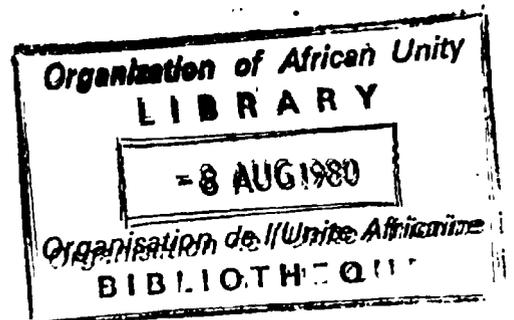


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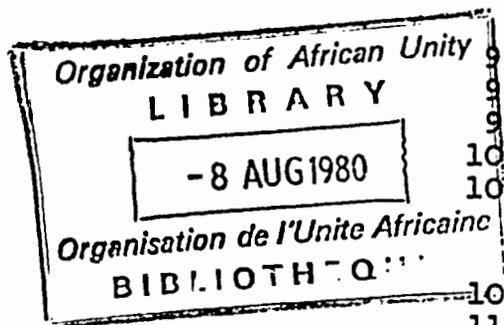
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P A N O R A M A

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MOZAMBIQUE :

ALL RACES AND

ALL CLASSES

by Pierre Haski

MAPUTO, July 28 - There are no "bourgeois" trappings in the Parliament of revolutionary Mozambique : resolutions are passed by acclamation and members give the raised-fist salute to cheer a speaker on.

The People's Assembly, the supreme organ of state, does not vote on the national budget or on bills. These are adopted by a permanent committee of 14 members, whose legislative program is approved all at once at twice-annual plenary sessions.

But it is in the way it deliberates and the way its members are elected that the Assembly in Maputo stands out most from its Western counterparts. The sixth session of the first Assembly, which ended its work over the weekend, provided examples.

Meeting in Maputo's old Portuguese military club, decorated with red banners and printed slogans, 191 deputies of all races and all social classes spent a week behind closed doors debating current issues.

Looking ahead

To a help them in their discussions, the Deputies invited about 100 outside experts : high civil servants and intellectuals, but also the Roman Catholic Vicar-General of Maputo and a leader of the Moslem community.

These people were asked to speak on their "personal experience and their vision of the problems" facing Mozambique.

The speeches were designed to fulfil a secondary purpose that President Samora Machel, the chief force behind the revolution here, wants the Assembly to have : that of a training school for party cadres.

In fact, some worker and peasant Deputies, elected by the raising of hands in people's meetings across the country, are barely able to read and write.

Many criticisms

In addition to the National Assembly, Mozambique has nearly 900 local assemblies with 20,000 deputies, about 100 District Assemblies and an Assembly for each Province. All of these bodies are elected at people's meetings.

The discussions at the meeting here were sometimes lively and, without questioning the basic policies of the regime, offered many criticisms of certain aspects of life in Mozambique. One complaint : excessive strictness of security officials in some regions.

Mr Machel, a supporter of the Maoist theory of permanent revolution, played a major role in encouraging frankness in the debates, whose central theme was the "politico-organizational offensive" going on in Mozambique.

The offensive, officially described as an "enrichment of Marxism-Leninism", is a systematic attack on bureaucracy, incompetence, laziness and the "internal enemy" that is, it is said, seeking to sap the building of socialism.

Surprise visits

As part of this campaign, the President has made a series of surprise inspections of ports, factories and administrative offices since the first of the year. He has encouraged popular criticism and fired high officials.

Simultaneously, Mozambique has begun what it calls its "decade of victory over under-development" from 1980 to 1990.

To assist the two complementary campaigns, the role of Frelimo (Mozambique Liberation Front), the ruling party and the only one in Mozambique, has been strengthened. It was Frelimo that led the struggle against Portuguese colonialism before independence was granted in 1975.

Planning, ideology

Two of the leading figures in the regime, Marcelino dos Santos and Jorge Rebelo, were freed of their governmental responsibilities in April to devote all their time to the party central committee.

Mr dos Santos is working on economic planning and Mr Rebelo on Frelimo ideology. Contrary to April's appearances, when it was thought he might have been demoted, Mr dos Santos is still very much the number-two man in Mozambique alongside Mr Machel.

In a 90-minute speech that ended the Assembly session on Saturday, the President, dressed as usual in military fatigues and cap, reminded the Deputies that they are responsible for "Mobilizing the people against enemies".

External enemies

These enemies he said, were "not abstract".

"There exist among us physical agents of capitalism, in firms, hospitals, ports...." he added, and he also asserted that external enemies were after Mozambique. "South Africa is the principal bastion of imperialism in our region", he said, accusing the South Africans of having invaded Angola and Zambia, and of carrying out "subversive actions" against Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

It was clear that Mr Machel, at least in public speech, seeks to analyse all his country's problems along "capitalist versus socialist" lines.

The President also urged the Deputies to work to bring about increases in agricultural production in order "to liquidate hunger" at a time when Mozambique was experiencing shortages of some products.

During the Assembly session, Deputies saluted the independence of Zimbabwe under Mr Machel's friend Robert Mugabe, which had allowed Mozambique to turn its energies away from the emancipation of the neighboring state and devote them to economic development and courting Western aid for the first time. At the same time, "Moroccan colonialism" in the Western Sahara was strongly condemned.

Finally, with the Frelimo slogan "A Luta Continua" (The Struggle Goes On), and that of the Cubans -- "A Victoria o Morte - Venceremos" (Victory or Death -- We Shall Triumph) -- this session of an unusual parliament came to an end. (A.F.P.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT

KIGALI, Rwanda, July 26 - The Pan-African Cooperative Training Centre in Benin should become the meeting place for those responsible for the development of African countries, Beninese Labour and Social Affairs Minister Adolphe Biaou said here.

Mr Biaou was speaking yesterday at the end of the fourth Pan-African cooperative conference which began here last Wednesday. Mr Biaou, conference chairman, was named head of the management committee of the Centre which has been set up in the Beninese capital of Cotonou.

Observers from the Economic Community of the Great Lakes, the Organisation of African Unity and the European Development Fund attended the conference here. The next such conference will be held in the Senegalese capital of Dakar at the end of next year. (A.F.P.)

IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

COPENHAGEN, July 26 - The first committee of the world conference on women today adopted an Italian-backed proposition calling on member-states to end discrimination against immigrant workers and their families.

It recommended that countries eliminate any de facto discrimination against the wives of immigrants on the conditions of their stay or of employment.

The proposition was strongly supported by Algeria and ten other nations. France, Switzerland and Belgium had reservations about it, saying that the problem of migrant workers basically came under the International Labor Organisation. (A.F.P.)

