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JPRS L/8762

13 November 1979

# Sub-Saharan Africa Report

(FOUO No. 654)

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## SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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CONTENTS	PAGE
INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS	
Rice Development Association's Activities Reported (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 21 Sep 79).....	1
Briefs	
WADB Loans	4
CEAO Capital Funds Proposal	4
Sombounou Still Free	4
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	
New President Not at all Popular (Mohamed Selhami; JEUNE AFRIQUE, 10 Oct 79).....	5
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	
People Ready for Any Sacrifice To Return to Civilization (CAMBIO 16, 14 Oct 79).....	9
MALI	
Briefs	
Qualified UNJM Approval	13
Bid Construction Load	13
MOZAMBIQUE	
Machel on Food Supply Difficulties, Price Levels (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 21 Sep 79).....	14
Briefs	
FAD Road Construction Loan	16

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CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
NIGER	
Briefs	
Uranium to UK	17
SENEGAL	
Briefs	
Diop Appeal to UN	18
ZAIRE	
Economic Report on Zaire for 1977-1978 (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 21 Sep 79)....	19
Executive Council Aids Consumer Goods Importation (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 21 Sep 79)....	25
Briefs	
Cooperation With Yugoslavia	

- b -

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

RICE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2565

[Article: "ADRAO Activities"]

[Text] Mopti Special Project

On 15 September, Sidi Coulibaly, executive secretary of the ADRAO [Association for the Development of Rice Culture in West Africa], Dr Joe Jackson, president of the administrative council and minister of agriculture and forests in Sierra-Leone, and Fagnanama Kone, minister of rural development in Mali, dedicated the facilities for ADRAO's special research project at Mopti in Mali.

Millions of dollars have been invested in this facility which is designed to conduct studies on floating and deep-immersion rice culture. It must be recalled that the ADRAO special research projects aim towards an interdisciplinary approach to rice culture problems by ecological zone. Thus, one of its projects is based at Rokupr in Sierra-Leone to study rice culture in mangrove swamps, another at Richard-Toll/Fanaye in Senegal for the problems of irrigated rice culture, and the last at Bouake in the Ivory Coast for rain rice culture.

The Mopti research project priorities include varietal improvement, battling against insects and weeds, agronomy and popularization.

Seminar on Water Management

The ADRAO has organized a seminar on water management, at Ouagadougou, from 3 September to 5 October 1979. The object of this seminar is to encourage exchange of information and comparison of experiences among the participants as well as to present case studies. The aim of this presentation is understanding of the problems which presently face (or have faced) the participants. It will further allow evaluation of the various solutions which are presented.

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The subjects to be debated during the seminar are as follows: rice in West Africa and perspectives of self-sufficiency, problems relating to water management, water needs and drainage, water supply, use of flood waters, establishing prices, farm labor organizations, training needs, management of the perimeters, swamp development, water resources in west Africa, and construction of small dams in Upper Volta. Field trips to Upper Volta and Niger are also planned.

Seminar on Control of Disease and Insects

The ADRAO organized a seminar on integrated methods for fighting rice diseases and parasitic insects, from 17 to 22 September, at Bobo-Dioulasso. The seminar brought together 30 to 35 researchers representing the 15 member countries of the ADRAO, researchers from international organizations as well as from private companies and organizations, and independent researchers.

As the ADRAO research work aims essentially to increase rice output by varietal improvement, the seminar proposed to gather directives and indicate measures the participants could take to stem epidemics of disease and stop the invasions of insects coming from Southeast Asia, as well as to identify and utilize elements of the integrated methods which already exist in West Africa for controlling disease and insects.

Experience acquired over the past 15 years in Southeast Asia has shown that the consequences of intensification of rice culture resulting from the introduction of highly productive varieties are radical changes in the complexes of insect population and disease. New diseases and insect species have appeared and certain infections which previously caused only minimal losses have become particularly destructive. Consequently, it has been necessary to completely modify the traditional approaches adopted in the field of controlling insects and disease for crops like rice. Research carried out in this sector brought about an entirely new concept, that of integrated control. This seminar was organized to familiarize the area participants with this new concept.

Seminar on Rice Output Strategies

Last, the ADRAO will organize a seminar on strategies for development of rice culture in the member countries of the association, from 15 to 20 October 1979, at Monrovia.

West Africa is increasingly depending on imported rice to satisfy its food needs and this is accompanied by significant expenses in foreign currency. In accordance with the resolution adopted by the administrative council in its seventh session at Cotonou in 1977, the executive secretary organized this seminar to discuss the results of the studies and to formulate recommendations which could be used by the member countries.

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The objectives of the seminar will be:

- a) to review the problems and advantages of the various production and commercial techniques practiced in the ADRAO member countries;
- b) to examine rice policies in the member countries and the options chosen by the various governments to use these policies as well as their success;
- c) to examine the trends of rice supply and demand in the ADRAO member countries and to make some long- and short-term projections. The goal of this study will be to evaluate perspectives of area self-sufficiency by 1980;
- d) to formulate recommendations to the ADRAO executive secretary and to outside sources as well as to member countries to accelerate the process of rice self-sufficiency in the ADRAO region.

