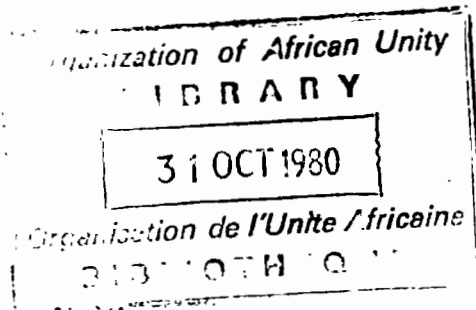
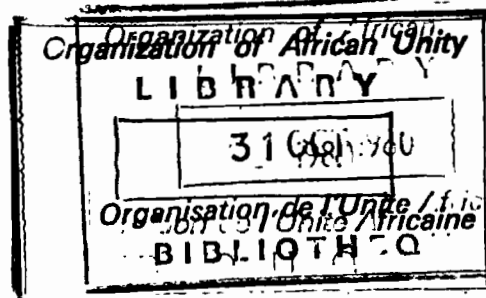


# AFRICA

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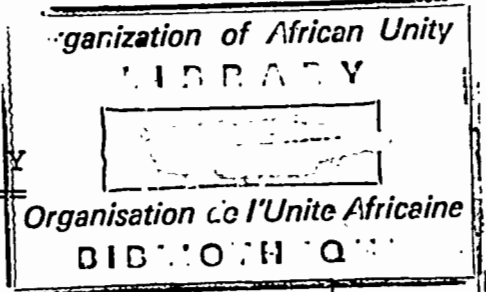
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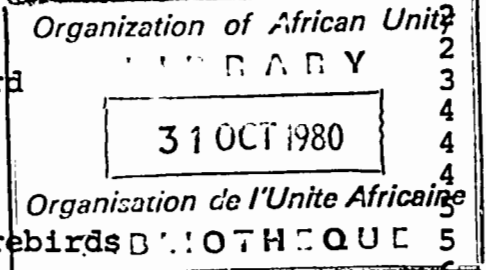
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39 POOREST : ZERO GROWTH

WASHINGTON, September 10 - The world economy is in a parlous state with high inflation, a marked drop in output in the industrialized countries and lopsided balances of payments, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) finds in its annual report.

And it is mostly because oil prices have more than doubled since the start of 1979, the IMF affirms.

The slowdown in the industrialized countries could also mean that world trade will cease to expand and world-wide recession occur, it adds.

The IMF declares that most countries in the third world, especially the poorest ones, have been hit by worsening inflation.

But it also says some developing nations who export substantial amounts of manufactured goods have recorded big gains, while the 39 poorest nations had zero growth last year.

The gross national product (GNP) rise for the industrialized countries, according to the world body, could be a global one percent for both this year and next, as against four per cent average in each of the previous three years.

The most worrying aspect of the current scene is the inflation rate in the industrialized countries, the IMF notes. This inflation has been fought by monetary means rather than fiscal techniques so far, and interest rates have gone up, curbing borrowing and spending.

At the same time productivity has failed to improve in these same countries, and this has made inflation hard to tame. Their higher import bills had yet to work through to costs and incomes by mid-1980.

Price rise eased

Meanwhile, the business slowdown has eased the price rise.

Examining international payments, the report estimates that higher oil rates mean the oil exporting countries will have a surplus of 115,000 million dollars this year against previous 68,000 million dollars.

A steep deterioration has occurred in the industrialized countries' payments. Their overall deficit this year will be 50,000 million dollars against previous 10,000 million dollars. West Germany and Japan will show a sharp deterioration, whereas the U.S. will enjoy a significant payments improvement.

The deficit of non-oil developing countries will be an overall 70,000 million dollars against previous 53,000 million dollars. Their deficits will probably soar next year.

The ability of these nations to finance such shortfalls is one of the IMF's trickiest problems at the present time, the report says.

### Massive spending

The IMF sees the fight against inflation as the top priority, with demand and incomes curbed. At the same time supplies, especially energy requirements, need to be assured.

Oil importing nations must continue using energy more efficiently, while production sources must be diversified, which probably means massive spending, the report says.

As to the oil countries' surpluses, this money is doubtless adequate as a source of financing but has to be smoothly recycled. Meanwhile private banks are tending to be more selective about lending to the already debt-laden third world, and this trend could become more apparent in 1981.

The IMF itself is prepared to lend more for longer periods in relation to quotas, the report says.

On the behaviour of the money markets, the report praises governments for intervening rather more weightily over the past year or so in order to smooth exchange rate fluctuations. (A.F.P.)

### MORE INVESTMENT

NEW YORK, September 10 - American companies are likely to invest 22 per cent more abroad this year, with total spending at some 38,800 million dollars, McGraw Hill economists said here.

This would compare with a five per cent rise in investment inside the United States.

The oil industry will account for two-thirds of the investment abroad : the figure will be 16,200 million dollars or 36 per cent more than last year.

Next comes the metals sector, spending 1,800 million dollars or 115 per cent more than in 1979. (A.F.P.)

### TWO IRAQI LOANS

BAGHDAD, September 10 - Iraq has made loans of 45 million dollars to Mauritania and 14.5 million dollars to Djibouti.

The loan to Mauritania is in the form of a long-term credit for various development projects. It was made as the result of an agreement signed in Baghdad in May.

The loan to Djibouti was the result of an agreement signed in January. It is for agricultural development. (A.F.P.)

HOPE OF A NEW  
COCOA ACCORD

LONDON, September 10 - Hopes that a new international cocoa agreement may be reached this autumn were given a boost by the result of a one-and-a-half-day meeting here of the International Cocoa Council (ICC) which ended Tuesday.

An official spokesman for cocoa consuming and producing member countries of the Council agreed that Kesi Hackman, Executive Director of the International Cocoa Organisation (ICO), should request Gamani Corea, General Secretary of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), to reconvene negotiations in Geneva, preferably at the end of October.

Negotiations broke down earlier this year, with producers and consumers unable to agree on a minimum support price for cocoa in a new pact. As a result, the 1976 International Cocoa Agreement was allowed to lapse on March 31 and producers demanded the redistribution of the agreement's 234-million-dollar buffer stock fund to their members.

Less pressing

Since then, world cocoa prices have collapsed by some 35 per cent and producers have become less pressing on the fund issue. So the Council was able to agree this week on deferment of action on the fund.

Informed sources said the Brazilian producer spokesman tried Monday to rally support for a proposal on the lines that the Council should provide for automatic liquidation of the fund if negotiations failed next month. The proposal was viewed - particularly by English-speaking African countries - as a somewhat negative and pessimistic one liable to prejudice talks with consumers.

Clear message

But Brazil did succeed Tuesday in securing a decision from the Council that it would reconvene in November, that is shortly before the negotiating conference is likely to take place.

Observers interpreted this move by Brazil as a clear message from producers that if, as some fear, the consumers "drag their feet" in negotiations, they were not prepared to postpone indefinitely their demands for liquidation of the buffer-stock fund. (A.F.P.)