WHALE HOPE DASHED

BRIGHTON, England, July 27 - The leading members of the International Whaling Commission shattered conservationist hopes here this week by passing the death sentence on 15,000 of the giant mammals despite scientific proof that many species are fast becoming extinct.

At this 32nd conference, a strong voting block led by Japan - the major culprit in the eyes of the conservationists - the Soviet Union, Chile, Peru and South Korea, with heavy lobbying by private interests, managed to block all major new control measures.

The battle for the whales is spearheaded by the conservationist societies, led by Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace, who attended the conference as observers. Hopes were high in Brighton, as for some years the Whaling Commission has been tilting slowly towards protection.

Last year the conservationists scored two major victories with the creation of a sanctuary in the Indian Ocean and the banning of factory ships for all species except Minke Whales.

The most disappointing defeat this year for the anti-whaling lobby was their failure to impose a total moratorium on the hunting of Sperm Whales. The conservationists were also defeated in their hope of bringing Killer Whales and dolphins under the Commission's responsibility.

These smaller cetaceans are hunted indiscriminately except for a ban on hunting Killer Whales in the Antarctic.

Ecologists had harsh words for Japan, accusing Tokyo of exerting pressure on other whaling countries supplying it with whale products. Japan is the world's largest consumer of whale meat. (A.F.P.)

OVERSEAS CITIZENSHIP...

LONDON, July 27 - Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Government is planning to publish a white paper this week with proposals for establishing three classes of British nationality, only one of which would allow people automatic entry into the country, the Sunday Times said today.

The weekly newspaper said that under the proposals, which would rationalize the present tangle of laws rather than introduce fundamental new ones, the three classes of British nationality would be :

- British citizens born in the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).

-A new form of colonial citizenship for people from Britain's remaining colonies.

-"Overseas citizenship" for holders of British passports, like East African Asians, who are neither citizens of the countries in which they live nor have the right to enter Britain automatically.

Only the first category would have an automatic right of entry into Britain, the Sunday Times said.

The newspaper said the changes were unlikely to have any effect on immigration into Britain, but would make it easier for future governments to refuse entry to large groups of overseas British subjects like the East African Asians, whose anomalous position first became clear when thousands of them were expelled from Uganda in 1972 by then-President Idi Amin. (A.F.P.)

DIAMOND GO-AHEAD

PERTH, July 28 - An agreement signed here yesterday gives the go-ahead for diamond mining on sacred Aboriginal land in the remote Kimberley region in the north of Western Australia.

The area is believed to contain some of the world's most precious diamonds.

The green light for mining came when an agreement was signed by representatives of the Ashton Joint Venture and the recognized Aboriginal custodians of the land at Argyle.

Permission to allow mining was granted in exchange for capital works costing 200,000 dollars Australian over the next 12 months at the Aboriginal-owned Glen Hill station near Argyle.

Additional expenditure of up to 100,000 dollars per year will be provided if diamond operations continue. (A.F.P.)

"SQUEEZING" THE
WORLD'S CLOUDS

CLERMONT-FERRAND, France, July 27 - Meteorologists have not yet mastered the science of artificially increasing rainfall to bolster the water supply in arid parts of the world, but in the last 20 years much money and effort has gone into trying to squeeze more water out of clouds.

Experts attending the World Meteorological Organization's third conference here on weather modification said that summer monsoon clouds in India, winter clouds in the American Great Plains, clouds in Brazil, Upper Volta and the Ukraine have all been seeded to cause rain.

Salts and silver iodide crystals or dry ice have been used, sprinkled from planes or sent up in rockets, to "artificially inseminate" clouds. But verifying the results of rain-making attempts, which is difficult to start with, becomes almost impossible with large-scale operations.

Also evaluating the effect of man-made rainstorms on the land below is no easy matter. Meteorologists have come up with no significant results in Canada, the United States or Upper Volta, experts said at the meeting which just ended.

Only one incident described here seemed to hold water as a scientific proof that rain-making can succeed. Professor A. Gagin of Jerusalem University said that in a semi-arid part of Israel thousands of hectares of land were regained between 1969 and 1975.

Meanwhile, the side-effects of inducing rain are still uncertain. Some experts believe that increasing rainfall in one area decreases it in neighboring regions. Others believe the opposite.

Early stages

Underlying the international enthusiasm for this imperfect science are economic concerns. Indonesia, for example, has allocated 25 million dollars this year alone to alter its abundant rainfall, hoping to make growing seasons more predictable and to increase agricultural profitability.

Experts here emphasized that despite the enormous amount of data gained by radar and satellites, meteorology and its child prodigy weather modification are still in the early stages and advancing slowly.

Until more definite results are in, meteorologists will rely on simpler methods such as storing water in periods of low use. (A.F.P.)

A FAIR SHARE

OF THE MONEY...

ADDIS ABABA, July 29 - Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Marc Manirakiza Monday criticized the World Bank - itself a U.N. body - for failing to give Africa "an equitable share of available financial resources".

Africa in 1979 was indebted to the tune of 26 billion dollars, he said, largely as a result of galloping inflation.

"Given the debt problem of the region, the (World) Bank should do something to lessen the debt burden so as to enable the region to embark on development projects", Mr Manirakiza said.

The ECA official was addressing the opening session here of a five-day meeting of the working party of African governors of the World Bank group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

He also repeated earlier calls by the ECA for the creation of an African monetary fund, which he said would help lessen the problem of the non-convertibility of most African currencies.

This would further help resolve problems related to the pegging of African currencies to "an array of monetary areas", he added.

Delegates from 15 African countries and representatives of the ECA, the African Development Bank, the IMF and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) are attending the meeting.

The session's principal goal is to prepare for the participation of African governors at the forthcoming annual meeting of the IMF/IBRD in Washington D.C.

Spiralling cost

Ethiopian Finance Minister Teferra Wolde Semayat, who formally opened the meeting, called on the World Bank, the IMF and the developed industrialized countries to channel more resources to meet the development needs and current balance of payments difficulties of third world and least developed countries.

This was essential, he said, in view of the fact that oil importing developing countries faced the prospect of an increase in their current account deficits of as much as 60 billion dollars as a result of the spiralling cost of oil.

Mr Teferra also backed certain recommendations proposed by the Brandt commission on international development issues. These included the proposals relating to the transfer by industrialized countries of real resources of up to one per cent by the year 2000, the need for a global food programme and institutional reforms concerned with the World Bank and the IMF.
(A.F.P.)

MAJOR ROLE FOR
BANK ASSOCIATION

ADDIS ABABA, July 29 - The Association of African Central Banks must play a major role in helping Africa fulfill its economic strategy for the 1980's, Ethiopian Finance Minister Teferra Wolde Semayat said here today.

