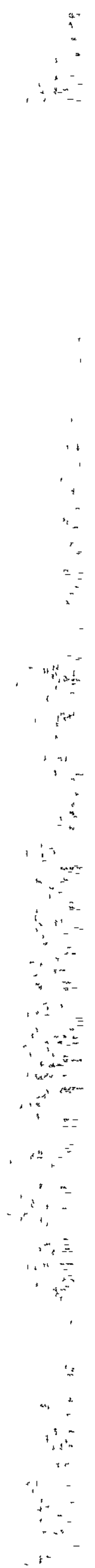


# MOZAMBIQUE - GENERAL

1994



# Mozambique gas project could fuel SA energy market

By KEVIN DAVIE

THE World Bank is ready to help fund a multi-billion rand project that could in time be part of gas pipeline criss-crossing much of the sub-continent. (218)

The bank has funded a pre-feasibility study of the Pande gas field in Mozambique, and bank staffers believe that a pipeline could be built within a few years to bring the gas to the Reef.

Natural gas could make a substantial contribution to the SA energy market. One estimate is that Pande gas could make annual savings in SA of R5-billion.

The possibility exists later that natural gas pipelines could link the sub-continent from Pande via SA to the Kudu gas field off Namibia, and include fields in Angola and Tanzania. *SITimes 2/11/94*

Pande, 800km north of Maputo, will include a R136-million field and a R2-billion to R2,7-billion pipeline to Komatiapoort, going on to Richard's Bay or Secunda.

Sasol is said to be interested in the project and has a one-year, first-refusal option with the Mozambican authority, Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos. This agreement is expected to be renewed soon. (18)

Argentinian company PlusPetrol has expressed interest in operating the field. Other South African private and public companies are expected to participate, and meetings are scheduled for early this year.

Pre-feasibility studies funded by the bank have shown gas reserves of about 20 years. Further tests are being conducted as project participants believe 30 to 40 years' supply will provide a more acceptable cushion for the project. (Buss)

The plan is to pipe methane gas to the Reef where it will be a substitute for fuel, producer gas, liquid petroleum gas and paraffin. A source says the project will show a good return even at low current crude prices of about R47,60 a barrel.

Natural gas could supply 25% to 30% of SA's energy needs. In cases, natural gas supplies 45% of domestic energy.

The SA government will be involved in the project as contracts will have to be

signed with the Mozambican government.

Talks are proceeding on how best to structure the deal, and there are also ongoing attempts to net a big international player into the project.

The World Bank is expected to produce a project information document within the next few weeks.

The project investigation has led to concern in SA industry circles that the feasibility studies have been conducted on the current high gas prices in SA. But Sasol says these prices are not artificially high.

Industry sources say gas prices are at least twice the international average as the government prohibits LPG imports. LPG prices are linked to producer gas prices.

Sasol says pricing is coupled to 93 octane fuel as LPG is converted to petrol to maintain the LPG demand supply balance.

Sasol reportedly earned R100-million profit from gas sales last year. It says its wholly owned company, Gaskor, is a Section 21 non-profit company.

It is understood that the pricing structure for the Pande project is still to be determined.

Eskom has been approached to build a power station in Maputo that will use Pande gas, but it has a huge over-capacity, and sees the project as unlikely.

Petronet, which operates pipelines in SA for Transnet, says it is not involved in the Pande project.

The Central Energy Fund's Danie Vorster says "apart from commercial services supplied by Soekor when the Pande 11 well was drilled, CEF or any of its subsidiaries are not involved in the Pande Gas Project."

AECI spokesman Robbie Vermont says they are not involved but "should gas from the fields become available, AECI would most likely be in the market to purchase some of it."

Sasol says a meeting with its Pande partners is to be held this month.

# focus on Mozambique

Sowetan 3/1/94

**M**APUTO — A key Mozambican government minister in negotiations with the Renamo opposition says the peace process is not yet irreversible and conditions for multiparty elections have yet to be established

"Optimistic declarations, without anything on the ground to justify that optimism, are nothing more than propaganda for the international Press," said labour minister Mr Teodato Hunguana in a two-page interview in yesterday's issue of the Maputo weekly *Domingo*

Hunguana, a member of the government team which negotiated the 1992 peace agreement with Renamo rebels that ended 16 years of civil war, was apparently referring to optimistic comments last month by the UN special representative in Mozambique, Mr Aldo Ajello

## Irreversible process

Ajello said the peace process was irreversible and the October 1994 target for the country's first multiparty elections was now "more realistic than had been thought"

But Hunguana, who is still a senior negotiator in continuing talks with Renamo, said appropriate conditions for October elections had not yet been established

"We have a lot to do to set up those conditions. Let us not deceive ourselves. We are way behind schedule, and we need to create the conditions

Despite assurances to the contrary, the Mozambican peace process is not yet irreversible, says a minister handling government negotiations with the Renamo opposition. *Sapa-Reuter* reports:

that would make elections possible in October," he said

The alternative would be to hold elections "in any old way", regardless of the real situation on the ground

"We have to hold elections, but it can't be in a disorganised manner," he said

Hunguana was worried at the slow pace of gathering government and Renamo forces in UN-run assembly points spread throughout Mozambique

So far only about 12 000 men are in the assembly points, out of a total of 80 000 who must pass through them. This number was merely symbolic, said Hunguana

"Right now, we don't need signs or symbols. We need facts that make the peace process irreversible"

He said those in the South African military, who controlled Renamo through the 1980s, might still be interested in destabilising Mozam-

218

bique

"Those forces, which waged the war from South Africa, who used Mozambicans as their instruments to wage war, have not been completely disarmed or neutralised", he said

"They still exist. We look at South Africa and we see that they are the same forces who are disturbing the process of normalisation within South Africa itself" — *Sapa-Reuter*

**Optimistic declarations, without anything on the ground to justify that optimism, are nothing more than propaganda for the international Press**



Star 4/11/94

## 4 581 Renamo come in

Maputo — The Mozambican government sent only one soldier to UN-run assembly points over the weekend compared to 410 by the former rebel movement Renamo, UN officials said yesterday.

The UN peacekeeping operation in Mozambique said in a statement there were now a total of 8 300 government troops and 4 581 Renamo guerillas in the assembly points set up under the terms of an October 1992 peace agreement which ended a 16-year war between the government and Renamo.

The agency said over the New

Year weekend 410 Renamo guerillas arrived at the assembly points.

The organisation said the eventual aim is to bring in a total of 61 638 soldiers and 19 140 former rebels, on their way either to demobilisation or to incorporation in a 30 000-man unified defence force, before multiparty elections next October. (218)

The first assembly points opened at the end of November and initially the government moved its men into them at a faster rate than Renamo — Sapa-Reuter



# Radio Pretoria hears govt ruling today

THE right-wing radio station Radio Pretoria would hear today whether its temporary licence granted last month was to be extended, a government official said yesterday

The official said the station had applied to have its licence, which expires at midnight tonight, extended. **BIDON 4/11/94**

He said a meeting would take place between government officials and the station today, and a decision was expected to be announced this afternoon

Last year right-wingers responded to a call to protect the station

**GAVIN DU VENAGE**

after government threatened to send in technicians to shut down the transmitter

More than 200 armed men made themselves available to guard the station, which was surrounded by barbed wire and fortified.

Last week station head Mossie van den Berg appealed for proponents of free speech to support the station's attempts to continue its broadcasts.

Right-wing organisations said at

the weekend they would support the station if it continued to broadcast in defiance of government if an extension of its licence was refused

The Pretoria Boerekommando and other organisations pledged their support for the station.

Afrikaner Volksfront spokesman Steve Manninger said the station should be allowed to continue operating. It had become "an emotional issue that had to be handled with sensitivity".

If government wanted to defuse tensions, it should allow it to operate legitimately, he said.

# Volkstaat talks with ANC 'treason'

THE far right-wing Boere Weerstandsbeweging (BWB) said yesterday it would fight any agreement on a volkstaat that did not conform to the boundaries of the old Boer republics **BIDON 4/11/94**

BWB leader Andrew Ford said the organisation would regard any agreement negotiated by the Afrikaner Volksfront with the ANC as "treason".

The Volksfront's volkstaat boundaries were an unacceptable compromise, he said. Ford said the BWB rejected attempts to create "white islands in a black sea".

The Volksfront wants to create a volkstaat incorporating large areas of the Transvaal but excluding much of the PWV area and the Free State.

Ford said Afrikaners had a historical claim on the entire Free State and Transvaal and sections of northern Natal.

Ford said the Volksfront claimed at its launch that it would fight for the rights of Afrikaners, but was now backtracking by

**GAVIN DU VENAGE**

talking to the ANC

Sapa reports Ford said such plans would amount to treason, equal to that of government against the Boer nation

The Boer republics belonged to the Boer nation and right-wingers would not negotiate for something they already owned, said Ford

The BWB and Boer nation would die to maintain ownership of the Boer republics.

The Volksfront's claim that it was talking only to nationalists in the ANC, and not communists, was beyond comprehension.

Ford added that BWB members who had been part of the Volksfront had withdrawn their membership. The BWB itself had never been part of the Volksfront.

Volksfront spokesman Steve Manninger dismissed Ford's accusations. He said yesterday the Volksfront "would never negotiate away the rights of the Afrikaner".

# On the road to recovery

**BIDON 4/11/94**

MAPUTO — Mozambique was well on the road to recovery from years of famine caused by war and drought, the UN World Food Programme director in Mozambique told yesterday's Noticias daily paper

WFP director Phillip Clarke said that "with good rains and lasting peace, Mozambique is on the way to recuperating" **(218)**

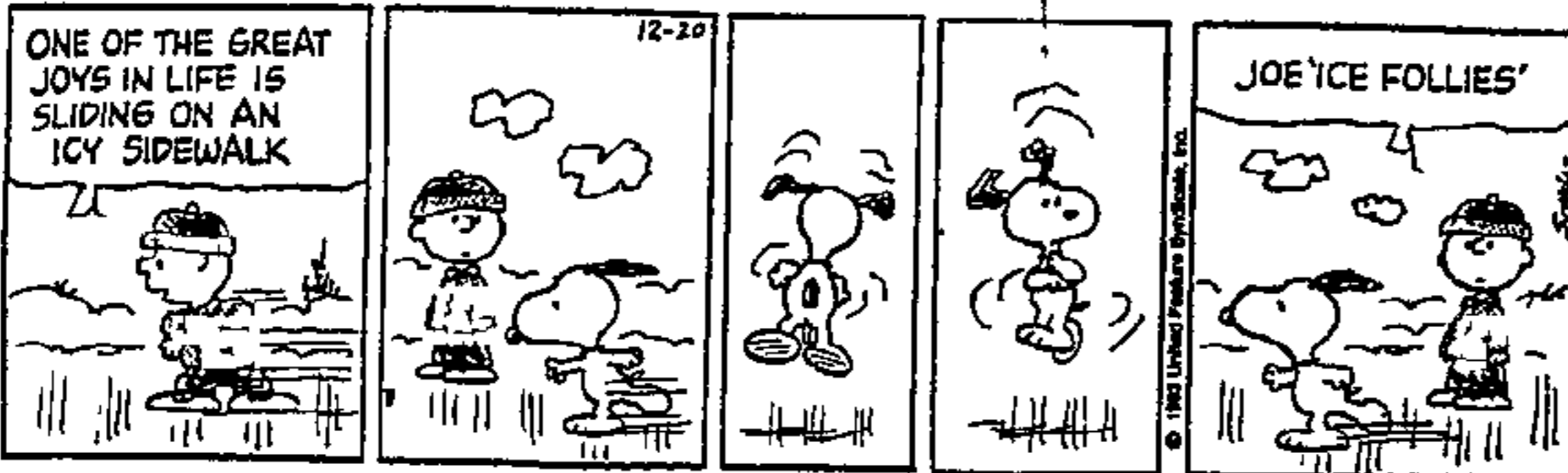
Clarke said that last year Mozambique reaped its first improved harvest for many years, gathering 533 000 tons of maize compared to just 133 000 tons in 1992.

UN figures suggested over 1,5-million people of nearly 3-million needing food aid in 1992 were now able to support themselves.

Nonetheless, with Mozambique still in transition and after two years of severe drought from 1991-92, it would still need 790 000 tons of cereal imports to feed its 16-million people, in the 1993/94 commercial year, according to the WFP. — Sapa-AFP

## PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



# Maputo wary of SA fiddles

Sowetan 5/11/94

218

African military who had backed Renamo throughout the 1980s may still be interested in destabilising Mozambique

"Those forces which waged the war from inside South Africa, those forces which used Mozambicans as their instruments, are not completely disarmed or neutralised," he said "They still exist. If we look at South Africa we see that they are the same forces that are disturbing the process of normalisation there, too"

The obstacles in South Africa's path to democracy "cannot be viewed just as difficulties for South Africa", said Hunguana. "They are difficulties that are part of a regional process"

**Sowetan Africa News Service**  
**MAPUTO** — Forces inside South Africa may still be backing Renamo and peace is not yet irreversible, a senior Mozambican minister has warned in an interview in the Maputo Sunday paper *Domingo*

Labour Minister Teodato Hunguana, a key member of the government team that negotiated the 1992 peace accord with Renamo, warned that "there is still no evidence that Renamo has weaned itself away from dependence on foreign forces, that it is carrying out Mozambican strategies determined by itself"

He said those elements in the South



Flashback: Renamo used children as young as 10 years to wage war against the Frelimo government which says Renamo is still not committed to peace.



