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31 March 1981

# Sub-Saharan Africa Report

FOUO No. 715



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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## INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

## BRIEFS

GHANAIAN COOPERATION--On 19 and 20 February, Ghanaian President Hilla Limann paid an official visit to Senegal during which he discussed the political situation on the African continent with President Abdou Diouf. Concerning economic affairs, according to the joint communique, the Ghanaian and Senegalese chiefs of state reaffirmed their determination to carry out the program of bilateral cooperation drawn up at the December meeting of the joint commission set up between the two countries. They agreed to implement procedures and means that will strengthen, broaden and diversify their cooperation. President Limann invited the Senegalese chief of state to visit Ghana at a date to be set later. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 483] 11,464

CHADIAN REFUGEES IN CAMEROON--The UN High Commission for Refugees has opened an elementary school for Chadian refugees in Kousseri, a Cameroonian city that is now home to some 100,000 Chadian refugees, according to a bulletin published by the High Commission on 19 February in Geneva. The school is operating with 40 Cameroonian teachers and 20 Chadian instructors. The High Commission has also sponsored 20 Chadian students so that they might be admitted to the University of Yaounde. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 493] 11,464

REBUILDING OF LIBYAN BANK--On 8 February the AFP [French Press Agency] correspondent in Ndjama reported on the rebuilding of the Chadian-Arab-Libyan Commerce and Development Bank, a project that contrasts sharply with the surrounding abandoned ruins constituted by many buildings in the Chadian capital. Since 14 January 54 workers have been working round the clock to rebuild this three-story building which burned down in February 1979 and is located not very far from the downtown area. Construction costs will come to 30 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs, according to the Chadian contractor. Aside from the prestige involved, the reopening of the Libyan bank may be interpreted as a gesture in aiding Ndjama to relaunch its economy. The absence of any bank in the Chadian capital is a deterrent to the resumption of economic activities. Today, due to the lack of security and safes, merchants deposit their money in Cameroon and Nigeria. Currency circulation is threatened in Ndjama where one no longer comes across anything but old, torn banknotes. Elsewhere, the Chadian Government is continuing its efforts to reopen the Central Bank and obtain funds to pay officials' salaries. Thus Mr Maina, Chad's chief treasurer, has again made a trip to Yaounde to discuss the matter. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 pp 379-380] 11466

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ANGOLA

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH BRAZIL VIEWED--Luis da Fonseca Santos, Angolan minister of construction, went to Rio de Janeiro on 21 January for a 12-day mission concerning Brazil's possible cooperation in the Angolan public housing construction program. The minister, who was due to have meetings with building contractors and government authorities in Salvador da Bahia, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, said that his mission was to get information about Brazilian experience in the construction area and to study the possibilities for concluding a cooperation agreement with Brazil for constructing public housing in Angola. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 391] 9631

UPDATED FISHING LEGISLATION--Emilio Guerra, minister of fisheries, has set up a committee tasked with updating the colonial-era fishing legislation still in force in Angola but which has become unsuited to present realities. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 391] 9631

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

DACKO'S REQUEST FOR BOKASSA'S EXTRADITION SEEN AS POLITICAL GESTURE

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 4 Feb 81 p 20

[Article by Jos-Blaise Alima: "Requiem for Six Accomplices"]

[Text] That which one could have taken to be winds of justice is undoubtedly nothing other than a simple political operation.

Six accomplices of Bokassa, condemned to death in February 1980 by the criminal court, were executed in Bangui on 24 January 1981 at dawn. Among those put to death were two high-ranking officers (General Joseph Mayomokola and Captain Joseph Mokoia) and two sons-in-law of the ex-emperor (Jean Bruno Dedeavode and Robert Boukende). Some are maintaining that the winds of justice are blowing on the banks of the Ubangi River. Indeed, the condemned men were blamed, to varying degrees, for having participated in the massacres perpetrated by Jean-Bedel Bokassa during the last 2 years of his reign. But the decision, because it was so sudden, has more the marks of a political operation than of a concern with justice.

A Semblance of a Trial

The executions in Bangui took place only a week before the constitutional referendum, a prelude to normal political life. In addition, presidential elections are scheduled for the month of March. Four weeks before the deadline, at least four candidates are preparing to seek the mandate of the voters. Like President Dacko himself, his three adversaries collaborated with the old regime. That is as true for Henri Maidou (Republican Party for Progress) as for Sylvestre Bangui (Rally for the Central African People) and Ange Patasse (Movement for Central African Liberation). Each of them will try to demonstrate that in actuality he did not actively take part in the imperial government. This is certainly what the various witnesses tried to do at the time of the sham trial of December 1980 at which Bokassa was condemned to death by default (J.A. No. 1044).

For President Dacko the past is over, and new structures must be set up. This resulted in the creation of his own party, the Central African Democratic Union in February 1980. On the advice of France, he tried at first to make a "democratic overture" toward Henri Maidou and Sylvestre Bangui. That alliance of convenience was brief, as Mr Maidou and Mr Bangui were each, in turn, ousted from the government.

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Today, Ange Patasse is the only front-ranking personality who has not yet collaborated with him.

There is also more and more talk of a Dacko-Patasse team (J.A. No. 1045). After more than a year of detention, the latter was released in November 1980. In January, he went before a tribunal which resulted in...a dismissed indictment.

#### Collegial Government

Everything happens as though the chief of state was concerned to deal considerably with the man who not so long ago was seen as his most intractable enemy. At the time of the ministerial shuffle of November 1980, did he not entrust the foreign affairs portfolio to a friend of Patasse, Father Ngaro, the only representative of a certain "opposition"?

This is why it is believed the two men may be able to reach an understanding on a collegial system of government. But first they must come out winners in an election which looks wide open. One might also speculate that President Dacko's gesture was inspired by those in the French capital who see Henri Maidou as a serious rival who also has solid Parisian support.

#### Half-Heartedly

In a similar vein, it is important to present the voters with a profile more flattering than one of an indecisive man manipulated by foreign advisers. David Dacko therefore wanted, for once, to show firmness. He knows that the demand for Bokassa's extradition--half-heartedly addressed to the Ivorian authorities--has no chance of being met. Since his popularity rating is not the highest--despite the introduction of a multi-party system--he must resort to spectacular action, even at the price of rolling a few heads. A strange sort of justice which executes simple nonentities, while leaving their master undisturbed to lead a pleasant life in a luxurious VIP villa in Abidjan. Will that suffice to exorcise the demon of Bokassa? Nothing is less certain.

