

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000300060005-7

3 DECEMBER 1980

PL. I...J. 699

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JPRS L/9424

3 December 1980

Sub-Saharan Africa Report

FOUO No. 699

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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

MEETING OF CEAO FINANCIAL BACKERS HELD

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2610

[Article: "CEAO. Financial Backers' Meeting in Ouagadougou. Financing for 2,634 Wells and Drillings, and 6 Communal Institutions"]

[Text] A meeting of financial backers of the West African Economic Community (CEAO) was held in Ouagadougou on 14-15 October, in the presence of delegates from France, the FRG and Sweden, and representatives of over 15 national and international financing institutions, among which the EEC, USAID, the BADEA [Arab Bank for African Economic Development], the Kuwaiti Fund, OPEC, the IRBD [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development], the ADB [African Development Bank], the BOAD [West African Development Bank], the FAO [expansion unknown] and UNICEF.

The final communique published at the end of the meeting underlines that the participants have adopted all of the "villages and livestock water-supply" program, with a schedule providing for 2,634 wells and drillings to be realized starting in December 1981, at a total cost of 11.359 billion CFA francs. The breakdown of this program by countries is as follows:

- Ivory Coast: 300 drillings financed by the World Bank;
- Upper Volta: 720 operations (400 wells and 320 drillings) financed by France (200 drillings), the BOAD and, if necessary, the Kuwaiti Fund;
- Mali: 500 operations (250 wells and 250 drillings) financed by the BAD (drillings) and the Kuwaiti Fund;
- Mauritania: 364 operations (120 drillings and 244 wells) financed by the Kuwaiti Fund;
- Niger: 500 operations (100 drillings and 400 wells) financed by the BADEA and the BOAD;
- Senegal: 250 operations (125 drillings and 125 wells) financed by the Kuwaiti Fund.

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Through the national cells, the UNDP [United Nations Development Program], will finance grants, technical assistance and equipment purchases; it will also contribute one million dollars to set up a regional cell. The United Nations Equipment Fund will supply equipment to the states.

As for communal institutions:

- The financing of studies concerning the School of Mines and Geology (EMIG in Niamey) has been entrusted to France; it will involve 500 million CFA francs. Construction (6 billion CFA francs) will be entrusted to ADB, France, the European Development Fund and the FRG.
- The Textile Industry Staff College at Segou in Mali, the total cost of which is estimated to be 5 billion CFA francs, will be financed by France for all of the studies and part of the realization. The remainder will be financed by the ADB, the European Development Fund and the World Bank.
- The Regional Solar Energy Research and Production Center (CRES in Bamako, 8.4 billion CFA francs) will be financed by France, the UNDP, the FRG, the ADB and USAID.
- The Higher Institute for Halieutic Science and Technology (ISSTH in Nouadhibou): 1.5 billion CFA francs; studies will be financed by the CEAO, realization by the Iranian Fund.
- Higher African Business Management Center (CESAG in Dakar, 2.8 billion CFA) financed by the World Bank, the OPEC Fund, the UNDP, USAID, the FAC [Aid and Cooperation Fund] and the CEAO.
- The Nouakchott Cooperative for Purchasing, Ship Commissioning and Fishery Product Marketing: a negotiation schedule extending from November 1980 to January 1981, to provide financing for this 7.3 billion CFA franc project, has been approved by the participants.

A second meeting of CEAO financial backers has been scheduled for October 1981 to provide financing for the total cost of the second stage of these projects.

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

COMMENTARY ON SUCCESS OF CEAO

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 29 Oct 80 p 51

[Article: "Success for CEAO"]

[Text] Let me say it right away: it is exceptional for a journalist to be able to watch, from the inside, all phases of a negotiation. This opportunity was given to me by the general secretariat of the West African Economic Community (CEAO) during the "financial backers' meeting" which was held in Ouagadougou (Upper-Volta) on 14-15 October 1980. I was in the room where the discussions were taking place and, during these 2 days, I have seen practically everything.

Let us recall that CEAO is an embryo of a common market between six African states: Ivory Coast, Upper-Volta, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal. In Ouagadougou, discussions were about the development of projects concerning all of these states: four colleges (fishery, management, textiles, mines), a regional solar energy center, a village and livestock water-supply program and, finally a purchasing, ship commissioning and fishery product marketing company.

Specific to the Sahel

In addition to the French and FRG delegations, no less than 16 international organizations, from the World Bank to the UNESCO, and including OPEC, the Kuwaiti Fund, the FAO, etc., were represented at Ouagadougou. Ensuring that all these people would work together required an acute sense of organization, a lot of tact, and also a quality which may be specific to the Sahel, namely gentleness. The General Secretariat of the CEAO possesses all of these qualities, which is why the Ouagadougou meeting was such a success.

Certainly, skeptics will point to the cost of such meetings. In fact, the physical attendance in the Upper-Volta capital of many of these high officials may not have been quite indispensable... However, one cannot make CEAO responsible for the truly cancerous proliferation of international bureaucracy.

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Alliances

Also, one will notice that, before all these projects are realized, they will have to go through many a difficult stage, and especially that some of them are not of glaringly obvious economic interest to the region. I am thinking of the textile school and the fishery cooperative, taking into account both what is in existence today and long-term prospects.

CEAO itself is not without fault. In front of the very elegant building where it has its offices, water fountains are gushing forth continuously, a tantalizing torment for the population of a country where water shortage is dramatic. As for the anticipated construction of a 1,000 seat auditorium, it is not reasonable on the part of CEAO and it hurts its image.

This being said, the seven projects mentioned above have now been launched for good, which is a record is one considers the usual delays in this kind of operations. In addition, one has deplored long enough the "balkanization" of Africa and its negative impact on African economy, not to welcome the communal effort undertaken in mid-October in the Upper-Volta capital.

There is still more to be said. With my own eyes, I have seen these men who had come from opposite horizons, who were representing diverging interests, discuss around the same table without ever--or hardly ever--raising their voices. I have seen strange tactical alliances form and come undone, and I have seen personal considerations of prestige, even of career, come to the surface.

The Common Good

Past resentments, passions, even hatred, were at the meeting. The solar project, in particular, was fiercely negotiated, which proves that it represents an important stake, not only for the Sahel countries, but for all other parties, especially France, the FRG and OPEC. And so, discussions will have to resume on 2-3 December next in Brussels.

In spite of all, what finally triumphed, without the participants even being aware of it, and sometimes in spite of them, that was a certain care for the common good. Good news is not that common in Africa, so let us bring this one to the attention of as many people as possible.

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

RESULTS OF SURVEY ON EXPECTATIONS FOR FUTURE PUBLISHED

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 22 Oct 80 p 83

[Article by Michel Crouzet: "Nationalism First"]

[Text] Fewer readers answered this time. But the results are interesting.

Africans, how do you see your future? That is the question we asked (JEUNE AFRIQUE No 1023/1024). It drew a lot of interest from those readers who decided to answer. The letters that were often attached to the questionnaires assure us of that.

Unfortunately, there were not as many readers as we would have liked: about 4 times less than in our previous surveys.

However, we cannot assume that Africans are indifferent to their future. And indifference is not the cause of this relative silence but a very simple fact: from Cameroon, the Ivory Coast, Morocco and Tunisia, that is the four countries which we questioned in a special fashion, we received answers. From the others, almost none.

Have their citizens considered the joint portion of the survey too subtle with reference to the others? And did they believe it was insignificant since four of the 50 African nations were especially called upon to speak out? But that would be a sign of nationalism and the letters received at BP250 seemed nevertheless to want to be beyond that.

However that may be, we cannot try to analyze the results rigorously. Prudently, we must limit ourselves to indicate some of the tendencies which seem to stand out.

--People are convinced that living standards are better than 20 years ago: that is true of three out of every four readers in the Ivory Coast, Morocco and Tunisia, but of only one out of two in Cameroon.

--People hesitate to recommend radical changes in society; reforms are preferred: two readers out of three think this way in Cameroon, the Ivory Coast and Morocco, but one out of every two in Tunisia.

--People are pessimistic of children's chances for success: one out of every two Cameroonians, Ivorians and Tunisians believe that they have less chance to succeed than their parents. The proportion is one out of three in Morocco.

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In Cameroon and the Ivory Coast, people would like a more neutral foreign policy; in Morocco and Tunisia, they would like a more pro-Arab stance.

The majority prefers a lay option in Cameroon, the Ivory Coast and Tunisia, a religious option in Morocco; but the majority is quite limited.