**NEWS FEATURE** *As Mozambique inches toward peace, grinding poverty threatens rioting*

# The daily struggle to survive

Sowetan 5/1/94

**M**APUTO — While devastated Mozambique makes halting steps towards peace and democracy, popular discontent at economic hardships simmers beneath the surface

The government and the rebel movement Renamo have stopped fighting after 16 years of civil war but many Mozambicans are still struggling to feed themselves and make ends meet

Desperate crowds noted earlier this month in the capital Maputo, for example, when private minibus taxis doubled fares to 1 000 meticals (20 cents)

"This could be the start of more discontent," one Western diplomat said of the riots, in which at least five people were killed and 55 injured. "I don't see how many people can get by"

The discontent, in one of the world's poorest countries, comes at a particularly delicate juncture as Mozambique prepares for its first multiparty elections in October

At least 1,5 million refugees are returning from neighbouring countries and tens of thousands of soldiers from both sides are going back to civilian life

Diplomats are watching nervously as the government and Renamo bicker at every turn in the transition to peace

Lately they have been sparring over plans to demobilise 60 000 government and 20 000 Renamo fighters and create a single national army

According to the United Nations, which is supervising the demobilisation, only 5 468 government and 876 Renamo troops had arrived at 20 assembly points by December 15, a year after the process was meant to start

The government accuses Renamo of endangering the peace process by failing to hand in weapons on time. But Renamo officials shrug off the delays as logistical problems saying their men have had to trek in on foot

The demobilisation will also add to the strains on an agrarian economy sapped by war and inefficient Socialist experiments by the formerly Marxist Frelimo party, which has ruled since independence from Portugal in 1975

Roads are mined, bridges blown up and fertile land lies fallow. Mozambique is almost wholly dependent on outside aid

The average per capita income for the country's 15 million people is R180 a year, the metical has lost 40 percent of its value over the past four months and most people in Maputo take second jobs in order to survive

The revival of tourism from neighbouring South Africa and the influx of thousands of foreign peacekeepers and aid workers have put a gloss on the city, where new cafes are springing up, buildings are being repainted and hotels are always packed

But the foreign money pouring in has contributed to inflation and helped distort the economy, economists say

In the shanty towns surrounding the capital residents complain that the rise in transport costs meant it was not worth going to work. The city ground to a halt for a couple of days until many taxi operators lowered their fares

"I have to do economic gymnastics each month. It gets harder and harder to get by," said Aida, a civil servant and mother of two who considers herself lucky to have a rundown concrete house and a salary above the minimum of R45 a month

She and her husband are expecting another child soon and are at their wits' end at the thought of another mouth to feed

Renamo used the riots to maximum political advantage. It showed how misguided the government's economic policies are," senior Renamo official Raul Domingos told Reuters

The government says something must be done to grapple with the economy but blames factors beyond its control such as high foreign fuel prices and the ravages of war

"This situation has made the ordinary citizen, with

## NERVOUS TIMES Diplomats watch nervously as

government and Renamo bicker at every turn in transition:

precarious means of survival suffer profoundly," Frelimo secretary-general Mr Feliciano Gundana said in a statement

Some economists say many official statistics are not realistic, such as an inflation figure of 30 percent and defence spending forecast at 27 percent of the 1994 budget

"This is pure fiction," said a central bank economist, waving the 1993 budget.

Rains have brought Mozambique some relief, ending the worst drought this century, and international donors earlier this month pledged R3 billion in aid for 1994

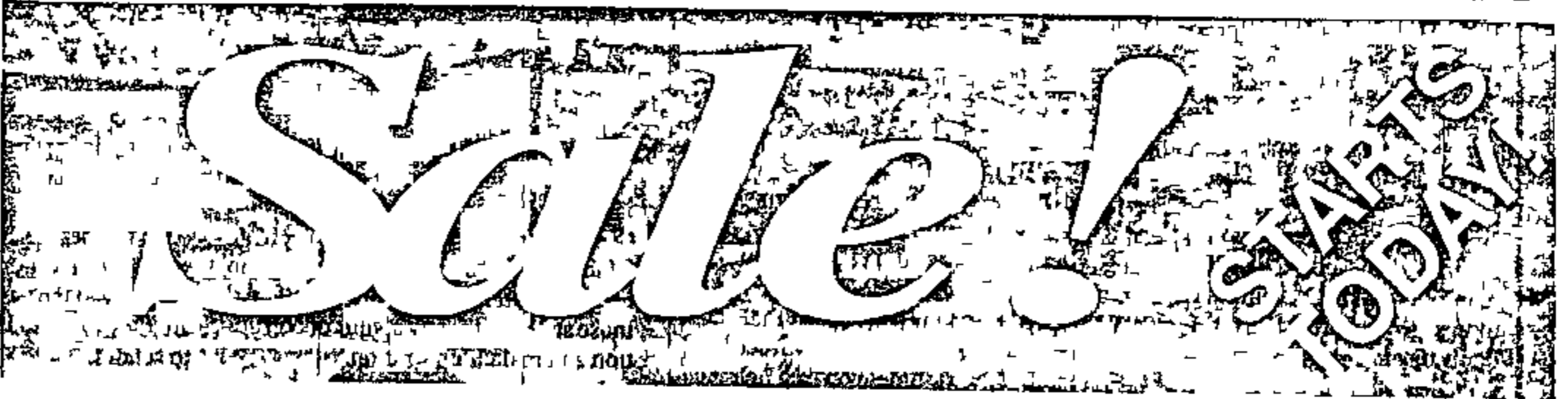
But many diplomats wonder what will happen when many UN personnel leave after the elections and when foreign donors grow tired of propping up the economy — Sapa-Reuter

● See also page 10.

**Government accuses Renamo of endangering the peace process**

# DIE ANS

S • U • M • M • E • R



● Suits were up to R899,99	now from R399,99	● Sports Jackets were from R695,95	now from R349,00
● Top Label Jeans - all colours were up to R129,99	now from R49,95	● Formal Trousers were up to R149,95	now from R69,95
● Famous Name Lounge Shirts were up to R99,95	now from R49,95	● Sports Shirts	now from R39,95
● T-Shirts were from R89,99	now from R45,00	● Selected Ties	HALF PRICE! and more off
● Selected Shoes	up to HALF PRICE! off	● New Man Cotton Trousers	now only R00,05

# Developers take critical look at Mozambique

SA DEVELOPERS have targeted Mozambique for eco-tourism and hotel projects as the country edges towards peace.

Group Five Property Development MD Colin Taylor said the organisation had talked to the Mozambique government about putting together a tourist-related project

"There are about 9 000 UN operatives in Mozambique, working to demobilise Renamo and Frelimo soldiers. They have taken up all available hotel space which is up to Western standards.

BIDEN 6/11/94  
**ROBYN CHALMERS**

"As a result, there are opportunities for new hotel developments, which we are considering (218)

"However, there are still major obstacles in terms of infrastructure which need to be overcome."

The Polana Hotel in Maputo was the only hotel which was in line with Western standards, but its rates were comparatively high.

Taylor said, as a developer, Group Five would consider putting together a deal involving a financier, operator

and contractor, but nothing concrete had yet been decided on

Group Five chairman Theunis Kotzee said the organisation kept an eye on various southern African countries to ascertain their potential

City Lodge financial director Bill Dickson said the group had visited Mozambique to look at the potential of the region, but had not yet considered investing

Dickson said the country was not yet stable and there were infrastructural deficiencies such as electricity and water supply.



## 600 Renamo soldiers quit assembly camps

MAPUTO — More than 600 Renamo guerrillas on Tuesday abandoned two UN supervised assembly points where they had gathered under a Mozambican peace agreement, UN officials said yesterday.

The UN-chaired joint ceasefire commission heard about the flight of the guerrillas when it met in Maputo on Tuesday to try to resolve food and logistical problems at assembly points **B/DAY**

No official explanation was immediately available for the guerrillas' decision to leave the two assembly points, but officials said those who left made up less than half the number gathered in the two overcrowded camps and said they left unarmed. **611194 (218)**

The Maputo daily Noticias said the exodus was caused precisely by the problems the committee was meeting to discuss — inadequate diet and logistical difficulties. A spokesman for the UN operation in Mozambique said an investigation into the incident had been ordered.

The assembly points in question are Chiramba, on the south bank of the Zambezi, and Magunde, in the southern part of Sofala

The camps were designed for 500 men, but on Monday each was holding over 800, the Mozambique News Agency reported.

UN officials said 400 men left Chiramba and 200 abandoned Magunde. They did not take their weapons with them.

When the fighters check in at assembly points they must surrender their weapons to UN military observers. Firearms and ammunition are then stored in locked containers under UN protection.

More than 8 000 government soldiers and 4 000 guerrillas have gone to assembly points since they opened on November 30 last year

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has claimed that his men in the assembly points are going hungry and that he was moved to tears when he visited Chiramba on December 28

But according to UN official Gerald Buckley, the supplies provided by the UN World Food Programme to the assembly points were increased by between 25% and 60%, depending on the items concerned, on December 21.

Every fighter in the assembly area now receives a daily ration including 333g of maize flour and 200g of rice, beans or peas and vegetable oil and sugar.

This is more than the ration distributed to destitute peasants under Mozambique's emergency programme — Sapa-Reuter.

# Mozambique back on road to recovery

Star 13/11/94  
■ AFRICA NEWS SERVICE

Maputo — The rebuilding of Mozambique's economy from the wreckage of a decade of Marxism is going well, says the World Bank's representative in Mozambique, Roberto Chaves.

Chaves told the Maputo daily newspaper Noticias that the five percent increase recorded last year in gross domestic product (GDP) was likely to be repeated this year.

The increase last year was the first in four years.

It suggests that the

hardships imposed on Mozambicans by the economic reconstruction programme are beginning to pay off. (28)

Last year was the first full year of peace in Mozambique since the civil war began shortly after independence in 1975.

The command economy enforced by the Frelimo government at independence was abandoned after about 10 years, when Mozambique had been made the world's poorest country by the policy, exacerbated by drought, flood and war.

# Demob delays casting shadow over poll

Star 14/11/94

There is growing concern in the UN operation in Mozambique (Onumoz) at the slow pace of the troop demobilisation that must precede the October elections.

More than 80 000 troops of both of the Mozambican government and Renamo rebels are supposed to gather at UN-run assembly points prior to their demobilisation or incorporation into a unified force.

But since the first 20 points were opened at the end of November only 8 338 government troops and 5 385 Renamo fighters have showed up.

Figures released by Onumoz show that, after a reasonably good start in early December, the movement of government troops has slowed to a trickle. Since January 1 only 58 government soldiers have arrived at the 21 points now open for them. Particularly worrying is the fact that eight of the government assembly points are still completely empty.

Renamo has done much better since the new year, sending 1 167 troops to 13 out of the 14 assembly points available for it. The Renamo assembly points are now operating at 70 percent of their capacity, the government's at only 33 percent.

But under the timetable for demobilisation approved in October, all 49 planned assembly points should have been opened by the

**THE peace process is wobbling as both Frelimo and Renamo troops trickle all too slowly into assembly points. Paul Fauvet reports**

(218)

end of the year, and should have been full.

In fact, 14 assembly points have not even opened. In one case, there are serious political difficulties. Renamo wants to use an abandoned state farm at Salamanga, in the far south of the country, as an assembly point but the government objects, saying Renamo occupied the farm illegally after the signing of the October 1992 peace agreement. It is demanding that Renamo withdraw, and that only after withdrawal should the UN-chaired Ceasefire Commission consider a Renamo request to use the farm.

The slow pace of assembling the troops threatens to undermine the timetable for demobilisation. Five percent of the troops should be demobilised this month, while several thousand others should be channelled to training centres to form the first infantry battalions of the new, joint army. So far it is

doubtful whether there are enough troops in assembly points to ensure this can be done.

The first 540 instructors for the new army (half from the government and half from Renamo) returned on Wednesday from Zimbabwe where they had undergone a gruelling training course run by a British military team. And unless the bottlenecks in the assembly points are sorted out quickly, these instructors may soon find themselves with nobody to train.

Any delays in demobilisation and in forming the new army will impact on the election timetable. The government, Renamo and Onumoz are all agreed that there can be no election until there is just one army.

The agreed timetable envisages completing demobilisation by May and having the new army fully operational by the end of August. The election campaign is supposed to begin on September 1, with presidential and parliamentary elections in mid-October.

Delays could have serious financial consequences. A delegation of US Congressmen visiting Mozambique this week warned that if the elections were postponed the US might end its funding of Onumoz.

Since the US provides 30 percent of Onumoz funds this would severely curtail the UN operation. — Star Africa Service

Star 19/11/94

## Renamo threat to halt demob

Maputo — The leader of Mozambique's armed opposition warned yesterday that he would halt the country's military demobilisation process unless the government explained why its own troops were not moving into assembly points

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama said: "On Saturday I will paralyse everything if there is no

explanation from President Chissano (218)

UN peacekeeping officials have grown increasingly concerned as the movement of government troops into UN-run assembly areas has slowed to a trickle

Under the peace accord, all government and Renamo troops should have assembled by now

But only 19 percent of government soldiers have moved to assembly areas, against 52 percent of Renamo's soldiers

Mozambique's highest peacekeeping body, the Supervision and Control Committee, was to meet under UN chairmanship yesterday to ask the government to explain the slow assembly of its troops — Sapa-AFP



# Maputo makes troops pledge

Star 20/9/94

## ■ STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Maputo — The Mozambican government has promised to speed up the movement of its troops to United Nations-run assembly points.

This follows a warning by Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama that he would stop the process unless the government explained the slow movement of its troops to the assembly points.

Deputy Minister of Planning Tomas Salomao said orders had already gone out to all provincial military commanders.

The pledge came after a meeting on Tuesday of the body controlling the peace process, the UN-

chaired Supervisory and Control Commission.

In the first 16 days of this month only 66 government soldiers arrived at the assembly points, as against 1 538 Renamo fighters

(218)

## Camps

On the first two days of this week, however, more than 300 government troops reported.

In percentage terms, the government is lagging far behind Renamo. The 6 227 men in Renamo's 14 assembly points represent 81 percent of its capacity, while the 8 768 government troops who have so far arrived represent only 35 percent of its army.



# How to survive on R45 a month

SITICWA

23/1/94

(218)

MOZAMBIQUE has vast tracts of arable land, great tourism potential, diamonds, gold, bauxite, uranium and the world's largest gas field. Yet it is officially classified as the poorest country in the world with the average citizen earning R250 a year.

The unescapable conclusion is that Mozambique's abject poverty is man-made rather than a curse cast by the gods on its hapless people.

Officially, there is little economic activity in Mozambique. As a UN military observer put it: "People here seem to wander aimlessly. You do not see them farming or engaging in any productive activity. This is in stark contrast to what I saw in Zimbabwe and South Africa."

Mozambique is bankrupt. Over half of its budget is funded by outside donors. Despite signs of

donor fatigue, there is a realisation that the country will simply collapse without international support to finance imports and upgrade the infrastructure.

Thirty years of war meant that agricultural activity was virtually impossible. For many years, gripped by revolutionary fervour and a missionarist zeal to crush Renamo, President Samora Machel's government opted to barter prawns for AK-47s from the then Soviet Union, denying the country much-needed foreign currency.

Many people wonder how the people of Mozambique survive. According to official figures, Mozam-

## Reports TENDAI DUMBUTSHENA

bique's export earnings in 1993 were a paltry R200-million, mainly from textiles, cashew nuts and fisheries.

But according to South Africa's charge d'affaires in Maputo, Mr John Sunde, statistics from Pretoria show that R400-million worth of goods from Mozambique found their way to South Africa in the first six months of last year.