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## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

## BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND LOAN--Jean-Pierre Le Bouder, the prime minister of the Central African Republic, stated in Bangui on 10 February that the IMF (International Monetary Fund) was to provide financial assistance to the CAR on the basis of a medium-term program to be initiated in 1981, totaling an aid of 4.4 billion CFA initially, followed by another 20 billion in 1982-1983. Le Bouder pointed out that this was a "minimum program and an absolute prerequisite for the foreign financiers of the Central African Republic to grant a moratorium to ease the foreign debt and diversify development financing sources, to be accomplished through the resumption of financial cooperation." The main lines of this program call for a three percent growth in output and a six percent growth in exports compared to the 1980 levels. Another IMF requirement would be an improvement and rationalization of the financial management of public and semipublic enterprises. This calls for a reduction of the 1981 budget deficit from 10 to 7.2 billion CFA francs. The 1980 balance of payments deficit would have to be reduced from 5.2 billion to 4.7 billion DFA francs this year. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 434] 5157

PEHOUA'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY--On 14 February Francois Pehoua, former minister under Emperor Bokassa and former director of central services of the Bank of Central African States (BCAS) announced in Bangui his candidacy for the presidency of the Central African Republic. He was thus the second candidate, after Tandalet Hozi Okito, president of the Central African Socialist Party (CSP) to announce his candidacy for the presidential elections which will take place 15 March next. [Excerpt] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 434] 5157

UN EMERGENCY AID--The Central African Republic (CAR) is a country in a state of extreme distress which the international community should provide emergency aid for from both the humanitarian and economic and financial standpoints. This is essence what UN Undersecretary for Special Political Affairs Abdulrahim Farah maintains in a report on the situation in this country made following the mission of investigation in the CAR which he was charged with by Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and which he completed on 4 February. As for /humanitarian aid/ [in boldface], Mr Farah feels that the CAR has urgent need of medicine, food, vaccines, hospital equipment, pumps and water filters, warehousing facilities and means of access to remote rural areas. In the /economic domain/ [in boldface], according to Mr Farah, the CAR is the victim of an extremely serious budget crisis which jeopardizes the maintenance of the public services, among others. The UN official pointed out that, in addition to the assistance the International Monetary Fund may in future provide it with, the Central African Government ought to appeal to the international community for substantial support: direct budget aid grants, donations and no-interest loans. Mr Farah's complete report will be published at a later date. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 379] 11466

LALA EXCLUDED FROM FPO--The Ubangi People's Patriotic Front (FPO), a Central African opposition movement whose president is Abel Goumba, publicly announced its decision on 20 February to exclude its former spokesman, Dr Iddi Lala. Lala, who works for a single opposition candidacy in the presidential elections to be held in the Central African Republic on 15 March, created the Central African National Liberation Movement (MCLN) at the end of December. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 493] 11,464

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CHAD

BRIEFS

GUNT CABINET MEETING--The Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Chad met in a Cabinet meeting on 19 February. According to the communique published following the meeting, the Cabinet decided to use "all possible means to demilitarize the city of Ndjamena." The measure was taken "in accordance with the Lagos accords," which bring together the 11 factions involved in a settlement of the conflict. The problem of the withdrawal of Libyan forces is not mentioned in the communique. The Cabinet also reaffirmed the need to fill the vacant posts of minister of defense, finance, development of the territory and reconstruction. Those holding the posts were respectively Hissein Habre, Mahamat Saleh and Hadjaro Senoussi, who were removed on 25 April 1980. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 493] 11,464

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CONGO

EFFORTS TO REVIVE SUGAR PRODUCTION DESCRIBED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 pp 381-382

[Article: "SUCO Renovation: Divergent Views on Production Capacity"]

[Text] At the present time Congo authorities are trying to obtain funding necessary for the renovation of SUCO (Congo Sugar Company, formerly SOSUNIARI [Niari Sugar Company]). Sugar production, which had risen to 100,000 tons before 1970, has gradually declined since then and, far from being able to honor its export commitments with African neighbors like the CAR, Congo cannot manage to supply its own national market.

Following nationalization of the company, which happened in 1970, problems have been multiplying at the level of technical production as well as those of organization and management. The authorities therefore decided to resume control of the situation and in August 1979 signed a contract for technical assistance with the SICAS [expansion unknown], an engineering, management and service company founded by the SOMDIAA (Multinational Development Company for Food-Producing Farm Industries of the Grands Moulins de Paris combine), and the HVA International NV [expansion unknown], a Dutch company.

The plan for the renovation of the mills is now ready but granters of funds have divergent views as to the capacity to allow for in the mills. For reasons having to do with "economies of scale [of operations]" and the profitability threshold, some would plan on a production capacity of 70,000 tons by 1985. Others feel that this figure is excessive because of [available] outlets. Actually, by that date the national market could absorb a maximum of 20,000 tons, which would leave 50,000 tons to be exported. The "quota" given in the sugar supplement to the first Lome agreement for exports guaranteed the EEC was 5,000 tons, but there has been a dispute over the application of the terms of the supplement and it is not certain that this figure will reappear in the next supplement to be negotiated in April. It seems that Angola would absorb at least 5,000 tons and the CAR and Zaire could resume their imports from Congo, but that would leave a large volume available for export to other countries and the sugar futures situation appears to be uncertain, despite the 1980 recovery.

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CONGO

## BRIEFS

GDR AIR AGREEMENT--An air transport agreement was signed on 12 February between the Congo and the GDR. The agreement stipulates that airplanes from either country will provide direct flights between the two capitals. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 436] 5157

'ANARCHIC PRICE INCREASE'--During a press conference, held in Brazzaville on 13 February, Elenga Ngaporo, Congolese minister of commerce, estimated that "the anarchic price increases of the beginning of the year were the consequences of the elimination of the National Solidarity Fund and the lowering of the income tax on salaries." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 436] 5157

BRAZILIAN COOPERATION--Following the official visit to Brazil by the Congolese minister of foreign affairs, Pierre Nze (MARCHES TROPICAUX, 20 February 1981), it has been announced in Brasilia that Brazil has granted a line of credit to the Congo amounting to \$18 million for the Pointe-Noire fishing port. Brazil will deliver fishing boats and build cold storage facilities and a pier for the Pointe-Noire fishing complex. In addition, the Congo has proposed that Brazil build hydroelectric dams and all or part of 4,000 km of roads, Nze said. On 18 February, the two countries signed an economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation agreement providing for the establishment of a joint commission. Brasilia and Brazzaville agreed to cooperate in the fields of oil, alternate forms of energy, agriculture and education as well. Brazil's possible participation in oil prospecting operations in the Congo was examined in Rio de Janeiro on 16 February by Brazilian officials and the Congolese minister of foreign affairs. Nze met with the acting president of the national company PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation]. Brasilia is to grant Brazzaville a line of credit for various projects but the amount has not yet been set. The Congo hopes that Brazil will participate in agricultural projects and the construction of roads to open up the country, hotels and housing. The Congolese minister of foreign affairs requested information on the production of alcohol fuel in Brazil. He said that his country produced sugar cane, manioc and wood, which could be used in the production of alcohol. Congolese Minister of Energy Rodolphe Adada will go to Brazil to study the signing of a offshore oil prospecting agreement for the Congo, in which PETROBRAS and HYDRO-CONGO would be partners. It should be noted that oil operations and prospecting in the Congo are now in the hands of ELF [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France], AGIP [Italian Petroleum Enterprise] and Esso, with only the first two acting as operators. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 494] 11,464

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FRENCH FINANCING AGREEMENTS—On 7 February in Brazzaville, three financing agreements for a total of Fr 12.45 million were signed between France, represented by its ambassador to Congo, Mr Andre Arnaud, and Congo. These three agreements have to do with studies on paper pulp, the rerouting of the Congo-Ocean Railroad and aid for the Trans-Congolese Communications Agency (ATC). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 382] 11466

REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION—Presided over by Col Sassou Nguesso, the 6 February Cabinet meeting was devoted to the examination and adoption of organization charts for the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock, Water and Forests, Justice and National Education. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 382] 11466

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KENYA

DEVALUATION OF SHILLING REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 384

[Text] On 3 February the Kenyan shilling was devaluated by about 5.07 percent in relation to the SDR. Up until then 1 SDR was worth 9.66 shillings. Now it is worth 10.15 shillings. In relation to the American dollar, the parity of \$1 to 8 shillings which had been previously established is now \$1 to 8.40 shillings.