--There is a feeling that things are going better in Tunisia (three readers out of four), less well in the Ivory Coast (two readers of every three).

--Among the foreign powers, people accuse mainly France in Cameroon; the Soviet Union, in the Ivory Coast.

--In Tunisia and Cameroon education is considered the positive factor in the evolution of society; in Morocco, political pluralism; in the Ivory Coast, economic liberalism.

--In Cameroon, the Ivory Coast and Tunisia, the one-party system is placed first among the negative factors in the evolution of the country; in Morocco, it is the Saharan conflict that is criticized the most. Readers generally chose socialism, even if they are somewhat skeptical of attaining their ideals.

Finally, here are some of the very clear-cut positions that we gathered (90 percent of answers):

--Cameroon is interested in remaining a member of the UDEAC (Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa), which should be expanded to other countries in central Africa;

--The Ivory Coast must remain a part of ECOWAS and of the Entente Council.

--For the Moroccans, the intransigence of Algeria and Libya explains the lengthening of the Saharan conflict, a territory where nothing must be given up, in their opinion.

--If there must be union by stages with Libya, as two thirds of Tunisians believe, this union must be expanded to other countries of the Maghreb.

Once more, the observations above must be handled with care. Let us point out anyway that in Cameroon and Tunisia, people tried shyly but clearly to weigh the results to benefit such or such a politician. From the precariousness of this analysis, at least one conclusion seems clear: We must not give the impression that we are favoring one country at the expense of the others in a survey. We will therefore follow this line of conduct from now on.

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LIPTAKO-GOURMA PROJECTS REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2617

[Article: "Liptako-Gourma: The Organization Is Going To Undertake the Realization of Development Projects"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] The Integrated Development Authority for the Liptako-Gourma region has started on the second stage of its work, that of the realization of development projects, after completing the first theoretical stage of identification of objectives and preparation of documents, the Authority's general manager, Mr Bakary Toure, stated on 2 October.

As the AFP recalls, the Authority was created in December 1970 by the heads of state of Upper-Volta, Mali and Niger, to solve in common their problems related to the development of agricultural, mining and energy resources in the Liptako-Gourma region which extends in the three countries over a 370,000 square kilometers' area. Once the irrigation project has been realized, this region--which now has a population of some 4.5 million people increasing rapidly--could supply meat and grains to West Africa and make it independent from importations from outside the continent.

With respect to the emergency program started in April 1979, concerning the /agricultural, forestry and livestock farming sector/ and drought control, the Authority has already started programs providing for the creation of mobile fumigation units for the preservation of food products, increased use of draft animals and agricultural equipment for land cultivation, a vaccination campaign against cattle plague, and the development of poultry farming, especially in Niger. Financing for other points of this emergency program is under negotiation, Mr Toure stated.

In addition, thanks mainly to financial assistance from the African Development Bank, preparatory work to connect the region's /telecommunications/ network to the outside are now under way, as well as technical studies for the realization of the road system, and the corresponding dossiers should soon be submitted to the donor countries.

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In the /mining sector,/ the aerial prospection campaign which has taken place with Canadian financing is now completed, and the Authority is conducting a ground investigation of the most promising areas, especially with respect to copper, manganese and phosphates.

The general manager stressed that the essential problem arising in the course of the development of this region is that of low-cost /transportation,/ and that railroads and national and secondary roads must be built in this region which, at present, does not have any. Mining prospection, Mr Toure also said, will be compromised if the railroad project is not realized, and livestock farming will not be very profitable.

Although it has its own development fund endowed with an initial 600 million CFA francs donated by the three member countries, Mr Toure said, the Authority relies mainly on foreign financing and assistance from the World Bank for its projects. However, while it is relatively easy to obtain financing for project studies, difficulties will arise as soon as funds are needed to realize these projects. In addition, delays in the acquisition of funds are encountered; they are due mainly to the procedures required by donor countries which use various profitability criteria.

Mr Toure stated his optimism concerning the starting of priority projects; he feels that most of them--except that of the Tambao-Ansongo and Dori-Tera-Niamey railroad connections--will not meet with serious financing difficulties.

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

BENINESE INCLUSION IN FORCE--One of the hostile leaders, Hissein Habre, head of the Northern Armed Forces (FAN) made clear his refusal. He directly communicated this at the Lome conference (Togo, 18-19 October) where he met Goukouni Queddei, officially head of the legal Nd'jamena government--under the mandate of the four "wise men" appointed by the OAU [Organization of African Unity] (Benin, Congo Guinea, Togo). Hissein Habre gave this response to the Beninese president, Mathieu Kerekou, who talked of considering him as a dissident, and not as an opponent entirely apart from the conference. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 29 Oct 80 p 58] 8870

FOSIDEC MEETING IN NIAMEY--A meeting of the board of assistant-directors of the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the West African Economic Community (FOSIDEC) was held in Niamey on 17 October. In his opening speech, the general secretary of CEAO, Mr Moussa Ngom, underlined that, since last June, the Fund has made six interventions concerning development projects. The meeting is going to prepare a report on its activities, to be presented to the Council of Ministers of the Community at its meeting in Niamey, starting 22 October. [Text] Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2610] 9294

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ANGOLA

REPORTAGE ON RECENT ELECTIONS, FUTURE PROSPECTS

Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French 27 Oct 80 pp 49-51

[Article by Augusta Conchiglia: "The People's Assembly"]

[Excerpts] The deadline set by President Agostinho Neto for the establishment of the People's Assembly, which will be the highest organ of the Angolan Government, has been respected. The first phase in the process designed to permit the attainment of this objective came to a close on Sunday, 12 October, with the election of the provincial people's assemblies, each having from 55 to 85 deputies, depending on the region. Finally, in about a month, the elections of the 206 deputies in the People's Assembly will take place. The Assembly will meet in Luanda, where it will replace the current Council of the Revolution. It should be recalled that the latter, which includes the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party and government and army officials appointed by the president, have heretofore had the essential prerogatives -- legislative and control over the executive apparatus -- that will now belong to the People's Assembly.

This democratization of the government, in accordance with the concept of "people's power" implied by the liberation struggle waged by the MPLA for 2 decades, was planned from the very time of the proclamation of independence on 11 November 1975, with the constitution which the new People's Republic of Angola had given itself. However, it was necessary to find a procedure and establish the structures that could bring it about.

Today, at a time when the party, following a long reorganization of members of the Movement, has strengthened its structures and consolidated its foundations, and when the fight against the "bureaucratization" of government employees becomes increasingly essential, it has become apparent that the establishment of the structures of people's government is not only possible, but indispensable. The integration of workers -- regular workers and peasants -- into all the nation's leadership structures is actually deemed in Luanda to be one of the most effective weapons for checking the paralyzing weight of that "parallel government" constituted by a large part of the strata of the bureaucratic petty bourgeoisie.

12 October Elections

The elections of 12 October therefore took place following a process begun in August and similar to the one which permitted the "rectification" effort in the ranks of party members. Throughout the country, in the course of assemblies held at places

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of work, in barracks, hospitals, communes and municipalities, the people elected a total of 6,750 delegates, chosen from among citizens having demonstrated their commitment to national reconstruction and the interests of the community. It is these delegates, meeting in provincial electoral conferences, who elected the deputies to the provincial assemblies. Candidates for the deputies' seats were proposed by the party, the party youth and mass organizations (trade unions, women's organizations) that had selected "elements deemed to be most active politically and the most experienced," according to the criterion defined by the election law. However, the representatives of the people who were invested with the power to vote also had the right to discuss and reject the candidates presented. For example, in Huambo Province, three of the candidates presented by the party and the mass organizations were rejected, inasmuch as the delegates meeting in electoral conference judged that "they have not met the test for a long time." In other words, while the possibility of contesting the candidates presented has not always been totally understood everywhere, the confrontation with the rank and file, through the delegates elected by the population, was of cardinal importance for preventing the entry into the structures of the people's government of opportunistic elements. In the other provinces, including those most affected by South African aggression and the sabotage of Savimbi's bands, the elections went off without incident, even if the debates in which delegates engaged concerning each candidate were sometimes very heated.

It should be noted that all Angolans over the age of 18 had the right to participate in the election process and to be elected, regardless "of color, race, sex, ethnic origin, place of birth, religion," and so on. The only persons prevented from voting are those found guilty of active membership in splinter groups and puppet organizations or of having participated in criminal actions against the people or sabotage and who have not been rehabilitated. Without a doubt, an election process of this type always necessarily gives the advantage to urban centers over rural areas (a larger number of women were elected in the working centers of Huambo and Luanda). However, this vast mobilization of the people -- brought about through assemblies for the election of the "grand electors" meeting throughout the country -- which preceded the 12 October election, will certainly contribute to greater national unity.