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WADB LOANS--Loans totalling 1,946 million CFA (38 million French francs) were granted to 4 African countries by the managing committee of WADB [West African Development Bank] which met at Lome on 4 September. In a statement released 5 September in the Togo capital, WADB indicated that the beneficiaries of these loans are: Ivory Coast-a loan of 875 million CFA to help finance the coconut palm project of the interior. The object of this project is to establish 5000 hectares of village plantations over a period of 5 years; Niger-a loan of 370 million CFA to finance a project for 200 wells with pumps in the Liptako region; Senegal-a loan of 160 million CFA for partial financing of industrial investments in Kaolack (about 200 km south of Dakar); Benin-a loan of 541 million CFA to finance a project for a corn production complex. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2565] 9171

CEAO CAPITAL FUNDS PROPOSAL--In Dakar, ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] experts studied a project for agreement on circulation of capital funds and assets at the heart of this group of six French-speaking countries. The agreement will be submitted at the CEAO summit next October at Nouakchott. According to Moussa Ngom, general secretary of the organization, its objective is "to arrive at the construction of a more homogenous zone of exchanges taking into account the constituent national entities" and thus to arrive at a greater mobility of community wealth. [Excerpt] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2565] 9171

SOUMBOUNOU STILL FREE--Medina Soumbounou has not been handed over to the Malian government. Al-Qadhdhafi had actually promised to hand over to the authorities in Bamako the man who claimed he was preparing with Libya's assistance, to overthrow Moussa Traore's regime. But the Malians are not in a hurry. They will reportedly open a judicial inquest so that an international arrest warrant could subsequently be issued against Medina Soumbounou. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 31 Oct 79 p 38]

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

NEW PRESIDENT NOT AT ALL POPULAR

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 10 Oct 79 pp 30, 32

[Article by Mohamed Selhami]

[Text] Monday, 24 September, 7 a.m. After having flown over the boundless Central African forest, the Air Afrique DC 10, coming from Paris, landed on the Bangui airport's well-worn, one and only landing strip guarded by French soldiers. There are a hundred of them, their finger on the trigger, red beret, combat uniform. On the runway, three Transall. A thousand paratroopers are spread across the capital, controlling the trouble spots: the presidential palace, radio and television, the ministries, the Berengo palace, the harbor, and intersections. Land Rovers and armored vehicles are scouring the streets. Puma helicopters are flying over Oubangui, the river which marks the boundary with Zaire.

Here we are now in the very heart of this African town which has just experienced a great moment in its history. On the way to the hotel, there loomed up before us an enormous ramshackle structure topped by a tricolor flag. It is the French Embassy used, under the circumstances, as the country's political and military headquarters. I went inside with two colleagues. Amid a continual coming and going of people and the crackling of the Telex machines echoing through the halls--a mysterious news agency has been set up there--an official told us: "It is useless to ask to see the ambassador. Mr Robert Picquet is busy." But the ambassador himself did receive us. To assure us that "the situation is well under control" and that we could freely move about.

Bangui, in fact, is calm ... under the protection of French cannons. Some scattered traces of plundering, especially in the stores... "This was not out of revenge, but to steal for food. For the people are hungry." This is how they explain the initial incidents which marked Friday, 21 September, the day after Bokassa's overthrow, an explanation which appearances corroborate. The markets are almost empty. Utter destitution is reflected on the faces of the passers-by in the streets. Hands outstretched, a cloud of children doggedly pursue foreigners. A single coin delights them. The dwellings? For the most part, just hovels. Here the empire made no attempt whatsoever at town planning. A sorry spectacle left by a pitiful emperor after 13 years in power.

5

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In the Central African memory, the ex-emperor is only a painful remembrance. "In our eyes, he no longer exists. We buried him Sunday night, 23 September during the demonstration, when we threw his bust, among other things, into the common ditch in the city graveyard." Day after day, the empire's emblems are disappearing: portraits of the dictator are burned; the ECA [East African Community] acronym is removed from the number plates of cars; the imperial emblems attached to the administration buildings' walls are smashed. Only the bank notes stamped with Bokassa's effigy are spared.

Disarmed, booed and insulted by some, ignored by others, the emperor's soldiers wander around the streets. "A sorry lot. Despite the harm they have done, they are a pitiful sight. They acted under their superiors' orders. They are the ones who should be punished." The undergraduate who made these remarks to us vows a fierce hatred for the ex-emperor's collaborators. "I wish to see them hanging right in the center of Bangui." He is not the only one.

Thousands of his fellowmen demand that justice be done. They are continually repeating this in their demonstrations and in the posters they stick on the walls. Gone is the time of general euphoria which on Friday, 21 September, saw 200,000 people crowd the capital with the cry "Long live France!"

Enthusiasm soon gave way to skepticism. And some feel ill at ease because of the ceaseless paratrooper patrols. Searches are on the increase. The curfew is still in force. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," say French warrant officers. "With the Africans, one never knows. Their calm is misleading. They will not, perhaps, stir up widespread disturbances, but they are capable of murdering in order to steal." About 40 years of age, the fighter type, this warrant officer seems to know "his tough guys" well after having knocked about the world in at least 10 "black African" countries. He feels obliged to explain to us that he is not a racist. "But, what do you expect, they are not civilized. In another 50 years they will have changed. That is why our assistance is always so necessary for them."