### AWARD BENEFITS

LONDON, September 10 - Refugees living in Britain will in future be entitled to the same student award benefits as home students when taking degree or equivalent courses, the Government announced yesterday.

In the past refugees, like students from overseas countries, have become eligible for living expense grants and tuition fees at higher education institutions only after living in Britain for three years.

The amending regulations come into effect next Monday.

Only a small number of the estimated 4,000 refugees in Britain eligible for the awards are expected to be ready to enter higher education this year. (A.F.P.)

### FRENCH REALITY

OTTAWA, September 10 - The French language, like English, is a reality in Africa as an "instrument for work and communication", Senegalese National Assembly Chairman Amadou Cisse Dia said here Monday.

Any plan for a new society in Africa could only be shaped after acknowledging the reality of English and French influence on black civilisation and cultural values, he added.

Mr. Cisse Dia, addressing a general assembly of the International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians, acknowledged a need to overcome problems created by the use of these two different languages.

"But we must proclaim our differences and our rejection of uniformity", he said. This idea has itself been forcefully proclaimed by Senegalese President Leopold Sedar Senghor. (A.F.P.)

### NEWS IMBALANCE...

NEW DELHI, September 10 - Communications experts from six South Asian countries, meeting here Tuesday, underlined the need to strengthen the non-aligned news agencies' pool in order to correct the present "imbalance" in the flow of international news.

The countries represented at the three-day talks, ending today, were Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India, studying the MacBride Commission's report for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on communications problems.

The experts also called for stronger agencies in their own countries for the same purpose. They wanted UNESCO to increase financial assistance to help overcome the paucity of communication facilities. (A.F.P.)



### DEATHLY HIGHWAYS

GENEVA, September 11 - Nearly 10,000 Indians, half of one tribe, face death in Brazil if plans go ahead to build two major highways across their forest lands, the Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights said here Wednesday.

The 141-year-old London-based Society, which works against all forms of economic bondage and defends threatened minorities, said the Indians were defenceless against diseases brought into their tribal lands by outsiders.

The Anti-Slavery Society said that the decision to go ahead with the highways was a "sinister turn" in the survival prospects of the Yanomani Indians, the largest tribe of Amerindians living in the Brazilian forests.

Plans for building the highway network put forward last year foresaw dividing the Yanomamis into 21 small "pockets", the Society said, noting that one of the highways was being partly financed by the World Bank.

It pointed out that the Brazilian constitution guaranteed the inviolable right of Indians to their lands. (A.F.P.)

### KOALAS, PLATYPUSES, LYREBIRDS

CANBERRA, September 11 - A 47-year old total ban on the export of Australian koalas, platypuses and lyrebirds has been lifted.

Minister for Science and the Environment David Thomson told Parliament that a limited Government-controlled export of the animals would be allowed to approved zoos and scientific institutions.

Officials said they expected zoos in the United States, particularly the San Diego zoo in California, to be the first to apply for the animals freed from the ban.

The embargo was originally imposed in 1933 when it was feared that the species were being threatened by international trade.

According to the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, there is no longer any biological basis for such strict controls on their export.

However, Mr. Thomson stressed that the decision to relax the ban "should not be interpreted as a relaxation of the Government's overall policy on the export of fauna and protection of these species".

The sub-committee set up to inquire into trafficking in fauna in Australia also recommended increased penalties under the Customs Act for offences involving the export of fauna. (A.F.P.)

"BLIND ALLEY" DIALOGUE

OXFORD, England, September 12 - The North-South Dialogue is in a blind alley and the oil exporting nations blame the North, Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali Khalifa Al Sabah told an energy seminar here.

"The North was not and perhaps still is not prepared to approach in any meaningful way the problems of the development of the South... In all the discussions so far the North has been concerned solely with energy and the concessions it could wring from the oil-producing states", he said.

He added : "The North attempted to drive in a wedge and indeed split the South into oil and non-oil producing groups".

The members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) had opened their borders to imports from nations like India, the Philippines and South Korea, while the North practised protectionism, the Kuwaiti Minister also said.

"As regards aid to the South, the record shows that between 1974 and 1977 OPEC's total disbursement to the other developing countries was about 36 billion dollars or 40 per cent of the total public aid in favour of those countries, excluding that of the socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development, whose gross national product is 16 times that of the OPEC countries, provided the remaining 60 per cent", he said. (A.F.P.)

AID : FUNDAMENTAL

REFORMS URGED

STOCKHOLM, September 12 - International aid to developing countries has proved ineffective and should be replaced by assistance to prevent famine in the poorest countries, Swedish economist Gunnar Myrdal said yesterday.

In an interview with the Swedish news agency TT, the 1974 winner of the Nobel Prize for Economy stressed that he no longer believed in the effectiveness of traditional development aid. He considered that the money spent on it should go to those in danger of "dying of hunger".

He concluded that fundamental reforms were needed for development aid to be of some use and that, without them, there was no point in talking about a new world economic order.

He also proposed that Sweden should review its aid policy in the way he had suggested. Sweden gives about 1 per cent of its gross national product, that is 5,000 million Swedish crowns (about 1,250 million dollars) a year, for development aid. (A.F.P.)

TOP LEVEL EVACUATION

WASHINGTON, September 11 - The majority of United States' citizens would fail to survive a nuclear war under current civil defense plans, but the President and a "sufficient" number of high-level Government officials could be evacuated within 12 minutes following a nuclear alert, the country's civil defense director said today.

John Macy, Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), made the projections while outlining a FEMA project to revise current nuclear evacuation procedures. The planned revision was the first since 1964 and "the largest conducted in decades", he said. (A.F.P.).

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OIL & ENERGY  
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NEW S.A. FUEL

PRETORIA, September 12 - South Africa is to introduce a car fuel next month containing a mixture of petrol and alcohol in a bid to reduce dependence on oil-producing countries, Minerals and Energy Minister F.W. de Klerk announced here yesterday.

He said the new fuel, replacing the current super-grade brand, would go on sale first at selected petrol (service) stations here and in the Johannesburg region, and later at other stations throughout the country.

The new fuel had a maximum of 12 per cent alcohol, the Minister said.

South Africa has two oil-from-coal plants in operation and is building a third. Studies are under way to use methanol, also extracted from coal, as a substitute for petrol. (A.F.P.)

INFLATION LINKAGE

PARIS, September 11 - The oil exporting countries could next week announce details of a system for linking oil rates to inflation, although they are divided at this stage on what precisely these prices should be indexed to.

Indexing (automatic price escalation) will be a main topic at the Vienna meeting of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) set for September 15 and 16, and attended by oil, finance and foreign ministers.

The meeting coincides with a surplus of available oil internationally, and the OPEC countries want to ensure that their purchasing power keeps up. Indexing would probably mean three-monthly price adjustments. (A.F.P.)

CRITICAL STAGE

IS FORECAST

by Jean-Louis Lemarchand

MUNICH, West Germany, September 10 - Oil will eventually become the top energy source for most of the third world and dependence on it will soon reach a critical state in Latin America, according to a report issued at the World Energy Conference here.