The Association could in particular help eliminate trade barriers and restrictive customs and tariff formalities and so promote intra-African trade, he added.

The creation of the proposed African Common Market and the African Monetary Fund were other areas in which the Association could play a role, Mr Teferra said.

He was addressing the opening session here of the eleventh annual meeting of the Association's East African sub-regional committee.

Representatives of the Central Banks of Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Swaziland, Tanzania, and Zambia are attending the meeting, together with observers from Lesotho, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

The meeting coincides with a five-day meeting here of the working party of African Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, which opened yesterday. (A.F.P.)

PLANNED SETTLEMENT

ADDIS ABABA, July 28 - An effective human settlements programme will play a decisive role in the implementation of Africa's development strategy, a top African economist said here today.

Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), said settlements policies would have to ensure that populations were located not far from production centres.

He also urged a complementary strategy that would promote development of the traditional functions of the rural areas, notably in the field of agriculture.

Professor Adedeji was addressing the opening session here of the second meeting of the inter-governmental regional committee on human settlements, attended by representatives of some 18 countries.

The five-day meeting is to consider aspects of human settlements and African development strategy, and draw up a work programme for the next four years. (A.F.P.)

BISSAU 1981

BISSAU, July 26 - Guinea-Bissau will begin drilling for oil at the end of 1981, the director of this West African republic's Oil and Mining Company has said here.

The Portuguese company Atlantic Resources had been given the job of preparing a draft project to be presented to the World Bank, Pio Correia told the Bissau newspaper No Pintcha.

Official sources said potentially rich oil deposits lay off the country's Atlantic coast. Part of this zone is, however, disputed by neighbouring Senegal and Guinea.

Mr Carreia said companies in Portugal, Spain, France and the United States had been contacted in connection with a survey of deposits. (A.F.P.)

CONGO BOOSTER

BRAZZAVILLE, Congo, July 27 - Oil production in Congo will increase sharply during the next two years, the head of a French oil company subsidiary said here Saturday.

Albin Chalandon, President and Managing Director of Elf-Congo, said production for the current year should be three million tons, an increase of about 10 % over last year's figure.

He projected output of four million tons of crude next year and over five million tons in 1982. (A.F.P.)

CHINA'S N-STUDY

HONG KONG, July 26 - China is to study the construction, operation and inspection of atomic power stations, the New China News Agency (NCNA) said today.

The agency said the study would be carried out in Suzhou, East China, chosen as one of the sites for six experimental centres being built to probe new energy techniques.

The other five centres are being constructed in Xian, in Wuhan, in Namjing, in Qinghe on Peking's north-western outskirts and in Liangxiang, south-west of Peking.

The Xian centre will study gas turbines, thermal power stations and the utilisation of heat energy, the Wuhan centre will concentrate on techniques in high voltage (above 500,000 volts) transmission.

Namjing will investigate automation of the power industry, concentrating on the computerisation of large power grids, while in Qinghe attention will focus on how to transmit power safely and economically.

Finally the Liangxiang centre will study concrete poles and pylons and high-quality welding techniques, the news agency reported. (A.F.P.)

CORRODED, WASTED

DUBLIN, July 25 - Eighteen months after the French supertanker Betelgeuse exploded during pumping operations in Bantry Bay, South-west Ireland, killing 50 people, a Government inquiry into the causes of the disaster today placed the blame squarely on the vessel's owners, the Total oil company of France.

"At the time of the disaster", the inquiry found, "the vessel was in a seriously corroded and wasted condition".

The 477-page report from the international commission set up by the Eire Government in May last year found the explosion to have been caused by two separate factors : "a seriously weakened hull due to inadequate maintenance and an excessive stress due to incorrect ballasting". (A.F.P.)

PLUTONIUM FACILITY

TOKYO, July 26 - The United States has given the go-ahead for construction of a plutonium conversion facility in Japan, Government officials said today.

The approval lifted a ban on such construction imposed after a joint Japan-U.S. statement in September 1977.

The U.S. agreement apparently follows assurances that a uranium-plutonium mixture extracted from spent nuclear reactor fuel cannot be technically used in nuclear weapons, the officials said. (A.F.P.)

MIDDLE EAST

BRETHREN GIVE UP

DAMASCUS, July 26 - Five members of the fundamentalist Moslem Brotherhood surrendered to Syrian authorities late this week, bringing to 40 the number of sect members who have abandoned the movement to escape the death penalty, the newspaper Teshrine reported today.

The Syrian Parliament July 8 passed a law imposing the death penalty for membership of the Brotherhood - widely blamed for numerous acts of terrorism - but giving members one month to turn themselves in and avoid execution. Members outside the country have two months to do so.

The five defectors, from Homs in Central Syria, made a statement condemning "the criminal acts contrary to Islam perpetrated by this organization" and inviting other members "to repent and profit from the opportunity offered to them", the newspaper said. (A.F.P.)

UNPARALLELED CRUELTY...

LUSAKA, July 28 - The newspaper of Zambia's ruling party said today that the late Shah of Iran would "probably be mourned more by foreigners than by the people over whom he ruled with such unparalleled cruelty".

The Times of Zambia said, however, that most of the world including Zambia probably would be "more concerned about the fate of the 52 American hostages held in Teheran" than about the Shah's death in exile in Cairo yesterday.

In its editorial, the newspaper also blamed Iran's present difficulties on the Shah's failure to adopt a non-aligned stance.

"All third-world countries who eschew non-alignment are bound to suffer from superpower jitters", the paper said, calling the Shah "America's man in the Middle East".

The Times also said that, in the aftermath of the Shah's overthrow, "things have not settled down in Iran. Both the Soviet Union and the U.S. are watching keenly for any signs that (Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeini is moving to their side". (A.F.P.)

BANKER'S VIEW

TEHERAN, July 27 - "We are very happy to learn of the Shah's death", Iranian Central Bank Director Ali Nobari said here today.

"But we would have preferred to make Mohammed Reza Pahlavi appear before an international tribunal and, by the trial, show the entire world all the crimes committed by him against the Iranian people".

Mr Nobari is a close colleague of Iranian President Abolhassan Banisadr and was responsible for preparing the dossier for recuperation of funds held by the Pahlavi family. He said that "Iranian authorities will continue all necessary steps on an international level... to recuperate the assets usurped and stolen by the Shah and his family". (A.F.P.)

THE FORTUNE

PARIS, July 28 - The former Shah of Iran was one of the world's richest men, leaving behind him a fortune variously estimated at between 2,000 million and 20,000 million dollars.