We know the importance of this matter in a country where independence was won in a hard struggle, not only against the colonizer, but also against many secessionist and neocolonialist conspiracies and aggressions.

The provincial people's assemblies that have just been established will be linked at the national level to another organization, the People's Assembly, which will be elected every 3 years and to which the government must answer. Control of the People's Assembly -- which in particular must see that options concerning economic and social development defined by the party are applied, taking the country's human and material circumstances into account -- will be even more direct when the process of installing the people's government enters the second phase. At the present time, it is a matter of establishing the people's government up at the local level, through districts, villages, communes and municipalities.

Common Law

One can therefore foresee that these structures, solidly rooted among the people, will, more than any other government organization, able to transmit the problems

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facing the country every day in all fields to the highest national bodies, in all their diversity and complexity. For example, local organs of the people's government could one day play an important role in the fields of justice and culture, contributing to the partial integration of common law into the rulings of people's courts. The powers of the people's assemblies, like those of the People's Assembly, have not yet been defined in detail or with precision. And yet, in a speech delivered some time ago in Malange, President Eduardo dos Santos stated that he foresaw the possibility of investing these new organizations with decision-making powers for all questions of popular interest such as health, education, literacy training and housing. "In this way," he said, "some particularly bureaucratic administrative departments that are a burden to these sectors may no longer be indispensable."

The elimination of this scourge constituted by bureaucratic attitudes is indeed a priority objective, especially in production sectors. The lack of spare parts or raw materials for industry, of seed for agriculture and the insufficiency of basic commodities for the people are some of the most crucial problems and to a great extent can be attributed to this parasitic bureaucracy.

Several times, the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party has noted a worrisome drop in production and productivity. Without underestimating the serious consequences resulting from the continuing war which South Africa is waging on Angola or the effects of the general crisis in world capitalism, it is clear that other factors of a structural, organizational and circumstantial order also help explain these difficulties.

The next special congress of the MPLA-Labor Party, which will be held in Luanda from 4 to 10 December 1980, will make a critical and concrete analysis of the experiment conducted since the first meetings of 1977, whose economic objectives for 1980 were not totally achieved. It will also have to redefine the country's economic and social orientations, which will make it possible to gather general data in order to draft the plans covering several years each between 1981 and 1985 [sic], the date on which the party's second regular congress will be held.

While the economic situation is termed "disturbing" in Luanda, one nevertheless can note important progress in certain sectors of industry (breweries, textiles and cement, for example) and in agriculture. Coffee production, which registered its greatest decline in 1979, has made a significant recovery in the course of this fifth season which began in June. Coffee exports, for which Angola was once among the top five in the world, will amount to 48,000 tons this year. Henceforth, it is predicted that production will increase steadily from 5 to 10 percent annually. As one can imagine, this recovering sector will thus help to increase Angola's foreign exchange revenue substantially, which will permit a fairer distribution of investments in the other sectors of production.

But this positive balance sheet for the most recent coffee season is above all a sign of a gradual return to normal in rural regions, as the coffee crop suffered the most from the lack of organization and the disarray following the two wars of liberation.

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ANGOLA

BRIEFS

ALLEGED FNLA REACTIVATION--Holden Roberto, head of the Angolan FNLA, has reportedly been removed from his post. A meeting in September of several commanding officers of the Front, or at least what remains of it, has allegedly concluded that "all the FNLA politicians failed," including Roberto, who lives in exile in Paris. The "coup" is said to be backed by the South Africans, who from Gabon are supposedly trying to reactivate the FNLA underground. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 5 Nov 80 p 32] 11,464

COMMENTS ON OIL PRODUCTION--In an article recently published by the JORNAL DE ANGOLA, Jorge "Monty" Morais, Angolan minister of petroleum, emphasizes the need for rapid development of the petroleum industry in underdeveloped nations that produce oil because, he writes, "if they are not self-sufficient in energy and do not enjoy income from oil, they will always depend on the industrialized world." Taking as examples the cases of Algeria and Mexico, nations which have reportedly oriented the development of the oil industry toward their general economic growth, Monty believes that "it is not enough (for oil-producing countries) to be flooded with money in order to have all problems solved." The key to success, whatever the nature of the political system, is the planning of resources, the minister states. While for consumers, the years to come will constitute a transition toward sources of energy that might take the place of oil, they could, in the case of producers, be the prelude to an era of decline if they do not find other sources capable of guaranteeing their normal economic and social development. Noting the exhaustion of oil resources in the world oil-exporting countries, the Arab nations, which have not made significant discoveries, the Angolan minister states that "all producer countries must be prepared to eliminate their dependency on this source of energy by...using it themselves." [Text] [Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French 27 Oct 80 p 29] 11,464

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

FRENCH AID TO BIRAO--French aid to the Birao region (in the northeastern part of the Central African Republic), which had been announced on 18 September 1980 by the French authorities, started to enter the country on 10 October. Two "C-160 Transall" airplanes, two "Puma" helicopters and six land vehicles were made available to the Central African Government to fight the food shortage in this region which was declared a disaster area by the Bangui authorities on 16 September. Sixty tons of food (manioc, millet) are to be shipped from Bangui to Birao at the rate of two shipments per day. The foodstuffs will be sent first to the most remote areas of the region which are also those most affected by the food shortage. "Operation Humanitarian Aid to Birao" in which the Central African army is participating is to last six days and could be renewed. According to observers, the total amount of French aid granted within the framework of this average can be evaluated at about 180,000 French francs. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2559] 8143

CCPT CLOSED--The Central African authorities have decided "to completely close" the Central African Office of Posts and Telecommunications (CCPT), according to an announcement made on 8 October in Bangui by Marc Babel Bedan, Central African minister of posts and telecommunications. This decision came on the heels of the strike which was initiated at the beginning of October by CCPT personnel. The minister asked civilian and military authorities to protect and forbid access to the buildings and technical installations of the office until the implementation of "new legal structures to ensure the normal and effective operation of the office of posts and telecommunications." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2559] 8143

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CHAD

BRIEFS

DATA ON LIBYAN AIRCRAFT BOMBING CAPITAL--The French Secret Service has identified the plane which, in the first fortnight in October, bombed Nd'jama on four occasions. It was a twin-jet supersonic Tupolev 22B, flying the Libyan flag, flown by three men of whom one was a Soviet. Libya has 24 planes of this type. But this plane's radius of operation obliged it to land on a not yet identified field in the North of Chad.
[Text] [Paris VALEURS ACTUELLES in French 27 Oct 80] 8870

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COMORO ISLANDS

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2566

[Text] Presided over by Mr Said Ali Kemal, a "Committee for public salvation" addresses an appeal to the people of the Comoros.

Oldest son of the late Prince Said Ibrahim, and recently resigned ambassador of the Federal and Islamic Republic of the Comoros (Cf MTM 1 Aug 1980, p 1931) Mr Said Ali Kemal has just broadcast an appeal to the people of the Comoros, the main passages of which are the following:

"The Comoro Government is oligarchic, corrupt, monopolizing the national economy for its own profit.

"The international isolation of our country, the increasing impoverishment of our people, our disenchanted and from now on hopeless youth, the degradation of our agricultural land, are all reasons which may well give rise to grave political and social confrontations.

"Reflecting over the lessons of our recent history, in face of our hopes and deceptions, I have decided to assume fully my patriotic responsibilities in order to put an end to this regime.

"No matter where you may be, in Anjouan, Mayotte, Moheli, the Great Comore, or abroad, patriotic committees must be created to demand the realization of a program corresponding to our national aspirations as well as to the essential needs of the population, safeguarding our Islamic traditions which must remain the basis and the cement of our national unity and of the Oceanic personality of our fatherland.

"To succeed in this task the National Committee for Public Salvation, the presidency of which has been to me entrusted, recommends as necessary and urgent the resignation of President Ahmed Abdallah, in the interest of domestic peace, property and individuals."

The Committee for Public Salvation to which Mr Said Ali Kemal claims to belong, and which would include representatives of all opponent factions to President Ahmed Abdallah, has to its program: The establishment of a national unity government proclaiming general amnesty and the liberation of all political prisoners; the organization of free elections; a better distribution of the national revenue

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through a program of economic development equitably beneficial to each island; last, a better land use according to agricultural and social needs and the demands for soil restoration and conservation.