The Nairobi government thus decided on a solution which it had for a long time rejected and, in announcing the news, the Central Bank of Kenya has attempted to minimize it by referring to it as a "slight adjustment." Moreover, the news reached Paris late, even at the embassy, and in the London press only the TIMES published it in its 4 February issue.

It is worth noting that, brought on by the economic and financial difficulties the country is experiencing, this devaluation was suggested neither when the largely deficit 1980-1981 budget (MTM, 27 June 1980, p 1637) was presented nor when the economic report for 1979, which outlined pessimistic prospects for the future (MTM, 20 June 1980, p 1573), was presented nor when the agreement concluded with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (MTM, 24 October and 14 November 1980, pp 2627 and 3042 respectively) last fall was signed either. While it was at the injunction of the IMF that it was decided on, it was not done so to the extent the latter had recommended which, according to Kenyan government circles, should have been set at at least 15 percent.

It is thus very likely that the measure that has been adopted constitutes merely a first stage which will be followed by others at some more or less near future time.

The effects of the present devaluation will produce an immediate rise in the prices of all imported products and articles and, in theory, an increased foreign demand for Kenyan products. It would be wise to wait and see whether Kenya can limit its imports and increase its exports, which would presuppose an increase in Kenyan production.

Now there is no chance of the country's ironing out its difficulties in a short time, those connected with its oil bill (while waiting for [the development of] other sources of energy, we can hardly see how it could be reduced by much) and its food purchases, brought on by drought and the drop in the price of coffee, a product that usually guarantees it most of its hard currency funds.



On the other hand, there is a good chance that the inflation rate, which last year came to about 14 percent, will rise just as will the balance of payments deficit.

According to the governor of the Central Bank, Mr Ducan Ndegwa, this balance, which still showed a surplus of 1.6 billion shillings in 1979, showed a deficit of 1.8 billion shillings in December 1980, thus indicating a drop of 3.4 billion shillings in 1 year's time.

And lastly, it is likely that the bank's foreign exchange reserves will also go into further decline. Also according to Mr Ndegwa, last November they covered only 3.4 months of imports, whereas the ideal figure has always been a coverage of at least 4 months.

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KENYA

## BRIEFS

MOI'S CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN CHIEFS--President Daniel Arap Moi, who went to the Sudan in December shortly after receiving the Ethiopian chief of state and who has only recently received the Gabonese president (MARCHES TROPICAUX, 5 and 12 December 1980 and 13 February 1981), has organized a new series of meetings with his counterparts from India, Nigeria and Djibouti. Leaving for Bombay on 22 February, he was to be in India until the 27th. He is expected in Lagos at the beginning of March and in Djibouti at the end of the month. His new contacts do not seem to have quite the same motivations as the preceding ones, which were almost exclusively on the subject of the search for a regional entente in the expanded Horn of Africa. His visit to India mainly appears to be linked to an attempt to strengthen cooperation between two partners of the Commonwealth which already have close trading relations. It should not be forgotten that Kenya has a large community of Indian nationals (some 100,000). His visit to Djibouti is the only one during which the problem of the regional entente mentioned previously -- an entente that would isolate Somalia -- could win out in discussions. Moi's visit to Nigeria will be of the greatest importance because of the many subjects that will be debated (from the Libyan intervention in Chad to the Saharan problem and including all those concerning southern Africa) and because of the importance of the federation on the African and even international scene. Moreover, this visit to Lagos should enable the Kenyan chief of state to become better prepared to assume his future duties as president of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), whose summit meeting will be held in Nairobi in the spring. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 496] 11,464

EFFECTIVENESS OF DEVALUATION QUESTIONED--It is still too early to tell the effects of the devaluation decreed on 3 February upon the injunction of the International Monetary Fund (MARCHES TROPICAUX of 13 February, p 384), but Kenyan businessmen doubt the effectiveness of this measure in aiding the country's economic and financial recovery. It is becoming increasingly obvious that Kenyans will have difficulty limiting their imports, which will cost 5 percent more, and in increasing the volume of their exports, now worth 5 percent less. The balance of payments and the trade balance may therefore experience a substantial worsening in their deficit in the weeks ahead. One should note the figures published by the Central Bank marking the disastrous trend of the situation in recent months. In particular, the balance of payments, which still had a surplus of 1.6 billion shillings at the end of 1979, showed a deficit of 241 million shillings by the end of March 1980. The drop speeded up throughout the year and the figure at the end of December was placed at

2 billion shillings (the deficit of 1.8 billion given previously corresponds to the middle of the month). As for the trade balance, its drop was even more vertiginous: The deficit at the end of December was some 5 billion shillings. For their part, foreign exchange reserves of the Central Bank have steadily dropped. From 4,971,000,000 shillings at the end of March 1980, they fell to 4,406,000,000 at the end of June, 3.91 billion at the end of October, 3,806,000,000 at the end of November and an estimated 3.5 billion by the end of January this year. The increase in the oil bill was the main cause of this deterioration. In fact, while between January and April 1979 that bill amounted to 3,674,000,000 shillings, over the first four months of 1980, it amounted to 5,933,000,000 (up 62 percent). It should be noted that during the periods in question, the deficit in the trade balance was respectively 975 million and 2,431,000,000. Finally, the Central Bank also indicates that authorizations to take out foreign currency rose from 5,797,000,000 shillings during the first quarter of 1979 to 9,715,000,000 during the same half of 1980 (up 67.6 percent). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 496] 11,464

PARLIAMENTARIANS TO ISRAEL—A delegation of Kenyan parliamentarians is to go to Israel during the second half of February at the invitation of a worker representative from that country, Mr Moshe Shahal, who visited in Nairobi 2 months ago. The Kenyan parliamentarians' visit will be the first one made by Africans to the Jewish state since the series of breaks in diplomatic relations following the Yom Kippur War in 1973. Before the war, Israel had maintained relations with many African countries and contributed to their development in various fields, particularly agriculture and construction. Let us, moreover, remember that, during the celebrated "Entebbe Operation" for the liberation of Israeli hostages in Uganda, Kenya allowed Israeli planes to land at Nairobi Airport to refuel, which contributed to the success of the operation. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 384] 11466

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTERS' MEETING—On 4 February in Nairobi, Foreign Office Undersecretary in Charge of Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce met with Kenyan Minister of Foreign Affairs Robert Ouko, with whom he discussed international and regional problems concerning Africa. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 384] 11466

ANTI-CATTLE THEFT MEASURES—Godfrey Kariuki, minister of state in the office of the president, announced that a measure had been adopted to punish cattle rustlers operating among the Turkana-Pokot and Samburu tribes living in the Rift Valley province. According to this measure, any tribe proven to be guilty of theft will be forced to pay an indemnity to the victimized tribe in cattle whose number would be equivalent to the number of heads of cattle stolen. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 438] 5157

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LIBERIA

DOE SAID TO BE PROVING EQUAL TO HIS RESPONSIBILITIES

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 18 Feb 81 p 35

[Article by Carlos Moore: "A Wink at Reagan"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] Sergeant Doe means to celebrate year one of the "redemption" by freeing the last political prisoners.

With its traditional arrogance, the American-Liberian elite (90,000 people) had predicted that the junta of sergeants and corporals in power since 12 April 1980, the date of William Tolbert's fall, would have "the longevity of ice-cream in the sun."/ Now, 2 months following the first anniversary of the assassination of the acting president of the OAU, the People's Redemption Council (CPR) and its 28-year-old president, Sergeant-Major Samuel K. Doe, are still doing well despite a plummeting economy, a continuing source of worry for the new leaders.

