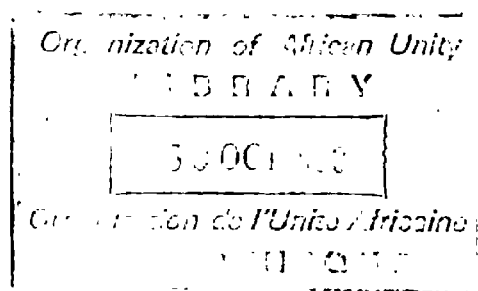


AFRICA

SEMI-WEEKLY INTERAFRICAN NEWS SURVEY



**MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION FEE (WITHOUT REPRODUCTION RIGHTS)
FRENCH FRANCS: 225
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11.13.15, PLACE DE LA BOURSE 75002 PARIS TEL: 233.44.86 TELEX 210064**

DATE October 21, 1980

N° 2734

Agence France-Presse

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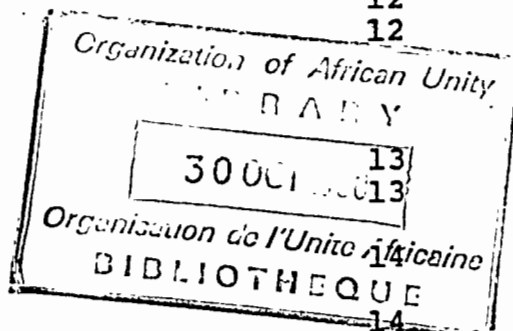
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WEST AFRICA :

TWO REPUBLICS

AIM FOR UNITY

by Eric Makedonsky

BISSAU, October 18 - Banners hoisted on public holidays in Praia and Bissau, the capitals of Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau, proclaim "Unidade Guine-Capo Verde" - unity between two republics separated by 500 kms (310 miles) of Atlantic Ocean.

The former Portuguese colonies readily profess their ambition to unite in a single state, as they have done since independence five years ago and during the guerrilla war that preceded it.

Guinea-Bissau, a triangle of land wedged between Senegal and Guinea-Conakry on the West African coast, has a population of 800,000. Cape Verde is an archipelago of 10 islands far from the African mainland, with 300,000 inhabitants and perhaps 450,000 more nationals living abroad.

At the time of independence, the unity movement worried both East and West.

Western diplomats hoped that, in the aftermath of the Soviet-backed liberation struggle in Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde would change political alignment and turn towards the West.

Policy-makers in Eastern Europe were worried that the opposite would prove true, and that the influence of the many Cape Verdeans working overseas - most of them in the United States - would drag the Guinea-Bissau Government out of their sphere of influence.

Atlantic bases

At the time both the United States and the Soviet Union were keeping a close eye on two former Portuguese installations in Cape Verde : the Mindelo naval base in the north-west of the archipelago and Sal airfield in the north-east.

Neither of the two superpowers needed the bases, but neither wanted the other to get hold of them.

Since then, according to informed sources, both Moscow and Washington have discreetly approached the Praia Government, unsuccessfully, for facilities in the island bases.

Both are vulnerable

Rivalry between the two major political blocs is one of the main reasons why Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau would like to unite. Cape Verde Premier Pedro Pires explained : "We are very small countries, and as such we are vulnerable. Together we would be able to maintain our independence".

But in each republic there are two lines of thought about how to proceed towards unity. One lobby wants to move swiftly, the other by steps, arguing that unions proclaimed hastily have never succeeded. So far the second lobby has remained on top, and there are still two republics, two heads of state and two seats in the United Nations.

Both countries, however, are governed by the same political organisation, the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC), created by the men who led both peoples against the colonial power.

There is also a single army, the PAIGC army born in Guinea-Bissau during the independence struggle, and in some capitals the two states are represented by a single diplomatic mission .

But these common factors are too few for those who want a concrete union. For them, the longer the delay the more likely the two Governments are to follow different paths, introducing different economic policies.

In recognition of this possibility, the Governments in Praia and Bissau are coordinating their first national development programmes, to be launched in two years. Similarly, the two constitutions have been drafted after consultation between the leaders of the one party, operating out of two capitals. (A.F.P.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE THIRD FAIR

ADDIS ABABA, October 18 - More than 30 member nations of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) will take part in the third All-Africa Trade Fair opening in the Sudanese capital Khartoum on November 3, the OAU Secretariat announced here.

The fair, sponsored by the OAU, aims at promoting intra-African trade as well as exports of African commodities to the rest of the world. The first was held in Algeria in 1962 and the second in Kenya four years later.

"Buy African" will be the theme at the Khartoum fair, which will include symposia on such topics as industrial technology for Africa, organized by the U.N. Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the OAU. (A.F.P.)

YOUTH FESTIVAL

PROGRAM FIXED

BAMAKO, Mali, October 19 - A four-day meeting attended by 13 African delegations ended here this weekend after laying plans for the second Pan-African Youth Festival, due to be held in 1982 in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.

The meeting was the first formal session of the cultural committee of the Pan-African Youth Movement (MPJ).

The general program for the festival was approved by acclamation, along with the rules and a provisional budget.

A final communique said the delegates had sought ways "to strengthen their links of friendship and rally effectively around the ideals of the festival".

They also "reaffirmed their determination to struggle against imperialism, neo-colonialism, racism, Zionism and apartheid with a view to total liberation of the continent and the safeguarding of the African cultural heritage".

Attending the meeting were delegates from Algeria, Angola, Congo, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania and the South-West Africa People's Organization of Namibia. (A.F.P.)

NEEDS FOR THE

NEXT DECADE

UNITED NATIONS, Geneva, October 18 - The preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries recommended today that the meeting, from September 1 to 14 of next year, be held in Paris.

The committee decided to accept the invitation issued by French Foreign Minister Jean François-Poncet during the U.N. special session last month that was devoted to the North-South Dialogue.

The conference was proposed by the fifth U.N. Trade and Development Conference (UNCTAD) at Manila in June of last year. The Manila meeting suggested that such a conference should approve a precise program for the next decade that would define the needs and special requirements of each country.

The preparatory commission, which has been meeting since October 9, has prepared a program of consultations by which each of the 30 least-developed countries can study its needs, development projects and financing with donor countries and international organisations. (A.F.P.)

ARTIFICIAL SEAWEED

JOHANNESBURG, October 18 - A South African chemical firm is to build a plant to turn its industrial waste into edible artificial seaweed, the Johannesburg Star reported yesterday.

The firm, AECI, the country's biggest chemical company, has spent three years developing the conversion process to produce the nitrogen-based seaweed "miracle food" known as Ankistrodesmus, the paper said.

The plant, to be built at Modderfontein, near here, will produce some 40 tons a day. The seaweed, which tastes like spinach, could replace fish protein concentrate which is used for cattle food.

In the United States and Japan, the seaweed is sold in pill form as a dietary supplement. The current price in the U.S. of a tonne of Ankistrodesmus is around 5,500 dollars. (A.F.P.)