Such major discrepancies can be attributed not only to the inefficiency of the Mozambican bureaucracy, but also to the role of the informal sector, which has become increasingly criminalised.

The informal sector somehow allows many inhabitants of this impoverished land to survive. The stipulated minimum wage is about R45 a month,



CONTRABAND . . . young street-sellers show off their wares in downtown Maputo

Pictures JON HRUSA

not enough to buy a 50kg bag of rice which costs about R55.

Virtually all consumer goods in Mozambican shops are of South African origin. Many are smuggled into the country and sold in the streets for half the price.

This applies particularly to soft drinks and cigarettes, some of which are smuggled from Zimbabwe.

According to Mr Sunde, a lot of beer exported to Mozambique from South Africa finds its way to other countries through illegal

channels. Even more serious is the smuggling of guns, mandrax and cars.

Guns and mandrax find their way to South Africa in exchange for luxury cars, money, food and soft goods.

Mozambican criminals also smuggle four-wheel-

drive Land Cruisers, not assembled in South Africa, across the border.

South African police recently handed over a stolen UN vehicle recovered in Piet Retief to the United Nations Operation in Mozambique.

But it is the danger

posed to the ordinary motorist driving across the border to Mozambique which causes the greatest concern.

Undisciplined elements of Frelimo and Renamo either extort money from motorists under the threat of impounding their cars or they simply seize the cars.

Zambian UN troops patrolling the Moamba area near the border with Swaziland and South Africa said an elderly white South African couple miraculously escaped unharmled when five shots were fired at their car.

In response to widespread theft and smuggling, the South African embassy has a crime unit manned by three senior police officers. South African citizens involved in the smuggling of mandrax have been arrested.

In terms of economic activity, Mozambique is virgin land ready to be exploited. Mr Sunde believes it has the potential to overtake Zimbabwe as South Africa's biggest trading partner outside the customs union.

But a lot has to be done for Mozambique to realise that potential and to stop its budding Mafia from extending its tentacles to the formal sector of the economy.

## PEACE BUT NO FOOD FOR MOZAMBIQUE'S REFUGEES

IN 1984 Romao Nobela, now in his 70s, walked with his wife and three children for five days from Gaza to Swaziland to escape a war that was particularly ferocious in his province.

He was accommodated at Malinda, one of two refugee camps for Mozambicans in Swaziland where, five years later, he was joined by his eldest son, Boniface. On November 16 1993 he returned with his children — including two-year-old Fred, who was born in a refugee camp — to rebuild their lives in a Mozambique which, he hopes, will not revert to the barbarism of war.

But Mr Nobela, who was transported by Swaziland rail wagons to Umpala transit centre, 50km from Maputo, by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), is not a happy man. On arrival at Umpala he was

taken to Josiah Tongogaga district, 10km from the transit centre, with only seeds, agricultural implements and a piece of canvas to help his family restart their lives.

Mr Nobela and his family have no food. Although he is happy to be back in a peaceful Mozambique and ultimately intends returning to Gaza, he is an old and sickly man who needs food to improve his health.

"At least in Swaziland we were fed. There was no problem with food," he said.

His two adult sons Boniface, 25, and Kazumri, 23, are equally helpless with no prospects of finding jobs in Maputo.

The lack of food is also of major concern to Victoria Chivoso, who fled to Swaziland with her husband and two children in 1983.

"I am happy to be home, but we have problems with food because of the late rains," she said.

"In refugee camps there were no problems with food."

Although there is peace in the country, she shares the concern of other refugees who have returned about whether it will hold.

The repatriation of an estimated 1.5-million Mozambican refugees from neighbouring countries is the largest ever undertaken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Africa.

In addition, with the assistance of the IOM, the UNHCR has to move about five-million internally displaced people who fled their homes for safer areas while the war raged.

As we left Umpala, Gabriel Gwalu, his two wives and seven children, boarded a bus to take

them to their home district.

He was one of the lucky few to get employment as a farm worker when he arrived in Swaziland in 1983 to augment supplies they received from the UNHCR.

By June, the last of the 24 000 refugees in Swaziland will have been repatriated.

As they arrive they will share the concern of those returning home about the lack of food and lingering doubts about the permanence of peace in their homeland.

The IOM, under the guidance of the UNHCR, has already started moving an estimated 250 000 Mozambican refugees from South Africa.

The most daunting repatriation exercise will be that of one-million Mozambicans from Malawi. The logistics for that operation are now being worked out.



HOME SWEET HOME . . . but refugee Romao Nobela wants food



## AFRICA

ARG 26/1/94

# Warning against forcing soldiers

(218)  
Argus Africa  
News Service

MAPUTO — The United Nations Special Representative in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, has warned that if Renamo and Frelimo forced their soldiers to be part of the new Unified Defence Force, it would create "major problems".

He was responding to reports that some camp commanders in the assembly points were telling their soldiers not to respond to the UN registration form question on whether they wanted to join the new defence force, or not.

Mr Ajello said that if such forced recruiting was taking place, it was "shortsighted".

"If you force people to join they will be discontented and will be troublemakers," he said.

He argued that while a properly-trained and well-paid army could be a guarantee of democracy, "a bad army is just a source of trouble and destabilisation".

A string of mutinies in the government army this month adds weight to Mr Ajello's warning.

The latest incident happened last week in the town of Magude, where a supposedly elite commando unit mutinied for the second time in a week, demanding payment of a New Year bonus, equivalent to an extra month's wages.

Residents fled into the bush following indiscriminate rifle and mortar fire by the mutineers.

Implementation of the Peace Agreement between the government and Renamo is once again falling behind schedule, but Mr Ajello thought the delays would not threaten the October date for general elections.

Renamo gets  
R2,8m aid

Argus Africa  
News Service

MAPUTO — Holland and Sweden have contributed \$700 000 (R2,8 million) to the United Nations-managed trust fund set up to help the Renamo movement transform itself from a military movement into a political organisation, the Dutch embassy announced. *PR 26/1/91*

This was the first half of payments promised under agreements signed with the UN last year.

The only other country that has contributed to the fund is Italy, which provided \$5,8 million (R19,72 million). The Fund's target is \$10 million (R34 million).





MNR soldiers wear unconventional battledress like T-shirts and other colourful items — but in common with other armies still have their guns.

Star 27/11/94

## Army is key to peace

Mozambique's fragile peace process, which has held against all odds for more than a year, could be derailed by the failure to form a new, integrated army.

According to a report from Maputo in the Financial Times, only 13 000 troops have so far shown up at the assembly areas set up for both the government and Renamo. This represents less than a fifth of the estimated total.

The end of Mozambique's war, says the report, has spelled an end for many officers to lucrative side-business, such as smuggling, while others do not believe government promises of six months' wages to help them start civilian lives.

An ambassador in Maputo is quoted as saying "The greatest threat to the peace process is the 20 000 officers and non-commissioned officers who will be jobless after the elections in October. The economy is too weak to employ them."

**OFFICERS and non-coms who will be out of work may scuttle the Mozambique peace process, writes Garner Thomson in London**

Another diplomat says: "My nightmare is disgruntled former soldiers terrorising the countryside as armed bandits."

A more immediate financial

concern is to set up Renamo's leader, Alfonso Dhlakama in political business. A trust fund established by the UN to help budding political parties in the for-

mer one-party state has proved too paltry and donors are now trying to come up with a political war-chest to help Dhlakama fight the forthcoming elections.

However, the paper adds, if elections were held tomorrow, many believe Renamo would win. The Mozambique Liberation Front, in power since independence in 1975, has lost credibility with suffering inhabitants.

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# Financing the transformation of Mozambique

Bibow 27/11/94

AGAINST the odds, the peace accord which ended Mozambique's 17-year civil war has survived for more than a year. Like everything else in this exhausted country, the peace agreement has been designed, financed and implemented by Western donors in one of the most radical experiments in foreign intervention of Africa's post-colonial history.

The UN is spending \$600 000 a day on its peacekeeping operation in Mozambique. The World Bank and the donor community are pumping \$1bn into the economy this year, an amount equal to the country's GDP.

Foreign advisers provide Mozambique with a semblance of government. Donors will also be paying for the first multiparty elections scheduled for October, the demobilisation of two rival armies and the repatriation of 1.5-million refugees. Some donors are even willing to finance the transformation of Renamo into a political party.

Despite this huge and concerted international effort, there is much that could derail Mozambique's fragile peace process. The demobilisation of government and Renamo soldiers is behind schedule, which in turn has delayed the formation of a new, integrated army. Both the government and Renamo agree elections cannot take place until the old

armies have disbanded. Only 13 000 troops (less than a fifth of the estimated total) have shown up at assembly areas set up by the UN late last year. Few weapons are being handed over to the UN.

Aldo Ajello, the Italian diplomat in charge of the UN Mozambique operation, says the peace process is being delayed because of indiscipline in government ranks. For many officers, the end of the war spells an end to lucrative side businesses such as smuggling. Others fear there will be no place for them in the new 30 000-strong army, and do not believe government promises of six months' wages to help them start civilian lives. Most of them are owed back pay, and there have been riots.

"The greatest threat to the peace process is the 20 000 officers and non-commissioned officers who will be jobless after the October elections," says an ambassador. "The economy is too weak to employ them."

"My nightmare scenario," says another diplomat, "is disgruntled former soldiers terrorising the countryside as armed bandits." Donor governments are now discussing a special aid package to pay the salaries of about 55 000 demobilised soldiers for up to two years. The World Bank estimates it will cost \$20m. A more immediate financial con-

## LESLIE CRAWFORD

(218)

cern is to set up Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in business. Ajello persuaded the UN to establish a \$7.5m trust fund to help budding political parties in Mozambique. But it has proved too paltry and restrictive for Dhlakama's needs. "Dhlakama is regarded as 'an African chief,'" explains Ajello, "and he needs to be able to act like one. He needs money to pension off his generals, to distribute largesse." Again, donors are trying to come up with a political war chest of \$4m to help Dhlakama contest the elections. Ajello admits the plan is controversial, but he believes donor governments must pioneer the funding of new political groups if democracy in Africa is to have a chance. "When we have a peacekeeping operation that costs \$600 000 a day, \$4m is a small premium to ensure future stability."

Dhlakama, for his part, says he will not contest the elections unless the donors come up with the goods: "If we don't get the money, we won't go back to war. But we won't fight an election on unequal terms." Above all, Dhlakama needs money to be able to employ advisers capable of



□ CHISSANO

devising a political programme for Renamo, a movement with no coherent ideology, no nationwide organisation and no governing skills.

If elections were held tomorrow, many believe Renamo would win. Frelimo, in power since independence in 1975, has almost exhausted its credibility with the country's

long-suffering inhabitants. Frelimo lost its political direction when it abandoned Marxism in favour of World Bank funding in the mid-1980s. Government has become paralysed by Frelimo's internal power struggles, with Marxists fighting the new technocrats and black supremacists seeking to squeeze out the few whites who still hold public office. President Joaquim Chissano seems incapable of dealing with the rival factions.

Even if the demobilisation exercise is completed in May, logistical difficulties remain in the organisation of national elections in a country which has never voted, where the vast majority of the 16-million people is illiterate and 25% of the population is still displaced by the war.

While some foreign observers fear donors may be forcing the pace of Mozambique's transition to democracy, others argue that elections are desperately needed to invest the new government with the legitimacy that Frelimo and Renamo lack.

Ajello, while promising to complete the UN's mission by the October deadline, sounds a note of caution. "Whoever loses the election will feel that he has also lost the war. That is why the opposition must be given a political and economic stake in the future of this country." — Financial Times.

REVIEW

# Miaputo in accord

**M**APUTO — Mozambican government and former Renamo rebels have named one officer each to

the supreme command of a joint new national army to replace the two opposing forces

The government's choice of Brigadier Lags Lidimo, and Renamo's Lieutenant-General Mateus Ngonyamo must

Sowetan 31/1/94

still be approved by the Supervisory Control Commission (CSC) responsible to oversee the peace process ending the 17-

(218)

year civil war, the daily *Noticias* said on Saturday

National independence Lidimo (44) joined the Frelimo liberation army fighting for national independence from Portugal at 16 and later directed the military council intelligence as well as com-

manding other government units  
Ngonyamo (30) joined the Mozambican National

Resistance (Renamo) in 1978 and was commander of the southern region. He was appointed Lieutenant-General in 1992

He is also Renamo's chief delegate on the joint commission for the formation of the Armed Defence Forces of Mozambique, the new army — *Sapa-AFP*

## Renamo chief to visit SA leaders

MAPUTO — Head of Mozambique's Renamo opposition Alfonso Dhlakama was due to visit South Africa today for talks with political leaders

Mr Dhlakama said here he would meet President De Klerk, ANC foreign affairs spokesman Thabo Mbeki and leading members the IFP

The head of the former rebels said "after years of propaganda against us, it's very important these parties get to know Renamo well.

"I hope to learn how they are conducting elections, what the outcome might be, and to make business contact"

Pretoria formerly trained and funded Renamo but after President De Klerk took office relations between Renamo and the government cooled.

Leaders of both the National Party and the ANC have expressed deep concern at arms trafficking from Mozambique, which they say is contributing to increasing violence in South Africa

Mr Dhlakama declares Renamo's key problem now is lack of financial support to turn itself from a guerrilla group into political party and he will no doubt be looking for South African support — Sapa- AFP.

(218) ARG 4/2/94



## Maputo and Renamo dragging their feet

MAPUTO — Mozambique's government and Renamo are still delaying demobilisation of their armies despite growing international concern, local news reports indicated yesterday. *SAPA 10/2/94*

The government has speeded up movement of its troops into assembly areas after criticism by UN peacekeepers last month, but figures show it is still lagging behind Renamo. *(218)*

The UN says 19 943 government troops, just 33% of the 60 000 soldiers expected, have arrived in the camps.

Renamo, meanwhile, has assembled

9 906 soldiers, making up 52% of its total force, the UN says

Foreign diplomats say the government has failed to give a credible explanation for the delay.

But the government says it is keen to start demobilising the soldiers assembled so far and has presented lists of names to the committees responsible for implementing the country's 1992 peace accord.

Renamo seems reluctant to make any similar move before the government increases the percentage of its troops in the assembly areas. — Sapa-AFP.

Star 18/2/94

## Police clash with rebel militiamen

### ■ STAR AFRICA SERVICE

**Maputo** — Police fought with militiamen who refused to surrender their weapons in terms of the Mozambique peace accord unless they were given money.