Against All Logic

At the time of the coup, the economic situation was not promising: only \$5 million in the treasury, \$700 million in external debt, and a scarcity of principal commodities. But against all financial logic, the junta doubled the soldiers' pay to \$250 per month and increased the functionaries' salaries to insure the support of the army and the civil service. The result: a deficit of more than \$50 million at the end of 1980.

Reconciliation

In early November of the same year, the climate was one of austerity in Monrovia when Doe, a man of few words who hides his face behind dark glasses, made public the 1980-1981 budget of only \$372.5 million, made possible by a draconian series of cuts in government expenditures (freeze on wages and hiring). All Liberians were made to buy savings bonds equivalent to 2 months' wages. Those measures should bring in \$50 million to the state.

To attract indispensable external aid, the junta initiated a policy of reconciliation with the rest of West Africa. Thus, it freed several dozen political prisoners, including Victoria Tolbert, widow of the former president. According to the authorities, less than 100 prisoners remain, and they will be released before 12 April.

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At the same time, Doe abandoned his flirtation with Ethiopia, Libya, Cuba, and the USSR. He even gave assurances to Washington that he would return power to civilian authority before the general elections scheduled for 1983.

At once, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) provided Liberia with an \$85 million credit. And the United States, whose investments in that country come to \$342 million, provided \$48 million in emergency assistance. At the end of January, in a wink at the new American administration, the NEW LIBERIAN, the junta's official organ, expressed the hope that President Ronald Reagan would "pick up things where the Carter administration left them." It is true that for Washington, where Liberia has always been regarded as a "friendly and allied" country, there is no question of pushing the junta into the arms of the USSR. Especially since Monrovia does not want a rupture and resolutely insists on recognition of its "veritable nonalignment."

Nevertheless, despite their efforts, the leaders have not yet succeeded in ridding themselves of their own authoritarian methods. The chief of state recently threatened to imprison the national soccer team if it lost to Gambia. Fortunately, the issue became moot when the match ended in a draw.

#### Barracks Life

Doe and his colleagues are respected for their integrity and their simplicity, two qualities lacking in the previous governments. The president of the CPR has traded Tolbert's Mercedes Benz for a modest Honda. His wife Nancy, illiterate, the mother of two children, continues to bring his meals to the office, as she did in the days of barracks life. And the diplomatic corps is unanimous: after a bloodbath for which he deserved to be banned from Africa, the little sergeant from Monrovia is showing himself each day to be more equal to his responsibilities.

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LIBERIA

BRIEFS

ROK CULTURAL AGREEMENT--On 6 February in Seoul, Gabriel Bacchus Matthews, Liberian minister of foreign affairs, and Kim Tong-hwi, acting minister of foreign affairs of South Korea, signed a bilateral cultural agreement. The Liberian minister signed the agreement following an official 4-day stay in South Korea and before going on to India. It should be recalled that on 22 January, the South Korean minister of science and technology went to Monrovia to deliver to the Liberian chief of state a special message from South Korean President Chon Doo Hwan. In the course of his 5-day visit, he also met with the ministers of foreign affairs, agriculture and education (MARCHES of 30 January, p 254). In addition, a Liberian delegation headed by the minister of commerce went to Seoul in December, at which time a trade agreement was signed between the two governments (MARCHES of 9 January, p 82). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 491] 11,464

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MADAGASCAR

RESURGENCE OF STUDENT UNREST PROBED

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 4 Feb 81 pp 34-35

[Article by Sennen Andriamirado: "When History Repeats Itself"]

[Text] Ten years after the fall of Tsiranana, is the big island going to experience a serious new crisis?

Early in the morning, vehicles leave the petroleum depot of Alarobia (northern outskirts of Antananarivo). Tank trucks lead the parade of motorists to the gasoline distribution stations. When the delivery men have exhausted their stock, the unlucky will have no other recourse but to abandon their cars and wait for the next uncertain delivery.

Still in Antananarivo, mixed patrols of soldiers, gendarmes and policemen, dressed in anti-riot gear, cover the commercial districts. They regularly disperse bands of ZOAM [Unemployed Youth of Madagascar] (an organization which unites all the marginal youth of the capital) attacking some store reserved for people with well filled wallets.

Bloody Repression

Further, in the arid South, an attempted coup was apparently foiled at the very last minute. Suicidal, because they have nothing to lose in a region where only thorny plants grow, the shepherds and farmers in the South revolt easily. In April 1971, supported by the MONIMA [National Movement for the Independence of Madagascar] Party (Madagascar to the Malagasy), they tolled the death knell of the regime of the late President Philibert Tsiranana: attacking the military posts virtually bare handed, hordes of have-nots took to the bush. The repression was bloody. The leader of MONIMA, the old nationalist Monja Jaona, who was arrested in a cave where he had set up his headquarters, was sentenced to prison -- it was not his first arrest. One year later, in May 1972, Madagascar rose up.

Today history seems to be repeating itself. Picked up while leaving a plane in Antananarivo, where he was to give a speech at the university, Monja Jaona has, since December 1980, been under house arrest. "For attempted uprising," President Didier Ratsiraka said. And also "to protect him," as he was threatened by an assassination plot. (See JEUNE AFRIQUE, No 1044). But this step once again turned the old man -- he is nearly 80 years old -- into a symbol of the resistance.

"Ratsiraka Has Rotten Luck"

The taking out of circulation of Monja Jaona, hardly suspected of aspiring to any kind of power -- he has never held that it is the vocation of a political party to hoist itself into a position of power in order to implement its program -- incites a stir. Support committees secretly distribute avenging pamphlets. Abroad, sympathizers state that the old leader is ill and is conducting a hunger strike. According to our information, this is not true (but Amnesty International, which requested a clarification from the Malagasy government, did not receive a response). Politicians, who had formerly decided that they would not get back into the arena, are taking up a position in his favor. This is the case for the writer and former Minister Jacques Rabemananjara who, following a total silence of 9 years, declared in Paris: "I am breaking the silence to demand the release of Monja Jaona."

These incidents reveal a malaise, the final result of which cannot be foreseen, but which is aggravated by... the war between Iraq and Iran. "Ratsiraka has rotten luck," a French minister told us. "He believed he would be able to save his regime with Iraq's help, but he had not foreseen that Saddam Hussein would go to war." At the beginning of 1980, when the treasury and the reserves of the Central Bank were nearly exhausted, the head of state had gone to Baghdad. He brought back an unhelped-for contract: an Iraqi promise to satisfy the essential petroleum needs of Madagascar at preferential prices and payable in the long term.

When the war broke out in the Gulf, Madagascar -- which imported 60 percent of its petroleum from Iraq -- found itself cut off. Factories were closed or slowed down. Economic projects were shelved.

Libyan Promises

At that point, ministers and financial and trade experts stretched out a hand throughout the world to find petroleum at a good price and on credit. Algeria, when contacted, was not able to do very much: its own financial situation requires it to demand cash payment. On the free market, the Malagasy have been offered a large amount of petroleum at advantageous credit conditions, but at... \$48 a barrel! Libya made promises, as usual: and, as usual, nothing came of them. And it was not without some satisfaction that a high French official told us: "I have never heard so many bad things said about the Libyans as in Madagascar." Only Saudi Arabia, encouraged by the United States, has condescended to help Didier Ratsiraka by agreeing to deliver petroleum without immediate payment.