Many French soldiers share the warrant officer's opinion. Their language hardly differs from that spoken by their elders in "the good old colonial days." Nevertheless, these men still have some admirers: the French community, some 3,000 strong. "As long as our soldiers are there, we have nothing to fear. But they must stay as long as possible..." said a doctor born in Setif (Algeria). He had painful memories of the Algerian National Liberation Front [FLN] war: "This time we shall not allow our army to suffer any rebuffs." He speaks with a disconcerting self-assurance as if Central Africa were Alsace and Lorraine. But why was it started? No one will take the risk of opposing it. At least as long as the country's leaders continue to believe the French army's presence to be indispensable. "They will stay 10 more years if it is necessary," said President David Dacko straight out.

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No one really disputes this. They accept it while awaiting the euphoria to disappear.

The rejoicing began to tone down from Saturday, 22 September, only 36 hours after the 'coup d'etat.' The Bangui walls were covered with this slogan: "The dog is gone. The young hounds remain." They are calling for "the head" of the ex-emperor's collaborators. Some of his supporters have been arrested. Others, no. But oddly enough, the French presence is barely questioned at all. The people, in fact, fear disturbance caused particularly by the Libyans. As a matter of fact, following the arrest of 37 Qadhdhafi soldiers, Friday, 21 September, all Bangui was haunted by the fixed idea of the Libyan specter. The obsession is knowingly fostered. But every day that goes by increases the tension and some fear an uprising of the people. It very nearly broke out on 26 September.

Three thousand Central Africans took over the airport to protest Paris' opposition to Ange Patasse's return. Bokassa's former prime minister had suddenly become a national hero. "Why are they preventing Patasse's return to Bangui, when they have allowed others to do so? We want Patasse and France has no right to go against our wishes. We are ready to die for him," said the Central Africans.

This sudden admiration for Ange Patasse was not long in weakening. Many reproached him for seeking refuge in Libya. "Why did he do that? He had no need to," was heard said by people who only the day before were singing their hero's praises. But Ange Patasse made the mistake of asking protection from Qadhdhafi, whom here they look upon as an enemy. This rally caused Paris to strengthen its military presence in Central Africa. Paratroopers and foot soldiers, coming from France, are still disembarking in Bangui. They are settling down on the borders, in the brush, in the Bakouma and Boare mining regions, to keep watch over diamond and uranium mines.

The mission of these reinforcements, with their heavy and light arms, is to ensure security and help the country's economic revival. This revival is urgent if they wish to prevent looting of the stores and houses. For the people want money and something to eat. Promises have been made to them and now and then, cargo planes coming from France discharge meat, vegetables, flour at the Bangui airport. As for money, it is France also, which once again, undertakes to assure the officials' salaries. These latter, moreover, have long since lost the taste for work. Some Frenchmen superintend them and in some instances, support them.

No doubt, the administration will not be long in getting back on its feet. But there will still be the political unrest which neither the French army nor President David Dacko has succeeded in completely coping with. The new president is not very popular. He is accused of being a man devoid of vigor and utterly inconsistent. He has, however, made one move which has been greatly appreciated: the freeing of political prisoners and of common law. But his promise to democratize the country has been received

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with considerable skepticism. "Why has he not instituted free elections to nominate the head of state? This would be the best proof of democracy," says a good number of Central Africans. And they add, sarcastically, "France has freed us from the tyrant but has imposed her own man on us."

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EQUATORIAL GUINEA

PEOPLE READY FOR ANY SACRIFICE TO RETURN TO CIVILIZATION

Madrid CAMBIO 16 in Spanish 14 Oct 79 pp 61-62

[Article: "This Is How Masie Died"]

[Text] Two machine-gun bursts put an end to the dictator of Equatorial Guinea who had been sentenced to death along with five accomplices by a court. Thus ended a historical nightmare and now a ravaged country faces a restoration of civilization.

Antonio was attentively listening to Capt Eulogio Oyo Riqueza. In the dark kitchen of the Hotel Bahia -- the chief political meeting place in Malabo and center of all activity engaged in by reporters, diplomats and government officials -- Antonio received the presiding judge of the court that tried and sentenced Francisco Masie and his henchmen, the most important responsibility of his life. Seven breakfasts, 7 liters of wine and a single bottle of whisky. These constituted the last meals of those who were sentenced to death. With the collaboration of Peru Egurbide, Juan Carlos Alganaraz, sent to Malabo by CAMBIO 16, wrote up this report.

The special envoys who followed the trial proceedings are used to the miracles performed by Antonio, a friendly and intelligent 20-year-old, capable of digging up some sort of hot meal when everything is closed. The night before the trial began, our CAMBIO 16 reporter had to resign himself to being hungry, sharing a bottle of Chinese beer with Captain Oyo Riqueza at the Hotel Bahia because not even Antonio could solve the meal problem. Neither of the two, the soldier and the worker, could dream of the dramatic circumstances of their next meeting.