Guaranteeing that the Comoro Islands belong to the group of nonaligned countries, and favorable to the creation of a peace zone in the Indian Ocean, desirous to reestablish friendly and stable economic relations with Madagascar, as well as to negotiate, on the principle of friendship and cooperation with France, the harmonious reintegration of Mayotte in the Comoro political community, Mr Said Ali Kemal's appeal urges his fellow-citizens to unity and vigilance alone capable to remove from the fatherland poverty, suffering, violence and irresponsibility.

It should be noted that the appeal addressed by the former ambassador coincides with the visit of President Ahmed Abdallah in Paris where he recently arrived for a private 2-week stay.

During his speech before the General Assembly of UNO, Mr Ali Mroudjae, the Comoro minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, declared himself in favor of the pursuit of negotiations engaged with France about "The Comoro Island of Mayotte."

"The Comoro Government will devote itself to these negotiations until a just solution conforming to the UN decisions is found, and this as early as possible," he declared.

Political and Economic Developments

In the past weeks a variety of political, economic and cultural events took place in the Comoros.

In respect of politics:

--Mr Ahmed Abdallah, president of the Republic, back from an official visit to Kuwait, has declared himself "pleased with his visit to the brother country which has always been among the first ones to help the Comoros in every respect since independence." Furthermore, he added "The agreement for cultural cooperation, which was signed during my visit and is the prelude of other agreements now in preparation, will give a great impulse to the development of the Arabo-Islamic culture in the brother states."

The presidential trip to Kuwait, from 21 to 23 September, was an opportunity for the Comoro and Kuwaiti states to get to know each other better and to strengthen their relations. Although no communique was published, it is known however that the amir of Kuwait answered favorably to the invitation addressed to him to visit the Comoros at a date as of now undecided upon. The amir also decided, in order to study certain problems specific to the people of the Comoros, to send there a study group next November. As regards the questions concerning politics and the Arabo-Islamic world, President Ahmed Abdallah stated: "Not only are our relations with Kuwait excellent, but we also share points of view on problems shaking the Arabo-Islamic world, especially on questions concerning Palestine and Jerusalem."

--After the official visit to Kuwait, the Comoro ministers of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, and the minister of Finances and Economy continued on with their

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trip to Paris and the United States. Finance Minister Said Kafe was to participate in Paris in the conference of the franc-zone Finance ministers, then represent his country in Washington before the Assembly of the IBRD and IMS governors, while Mr Al Mroudjae, minister of Foreign Affairs would head in New York the Comorian delegation before the UN General Assembly.

--A decree dated 3 October 1980 called for a meeting of the Comoro Federal Assembly in regular budgetary session on 28 October 1980.

--Another decree of the same date entrusted the interim of the presidency of the Republic to the first minister Sali Ben Ali during Mr Ahmed Abdallah's absence from the Comoros on a private visit to France starting 5 October.

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CONGO

BRIEFS

FRENCH FORESTRY COOPERATION--At the end of his working visit to the Congo, Robert Galley, French minister of cooperation, said on 9 October in Brazzaville that "French-Congolese cooperation through forestry exploitation is an everyday living reality," after having spent some time in the Sangha, in the northern part of the country. Galley added that he had the impression "that the Sangha region, because of its forest riches, but also because of its agricultural possibilities and also perhaps because of its mining possibilities has an important role to play." In this regard, he said that everything would be studied with the Congolese authorities under the leadership of President Sassou Nguesso to determine what the French ministry of cooperation can do for this region. The French minister was given an audience with President Sassou Nguesso on 8 October. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2560] 8143

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ETHIOPIA

BRIEFS

ADF LOAN FOR TEA--The Ethiopian tea-growing project at Wush Wush benefited recently from a loan of 8 million UCF [ADF currency unit] (about \$9 million) from the African Development Fund reimbursable in 15 years deferred for 10 years with a service charge of 0.75 percent. The purpose is to increase Ethiopia's tea production which will allow it to decrease its imports and to save an estimated 4 million birr per year in foreign exchange. The project includes planting tea bushes on a 500-hectare area to be cleared and caring for them until maturity as well as installing a modern factory for processing the leaves and handling and packing the processed tea. It also provides for planting eucalyptus to supply the firewood needed for the factory, purchasing vehicles and agricultural machinery and tools, and construction of infrastructure such as buildings, roads and water and electricity supply. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$10 million of which 60.4 percent is for costs in foreign exchange. Goods and services financed by the ADF will be acquired by international bids among member countries of the ABD [African Development Bank] and the ADF. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2629]

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GABON

MEMBERSHIP IN PAN-AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS RELINQUISHED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 7 Nov 80 p 2970

[Excerpts] The Gabonese Council of Ministers met in Libreville on 29 October with President Bongo. The official communique issued following this meeting notes that Gabon has decided to relinquish its membership in the African and Mauritian Office for Legislative Research and Studies (BAMREL). This organism, established in 1975 with headquarters in Libreville, has been unable to achieve its objectives, and specifically the coordination of the various legislations of the member countries.

The communique adds that moreover, the difficulty in ensuring payment of the dues owed by certain member countries has paralyzed the operations of this organism. Gabon, after vainly attempting to ensure its survival, has therefore decided to relinquish its membership.

Gabon also left the African and Malagasy Union of Posts and Telecommunications (UAPT). The Gabonese Government accuses this organism of having ignored the task of coordinating the regulations and the postal and telecommunications methods assigned to the UAPT at the time of its establishment. The communique adds that this organism limits itself to the role of intermediary between member countries and organisms such as the Universal Postal Union and the International Telecommunications Union of which Gabon is a member and with which it regularly maintains direct and positive relations. Membership in this organism will be dropped as of 1 January 1981.

The following issues were also discussed by the Council of Ministers:

The government is upset over the disparity in salaries within the public and the private sectors. It asked the minister of state in charge of the civil service to apply the measures adopted by the government in regard to the coordination of salaries in the public and private sectors.

In regard to elections at the level of the provincial assemblies, the following modalities were adopted:

1. Each district assembly list will have the number of councillors increased to three candidates.
2. The candidates in each district assembly list will then choose among themselves three "comrades" who will again figure on the same list and will be their representatives at the provincial assembly.
3. Regarding eligibility to the municipal councils, the Council of Ministers authorized these foreigners residing in Gabon whose dedication to public affairs is unassailable to present their candidacy.

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GUINEAU-BISSAU

BRIEFS

NEW CONSTITUTION UNDER STUDY--On 18 October in Guinea-Bissau, work began on the drafting of a new constitution to replace the one proclaimed by the underground during the war of independence in 1973. Written by a joint commission from the African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC) and the People's National Assembly, the constitution will now be submitted to all levels of the party and the government and will then be brought before the National Assembly meeting in special session on 8 November. The new constitution was coordinated with that of Cape Verde, which was adopted by that country's Assembly (see MARCHES TROPICAUX, 26 September, p 2,355). Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau actually wish to promote a union. It is not expected in Bissau that the new constitution will bring about any fundamental changes in methods of appointment or the operation of government organs. The purpose of modifications compared with the old constitution, already partially revised in 1976 and 1977, will be to assimilate experience acquired since the end of the war in 1974. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2612] 11,464

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IVORY COAST

STATUS OF FRENCH-IVORIAN RELATIONS EXAMINED

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 22 Oct 80 pp 40-42

[Article by Bechir Ben Yahmed]

[Text] Last week, in inaugurating the "Ce Que Je Crois" ["What I Believe"] new style, I announced in this publication that I shall alternate commentaries with informative articles.

I am therefore devoting these three pages of issue 1033 to information kept secret up to now. I consider it important in view of the consequences it may have on Franco-African relations as a whole.

I am speaking of a "no" Giscard gave Houphouet which could have results in the 1980's comparable to those of the "no" Sekou gave de Gaulle in 1958. Judge for yourself.

Ivorian Finance Minister Abdoulaye Kone made an unpretentious visit to Paris during the week of 8 to 13 September, sent by his president. Ivory Coast, whose financial prosperity had been a source of envy for years, had been financially strangled for more than a year with the setbacks suffered by the free zone. To the scandal of the sugar refineries, which France and Europe "stole" from it in too great a number and at a scandalous (and corrupt) price, had been added the combined effects of the slump in coffee and cocoa. These two products, whose export represents about half of the country's income, saw their prices drop in 1978 and again in 1979 by a total of nearly 50 percent.