ANIMAL GENOCIDE

PARIS, October 19 - The International League for Animal Rights Saturday criticized seven countries that permit the killing of whales, dolphins and porpoises.

The League condemned South Africa, Canada, Chile, South Korea, Spain, Iceland, Japan and the Soviet Union for "continuing to massacre the large cetaceans" and their responsibility for the "genocide these massacres represent".

It made the statement while meeting at the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) here to commemorate the second anniversary of the universal proclamation of animal rights: (A.F.P.)

THE WILD MEN...

PEKING, October 19 - A thousand giant footprints, possibly from "wild men", have been found in the Exishan Mountains of Central China, the Shanghai newspaper Wenhui Bao reported today.

Several sightings of "wild men" have been reported by the Chinese press recently in Hubei Province, scene of the discovery, and other regions of China. Enquiries are continuing to check the accuracy of the reports.

The largest footprint was nearly 48 cms (one foot seven inches) long, 23 cms (nine inches) wide at the front, and 16 cms (six inches) wide at the heel. The stride was 2.20 metres (seven feet eight inches) long.

The prints could have come from "wild men", according to Liu Minshe, leader of the team from the Wuhan Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which has found the footprints since last June. (A.F.P.)

EUROPE REJECTS MALLEY

STRASBOURG, Eastern France, October 18- The European Parliament has rejected a Socialist-backed resolution that would have expressed its solidarity with third-world journalist Simon Malley, expelled from France two weeks ago.

Mr. Malley, the Egyptian-born naturalized American who publishes Afrique-Asie magazine in Paris, was put on a plane for New York on October 3, hours after Interior Minister Christian Bonnet told Parliament that his articles had been of a nature to harm France's relations with friendly African states. He was not allowed to enter the United States, lacking a passport, so he went to Switzerland, he told a Paris newspaper in a telephone interview published three days later.

The resolution proposed to the European Assembly by its Socialist group yesterday said Mr. Malley had been expelled for "political reasons" and expressed the hope that he could return to France to express his opinions freely.

Mr. Malley's magazine and its sister publication, Economiste du Tiers Monde, support "progressive" governments such as those in Algeria, Madagascar, Mozambique and Angola, while reserving scorn for "neo-colonialist" regimes like those in Gabon, Zaire and the Central African Republic.

It had been reported before the expulsion that African heads of state had asked President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's centrist Government to do something about Mr. Malley, who had lived in France since 1969 under a temporary residence permit renewed every three months. (A.F.P.)

NEO-NAZI JAILED

PARIS, October 18 - French neo-Nazi leader Marc Fredriksen was sentenced to 18 months in prison, with six months to be served and 12 suspended, by a court here yesterday for "inciting to racial hatred and violence".

Observers considered the sentence a severe one, since it was the first time that anyone had been ordered to serve time in a French prison for such an offense.

"It is a political verdict and in political matters there is no justice, properly speaking", Fredriksen said, adding that he would appeal.

He was convicted because of articles he wrote between September 1979 and June of this year for the Our Europe magazine, organ of the European National Fascists Organization (FANE), dissolved by order of the French authorities on September 3. The court also sentenced him to pay 6,000 francs (about 1,400 dollars) to each of five resistance or anti-racist organizations that had lodged complaints against him. (A.F.P.)

COCOA STOCKPILE

ABIDJAN, October 18 - Ivory Coast will stockpile 100,000 tonnes of cocoa from the 1980-81 crop because of the "unsatisfactory" world market situation, says Agriculture Minister Denis Bra Kanon.

The beans could be stored for at least a year in "ideal conditions" in Abidjan, San Pedro and Yamoussoukro, he said here yesterday. Such stockpiling would be done whenever the price fell below a certain level. He did not say what that price would be. Stocking part of the 1979-80 crop had cost about seven million CFA francs (34 million dollars), he added.

Mr. Bra Kanon said he would attend a meeting in Lagos next week of the Cocoa Producers' Alliance to prepare for the forthcoming parley in Geneva between producers and consumers to renegotiate the International Cocoa Agreement.

He said the Geneva talks, from October 27 to November 7, should be based on a minimum price of 120 U.S. cents a pound and not the 90 cents a pound the consumers favour. (A.F.P.)

SWASTIKAS ROUTED

EVANSTON, Illinois, October 20 - About 2,000 people, most of them Jewish, marched on a planned American Nazi party rally here yesterday and put 11 party members to flight.

One police officer was slightly injured and 10 demonstrators arrested for allegedly having forced their way through a police cordon which had been set up to keep the Nazi Party members and counter-demonstrators separated.

The counter-demonstrators marched several miles (kilometers) to the rally in this Chicago suburb from an election meeting held by independent presidential candidate John Anderson, who had condemned the bombing of a Paris synagogue two weeks ago.

Never again...

They carried yellow Stars of David and United States and Israeli flags and chanted "never, never again".

After the counter-demonstrators arrived at Lovelace Park, where the podium for the Nazi Party had been set up, the 11 party members, dressed in brown shirts and protected by nearly 200 police officers and their own swastika-bedecked shields, soon fled under a hail of stones, eggs and tomatoes.

The Nazi Party meeting had earlier been denounced as "part of a world-wide resurgence of anti-Semitic activity" by the Committee on Individual Liberty and Jewish Security. (A.F.P.)

UNDERFED CHILDREN

ADDIS ABABA, October 20 - About two and a half million African children are severely malnourished and half of them could be expected to die, an international workshop on primary health care was told here today.

Haile Mariam Khassay, national coordinator for Ethiopia of the World Health Organization (WHO), said 4 per cent of African children under five years of age were severely malnourished while around 30 per cent were moderately so.

For this reason, he said, the promotion of food supplies and proper nutrition should be one of the principal components of the primary health care programme. He was speaking at the opening of the 10-day workshop inaugurated by Ethiopian Health Minister Teferra Wondie, jointly organized by WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). (A.F.P.)

ROADBLOCK KILLING

MARSEILLES, October 19 - A French riot squad officer who shot an Algerian-born teenager at a roadblock near his home last night was charged today with manslaughter. Paul Taillefer, 24, was taken into custody after colleagues used dogs to drive off an angry, largely immigrant, crowd protesting the incident. (A.F.P.)

FOOD BOOST NEEDED

HONG KONG, October 21 - A 60 per cent increase in farm production would be needed to feed the world at the end of the century, the New China News Agency reported last night. It was referring to an estimate disclosed by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) at an international rice soil symposium now being held in Nanjing, East China. (A.F.P.)

OIL & ENERGY

SECURITY TALKS

STOCKHOLM, October 20 - Security problems posed by the peaceful use of atomic energy are the main point on the agenda of a conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) which opened here today.

Around 700 delegates and specialists representing 40 countries will spend this week discussing security and means of preventing accidents in nuclear power stations. The conference is devoted exclusively to the working of power stations and not to the making of nuclear fuel or the way of disposing of waste. (A.F.P.)