Antonio tried his best but there was little he could do, string beans, a bit of canned meat, boiled plantains and some pineapple. With Celestino, his assistant, they left for the jail in Malabo at 1530 hours. These two young Guineans, whom fate had chosen to serve as privileged witnesses to the final scene of Francisco Masie Nguema's dictatorship, moved along with their hearts in their mouths.

When Antonio entered Masie's cell with the blindfold, the dictator was striding about, much changed, but striving to maintain his authoritarian,

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swaggering air. He stopped for an instant, looked at the meal: "Thanks, son. There's no time for that and you know I don't like liquor." Antonio remained motionless. Then Masie picked up a towel, waved to the young man and left to wash up, accompanied by a guard.

The Last Moments

Other witnesses related the following incidents, which constitute an account of the last hours of "Guinea's sole living miracle," Francisco Masie, a member of Africa's bloodiest trio of dictators, which also included Idi Amin of Uganda and Emperor Bokassa I of the Central African Empire and which has fortunately disappeared during these past 6 months.

Masie returned to his cell and could hear the speech his chief bodyguard, Eduardo Edu, was making to the soldiers and the two valets, urging them to patriotically cooperate with the new regime. This was one of the few strident moments before the final walk to the place of execution. Silence enveloped the rest of the condemned men until ex-Governor of Malabo Miguel Eyeque Ntutum began to sob and cry for his life. "I was only obeying orders!" he shouted as he was dragged away by the guards. Ex-director general of security Pastor Nsue, the director of Bata Prison, Fortunato Nsono, Eduardo Edu and Masie's nephew, Bienvenido Nsue Micha, charged with blindly carrying out his cruelest orders, had the same excuses. At 1745 hours Malabo time, these six men started down their road to death. They lined up in the prison courtyard, facing a platoon of 20 soldiers expressly chosen from among the different ethnic groups and clans so that the execution would be truly "national" in character.

In addition to the second lieutenant who was commanding the firing squad, the presiding judge of the court, Capt. Eulogio Oyo Riqueza, the rest of them members of the court, the doctor, Dr Maho, and a priest were present. Until the last moment, the tyrant expected the chief of state, Lt Col Teodoro Obian Nguema, to commute his sentence to life imprisonment. But there was no pardon. Only 6 hours intervened between the passing of the sentence on him in the Marfil Movie Theater and its execution.

Several witnesses swore that Masie shouted: "Pity, pity!" shortly before the order to fire was given. Then he delivered a confused harangue in the Fang language to the squad. Along with the five other condemned men, the supreme wizard, who had maintained that "no Guinean can harm me," received a burst of fire from the Soviet Kalashnikov machine guns, staggered and fell slowly enough for the gunners to cut him down with a second burst of fire. The officer immediately terminated the proceedings with a coup de grace to the napes of the six condemned men's necks.

Masie's pathetic solitude when he was nothing but a corpse. No one claimed his body. In a shabby wagon the remains of the man who had accumulated an extraordinary fortune, laid waste his country, enjoyed all-embracing power and never granted the pity he had begged for at the last minute were transported 12 km to a spot in the forest. There, he was buried in a common

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grave in the cemetery of Santa Cruz which is inexorably devoured by the surrounding vegetation.

The End of a Nightmare

The nightmare is over. It lasted 11 years. CAMBIO 16's special envoys have collected countless statements that can be summed up in one word: hell. Every sector of Guinean life was destroyed. Roads, hospitals, the educational system, energy, water and food distribution, everything that constitutes the essence of civilized life ended up in a state of paralysis and then embarked on a process of decomposition. All that was left were the remains of a phantom country, survivors in ghost towns. Only the tropical fruits prevented total genocide. Spied on, terrorized, dying of hunger and scourged by six epidemics and a countless number of illnesses, Guineans sought refuge in the forest which provided them with protection against the arbitrary rule of the dictator, Masie, and the little food there was: arum, cassava, plantains, some sugar cane and papaya. Bread and milk, "colonial" foods, were delicacies that existed only in people's memories.

With the disappearance of Masie, reconstruction begins. "Everything has to be done from scratch," explained Spanish Ambassador Juan Bautista de Andrada, who had spent an exhausting day organizing aid from Spain which has been arriving with neither the speed nor in the amounts the tragic situation requires. "It is almost impossible to imagine the magnitude of this task. But there can be no delays because the lives of the people are at stake."

The new government has to contend with a sea of ethnic groups, clans, families whose affinal relationships seem to be interminable, tribes and systems of loyalty based on common magic rites.

Masie's arbitrary rule reached such an extreme that no official, no matter how important his position, could avoid the wrath of the dictator who, from time to time, sent them to the forced labor camps to "splash about" and to cut grass.

By then, money meant nothing. The country had returned to a barter economy. No wages were paid. And everyone, or all the survivors, as the Guineans like to allude to themselves, had to choose between the precarious refuge of the forest and the forced labor camps and periodic massacres of the "Youth Marching with Masie," a paramilitary organization which, following the dictator's orders, had decided to kill by beating people to death in order to save bullets.