Coping

The Western countries turned up their noses. The Malagasy file is apparently no longer "bankable": one only extends loans to the rich and Madagascar is far from being that. "Friendly" measures proved to be more harassing than saving: in December 1980, a French bank granted 10 million FMG [Malagasy francs] (the equivalent in CFA [African Financial Community] francs) to pay the personnel of certain embassies who had been waiting for their salary for 3 months.

The socialist friends, on the other hand, gave only what they had: weapons. But the Soviet Union has developed a very elaborate technique for the sale of arms. Deliveries are divided, on a quasi-compulsory basis, into three equal categories: a first one made up of gifts, a second one sold "at a price for friends" and a



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third one sold at the so-called "international" price. Thus, for lack of petroleum, Madagascar is overflowing with Kalashnikov rifles, tanks, Stalin organs and Mig 23's (which will be piloted by Vietnamese). This unprecedented -- and inexplicable, because no country is seriously thinking about invading the big island -- military reinforcement finally used up all the finances. In certain business circles it is even whispered that the next coffee harvest has already been traded for Soviet and North Korean weapons.

Ammunition and new equipment continue to flood into the port of Toamasina (the former Tamatave). These special supplies have priority on the trains connecting the Eastern coast with the capital. And in Antananarivo, as in all the cities, there is a continuing shortage of very basic commodities. This is the fault, less of production than of the distribution system. Even though it produces some 2 million tons of paddy a year, Madagascar has a shortage of rice: day and night, there are long lines of people in front of the stores to buy the 400 gram per person ration of rice (each Malagasy consumes between 145 and 166 kilograms of rice a year). There is a shortage of meat, even though the cattle population amounts to 6.4 million head (1977 figure). In the villages, where the needs are different from those in the cities, shortages are also becoming firmly established: few matches, few candles, little salt -- all things which are produced locally -- and, of course, no kerosine.

On the other side of the barrier, it is said more and more that "the dignitaries are not suffering from any shortages." In Madagascar, like everywhere else, among apparatchiks one copes, one stocks up from a parallel system, thus taking away from the normal network of rice, oil, soap and salt supplies. And "one" builds up personal reserves. There was a time when this was called "economic sabotage." Today, this economic malaise is aggravated by an undeniable social malaise. In the face of the crisis, socialism has produced privileged classes.

Hence, undoubtedly, those outbursts of violence and looting in Antananarivo. Hence also, this demon of the revolt which once again haunts the peasants. Hence, perhaps, this effort to equip militarily which, in the case of Madagascar, has no other justification than the defense of a regime.

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MALI

SURVEY OF BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH FRANCE

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 369

[Article: "Mali--From 29 January to 3 February in Paris: Conclusions of the Joint Commission on Franco-Malian Cooperation"]

[Text] The 21st session of the Joint Commission on Franco-Malian Cooperation was held in Paris from 29 January to 3 February 1981 to work out the bilateral cooperation program for 1981. The Malian delegation was led by Professor Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, seconded by Moulaye Mohamed Haidara, Mali's ambassador to France. The following points on the agenda were considered:

--Education--France is to take on around 200 additional scholarship students, representing a total sum of 10 million francs and financed in part by the Aid and Cooperation Fund and the rest by grants. The Malian scholarship students will be received in October at the start of the new academic year in universities. In addition, France will take steps to improve the quality of the French language instruction in the basic course of study by training the people doing the training.

--Health--France will renew its aid, particularly in order to provide medicine in the context of primary health care. A mission is to go to Mali to study the health problems there and evaluate French cooperation in this area. Finally, French aid will focus on facilities, especially by renovating the unit of the Bamako hospital where operations are performed.

--Culture--In this area aid will focus on finishing up the construction of the National Museum of Mali. The establishment of this museum had been decided on at the time of Giscard d'Estaing's official trip in February 1977. Robert Galley, French minister of cooperation, had laid the first stone in November 1979. The French Ministry of Cooperation will also focus on some technical assistance for organizing the museum.

Regarding economic development, overall investments of French aid for 1981 are on the level of 52 million French francs. The main efforts are the following:

--Development of cattle-raising in the Kayes and Nara regions particularly by setting up water supply sites in collaboration with Saudi Arabia; the cost is 2 million francs.

--Restructuring the OACV (Operation Peanuts/Food Crops) with regard to peanut production. An agency of more limited scope will be concerned with peanuts for oil (ODIPAC [expansion unknown]); its statutes are in the process of being worked out. In addition, a company will be set up in the San region for canning peanuts.

--Aid for starting up the Mali-South 2 operation and in particular a feasibility study (with Central Fund for Economic Cooperation involvement) which will be going on until May 1981.

--Restructuring the Malian Agricultural Products Office (OPAM): French technical assistance with a view to setting up a new enterprise.

--Carrying on with the Mopti-Rice operation.

--Agricultural development of Baguineda: France will no longer contribute assistance with regard to developing the irrigated perimeter but will continue its cooperation with the Mali Canned Foods Company (SOCAM) on the tomato puree factory.

--Support for the Niger Office: Central Fund involvement regarding the Costes canal and the World Bank taking over modernizing the Office; the total is 9 million francs.

--Extension of the Dire perimeter, and construction of an irrigated perimeter at Gao and three small dams in Dogon country.

--Aid for a study of possible utilization of cotton waste for a gas generator motor.

--French aid for setting up the National Agriculture Bank of Mali: the CCCE [Central Fund for Economic Cooperation] will be involved in the company's authorized capital and the FAC [Aid and Cooperation Fund] will contribute technical assistance.

--Finally, an agreement was signed for France to supply 5000 tons of corn under the heading of food aid.

In the area of industry and mining, France will support the BRGM [Geological and Mineral Prospecting Office] searches for gold and diamonds and the phosphate project of Tilemsi. Moreover, France will provide technical assistance to the ENERGIE DU MALI (EDM) company to repair the Dar es-Salaam plant. Regarding infrastructures, French aid will be provided for the construction of a bridge at Daba and the acquisition of a 20-kW radio transmitter. A team will also study the problems related to the Timbuctu waterworks.

It should be noted that Alioune Blondin Beye, Malian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, stated in Bamako on 3 February that he is "impressed by the good will shown by France," which, he added, "has chosen to respect Mali's two priorities, which are water problems and issues related to overcoming the land-locked nature of the territory" in the cooperation between the two countries.

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NIGER

MEETING OF DAM'S FINANCIAL BACKERS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 429

[Report: "Kandadji Moneylenders Meet in Niamey from 16 to 20 February"]

[Text] The first meeting of the fund lenders for the Kandadji Dam, the most important development project in Niger, opened on 16 February in Niamey under the chairmanship of Moussa Bako, the dam's high commissioner.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDA), the Kuwait Development Fund, the Islamic Bank, the World Bank, Canada, France, and the FRG.

The Kandadji Dam, which will be built on the Niger River, 180 km north of Niamey, at a distance of 65 km from the Malian border, will make the irrigation of 140,000 hectares of land possible. It will supply water to the communities along the Niger valley and provide electric power to the western part of the country.

The dam, most of which will be earthen, will be 8 km long and 40 meters high. According to the plans drawn up by the French Sofrelec company, it will cost about 100 billion CFA in fixed 1979 CFA rates, while the development of 140,000 hectares of irrigated land would require far more substantial funds.

West German experts, however, consider the Kandadji project too expensive and believe that it should be replaced by another project which would be better adapted to the country's possibilities. In this connection, during his visit to Niger last January, Rainer Offergeld, FRG minister of economic cooperation, had already stated that he approved of the main purpose of the project but believed that a less expensive alternative solution should be sought. France and the FRG were to finance the drafting of the technical plan for the dam.