After 20 of the militiamen had been arrested in the fracas in the central town of Marromeu on Tuesday the others withdrew

from the town and occupied a position about 20 km away. Militiamen from other parts of the district were reported heading there to join them (218)

Sixteen people were hurt, four seriously, when the militiamen resisted police efforts to disarm them

The trouble began last Sunday

when about 500 militiamen, demanding money in return for their guns, fired into the air and beat up several people, including the district police chief

On Tuesday the provincial police commander went to Marromeu from Beira and ordered his men to use force to disarm the rebels.

## Mozambique

### Roads cleared

MAPUTO

The UN's World Road Programme has invested about R3,5m in opening, clearing and repairing roads in war-ravaged Mozambique.

Programme operations director Philip Clarke said yesterday the work being done mainly in the Sofala province was helping to clear unexploded mines.

He said 148km of the Macossa-Maringue road was being levelled. Water drainage was being built and three bridges rehabilitated. When finished, the road would allow the UN to continue its airlift to deliver food aid to about 15 000 people living in rebel Renamo headquarters at Maringue and to transport food more cheaply by truck.

The Gorongosa-Casa Banana road had almost been completed up to the Nhandugue River, where four bridges would be built.

Repairs to 180km of the Inhamingo-Dondo road would begin on Monday, and work would start on the final leg of the road between Nhandugue River and Casa Banana once it had been cleared of mines.

Sapa (218)



# UN to send Mozambicans home faster

HARARE — UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Sadako Ogata began a four-nation southern African tour in Zimbabwe yesterday to help speed up the repatriation of hundreds of thousands of Mozambicans. *Biday*

The 12-day regional trip will take her to refugee camps in Zimbabwe, SA and Swaziland where her organisation is preparing to send home victims of Mozambique's civil war, which ended two years ago.

Ogata will also fly to Mozambique to see how some former refugees have settled in the country, emerging from the brutal 16-year war.

She was scheduled to meet a number of Zimbabwean government leaders, including Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira and President Robert Mugabe yesterday.

The UNHCR says it wants to expe-

dite the repatriation of more than 140 000 Mozambican refugees from Zimbabwe which was slowed down since a year ago by the need to clear landmines in Mozambique and to provide adequate food for the returnees.

Ogata flies to eastern Zimbabwe today to bid farewell to hundreds of Mozambicans returning home.

"After her regional tour we can expect the process to pick up speed. The landmine awareness campaign, for example, has been boosted and the UNHCR has been mobilising resources to help the refugees settle," a UNHCR official said. *23/2/94*

Besides SA, Zimbabwe and Swaziland, there are also Mozambican refugees in Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia. *(218)*

All these countries hosted more than 1.7-million refugees at the end of

the Mozambican civil war which pitted the government against the former rebel Renamo movement.

More than 200 000 refugees had already returned home under the UNHCR programme or on their own. The repatriation programme is expected to cost \$203m.

In Zimbabwe, Ogata will visit one of five camps housing 140 000 Mozambicans and send off a UN-sponsored repatriation convoy headed across the border to Dacata in the central Manica province.

Earlier this month, the UN appealed for \$102m needed to repatriate 600 000 refugees from the six countries neighbouring Mozambique during the dry season.

The three-year programme to send home 1.7-million Mozambicans is the largest repatriation exercise ever undertaken in Africa — Sapa-AP

## Report denies border will be electrified

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO. — The South African government will not re-electrify the fence along the Mozambique-South Africa border, according to the independent news sheet Mediafax.

The fence was electrified for much of the 1980s to stop hundreds of Mozambicans entering

South Africa illegally — either escaping the civil war or simply seeking employment

Mediafax reports that military officials have been putting pressure on President De Klerk to switch on the current to curb the flow of illegal weapons into South Africa.

The South African govern-

ment denied it had anything to do with leaflets dropped by a South African police aircraft over the border town of Resano Garcia on February 19 warning that the fence would be re-electrified.

ARG 5/3/94  
(218) (218)  
An embassy spokesman said the matter was being discussed by the two governments.

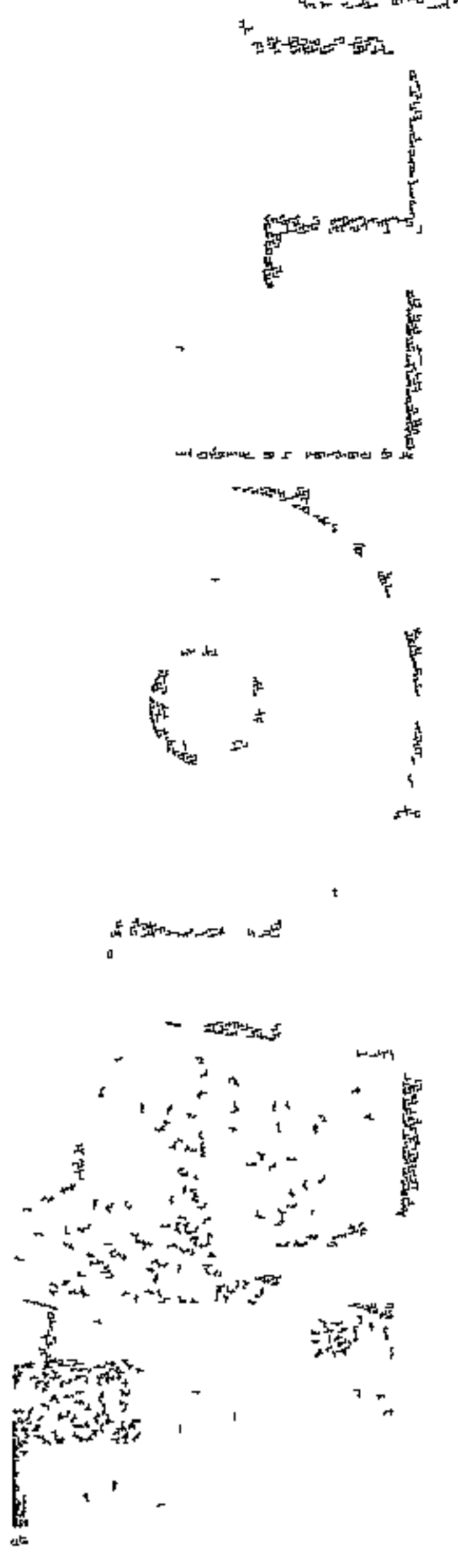


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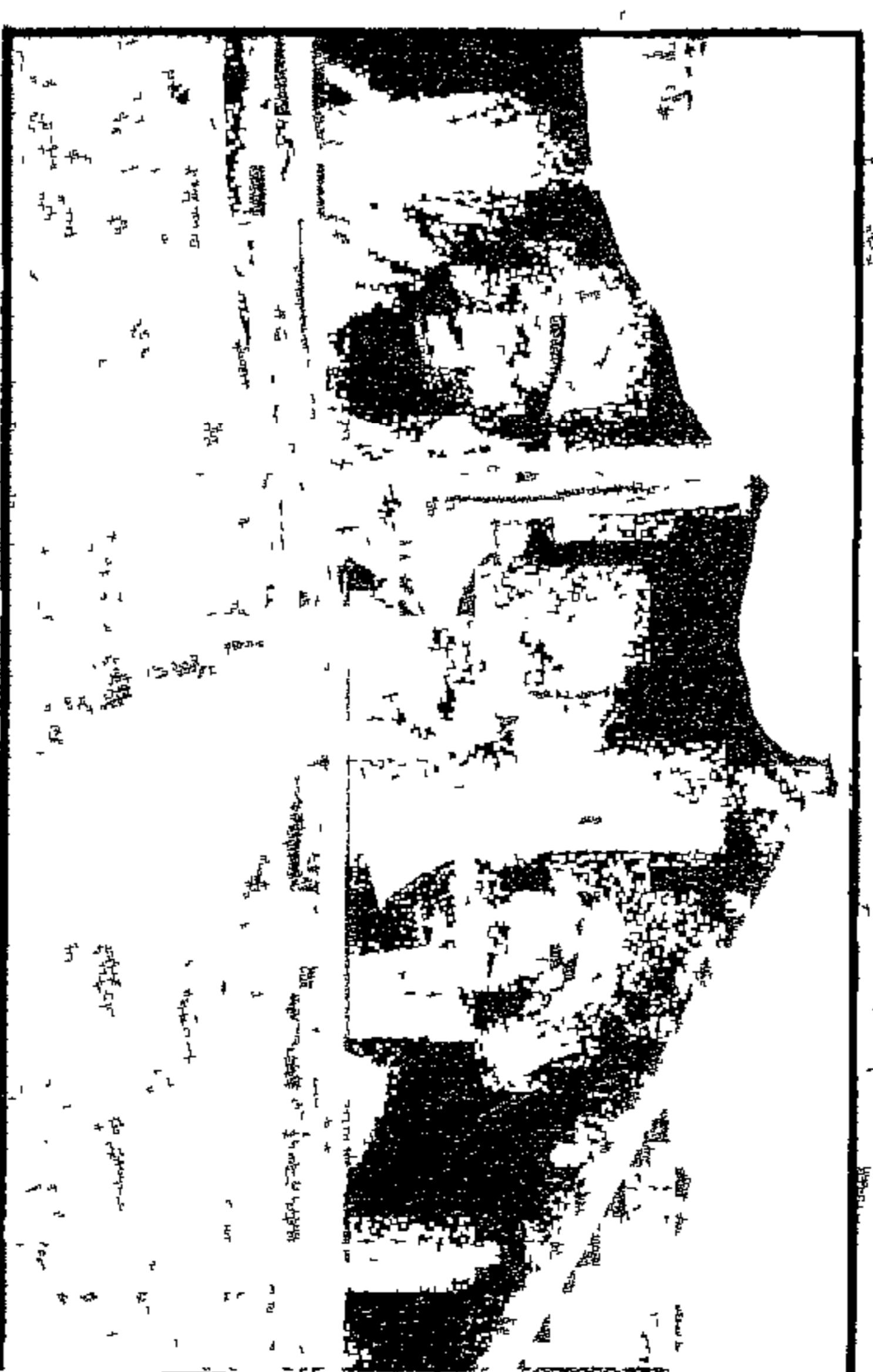
(218)

# Over Mozambique

# Were British



**Pictures by  
MIKE MZILENI**



**HOMEWARD BOUND . . .** These were some of the stirring scenes of the UN-sponsored mass repatriation of Mozambican refugees last week . . . Women with babies latched to breasts, excited kids and pensive parents — all heading home.



# Bombed

CIP News 6/31/94

# and

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# BITTER!

By PEARL RANTSEKENG

SHE'S black, she teaches Afrikaans and deep down she's furious and bitter

Teacher Charlotte Ngobeni thought that with the new SA just around the corner the time was right for her and her two kids to move in to a formerly "whites-only" suburb in Pretoria

She was wrong white racists - probably with A W B sympathies - bombed her home and frightened her kids nearly out of their wits

They left a sticker behind (see inset above)

Now Ngobeni is moving out again - back to Soshanguwe - precisely the kind of apartheid move her bombers desired

But the J Kckana High teacher is adamant that she is not afraid of the racist attackers - she simply says she doesn't want her kids to suffer any more trauma or serious harm just so that they can live in a nice suburb

Ngobeni, a 32-year-old single mother, bought a house in Silverton's Extension Five and moved in with her two kids

It was a Sunday and that afternoon had not gone well

She told City Press "Immediately after arrival our opposite neighbour put up two AWB flags I didn't take that seriously"

She said she and her visitors just went on with their chores in the new home

Ngobeni's youngest

## 'Back to black for us'

son, Marvin, 8, said "While we were playing the children from the house where they had put up the flags were sitting in a tree looking at us One of the children pointed a gun at us I don't know whether it was a toy gun or what I told my mom about this and she said we must come and play inside the house"

Ngobeni continued "My visitors left late in the evening and we went to sleep Just after we switched off our lights, at around 11, I was woken up by a loud sound At first I thought it was a gun, but as I rushed towards the kitchen I was confronted by a huge flame My sister was in the lounge watching television and she saw a big flame of fire coming from the diningroom window We extinguished the fire and went outside but by the time we got there, there was no one there"

She said she woke her children and prayed to the Lord to help them and then she went to phone the police who responded immediately

Said Ngobeni "When I prayed I asked the Lord

to help us take the devil away and bring the angels around us"

She said when the police arrived they asked her if she thought the bombers were blacks

She said that outside the house they found two petrol bombs that hadn't exploded Two petrol bombs exploded inside

When City Press visited Ngobeni on Tuesday we found her busy moving back to Soshanguwe

She said she felt it was not safe for her to stay in Silverton - the house was "not worth dying for"

She said she would have stayed if the police had promised her protection "but they are just saying that they are still investigating the matter"

"When I did my honours degree at the University of Pretoria I met some nice boers, and I had the impression that they had changed but I was wrong I want to say to those who did this to me it's people like you who need Apla"

While we were talking her white neighbour and an African man from the next street came to sympathise with Ngobeni

Dickson Lebese, a pensioner said he had been staying in the area for the past seven months and had no problems

The white neighbour, who asked not to be named, pleaded with Ngobeni to stay She said "This is a very quiet area and I believe that the people who did this were not from this street"



**SHOCKED ... Charlotte Ngobeni and her kids. She doesn't think it's worth it to live under threat in a white suburb.**



By LEN KALANE

THE GREAT TREK is preceded by the night of the long wake. The wait ends at the crack of dawn when the trucks roar out of the refugee camp, heading for Mozambique, their home.

Home! Most of the refugees have not set foot in Mozambique in the past ten years.

Some left Mozambique as little children with their parents to escape the war when Mozambican refugees began to enter Zimbabwe in 1982 and 1983. Now they are heading back home as adults - to an uncertain future and a devastated country.

They are joined by new kids born in the camp - kids oblivious to the situation in their own country or what the fuss over repatriation is all about.

They're all going home - to the landmines, the stench of death, devastation, confusion and destruction, destroyed roads, bridges, schools and health facilities which collapsed in the wake of the Renamo onslaught.

Yet the group of about 300 leaving the Tongogara refugee camp in Zimbabwe's Manica province - the biggest and best-kept of five camps in the country - all seemed happy. East or west, home is best.

We visited the refugees now to be known as the returnees - the night before their departure from Tongogara, where 51 441 refugees are based.

The scatterlings here - part of the 135 044 refugee population in Zimbabwe - form a closely-knit community in their own right, almost a state-within-a-state.

Twelve trucks had been lined up to take away the 300 returnees to Decata, one of the areas in Mozambique already cleared for safe passage.