STATIONARY BY 2000

WASHINGTON, October 19 - World petroleum production will be stationary until the year 2000 and will decline in most of the industrialized producing countries, according to an analysis published today by the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), a congressional unit.

The study foresaw "tensions" arising from competition on the oil market during the next few years. It also predicted that the crisis would have major repercussions on U.S. foreign policy.

In its country-by-country analysis, the OTA estimated that between 40 and 60 million barrels a day would be available at the end of the century and between 45 and 60 million barrels a day in 1985. The total daily supply last year was 52 million barrels.

According to the report, production in the United States, which was 10.2 million barrels a day last year, would drop to an average of 6 million barrels daily - within a range of 4 to 7 million barrels a day - by the year 2000. The OTA said the USSR would probably halt its exports of petroleum to the West early in the 1980s because of a decline in its production and would become an importer.

The socialist countries, which now received 80 per cent of their petroleum supplies from the Soviet Union, would be forced to follow the USSR into the world market. Soviet-bloc purchases by the year 2000 could be between 2 and 3 million barrels a day, the study estimated. (A.F.P.)

THE WAR DAMAGE

PARIS, October 18 - War damage to Iraqi and Iranian oil installations now totals 8,000 million or 9,000 million dollars, the Paris-published magazine Pétrole et Gaz Arabes has estimated.

Iraq has also lost 2,400 million dollars in oil revenue from the halt in its exports three weeks ago, the magazine calculates.

Iran, still exporting some oil from Lavan Island, has lost about 750 million dollars.

Iraq was the second biggest exporter after Saudi Arabia until the war, sending some three million barrels abroad each day. But Iran's exports were already down to one million barrels a day last summer in the wake of the Islamic revolution, Pétrole et Gaz Arabes notes.

Lavan Island is 400 kilometres (250 miles) south of Iran's Kharg Island tanker-loading facilities, which have been heavily damaged. The magazine estimates damage to Iraqi installations at 3,500 to 4,000 million dollars and damage to Iranian installations at 4,500 to 5,000 million. (A.F.P.)

SEABED GAS FIND

JOHANNESBURG, October 21 - A natural gas deposit has been discovered in the seabed about 150 kms (90 miles) off South Africa's southern coast, the state radio reported today.

The radio quoted Energy and Mines Minister F.W. De Klerk as saying, however, that the Government oil prospecting agency, SOEKOR, had not yet determined whether the deposit could be profitably exploited. The gas was very deep in the seabed, Mr. De Klerk said.

He noted that the gas find was the ninth off the coast of South Africa's Cape Province since SOEKOR began prospecting 15 years ago. None of the deposits discovered earlier had been drilled commercially because they were all too deep and the sea floor above them too porous.

The newly discovered deposit is off Mosselbaai (Mossel Bay), midway between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth.

South Africa has no known crude oil deposits but is a world leader in the production of oil from coal. (A.F.P.)

MIDDLE EAST

UNESCO CONDEMNS ISRAEL

BELGRADE, October 20 - The UNESCO general conference meeting here voted 78 to three today to condemn Israel's decision to make Jerusalem its permanent capital.

There were 28 abstentions - among them the nine members of the European Economic Community (EEC) - and 41 countries did not participate. The three votes against the proposal were cast by the United States, Canada and Israel.

The conference resolution was presented by Gabon and numerous other African countries. (A.F.P.)

NORMALIZATION MOVE

CAIRO, October 21 - Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali said Monday he would pay an official visit to Israel in the coming weeks as part of the normalization process.

Speaking in a television interview, Mr. Ghali said the trip would be made in response to the visit to Egypt last month by Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Meanwhile, in an interview published by the Egyptian daily Al Ahram today, Mr. Ghali said the lack of solution to the Palestinian problem was a far more serious issue than inter-Arab conflicts, including the current war between Iran and Iraq. (A.F.P.)

EGYPT WANTS ARMS

CAIRO, October 18 - The United States is examining an Egyptian request for delivery of more arms "in light of the development of the situation in the region", Vice-President Hosni Mubarak said yesterday on his return from a meeting with U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

U.S. officials appeared convinced that Egypt needed the arms, Mr. Mubarak was quoted as saying in the daily Al Ahram. The Vice-President was in Washington to deliver a message to Mr. Carter from Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

Egypt was carrying through its plans to grant the U.S. "temporary facilities to help defend other Arab and Islamic countries", Mr. Mubarak said, adding : "We are granting facilities and not bases". (A.F.P.)

EVACUATION REVISION

JERUSALEM, October 19 - Israeli deputy Moshe Arens, chairman of Parliament's defence and foreign affairs commission, is proposing "a revision of the phased evacuation of Israeli bases from Sinai in consultation with Egypt and the U.S.", according to the Jerusalem Post today.

The proposals arose from his appraisal of the implications of the Gulf war, the paper indicated.

Mr. Arens earlier this year turned down an offer to become Defense Minister on the grounds that he disagreed with current Government policies.

In today's Jerusalem Post article, he said that whichever side emerged victor in the Gulf conflict the ultimate loser would be the West because of the systematic destruction of each other's oil installations by Iran and Iraq.

At the same time the Gulf war showed that the Arab and Islamic countries were governed by unstable regimes which the West could not rely upon, he said.

Even Jordan, in his view, usually considered closely aligned with the West, had now altered its stance, while the West had not yet the military potential to defend its interests in the Middle East. (A.F.P.)

NEW SHAH

CAIRO, October 18 - Prince Reza Shah Pahlevi, son of the late Iranian ruler, will succeed his father on October 31, the date on which he will reach the legal age to assume the role, according to a communique issued by the secretariat of former Empress Farah Pahlevi here. (A.F.P.)

COSTLY RECONSTRUCTION

ANTANANARIVO, October 18 - President Didier Ratsiraka of Madagascar, receiving an Iraqi envoy on a tour through Africa, said here that U.S. "imperialism" would be the big winner in Iraq's war against Iran.

In a declaration reported on state radio yesterday, Mr. Ratsiraka warned Iraqi Minister of State Hashim Anrawi against any "generous" offer of Western aid to Iraq after the war, when Iraq would find itself obliged to "undertake costly reconstruction".

Mr. Anrawi and his delegation had already visited Senegal, Guinea, Mali, Zambia and Mozambique, and were to go on to Tanzania, Kenya and Nigeria seeking support for Iraq's position. (A.F.P.)

FLAG : IRAQ REJECTS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., October 18 - Iraq has formally rejected a proposal by United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to allow ships blocked in the Shatt-Al-Arab river to leave the area by placing them under the U.N. flag.

In a letter released here yesterday Iraqi President Saddam Hussein told Mr. Waldheim : "These vessels must fly the Iraqi flag as long as they are in the Shatt-Al-Arab, which is an Iraqi river, in conformity with our full national sovereignty over this river".