Organize the Army

Faced with this vale of desolation, the government's task has been to first of all deal with those chiefly responsible for the genocide, not the easy way by means of shots in the dark, but by public trial. So now the young soldiers are trying to organize the only structure capable of elevating itself above the racial, ethnic and political dispersion Francisco Masie provoked: the army.



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Building a disciplined military organization also means beginning to organize the state. Then come the most immediate priorities: food and health, restoring electricity in the chief cities, providing pure drinking water wherever possible. Thanks to the historical catastrophe, the government's program is limited by the purely physical aspects of the situation.

Foreign aid is an issue that arouses the spirits of all Guineans. Spain, the former colonial power, has been called on to perform a fundamental role in the economic as well as cultural reconstruction. But the Guinean Government is determined — and its members have proclaimed the fact — not to enter into exclusive relations with anyone. "We will accept any kind of aid," Lieutenant Colonel Obiang Nguema has declared. And in connection with this, the Guineans know that the aid the great powers offer inexorably has to be paid back in some way.

France seems disposed to display the biggest initiative in opting for oil exploration and exploitation of the other natural wealth that has turned Equatorial Guinea into one of the richest countries in Africa: cacao, wood, palm oil, fruits, etc. Suffering greatly from a decline in prestige due to its support of Masie, the Soviet Union is primarily interested in the exploitation of fishing grounds with a base at Luba, whose strategic importance as a center of communications is growing. Although it is now known that the Soviets were wise enough to get out in time and collaborated with the military who overthrew Masie. During the first few days of the revolution, the presidential airplane, Soviet-made and piloted by Soviets, served to transport reinforcements of soldiers and military supplies between the island and the continent. The USSR also has its aid program for the new government, just as does China, which offers new loans in exchange for a mantle of forgetfulness that enables it to hush up the support the Peking Government extended Masie until the last moment.

When the echo of the shots that ended the most negative period in their history died away, the Guineans started the long march toward the reconstruction of their country, toward which end they lack neither potential natural wealth nor the excellent human material of a people prepared to make any sacrifice to restore civilization.

Antonio, who brought Masie his last meal, earns 600 pesetas a month, has an interminable workday and supports a family of eight. "The Spaniards," he confided to CAMBIO 16, "knew how to bequeath to us a sense of humor. We will need it to be able to forget and face the future. The rest is work, work, work."

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MALI

BRIEFS

QUALIFIED UNJM APPROVAL--The first national meeting of the Mali Youth Union (UNJM) held 6-7 September at Bamako, praised the establishment of all the institutions detailed in the constitution but emphasized youth's continuing concern to see democracy develop in all aspects of national life in the country. In a summary document published on 9 September, UNJM, affirming its membership in the Union Democratic People's Party of Mali (UDPM), exhorted UDPM to organize the fight "against corruption, despotism, wastefulness, tax gouging and the abuses of certain leaders by public and written denunciations at all levels." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2568] 8860

BID CONSTRUCTION LOAD--A loan agreement between the Republic of Mali and the Islamic Development Bank (BID) for construction of the Sevaro-Gao Highway (a segment of the Trans-Sahara road) was signed 14 September at Bamako by Mady Diallo, Malian minister of finance and commerce, and Ahmed Mohamed Ali, president of BID. Ahmed Mohamed Ali stated that the parties "had agreed in June 1978 at Djeddah to participate in the financing of the priority section Sevaro-Gao of the Malian branch of the Trans-Sahara highway, for a cost of about \$60 million. On 27 July 1979," he continued, "a loan agreement of \$7 million had been signed in Vienna between the Republic of Mali and Special OPEP funds, which then turned over to BID the administration of its part in the project." For the Malian minister, the signature of this loan agreement constitutes "a concrete step in the general plan leading to realization of the complete Trans-Saharan." The Malian president, General Moussa Traore, last 2 July turned the first shovel of the Malian branch. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2568] 8860

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MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL ON FOOD SUPPLY DIFFICULTIES, PRICE LEVELS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2590

[Text] President Samora Machel has recently attended to the problem of lack of food supplies and the long lines at the stores.

These queues have been brought about, he emphasized, by different factors, among which the principal are: an increase in the population's buying power, significant changes in the public's eating habits, difficulties in transporting food stuffs, a contraction of the commercial network, and decreases in production.

Substantial salary increases, free health care and educational services, as well as a decrease in rents, have profoundly modified consumer patterns. For example, during the colonial era, annual consumption of fish had never exceeded 10,000 tons. Today it is more than 30,000 tons. In 1974, 80,000 tons of potatoes were consumed, in 1978, 110,000 tons. In 1973, Mozambicans consumed 12,000 tons of cooking oils; in 1978 more than 20,000 tons. The consumption of wheat (largely imported) increased this year to more than 135,000 tons. During the past, wheat-based products were reserved almost exclusively for the European colonials.

The great price stability of essential foods allowed the majority of the population to keep supplied. Since 1975, for example, the price of sugar and rice has been maintained at 8.50 escudos (1.10F) and 13.50 escudos (1.70F) respectively. Soap, corn meal, bread, fish, meat, chicken, milk, have maintained their prices since 1975. Only prime quality meat rose from 66 escudos (8F) per kilo to 78 escudos (10F) in 1977.