It is the night of the long wake. With it comes the traditional home-going rituals, merry-making, dancing, beer drinking and singing - a gripping atmosphere of happiness and contentment, something akin to the Last Supper. For tomorrow

# Biggest stream of refugees ever moved by UN

row they will be home-bound - hopefully never to return.

The women ululate and the urchins gyrate fearfully to the pulsating beat of traditional drums. One moment they go down their knees, the next they hit the ground with a full-belly impact - an exciting dance routine, not for the faint-hearted.

Tomorrow they will head for Mozambique, one of the most unpredictable of war-ravaged places. A fragile peace pact prevails in this drought-stricken country of hopelessness and despair, its roads strewn with killer landmines.

Hopefully, October will change all this into prospects of hope and a bright future. The national elections - the country's first elections in a democratic sense - are scheduled for not later than October. The bulk of the refugees have to be back in Mozambique in time for this - and for the planting season which normally starts in September.

The people at Tongogara realise the importance of their votes. They are eager to return home and shape the course of history - and start life anew.

There is more ululating and gyrating at Tongogara the next morning, the day of the departure. The drum beats are loud-

er and so are the cheers and it is hard to say whether this is being stage-managed for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, who was to hit town that morning.

This will be the first leg of Ogata's twelve-day four nation tour in southern Africa which will include Swaziland, South Africa and Mozambique itself. She will observe the progress of the Mozambican repatriation operation.

Now the frail-looking Ogata has come to Tongogara to see off the 300-odd returnees to the land of the unknown and uncertainty. The cream UNHCR trucks rumble through the camp's dusty streets. Hands are waving everywhere, the hands of children and women, and Ogata waves back.

Then the mighty trucks jerk into top gear, roaring out of the camp with their singing human cargo and their meagre possessions.

The sight leaves a lump in one's throat. For good or for bad, the wholesale removal of human beings has always been a touchy business - and, for a South African journalist, it is reminiscent of the tragic period of forced removals under the programme of grand apartheid.

Yet this is the best part of Ogata's job, she tells us

later "Seeing refugees heading back home. Seeing the happy faces and knowing that they are going home. Home to peace and a better life."

Ogata said they had had only few problems of refugees coming back after they had been repatriated. But then it was no longer a refugee problem, she said, but an immigration problem.

"They usually go home never to return."

One of the few men in the refugee camps, 38-year-old Luke James, who fled Mozambique with his ageing mother at the height of the war, wistfully watches the trucks disappear.

He and his mother are the only survivors of a family of seven - the others were wiped out by Renamo.

"I long for home," he says. "Life is fine here at the camp, sometimes even better than life back home. But I want to go back as soon as there is peace."

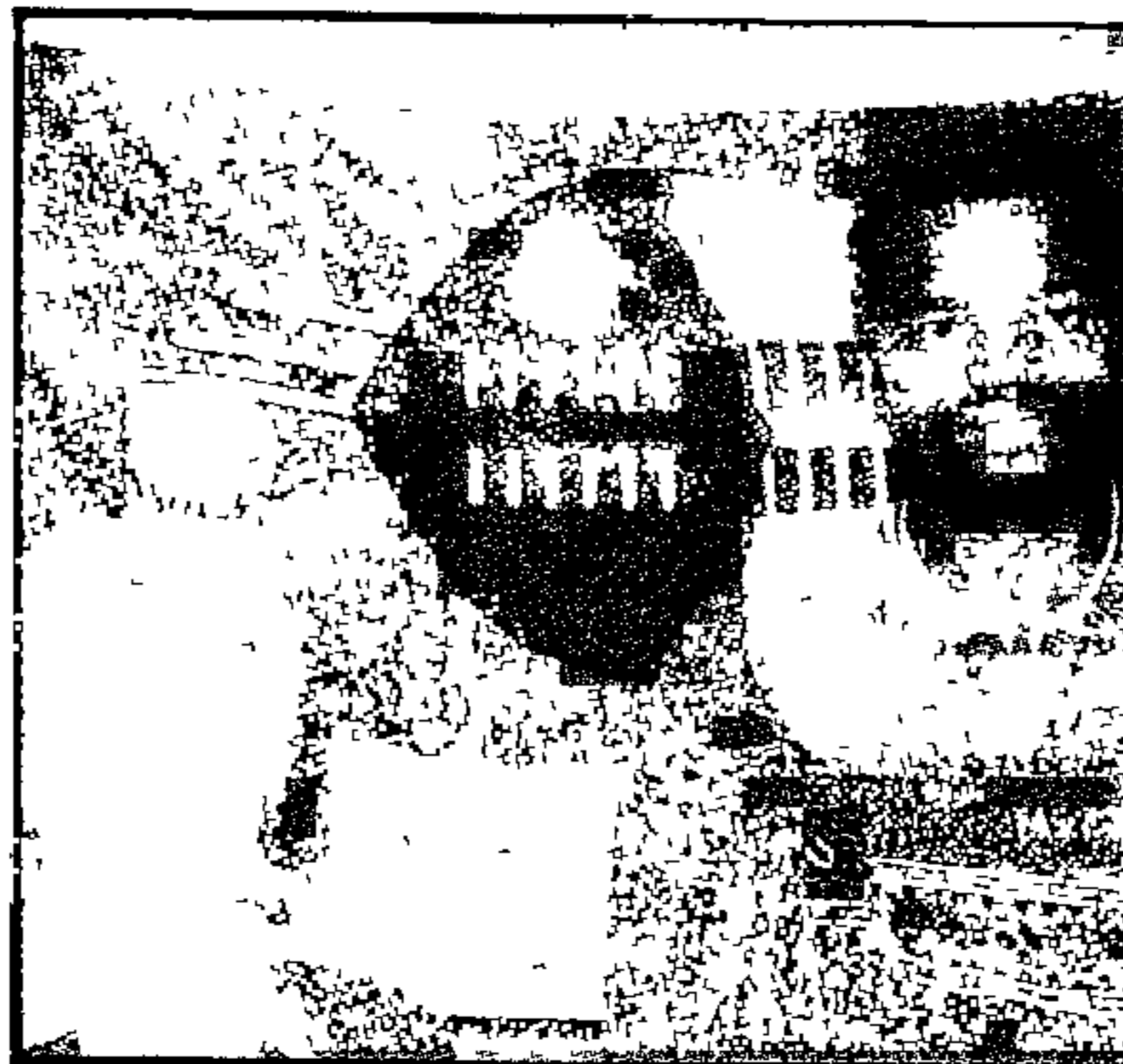
Politics are not his game. All he wants is to be home and start farming again.

So far about 11 000 refugees have been repatriated in what is believed to be the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' largest repatriation programme in Africa. The UNHCR has asked for US\$102,8-million to cover the costs of transportation and resettlement.

This year the UNHCR aims to voluntarily repatriate over 600 000 refugees from Zimbabwe to Mozambique "in safety and dignity". The repatriation is expected to be completed by mid-1995 in all five refugee camps.

The repatriation operation for 1,5-million Mozambicans in six southern African countries follows a peace agreement in Rome between the Mozambican government and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (Renamo) in October 1992 in Rome. This ended a 15-year-old war.

Most of the returnees come from Malawi, host of the largest group of refugees, 650 000 as of January 1, South Africa, 250 000, Zimbabwe, 100 000, Zambia, 22 000, Tanzania, 20 000 and Swaziland, 18 000.



**MOVERS ... UNHCR head Sadako Ogata and King Mswati of Swaziland held talks.**

# Mozambique told to have unified army before poll

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO — Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity Salim Ahmed Salim warned that a unified Mozambican army should be in place before the October elections.

Speaking at the end of a five-day visit to Mozambique in which he had talks

FRG 9/3/94  
with political leaders and visited United Nations-run assembly points, Mr Salim said: "You can have a multiparty system, but you can't have a multi-army system."

"All the ingredients for peace are present (in Mozambique) The antagonists of the past have reconciled themselves to the need for peace"

Mr Salim said there was great expectation for peace among soldiers at the assembly points, where government and Renamo troops are gathering to be either demobilised or recruited into the new army

He said the problems in implementing the 1992 peace accord were not political, but technical and logistical



ies found in 'House of horror' ● Massacre in Burundi

# Unified army a must before polls

Sowetan 10/3/94

Sowetan Africa News Service

## ■ GREAT EXPECTATION Peace

### in Mozambique near OAU's Salim:

**M**APUTO — The secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity, Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, has warned that a unified Mozambican army should be in place before the October elections

Speaking to journalists at the end of a five-day visit to Mozambique in which he had held talks with political leaders and visited United Nations-run assembly points, Salim said "You can have a multiparty system, but you can't have a multi-army system" (218)

He said "All the ingredients for peace (in Mozambique) are present. The an-

tagonists of the past have reconciled themselves to the need for peace."

According to Salim, there was a great expectation for peace among the soldiers at the assembly points, where government and Renamo troops are gathering to be either demobilised or recruited into the new army

"Our responsibility is to satisfy this expectation and to ensure that peace is permanent"

He said the problems in implementing the 1992 peace accord were not

political, but were technical and logistical. He said he had urged the donor community to continue supporting the process

Asked whether Mozambique would slide back into war as Angola had done, Salim said no one could give any guarantees, but that he had found the dialogue between Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama "very reassuring"

Salim said the OAU would participate fully in observing the elections

By ROGER MAKINGS

IN A barbed-wire enclosure at Macadamia military base, 17-year-old Jaime Xirindze, barefoot, his clothes little more than rags, contemplates a future that at best is bleak, at worst hopeless.

A day's trek from Xikumbane in Mozambique through mosquito-infested bush brought Jaime to the border town of Resano Gracia where the starving teenager — he hadn't eaten in three days — slipped under the non-lethal 3 500-volt Norex fence to start a new life in the land of milk and honey — South Africa.

But Jaime's freedom lasted just four days before an SA Army patrol picked him up and took him to the Eastern Transvaal base at Macadamia, from where he will be repatriated to an uncertain future in Mozambique.

Jaime says hunger drove him to risk his life in search of food and maybe a job in SA. He wants to unite with his father somewhere in Johannesburg.

Jaime's story like that of Sabeno Mashaba, is typical of tens of thousands of Mozambicans who have crossed into the Transvaal in search of jobs and who will work on farms for as little as R4 a day to keep body and soul together.

If they are lucky they remain undetected long enough to build up a stake — enough for a taxi ride to the PWV area — where they will disappear.

Reed-thin Sabeno of Gaza doesn't know his age. An SADF medic estimates it at about 12. His clothes are in tatters — food not clothes is the priority in Mozambique.

One consolation for the shiv, softly spoken and slightly apprehensive Sabeno, who peers through the wire of the enclosure as he gives his particulars to the army medic is that he will be given a basic meal before being sent back. Probably his first in several days.

The medic says most of the illegals arrested complain of headaches, diarrhoea, dizziness and stomach cramps. "These are classic symptoms of hunger. They often go for days without anything to drink or eat."

Others in the unguarded enclosure who were lucky enough to make it to the farms complain they were arrested before they were paid for their labours. Some were returning to

# Starvation fuels a growing tide of desperate refugees

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S Times

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ARMS IN INSPECTION an officer from Macadamia checks a Mozambican during a pre-dawn patrol

Picture JUAN KUUS

collect personal possessions left behind following their arrest.

We apprehend about 70 percent of those who cross the fence," said a senior Macadamia officer. But most, who come from deep in Mozambique, cross again rather than face the long trek home.

A lieutenant at the base returns mid-morning with a Samil load of illegals. His patrol encountered a group of 50-plus walking on the side of the road.

"The minute they saw us they bolted into the sugar estate. We managed to catch about 14."

26 men and women between farm and farm. Mozambicans are easily identified. Their hair is different bushier they only speak Portuguese or Shangaan have vaccination marks on their forearms, rather than should have no ID or badly forged papers and their clothes are ragged," said the officer.

Later in the day on a visit to Nkongoma near Komatipoort, army trackers picked up the spoor of a woman and child. The two were later detained by trackers assuming the 13-year-old boy was the woman's son.

Not so. He was her guide — paid R100 by the woman's husband, who works in SA to guide her over the border to an hotel where he was waiting to take her to Johannesburg.

A soldier who caught a Mozambican shortly after crossing the fence told the illegal immigrant to pick up his bag and bring it with him. The Mozambican said he preferred to leave it there. He would fetch it the next time he crossed the fence.

Hunger is a powerful motivator. The Jaimes and Sabenos who cross the fence have nothing to lose. There is no deterrent if

caught. A meal, a ride home and another shot at life in the land of milk and honey in a week or two — or a day or two, depending on how hungry they are.

Two weeks ago the Sunday Times reported that the Norex fence could be switched back to lethal mode in an effort to stem the flow of illegal immigrants entering SA. It is estimated that about 2,2-million are already settled here.

Police shot dead a man, wounded another and arrested five others trying to cross the border about 10km from Komatipoort on Tuesday night.



# Crime profits as Mozambique recovers

PEACE has restored prosperity to Mozambique's ports and railways — and brought corruption, drug trafficking and a thriving trade in looted merchandise

Western embassies in Maputo are alarmed at the flow of illicit drugs through the ports. John Sunde, the South African Ambassador, says that up to a ton of Mandrax has been seized in a week at Maputo harbour. The drug, made in India, is widely used in SA's townships

Diplomats estimate that a fifth of the cargo handled in Maputo is stolen. Storage areas are hot locked and guards look the other way when women make off with bags of maize and sugar

Lax security and poor management are costing the state-owned Ports and Railways

By LESLIE CRAWFORD

Company of Mozambique (CFM) business it can barely afford to lose.

Transvaal coal mines, which recently secured huge contracts to supply Turkey, will not use Maputo — their closest harbour — until security is improved

Mr Sunde says, "If South Africa doesn't use Maputo port, the World Bank will not fund an \$11-million project to upgrade the railway line."

Having spent hundreds of millions of dollars to rebuild Mozambique's war-damaged transport network, foreign donors have decided that the only way to stop the rot at CFM is by privatising its management. In the diplomatic language of the World Bank, the

administration of CFM is in need of reform

The Causse Francaise de Development, the French government's development agency, has threatened to halt rehabilitation of the Nacala railway, northernmost of the three lines which traverse Mozambique, unless CFM privatises Nacala's deep-water port and railway services. The privatisation proposal provokes a vitriolic reaction from Transport Minister Armando Guebuza

He says "CFM is Mozambique's biggest company and foreign-exchanger earner. Why should I hand over the country's wealth to foreigners without a full analysis of the options? There may be management problems, but we are not obliged to accept every solution donors impose on us"

The arguments are often clouded by emotion because Mozambicans fear they are losing their sovereignty to the dictates of foreign donors. In a country where aid receipts equal gross domestic product (a meagre \$1-billion), there is an undercurrent of resentment to the lecturing that comes with international assistance.

