revoluion that ushered in a communist system.

Also approved was a new wording of Message of Solidarity with Cuba on the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the Assault on MONCADA GARRI-SON By Stephen J. Nkomo, Secretary for External Relations, ZANU PF in Ha-

#### Your Excellencies Ladies and Gentlemen Comrades and friends.

t is a great honour for me to take the floor at this evening of solidarity with Cuba organized by the Zim babwe/Cuba Friendship Association on the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the assault on Moncada Garrison, which marked the beginning of the armed

struggle of the Cuban people against the dictatorship of Batista.

For all of us who believe in social justice and, who have also struggled very hard to achieve our own liberation and independence from the colonial and racist yoke, the date that we are commemorating today has a special significance. The Cuban people have not only liberated themselves from all the social and economic injustices inherited

ZIMBABWE NEWS JULY/AUGUST, 1992

system, but have been an example for the rest of the third world countries in their struggle to achieve the same goals. Furthermore, following its very well known internationalist principles, Cuba Zimbabwe where he engaged in fruitful has not only contributed to the liberation of a number of countries in Africa and other continents, but has shared its limited resources in assisting many third world countries in their efforts to attain social and economic development.

In this context, we would like to reiterate our appreciation not only for the assistance we received from the Cuban people during our struggle for independence, but also for the continuous and successful cooperation, particularly in the fields of education and health. For instance, to-date we have hundreds of teachers who were trained in Cuba.

from the pro-imperialist and neo-colonial These friendly relations that exist be at a moment when everybody speaks tween our two peoples were re- about the end of the cold war? Why canstrengthened recently during the visit to not Cuba be left alone to build peace-Cuba of His Excellency Cde. Robert G. fully the social and economic system Mugabe, President of the Republic of discussions with his counterpart His Excellency Cde. Fidel Castro, President of the Republic of Cuba.

> Comrades and friends, all of us are quite aware that revolutionary Cuba is being subjected to all kinds of pressures, including a cruel economic blockade which is aimed at imposing upon it, the will of unfriendly countries. This violates the rights to self-determination and sovereignity of this sister nation.

Cuba does not threaten anybody, Cuba does not cause harm to any country Why, then, should Cuba be an exception

#### TALKING POINT

stand confident to term as malicious and sensationally opportunist, the L report headed "Veterans in take over bid" which appeared in The Sunday Times dated June 21, 1992.

Whoever the source of the article is, had malicious and undesirable intent to create discontent and misinformation not only in the police force and the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, as vital public institutions, but also to the general Zimbabwean public.

Since independence, War veterans in government and many other areas worked under the supervision of people who had worked for the colonial regime. Despite the difficulties they faced while working under some of the superiors who served for example in the British South African Police, ex-combatants persevered in the spirit of reconciliation. Twelve years after independence, the excombatants have gained the required experience although the figure is yet to be satisfactory for there are only four ex-combatants out of the 61 police officers at the Police General Headquarters.

The issue, however, is being blown out of proportion by people bent on sewing division among members of the police force and torpedo the positive drive of incorporating ex-combatants into the

Zimbabwe Republic Police. These people have always despised the ex-fighters and want to capitalise on some negative sentiments to put the whole exercise into disarray.

#### Wicked plans

Now that ex-combatants are holding key posts on merit, the misguided individuals have no opportunity to implement their wicked plans. Because they have lost the chance to discredit and prejudice ex-combatants, they are now using the emerging sensational, opposition newspapers. These biased papers always rely on lies which make up the bulk of their so called news material. If they do not lie, they will have nothing to publish. They heavily rely on the disgruntled few to stay in business.

In the above mentioned issue of The Sunday Times, the paper also dwells on the "Retraction and apology to Law Officer in Shirihuru Case". This shows that the paper publishes misinformation in its scramble for news. Something must be wrong with the Editor or the whole spectrum of directors, and shareholders.