The money, which Iran's present Government wants brought home, was deposited mostly in the United States and Switzerland in the last years of his reign. It came primarily from oil taxes imposed by the former leader and from investments made by his Pahlavi Foundation, created in 1958 to manage the imperial family's assets and fortune. (A.F.P.)

"PRINCESS" ROW ENDS

JEDDAH, July 28 - Britain and Saudi Arabia have decided to normalise relations, an authoritative source said here today.

The decision was made during a visit by British Foreign Office Minister of State Douglas Hurd to Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal, the source said.

A row between the two countries broke out after the screening in April of the British-made television film "Death of a Princess" about the execution of a Saudi princess and her lover for adultery.

Saudi Arabia has agreed its Ambassador to Britain, Skeikh Nasser Al Manhurah, should return to London and Britain's Ambassador James Craig should resume his post in Jeddah.

Mr Hurd flew home in the afternoon after closing his talks, while an authoritative source here reported that to seal the reconciliation British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington would pay an official visit to Saudi Arabia on August 13. (A.F.P.)

BEGIN ON JOB

JERUSALEM, July 29 - Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, who nearly a month ago suffered a heart attack, has resumed his normal work schedule, Israeli Radio said today.

Last month's heart attack was Mr Begin's third. He suffered the first in 1977 and a second a year later. (A.F.P.)

EGYPT "OFFENSIVE"

JERUSALEM, July 28 - Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir today criticized what he termed "constant attacks on Israel and its Government by leading Egyptian figures".

Speaking to Foreign Ministry staff, Mr Shamir described the alleged attacks as "destructive" and following a "particularly offensive" pattern.

The Minister objected to a recent statement by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to a leading Israeli professor, and broadcast on Israeli Radio, that "Prime Minister Menachem Begin can no longer make any useful contribution to the peace process".

Mr Shamir asked whether Egypt expected Israel to make only concessions, whether Egypt believed that one side must go on making demands and the other giving in.

The Minister said that Israel did not feel that a Prime Minister's job was to strip his nation of all it possessed, to stop considering Jerusalem the national capital or to resign himself to a Palestinian state dominated by "Palestine liberation organization terrorists". (A.F.P.)

Sahara

PERFECTLY CLEAR,

SAYS FRONT

ALGIERS, July 26 - A spokesman for the Polisario Front showed unconcern today over the denial of the Portuguese Foreign Minister that his country had recognized the Front's provisional government in the Western Sahara.

The spokesman, Omar Mansour, said that the statement on Thursday by Foreign Minister Diogo Freitas do Amaral "was not a denial" of a joint communique signed here by the two countries and published earlier that day after Polisario guerrillas released 15 Portuguese fishermen they had captured in June.

The communique, signed by Mr Mansour and Luis Fontura, the special Portuguese envoy to the negotiations that brought the fishermen's release, expresses Portugal's "support for the right of the Saharan people to self-determination, to independence, to sovereignty and to the territorial integrity of their country under the direction of their sole and legitimate representative, the Polisario Front".

Mr Mansour said today that the Front, which is fighting to wrest the Western Sahara from Moroccan control, had no reaction to the Portuguese Minister's statement other than to cite the communique, "which is perfectly clear".

Implicit recognition

The communique also spoke of "the necessity of opening negotiations between the Moroccan and Saharan Governments (the Polisario's so-called Saharan Arab Democratic Republic) to bring about a just and lasting solution" to the Western Sahara conflict

This language, and the fact that negotiations took place between official representatives of Portugal and the Saharan Republic, constitute implicit recognition of the Saharan Government's sovereignty, observers here said.

No matter what interpretation is placed on the joint communique, the Polisario has clearly won a diplomatic triumph, as Portugal becomes the first European government to recognize the Polisario Front as the "sole and legitimate representative" of the Saharan people.

Earlier, Spain's governing party had recognized the Polisario Front but only on a party-to-party basis.

The Polisario's new diplomatic success may be followed by a fishing agreement covering what the Saharan Republic considers its territorial waters in the Atlantic off the Western Sahara. (A.F.P.)

Sahara

CAMP POUNDED

ALGIERS, July 26 - Polisario Front artillery bombarded the Moroccan Army's camp at Guelta Zemmour in the Western Sahara on Monday, the Polisario said in a statement published here today.

The statement, from the Information Ministry of the Front's Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, spoke of "heavy losses of men and equipment" inflicted on the Moroccan forces. It did not elaborate.

It was the second time in two weeks that the Polisario Front has reported attacking Guelta Zemmour.

The Polisario is fighting to set up its republic in the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony that has been annexed by Morocco. (A.F.P.)

Libya

U.S. "GREAT DEVIL"

PARIS, July 28 - Libya is still disposed to use the oil weapon against the United States, "the great devil of our planet", according to Libyan leader Colonel Moamer Kadhafi.

In an interview to be shown on French television on Wednesday, Col. Kadhafi said it was wrong to believe that the Arab oil-producing countries did not share Libya's views on this point.

"They agree with us", he said, "but not on the scale that we want. However the political regimes in the Arab countries are unstable. Perhaps others with whom we can reach an understanding will come along".

Col. Kadhafi denied that he wanted to accelerate the changes in the moderate Arab countries, saying that such changes would "come from inside".

Asked about the attacks on Libyan opposition figures abroad, Col. Kadhafi dissociated himself from the assassinations and said it should be possible to extradite Libyans whom he accused of fraud and embezzlement of state funds.

He was against such killings, he affirmed : "Certainly they are revolutionary initiatives. As for me, I want sanctions to come from the people's courts".

He denied that Libya wanted atomic weapons or was helping Pakistan to acquire the nuclear bomb. "We are against nuclear weapons", he declared. "We have signed all the non-proliferation treaties. Our activity in this field is open and everybody knows about it". Turning to relations with France, he said they were "now good" although France was continuing a "colonialist" policy in Africa. His country remained neutral toward the Chad conflict, but he was against any French presence

General Information

ECOWAS : VISAS SCRUBBED

LAGOS, July 26 - Citizens of 16 West African nations can now travel from country to country without visas, an official of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) said here.

The ECOWAS Executive Secretary, Dr Diaby Quattara, told a news conference Thursday that the Community's protocol on free movement of people had come into force with ratification by eight of its members : Nigeria, Togo, Liberia, Senegal, Guinea, Gambia, Niger and Ghana.

The Community's constitution requires ratification by seven members for such measures to take effect.

The other ECOWAS members -- Mali, Benin, Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, and Cape Verde -- have indicated intentions to ratify the protocol as well. (A.F.P)

Nigeria

HE'S A CITIZEN

MAIDUGURI, Northern Nigeria, July 27 - A Nigerian High Court has ordered the Federal Government to pay 350,000 naira (more than 580,000 dollars) to an opposition politician that it expelled from the country on the grounds that he was a Chadian national.