The meeting of the lending institutions is scheduled to end on 20 February.

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SENEGAL

NEW GOVERNMENT'S CHANGE OF POLICY SURPRISES OPPOSITION

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 18 Feb 81 pp 26, 27

[Article by Sylviane Kamara: "First Steps Following Senghor"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] In the area of education particularly, the policy of President Diouf does not seem to be that of the former prime minister.

*/"De-Senghorization is beginning!/"* The 24-year-old student who spits out these brave words is visibly pleased. */"Finally, Senegal is starting to move!/"* Indeed, though it is at least inaccurate to speak of "desenghorization," Mr Abdou Diouf, in the 45 days he has served as president, has put the accent on change.

The announcement by Prime Minister Habib Thiam that "representative" political parties (J.A. No. 1049) would soon be legalized was one of the first signs, even though it remains a modest step. In reality, however many parties are authorized, Mr Thiam made clear, the government will make certain that */"stable majorities"/* are produced. In other words: a Socialist Party (PS) majority and a minority opposition, itself divided into several parties.

But the real initiative, the real change, is in the States General on education, which has been a rubber stamp. For the first time, a government has fundamentally reconsidered a policy that it has been implementing for 10 years. Opened by Habib Thiam on 27 January after having been announced since 1 January by Abdou Diouf, the States General brought together 2,000 people for 4 days to have in-depth discussions on problems in education.

Participants, besides the ministers concerned and all the syndicates, included teachers, hereditary chiefs, the federation of parents of pupils, and the economic and social council. Also included, and their presence attracted considerable notice, were the Muslim and Christian religious leaders and the SUDES (Sole Democratic Trade Union of Senegalese Teachers) which, since its creation in 1976, has been particularly pugnacious. This is the syndicate that, in 1980, carried out the strikes and boycotts that resulted in the suspension, discharge, and transfer of several dozen of its militants, whose reinstatement was demanded by the States General.

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### The People's School

The minister of national education, Abdel Kader Fall, set the tone for the meetings in his introductory report, acknowledging that the present system is extraverted and poorly adapted to Senegal's socio-cultural realities. Since December 1979, this is what most teachers had unsuccessfully and unceasingly proclaimed, calling for the upgrading of the profession, the improvement of working conditions, and the "establishment of a national commission on educational reform, with the participation of SUDES, primary and advanced pupils, parents, and all parties concerned." It has taken a year of strikes, dismissals, and vigorous police raids, for SUDES to get satisfaction.

"Incredible," exclaims a linguist with UNESCO. "Ten years ago, when we called for such a measure, the leaders cried out in protest." Corollary: suppression of the method known as CLAD (Dakar Applied Linguistics Center) developed by expatriates to teach French as well as the Senegalese languages considered as foreign languages. The bell is getting ready to toll for these expatriates, as the States General have called for the gradual elimination of technical assistance "which costs too much" within 5 years at the secondary level and 10 years at the university, the "decolonization" of which was fervently recommended.

Elimination, also gradually, of private schooling (112 Catholic institutions alone represent more than 10 percent of all students) and "prestige schools." The schools at issue here are probably the University for Mutants [translation unknown, probably the "specially gifted"] and the School of the National Order of the Lion, both located at Goree. The advisability of these schools in these austere times was seriously questioned. The new Senegalese school, "the people's school, expressing the people's needs," which will train handicapped youth and integrate practical training into its /cursus/, will remain secular but--and this is getting difficult to understand--also religious. Abdel Kader Fall confirmed it: religious teaching will be introduced "without restriction". Who would dare to oppose it? Does not SUDES maintain that it obtained an audience on 22 April 1980 with the prime minister of the time, Abdou Diouf thanks to the intervention of the Khalif General of the Mourides?

To successfully and totally recast the educational system requires money. If 30 percent of the budget puts only 30 percent of the children in school, the whole budget would have to be allocated to educate them all, as called for by the States General. Four financing ideas have been advanced: creation of a fund sustained by imposts levied on balls, dancing establishments, and other entertainment sites; redistribution of budgetary allocations; help from international institutions, along with the savings realized by eliminating the technical assistance which each year costs Senegal 5.5 billion Fr CFA (111 million French francs) and France 7.3 billion.

### Keep to Specifics

That same determination to keep to specifics and live within one's means marked the prime minister's speech before the assembly on 3 January. Mr Thiam, while announcing the continuation of the recovery program, opened up new perspectives.

Senegal is giving itself 4 years in which to reach a level of 8,000 new jobs per year, compared to only a few hundred at present. Investments on the order of 100 billion Fr CFA per year are expected. These measures will be accompanied by measures to protect local production and the development of exports, which only bring in 2.9 billion Fr CFA in customs duties, compared to 52.7 for imports.

Bank credit should go to the productive sectors. This has not been the case for the last 10 years, as it went primarily to finance real estate. In the agricultural sector, rural hydraulics and small community projects will have priority. There will be a boost, too, for the fishing sector and for oil and mineral research. /"Exactly the opposite of what has been done up to now,"/ comments a banking official. /"It was time to open our eyes, for we were only a few centimeters from the abyss."/

Sacred Union?

Some people are asking pointed questions about this sudden lucidity. Thus Fara N'Diaye, deputy secretary general of the Senegalese Democratic Party [notes]: /"Abdou Diouf carried out a policy against the interests of the country for 10 years. It was one of two things: either he approved it, or he was acting against his will. In any case, we are left to idle speculation about his motives. Similarly, if we are pleased with the results obtained by the States General on education, we say that the president showed himself to be weak in hastening to accept reforms that he had always fought. He had to do them, but not so quickly, not so precipitously."/

All the same, had the government continued the academic, social, and economic policies previously followed, an explosion was only a matter of time. Can the opposition, or more precisely the PDS [Senegalese Democratic Party], reproach him for trying to redress the balance by integrating into his program the demands of both sides?

/"They were caught short, actually. The government cut the ground from under them by trying to show itself as more liberal and democratic than they,"/ asserts a PS militant. /"The PDS never offers solutions, out of fear that someone will 'puncture its ideas' as Abdoulaye Wade has said, but it is in everyone's interest to close ranks around the new team, otherwise...."/

So, [is it to be] a sacred union? Certainly not, for the opposition has not abandoned the hope of forming a united front. Simply, realistically, it is waiting to see, while remaining vigilant.

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SENEGAL

RECOMMENDATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 368

[Text] The States General on Education, which was just held at the end of January in Dakar, brought together in a free debate, with no restrictions on participation or speaking time, over 2,000 people representing all the ministries involved in problems concerning education, training and youth, the teachers' unions, including the SUDES [Sole Democratic Trade Union of Senegalese Teachers] (a union opposed to the Senegalese Government's current education policy) and parents of pupils' organizations. A much-noted occurrence pointed out by the AFP [French Press Agency]: Moslem and Christian religious leaders took part in the debates.

The documents that were approved are an indication of a marked determination to make Senegalese schools more "people-oriented and democratic" by adapting them to "national realities." Thus the States General have decided to promote the national languages of Senegal in the schools and in the official life of the country.

A gradual reduction in foreign technical assistance and later its elimination in the field of secondary education within a period of 5 years and within 10 years time at the university was also requested.

The States General have recommended "the decolonization of the university and scientific research," the gradual elimination of private education, the systematization of religious education in elementary schools, the creation of a single ministry responsible for vocational training and education and the creation of regular channels leading to potential jobs.