By the end of the century third world oil consumption will quadruple to reach 1,850 million tons. Twenty years after that it will slightly exceed all the crude in the world at present, or more than 3,000 million tons, said Jean-Romain Frisch, a French Electricity Authority official.

In a score of years oil will account for 35 per cent rather than today's 26 per cent of energy input. In Asia, which has plenty of coal and hydro resources, oil will cover only 29 per cent of needs as against 20 per cent in 1976. In Africa the share will rise to 34.5 per cent from 23 per cent. In Latin America the figure will be 52 per cent against 48 per cent.

There is of course no supply problem for the Middle East, which has 60 per cent of world hydrocarbon reserves. But dependence on oil is a major problem for the other third world countries right now. Their bill for oil is 50,000 million dollars this year.

Sub-soil energy resources have been neglected in the third world so far. Of 70 countries possessing oil and gas resources, only 22 are actually producing these hydrocarbons at the present time, a World Bank survey has shown.

Timber and waste

If developing countries want to be self-sufficient in energy in the year 2000 they will need to spend 228,000 million dollars, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) estimates.

At the end of this century Africa could still rely 41 per cent on timber or agricultural waste. In Asia, where energy useage will triple to reach 40 per cent of the world total, dams will be meeting around half the requirements.

Coal-rich China hopes to be producing three times as much in the year 2000 at 1,200 million tons. Coal will meet 50 per cent of energy needs in China and 25 per cent in India.

As to nuclear power, there is some development in China, Brazil and India. But it will count for little, perhaps five per cent as compared with the industrial world's 15 per cent, the Frisch report showed. (A.F.P.)

PLOUGH SURPLUSES,  
SAYS DE WISSOCQ

MUNICH, West Germany, September 10 - Oil producing countries were today urged to invest massively in energy in the developing world by France's Energy Director-General, Francois de Wissocq.

Addressing the World Energy Conference a few days ahead of next weeks meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Vienna, he said producers should seek to avoid a long-term energy shortage by ploughing their cash surpluses into poorer countries.

Meanwhile experts here have noted that while 70 developing countries have discovered oil and gas reserves, only 22 have begun to exploit them because of a shortage of finance.

Mr. de Wissocq noted that surplus oil revenue earned by OPEC countries was expected to total more than 300,000 million dollars this year.

The experts agreed that 10,000 million dollars must be spent by the end of the century to secure adequate energy supplies for the world. More than half this sum should be spent on developing nuclear energy, while new energy sources must be found to cope with the expected tripling of demand by the developing world over the next 20 years. (A.F.P.)

SOLAR VILLAGE

MOSCOW, September 10 - A "solar village" is to be built in the foothills of the Kopet-Dag Mountains near Ashkhabad, capital of Soviet Turkmenia, the party paper Pravda reported today.

It will be used for trying out various solar power systems and components including solar cells, air-conditioning plant and solar-powered vehicles, the paper said.

Some 300 people will live in homes incorporating solar batteries and heat accumulators filled with water or paraffin. The project is being supervised by the Soviet Electrical Equipment Ministry. (A.F.P.)

BUS CONTAMINATION

LONDON, September 10 - A public bus used by workers at Dounreay nuclear power station in Scotland had to be decontaminated by radioactivity.

The Daily Mail, which on Monday reported the theft of two plutonium rods from the same station, said one of the bus seats had to be disposed of. The Atomic Energy Authority confirmed the incident today, while a trade union official claimed that 12 buses had been contaminated so far. (A.F.P.)

"TOTAL UNION" BY  
SYRIA AND LIBYA

DAMASCUS, September 10 - Libya and Syria are to unite "totally - political, economically, militarily and culturally", a joint proclamation said today.

The new state will have a single executive and be led by a sole Revolutionary Command through fusion of the commands of the two "Arab regions", the proclamation, reported by the Syrian News Agency, Sana, said here.

Power would be to the people, it said.

The united entity "will fight for the establishment of a popular united socialist Arab society giving power to the people through its democratic institutions, congresses and committees", added the proclamation, reported from the Libyan capital Tripoli.

The aim, it said, quoting signatories to today's merger, Syrian Head of State Hafez Assad and Libyan ruler Moamer Kadhafi, was "total Arab revolution".

"The setting up of socialism is an essential means to strengthen the potential of the Arab masses in the fight for unity (and) against Zionism, Imperialism, underdevelopment and reaction", it went on.

The agency said the union was aimed at "realising Arab unity, setting up socialism and liberating occupied Arab homelands".

Threat to all

The proclamation said that Arab countries could not exist in isolation in a divided Arab world, and that any threat against an Arab country was a threat to the whole Arab nation.

It said that the new state would be an instrument "to confront the Zionist entity" and liberate Palestine, and "a base for the struggle of the Palestinians and their revolution".

The state would work to strengthen the "Steadfastness Front" (Syria, Libya, Algeria, South Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organization, all opposed to the Camp David accords).

It would equally channel "Arab human, economic and military potential on the Arab-Zionist battlefield".

The proclamation added that the state of unity was open to "all Arab regions wanting to adhere to the united movement which undertake to respect its principles".

The Revolutionary Command of the two "regions" would meet in a month's time to take "the decisions aimed at implementing these principles with a view to establishing the state of unity and its popular institutions". (A.F.P.)

NEW TALKS SET

JERUSALEM, September 10 - Israeli negotiations on Palestinian autonomy in Israeli-occupied territories will resume with Egypt later this month, Prime Minister Menachem Begin announced heretoday.

They would resume as part of contacts between the two countries, already under way to prepare for a planned summit in Washington in November between Israel, Egypt and the U.S. he said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir had talks with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in Cairo today to "speed up the process of normalisation".

The autonomy negotiations, recently suspended by Egypt after Israel decided to make Jerusalem its "eternal and undivided" capital, concern the Jordan River West Bank and Gaza territories.

The negotiations began in the wake of the Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt. (A.F.P.)

HALF-WAY PLEA

PARIS, September 11 - President Anwar Sadat of Egypt today expressed the wish that at his next Camp David talks with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin scheduled for November the two leaders would "meet each other's viewpoints half way"

Mr. Sadat, in an exclusive interview in Cairo with the conservative daily Le Figaro, noted : "It has taken us 10 months to go from Camp David phase one to phase two. On the four occasions I have met Mr. Begin since then - at Ismailia, Cairo, Haifa and Aswan - I have asked him to prepare a joint accord with me as directives for our Cabinet Ministers .

"Let us hope that this will be possible at our next meeting in November .

"But we must be realistic. He can not expect to obtain from me 100 per cent of his demands, nor can I expect to get from him 100 percent of my demands".

"So let us try to meet halfway. At least, that is what one should hope for".

President Sadat said that since Arab countries had broken off relations with Egypt "they have all been lost".

Turning to Egypt's rivalry with Iraq, he said : "Iraq does not possess the necessary potential to lead the Arab Moslem world. There has been rivalry between Iraq and Egypt for a long time, it is true, but we have always won and we will always emerge victorious". (A.F.P.)