President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and Claude Cheysson, European commissioner for development, tried in vain to limit the market decline: the English, Americans and West Germans joined forces to dictate purchasing legislation.

Houphouet's country had only one avenue left: an unpretentious call for help. Ivory Coast is not accustomed to that course of action; it does not know how to go about it. Its steps are hesitant, embarrassed and surrounded by the greatest secrecy.

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In any case, as early as July, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, despairing of seeing cocoa prices go up again and measuring the extent of the "amount not to be gained"--there was talk of 100 billion CFA African Financial Community francs--had authorized his finance minister to "explore the possibilities." Mr Kone did not turn to the Arab and oil-producing countries. He knew, without having to verify this with his president, that the latter would not approve. He then turned to the IMF and World Bank of whose slowness he was unaware and also to France which, he thought, had received too much from Ivory Coast not to fly to its rescue.*

Therefore, it was with confidence that the Ivorian finance minister arrived in Paris (in secret) on 9 September to obtain urgent and expected help. At least enough to hold out until the cocoa would be sold and paid for; until the IMF would respond to the appeal, evaluate, reach a decision and provide the funds; until oil, once discovered, would have a chance to be exploited to relieve agriculture.

The credit should be ample and granted without haggling at generous or at least reasonable conditions. Under these conditions, Ivory Coast, which is politically renewing itself this year, would regain confidence within and without and receive impetus for its third decade.

The Ivorian finance minister left Paris on 13 September as quietly as he had arrived. Since then we have had only silence. This silence covers a serious crisis of confidence between the two countries. Here are the facts or, at least, what I have learned of them.

Mr Kone was received by French Finance Minister Rene Monory in the presence of the three heads of the three major nationalized banks: the BNP National Bank of Paris, Credit Lyonnais and Societe Generale.

"You know my country's financial situation. What can you do to help us?" the Ivorian asked in substance.

"The government itself, not very much," the Frenchman answered. "We would need the National Assembly's agreement. This is hardly the time; you know that as well as we. The national banks could do something. I shall ask them and, by releasing the credits they will grant you, shall make the transaction possible. As for funds, they have an abundance. That is why I invited them to this meeting; I shall let them speak."

"We know that Ivory Coast's financial situation is not good. But the finance minister, in making this request, has not yet explained why that situation

* In 1979, monetary transfers to France came to more than \$200 million (or 800 million French francs).

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prevails; he does not indicate its needs," the bankers stated in launching their attack. One of them, the head of Societe Generale, even went so far as to make an accusation: "It is because the country has not been governed well for about 2 years, nor its finances closely watched."

The meeting, badly begun, ended on still a worse note. The atmosphere was strained to the point of splitting apart. The bankers calculated "what they could (that is, what they were willing to) do"; a total credit of 700 million French francs (35 billion CFA francs!) over a period of 5 years, with 3 years grace. We might as well say a "pair of crutches" (many French companies each receive more than that through a simple telephone call).

But there is more--an aspect which emphasizes that, in reality, unless the bankers are uninformed which is not very likely, it is a disguised refusal, humiliating and rife with consequences for Franco-Ivorian relations: the interest rate demanded, 14.25 percent (13 percent "basic interest" plus 1.25 percent), which is not, this is the least one can say, a rate among friends; it is rather one made to a client to get him to refuse.

It is not necessary to be a great banker, or distinguished economist, or experienced politician to know that, considering the needs and the situation, they should have offered three times more at an interest rate somewhat less than 10 percent.

The Ivorian minister left Paris promising to resume contact to indicate his government's position. More than 1 month has passed and Abidjan has not answered. Neither yes nor no.

In African and "Houphouetian" language this means that the blow received is felt like a serious wound: Ivory Coast has been treated by the country to which it has given the most--France--as the last of the last. It was worse than saying "no": by offering it too little at an unfavorable interest rate, displeasure was being indicated and "a lesson" administered. Relected 7 months before Giscard d'Estaing, Houphouet-Boigny, according to habit, will take his time to note that the "message" has been received. It still remains that, unless there is a last-minute change of heart by the Elysee, we are seeing a turning point in Franco-African relations established 20 years ago by de Gaulle himself on the Paris-Abidjan axis.

Fortunately for Ivory Coast, the IMF mission, which is arriving before the end of October, is bringing a promise of credit in excess of \$750 million (more than four times what was proposed by France), to be released in February or March 1981, at an interest rate appreciably lower than that stipulated by Paris. This proves, if it were necessary, that Ivory Coast has security, a good credit rating, untouched possibilities.

About 20 years ago, Nasser had asked the United States and the World Bank to provide aid in financing the Aswan Dam. John Foster Dulles, American secretary of state at the time, made an absurd offer replete with humiliating

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conditions. Nasser did not answer yes or no; a few months later, he nationalized Suez and--the first in the noncommunist world--purchased Soviet arms. The history of the Middle East has not ceased to be changed by that event. Conversely, Sekou Toure said no to de Gaulle in 1958 and the effects of that act have been felt for 20 years. Are these two comparisons exaggerated, disproportionate? Is Houphouet neither Nasser nor Sekou Toure? Can the situation created still be cleared up? It is to be hoped.

However, the problem is not a few million more or less, a few "points" too many in the interest rate. What is involved is Giscard d'Estaing's attitude which is so new, and thereby surprising, that we must ask ourselves what is behind it. Why did France say "yes" to Senegal in July and "yes, but," that is, "no" to Ivory Coast in September? Rene Monory was there both times, as prepossessing and understanding as ever. His knowledge of African situations and sympathy with the Third World make it impossible to think that his "personal influence" was felt as any obstacle. Were his hands tied? If so, is it for the electoral period or else, what is more probable, through restrictive instructions, even perhaps implied?

Did the bankers show (political) zeal or did they behave like strict bankers in face of a transaction they do not like? And how can we believe that France has no other course of action, if it had the political will to use it? A serious interpretation remains: has it been a subjective decision by the president of the French Republic? If so, it would be the latest African error of the 7-year government official, the first having been in 1975 to reserve his first African visit to Bokassa's country.

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MALI

BRIEFS

PRC PHARMACEUTICAL PLANT ASSISTANCE--A ceremony to inaugurate the construction of a pharmaceutical plant by the People's Republic of China took place in Bamako on 24 October. "The complex includes a 7,607 square meter building in a 23,930 square meter area," Lt Col Sori Ibrahima Sylla said. The latter is minister of interior and has temporarily assumed the functions of minister of health. He added that this unit will make it possible for us to reduce our imports of pharmaceutical specialties, thus achieving some savings in foreign exchange." Mali at present imports annually "close to 4 billion francs worth of medicines," Lt Col Sylla noted. The cornerstone-laying ceremony coincided with the 20th anniversary of the Sino-Malian cooperation. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 7 Nov 80 p 2962]

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MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

BOMB EXPLOSION--A bomb explosion on 27 October in Lisbon totally destroyed a car belonging to the wife of Domingos Arouca, leader of the Mozambique United Front (FUMO), a movement opposing the present regime in Mozambique. There were no victims. Mr Arouca is presently a resident of Portugal. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 7 Nov 80 p 2982]

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NIGER

PRESIDENT REPORTS ON FOOD SITUATION

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2554

[Text] On 6 October, President Kountche said that even though the harvest had been good and that the departments of the south had produced a surplus of millet and sorghum, basic foods of the Nigerian people, the shipment of cereals beyond the national borders continues to be banned, without special authorization.

The department of Maradi has had a very favorable-agricultural-livestock situation this year. In the food sector, it registered a theoretical surplus of about 67,000 tons compared to 73,000 tons last year; i.e., triple the previous surplus. The department's total production of millet and sorghum was on the order of 382,093 tons.

However, with respect to niebe, the harvest will be inferior to that of last year. As for peanuts, this year the department registered a production of 52,000 tons compared to 45,000 tons last year.

The situation in the grazing lands sector is satisfactory thanks to sufficient rainfall. This year the department of Maradi will need 350 supplementary tons of cattle fodder. It already has a balance of 265 tons of cottonseed from the previous year.

Elsewhere, the food situation in the department of Zinder is also satisfactory. Total production of millet and sorghum is 395,863 tons compared to 367,400 tons last year. The department has a surplus of 69,779 tons compared to 52,688 in 1979.

Niebe production is down compared to last year. It is estimated at 67,765 tons compared to 81,715 tons last year. The reason for this drop was the fact that the farmers who were unable last year to sell their output this year elected to decrease the area planted with niebe. What is more, niebe is not consumed much in this department.