At the same time that this surge in consumption occurred, supply difficulties also emerged. Before independence, small business activity had been forbidden to Mozambicans. Thus the large-scale departure of the colonials who controlled domestic commerce caused a serious rupture in the networks of distribution and commercialization. By increasing the number of consumer cooperatives the authorities resolved little by little the problem of commercialization. They also improved the transportation network, which had practically disappeared with the departure of the colonials.

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This exodus had another consequence, the abandonment of many farms which had supplied urban centers. Only now is production beginning to start up again.

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MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

FAD ROAD CONSTRUCTION LOAN--The African Development Fund has granted a loan of 2.48 billion CFA francs to Mozambique for financing the 103-km Alto Molocue-Rio Liginha highway. The agreement was signed 13 September at Abidjan by Mr Gondwen, president of the African Development Bank, and Francisco Manuel da Conceicao Pereira, national director of Routes de Mozambique. The loan will finance 70 percent of the total project cost, the foreign exchange requirement, the Mozambique Government will take the 30 percent in local money. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2591] 8860

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NIGER

BRIEFS

URANIUM TO UK--For the time being, the first firm producing electricity, the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB), depends on Namibia for one-third of its procurement of supplies. In order to avoid all political pressure and because of the delay in Namibian deliveries, the British company would like to obtain its supplies mainly from Niger and Australia. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 10 Oct 79 p 64] 8870

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SENEGAL

BRIEFS

DIOP APPEAL TO UN--As he never succeeded in obtaining the right to legal existence, the founder of the Democratic National Rally (RND) has decided to appeal to the United Nations relative to the international provisions on freedom of association. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 10 Oct 79 p 64] 8870

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ZAIRE

ECONOMIC REPORT ON ZAIRE FOR 1977-1978

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 pp 2555-2556

Text The Bank of Zaire recently published (end of June) its annual report covering the 1977-1978 period. The following excerpts give some indications of the economic situation.

Growth of the Gross Domestic Product

The declining general economic activity clearly slowed its pace in 1977 when the decrease in marketable gross domestic product was only 0.9 percent as compared to a decrease of 6.7 percent noted for 1976. The construction/public works and export agriculture sectors registered decreases (-16.6 percent and -9.3 percent respectively), mining and metallurgy as well as the services sectors registered increases (+6.5 percent and +7.8 percent respectively, the growth in services stemming largely from an increase in public employment and salaries). Duties and import taxes again showed a decrease: -9.7 percent (as compared to 37.4 percent in 1976).

The preliminary projections for 1978 seem to indicate more favorable developments in the nation's economic activity.

In 1977 the national product increased 30.2 percent in nominal value, compared to close to 50 percent in 1976, reflecting foreign aid transfers. Heavier pressures from indirect taxation, especially in export taxes, brought the growth in national revenue (at current prices) to 32.5 percent.

Production

Since 1970, Zairian agriculture has been confronted by enormous structural difficulties; the recession had been on the order of 9 percent in 1977 and a new decrease was recorded in 1978. Production of palm oil amounted to 104,856 tons in 1977 (-23,742 tons from 1976) and, in spite of doubling the price to 500 zaires the ton from 259, the price fixed for producers for the current season, 1978 will be marked by a certain stagnation in tonnage-- thus it is necessary to activate the national plan for palm which provides for the implantation of 100,000 hectares of industrial palm plantations.

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The 1976 increase in coffee exports did not follow through in 1977; exports were 64,113 tons (-44,480 tons), the decline in shipments is imputed to growth in smuggling, a situation which persisted throughout 1978.

Despite periodic revisions of the price paid to producers, production of cotton continued to decline; after ginning, the cotton fiber remaining was not more than 10,000 tons, in 1977 as well as in 1978. This volume being insufficient to supply the national textile industry, Zaire has become an importer of cotton fiber since 1976.

The year 1977 was better than the preceding year for the mining industries, whose production index increased 6.1 percent (113.2 as compared to 106.7 in 1976). For the first 9 months of 1978, a decline was again recorded with a decrease of 5.7 percent; the production of copper the first three trimesters of 1978 amounted to 315,578 tons (+10.1 percent), of which 291,810 tons went to Cecamines (-41,105 tons), which still suffers difficulties in getting supplies of materials and equipment and from the effects of the reorganization of its center at Kolwezi.

In 1977 production of manganese ore decreased to close to 70 percent of 1976.

Production of gem diamonds at Kasai increased 37 percent in 1977 (as compared to a decrease of 21 percent in 1976); the first 8 months of 1978 saw a production of 375,000 carats. The production of industrial diamonds decreased in 1977 with 10.8 million carats (0.7 million) and for the first 8 months of 1979 amounted to 8.1 million carats.

The exploitation of recently discovered oilfields decreased 9 percent in 1977 in relation to 1976 and 18.9 percent during the first three trimesters of 1978.

In spite of the difficulties of supplying raw materials, semi-finished goods, and replacement parts, manufacturing recorded a decrease of only 1 percent in 1977 (-6 percent in 1976).