The letter, dated Thursday, was in response to a suggestion by Mr. Waldheim on October 10 for the evacuation of vessels trapped in the river, a key area of conflict in the Iranian-Iraqi war. (A.F.P.)

OIL SECURITY

WASHINGTON, October 18 - The United States and Israel yesterday signed a 14-year agreement here under which Washington will deliver oil necessary to Israeli security in case of need.

Negotiations began in June, 1979. The accord spells out in 20 paragraphs those circumstances in which the United States would be obliged to furnish oil to Israel. It is intended that Israel should always have on hand sufficient oil to meet six months' needs.

Three circumstances in which the U.S. would furnish Israel oil : if Israel could not obtain sufficient oil even at exceptionally high prices, if Israel could obtain oil but only at prices greatly superior to the world market price and under precarious delivery conditions, and if Israel lost one of its two principal sources of oil supplies and could not immediately find a replacement. (A.F.P.)

ANGLO-U.S. MANEUVERS

WASHINGTON, October 21 - Joint United States and British Navy and Air Force maneuvers began Monday in the Sea of Oman, near the Gulf, the U.S. Defense Department announced.

The exercises were being held under U.S. command and were to continue until November 4, it added. Two U.S. aircraft carriers, the Midway and the Eisenhower, were among the 25 ships taking part. The maneuvers had been scheduled before the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war and had nothing to do with that conflict, according to U.S. military sources.

Six of the 25 ships were British. The Pentagon said 170 aircraft based on the aircraft carriers and 18,000 men were also involved in the action, named Beacon Compass. The exercises, designed to improve combat readiness in the region, would not include French vessels, which had increased their presence in the region, a reliable source said.

The U.S. has continued its efforts to consult with allies on the Gulf situation, but no decision has been taken concerning the proposed creation of a multinational naval force, according to Pentagon sources. (A.F.P.)

SOVIET OVERFLIGHTS

KUWAIT, October 21 - Soviet-flying-radar planes have been overflying the Gulf region twice daily since hostilities broke out between Iraq and Iran, the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Qabas said today.

It added that Moscow had also based Mig-27 jets in the region, adding : "This is the first time that Moscow has authorized such fighter craft to come outside the Warsaw Pact countries". (A.F.P.)

MUSKIE BLAMES IRAQ

CHICAGO, October 21 - Secretary of State Edmund Muskie said here Monday that Iran's integrity had been threatened by the Iraqi invasion.

It was the first time, observers said, that Mr. Muskie had spoken of Iraq as an invader in the conflict. President Jimmy Carter used the same expression Sunday".

In a speech to local businessmen, Mr. Muskie said the United States opposed the dismantling of Iran, whose cohesion and stability served the interests of the entire region. Referring to the invasion of Afghanistan, and without mentioning the Soviet Union by name, Mr. Muskie said there was reason to fear an intervention elsewhere that could destabilize the whole region. (A.F.P.)

Libya

PROFESSIONAL ARMY

PARIS, October 19 - Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi has called upon his countrymen to build a professional army of 500,000 men in a year, in addition to those conscripted into the armed forces, "to oppose the crusade which is threatening Libya".

Colonel Kadhafi was giving an address marking the Islamic feast Adha, which was broadcast by Radio Tripoli and quoted by the Libyan news agency JANA, received here.

He announced that he was going to "propose to Libya's people's committees that from the beginning of next year schools, institutes and faculties be transformed into training camps to defend firstly Libyan territory and then the unified Libyan-Syrian state", JANA said.

(The regimes in Libya and Syria jointly declared on September 10 that they had decided to create a single united state).

Col. Kadhafi also called upon the Iraqis and the Iranians to end their war so that all Moslems might "work for the liberation of soiled holy Islamic sites, Jerusalem and occupied Palestine". Calling for a "holy war", he said that reconnaissance aircraft "of the pigs of Americans" had been "occupying the skies over the holy Islamic places in Saudi Arabia for more than a year, dropping their waste on pilgrims and jamming radio broadcasts devoted to the pilgrimage".

"The occupation of the heavens over Mecca indicates that the United States is in the course of occupying the whole of the Arab fatherland", Col. Kadhafi said. "The least we can do is prepare to fight on our land and under our skies, but if our forces can penetrate the United States, they will." (A.F.P.)

SOVIET CHANGE

PARIS, October 18 - Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi will pay a visit to Moscow soon which will mark a "qualitative change" in Libyan-Soviet relations, the Arab-language weekly Al Moustaqbal reported here today.

Quoting well-informed sources in the Syrian capital Damascus, it said the visit could bring the signature of a friendship treaty similar to that signed recently between Syria and the Soviet Union, during President Hafez Assad's Moscow visit.

Al Moustaqbal said Colonel Kadhafi's proposed visit to Damascus for further discussions on the planned unification of Syria and Libya had meanwhile been put off by mutual agreement, until after he returns from Moscow. Libyan sources in Paris refused to confirm or deny the weekly's report. (A.F.P.)

Algeria

CONFLICTING FIGURES

ALGIERS, October 21 - Conflicting totals are still reaching here for the number of people left dead, injured or homeless by the October 10 earthquake which ravaged the city of El Asnam and the surrounding area.

The first official toll - announced as partial and provisional - was published last Sunday by the national coordinating committee assigned to organize relief work : 2,325 bodies counted, 7,725 injured registered and 331, 216 homeless.

Those figures were far lower than those furnished by the Central hospital at El Asnam, which four days after the quake said that more than 6,000 persons had died in the city.

Last Thursday, the daily El Moujahid quoted official health services in reporting 44,000 people hurt, 4,000 of them being serious cases.

The official figure is also far below the estimate of the Algerian Red Crescent organization, which has repeatedly suggested that the toll will reach 20,000 dead.

The national coordinating committee has said its figures are subject to variation as relief work continues. Official sources here also point out that figures are not yet in from the six hard-hit dairas (administrative districts) surrounding El Asnam.

Furthermore, many victims, particularly in outlying villages, were buried by their families, with no report having reached the authorities. (A.F.P.)

Morocco

TWO EXILES BACK

RABAT, October 20 - Two leading Moroccan opposition figures have returned home after several years in exile, under amnesties ordered in July and August by King Hassan, it was reported here today.

The opposition daily Al Moharrir said that Abdelfattah Sabata, a founder member of the National Union of Popular Forces, arrived in Rabat on Sunday after 18 years out of the country. Earlier, former Students Union President Mohamed Lakhassi returned from a seven-year self-exile.

Yesterday it was announced that a total of 307 prisoners facing life sentences had had their jail terms commuted in a royal pardon marking a Moslem festival beginning today.

Of the group, 23 were freed but some have fines to pay. Most of the rest had their terms shortened. (A.F.P.)

Sahara

FAMILIES INVITED

ALGIERS, October 21 - The Saharan Polisario nationalist guerrillas have invited the families of 14 fishermen they seized last May 22 in the Spanish vessel Garmomar to visit their menfolk, Polisario said here yesterday.