Peanut production increased slightly. It is estimated at 37,180 tons compared to 24,423 tons last year. Overall, this year there was a 2 percent increase in cultivated lands throughout the department which registered 154 villages with deficit production; i.e., a deficit of 51 percent or about 54,000 affected inhabitants.

However, the millet and sorghum surplus, without counting niebe, could reduce this deficit. On the whole, the grazing lands situation is satisfactory.

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NIGER

BRIEFS

WELL-DIGGING PROGRAM--President Seyni Kountche announced on 6 October in Zinder, during his inspection tour across Niger, that beginning in January 1981 a total of 934 wells will be drilled to supply potable water to the inhabitants of the departments of Niamey (324 wells), Maradi and Zinder (231 and 379 wells, respectively). These wells will cost about 3 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs, with one well, depending upon its depth and the consistency of the earth, costing 2.5 to 3 million CFA francs. In a related connection, the drilling undertaken in the Bilma casis, near the border, produced a surprise on 5 October: the stratum of water was so abundant that the water spurted out of the ground and, according to the Nigerien press, formed a geyser 40 meters high, with an output of 500 m³ per hour, which almost inundated the area. Action by the army was needed to divert the torrent and direct it toward the surrounding plain. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2554] 8143

COAL MINE--The exploitation of the coal deposit at Anou Araren, near Agadez in the central part of Niger, got underway with the extraction of the first ton of this mineral by the Nigerien Coal Company (SONICHAR). The deposit, which contains about 5 million tons, will supply the Anou Araren thermal complex which beginning in 1983 is to produce 100 million kw per year. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2554] 8143

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NIGERIA

ACTIVITIES OF OIL COMPANIES, PRODUCTION DISCUSSED

Oil Production Decrease

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2620

[Article: "Decrease in Oil Production"]

[Text] We stated, in our issue of 17 October, p 2556, that Nigeria's oil production, which had stabilized at around 2.1 million barrels per day since the beginning of the year, had shown a sharp drop in September, showing only 1.6 million barrels. This drop had begun to appear in July and especially in August.

During the 8 months with a daily average of 2.1 million barrels, the drop had already been 10.3 percent in relation to the corresponding period in the previous year. The reduction was, moreover, in accordance with the decision taken in August 1979 by General Obasanjo's administration. But the falling off in September had not been foreseen and was due to cyclical conditions alone. The managing director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mr Odoliyi Lolomari, had in fact still affirmed on 14 August that Nigeria had no intention, for the time being, either of reducing its production or of lowering the price fixed, since 1 April last, at \$36.72 per barrel for the higher grade (MTM [MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS] of 22 August, p 2085). This affirmation thus cut short some contrary intentions stated in March (MTM of 21 March, p 685).

The companies whose production has decreased the most are Shell, Gulf and, to a lesser degree, Texaco. The first two are, nevertheless, still in the lead, and Shell is the only one to exceed a million barrels per day and to take over more than half of the total production in the country. Elf runs the risk, under present circumstances, of not reaching the objective it had set itself for this year of 90,000 tons [as published] per day, but was not far from it the last few months, with figures of 86,767 tons in June, 86,500 in July and 86,560 in August. Ashland is the only company which, during the 3 months mentioned, has shown a clear increase in its relatively weak production, going from 8,753 [as published] per day in June to 10,800 tons in August.

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Oil Reserves

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2620

[Article: "Nigeria's Oil Reserves"]

[Text] During a seminar on petroleum held at Lagos in September, several experts formulated estimates on Nigeria's oil reserves.

According to Professor I. E. Hartshorn, the reserves would be placed at somewhere between 13 and 24 billion barrels, which, at the present rate of exploitation and without any spectacular new discovery, would enable the country to continue exporting only for another 10 years or so.

According to Chief Ofeyide, the reserves were probably a little higher, between 20 and 30 billion barrels, and would represent between 3 and 4.5 percent of the world reserves. He even thinks that continued exploration, particularly offshore, would reveal some happy surprises.

Nevertheless, in a statement in Washington during his recent official trip to the United States, President Shagari showed himself to be realistic. "Indeed," he said, "we recognize our good fortune in possessing at present petroleum resources, but these resources are diminishing." "Consequently," he added, "we are resolved, as long as they exist, to try to have our agriculture and our industrial development reach a level where they can maintain themselves, so that when the petroleum will be exhausted, we will be able to ensure a decent standard of living to all our inhabitants."

President Shagari thus explained the reasons which had impelled him to start his "green revolution" so that Nigeria would become, as rapidly as possible, self-sufficient in food products, and he renewed his appeal to foreign investors to facilitate the successful execution of this "revolution" and the effective general development of local industries.

Oil Companies Activities

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 p 2620

[Article: "Oil Companies: Activities"]

[Text] The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), associate of all the drilling companies, 60 percent of whose capital it holds, itself might start production activities earlier than foreseen if its discoveries last July show themselves to be commercially exploitable. Of the 19 exploratory drillings which it has already carried out with the aid of foreign consultants, a half dozen would justify further development, but it proposes to carry out still further drillings.

On the other hand, Gulf, whose production dropped considerably these last few months (367,000 barrels per day in June, 333,000 in July and

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298,000 in August), announced its intention to devote 700 million naira to new exploratory drillings in the delta region over the next 5 years. The company, which holds the No 2 position after Shell in production, had already invested some 450 million naira in this field, in collaboration with the NNPC.

In conclusion, Shell, in accordance with government directives concerning stopping gas wastage between now and January 1984, decided to start a recovery program for the flare gas coming from its wells in order to supply, through the Nigeria Electricity Power Authority (NEPA), the Afam, Ughelli and Sapele thermal power stations. This recovery could also supply the steelworks at Aladja, near Warri, and Adjaokuta, and the future liquefied gas complex at Bonny.

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SENEGAL

BRIEFS

RAINFALL DEFICIENCY--The monthly bulletin of the Climatology Division of the ISRA of the National Agronomic Research Center in Bambey on 30 September reported an overall deficit rainfall situation for all of Senegal. This deficit is such that the bulletin indicates we must be pessimistic as regards crops of all kinds requiring over 90 days, particularly peanuts. The month of September, especially the last two weeks, did not live up to its promises. If the rainfall situation does not improve during the month of October, "we can expect a very sharp drop in peanut production and in crops as a whole, except for winter niebe." The rainfall deficit will be disastrous for all varieties of crops with a growing cycle of over 90 days (particularly corn, cotton and sanio.) In a related connection, for the current season, the peanut crop in the Louga region only covers 177,197 hectares compared to 200,000 hectares in 1979-80. With respect to wheat and niebe, on the other hand, there has been an increase in the area planted. The former has increased from 143,000 to 154,908 hectares and the latter from 24,000 to 38,000 hectares. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2549] 8143

ARGENTINE AGREEMENTS--Senegal and Argentina signed two preliminary agreements on 12 October in Dakar, one cultural and the other scientific and technical cooperation. What is more, Argentina has opened a \$15 million line of credit to Senegal for the supplying of capital goods. These agreements which are in addition to a trade accord signed last February are one of the results of the visit to Senegal of an Argentine trade mission headed by Paul Cura, secretary of state for international relations. The joint communique emphasizes the need for taking steps to equilibrate the trade balances of both countries and to this end to regularly convene the Joint Commission provided for in the trade agreement. The commercial exchanges at present are favorable to Argentina which sold Senegal goods worth 4.121 billion OFA [African Financial Community] francs in 1979. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2549] 8143

SOLAR ENERGY--The first phase of a construction program for a solar energy power plant in Ross-Bethio will get underway very shortly. The execution of this first phase, which is scheduled for a maximum of two years, will involve experimentation with two kinds of power plants that fall within the same gamut of distributed collector systems, with several differences in conception. This first phase was provided to test the two models and to determine which is best suited to the rigors of the sahel's natural environment. If this phase produces definitive results, the second phase, the operational phase, will be initiated in 1982.