The year 1978 will mark a slight comeback in production, a comeback supported by the industries of supply and equipment. The production of sugar increased 26.2 percent in 1977. Breweries recorded a decrease in production of 6.3 percent, a decrease partially cancelled by a comeback of 3.4 percent noted at the end of 1978. Printed yard goods recorded a recession of 11.5 percent in 1977, a recession reaching 36.3 percent for 1978 after two major companies closed provisionally due to lack of raw materials. The ready-made clothing industry saw a decrease in activity of 13.1 percent and 1978 recorded a new diminution of 4.9 percent. The shoe industry recorded an increase of 12.2 percent in 1977 and a 4.6 percent increase in 1978. The plastics industries have found a satisfying rhythm: +10.5 percent in 1977 and +14.3 percent in 1978.

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The construction/public works sector continues to suffer the consequences of stagnation in building and the halting of major works for establishing an infrastructure; the index of cement use dropped from 108 to 90 in 1977 (-16.7 percent).

Gross production of electricity increased 1 percent as compared with +8 percent in 1976, and consumption of petroleum products dropped 21.7 percent in 1977 as compared with a decrease of 3 percent in 1976. This recession reflected the difficulties of supply in imported products and the refinery products from Societe Zairoise De Raffinage dropped to 58 percent during 1977.

With the exception of the airline Air Zaire, all transport activities decreased in 1977. A decrease in Onatra River traffic amounts to 9.4 percent (-11.7 percent in 1976) because of a diminution in agricultural production tonnage and competition from independently owned ships. The southern network of the Societe National des Chemins de Fer Zairois recorded a new decrease of 4.7 percent (-8.5 percent in 1976), and the northern network was even more affected (-30.5 percent), because of an inadequate supply of diesel fuel and a decrease in coffee exports. The administrations of the principal ports reported decreases in tonnage of 22.3 percent in 1977.

Investments

The investment level reflects the difficult economic situation of Zaire; public investments amounted to 275.5 million zaires in 1977 as compared to 253 millions in 1976, representing close to 22 percent of public expenditures (25.9 percent in 1976), the part devoted to projects for the economic infrastructure was set at 45 percent, the majority going to the energy sector (completion of the Inga program and the high tension transmittal lines Inga-Shaba).

As for the private sector, its initiatives remain limited, with, however, a net comeback during 1978. The Commission on Investments approved five projects in 1977 amounting to 4.3 million zaires (10 projects at 10.7 million zaires in 1976). In 1978, five projects were approved, but amounting to 12.7 million zaires (of which 10.8 million applied to the industrial sector and 1.9 million to forestry).

Participations by the Societe Financiere de Developpement (Sofide) amounted to 22 million zaires (as compared to 10.6 million in 1976) representing 47.5 percent of the investments planned by promoters (31 percent in 1976), the financing concerning principally manufacturing, animal husbandry, and forestry operations localized at Kinshasa and in Bas Zaire, Kivu and Shaba.

Salaries and Prices

After the monetary devaluation in March 1976 and the general 20 percent salary increase which followed, salaries remained blocked until September 1977, when a maximum 20 percent increase was authorized in the private sector. The public sector, an increase of 25 percent occurred in March 1978, limited to certain state categories.

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Consumer price increases were strongly amplified: +63 percent in 1977 and +54.4 percent in 1978 (+60.8 percent in 1976).

At the end of 1977 the public payroll amounted to 363,000 units (+16.9 percent over the end of 1976). In the private sector, 799,000 workers were affiliated to the social security plan.

Public Finances

After a relative improvement stemmed from both an increase in receipts and a contraction in expenditures, a decrease resulting from not servicing the foreign debt and a reduction in the investment program.

In the absence of any stabilization plan including restraints on Treasury monetary financing, expenditures accelerated in 1978, a consequence of extending the state bureaucracy and its cost during a time when receipts were showing some lack of push.

Zairian Treasury operations during the last four fiscal periods is summarized as follows: (in millions of zaires):

	1974	1975	1976	1977
Current receipts. . . . .	588.1	490.5	576.8	835.5
Current expenses. . . . .	523.5	560.5	741.8	982
Capital expenditure . . . . .	338.1	155	253	253
Foreign loans . . . . .				
(net balance) . . . . .	+ 56.2	- 1.2	- 6.3	+ 0.9
Deficits: . . . . .	-324.3	-216.1	-619.8	-446.3

Cecamines' contribution to state receipts was 154.3 million zaires in 1977 (23.1 percent over 1976) and 23 percent of total budgeted resources. For 1978, because of the weakness in the market value of copper, Cecamines was obliged to ask for relief on its contracted obligations to the Treasury and because of this its fiscal contributions was reduced to 91.5 million zaires, 12.5 percent of 1978 budget resources.

Interest payments on the public debt required 107 million zaires during 1977 (+27.8 percent) while the amount foreseen was 249 million. The arrears were therefore increased, and more so as a mortization of capital was limited in 1977 to only 11 million zaires. Charges on the arrears represented 55 percent of export receipts.

In 1977 the financing of treasury deficit operations was assured to the level of 273.5 million zaires through loans from the domestic banking system and 158 million through foreign credits.