The court, here in the capital of Maiduguri State near the Chadian border, also ordered the Federal Government to withdraw the deportation order issued for reasons of security against Alhaji Shugaba Abdurrahman earlier this year.

Mr Abdurahman, leader of the Grand National People's Party in Borno State Assembly, 1,500 kms (about 1,000 miles) north-east of Lagos near the border with Chad and Cameroun, was taken away by immigration officers in January.

A deportation order issued by the federal authorities on the grounds that he was not in fact a Nigerian citizen said he was being expelled for security reasons.

The Maiduguri order, printed in the press here yesterday, recognised that Mr Abdurrahman was a Nigerian citizen.

The Maiduguri court last March ordered the return of Mr Abdurrahman here until it had ruled on his nationality. The Government appealed against this decision but went back on this on the orders of President Shehu Shagari.

President Shagari at the end of January said that he acknowledged that "Shugaba Abdurrahman was a security risk for the country". His comments followed protests over the deportation

The court, however, suspended the work of a commission of inquiry that it sent to determine Mr Abdurrahman's nationality. (A.F.P.)

Ghana

WAR ON SMUGGLERS

ACCRA, July 29 - Defence Minister S.K. Riley Poku has ordered the Ghanaian Navy to wage relentless war on smugglers who have added much-needed petroleum products to the list of goods they export illegally.

Oil exploration in Ghanaian waters off the southwest of the country and the recent discovery of oil and gas in the Axim area of the same zone had "transformed" the territorial waters into a vital smuggling zone, he said at the weekend.

Almost half the country's foreign exchange earnings were spent on oil-based imports, he added in a address in at Sekondi naval base 136 miles from Accra to mark the commissioning of two new ships for the Navy.

Mr Riley-Poku said Ghana was not threatened by outside forces but by what he called "armed interference in the constitutional order" or "inconscienable sabotage of the economy".

"If Ghanaians accept that the problem facing the country now is economic and not political, then the armed interference in the constitutional order is insignificant", he added.

Previously smuggling has been mainly confined to cocoa, gold and timber. Ghana's cocoa industry has been undermined by cocoa smuggling to outside countries, particularly those bordering Ghana, where it can be sold for convertible CFA franc currency. (A.F.P.)

Mali

"CRIMINAL" MANAGERS

BAMAKO, July 26 - President Moussa Traoré has accused managers of some of Mali's Government-owned enterprises of enriching themselves at the state's expense.

In an interview broadcast last night, General Traoré also said that some managers had "criminally smothered the state sector by creating and building up competing companies".

Today, Industrial Development Minister Lamine Keita said that Gen. Traoré would no longer tolerate laxity in the management of the state-owned enterprises.

Closing a weeklong seminar for the enterprises' managers, Mr Keita warned that those in positions of responsibility in the companies would be judged by their results from now on. (A.F.P.)

Senegal

THE GOOD RAIN

DAKAR, July 28 - Long-overdue rain fell heavily on drought-stricken Senegal over the weekend.

The Weather Bureau forecast that this "good weather" was likely to continue in coming days.

The rain started in the south on Saturday night, and by Sunday it was pouring all over this sub-Saharan country.

Coming on top of last year's disastrous drought, the worst in over a quarter century, this year's searing weather had burned off cattle fodder and again raised the spectre of famine. Even in the south, earlier scattered showers had not been sufficient to produce germination of those seeds which had been sown. (A.F.P.)

EAST AFRICA

General Information

EEC BOOSTING

FOOD AID

NAIROBI, July 29 - The European Economic Community (EEC) will step up food aid to six Horn of Africa countries affected by armed conflict and drought, it was announced here today.

The Community will supply an additional 10,000 tons of milk powder, butter oil and sugar this year.

The EEC office in Nairobi said Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti and Sudan had already been allocated 80,000 tons of cereals and nearly 20,000 tons of milk powder and butter oil by the EEC this year. At least two million people were in need of this aid, it estimated.

Africa's refugees this year replaced those of South East Asia as the prime recipients of EEC emergency aid.

This year the six East African countries will have 61 million dollars worth of emergency aid. Food, especially wheat and wheat flour, is the major form of aid, though Somalia has also received trucks and mobile workshops. Djibouti has taken water tanks and water trucks.

Somalia is getting the largest slice of EEC aid and most of the food goes free to refugees, although some is distributed in exchange for work to the Somali population.

In Ethiopia, the food is also given free to drought victims and to people displaced by the wars in the north, east and south of the country.

In Kenya and Djibouti the wheat aid is for sale on the local market, but milk powder and butter oil are given free to refugees and drought victims, while in Sudan the food aid is to be sold by the Government. (A..F.P.)

Uganda

ARMED BANDITRY

AND FAMINE

by Marie-Therese Delboulbes

NAIROBI, July 27 - Two medical teams from a French humanitarian organization are preparing to set up aid stations in Uganda's Karamoja region, which has been ravaged by famine and armed bandits in recent months.

The health situation in the north-eastern region is "really terrible", Dr Rony Brauman of "Doctors without Borders" said in Nairobi, where the first team -- a doctor and three nurses -- arrived on Friday.

In the north of Karamoja, near Uganda's frontiers with Kenya and Sudan, food and medical supplies distributed mainly by church missions arrive much less regularly than at Moroto, the region's capital.

The nuns are greatly overworked and the only medical assistance outside the missions has been that of three British medical students at Kaabong, where 30,000 Karamojong tribesmen have assembled in their desperate search for food and healing. The student trio will be relieved by one of the two teams from Doctors without borders.

The first team, however, will set up its station at Kotido, farther south, where 35,000 people have gathered.

These two villages had Government clinics, but with the Ugandan Government having its own problems -- President Godfrey Binaisa was deposed in May and a Military Commission is in charge pending general elections in September -- the clinics have ceased to function.

Walking corpses

"Nothing is left" in the dispensaries, said Dr Brauman, who recently made an inspection tour and found only a tin of aspirin and a bottle of penicillin.

"The people are walking corpses who can barely drag themselves around", he said.

The doctors said that he saw no case of kwashiorkor malnutrition, which makes children's stomachs swell due to lack of protein in what food they have. But he did notice many cases of starvation due to lack of any food at all, he said. In these cases, children's faces take on the appearance of old people's and their limbs dwindle to sticks.

The doctors' operation has three goals : get the Government clinics going again, make medical rounds by vehicle in the bush and get the people the food they need to recover.

Uganda

Gangrene & measles

"We must go find those who are ill in the bush because the weakest will die before they reach medical treatment", Dr Brauman said. "Besides, we must avoid very large concentrations of people around the clinics, which could become targets for the bandits".