Charges of weak management wound Mr Guebuza's nationalist pride. To surrender the railways to foreigners would bring back the days of Portuguese rule when blacks were restricted to menial jobs. Seventeen years of civil war destroyed the few resources the Portuguese left. Rehabilitation began in earnest only after signing of a peace accord in October 1992 and it has been financed entirely by external aid

The port and railway terminal of Beira, which handles Zimbabwe's foreign trade, has new facilities and a deeper port thanks to \$435-million of European Union and Nordic assistance

Freight traffic along the Beira Corridor has doubled since 1991 to 950 000 tons. Tonnage handled at the port has risen by 60%

Fernando Ferreira Mendes, a former CFM employee who is now a consultant with the World Bank, agrees that weak management is a problem, but mainly because all decisions are made in Maputo

"Everything has to be referred to CFM headquarters — from the purchase of spares to the tariffs we charge. We don't need to privatise management, just decentralise it" — Financial Times



# Mozambican troops want out

By SCOTT PETERSON in Maputo

REBEL and government soldiers in Mozambique are so tired of war after a generation of fighting among themselves and their Portuguese colonisers that they are unlikely to come up with enough men to form a new joint army, which the United Nations has targeted to be 30 000-strong

Provisions of a UN-arranged peace deal signed in October 1992 stip-

ulate that nearly a third of Mozambique's 100 000 soldiers from both sides would form the new army and the rest would be demobilised

But as soldiers wait in UN-run cantonment sites to receive their pay-off, rations, civilian clothes and demobilisation cards, there is a growing feeling that unemployment is a better option than staying in uniform

The Frelimo government plans to demobilise 80 000 soldiers, and the Renamo rebels 20 000. Each is expected to contribute 15 000 men to the new army, but will not be able to. The process is already a year behind schedule, forcing elections to be postponed until October

The UN Special Representative for Mozambique, Dr Aldo Ajello, an Italian, said the problem was

especially acute for the government, which had conscripted boys to fight the 16-year civil war. They had been "badly fed, badly paid and badly accommodated"

"If they insist that people go on with the same army they have now, no one will accept. They need some new incentives," he said

Conditions for both sides during the civil war have been bad, and soon-to-be-demobilised soldiers in UN cantonment areas have at times rioted and blocked access roads. In November and December rebel Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama warned that he might lose control of his soldiers through lack of funds.

Referring threateningly to the example of Angola, where rebels restarted the civil war after rejecting a

UN peace process, Mr Dhlakama was able to squeeze concessions from the UN. Dr Ajello appealed for an unprecedented trust fund of \$16-million to ease the rebel transition to opposition politics

And instead of receiving just a six-month pay package from the government for each demobilised soldier, international donors have been persuaded by the UN to stump up \$20-million more to provide 18 months' more pay

Mr Dhlakama has done well himself, driving a bullet-proof Mercedes-Benz through the capital and living in the former EC representative's mansion

But in the bush, where there are believed still to be more than a million AK-47 assault rifles, euphoria of the peace has faded as delays mount. The first soldiers were demobilised

last week, and the UN says — over-optimistically — that the job will have been completed by July

"The concentration of these soldiers is potentially dangerous," said UN spokesman Joao Albuquerque. "They don't like it, so the government wants to get it done as quickly as possible"

Still, healing the scars left by the war is proving difficult, as rebels and government soldiers alike try to overcome memories of atrocities and consider a bleak future

A government soldier who took part in a notorious Frelimo massacre at Monga in 1991, recalls the abuses by his men and his distaste for war. "If people left their local area and came to town, we thought they were Renamo. If they said something that wasn't right, we tortured them until they said the right things," he said — © *The Telegraph, London*

## Red faces for rebels over demob

### ■ STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Maputo — Renamo made an embarrassing start to its troop demobilisation when the first soldier to be discharged turned out to be a juvenile who said he had been kidnapped and forced to fight in the rebel army.

Alberto Samuel (16) said he had been kidnapped when he was nine and had received military training at a Renamo base in Vilankulo district in Inhambane province. He had taken part in several military actions, he said. (218)

Alberto's story contradicted Renamo's frequent denials that it had forced kidnapped children to fight in its ranks.

When the war ended in 1992 Alberto would have been only 14.

His story came out when a journalist asked him if he planned to marry now that he was being demobilised.

"No, I'm still a child," replied Alberto.

A Renamo officer ordered Alberto to stop speaking to the journalists but he was allowed to resume when a senior Renamo official intervened in response to the journalists' protests.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama, when asked about it by the journalists, replied: "I didn't come here to speak about children. Whether he's 14 or 30 is not the issue now."

The incident took place on Friday at the United Nations-run assembly point at Neves in Inhambane province, as the first 272 Renamo troops were demobilised. Demobilisation of the government forces began on March 10.

## Bitter pill helps

ARUSHA— A Mozambique minister said at the weekend that painful economic reform programmes adopted at the insistence of international donors had helped lead the country to impressive growth.

Mozambican Finance Minister Eneas Comiche said the free movement of people and goods and better weather also helped increase the gross domestic product by 5,6% last year. He gave no comparative figures for the previous year.

Monetary and fiscal reforms and price measures since 1987 favoured private enterprise and led to impressive growth.

Speaking to African business leaders, he said the financial sector's competitiveness had increased because of a fall in inflation by 11 percentage points between December 1992 and December 1993 and the application of real interest rates.

He also credited having exchange rates

## Mozambique

*Sunday 21/3/94*  
determined by foreign currency supply and demand rather than fixed, and a growth in the number of secondary foreign exchange market traders, for his country's better performance.

He told an African Business Round Table forum at Arusha, northern Tanzania, that Mozambique had opened new banks and reduced tax rates.

(218)  
He said authorised direct foreign investment had reached \$660m — from Britain, Portugal, SA, the Netherlands and 25 African states. "Almost all sectors are eligible for private investment, except for certain areas reserved for the state."

The Mozambican government was privatising many state-linked companies. About 240 state companies had been restructured, with 95% of small and medium enterprises acquired by Mozambicans. — Sapa-Reuter



# An unwilling rebel

**M**APUTO — Renamo made an embarrassing start to its troop demobilisation when the first soldier to be discharged turned out to

be a juvenile who said he had been kidnapped and forced to fight in the rebel army

The story told by 16-year-old Alberto Samuel to journalists covering the event contradicted Renamo's frequent denials that it had forced kidnapped children to fight in its ranks. Alberto said he had been kidnapped when he was nine and had received military training at a Renamo base in Vilankulo district in

SOWETAN 22/3/94  
■ JUVENILE KIDNAPPED Soldier

says he was forced to fight:

Inhambane province. He had taken part in several military actions, he said.

When the war ended in 1992 Alberto would have been only 14.

His story came out when a journalist asked him if he planned to marry now that he was being demobilised.

"No, I'm still a child," replied Alberto. A Renamo officer immediately ordered Alberto to stop speaking to the journalists but he was allowed to resume

when a senior Renamo official intervened in response to the journalists' protests.

Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama was as embarrassed as any of his officials by the incident. When asked about it by the journalists, he angrily replied "I didn't come here to speak about children. Whether he's 14 or 30 years old is not the issue now." — *Argus Africa News Service* (218)

1997 77  
Star 25/3/94  
**Maputo**  
**agrees on**

**army pay**

(218)

■ STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Maputo — A potentially serious obstacle to Mozambique's first multiparty general election has been overcome with agreement being reached on pay scales for the new joint army, the FADM.

The government had proposed that the basic wage for a private should be the same as the national minimum industrial wage of 70 600 meticals (about R40) a month.

Renamo proposals had ranged between 110 000 and 90 000 meticals a month. This week agreement was reached on the compromise figure of 80 000 meticals a month.

# City set for refugee surge

ARG 26/3/94

(218)

**WILLEM STEENKAMP**

Weekend Argus Reporter

HUNDREDS, possibly thousands, of political refugees from countries including Somalia, Zaire, Mozambique and Angola are streaming to South Africa following an agreement between the United Nations and the government

And, many of these refugees are making their way to Cape Town because the city is relatively safe compared to other centres and also because word has spread that free accommodation is readily available hereto refugees

Senior immigration official Jaco Duckitt, known as "Mr Refugee" because of the work he does among refugees who arrive in Cape Town, said the numbers of refugees arriving had increased alarmingly

"More than 10 refugees arrive in Cape Town a day. We already have more than 100 male Angolans — many with children and wives — in Cape Town. Where they previously arrived in dribs and drabs, they are now arriving in groups.

"We have about 35 refugees from Somalia and the number is increasing. Four from the Sudan, 15 from Zaire and we even have one from Liberia."

Mr Duckitt said an agreement was reached between the government and UN officials in September last year under which the government agreed to allow political refugees into South Africa.

Conditions were also set out under which people would qualify for refugee status



Picture OBED ZILWA Weekend Argus

**NEW HOME:** A group of political refugees who fled to Cape Town because of civil war in their respective countries have found a new home at The Ark, a haven run by Christians at Westlake.

Home Affairs officials get training from the UN on how to handle and process refugees.

Mr Duckitt said that under this system people first would be questioned as to their reasons for coming to South Africa. If they qualified as political refugees they would be given temporary permits to live and work here.

"We try to encourage political refugees to find work to support themselves and their families as there are no funds available from the government to support these people.

"These political refugees can later apply for political asylum. But, should the situation in their respective countries

improve, we would ask them to be voluntarily repatriated to their countries of origin. In such cases, we would supply them with some cash and a free ticket."

Mr Duckitt said that if political refugees refused to return voluntarily to their country of origin, steps would be taken against them under the Aliens Act.

Many of the refugees that arrive in Cape Town find a haven at The Ark in Westlake, run by Pastor Greg Grobler. They stay free of charge. The Ark does not get any money from the government and is dependent solely on donations to do its work.

At The Ark many refugees learn basic skills such as carpentry, welding, panel-beating to enable them to support themselves.

As the word spread that under the UN agreement with the government political refugees would not be summarily returned to their countries of origin, the number of refugees has increased.

Mr Duckitt said he had been monitoring and processing political refugees under the new system for three weeks now. Since then, there had been a vast increase. Most of them fled their countries of origin because of political strife and war.



## Renamo call for national unity (218)

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO. — Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has called for a government of national unity in Mozambique, saying no single party was able to govern on its own at present.

Mr Dhlakama said such a government should include political parties as well as competent individuals with no party affiliation. ARG 28/3/94

He told the Maputo Sunday newspaper Domingo that he had discussed the concept with Western diplomats, who had endorsed it.

He said he had also raised it with Joaquim Chissano "and I got the impression he agrees with me".

But President Chissano has ruled out a coalition before the election in October "as it would defraud the voters".

He said the election results would determine who ruled and whether any form of coalition was required.

The few polls that have been done in Mozambique have given no clear indication of voter preferences.

Star 31/3/94  
**25 000 refugees  
due to go home**

Maputo — More than 25 000 refugees are preparing to return to Mozambique from Zimbabwe as part of an accelerated repatriation programme by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (218)

The UNHCR in Zimbabwe said in a statement that he had undertaken registration for voluntary repatriation in the refugee camps of Mazowe River Bridge, Nyamatikiti and Tongogara.

Repatriation is due to take place between now and June. —  
Star Africa Service.

# imo questions rebel demobilisation

## Renamo 'dirty tricks'

*Sowetan 31/3/94*

**MAPUTO**— Renamo has been accused of sending mainly old men, children and disabled people to the assembly points at which the former combatants in the Mozambican civil war are being gathered for demobilisation

The accusation by the central committee of the ruling Frelimo party suggests that Renamo is keeping its able-bodied soldiers in the bush

Many of Renamo's guerillas are known to have been teenagers captured and forced to fight with the rebel forces

The government has demobilised

more than 6 000 troops through the United Nations-run assembly points, while Renamo has demobilised slightly more than 200 (218)

Frelimo has alleged that the Renamo troops coming into the assembly points are bringing in only old and obsolete weapons and are surrendering fewer than the one rifle that each soldier is expected to hand in

The government has not formally put the committee's claims to the international committee monitoring the process — *Sowetan Africa News Service*



# Dodgy future for returning Mozambicans

REFUGEES from 16 years of civil war are flooding back into Mozambique to face uncertain peacetime lives and the country's first multi-party elections.

Nearly 800 000 refugees have returned — of the 1.7-million Mozambicans who fled the bloodshed to neighbouring countries — since a United Nations-brokered ceasefire was signed in October 1992.

The UN High Commission for Refugees, in charge of the largest-ever repatriation effort in Africa, is spending \$200-million over three years to ease their return.

But the refugees are coming home to the poorest country in the world, broken by war and riddled with landmines, where hope is still a scarce commodity. And here again they will be subject to the political whims of the same men — government and rebels — who brought such destruction on Mozambique.

Those cares aside, 40-year-old Manna Lungile smiles with joy as she holds her five-month-old baby, Precious, to her hip and steps off the UNHCR train from Swaziland to touch Mozambican soil at Umpala, 32km west of the capital, Maputo, for the first time for 10 years.

She is with 500 other exiles on the weekly UNHCR train, and has packed a mattress, green wooden door and dilapidated board walls — torn down in a rush — and a bale of clothing into the carriage.

The UNHCR gives her a

By SCOTT PETERSON  
in Tete, Mozambique

plastic drum full of essentials, blankets, plastic sheeting, a saw, sturdy hoe, a new set of pots and a water jug; and a lift to her home village.

Mozambique's peace is guaranteed by more than 6 000 UN peacekeeping troops, though both the Frelimo government and Renamo rebels are exhausted from fighting a war that has proved useless.

There have been delays in assembling both armies at UN camps — not one of more than 70 000 soldiers has been demobilised to date. Because of this and problems with forming the new army, elections were put off for a year to October.

For many refugees such delays cause fear by reminding them of Angola's failed UN-sponsored peace process. Elections were



RAVAGES OF WAR... malnourished one-year-old Evita Joaquim carries the scars of a nation divided by civil war

held there two years ago, even though few government or Unita rebel soldiers had been demobilised. When the voting went against rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, he easily went back to the bush and reignited the civil war.

"In Angola people came back during peace, but now many have been killed," said one man recently returned to Tete from Malawi. "People here worry that the same thing could happen in Mozambique. People are afraid."

Life in camps in Malawi, where more than a million refugees have been concen-

trated, has also been hard. About 600 000 have walked back across the border from Malawi.