IMAM : "BIASED INVENTION"

PARIS, September 10 - A spokesman for the Libyan People's Bureau (Embassy) here yesterday categorically denied reports that the missing leader of the Lebanese Shiite Moslem community, Imam Musa Sadr, was imprisoned in a Libyan Army camp near the Algerian border.

The spokesman, who called the reports broadcast by Radio Luxembourg "a biased invention devoid of any foundation", said the religious leader was nowhere to be found in Libya.

"Since his departure from Libya for Rome on August 28, 1978, Libya has had no further relation with Imam Musa Sadr", the spokesman said.

Imam Sadr disappeared after visiting Libya in August 1978 for celebrations marking the anniversary of the Libyan revolution. Libya has consistently maintained that he left the country for Rome. (A.F.P.)

MILITARY EXPORTS...

JERUSALEM, September 10 - Israel could export over 1,000 million dollars in military equipment by 1981, Deputy Defence Minister Mordechai Tzipori said today.

The Minister told the press that Israeli military exports had grown from 200 million dollars in 1977 to 750 million so far this year, "despite the loss of the big Iranian market".

Over 14,000 people are employed in the Israeli arms industry, with 21,000 in the aeronautical industry.

Speaking of the Lavie fighter-jet that Israel hopes to produce in cooperation with the United States, Mr. Tzipori said the Israeli Government would go it alone if the Americans backed out, "as we are sure it is a profitable venture". (A.F.P.)

RED SEA NAVY...

KUWAIT, September 11 - Egyptian Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Mohammed Abdel-Halim Abu-Ghazale proposed today that Saudi Arabia join Egypt in creating a navy in the Red Sea.

In an interview by the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Qabas, Gen. Abu-Ghazale said the Soviet presence (in South Yemen and Ethiopia) near the outlet of the Red Sea was "a direct threat to Saudi Arabia and the Suez Canal" .

Gen. Abu-Ghazale confirmed that many Egyptian officers were helping train the armed forces of several Arab countries, including Kuwait. He said Egyptian factories would soon be turning out jet fighter planes, helicopters and tanks. (A.F.P.)



### TURKISH COUP

ANKARA, September 12 - The Turkish Armed Forces seized control of the country in an apparently bloodless coup today, toppling Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel after persistent political violence that has left more than 2,500 dead this year.

The National Security Council, in control of the whole of the country, had declared a state of siege and a curfew, suspended both Government and Parliament and closed the borders, military communiqués announced.

The Council was headed by General Kenan Evren, the Chief of Staff, and also included the Army, Navy, Air Force and Para-Military Police commanders.

According to unconfirmed reports, leaders of political parties had been placed under surveillance, and some politicians had been arrested. But the capital was calm this morning, with only soldiers in the otherwise deserted streets. (A.F.P.)

### NO COMMENT

TEHERAN, September 10 - Iran confirmed today it did not intend to close its Embassy in London, though Britain closed its Embassy here yesterday amid tension over the detention of Iranian student demonstrators in Britain.

Iranian newspapers today devoted little space to the British Embassy closure and the arrival here of two students deported from Britain.

Foreign Ministry officials also declined comment on the closure. It was up to Britain to comment since it had taken the decision to recall its diplomats, a spokesman said. (A.F.P.)

### BROTHERS' HIDEOUT

DAMASCUS, September 12 - Syrian security forces killed nine members of the Moslem Brotherhood including two women in an attack yesterday on a hideout in Aleppo, the Syrian news agency SANA has announced.

Two other hideouts in the north-western city were also attacked, and the three caches contained two American-made machine guns, 20 rifles, 12 pistols, 30 grenades, a large quantity of explosives and several radio transmitters, SANA said.

The Moslem Brotherhood, a Sunni Moslem extremist organisation, was blamed for the massacre of 63 Army cadets in Aleppo in June last year. It is held responsible by authorities for a series of assassinations of Syrian officials, mainly members of the Alawite Moslem minority. (A.F.P.)

REVIVAL OF THE  
ECONOMIC LINKS

ALGIERS, September 10 - Two of North Africa's ideological opposites, conservative Tunisia and radical Algeria, have decided to strengthen their political ties and revive their economic links.

A joint communique issued here Tuesday after a three-day official visit by Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali said the Algerian and Tunisian Prime Ministers would henceforth meet every six months, beginning next February 8 in Tunis.

The joint cooperation committee would meet in the middle of next month, it added.

On the Western Sahara conflict, both sides said they hoped the current Organization of African Unity (OAU) special committee meeting in Freetown, Sierra Leone, would result in a "lasting and peaceful" solution to the dispute.

Earlier, Mr. Mzali recalled at a press conference Tunisia's efforts over the past few months, with visits to Rabat and Algiers, to create a suitable atmosphere for a peaceful settlement in Western Sahara. He said Tunisia was prepared to continue as a mediator.

Trade would grow as confidence was restored between the two sides and "the political climate becomes clean", he added.

During his stay, Mr. Mzali conferred with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. (A.F.P.)

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Sahara

KOREAN-MOROCCAN  
FLEET GETS BACK

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, September 10 - The South Korean-Moroccan joint fishing fleet has returned to its base in these islands after Saharan Polisario nationalist guerrillas attacked one of its vessels off the disputed former Spanish Sahara two weeks ago, killing six Moroccan crew members, according to the local press.

The Diario de Las Palmas newspaper said the rest of the crew of the "Sindbad Ad 1", whose nationalities were not known, were taken by the guerrillas to the refugee camp at Tindouf where, the paper said, Polisario forces were also holding the crew of the Spanish fishing boat Gargomar, which they seized last May.

The news came as the Organization of African Unity (OAU) special committee on the Western Sahara conflict began a new round of hearings in Freetown, Sierra Leone, in a bid to solve the five-year dispute, in which the guerrillas are fighting against Morocco's annexation of the former Spanish colony. (A.F.P.)

Sahara

U.N. MONITORS...

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone, September 12 - A committee of the Organization of African Unitu (OAU) has called for a U.N.-monitored ceasefire in the Western Sahara conflict between the Polisario Front and Morocco, and a referendum to let the territory's inhabitants decide their future, reliable sources said today.

The sources said the committee, which has been meeting here since Tuesday, had made the decision last night.

The body - known as the "Committee of Wise Men", and made up of representatives of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Mali, Tanzania, Nigeria and Sudan - took its decision after hearing two days of testimony from the "concerned parties" to the dispute. These are Morocco, the Polisario guerrillas, Algeria, Mauritania and a group of Pro-Moroccan Saharan organizations.

The Polisario is fighting to establish its Saharan Arab Democratic Republic in the territory, the former Spanish Sahara, which has been annexed by Morocco.

Under the committee's reported six-point recommendation, U.N. troops would monitor the ceasefire and the referendum would be organized by the OAU and the United Nations. Other details were not immediately available.