The progressive press has revealed that people allegedly involved in the "power struggle" are very few if at all. In fact, the "power struggle" has been initiated

#### **OUR CONTINENTS**

that it has chosen? We would like today to make a firm appeal for the immediate end to the economic blockade and all others kinds of aggressive foreign pressures against Cuba. We encourage dialogue and negotiations in order to resolve any bilateral differences with Cuba.

On our part, we would like to reiterate to the people, the government and the communist party of Cuba our support and solidarity.

Long live the friendship and solidarity between Cuba and Zimbabwe!

LONG LIVE WORLD PEACE!

I thank you!



by their colleagues who were in the force before independence. As soon as they know that some ex-combatants are about to be promoted, they get agitated and sew confusion and influence decisions against ex-fighters. Not all preindependence force members are against the war veterans. The only exception is the one who has elected to be the source of The Sunday Times.

I am convinced that the allegations were made by a disgruntled senior police officer who finds himself in a difficult position because of his misdeeds and the subsequent court actions. If we compare the ZRP with government security establishments, it is evident that it is the only organisation where the old guard has reigned supreme. In other organisations, ex-fighters have taken over and they did well. It is not that ex-combatants despise the old guard.

#### Retirement

The police force should not be allowed to become an old people's home. All officers who have reached pensionable age should be retired. This is quite normal and realistic. Unfortunately there are some officers who still cling to their posts despite their age. They do not want to join the povo. These people should be encouraged to retire and treat

#### **Talking Point**

ex-combatants as any do other mem- ed in plots to discredit ex-combatants and source is not happy because he is being led bers of the force.

Despite the existence of an insignificant The argument by that source that morale Sunday Times article was largely meant ex-guerilla and ex-BASP lines. Fortunate-Police officers can now read through cheap politicking and devicive articles force. with the contempt and insignificance they deserve. Police officers worth their calibre are rallying behind the present administration and forging ahead in the The Police Act provides for policemen to endeavour to build a reputable people's force.

I see nothing wrong in giving senior positions to ex-combatants if they are capable. I believe it is not a question of replacing individuals but giving the right job to the right person. They all inviter the same promotion examinations and subsequent promotions justified. After all, senior officers are not only found at Police General Headquarters in Harare. There are a lot of senior officers at provincial and district levels. Are they all dis- I would like to urge all progressive Zimbabgruntled? How does the source at PGHQ know? If they are, then he has communicat-

tarnish the image of the ZRP.

number of unrepentant old guards, The among senior officers is low is also unfounded because it is not backed by any evidence. to divide members of the police force on He might only have been referring to himself or two or three other colleagues when ly or unfortunately though, it is too late. he spoke of low morale. He cannot speak on behalf of the majority of the members of the

#### Complaints

lodge their complaints in writing and they are even accorded access to the Supreme Court. It is therefore questionable why the source resorted to The Sunday Times when legal remedies are available. Resorting to newspapers may tear the force apart. One can only conclude that either this source or The Sunday Times is an enemy of the ZRP who wants disgruntlement and inefficiency to creep into the force in order to portray ex-combatants as incapable.

weans not to fall for The Sunday Times and its source. It therefore follows that there is ed with them in one way or another. This no serious problem in the police force. The nalism which has to be treated with the consort of communication may have culminat- problem is only that The Sunday Times tempt it deserves.

by an ex-combatant. To say that he is sacrificed to serve the nation is an excuse to get sympathy from readers.

It should also be pointed out that there are a lot of people who write letters to such newspapers pretending that they are excombatants. These papers do not bother to investigate whether such writers are truly exfighters. The papers always proceed to publish such letters, whose allegations dishonour ex-combatants. It is unfortunate that the paper so despises the ex-combatants. It should not paint all ex-combatants with the same brush

The editor of the paper seems to be possessed by a hysteria which drives him to invent malicious allegations that a lot of qualified and experienced officers at the ZRP headquarters are being retired prematurely. Why is it that he failed to name even one of them or publish the number of people retired? His generalisation can only force people to be suspicious. After all ex-combatants do not claim speacial treatment and positions in Zimbabwe. It is The Sunday Times which is painting such an ill-gotten picture. The report can only be dismissed as irresponsible jour-

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