Foreign journalists were last week allowed to visit the 14, who are being held in a Polisario military camp in Western Sahara not far from the Mauritanian border.

The Polisario communique said the invitation was a "goodwill gesture" aimed at strengthening ties between the Saharan and Spanish peoples. No date was fixed for the visit.

The Garmomar was seized off the Western Sahara coast last May in protest against a Spanish-Moroccan fishing agreement allowing Spanish ships to operate off Western Sahara. Polisario is opposing Morocco's occupation of the former Spanish colony, which Spain abandoned in 1976.

The communique called on Spain to "turn the page" on the "illegal agreement" and to devise a new policy in line with "the aspirations of two friendly peoples". It warned Spanish fishing boats against committing further such violations in "sea areas which have long been declared war zones". (A.F.P.)

Tunisia

BRITISH VISITORS

TUNIS, October 21 - Thousands of cheering Tunisians lined the streets of their capital today to welcome Queen Elizabeth Two of Britain and the Duke of Edinburgh on their first visit to a North African country.

On Saturday the royal couple start a state visit to neighbouring Algeria and for the second half of next week they will be in Morocco as guests of King Hassan Two. (A.F.P.)

Egypt

PRIZE FOR SADAT

STRASBOURG, Eastern France, October 20 - The Louise Weiss Foundation, named after the senior member of the European Parliament, today announced that its 1980 prize has been awarded to President Anwar Sadat of Egypt for his peace efforts and his courage in granting hospitality to the ousted Shah of Iran.

The prize has no cash worth, but holds a high international moral value. (A.F.P.)

BRITISH SALES DRIVE

LONDON, October 18 - The British Government is urging business to step up its efforts to cut into France's domination of sales to Ivory Coast, which is seen as a fertile field for exporters due to recent oil discoveries.

"Ivory Coast, the private preserve of the French exporters : this is a myth", the Department of Trade said in the latest issue of its official weekly, British Business.

In a report published in the magazine, the British Embassy in Abidjan acknowledged that France had historical, monetary and linguistic advantages in Ivory Coast, but said : "They are eroding and this process could very well accelerate in the coming years".

The report said the Government of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny "has shown that it treats all foreign exporters equally".

It added that the Ivorian market offered a "great potential" to British industry, especially in the aftermath of oil finds in Ivory Coast waters.

These discoveries meant that Ivory Coast's balance-of-payments difficulties and resulting limitations on economic development would not be lasting problems, the British Embassy report said.

It said nothing stood in the way of Britain's raising its share of the Ivory market from the 2.2 per cent it took in 1979. In fact, the report said, this share could go up appreciably in 1980, with the possibility that British companies would soon sign at least two fat contracts in Ivory Coast. (A.F.P.)

Ghana

WAGES SETTLEMENT

ACCRA, October 18 - A garbage and sewer workers strike that left the streets of Accra reeking with waste has been settled, but teacher strikes are continuing in the latest labour unrest.

The capital's 4,500 municipal workers went on strike two weeks ago for payment of overdue wages.

On Thursday night, however, worker and city representatives reached agreement for payment of the wages, allowing the men to return to work and the cleanup to begin.

The teacher strikes in various parts of Ghana are also over delayed payment of salaries.

In another labour development, the National Union of Ghana Students appealed to President Hilla Limann to rehire 250 officers of the Black Star shipping line who were fired after they went on strike four months ago for better wages and service conditions. (A.F.P.)

Cape Verde

FRENCH COOPERATION

PARIS, October 21 - France and the Cape Verde Islands, the former Portuguese Atlantic colony off the coast of West Africa, pledged here last night to strengthen their economic cooperation.

The intention was expressed during a dinner given by French Deputy Foreign Minister Olivier Stirn for visiting Cape Verde Premier Pedro Pires.

Mr. Stirn said France's policy in Africa was to develop ties with English, Arabic and Portuguese-speaking states as well with the French-speaking countries which were once French colonies. Prime Minister Pires noted France's historic role in the continent, but pledged his country's policy of non-alignment. (A.F.P.)

Mauritania

FIRST ISLAMIC STEP

NOUAKCHOTT, October 20 - The introduction of Islamic principles into Mauritania's legal system last month, resulting in one execution, three hand amputations and a number of whippings, is a "first step" towards applying Islam in all fields of national life, Mauritanian Head of State Mohamed Khouna Ould Haidalla said here.

In a nationwide radio broadcast yesterday, he called on Mauritania to help fight the "perversions which have seeped into our values over the past two decades" and to "return to our original customs and values". (A.F.P.)

Nigeria

PORTS STRIKE-BOUND

LAGOS, October 18 - Ports throughout Nigeria were paralysed this weekend as dock workers staged their second strike this month, it was reported here.

The dockers are demanding six-months' back pay following the setting of a minimum wage by President Shagari in April. They also want better fringe benefits such as rent and transport allowances, the Punch newspaper reported. (A.F.P.)

EAST AFRICA

General Information

SOMALI OFFENSIVE

ADDIS ABABA, October 19 - Ethiopian troops have beaten back a fresh Somali offensive in south-eastern Bale Province, killing 500 of the invaders in a clash still continuing in some areas, Radio Ethiopia announced here Saturday. (A.F.P.)

OBOTE : "COMMONWEALTH
OBSERVERS WELCOME"

KAMPALA, October 20 - Former Ugandan President Milton Obote, in an apparent change of policy, today said he would welcome Commonwealth observers to the monitor the country's first general elections in 18 years, scheduled for December 10.

Mr. Obote, one of four presidential candidates in the elections, said : "Since Press men from all over the world are going to be observing the elections, let them (the Commonwealth observers) come".

But the former President, whose Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) has previously been the main critic of the idea of Commonwealth observers, rejected the idea of foreign "supervisors" for the elections, similar to those used to oversee pre-independence elections in Zimbabwe.

Mr. Obote's statement coincides with a visit to Uganda by two officials of the Commonwealth Secretariat looking into facilities available for observers during the elections.

Observers are expected to come from Britain, Canada, Australia, India, Nigeria and the Netherlands.

Meanwhile, at least 20 people are now known to have been killed in Kampala over the weekend, one of the most violent since last year's overthrow of former dictator Idi Amin.

Heavy explosions

Eye-witnesses said that 10-bullet-riddled bodies had been found dumped near Kajansi, on the road leading to the international airport at Entebbe, and seven other people, including three soldiers, had been killed at Rubaga, two miles (three kilometres) from the city centre.

Government officials have still been unable to give an explanation for a series of heavy explosions which shook the capital on Friday night.

Among other fatal casualties from the weekend were Ben Mayanja, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Animal Resources, and a doctor and a senior executive from the Government-run Produce Marketing Board.

Transport Minister Kintu Musoke was shot in the leg and his car was stolen.