On Wednesday, Morocco continued its energetic campaign here to convince an increasingly-sceptical Africa of the justice of its war against the Polisario.

Moroccan Premier Maati Bouabid accused three members of the OAU committee of being biased against Morocco.

Warning of tension

He said the three - Sierra Leone, Mali and Tanzania - had all recognized the Polisario guerrillas and their Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and were therefore unfit to mediate in the five-year-old dispute.

Warning that the "serious tension" in North-West Africa risked exploding into a conflagration, he claimed his country was the victim of aggression by neighbouring Algeria and Libya, which back the guerrillas.

Morocco rejected demands for a referendum on the territory's future, he said, since it already had an elected Assembly. He reiterated Morocco's refusal to recognize the presence of Polisario at the committee hearings.

Algerian President Chedli Benjedid, who had flown specially to Freetown, denied Algeria had any territorial pretensions in the region, despite its backing for Polisario. (A.F.P.)

SENGHOR PLEADS  
FOR MORE WELLS

PARIS, September 10 - Senegalese President Leopold Senghor appealed today to people in Europe to back a scheme to construct more wells in the rural areas of Africa's Sahel region.

In an interview on French television, Mr. Senghor said the Sahel would become part of the Sahara within the next 20 years unless urgent steps were taken now. He said the desert was advancing by five kilometres (three miles) annually in each of the 10 countries in the Sahel belt.

Desert encroachment could be fought two ways, he said. One was "by dams, which are very expensive, and which we are constructing within the framework" of regional development schemes. The other was reforestation.

3,000 pumps

However, a more modest project, called S.O.S. Sahel, was also effective and should result in the installation of 3,000 water pumps in 60 districts.

The scheme also called for the local inhabitants to be taught to make best use of pumped water and to carry out basic maintenance.

It costs approximately 10,000 francs (2,500 dollars) to install a pedal-pump in West Africa. (A.F.P.)

LATE AND SPARSE

NOUAKCHOTT, September 10 - More than 70 per cent of the cattle in Eastern and Central Mauritania have died because the rains were late and sparse this year, Rural Development Minister Mohamed Ould Amar said in a newspaper interview published here.

Mr. Ould Amar told the daily Chaab that the Government had begun buying up cattle from the hardest-hit regions in a bid to preserve the herds.

He said that precipitation was only 40 per cent of normal in certain agricultural regions during July, and he added that a short rainy season would be disastrous for cattle because their forage would not have finished its growth cycle before the hot season in October.

In 1979, Mauritania was one of the countries worst affected by drought in the sub-Saharan Sahel belt. The country's grain deficit was 75,000 tons, most of which was made up by other countries and international organizations. (A.F.P.)

FREEDOM FOR FOUR

MONROVIA, September 10 - Liberia's ruling Military Council released four officials of the old Tolbert regime from jail yesterday after announcing that it would confiscate the property of 23 other former officials if they did not return to Liberia within a week.

The Head of State, Master Sgt. Samuel Doe, said that former Information Minister Jenkins Peal and three others were freed because they had not been involved in "rampant corruption".

The military men who overthrew and killed President William Tolbert on April 12 cited alleged corruption in detaining a number of officials and executing 13 of them on April 22.

Yesterday, a notice signed by Maj.-Gen. Thomas Weh Syen, Co-Chairman of the ruling Peoples's Redemption Council (PRC), called on 23 officials including former Vice-President Bennie Warner to return to Liberia and report to the PRC by September 16 or face confiscation of their real and personal property.

The Liberian News Agency said the list of officials - all of whom fled after the coup - also included the Secretary-General of Tolbert's True Whig Party, Clarence Simpson Jr., and former Ministers Oliver Bright (Justice), Estrada Bernard (Labor) and Florence Chenoweth (Agriculture).

Mr. Bright and Mrs. Chenoweth were in office during the rice riots in Monrovia in April, 1979. (A.F.P.)

PALMOIL PROJECT

MONROVIA, September 10 - The ruling People's Redemption Council here and the Kumpulan Guthrie Sendirian Berhad (KGSB) of Malaysia today signed a 49,000,000-dollar oil palm cultivation and development agreement for Eastern Liberia.

The project is to cover 12,400 acres of land and another 6,200 acres worked by smallholders and oil palm farmers in the area. It would be financed by the African Development Bank, the Commonwealth Development Corporation, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association, as well as the Liberian Government.

The project would provide employment for 1,000 workers, raise the income level of 1,000 families and provide feeder roads and amenities for about 30,000 people in Eastern Liberia.

The maturity date for the project to begin to generate income in the neighbourhood of 11,000,000 dollars per annum is 1993. This is the first major agriculture agreement signed by the Government since the April 12 revolution. (A.F.P.)

Ghana

BLACK STAR : A  
WORLD BOYCOTT

LONDON, September 10 - The London-based International Transport Workers Federation has ordered member trade unions throughout the world to boycott ships belonging to the Ghanaian Black Star Line.

The move, which has the backing of the Ghanaian Trades Union Congress, followed the dismissal from the state-owned shipping line of 250 Ghanaian officers who had been on strike since June, the Federation said.

Federation membership consists mainly of dockers' and seamen's trades unions.

Ghanaian authorities decided to sack the 250 Ghanaian officers and replace them with non-Ghanaians - mainly Philippine - on July 28. The move enabled the company to put six of its 20 strike-bound ships back into service.

A further four ships are understood to be preparing to follow suit.

The Black Star Line, which is crucial for the export of Ghanaian cocoa and other products, has been fighting serious financial difficulties for some time. Its debts are officially estimated at 14 million dollars.

Ghanaian Transport Minister Harry Sawyer said here yesterday that President Hilla Limman had taken personal charge of the company, fired the whole board and called in West German experts. (A.F.P.)

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Nigeria

120 M. IN SAVINGS

LAGOS, September 10 - Nigeria saved 67 million naira (about 120 million dollars) in foreign exchange during the first half of this year as a result of the comprehensive import supervision scheme introduced last year, the weekly Business Times reported today.

The Times, quoting Central Bank sources, said that the savings resulted from direct price reductions advised by the Swiss company involved in pre-shipment inspection of goods bound for Nigeria, as well as quality and quantity controls, and the repatriation of commissions that Nigerian middlemen would otherwise have banked abroad.

Essential raw materials, spare parts and books have been removed from the original list of goods covered by the inspection scheme, which was introduced both to curb sharp practices on the Nigerian foreign trade market and to protect the country's foreign exchange. The Central Bank pays inspection fees. (A.F.P.)

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Nigeria

FELA GETS OUT

MILAN, September 10 - Nigeria's top musician Fela Anikulapo-Kuti was released from five days in detention here today after an American girl admitted to drug offences for which he was being held.

The American, Susan Findlay, told the investigating judge that she had put a bag containing Indian hemp - 43 kilos (90 pounds), according to earlier reports - among luggage belonging to Fela's group before the African band arrived in Italy for a concert at the weekend.

Fela was detained after he flew into Milan to help his 27 wives and members of his band when they were called in for questioning following discovery of the hemp.