Elimination of the audio-visual method of teaching French, which has been in use for over 10 years, was proposed. The institutionalization of the States General, which would be held every 4 years, was recommended as well as the creation of a national commission to study and follow up on educational problems. And lastly a reevaluation of the function of education was requested.

On the fringes of the debate, a motion calling on the government to rescind the suspension measures, dismissals or changes that affect SUDES members and requesting that union to postpone its promise to strike, planned for February, was voted on by the States General.

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SENEGAL

## BRIEFS

INTERPROFESSIONAL CONVENTION--Sixty of the 83 articles of the draft national inter-professional collective convention submitted in 1978 by the National Confederation of Senegalese Workers (CNTS) have already been adopted during the negotiations between employees and employers, on the one hand, and the government, on the other, which were resumed in March 1980 (see MTM 30 January p 248). This collective convention which, if enacted, would annul any previous ones, specifically calls for raising the ceiling of the seniority bonus from 15 to 25 percent; layoff compensation, currently set at 20 percent of the salary paid over the first 5 years of employment, 25 percent of the salary paid from the 6th to the 10th year, and 30 percent after that, would be respectively raised to 25, 30 and 40 percent; an increase in the death compensation which would correspond, for the 1st to the 5th year of work at an enterprise to a 2-month salary, a 3-month salary for the 6th to 10th year, and 4 months after 10 years would be increased; the overtime rate would be increased as well. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 424] 5157

DAKAR FREE ZONE--The revivifying of the Dakar free industrial zone within the framework of the government's policy of industrial development was mentioned on 10 February by Abdou Diouf, head of the state of Senegal, at the 10 February Council of Minister's meeting. He called for the fast formulation of legislation and regulations for the development of activities in this zone. Furthermore, discussing the struggle against customs fraud, the president called for the adoption of proper regulations which would increase the effectiveness of the competent services. He called for a meeting to be called within the most appropriate time of the national committee and of the regional committees of the struggle against fraud. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 424] 5157

FORESTRY PROJECTS--The International Development Association (IDA), a branch of the World Bank which offers easier terms, granted to Senegal a loan of 7.1 million SDR Special Drawing Rights (\$9.3 million) on 12 February, for a forestry project whose purpose is to meet the growing demand for heating wood and forestry products in Dakar and the heavily populated rural areas of the peanut cultivation basin. Text Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 424 5157

WADB LOAN--On 4 February Louis Alexandrenne, Senegal minister of plan and cooperation, signed in Lome a loan agreement with Pierre-Claver Damiba, president of the West African Development Bank (WADB). The agreement stipulates that the WADB will grant Senegal a loan totaling 661 million CFA using Senegalese resources as collateral, for the financing of the water damming project in Pout Nord. WADB investments in the country total 3 billion 402 million CFA francs for the financing of 7 project, one of which is regional. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 425] 5157

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES--At the 9 February meeting of the Council of Ministers, Senegalese Prime Minister Habib Thiam emphasized the need to continue the action undertaken to ensure strict management of public finances and issued instructions. He also gave instructions for the development of legislation aimed at promoting small and medium-size enterprises within the framework of the effort to relaunch investments. Also in connection with the economic and financial recovery plan, Habib Thiam asked the minister of commerce to work to reduce the deficit in the trade balance. Finally, the head of the government approved the measures recommended by the minister of rural development to reconstitute the amount of seed on hand. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 484] 11,464

FRENCH SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION--Following French Secretary of State for Scientific Research Pierre Aigrain's visit to Dakar from 29 to 31 January, a communique has been issued announcing a soon-to-be-established Franco-Senegalese scientific prize designed to encourage researchers of all nationalities to solve the problems that exist in the Sudan-Sahel region. The communique leads us to predict a strengthening of the bonds of Franco-Senegalese cooperation in the fields of programming, agricultural and agro-industrial research, renewable sources of energy, medical and pharmaceutical research, remote detection devices and data processing. They also plan to send Senegalese trainees to France and French missions to Senegal. Mr Aigrain said that Senegalese Prime Minister Habib Thiam had informed him as to Senegal's needs in the field of refrigeration. He said that he shared Mr Thiam's point of view on the kind of priority to be granted research and training in this field. Senegalese Secretary of State for Scientific Research Jacques Kiouf said that the two countries were in agreement on granting major importance to the solution of energy problems. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 13 Feb 81 p 368] 11466

ITALIAN FOOD AID--Because of the drought, in keeping with an agreement signed at the end of January in Dakar, Italy will supply food aid amounting to 3,312 tons of wheat flour and 5,000 tons of grain. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 27 Feb 81 p 484] 11,464

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TANZANIA

BRIEFS

COCONUT PALM PROJECT--According to the Tanzanian minister of agriculture a program for the planting of coconut trees, initiated in January 1980 with the assistance of the FRG and the IDA (International Development Agency, branch of the World Bank), is progressing normally. Six months after its initiation 30,000 hybrid plants were ready to be transplanted in Mafia, Zanzibar, Bagamoyo and Tanga nurseries. Nevertheless, the first coconuts to be harvested from such hybrid coconut trees cannot be marketed before a four-year period. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANNEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 438] 5157

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UPPER VOLTA

FINANCE, RURAL AID, NEW GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITIES

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 428

[Text] Cleaning up the finances, improving the administration's image and coming to the aid of the rural population: right now these are the three priorities of the military government that took power last November 25 in Upper Volta. As for other problems, especially the one about future institutional structures, they seem to have been relegated to the background.

The new government is confronted with a difficult economic and financial situation (see MTM, Feb 6, p 311) and in order to remedy it, it has decided to reduce the current year's budget by reducing in particular non-priority government spending, and by eliminating certain administrative positions. From some 46 billion CFA francs, the 1981 budget has lowered to 40.5 billion, a total more consistent with Upper Volta's actual situation.

Stricter controls will be put into effect in order to ensure returns from taxes, duties and tariffs. An investigative and auditing committee is scrutinizing the accounts of government organizations and ministries, while the former Upper Voltan officials are detained at Ouagadougou or Bobo-Dioulasso waiting to be eventually hauled into court.

The government has also opened communications with the labor unions, that had precipitated the fall of the government of President Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana last November, as they had already done with the government of President Yameogo in 1966. By receiving the representatives of the leading unions at the end of January, Head of State Colonel Saye Zerbo emphasized the urgent need for moderation in view of the state of the national economy, while assuring them that union freedoms will continue to be guaranteed.

Although this meeting has made it possible to extend the union truce, it has not really changed the situation which remains potentially tense. It is not certain whether the emphasis put by Upper Volta's Head of State on the "obligation" of the unions toward the national community touched them, since they are more oriented toward demands than toward cooperation with the State, the principal employer in Upper Volta.

The concern about curtailing the demands of the urban sector is on a par with the government's desire to improve the living conditions of the rural population.

Thus, notes the AFP, they are very much counting on the mission of the World Bank, expected in Ouagadougou in the near future, for obtaining the necessary funds to begin several agricultural development projects.

However, what's called for are not isolated actions, but a protracted effort which, in order to have good results, requires administrative and governmental stability. With these actualities in Upper Volta for a backdrop, therefore, the government envisages the creation of "truly democratic" institutions, for example, a national consultative council. At the end of January, in an interview granted to the national press, Colonel Zerbo declared: "Perhaps it is an idea that we will have to examine when the need for it has been felt."