Meanwhile there was still no fresh news from the north-west of the country where, Government officials said last week, the Army had gone into action against remnants of Idi Amin's army who had crossed back into Uganda from Eastern Zaire and Southern Sudan. (A.F.P.)

"RABBITS" PENALTY

NAIROBI, October 18 - Interior and Constitutional Affairs Minister Charles Njonjo wants to penalise families of more than one child to limit Kenya's population growth.

But his suggestion met with disapproval when he presented it to Parliament Thursday.

"I appeal to our people to produce the children they can look after, not to produce children like rabbits", he said, suggesting that, to reduce a population growth approaching four per cent, families should be obliged to pay for the education of second and subsequent children.

An Indian MP, Abdalla Mwidau, said a husband and wife should not sleep in the same bed. (A.F.P.)

FREEDOM FOR 7,004

NAIROBI, October 20 - President Daniel Arap Moi today ordered the release of 7,004 prisoners to mark the 28th anniversary of the arrest and detention of the late Kenyan President Jomo Kenyatta by British colonial authorities during the independence struggle. The prisoners to be released will include those sentenced for minor offences and who have remained on good behaviour while in prison, the President said. (A.F.P.)

TRIBAL DISSOLUTION

NAIROBI, October 20 - One of Kenya's most important tribal bodies, the Luo Welfare Organisation, was dissolved over the weekend after the unanimous decision of Parliament earlier this month to abolish all tribal associations. The Luo people comprise 15 per cent of Kenya's population. (A.F.P.)

Ethiopia

3-SHIFT SCHOOLING

ADDIS ABABA, October 20 - As Ethiopian educators grapple with their biggest student intake ever - 2.5 million - at the start of a new school year, concern has been voiced that quality may suffer because of a new three-shift system in city schools. Ethiopia is hoping to introduce compulsory free primary education in the near future, and according to the Ministry of Education the number of classrooms has doubled, even tripled in some areas, over the past five years, with an average of 700 new schools opening annually. (A.F.P.)

SIAD BARRE TAKES
OVER ALL POWERS

MOGADISHU, October 21 - Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre has declared a state of emergency and indefinitely taken over all powers in the country.

He also reinstated the Supreme Revolutionary Council (SRC), which relinquished its powers following the formation, in July 1976, of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party.

The Somali leader made the announcement in an address to the nation over the radio on the 11th anniversary of the revolution that brought him to power in 1969.

He said he was imposing the state of emergency after taking note of what he called consistent aggressions waged against his country by Ethiopia and its allies, as well as mounting acts of robbery, theft, tribalism, favouritism and treachery, and after it had become apparent that "the aspirations and objectives were being deviated and that many people holding state posts have ignored the Somali people's interests".

Merciless punishment...

He said the state of emergency would be in force until the conditions making it necessary had been eliminated, but he added that constitutional bodies, including the party's central committee and People's Assembly (Parliament), would continue their activities until further notice. A law defining and clarifying this point would be issued later, he said.

President Siad called on Somali as well as foreign communities in the country to abide by the new move, warning that "anybody who fails to comply with it will mercilessly face the law".

The Somali President also announced unspecified increases in the salaries of all Government employees who, he said, were facing many difficulties in living conditions as a result of "robbery, theft and illegal profiteering".

Corruption, rumours

He expressed the hope that the new measures would put an end to acts of "maladministration, corruption fallacies, tribalism and hypocritical gossiping and rumours".

In its 83rd article, the Somali constitution, adopted last year, empowers the country's head of state - after consulting the defence committee - to proclaim a state of emergency whenever there is a situation endangering its sovereignty and security, or at any other time there is dire need for that action.
(A.F.P.)

CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, TRANSPORT

BRAZZAVILLE, October 21 - President Jean Baptiste Bagaza of Burundi left here for home after a four-day official visit during which Burundi and the Congo signed cultural, scientific and air transport agreements. (A.F.P.)

Zambia

EMERALD ROUND UP

LUSAKA, October 20 - Police arrested 450 foreigners in Zambia's northern Copperbelt region yesterday on suspicion of possessing emeralds and lacking proper immigration papers.

The aliens, mostly from East Africa and countries bordering Zambia, were being held in prison in Ndola pending their appearance in court or deportation. Regional police Chief Julius Zulu said most of those picked up were married to Zambian women. He said they had tried to use this status to remain in Zambia's emerald protected areas and exploit the gems. (A.V.P.)

AFP MAN HELD

PARIS, October 21 - French journalists have asked UNESCO, U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, Edem Kodjo to intercede with the Zambian authorities for the release of François Cros, AFP's director for Zambia, Mozambique and Tanzania. The Zambian authorities have confirmed that he is being held, but have not said where or why. (A.F.P.)

Angola

PORTUGUESE SOLIDARITY

LUANDA, October 21 - A group of Portuguese nationals have formed an association to promote "the support and solidarity" of Portuguese in Angola for the country's "revolutionary process". It is called the April 25th Association, after the date of the Portuguese revolution in 1974 that ended a half-century of rightist dictatorship and helped bring about the independence of Angola.

Meanwhile, it was reported that the Cabinet had confiscated five businesses whose proprietors left Angola and abandoned them. Four are headquartered at Huambo : a detergent company, a radio supply company, a locksmith's and a company whose nature was not given. The other confiscated company, Reckitt and Colman of Angola, is in Luanda. (A.F.P.)

AYANDHO & MAIDOU FREE

BANGUI, October 18 - President David Dacko said yesterday that his former Premier and former Vice-President, who had both been under house arrest, now enjoyed "complete freedom and movement".

Premier Bernard-Christian Ayandho and Vice-President Henri Maidou were dismissed on August 23 and placed under house arrest. The President was reported to have removed them because of their "unpopularity".

Mr. Dacko, who came to power 13 months ago in a French-backed coup, also said in an interview here with Agence France-Presse that a new Premier would soon be chosen and have "economic and administrative responsibilities".

Mr. Dacko said as well that the new draft constitution, currently under study by the Cabinet, would be presented to the people in a referendum early in 1981.

Afterward, an electoral law would be adopted and general elections held, he said. He did not say what offices these elections would cover. He had mentioned elections last month, just before a visit to Paris that coincided with the first anniversary of the coup that overthrew Emperor Bokassa. (A.F.P.)

Zaire

BIRTHDAY CLEMENCY

BRAZZAVILLE, Congo, October 18 - President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire has commuted to life imprisonment death sentences pronounced on civilians before last Tuesday, Zaire Radio said today in a broadcast monitored here.

However, there are a number of exceptions to the clemency, granted to mark General Mobutu's 50th birthday.

The radio said the presidential order, signed yesterday in Kinshasa, also reduced life prison terms imposed on civilians to 20 years. It directed that civilians sentenced to prison or hard labour for two years or less should be set at liberty in the first case and have their terms reduced to one year in the second.

Sentences for several crimes are not reduced or commuted, the radio announced. These include assassination, murder, treason and activity against state security, armed robbery, association with known criminals, embezzlement of public funds and foreign exchange violations. Fugitives are not covered by the amnesty, nor are those already serving their time. (A.F.P.)