Following Fela's release, the only member of his group still in police hands was Okepepe Aghiadenor, who admitted smuggling 50 grams of hemp into Italy for his personal use.(A.F.P.)

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EAST AFRICA

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General Information

THE SOLE OBSTACLE...

PARIS, September, 12 - Somalia is the sole obstacle to peace in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopian Justice Minister Getachew Kibret said here at an Embassy reception after a meeting with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Speaking yesterday of his country's neighbours, the Minister said Ethiopia had normalised its links with Sudan and had friendly relations with Kenya and Djibouti. But Somalia, he said, through its policies of expansionism and aggression, was responsible for the tense situation.

A U.S. presence in Somalia under last month's military base facilities agreement would encourage that aggressiveness, Mr. Kibret said.

Cuban troops based in Ethiopia were there only for defensive purposes, he said, adding that the Cubans were now taking part in work for Ethiopia's economic development.

Mr. Kibret delivered a message to President Giscard from Head of State Mengistu Haile Mariam setting out Addis Ababa's objections to the Somali-U.S. arrangements, which meant Ethiopia faced a serious threat, Mr. Kibret said after the meeting.

He said Ethiopia wanted its dispute with Somalia over the Ogaden Province to be settled through negotiations at the level of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). But there was no question of negotiations with the secessionist fronts in Eritrea, which were minority groups, he added. (A.F.P.)

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Uganda

COFFEE EXPORTS STOP

KAMPALA, September 10 - Uganda's vital coffee exports have been paralyzed by a transport ban imposed by Kenya Railways and a strike for higher wages at the Coffee Marketing Board's only processing plant in Kampala.

Coffee accounts for 90 per cent of Uganda's export earnings, and all exports are handled by the Coffee Marketing Board, which is Government-run.

"We are not sending out any coffee for export now", a Board official said. "Everything has stopped".

The strike started last Thursday, the same day Kenya Railways officials announced that they would not ship any more Ugandan coffee. The transport ban followed a Kenyan Government decision to stop providing police escort for the coffee on its way to the Indian Ocean port of Mombasa.

Police protection has also been withdrawn from the Kenya transport firm that was trucking coffee from Kampala to Mombasa.

The Kenyan Government has not said why it withdrew its police guard, a security measure to which the two countries had agreed to prevent the crop's falling into the hands of smugglers while in transit in Kenya.

Officials of Uganda's Labour Ministry said they were anxious to have the workers back on the job as soon as possible, especially in view of the losses that were already being incurred because of the transport ban. (A.F.P.)

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Tanzania

POACHERS, SMUGGLERS

DAR-ES-SALAAM, September 11 - Poaching and illegal hunting of animals is increasing in Tanzania and last year was the worst in recorded history for despoliation of the country's wildlife, a Government official said here Wednesday.

Some 1,200 skins of different animals had been smuggled out to a unnamed neighbouring country earlier this year, Iwe Zaula, Director of Game in the Ministry of Livestock, Development and Natural Resources, told a meeting of regional officers of the Ministry at Tanga.

Between July last year and June this year, he said, 723 poachers were arrested and 200 found guilty by courts. Items worth 111,250 dollars were impounded from them.

Mr. Zaula said the Ministry's task was hampered by lack of vehicles, shortage of ammunition and manpower problems. There were 220 members of the anti-poaching squad, not enough for effective surveillance of poachers, who were always well-armed, he said. (A.F.P.)



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Kenya

OH DEAR...

NAIROBI, September 12 - A petty crook made a big mistake when he tried to swindle the entire Gabonese boxing team, here for the Kenya Gold Cup competition.

The daily Standard newspaper said that the man, a Kenyan, stopped the Gabonese in the street yesterday and proposed to change their money. He gave them a sealed envelope and ran away.

The Gabonese quickly found that the envelope contained only a wad of newspaper.

In a bad temper anyway - their last man had been eliminated from the competition the same day - the boxers sprinted after the Kenyan and caught him.

The Standard said the man was turned over to police "covered with blood". (A.F.P.)

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Ethiopia

ASSOCIATIONS TAKE OFF

ADDIS ABABA, September 10 - Thousands of Addis Ababa residents took part in a mass rally at Revolution Square here today to celebrate the formal takeoff of Ethiopia's National Youth and Women's Associations.

The Associations were established by two decrees of the ruling Military Council last July, and complete the last components of mass organizations in the country.

They are expected to play a major role in fulfilling the goals of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia (COPWE), the forerunner of Ethiopia's first legal political party. (A.F.P.)

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CENTRAL AFRICA

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Central African Republic

BOKASSA FOR TRIAL

PARIS, September 10 - Bokassa I, ousted Emperor, will be tried in Bangui in absentia next November, Centrafrican Justice Minister Simon Narcisse Bozanga said here today.

Mr. Bozanga, in Paris to take part in this week's congress of Francophone justice ministers, said that the authorities in Ivory Coast - where the former Jean-Bedel Bokassa is now living - had shown "insolent indifference" to repeated requests for Bokassa's extradition.

The self-proclaimed Emperor was overthrown a year ago in a military coup backed by France. (A.F.P.)

HOUSE ARREST

BANGUI, September 11 - Former Prime Minister Bernard Christian Ayandho and the country's ex-Vice President Henri Maidou have been under house arrest since being sacked on August 23, an authoritative source said here.

The two were relieved of their posts by President David Dacko because of their "unpopularity" as part of a major Government upheaval. Mr. Dacko took power from ex-Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa in a French-backed coup d'Etat on September 20, 1979. (A.F.P.)

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Zaire

BELGIANS SAY "NO"

BRUSSELS, September 11 - The Belgian Government has decided against sending troops to Zaire for joint manoeuvres with the Zairese Army, an official spokesman said here today.

Last month Zaire's Army chiefs asked Belgian Defence Minister Charles Poswick to despatch a unit of para-troops to the Central African country to take part in an exercise simulating a foreign invasion. The spokesman added that the number of Belgian military personnel working with Zairese forces would be limited to 110, as decided by the Government in June last year. (A.F.P.)

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Zambia

WAR PROPORTIONS

LUSAKA, September 11 - Zambian Home Affairs Minister Wilted Phiri said here today that the country's crime wave had reached "war proportions" and called on the public to help the police fight crime. Mr. Phiri told a press conference that a spate of armed robberies had created "fear, alarm and despondency" in the minds of law-abiding citizens. (A.F.P.)

CHURCH FROWN

LUSAKA, September 12 - Nearly-one-third of married Roman Catholic men in the Archdiocese of Lusaka have live-in concubines, according to a report.

Based on a survey by Archbishop Emanuel Milingo, the report says there are concubines in 3,225 out of 10,903 Catholic households in the Archdiocese, which has 23 parishes. African tradition allows men to practice polygamy, but the custom is discouraged by the Church. (A.F.P.)

Zambia

NEWSPAPER TAKEOVER

LUSAKA, September 10 - Zambia's ruling party is negotiating to take over the Lonrho-owned newspapers Times of Zambia and Sunday Times of Zambia, and the change of control is to be October 1, a Lonrho spokesman said here.