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UPPER VOLTA

## BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH FRG--As reported by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, on January 29 the Council of Ministers of Upper Volta adopted a plan agreeing to financial cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). By virtue of this arrangement, the FRG agrees to contribute to the asphaltting of the Banfora Road, the boundary with the Ivory Coast, for a sum of 32 million Deutsche marks. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 428] 9776

PILOT PERIMETER--On January 29 the Council of Ministers of Upper Volta made a close study of the problem of administering the pilot perimeter of Bagre (a development of 5,000 hectares). It has indicated its agreement to entrust the development, staffing, and administration of the perimeter for a period of 3 years to the Grenoble Company of Hydro-electric Studies and Development (Sogreah). The sum of these contributions amounts to 84.45 million CFA, representing Upper Volta's share for executing the project. The total cost of the project is 590 million CFA. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 428] 9776

AIR VOLTA--On January 29 the Council of Ministers of Upper Volta studied the difficult financial situation of the national firm Air Volta. This business was created in 1966 with capital of 35 million CFA. Now the firm reports a deficit of 106 million CFA as a result of various factors, in particular the decision by officials that the firm develop certain domestic lines and take advantage of the pilgrimages to Mecca in 1978 and 1979. In order to get out of this mess, the Council has had to examine recovery measures recommended by the company's Board of Directors since the end of August 1980 and has kept the possibility of a subsidy in mind until after investigating the past administration. Even more radical measures might be envisioned. The analysis of this problem has led the Council to raise the more general problem of the administration of public firms and establishments. From this analysis, the absolute necessity of reforming this administration has become evident, which should take into account certain national facts. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 428] 9776

RADIO AGREEMENTS--The Council of Ministers of Upper Volta adopted on January 14 two bills providing for the installation of headquarters buildings between the Republic of Upper Volta and the Regional Center of Ouagadougou on the one hand, and the Union of African National Radio-Television Union (URTNA) on the other, on behalf of the Interafrican Rural Radio Studies Center of Ouagadougou (CIERO). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 428] 9776

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ZAIRE

ALLOTMENT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE DETAILED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 30 Jan 81 p 260

[Article: "The Methods of Allocating Allotments of Foreign Exchange to Importers"]

[Text] Via a letter dated 29 July 1980, the Bank of Zaire had notified concerned banks of the allocation of foreign exchange allotments for the use of importers doing business in Zaire, allotments meant to insure the country's supply of indispensable commodities. These allotments, totalling 50 million dollars, were to be made available in three segments, 20 million, 15 million and 15 million (c.f. MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 22 August 1980, p 2090).

The first of these allotments (20 million) was allocated and distributed in August 1980, and the Bank of Zaire proceeded last December to make the second segment available, 15 million dollars. The methods by which this can be tapped follow below, as specified in a Belgolaise memorandum:

- 1) Zairian banks, on the condition that before 31 December 1980 they had built up at least 50 percent of the funds in zaires by taking them out of the credit accounts of the importers who are to use the foreign exchange, can obtain transfer of the foreign exchange needed to cover payments up to a limit of the sum in dollars (or the equivalent in another foreign currency) of each allotment.
- 2) The companies using the foreign exchange must present their respective banks with "Type 1 import declarations" up to the limit of the allotted sums and which show the CIF value of the goods. If the permit requests are filled out and presented by importers in accordance with the relevant instructions, the banks are authorized to go ahead and register them without preliminary certification by the Bank of Zaire, unless the request relates to import by air transport, in which case preliminary certification by the Bank of Zaire is necessary.
- 3) Zairian banks can only accept "Type 1's" submitted for importing goods meant for industrial use or company facilities. This excludes any good meant for resale.
- 4) "Type 1" permits including import requests for iron and steel or tire-related goods must be accompanied by an authorization issued by the appropriate company in Kinshasa, SOSIDER [Iron and Steel Company] or Goodyear.

5) "Type 1's" must be submitted and validated by Zairian banks before 31 January 1981. After that deadline no more permit requests can be accepted by a registered bank except by express authorization of the Bank of Zaire.

6) Payment for goods to be imported under this allotment can be effected:

--either by documentary letter of credit not covering exchange rate risk and made payable either "on embarkation," in return for the mandated 6 percent discount off the FOB price, or at a time at least 90 days from the embarkation date (without the seller being able to recover financing costs) (N.B. Possible expenses and commission fees connected with confirming letters of credit are payable by sellers.); or

--by documentary remittance; or

--by direct transfer.

7) Zairian banks are already authorized to extend the validity of the "Type 1's" they have validated but on the condition that the request be presented before the valid time limit "for importing" expires and with back-up from either a document constituting proof of loading or a certificate establishing that delivery has started to be carried out.

Since no exceptions are anticipated, the relevant "Type 1's" will simply become invalid if extension requests are not accompanied by one of the above documents.

8) In accordance with the general system of regulations, items imported in this context are subject to inspection before loading which must be done by the Zairian Control Office (OZAC). Supply contracts must make provision for this specification and no departure from this requirement will be allowed.

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH SOUTH KOREA--On 12 January President Mobutu Sese Seko received the South Korean minister of science and technology. At the end of their meeting the South Korean minister stated that the exchange of trainees and researchers and the organization of joint research could be forthcoming in the framework of scientific cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 30 Jan 81 p 260] 9631

BUTA-ZENGA AIRPORT--Officially inaugurated last November, Zaire's Buta-Zenga airport is open to short-range and medium-range aircraft. It has a 2100-meter long runway and is equipped with runway lights and radio beacons. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 318] 9631

USSR AT FIKIN IN 1981--The Soviet Union will participate in the upcoming Kinshasa International Fair [FIKIN] this year. That is what was indicated recently by the USSR's ambassador in Kinshasa, who also stated that the USSR's imports of Zairian ore and tropical wood in 1980 had tripled in comparison to 1979 and amounted to around 10 million dollars. We would also point out that, in the context of trade relations, the Zairian Executive Council has negotiated the import of Lada and Niva brand vehicles. In the framework of the Joint Commission a maritime agreement was signed in 1980 in Kinshasa and a meeting in Moscow of the two parties is planned for this current year. He also mentioned the inauguration in 1979 of Aeroflot's air link between Kinshasa and Moscow; the USSR would like to see Air Zaire also serve that route in the future. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 318] 9631

YUGOSLAVIA: AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS--A Yugoslav agricultural mission led by Stanislav Stanisevljenic, an engineer and director-delegate general of the Beograd-TKD Agricultural-Industrial Complex, came to Kinshasa at the end of 1980 in order to examine with Zairian authorities the possibility of accomplishing projects accepted at the second session of the Principal Zairian-Yugoslav Joint Commission which had taken place earlier in Belgrade. These projects involve farming and processing of food products--corn, soybeans, etc.--in the capital's green belt as well as in the Bas-Zaire region. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 318] 9631

ROMANIAN WOOD INDUSTRY DELEGATION--A Romanian delegation led by Theodor Ceausescu, adviser to the minister of forestry economy and construction materials, came to Kinshasa for a stay at the end of 1980. Together with Zairian authorities the

delegation examined the conditions for building an industrial complex for developing the Zairian wood industry. This was by way of implementing the resolutions decided on by the fourth session of the Zairian-Romanian Joint Commission in March 1980 in Bucharest. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 318] 9631

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ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

IMF DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL--A delegation of four representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) arrived in Lusaka on 16 February for discussions with officials from the ministry of finance concerning a loan request for \$550 million filed by Zambia. Las year the IMF and the Zambian officials held several meetings on this subject. They were interrupted in order to allow Kebby Musokotwane, minister of finance, to submit the budget to parliament (see MTM of 13 February 1981, p 385). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 20 Feb 81 p 439] 5157

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