The refugees speak of an armed mafia — mostly criminals — who regularly stole food from refugees to resell it to the UNHCR at another camp.

"This mafia is very strong so that no one can protest," said one relief worker who asked not to be identified. "If people in the West knew how people were stealing from these poor refugees, they would be so angry."

Since most of the Malawi

refugees came from Renamo areas, the rebels also exert a strong influence in the camps. Last year, after the peace agreement had been signed, Renamo soldiers attacked some of the camps, beating people to intimidate them and "taking their wives", said one refugee.

Back in Mozambique, the refugees — and all civilians — are subject to the old habits of men in uniform from both sides. Throughout the civil war they looted what they wanted and abused and tortured civilians. Renamo specialised in carving ears and noses off the heads of

suspected collaborators. Julio, 37, fled Mozambique in 1986 when a battle in his village left five dead and separated him from his wife and three children.

He recounts the suffering of the war, but includes an incident just two weeks ago in which he was accosted by five government military policemen who wanted to arrest him.

He was wearing a brown plastic belt — the type you can buy anywhere in Africa — which they claimed was a military belt. Therefore, they said, he "supported Renamo" and had to come with them.

Julio got away, but his words echo those of many Mozambican people who are testing the new peace for the first time: "The people are very tired of this. They know the action of Frelimo, and of Renamo, and that there is no good that comes from them," he said. "I'm not interested in supporting either party; they are the same bad people". — *The Telegraph, London*



# Home and a better life

Star 24/4/94

## for refugees

**G**abriel Langa stood, cap in hand, under a tree at the Umpala train station, waiting to see if this time his wife and children were on the train bringing returning refugees from Swaziland.

There had been 18 other such trains and he had been there to meet all of them. But after this one had pulled in and he had searched vainly among the 700 faces for those of his family, he realised he would have to come back again to search once more when the next train came in.

His hope is shared by about 30 others who joined him in his weekly ritual at the station. It is a hope common among the 1.7 million Mozambican refugees who fled the 16-year civil war and who have been trickling home for a year.

According to Gary Perkins, who heads the operation for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Swaziland, about another 14 trains will be needed to return the rest of the 24 000 refugees based there.

The weekly train from Swaziland is just a small part of the effort by the UNHCR to repatriate those who sought refuge in Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe (218)

On a recent visit to look at the repatriation effort in Mozambique, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Sada-

### MOZAMBICANS who fled from the horrors of the long civil war are at last returning and picking up the pieces. Michael Sparks reports

ko Ogata, said she was pleased with it especially because the refugees were being reintegrated into Mozambican society. Her pleasure showed when she visited a family at Djosia Tongogara.

The 4 metre by 3 metre piece of blue plastic sheeting for emergency housing that is given to returnees is seen dotted around the village and the machamba (smallholdings).

"The people themselves are getting involved, they built these houses and planted these crops," Ogata said, gesturing to Romao Novela who was standing next to the four huts of his new household.

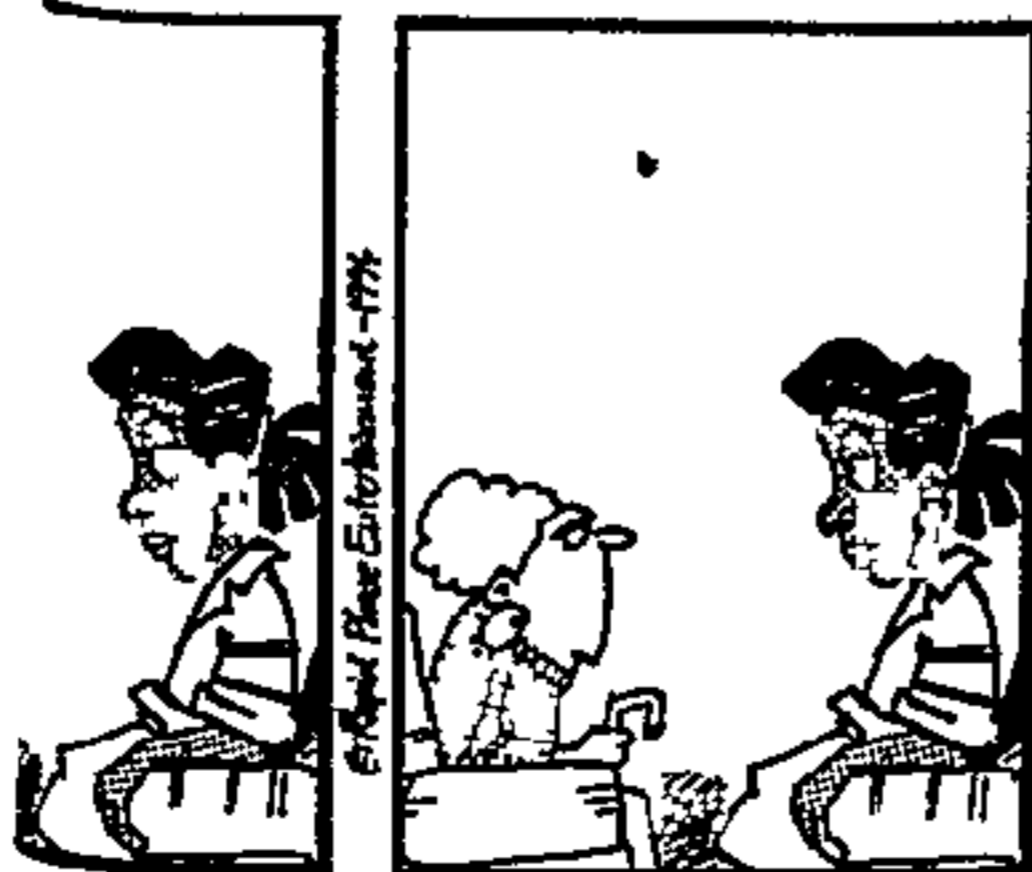
He farms the half hectare of land allocated to him by the Boane villagers, growing mealies, melons, beans and casava among other crops.

Life is difficult for Novela and his two sons, since neither have been able to find work. Indeed employment is one of the biggest problems for returnees, but not one returned regretted coming home. They continue to live in hope that jobs will come.

The food assistance provided is not enough for the whole month, Novela said, but if the rains come the crops will feed him and his family, and he would no longer need help.

Said UNHCR co-ordinator for southern Africa David Lambo "This is one of the most rewarding aspects of the job. We are bringing people home rather than dealing with the crisis. At last the story has a happy ending"

dis, H Dugmore & Rico



# SA defines border with Mozambique

Star No 15194

Maputo — After three years of joint effort, South Africa and Mozambique have almost finished defining the border of their territorial waters

Surveys on the coast and on the high seas have been completed and a map is being drawn for approval by both countries, according to Justice Minister Ali Dauto, who heads the Mozambican team.

Once this has been done, a bilateral agreement will be signed.

The border will run into the Indian Ocean from Gold Hill, near Ponto da Ouro, where the land border meets the coast

Buoys laid last year by a South African ship will be used to measure co-ordinates for the border

Definition of the border is necessary to demarcate fishing and

other maritime exploitation rights as well as for political purposes

Mozambique's maritime border with Tanzania was ratified in 1988 (218)

Next Mozambique will begin negotiations to define the border with Madagascar, whose nearest point is about 400 km from Mozambique — Star Africa Service.



## Mozambicans return home

HARARE — More than 20 000 Mozambican refugees had been repatriated from Zimbabwe since the start of the repatriation operation in June last year, the Ziana news agency reported *Bibay*

"The precise figure to date stands at 11 571 refugees repatriated in 1994 and a total of 20 887 since the start of the operation in June, 1993," a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Harare said yesterday. *2015/17*

She added that the programme would be speeded up in July. *(218)*

"The present convoy schedule foresees that until October 1994, at least a further 30 000 refugees will return home," she said.

About 65 000 Mozambican refugees had registered for repatriation in the past few weeks. — Sapa.

# Airwaves free-for-all in Maputo

Star 23/5/94

## ■ STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Maputo — Private radio stations are proliferating in Mozambique after the state ended its monopoly (218)

The government-run Radio Mozambique had exclusive broadcasting rights from independence in 1976

The latest stations are RTK, owned by Carlos Klint, and Radio Projecto owned by Jose Custodio

Licences had previously been granted to Radio Miramar, a religious station, and Radio FIM, directed by radio journalist Suleman Kadir.

Still being processed are licence applications from Radio Encontro, to be run by the Catholic archdiocese of Nam-pula, and Coop Radio

Another station, the Parochial Radio of the Sacred Family, is expected to be licensed soon

Despite some hitches in the peace process, Mozambique is blooming. Jasper Mortimer reports for The Star Africa Service from Maputo.

# Peace is like water to a

Maputo is like a garden deprived of water for many years, says the South African ambassador to Mozambique, John Sunde.

"Now that you are watering it, plants are growing, flowers are blooming. It's wonderful."

A few days ago Sunde got stuck in a traffic jam. He was delighted. "A year ago there weren't enough cars (for a traffic jam)," he quipped.

Today one struggles to find a store that is not open for business. A year ago shops were still boarded up, he said.

The revival of Maputo symbolises what is happening across the country now that peace has descended and the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (Unimoz) is in full swing.

The ceasefire has lasted 19 months. After some initial breaches, it has worked beautifully, praised a Western ambassador.

In its wake have come 6 000 UN troops and officials in their white "UN" cars and trucks taking over the capital's parking lots.

With the big UN presence, the aid agencies have extended their operations to the remote areas that were cut off during the 17-year war.

Most of all, the two parties to the peace process — the Frelimo government and former rebels Renamo — are no longer at each other's throats.

Their leaders, President Joaquim Chissano and Afonso Dhlakama, have met at least 12 times since they signed the 1992 peace accord in Rome.

### Talk openly

"They appear to be able to talk openly and resolve problems," a diplomat said.

The two sides meet regularly in the UN Supervisory and Monitoring Commission, chaired by Unimoz chief Aldo Ajello, and in the UN ceasefire committee.

What surprises journalists is the mild language that Renamo and Frelimo use in speaking of each other's transgressions.

The leader of the Frelimo delegation to the supervisory commission, Transport Minister Armando Guebuza, said he was "worried about the strange movements of Renamo forces."

His opposite number, General Raul Domingos of Renamo, said the government's sudden revision of its troop strength — a cut of 12 000 men — was merely causing "a lack of confidence."

The biggest transformation in the past few months, said a diplomat, "is that people are preparing for elections." Previously people tended to think the polls would be allowed to slide into 1995, now they are confident the election will take place on October 27 and 28.

Officially, campaigning can start only on September 11 but Chissano and Dhlakama are already making "working visits" to the provinces. Their parties are printing posters and T-shirts.

But not all is rosy. Ajello, a former Italian



Renamo's Raul Domingos, worried about Frelimo troop figures.



Frelimo's Armando Guebuza, worried about Renamo troop movements.

MP and administrator with the UN Development Programme, says some obstacles on the road to the elections are "quite disturbing and alarming."

Early in May the government put the brakes on demobilisation. It claimed Renamo was not cutting its forces in proportion.

Recently 500 Frelimo troops mutinied at

the UN assembly area outside the port of Quelimane. They had apparently had their demobilisation postponed twice. They wanted their demob pay and to go home.

That afternoon the government announced it was resuming demobilisation.

At the time of the ceasefire, Frelimo said it had roughly 61 000 troops in the field. This

month it said the figure was 49 000.

Not only Renamo was suspicious, observers suspected the government of hiding its fighting units.

What worries Ajello most of all is that the formation of the integrated army is behind schedule. The training centres are up and running for only half of the 30 000 troops that