Foreign Debt

The foreign debt, state and private sector commitments benefiting from a guarantee from the Zairian treasury, reached 2.9 billion zaires by the end of December 1977, of which 2.2 billion discounts used (+0.8 billion at the end of 1976).

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A slight contraction of the overall sum was recorded during the first 10 months of 1978 (2.8 billion zaires on 30 June 1978) a special effort having been made for amortization of capital.

By 31 December 1978, financial and commercial arrears were valued at approximately 950 million DTS (Special Drawing Rights).

Managing the Zairian debt, including prolonging the period of reimbursement and the granting of new international loans, was the subject of several negotiations.

Concerning the position in foreign assets, the Bank of Zaire is debtor for 433 million zaires as of 30 September 1978.

The Balance of Trade

Foreign trade increased in 1977 and the positive balance of the balance of trade improved by +19 percent at current prices, +11 percent at index prices.

Trade activity since 1974 is as follows (in millions of zaires):

	1974	1975	1976	1977
Imports (FOB) . . . . .	477	473.1	621.3	691
Exports (CAF) . . . . .	795.8	540.8	1172.9	1350.2
Excess. . . . .	+318.8	+ 67.7	-551.6	+659.2

Belgium continues to be Zaire's foremost trading partner (supplier and customer), the United States is second, then France, followed by Italy, West Germany, the United Kingdom and Japan.

The Balance of Payments

After a slight surplus of 71.5 million zaires in 1976, the general balance of payments at the end of 1977 showed a significant deficit of 227.7 million zaires, a deficit attributable to a decline in the balance of service and the negative balance after the operations of financial settlements.

The composing factors of the general balance of payments break out as follows for the last 3 years (in millions of zaires):

	1975	1976	1977
Transactions on Goods and Services. . .	-385.6	-510.3	-1115.5
Net commercial transfer. . . . .	+ 23.3	+ 27.5	+ 81
Movements of private capital. . . . .	+124.6	+118.7	+ 634.3
Movements of public captial . . . . .	+153.9	+381.1	+ 347.5
Errors and omissions. . . . .	- 29.2	+ 54.5	- 175
Balance . . . . .	-113	+ 71.5	- 227.7

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To restore the public financial position, Zaire is giving entirely justified attention to limiting expenditures, in particular the remuneration of personnel in the public sector which took 45.3 percent of the total budget in 1977 and more than 55 percent in 1978.

During 1976 and 1977, two stabilization programs were started but were then interrupted for reasons stemming from both domestic and foreign causes.

Efficacious recovery operations imply not only a rigorous national discipline but also the concession of a considerable volume of financial grants from foreign sources. This collaboration is indispensable for Zaire to regain its rank in the international community, and even more so as its population increase, even without including migration, is estimated at 3.16 percent in 1980.

The seriousness of Zaire's financial situation provoked, on 27 August, a new monetary devaluation of 25 percent, a measure which is part of the general recovery program for the economy. During that same month the nation benefited from an exceptional grant-in-aid of more than \$100 million from the International Monetary Fund.

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ZAIRE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AIDS CONSUMER GOODS IMPORTATION

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2584

/Text/ The Executive Council of Zaire has decided to make available \$100 million to economic operators in the country so that indispensable consumer goods can be imported and production started up again.

During its 10 August meeting the council made up the list of those firms to benefit from this allocation.

The criteria for dispensing the funds are as follows: priority under the Mobutu Plan (production in manufacturing, health, transportation, energy); the effects on other sectors; capacity of already installed facilities and the level of investment; employment capacity; added value; capacity of saving or generating foreign exchange; efficacy in commercializing food products and essential merchandise; enlarging the fiscal base; participation in the national development effort. Other elements also took part in the selection: experience in the international domain and level of organization; speed of supply; financial capacity.

For greater efficacy the Executive Council selected one or two enterprises only for a sector in a given region. The firms benefiting must in their turn redistribute the imported products to other firms in the same sector and region respectively.

Distribution of the \$100 million is as follows, by sector (in millions of dollars):

--Manufacturing, 31.1, of which; foods, 6.45; beverages, 3.6; tobacco, 0.95; textiles and ready made clothing, 4; leather, 1.3; chemical products, 3.5; construction materials and glass, 2.6; metal products and transportation goods, 2.7; wood, 0.5; paper and plastic, 5.2

--Agricultural production: 5.94.

--Health: 9.

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--Transportation (vehicles and replacement parts): 8.4.

--Energy: 20.25, of which, fuels: 16.6.

--Food products and essential goods: 15.3.

--National defense: 10.

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH YUGOSLAVIA--A joint Zaire-Yugoslavia firm, capitalized at 1.2 million zaires (2.49 million francs) has been created to cultivate corn in lower Zaire. This agro-industrial enterprise, whose capital is held by the Yugoslavian company Astra (40 percent) and the Zairian company Saciex (60 percent) will be initially exploiting 8,000 hectares of cultivatable land and will manufacture from the corn, cornmeal, alcohol and vegetable oils. /Test/ /Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Sep 79 p 2584/ 8860

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