The clinics have a bit of equipment -- the metal bedsteads are still there, for instance, although the mattresses have disappeared -- and surgery will be possible for victims of raids by the bandits, who generally carry automatic weapons.

On an average day, four people with bullet wounds turn up, usually with gangrene that develops when their wounds are left untreated.

The doctors plan in two months to begin vaccinations against measles, which is especially dangerous for people already weak from lack of food.

To start off, the medical teams will set up a therapeutic nutrition program for children and pregnant women, using 30 tons of protein concentrate tablets that are to arrive in Kampala next week.

The doctors also plan to oversee the general distribution of food, to avoid its diversion into the hands of the less needy or of profiteers. Someone from the medical teams will ride with each truck from Kampala to the north of Karamoja, so that their cargo will not be unloaded somewhere in the bush short of its destination.

The European Economic Community is paying for transporting the food and is putting two Land Rovers at the doctors' disposal. The United Nations is helping, through UNICEF and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

The operation is to last at least six months. (A.FP)

NYERERE CUTS MUSEVENI

DAR ES SALAAM, July 26 - Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere held talks here today with Paul Ssemogerere, the leader of an established political party contesting the upcoming Ugandan elections, but refused to meet Yoweri Museveni, the head of a new one.

Sources said Mr Nyerere thought it a waste of time to see Mr Museveni.

The Tanzanian President is a close friend of Milton Obote, the head of the Uganda People's Congress (UPC), which with Mr Ssemogerere's Democratic Party (DP) leads the race for the legislative and presidential elections scheduled for September.

Uganda

Intimidation, violence...

A Tanzanian spokesman said that Mr Nyerere, Mr Ssemogerere and five other DP delegates discussed the timetable for the elections. Reliable sources said that was the only thing they talked about. Mr Ssemogerere left for Kampala after the meeting.

Yesterday, it was reported that the ruling Uganda Military Commission -- whose Chairman Paulo Muwanga is an Obote supporter -- had barred four leading members of Mr Ssemogerere's party from speaking at campaign rallies. This followed charges by the DP that Obote party people were intimidating voters and using violence against DP followers.

The sources said that Mr Nyerere did not see Mr Museveni because his Uganda Patriotic Movement was "not very significant". These sources claimed that Mr Museveni has "hardly 100 followers" in Uganda and that Mr Nyerere could not waste time seeing every Ugandan who came to Tanzania.

The sources said that if Mr Museveni wanted to discuss law and order matters in Uganda, he should have contacted the Military Commission, of which he is Vice-Chairman.

Mr Museveni remained in Dar Es Salaam after the refusal.

Before coming here, he had gone to Mozambique to see his friend President Samora Machel, in the apparent hope that Mr Machel would ask Mr Nyerere to help restrain Mr Obote's followers.

Tanzania maintains in Uganda about 10,000 of the soldiers and police who helped overthrow Idi Amin last year. Democratic Party sources had said the delegation to Mr Nyerere might suggest that these forces and the Ugandan police be used to keep rival party supporters apart at rallies.

To judge by the Tanzanian spokesman's post-meeting statement, however, this arrangement was not discussed. (A.F.P.)

Tanzania

CHOLERA TAKES 7

DAR ES SALAAM, July 26 - Seven people have died of cholera at a village in Central Tanzania, bringing to 86 the number of fatal cholera cases in the country this year, Tanzania Radio reported Friday night.

The radio said the latest deaths occurred in the Iramba district of the Singida region, where 84 cases of the disease had been registered this month.

There were over 1,000 cholera deaths in Tanzania during a 1978 epidemic. (A.F.P.)

Kenya

INVESTMENT CHANGES

NAIROBI, July 26 - The Kenyan Government is to make significant changes in its foreign investment policies in order to ensure that the country's citizens have a greater control of the economy, Economic Planning and Development Minister Zachary Onyonka said here today.

Addressing members of the Kenya Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr Onyonka said that the changes would affect the Government's investment policy in joint ventures which were not paying well enough as well as concessions given to foreign investors.

"Although the Government normally had the controlling shares in those companies it had jointly ventured with private companies, the foreigners tended to reap all the benefits from the enterprises and the Government even lost money in some", he said, adding : "They invest too little and yet they control the management."

On the concessions to private investors, the Minister said that some investors were enjoying protection which hampered economic growth.

"Such protection was too expensive for Kenya and if the investors' demands became too high, Kenya will have to decline some offers for investments, while some concessions to foreign investors leave a lot to be desired and if national interests had to be safeguarded, some changes have to be made", Mr Onyonka said.

But he assured all foreign investors that any changes in Kenyan Government investment policy would be orderly and gradual. "We are not going to take drastic and radical measures", he added. (A.F.P.)

Ethiopia

BACK FROM SUDAN

ADDIS ABABA, July 26 - Ethiopian Leader Mengistu Haile Mariam yesterday met some of the 130 Ethiopian refugees who recently returned home from the Sudan.

The refugees are undergoing political orientation at a Government camp on the southern outskirts of the capital before resuming normal life.

The group flew home in two separate batches in response to Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu's invitation during his official visit to Sudan in May.

Radio Ethiopia quoted Boundaries and Refugee Affairs Officer Solomon Wolde Hanna as saying that several other groups were entering the country by land via Northern Gondar Province. (A.F.P.)

General Information

DIRECT CONTACT

YAOUNDE, July 27 - Zaire and Cameroun have agreed to increase direct contact between economic officials and businessmen from their two countries, it was announced here today.

The two countries drafted a list of exportable commodities, a final communique after a three-day joint commission meeting here said.

They also agreed to increase scientific and technical exchanges together with cooperation in agriculture, stock-rearing and energy, it added.

The two countries also signed cultural and sporting exchange agreements after the commission ended its meeting late yesterday. This will cover exchanges of students, teachers and researchers. (A.F.P.)

4 STAY IN JAIL

LUSAKA, July 28 - The Zambian High Court today renewed a detention order on four Zairese nationals accused of spying on a Zaire dissident organisation based here.

The four men, who were allegedly recruited by Zairese Deputy Consul-General Lufungulu Lulu, had applied to the court for release from detention under a writ of habeas corpus.

Rejecting the application, Mr Justice Dennis Chirwa noted that "the Zaire Government has had problems in the Shaba Province and some rebels have run to neighbouring countries. If spying activities are to be encouraged on these grounds this would affect Zambia's internal security and these activities would therefore be prejudicial to the security of this country".

The four men were named as Gaston Msamba, Enos Chomba, Thomas Kimwanga and Alexis Kabamba. (A.F.P.)