TWO-WAY SECURITY

SALISBURY, October 20 - Zimbabwe and neighbouring Mozambique have agreed to a security pact under which they intend to cooperate closely in battling anti-government dissidents in both countries.

The accord came during five-hour talks over the weekend between Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and Mozambique President Samora Machel in Quelimane, North-Eastern Mozambique. Mr. Machel said the meeting was held mainly to discuss the security problems faced by both countries.

Rebels of the Mozambique resistance movement have recently stepped up their campaign against Mr. Machel's Frelimo (Mozambique Liberation Front) Government, with attacks on communications links and power lines. The rebels are also alleged to have killed and mutilated Frelimo officials in areas along the 700-mile border with Zimbabwe.

Some of the rebel activity has spilled over into Zimbabwe, mainly with the robbing of stores for food and supplies.

Mr. Mugabe said after the Quelimane talks that both Governments had agreed to cooperate fully in achieving "high standards of security". Forces from both sides would increase their efforts to "rout the dissidents in our midst", he said.

The rebel activity in Mozambique has caused a flood of refugees into Zimbabwe, which already has a displaced-persons problem with the return of thousands of homeless who had fled to neighbouring states during the Rhodesian war. The refugees from Mozambique are being cared for by the Zimbabwe Social Services Department and are refusing to return home until the rebels have been rooted out.

Hot pursuit

Neither leader spelled out the roles to be played by their respective forces, but the military and economic implications of the situation in Mozambique are known to be causing concern among leaders in Salisbury.

Observers believe that the new security arrangements are likely to include free movement across the border by forces from both sides under the military tactic of "hot pursuit" if necessary to eradicate armed dissidents.

(The Mozambique resistance movement was supplied and assisted by Salisbury's white-led forces during the Rhodesian war, but since Zimbabwe's independence there have been reports of South African aid to the rebels). (A.F.P.)

NKOMO : "IRREGULARITIES"

by Ian Mills

SALISBURY, October 20 - Zimbabwe's Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo has called for the postponement of the coming local government elections in urban areas, alleging irregularities in voter registration and intimidation during some rural polls already held.

Speaking at a rally yesterday in his stronghold of Bulawayo, Mr. Nkomo, who also heads the minority Patriotic Front (PF) party in the coalition Government, said the main elections should be postponed until after well-established Government machinery had prepared the whole country for free and fair voting.

Local Government and Housing Minister Eddison Zvogbo said he would reply to Mr. Nkomo later today.

Mr. Zvogbo is a member of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF), which has emerged the clear victor in the rural elections and is expected to do the same in the urban balloting.

Calling the elections so far "a disaster", Mr. Nkomo said results were being announced in areas where there had been shooting incidents and people were being ordered to vote "by men carrying arms".

"We don't want to create divisions in our country but this type of thing is not helpful to create the peaceful and united nation we are still trying to mould", he said.

Heavy majorities

The Government has widened the voting population to embrace residents and lodgers in the black urban townships, a move that will guarantee heavy black majorities on the local councils.

Mr. Nkomo's statement is among several he has made recently that underline the growing frustration within his party over ZANU-PF's domination of the political scene. The Mugabe party swept to victory in the national independence elections in February with 57 seats in Parliament to the Nkomo party's 20.

In another speech yesterday to some of his former ZIPRA (Zimbabwe Peoples Revolutionary Army) guerrillas, Mr. Nkomo said they had behaved properly "in spite of open provocation" through the radio and television. "You have never accused ZANLA (Mr. Mugabe's forces) comrades of having not fought, but they have said you did not fight", Mr. Nkomo said.

Mr. Nkomo's recent public statements have been given minimal coverage on the state-controlled radio and television, contrasting with the prominence they receive in the local press. (A.F.P.)

NEWSMEN FOR SCREENING

SALISBURY, October 19 - The Government here, incensed at "irresponsible" reports in South Africa and the West about instability and possible civil war in Zimbabwe, is reinstating a system of screening foreign journalists used by the old white-minority regime.

Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira said today that he was reintroducing the system of temporary employment permits, which allows the Government to vet correspondents before they enter the country. The system had been abolished at independence in April.

The permits, issued for a month at a time, were not renewed if the Government wanted to bar a foreign journalist from entering or working in Zimbabwe.

Mr. Shamuyarira said Zimbabwe was the subject of "very bad press reports" in Britain and Western Europe, but the South African press had been the "chief culprit" in alleging that Zimbabwe had been "on the verge of a disastrous internal conflict since independence".

He added that it was "unfortunate" that many foreign journalists reporting on Zimbabwe were based in South Africa.

The Information Minister, himself a former journalist, said the Government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe had been especially angered by an article written in a recent issue of Newsweek by Holger Jensen, the American magazine's Johannesburg-based correspondent, which Newsweek entitled: "Zimbabwe : Reign of Terror".

Biased, unfounded...

Mr. Shamuyarira called the Jensen piece "biased and unfounded". Among other things, it said that Mr. Mugabe had appeared "terrified" of a group of his own guerrillas in a visit to one "mutinous" assembly point in the bush where they were based, the Prime Minister had told his ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) men to "keep their powder dry" for an eventual showdown with Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo's ZIPRA (Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army), Health Minister Herbert Ushewokunze had "exposed himself to ridicule" by leading 8,000 witchdoctors in "primitive rites" calculated to call up ancestral spirits, and "profligate spending on luxury homes, cars and foreign travel" by Mr. Mugabe's Government "has begun to raise eyebrows both in Salisbury and abroad". (A.F.P.)

ELECTION DATE
STANDS - ZVOGBO

SALISBURY, October 20 - Zimbabwe Local Government and Housing Minister Eddison Zvogbo today accused Cabinet colleague and Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo of "merely playing politics" in calling for a delay in next month's local government elections.

Mr. Zvogbo was commenting at a news conference on Mr. Nkomo's charge of irregularities in voter registration and intimidation during some of the rural polls already held.

"We have no intention of postponing the elections", Mr. Zvogbo said.

He said he believed Mr. Nkomo had made the allegations as leader of the minority Patriotic Front (PF) party in the coalition Government and not as Home Affairs Minister.

"My only conjecture is that as president of his own party he got carried away and made allegations which he cannot prove", Mr. Zvogbo said.

No criticisms

"He has not complained to the Prime Minister or myself. He has not raised any criticisms either in Cabinet or in the Cabinet committee on public order, of which we are both members", he said.

Only three rural local government elections had been held so far and neither the police or the district commissioner had reported any irregularities or intimidation, he said.

Mr. Zvogbo said the Government could not "postpone the elections simply to make it possible for the PF to organise elections with some chance of winning". "We would have to wait for ever, as there is no evidence that they would be able to win a seat in most of Zimbabwe", he added. (A.F.P.)

ADMISSION OF GUILT...