The spokesman said the talks were taking place with Zambia National Holdings, a company that is 100 per cent owned by the United National Independence Party (UNIP).

The editor-in-chief of the Times newspapers, Naphy Nyalugwe, was appointed by President Kenneth Kaunda by arrangement with Lonrho, and his three-year term expires in October.

The papers have acted generally as UNIP organs, although the weekly "Observer" column had been critical of the party and Government. Recently, however, the column was discontinued.

With the takeover of the Times newspapers, Zambia will have no independent daily and Sunday papers. The other daily, the Zambia Daily Mail, is wholly owned by the Government.

Lonrho, the London-based multinational, has press interests elsewhere in Africa, in addition to its holdings in mining properties, agricultural schemes and other ventures. (A.F.P.)

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SOUTHERN AFRICA  
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General Information

CALL ON EAST

LUSAKA, September 10 - Zambia's ruling United National Independence Party (UNIP) has called on socialist countries to step up aid to guerrilla movements in Namibia and South Africa.

They should help the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) and the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa as they once helped Rhodesian liberation movements, UNIP central committee member Henry Matipa said here.

Mr. Matipa was addressing a reception yesterday marking the 32nd anniversary of independence in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea). (A.F.P.)

KARIBA DISPUTE

LUSAKA, September 11 - Zimbabwe authorities are still holding 17 Zambian fishermen detained last May for fishing in Zimbabwean territorial waters on Lake Kariba, a Home Affairs Ministry spokesman said here today.

The spokesman said that Ministry Permanent Secretary Peter Kasanda was in Salisbury recently to discuss the matter with Zimbabwean Government officials. (A.F.P.)

MUGABE : "WE'RE  
PUPPETS, BEGGARS"

SALISBURY, September 11 - Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe today accused the West of plundering Africa through economic exploitation and of turning black nations into "economic puppets and perpetual beggars".

Opening a conference on regional cooperation attended by ministers from nine Southern African states, Mr. Mugabe lashed out at Western multinationals and foreign investors, saying they produced "a mouse's share for us and a lion's share for themselves".

"At home our primary, secondary and infrastructural sectors have become dominated, in many cases owned, by foreign investors, the principal operators being variously known as multinationals or transnationals", he said.

"They produce, unless properly controlled by a system of regulatory measures, a mouse's share for us and a lion's share for themselves. Our resources cease to be our own. We remain dominated economically by economic lords as we were politically dominated by political lords yesterday", he said.

Economic domination was worse than the political variety because a country's resources were freighted to Paris, London and New York as "lowly purchased raw materials like chrome and copper and as huge dividends and profits".

Miserable pittances...

"The irony of it is our helplessness in the situation", Mr. Mugabe said. "Is there any wonder that we have been turned into either economic puppets or perpetual beggars ?

"Our voices in Africa have grown hoarse from endless soliciting tunes that invoke no response, but derision. Our feet have become blistered as we gallivant from one metropolitan capital to another, telling the familiar story of our poverty to those who have authored it and continue to make us poorer.

"Our hands for ever imploringly open are only occasionally graced - or is it disgraced? - by miserable pittances".

Mr. Mugabe asserted that African ideals had to be translated into viable, concrete programmes of cooperation. "Our people are waiting not for principles and objectives, but for food, clothes, medicines, good homes, education for their children and other benefits", he said.

Reliance on S.A.

Mr. Mugabe's bitter attack on the West again underlined his changing and hardening line in the face of a "disappointing" foreign aid programme by Western nations. It also contrasted with his assurances to 350 foreign delegates to last week's Zimbabwe Resources Conference, when he and other Government Ministers pledged that foreign investment was both welcome and safe.

Mr. Mugabe has now twice warned potential foreign investors that his Government plans curbs on private enterprise.

The regional conference, the first major African symposium held in independent Zimbabwe, is the third since July last year in a campaign to reduce the reliance of Black Southern African states on white-ruled South Africa. The next will be in Maputo in November to debate transport and communication projects. (A.F.P.)

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Zimbabwe

GUERRILLA ROW

by Ian Mills

SALISBURY, September 10 - The five-month-old Government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe today sacked its first white senior civil servant for addressing a news conference without permission on the plan to move 17,000 former guerrillas into a black township on the outskirts of the capital.

Local Government Minister Eddison Zvogbo said in a statement that the Chief Executive of the Chitungwiza Urban Council, Brin Elkington, had been dismissed from Government service.

Mr. Elkington yesterday told reporters that his Council viewed the proposed transfer from rural transit camps to the city's outskirts with "grave apprehension" and that it had protested to the Government.

Mr. Zvogbo said Mr. Elkington had disobeyed rules in speaking directly to the press without the Ministry's knowledge or permission and had therefore been sacked. Mr. Zvogbo also attacked the country's largest daily newspaper, The Herald, for its coverage of the Chitungwiza controversy, saying it had misrepresented the issue and that its reports had been biased.

Two members of the Chitungwiza Urban Council had "warmly" accepted the Government's plan to move the guerrillas, Mr. Zvogbo said, explaining that a Cabinet committee had decided to go ahead with the transfer of former guerrillas to Chitungwiza because they had been in the old ceasefire assembly points for nine months and it was felt they deserved decent accommodation, particularly as the seasonal rains were about to start.

Question of weapons

The Local Government Ministry had therefore frozen allocation of all available houses at Chitungwiza. The move was temporary until military cantonments could be built to accommodate the former insurgents.

Militants from the Government ZANUPF (Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front) party today staged a second demonstration in support of the Government's plan and against The Herald, burning copies of the newspaper in protest over its reports on the Chitungwiza move.

Mr. Zvogbo's statement made no mention of whether the former guerrillas would be allowed to keep their weapons when they moved into the township.

The date for the transfer has yet to be announced, but workmen today began erecting a security fence around the housing estate concerned. (A.F.P.)

MOVING HOUSE

SALISBURY, September 11 - The British Government has bought a 250,000 dollar (162,000 pounds) official residence for High Commissioner Robin Byatt, according to a list of recent property transactions published here today.

Mr. Byatt is expected to move in to the imposing house overlooking Salisbury's Colne Valley once alterations and extensions have been completed.

Among other new landlords listed in the property deals are three of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's Ministers, including Manpower Planning and Development Minister Edgar Tekere, who is currently on bail pending High Court trial on charges of murdering a white farmer. He has reportedly bought a 63,000 dollar house in the same suburb as the new British residence.

Others on the list are Foreign Minister Simon Muzenda, who paid 60,000 dollars for a building in the exclusive suburb of Highlands, and Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira, who bought a house for 68,000 dollars. (A.F.P.)

WHITE AMBASSADOR

SALISBURY, September 11 - A white Zimbabwean employed by the United Nations since 1963 has been appointed Ambassador to Belgium and representative to the European Economic Community, it was officially announced here today. Mr. Frederick Arthur Blumeris, 40, is married with two children. (A.F.P.)