Zambia

BEST OFFERS ONLY

LUSAKA, July 29 - Zambia has not banned importation of essential commodities from the United States and Europe, Secretary to the Cabinet Evans Wilima said here on Monday.

Clarifying Sunday press reports about such a supposed prohibition, Mr Wilima said the Government had simply instructed the National Import and Export Corporation (NIEC) to buy wherever it found the best offers.

"This would be in Europe, in America, in Asia, in the Soviet Union, in China, or in Africa," Mr Wilima said. (A.F.P.)

Angola

DEATH FOR 16

UNITA MEN

LUANDA, July 29 - A people's revolutionary court today passed death sentences on 16 anti-Government UNITA guerrillas accused of carrying out a series of bomb attacks since 1978.

The 16 members of the South African-backed rebel movement led by Jonas Savimbi will be executed by firing squad.

A further seven accused received sentences ranging from 12 to 24 years in prison. Four of the accused were acquitted.

The state prosecutor had asked for death sentences against 21 of the accused.

UNITA (National Union for Total Angolan Independence), was the main rival of the Cuban-backed Angolan People's Liberation Movement (MPLA) which became the ruling party at independence in 1975.

It has been fighting the Government in the south since the civil war in 1975-76. (A.F.P.)

TEN "POLITICALS"

LONDON, July 29 - Ten political prisoners being held without trial in Angola are reported to be seriously ill after more than three weeks on hunger strike, Amnesty International said Monday.

The Nobel Peace Prize-winning human rights body said that the prisoners were arrested as suspected members of two banned left-wing groups - the Organization of Angolan Communists (OCA) and the Joseph Stalin Group.

Amnesty said it believed they had been imprisoned for peaceful expression of their political views, and has appealed to the Angolan authorities to release them. They were among some 70 people, most of them students and teachers, arrested between December 1976 and May 1978 on suspicion of belonging to the banned groups. The others have since been released.

The 10 reportedly began their hunger strike on July 5. Seven of them are believed held in Luanda's Sao Paulo prison, where 27-year-old Joao Carlos Faria is reported to be bleeding from the mouth and 24-year-old medical student Domingos Lira is said to be suffering from severe depression.

Among the three reported held at Qibala, 250 kilometres (155 miles) south-east of Luanda, another medical student, Antonio Carlos Salvador, is also reported to be suffering from depression.

The 10 include students, a nurse and two Army officers.
(A.F.P.)

Angola

REALISM CALL

LUANDA, July 27 - Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said today that a Cabinet committee would be created to find ways to better focus the work of economics-oriented Ministries and to strengthen state-owned enterprises.

Mr dos Santos spoke after the first Cabinet meeting since the Government reshuffle that he announced in two stages on July 8 and 12.

He said the committee would study the structures of the Central Government with two goals in mind : reducing the number of national priorities in economic fields and finding more qualified management personnel for state enterprises.

The President said that the recent reshuffle did not make "profound changes" in the Government. He said, rather, that these adjustments were meant to bring about more "dynamic and efficient" management in such sectors as construction, energy and national budget.

Mr dos Santos said that those responsible for Angola's national development must see their task "with greater realism".

"Our experience since independence is sufficient to correct the errors", he said.

The Head of State also called on his Ministers to reduce gradually the import of goods that can be produced within the country. (A.F.P.)

Congo

AGITATION, CONSPIRACY...

BRAZZAVILLE, July 26 - The Congolese News Agency today denounced "agitation and conspiracy" by unnamed intellectuals who, it said, were spreading alarmist rumors in Brazzaville.

The agency, which did not say what the rumors were, maintained in an editorial that the whole nation was united around the ruling Labour Party and the President, Colonel Denis Sassou Nguesso.

The editorial said that the "dividers of the people" at fault were "acrobatic politicians and chameleons who have been unmasked more than once and pardoned each time".

It said these people were "spreading rumors of the most alarmist nature in order to divide the forces of the left and set them against one another".

The editorial said the rumor-spreaders were jealous of the successes of the Sassou Nguesso regime, which were listed as regularization of salaries, a reform campaign in state-owned companies and positive signs in petroleum exploration. (A.F.P.)

Chad

SACK FOR SIDDICK

NDJAMENA, July 29 - Higher Education Minister Abba Siddick has been "stripped of the post of General Secretary" he held in one of the 11 politico-military factions in Chad, the Chadian News Agency (ATP) said here.

Mr Siddick, leader of the "original" wing of Frolinat (the Chad National Liberation Front), was removed by a group of about a dozen supporters who accused him of being a "valet of France", the agency added.

The group decided on the move in the Nigerian town of Maiduguri last June 22 after Mr Siddick had gone to France last April without consulting other members of the movement, the agency said Friday, quoting a communique from the group.

The agency, which reflects the view of President Goukouni Weddeye and his Government, noted that Mr Siddick had also been reproached for expressing support for the continued presence of French troops in this former French colony.

No-one was immediately named to replace Mr Siddick, but Abdel Kader Yacine was "generally considered the incontestable successor to the ousted leader", the agency said.

Frolinat, the former Northern Chad guerrilla army, is splintered into several factions including those of Mr Weddeye and dissident Defence Minister Hissene Habre, whose forces have been locked in a bloody battle for control of the Chadian capital since March 21.

Mr Siddick, whose faction signed an agreement in Lagos last year setting up a transitional government in Chad, this year alleged that the Chad delegation sent by President Weddeye to the Franco-African summit in Nice last May had no legal standing, as its dispatch had not been agreed by all 11 factions.

The communique announcing Mr Siddick's removal was carried by the agency and included signatures of Mahamat Tchere and Menance Gueälbaye, both close aides of Mr Siddick. (A.F.P.)

SOUTHERN AFRICA

RIGHTS TRIP

General Information

UNITED NATIONS, Geneva, July 28 - The ad hoc working group set up by the Commission on Human Rights to investigate human rights violations in Southern Africa will visit London, Dar Es Salaam, Luanda, and Geneva next month, it was announced here today. (A.F.P.)

Zimbabwe

BRAMALL LOOKS ROUND

SALISBURY, July 26 - British Army Commander General Sir Edwin Bramall arrived here today for talks with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe on the way the new Zimbabwean Army is being formed.

Gen. Bramall, Chief of the General Staff, who will also have talks with Zimbabwean military leaders before leaving for Kenya on Thursday, is here at the request of Mr Mugabe himself. He is expected to talk with Mr Mugabe and will also meet retiring head of the Zimbabwe Joint High Command Lieut-Gen. Peter Walls, 54, who has delayed going on leave pending retirement to show Gen. Bramall around the country.