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This phase will involve the construction of a solar power plant with an output of 100 kw which will in particular work permit the installation of a pumping station, a water distribution system over a surface of 2 km² and a refrigeration and air conditioning system. This second phase also includes a personnel training stage. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2550] 8143

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TANZANIA

BRIEFS

PRESIDENT ON SHORTAGES--During a visit to the Singida region at the beginning of October, President Nyerere asked the Tanzanians for a certain amount of understanding with respect to the scarcity of prime necessity goods and to the poor functioning of public services which they must regularly endure. The chief of state told the inhabitants of Singida that the shortages were the result of economic development: every step forward taken pursuant to the plan increases the needs of the private and public sectors. He refuted the idea that these events were the result of the socialist policy followed by the government. He emphasized that demands concerning the shortage of essential goods and services were something new, as previously such goods and services were not available to anyone in Tanzania. For example, the chief of state said that there had been no suffering earlier because of the shortfall of 20,000 teachers as there is today because of the few students who attended school under constraint shortly after Tanzania's independence. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2563] 8143

MEASURES PROMOTING DOMESTIC ENTERPRISES--The Tanzanian Government has decided to favor domestic public works enterprises which are parastate companies. At present, 85 percent of the public works are ordered from private foreign countries. The new measures include the establishment of a new national public works company, in addition to the Mwananchi Engineering and Contracting Company (MECCO) and the training of over 150 Tanzanian engineers abroad. S. Sitta, minister of public works, said on 6 October in Mbeya that it was necessary "to reinforce the efforts directed toward 'ujamaa' and self-reliance" in this sector. It is known that this involves two basic principles of Tanzanian socialism: family sharing and economic independence. The minister emphasized that 2 billion shillings were being spent every year on public works projects in Tanzania, a large part of which was for the benefit of "foreign capitalist firms." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2563] 8143

CONTROL OVER CAPITAL WITHDRAWALS--The National Bank of Commerce (NBC) of Tanzania implemented measures at the end of September designed to control withdrawals of liquid capital, in accordance with government policy, at a time when the Tanzanian economy is in a particularly critical situation. As the result of these measures, which were taken on a temporary basis, the withdrawal of liquid capital will be authorized only by the bank's main office in Dar-es-Salaam rather than by directors of local branches. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2563] 8143

MORE EXPORTS TO EEC--Tanzania has asked the European Economic Community (EEC) to lift certain trade barriers imposed upon Tanzanian exports to reduce its balance

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of trade deficit vis-a-vis the EEC. A communique from the minister for trade which was made public on 11 October indicates that since the Lome I Convention Tanzania has profited very little from the trade agreement linking the EEC to the countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP). While Tanzanian imports from the EEC increased from \$232.9 million in 1976 to \$547.15 million in 1978, Tanzanian exports totaled only \$199.66 million in 1976 and \$260.12 million in 1977, falling to \$211.09 million in 1978, the communique adds. The Tanzanian balance of trade deficit, therefore, totaled \$33.33 million in 1976 and \$336.1 million in 1978, the communique goes on to say. Emphasizing that 48 percent of Tanzanian exports were destined for European markets, the communique concludes that these trade barriers forced Tanzania to export agricultural products and other raw materials and to import industrial goods. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2564] 8143

COFFEE HARVEST--The 1980-1981 coffee harvest of Tanzania will be 55,000 tons, according to an announcement made by the vice minister of Tanzanian agriculture, Edward Barongo, on 9 October in Dar-es-Salaam. Of these 55,000 tons, Tanzania will be able to sell 48,000 tons (800,000 sacks of coffee) on the world market, in accordance with quotas established with the International Coffee Organization (CIC). Barongo added that Tanzania will have to turn to other markets to sell the remaining 7,000 tons. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2564] 8143

IDA LOAN--The International Development Association (IDA), an affiliate of the World Bank, is going to grant Tanzania a loan of 5.2 million Tanzanian shillings for a five-year coconut development program. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2564] 8143

LONRHO AGREEMENT BEING NEGOTIATED--An agreement is being negotiated between Dar Es-Salam and the multinational Lonrho which is to be reestablished in Tanzania where the 18 companies' offices had been closed down in 1978 because of their ties with South Africa. Under agreement terms, Lonrho "would be satisfied" with partial compensation in order to resume its operations in Julius Nyerere's country. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 29 Oct 80 p 58] 8870

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UGANDA

BRIEFS

CUBAN-UGANDAN NEGOTIATIONS--The president of the Military Commission in power in Uganda, Paulo Muwanga, paid an official visit to Cuba from the end of September to the first of October at the head of a delegation consisting notably of Otema Alimadi, minister of foreign affairs, and Robert Gimnye, representative of the Libyan-Ugandan Bank. The presence of a banker in the delegation seemed to indicate that financial negotiations were scheduled to take place, all the more so since the vice president of the National Bank of Cuba, Raul Amado Blanco, was at the side of Carolos Rafael Rodriquez, vice president of the Counsel of State and the Ministers to welcome Mr Muwanga on his arrival in Havana. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 10 Oct 80 p 2495] 9353

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ZAIRE

ZAIRIAN DEFAULTS TO FOREIGN CREDITORS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561

[Article: "Census of Exchange Operations Defaulted and Unpaid to Foreign Creditors"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] In a message dated 2 September 1980 somewhat delayed in dissemination the /Banque du Zaire/ notified the /Zairian Banking Association/ of its intention to proceed with an inventory of obligations contracted by persons or firms in Zaire to foreigners which had come due without the debtors being able to transfer the amounts to the foreign creditors because of a shortage of foreign exchange. The following is a text of this message transmitted by /La Belgolaise/:

"The Banque du Zaire, concerned over the problems which have been raised by the existence of obligations to foreign countries or in foreign money which have come due and which the principals have not been able to repay to foreign creditors due to the shortage of foreign exchange reserves, proposes to proceed with an inventory of the aforementioned obligations.

"It should be noted that what is at issue here is exclusively operations for which covering funds in Zaire have not been transferred to the Banque du Zaire by virtue of overdue payment in application of the provisions of circular number 156.

"1) The inventory will be made in accordance with specific declarations regarding the nature of the operations concerned namely: dividends declared but not transferred to foreign countries; financing for which the Banque du Zaire had issued a letter of guarantee of transfer; payments for imports by direct transfer; contracts for enterprises, services, employment, fees, royalties, premiums for individuals and associations, and other operations not defined.

"2) The declarations must have been deposited by the declarers in an approved bank. A given operation may not be declared more than one time.

"3) The banks which receive the declarations and supporting documents will be held responsible for undertaking the same verifications that is called for in the initiation of transfer authorizations. The banks will certify

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by the affixing of two authorized signatures in the ad hoc column of the declaration, having carried out this verification. The banks will retain, temporarily, the declarations uniquely on behalf of the Banque du Zaire until the end of the inventory period.

"4) The inventory period commences immediately (2 September 1980) and will continue for 2 months following that date.

"5) Operations not declared during the inventory period will no longer be taken into consideration by the Banque du Zaire."

With regard to point four above, the /Banque Commerciale Zairoise/ requested its clientele, affected by this inventory, to submit their declarations by 15 October at the latest, a sufficient delay being necessary to carry out the verification operation imposed upon it prior to the transmission of statements of inventory to the Banque du Zaire.

Furthermore, the Banque du Zaire has disseminated four "annexes" which specify supplementary instructions regarding the manner in which the statements regarding the nature of the operations to be included in the inventory are to be made.

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

NIGHT NAVIGATION--It will be recalled in Kinshasa that night time navigation along the maritime approaches to Zaire which has been interrupted since 1976 was resumed last June. This resumption was made possible by the restoration of the lighthouses on the Angolan side of the river following agreement between Zaire and Angola. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Oct 80 p 2429] 9353

COOPERATION WITH BELGIUM--The Belgian Ministers of National Defense and PTT [Postal, Telephone and Telegraph (Service)] Mr Poswick and de Croo made a trip to Zaire during the last half of August. As a result of this trip Mr Poswick indicated that Belgium would be able to inaugurate a program in 1981 which would provide a technical unit to assist in the training of elements from the Kamanyola division. For his part, Mr de Croo declared that he had concluded agreements with his Zairian counterpart both to provide urgent Belgium assistance to Zaire for the supply of spare parts for telephone equipment and to furnish long-term training and reorientation for Zairian telecommunications technicians. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Oct 80 p 2429] 9353

SAUDI ASSISTANCE--A technical mission from the Saudi development fund visited Lubumbashi at the end of August in order to examine together with the officials of the National Association of Zairian Railroads (SNCZ) modalities of assistance to be provided from the fund for the reequipment of the SNCZ network. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Oct 80 p 2429] 9353

ALLOCATION OF FOREIGN CURRENCY--La Belgolaise published the text of a message from the Banque du Zaire to the Zairian Banking Association dated 16 September 1980 and concerning the modalities of using the allocation of \$20 million earmarked for Zairian enterprises: "The Banque du Zaire has decided to extend the final date for the introduction of models 'I' to 31 December 1980. This decision was motivated by the fact that many enterprises have not been in a position to obtain price tenders from their suppliers before 31 August 1980." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561] 9353