MANGE IS REPRIEVED

BLOEMFONTEIN, September 11 - Bloemfontein Appeal Court today commuted a death sentence given last year to James Daniel Mange, arrested in 1978 on a driving offence and subsequently accused of belonging to the banned African National Congress (ANC).

The court reduced the sentence to 20 years in jail.

Mr. Mange's trial and death sentence for high treason became a major issue in South Africa.

Condemned in November by the Supreme Court in Natal, Mange, now 25, was arrested with three other Africans by police who found arms in their vehicle. Mange was disguised as a priest.

The four admitted under interrogation that they belonged to the ANC and had been planning to attack the nearby law courts building and police station of Whittlesea, near Queenstown, in Eastern Cape Province, according to the evidence.

In his ruling today, Judge Rumff said the Natal trial had shown that James Mange was not himself author of the plan to attack the court and police buildings at Whittlesea, but that "he was a willing terrorist in the hands of the ANC". (A.F.P.)

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OAU : "SINISTER STRATEGY"

ADDIS ABABA, September 12 - The Organization of African Unity (OAU) charged today that unnamed multinational corporations were helping oppress the black majority in South Africa.

"The martyrdom of the Black South Africans is the result of the sinister strategy of the transnational corporations which cooperate with the racist regime", the OAU said in a statement to mark Africa Martyrs Day. (A.F.P.)

✂  
SPRINGBOKS "UNTHINKABLE"

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, September 11 - Roman Catholic Church leaders in New Zealand have branded as "unthinkable and unjustified" proposals for a tour of the country next year by the South African Springbok rugby team.

The country's Roman Catholic Bishops warned that a South African tour would cause prolonged protests, and added that a Springbok tour would "teach thousands of young men and schoolboys who play rugby that it is legitimate to deny civic value in favour of purely selfish considerations". It was universally agreed that the South African apartheid system was inimical to the dignity and freedom of its citizens, they said. (A.F.P.)

TWO DIE IN CLASH

EAST LONDON, September 11 - A policeman and a high school student, both black, were killed in a clash today between demonstrators and police in the South African Bantustan of Ciskei, an official source said here.

A Ciskei Administration spokesman said that the students, who took to the streets of Whittlesea near here, stoned the policeman to death. The police then opened fire, killing the student, he added.

Ciskei is one of six Bantustans which the Government in Pretoria would like to declare independent as it has for the Bantustans of Transkei, Bophutatswana and Venda despite international opposition.

Today's deaths follow that of a black student aged 16 killed last night in the black township of Guguletu, near Cape Town, when police opened fire on demonstrators.

Black students in the Cape Region and several hundreds in the rest of South Africa are boycotting school and college classes in a protest which began five months ago against discrimination in education. (A.F.P.)

POP. 23,772,000

PRETORIA, September 12 - South Africa has a population of 23,772,000 people, excluding the three Bantustans (tribal homelands) the Government here has declared independent, which have an estimated 3,500,000 people altogether, according to the latest official statistics.

The breakdown by races (still excluding the three Bantustans) is 15,970,000 blacks, 4,500,000 whites, 2,500,000 coloureds (mixed race) and 795,000 Asiatics.

In the past 10 years, the rate of growth of the black population had been 31 per cent, of Asiatics 26 per cent, coloureds 25 per cent and whites 18 per cent.

The number of blacks in "white" areas had increased 13 per cent, the statistics showed. (A.F.P.)

NDZUMO DEAD IN CELL

JOHANNESBURG, September 11 - Saul Ndzumo, former Home Affairs Minister of the Bantustan (tribal homeland) of Transkei, was found dead in a police cell in the Bantustan yesterday, ten days after being detained, according to reports here. He was detained after saying in a speech there had been a plot to overthrow Transkei Prime Minister Chief George Matanzima. (A.F.P.)



TOWARDS AWARENESS

PARIS, September 11 - An international conference in support of Namibian independence from South Africa and the struggle by SWAPO, the South-West African People's Organization, opened here today at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

In the presence of SWAPO President Sam Nujoma, the conference was opened by UNESCO's Director-General, Ahmadou Mahtar M'Bow of Senegal. Another Senegalese, Foreign Minister Mustapha Niasse, was named conference chairman while the conference secretariat was turned over to Algerian Ambassador to France Ahmed Sahnoun.

Other prominent participants in the conference included Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, former Portuguese President General Francisco da Costa Gomes and Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress, which is banned in South Africa.

The aim is to make Western opinion aware of SWAPO's independence fight conducted since 1968, because numerous United Nations resolutions in its support have failed to bring any tangible results.

Nationalists maintain that this is because of inertia, or even collaboration, with South Africa, the occupying power, on the part of such key Security Council members as the United States, Britain and France. (A.F.P.)

TROOP BOOSTER CHARGE

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. September 10 - The U.N. Council on Namibia accused South Africa Tuesday of increasing its military presence in its South-West African territory to some 170,000 troops.

Adopting a report on the military situation in Namibia, the Council said Pretoria had also sent in more sophisticated and more dangerous arms in cooperation with certain Western powers. It accused South Africa of having continued its policy of building a nuclear potential, including the capacity to produce nuclear weapons, again with the help of certain Western powers. (A.F.P.)

38 SWAPO MEN

WINDHOEK, September 11 - South African forces killed 38 guerrillas of the South-West Africa Peoples Organisation (SWAPO) in small-scale encounters in Namibia's operational area during the past two weeks, a senior South African officer said here today.

General Pieter Bosman, Second-in-Command of South African Forces in Namibia, did not disclose whether his own men had also suffered casualties. (A.F.P.)

WIDE-RANGING LIBERTY...

DZAOUDZI, Mayotte, September 10 - France has imposed nothing on the people of Mayotte who freely chose to remain French, a French Junior Minister told a welcoming committee on arrival in this French Indian Ocean island.

"In France everyone has the right to defend his ideas, and, in consequence, since we are in France, the most wide-ranging liberty must reign in Mayotte," Overseas Departments and Territories Secretary of State Paul Dijoud said.

Social and economic development already undertaken by the Central Government in Paris would continue, he added after arriving at the airport here yesterday .

Mayotte, two islands north-west of Madagascar, with a Christian-dominated population of 45,000, voted to remain part of France after the nearby Moslem-dominated Comoro Islands became independent in 1975.

Since then, France has come under attack at the United Nations and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), where there has been widespread support for Comoro claims to the islands.

In February 1976, France had to use its veto in the U.N. Security Council to block a resolution from Benin, Guyana, Panama and Tanzania opposing referenda on the future of Mayotte,

Later that year, the OAU called for immediate French withdrawal from the island, a demand it has repeated annually ever since.

The arrival in power of Comoro President Ahmed Abdallah in 1978 and the creation of the Comoro Islamic Federal Republic, however, appeared to ease tension between Paris and Moroni.

In May, President Abdallah said the Comoros and France had agreed to study common measures that could lead to the eventual integration of Mayotte within the Comoros Federation.  
(A. F. P.)

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