Gen. Bramall told newsmen that the main reason for his visit was to see how British military experts were helping forge the new Zimbabwean Army from the two former guerrilla armies and the former Rhodesian armed forces.

"I have come to see how they are getting on and whether they are doing the right thing", he said.

Military sources here said the scheme was going well but warned that it could founder because of a resignation rate of more than 60 per cent from the old Rhodesian Army. (A.F.P.)

NO SIR

SALISBURY, July 26 - Soldiers in the new Zimbabwean Armed Forces will no longer call their superior officers "Sir", a military spokesman said here today.

The "snappy salute" will remain but from now on all ranks will address each other by their rank title, the spokesman added.

The move brought the country's Army into line with most other armies in the world - with the exception of the British Army, he said. (A.F.P.)

AUSSIE AID

CANBERRA, July 28 - Australia will provide 10 million Australian dollars (12.5 million U.S. dollars) in aid to Zimbabwe between now and the end of 1982, Foreign Minister Andrew Peacock announced today.

This figure includes the five million dollars (6.25 million U.S.) promised by Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser when he attended the independence celebrations in Salisbury in April.

Health Minister Michael Mackellar, currently in Salisbury, was advising Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of the Australian Government's decision today. (A.F.P.)

Republic of South Africa

34 KILLED, 90 HURT

PRETORIA, July 28 - Thirty-four persons were killed and 90 were injured in racial riots in the western part of Cape Province during the month of June, South African police announced Sunday.

Lieut.-Col. Leon Mellett, police public relations officer, confirmed here figures printed by the daily Cape Times in Cape Town.

The police did not identify the victims, but Col. Mellett said that during the riots more than 900 buses were damaged, along with 150 private cars and 72 police vehicles. One hundred and fifty homes and public buildings, including 15 schools and a clinic, were also damaged, according to the statement. (A.F.P.)

TOWNSHIP VIOLENCE

GRAHAMSTOWN, July 27 - Police shot two black men dead yesterday and a third was stoned to death during disturbances that broke out in black townships here after the funeral of a young black killed in a clash with police six days earlier.

Several buildings and a police vehicle were burned by crowds after the funeral of Boy Nobiba, 16, who was killed during a similar disturbance after the funeral of Violet Tsili last Sunday. Mrs Tsili, 57, had been shot and killed by police during a student demonstration.

One of those shot to death yesterday was Freddy Tsili, 33, her son.

Police also killed Tununu Nxame, 28. It was reported that a crowd of blacks had stoned to death a man identified as N. Njekula. (A.F.P.)

HEALTH THREAT

JOHANNESBURG, July 29 - Two buses were set alight with Molotov cocktails during a riot last night in the black district of Kwazakele near Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape Province, a police spokesman announced today.

The spokesman said police had to fire salt pellets to disperse some 300 youths who had started to throw stones at police cars and an ambulance.

About 4,500 municipal employees stayed on strike today, though a transport company spokesman said that bus crews were drifting back to work.

Refuse was piling up on the streets and in yards, and the evening paper The Star said sanitary conditions could quickly become a major problem in densely populated districts or suburbs such as Klipriviersoog, inhabited mostly by blacks and coloured people. (A.F.P.)

Republic of South Africa

GRAN'S RUN

LONDON, July 26 - A 55-year-old grandmother from South Africa flew into London yesterday ready to begin her attempt to run from John O'Groats, the northern tip of Scotland, to Land's End, South-West England, in record time.

Mrs Mavis Hutchinson, who has six children and seven grandchildren, stepped from her flight at Heathrow and claimed that she would take two days off the existing record of 17 days and seven hours.

Two years ago Mavis, who started marathon running at the age of 37, ran across America in 69 days. Yesterday she said: "I am positive I can complete this run and smatch the record. I will be running from sunrise to sunset and will give it everything I have got.

"This is a personal challenge for me and I hope to keep up at least a jogging pace throughout".

Mavis, who lives in Johannesburg, has been training for up to eight hours every day. (A.F.P.)

PFP SACKS BASSON

CAPE TOWN, July 26 - The opposition Progressive Federal Party (PFP) today formally expelled Japie Basson, one of its most influential members and a veteran of white South African opposition to apartheid.

The party executive committee decided on the move after Mr Basson defied a party directive and agreed to serve on the President's Council proposed by Prime Minister Pieter Botha.

The Council, on which whites and coloured but not blacks were expected to serve, is seen as the first stage of major constitutional reform in the Republic.

The move, however, came as no surprise even though Mr Basson had been closely associated with the campaign the white opposition has waged against the apartheid policies that the ruling National Party has followed since it came to power in 1948.

A communique from the PFP executive committee said the party was expelling Mr Basson but at the same time was "taking note of a statement by him that he did not wish to continue his membership of the party" now that he had agreed to serve on the President's Council.

The PFP has rejected the constitutional reform plan as it stands because it excludes black South Africans. The leaders of six black homelands and most coloured (mixed-race) and Indian political parties have also rejected the plan. (A.F.P.)

Namibia

RUACANA SHELLED

WINDHOEK, July 28 - Guerrillas of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) launched a mortar attack early yesterday against the town where the pumping stations for the giant Ruacana hydroelectric complex are located, a South African military spokesman said here.

About 40 mortar shells smashed into the southern part of Ruacana at 2,30 a.m. destroying two empty pre-fab buildings but causing no casualties, the spokesman said.

The spokesman added, without giving further details, that South African troops launched an immediate counter-attack.

Ruacana has been a frequent target for such attacks. The town, only five kilometres (three miles) from the Angola frontier, is in a zone where SWAPO guerrillas move freely. (A.F.P.)

Botswana

FAREWELL SERETSE

SEROWE, July 26 - The body of late Botswana President Sir Seretse Khama, "father of the nation", was buried here in his native village yesterday after two days of funeral ceremonies

After a moving service, the burial procession passed through a throng of weeping women to the cemetery at the top of Serone's highest hill where the body was laid to rest beside other traditional chiefs of the Bamangwato tribe. (A.F.P.)

INDIAN OCEAN

General Information

U.S. ARRIVALS

WASHINGTON, July 29 - Five amphibious United States Navy vessels carrying 1,800 Marines and heavy tanks, helicopters and artillery have arrived at the East African port of Mombasa, Kenya and will remain until Wednesday, the Defense Department announced here on Monday.

A military source said the arrival of the flotilla in Kenya, which has recently granted logistical facilities to U.S. forces, could foreshadow maneuvers by the Marines in the Indian Ocean theatre. The United States has just stockpiled heavy equipment for 12,000 Marines at the Indian Ocean base of Diego Garcia as part of the rapid intervention force which the Defense Department is building. (A.F.P.)

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