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COOPERATION WITH PRC--During September Zaire signed a number of cooperation agreements notably with: --People's Republic of China which is going to send a 30-member medical mission to Zaire. These practitioners will be assigned to the principal hospital centers of the country, notably the hospitals of Kintambo, Gemena and Mama Yemo at Kinshasa. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561] 9353

COOPERATION WITH JAPAN--Japan will furnish a number of vehicles with a value amounting to \$4.5 million earmarked to ease the carrying out of projects in agriculture and transportation. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561] 9353

COOPERATION WITH GDR--An economic, technical and scientific cooperation agreement has been concluded with East Germany. This agreement calls for the establishment of a joint GDR-Zaire commission which will convene for the first time in Kinshasa in 1981. In the meantime, the GDR will send an economic delegation to Zaire. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561] 9353

UN PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT--The PNUD is going to grant assistance in the amount of \$1.6 million to the food and agricultural center of the Institut de Recherche Scientifique (IRS) at Lubumbashi. Programmed for a period of 8 years this assistance is intended to upgrade the plant resources of the country, and to develop products which can be substituted for imports and for a campaign against devastation by harmful insects, rodents and other pests. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561] 9353

FOREIGN EXCHANGE, TRADE--La Belgolaise (Belgo-Zairian Bank) has just put together for the use of its clientele a 'compendium' consisting of a condensed review of the diverse rulings governing the regulation of foreign exchange and foreign trade currently in force in the Republic of Zaire. This compendium will serve the purpose of publicizing matters which have undergone changes or have been inadequately defined. (Reglementation des Changes et du Commerce Exterieur en Republique du Zaire [Exchange and Foreign Trade Regulation in the Republic of Zaire]. Belgolaise, Cantersteen 1, Brussels.) [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561] 9353

OIL PRODUCTION--According to reports of the Cometra Oil Company (which participates through its American affiliate Muanda Oil Company in the production of 17.12 percent of the oil production of Zaire), the production of oil in the maritime region of Zaire ought to be around 6.2 million barrels in 1980 as contrasted with 7.61 million barrels in 1979. Cometra Oil reports on the other hand that Maunda Oil Company has established a financial company in Luxembourg, designated Interenergy Investment Corporation, of which it retains practically the entire amount of \$3.5 million capitalization, which was issued with a premium of \$2,975,000. The object of this company is to undertake participations in all enterprises connected with the petroleum and energy sectors. Furthermore, it announced that the board of directors of Maunda Oil has decided to transfer to Cometra Oil in the form of dividends as a deposit on the distribution of the profit the shares which it retains in the Interenergy Investment Corporation accounted for in the amount of \$6,469,000. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Oct 80 p 2561] 9353

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ZAMBIA

TENSE SOCIAL SITUATION REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Oct 80 pp 2628-2629

[Text] Shortly before his arrest by the Zambian authorities, the AFP correspondent in Lusaka sent a telegram to Paris providing an update on the social situation in Zambia, which has been very tense for the last few months, while the government's economic policy does not seem to satisfy the mass of the population.

The text of the telegram, dated 14 October was as follows:

"Zambia is now suffering a series of wild strikes by different categories of workers who find the cost of living intolerably high, and who have stopped working without waiting for the general strike directive from the Confederation of syndicates, whose president is Mr Frederic, Chiluba.

Indeed, the Zambian syndicate boss had announced at the end of September that the country was to prepare for a general strike before the end of the year, since the government and the single party had not satisfied the hopes of the workers.

The labor minister, Mr Joshua Lumina had hastened to reply by a warning to the trouble makers, whom "the authorities would not hesitate to have shot." The minister accused Mr Chiluba of political ambitions.

It seems to the observers that Mr Chiluba is prepared to assume the role of opponent, which cannot arise within the Unip party of President Kenneth Kaunda.

The country is also prey to an unprecedented crime wave, against which the forces of law and order are attempting to fight by means of reinforced controls and the sealing off of entire districts for days to arrest persons whose identity papers are not in order.

While the supplies of current commodities are inadequate and force the Zambians to wait in long lines to obtain soap, oil, milk, etc., the prospects of serious famine are taking shape.

This year Zambia harvested only 4 million sacks of maize, the staple food of its populations who need 8 million. This deficit of 50 percent of the cereals will have to be made up by imports coming from South Africa, for the third consecutive year.

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Thus the foreign exchange reserves from the sale of copper and cobalt must once again be used to pay for what Zambia should be able to produce itself, while its oil bill is already very high.

President Kaunda announced this year a Ten-Year-Plan to the tune of 500 million dollars for the purpose of assuring the autonomy of the country in the area of food by 1990.

But the observers express considerable reservations on the means contemplated, such as the creation of immense State farms, or the launching of new cooperatives, while all the previous experiments have ended in failures. Whereas daily living is a difficult struggle for the average citizen, corruption is spreading in the ruling circles. At the beginning of the month, the chief of police was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment for stealing a transmission belonging to the State.

President Kaunda, who is wary of his Army Chiefs, proceeds to the regular implementation of changes in the military hierarchy. The last one took place last week, but he had hardly appointed General Christopher Kabwe as Air Force Commander when the police arrested the newly promoted officer. We learn from informed sources that the general was importing automobiles for the Air Force, which he resold to civilians, whereas the vehicle imports are reduced to the minimum.

Whether the spark comes from the workers or the discontent of the Army, the situation may explode in Zambia, where the population expected from the end of the war in Rhodesia an improvement in everyday life, which is not in sight."

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ZIMBABWE

MUGABE CRITICAL OF FRENCH AID

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 29 Oct 80 p 75

[Report on an interview with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe]

[Text] Milton House is a large building, white and low, flush with the sidewalk, in the heart of the Salisbury business district.

After being for a century the residence of the British governors, then that of Ian Smith, Milton House accomodates today the services of the Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. With gestures of slightly awkward courtesy, the person to whom is assigned the task of reconciling with itself a country torn by 7 years of war received us in his icily austere office. This first interview with a French language newspaper took place in the very room in which only a year ago, Ian Smith was giving orders to the bombers of the Rhodesian Army to destroy with napalm the camps of a guerilla chief whose name nobody was then allowed to pronounce: Robert Mugabe,

Rehabilitation of the Guerillas

"This is the most thorny question. But strictly speaking, we are not talking of rehabilitation in civil life: only 7,000 fighters have asked for demobilization and this was accomplished without obstacles. The others, representing the majority, wish to retain their arms and be integrated within the new national army: this is where the problem lies. We cannot object to their choice and we are doing whatever lies within our power to have this integration achieved quickly. For these men have been living in assembly camps, the Assembly Points, since the cease-fire, that is, for 10 months, and the longer they remain, the greater their frustration and their patience. We want to prevent this situation from becoming explosive." Socialism: We want to prevent this situation from becoming explosive." Socialism: "There is basically nothing strange nor particular about the type of socialism which we wish to adopt. We have stated and repeated that our philosophy was inspired fundamentally by the principles of Marxism and Leninism. But only to the extent that these principles do not contradict our reality. Let us take the example of collective ownership of resources: the national riches belong to the people. Within this nation, the worker class represents a very small minority; it is not the class which struggled and suffered most during the armed combat: That was the class of farmers. Therefore the peasantry should be assigned the role of the driving social group, the avant-garde role in our society. And after all, the peasants have their own tradition of community work. Why should this tradition not be used as basis of the socialization of agriculture?"

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Nonalignment: That is the only means of contributing to world peace. Zimbabwe will be aligned with neither of the two blocs and will choose its friends according to its own interests and its own needs, whatever the bloc to which they belong: East or West.

French Speaking Africa: "Very few countries have actually contributed to our struggle. But French speaking Africa has in particular, hardly bothered about us. Why? Perhaps one should see in this France's influence and the fact that these countries take into account, in their analysis, the orientations of the French foreign policy. But I believe that French speaking Africa is now beginning to realize the need of having a dialogue with us and knowing us better. And this is what is important. The fact that any country should choose to be associated with either of the great powers is after all its own business, and its right."

France: "France granted a few university scholarships to some of our students and gave us a rather derisory subsidy. In any case, subsidy too small to be worth mentioning. Of course, Paris asserted that it would do all it could to help us, through the EEC channels. But on the other hand, it was France which put up the most obstacles to our joining the Lome Convention. This refers in particular to the quotas of sugar and meat which we would like to be able to export."

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