SALISBURY, October 20 - Rex Nhongo, commander of Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's former guerrilla forces, has been asked to sign an "admission of guilt" for assaulting a white businessman earlier this year, Attorney-General Brendun Treacy said here today.

Mr. Nhongo is alleged to have assaulted Robert Annan outside a hotel in the eastern border city of Umtali. Mr. Annan spent two weeks in hospital after the incident.

Mr. Treacy said that Mr. Nhongo had been fined 100 Zimbabwe dollars (160 U.S. dollars) for the assault and 25 dollars (40 U.S.) for "riotous behaviour". (A.F.P.)

2 GET 8 YEARS

JOHANNESBURG, October 18 - A court in Pietersburg, Northern Transvaal, has handed down eight-year prison terms to the leader of a black South African student movement and another black man.

Ephraim Mogale, 23, President of the Congress of South African Students, and Thabo Makynyane, 24, an ex-student at Turfloop University in Pietersburg, were found guilty of having "propagated the goals of the African National Congress and of Communism".

The ANC, banned in South Africa, has guerrillas in training outside the country and claimed responsibility for the sabotage of a major oil-from-coal plant south-west of Johannesburg in July.

South Africa has a number of laws, including the suppression of Communism Act, against Communism.

The court said that the two men were also found in possession of "subversive" literature.

Finally, the court said they had recruited young people into clubs and groups to prepare them for revolution against the Government. (A.F.P.)

POLICE CHARGE CHURCH

JOHANNESBURG, October 20 - Police with batons burst into a Seventh Day Adventist church in the black township of Soweto yesterday and arrested 14 people as South Africa's majority black population marked the third anniversary of mass arrests of their leaders and the banning of 18 black organizations in 1977.

Religious services were held throughout the country at the instigation of the Black Consciousness movement and the Azanian People's Organization (AZAPO). There were few incidents.

The 14 arrested in Soweto included two members of the Soweto "Committee of 10", Leonard Mosala and Tom Manthata, and three members of the executive of the Black Students Congress of South Africa. Mr. Mosala and Mr. Manthata were later freed.

Blind American singer Ray Charles cancelled a concert he was to have given yesterday in Soweto.

AZAPO had appealed to him to respect the anniversary, which involved the dropping of all public entertainments. (A.F.P.)

STARVATION WAGES...

LONDON, October 20 - British companies operating in South Africa produced false information to conceal starvation wages paid to black workers and refuse recognition to black trades unions, the organisation "Christian Concern for Southern Africa" alleged in a report issued here today. (A.F.P.)

DEADLIEST GUNS
CONSPIRACY ...

LONDON, October 21 - Thanks to an "enormous international underground arms network", South Africa has obtained "the world's deadliest artillery system", featuring a 155 mm. shell with a nuclear warhead, the British ITV television programme "World in Action" reported yesterday.

This weaponry, plus a secret nuclear explosion staged over the South Atlantic last year, was the result of a "very advantageous series of errors" in South Africa's favour by the U.S. Government, the programme said.

The "errors", through which South Africa was able easily to avoid the United Nations embargo on arms exports to Pretoria, were presented as "a bureaucratic cock-up".

In fact they were a "conspiracy", presenter David Taylor said.

He said the international cooperation to arm South Africa in defiance of the U.N. included 11 countries, notably the United States, Canada, Britain, France, West Germany, Brazil, Belgium and Paraguay.

Swiss payment...

Among the private transnational firms involved were subsidiaries of the British Trafalgar House group of some 140 companies including Express Newspapers and the Cunard shipping company.

Payment in the deals was handled by a Swiss bank, Mr. Taylor said.

The arms network was discovered during investigations in Canada by the programme into Space Research Corporation, a North American firm which was using the Caribbean island of Antigua to ship shells and weapons to South Africa in secret.

Mr. Taylor said Israel had obtained the "rights and technological know-how" to make the South African nuclear warhead and had negotiated with third-world countries like Taiwan, Iraq and Iran about its production. (A.F.P.)

SPY RING DENIAL

PRETORIA, October 20 - A Swedish official spokesman denied a newspaper report here yesterday that Sweden was involved in a spy ring engaged in anti-apartheid activities in South Africa.

The Swedish Legation in Pretoria was reacting to a story in the Johannesburg Sunday Times headed "Swedes Named in S.A. Spy Ring". The article was based on documents allegedly obtained by South African undercover agent Captain Craig Williamson in Geneva, where he had infiltrated the anti-apartheid International University Exchange Fund (IUEF), headed by Swede Lars Gunnar Eriksson. (A.F.P.)

CRUCIAL POINT,
SAYS U.S.

WASHINGTON, October 21 - The United States called yesterday for quick implementation of the United Nations plan for independence and black majority rule in Namibia.

"We believe discussions have reached a crucial point and that implementation of the plan should be reached as soon as possible", State Department spokesman Jack Cannon said.

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly that further delays will only lessen the possibilities for effecting a peaceful transition", he added.

The call was made as a high-level U.N. delegation was opening talks in Pretoria on the possibility of setting a date for putting the plan into effect. (A.F.P.)

FULL-SCALE RAID

WINDHOEK, October 21 - South African Army commandos and Namibian territorial auxiliaries conducted a full-scale raid into Angola yesterday, killing 28 SWAPO (South-West African Peoples Organisation) guerrillas and Angolan regular troops, a South African Armed Forces spokesman said here today.

He said the raid was against a SWAPO base in South-Western Angola.

(The raid coincided with the opening in Pretoria of talks between a United Nations mission and a South African Government delegation on ways to speed implementation of U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim's plan for settling the Namibian constitutional problem). (A.F.P.)

ANGOLA : "CRIMINAL"

PARIS, October 21 - Angola today accused South Africa of continued military operations and other "criminal acts" in Cunene and Cuando-Cubango Provinces.

In a communique issued by the Angolan Embassy in the French capital, Luanda authorities said that between early July and the end of September South African troops made 175 reconnaissance flights, 22 airborne bombing raids and 23 helicopter personnel raids into Southern Angola.

The communique also accused Pretoria of mounting four kidnappings and mining five roads.

During these "criminal acts", the statement said, Angolan anti-aircraft fire brought down an Impala MK-2, killing the pilot. (A.F.P.)

4 CUBAN AGREEMENTS

HAVANA, October 19 - Seychelles Foreign Minister Jacques Hodoul signed four cooperation agreements with Cuba here this weekend.

The pacts covered public health, agriculture, education and foreign affairs.

Mr. Hodoul also had a Friday night meeting with President Fidel Castro. An official report said they discussed economic cooperation between the two island republics as well as the activities of the Cuban Communist Party and the Seychelles Peoples Progressive Front, of which Mr. Hodoul is a central committee member in charge of political affairs and international relations. (A.F.P.)

Printed by
AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
13, place de la Bourse
75002 PARIS

Under the Management of
Henri Pigeat
President Managing-Director of
A.F.P.

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