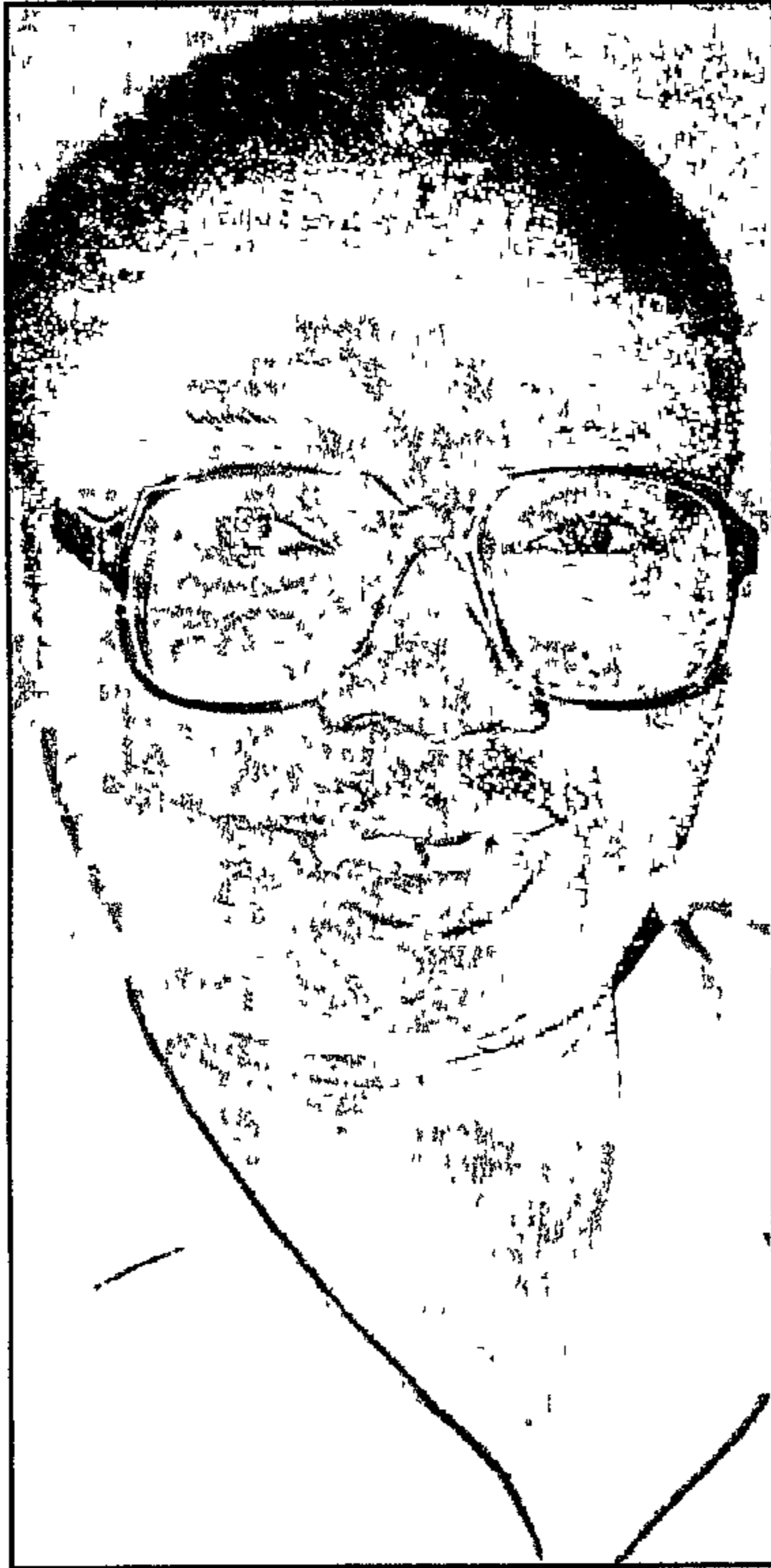
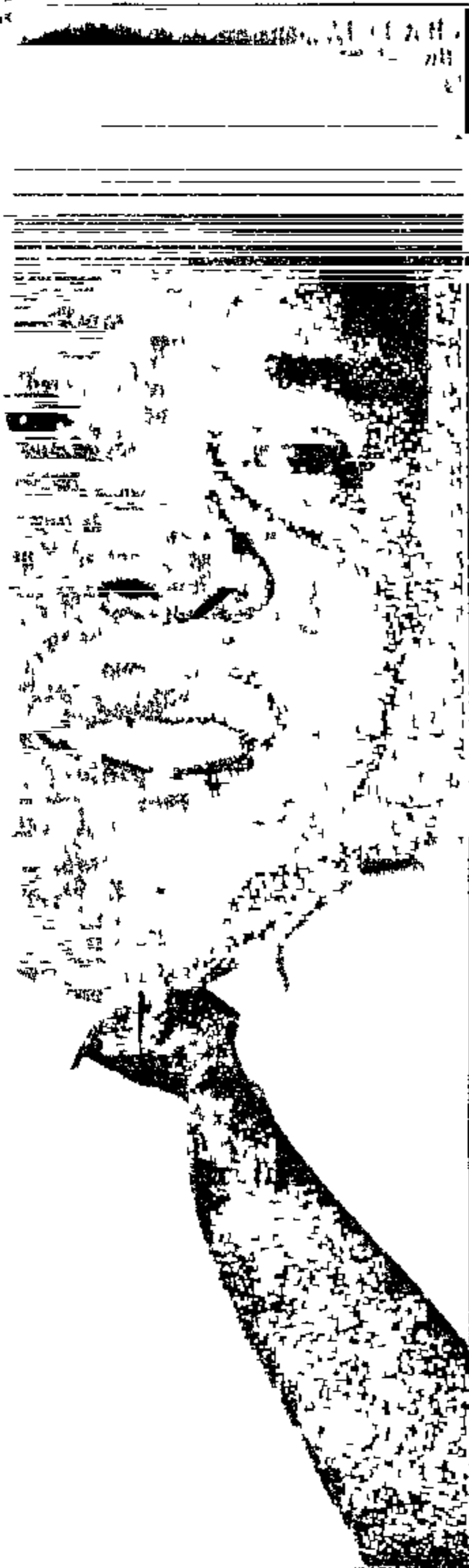


Mike Siluma

*As hitches in the peace process, Mozambique is blooming.  
Siluma reports for The Star Africa Service from Maputo*

# 'Like water to a garden

(218)



the new army must contain under the Rome accords.

The other half are still in the assembly areas, where they retain their Frelimo or Renamo loyalties, or in the bush.

They are being held up by delays in selection, demobilisation, funding and the building of military bases.

Ajello insists the elections cannot take place until all of the 30 000 soldiers have at least begun their integration, and the rest have been demobbed. To do otherwise would risk bad losers reverting to war.

"If we keep on accumulating delays," said Ajello on the night of the Quelimane troop mutiny, "we are putting the election date in jeopardy."

Dhlakama has called for the national army to be reduced to 15 000 men initially so that the election is not delayed, with the other 15 000 being trained afterwards.

But the government has so far rejected his proposal. Nevertheless, the overall mood in Mozambique is upbeat.

British ambassador Richard Edis told The Star's Africa Service that there will be further bumps on the election road.

There will be residual suspicion and mutual accusations, but I think these can be overcome. We will have a successful outcome to the peace process.

## Gap narrowing

Predictions vary as to who will win the election. Local opinion polls have forecast a Frelimo victory, but the gap is narrowing.

And it is difficult to imagine how opinion polls can be reliable in a war-ravaged country which has not even had a census for 14 years.

Some diplomats say Renamo is in the stronger position, benefiting from popular disenchantment with Frelimo rule.

What is interesting is that these, the country's first-ever democratic elections, mean the government is going to be decided by demographics.

Mozambique has always been dominated by the south. Frelimo's founder, Eduardo Mondlane, the first president Samora Machel, and as many as three-quarters of the government were all born in the southern provinces of Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane.

Diplomats say this is widely resented north of Beira. Frelimo cottoned on to this recently, and has been making its central committee look much more regionally representative.

Forecasters are looking particularly at the north-eastern provinces of Zambezia and Nampula, which are home to between a third and a half of the estimated national population of 17 million people.

Opinion polls predict a close race in the two provinces. And much could change in the next five-and-a-half months.

In the meantime, not a few people in the neglected north must be relishing the fact that for the first time in Mozambique's history, it is they who will determine the fate of the country.

UN Development Programme figures

UN Development Programme figures put the Renamo demobilised at

the UN assembly area outside the port of Quelimane. They had apparently had their demobilisation postponed twice. They wanted their demob pay and to go home.

That afternoon the government announced it was resuming demobilisation.

At the time of the ceasefire, Frelimo said it had roughly 61 000 troops in the field. This

Frelimo's Armando Guebuza worried about Renamo troop movements

month it said the figure was 49 000.

Not only Renamo was suspicious. Many observers suspected the government was hiding its fighting units.

What worries Ajello most of all is that the formation of the integrated army is behind schedule. The training centres are up and running for only half of the 30 000 troops that

# It's 'frio' on way to Maputo

Star 6/16/1974

Whistles and shouts echo across Park Station's platform 16 as last minute chancers pack into third class coaches just before 5 45 pm

Careful not to pop his head too far into a compartment before the train pulls off, a man bidding his brother a platform farewell warns him to wrap up warmly. "Frio, Belfast is cold!"

Conversation in the compartment is predominantly in Portuguese and Shangaan, with a touch of Zulu and English thrown in

The passenger route, to Maputo, resumed after a 10-year break just after the election.

## Natural end

Effectively, the three-times-a-week service from Johannesburg is simply the daily Komatipoort train taking the line through the eastern Transvaal to its natural end at Maputo, which is Johannesburg's closest port

It arrives there mid-morning the following day

Passengers not lucky enough to find a compartment sit cramped in the passage.

When they break out in song, one of the Mozambicans in the compartment jokes "Ha, ha, they're singing 'We are not Frelimo, we are not Renamo, we are the National Congress'"

"But there are only two real parties in our elections — Frelimo and Renamo — and Frelimo will win!"

## DUNCAN GUY takes a third-class ticket on a Maputo-bound train following the revival of the passenger service to and from Mozambique

Afrikaner character joins informal sector hawkers pushing merchandise through third-class windows

His sales cry "Vars biftong, dis genuine vars"

Another hawker has the Mozambicans in the compartment interested in his tooth-brushes for sale

"They are old," they protest

The vendor instantly produces little plastic covers he has forgotten to pre-wrap them in, but it is too late.

However, the Maputo-bound group buy up his bright green-and-pink combs, urging me to buy one, too

"For your nchebe (beard), amingo (friend)!"

## Prefer rice

A supper of pap and curried stew sells for R5 at a kiosk. The Mozambicans eat the stew without the South African staple

"We prefer rice," they say

Mimbus taxis, of course, also ply the route to Maputo, and they're much faster. But they cost R100 each from Johannesburg which, for third-class passengers, is a lot more than the R60 train ticket.

Travellers say they prefer the train, even if they catch it on a day that it goes only as far as Komatipoort, because overnight taxis pass the pre-dawn hours waiting for the border post to open

And one Mozambican's experience of that is "Fro, Komatipoort, fro"

Mozambicans go to the polls in October following a peace accord between the Frelimo government and the Renamo rebel movement after 17 years of civil war following independence in 1975

The then-new nation was already wrecked by a war that started in the 1960s between Frelimo guerrillas and the Portuguese colonial regime

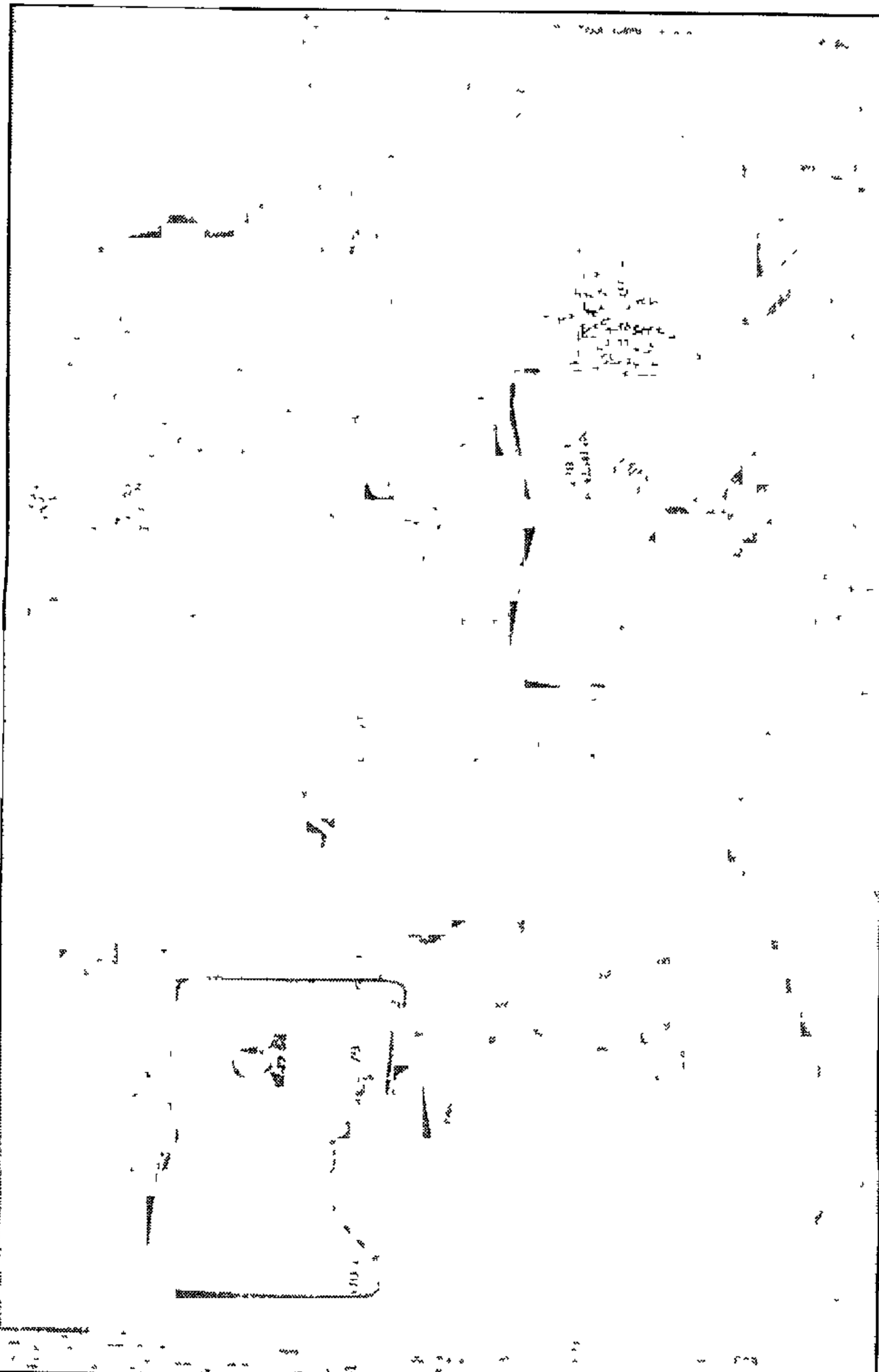
Back on the train, at Verwoedburgstad, a man in Spoorinet attire knocks on the door, not to collect tickets, but to sell Mozambican currency on the black market

Offering 10 000 meticals for R10, the passengers tell him to "voetsek"

But at Pretoria he emerges once again, this time from the platform with an extra two 5 000 metical notes. A deal is struck

The sight of a white in third-class brings a comment. "eNew South Africa wa ingena" ("The New South Africa has come on board).

But this "new" trend seems better established on the platform where a distinctly



Back on track . . . Mozambique passports ready for tomorrow's border crossing at Komatipoort, on the way home to Maputo.

PICTURE PETER MOGAKI



# Angola haunts Mozambique

The spectre that haunts the Mozambique peacekeepers as the country approaches its first free election in October 1992 is what happened in Angola in 1992.

In September and October of that year, the Angolans voted, the losing party challenged the result, the hawks reached for their guns and within weeks the civil war had revived.

Mozambicans are uncomfortably aware of the many parallels with their sister-Lusophone state. In both cases, the elections are a first in the country's history. They are supervised by the United Nations. They are essentially two-horse races, between the formerly Marxist government and the formerly South African-backed rebels.

More ominously, both states have a surfeit of weapons — the legacy of 16 to 17 years of civil war. This makes it easy for a bad loser to resort to force.

But there are many differences.

Firstly, the UN has sent a much bigger force to Mozambi-

**MOZAMBICANS see Angola all-over again, writes Jasper Mortimer of The Star Africa Service**

que. In Angola, the UN had a advisory 580 civilian and military personnel, rising to 880 during the election. The UN Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) has more than 6 000 troops, police and officials.

Secondly, ONUMOZ chief Aldo Ajello, who insisted on the large-scale force, has made it clear he will not allow the elections to proceed until the military integration and demobilisation have finished.

This means that the Frelimo government forces and Renamo rebels must equally contribute to the creation of an army of 30 000 men. The rest of their fighters are to be disarmed at UN assembly areas, and sent home with demob payments.

In Angola, only a quarter of the integrated army was en-

rolled by polling day and demobilisation had been left for later. Said one diplomat in Maputo: "We are learning the lessons of Angola."

Thirdly, the international community has much more leverage in Mozambique. In Angola, the MPLA government earned revenue from the offshore oil wells and Unita controlled the northern eastern diamond fields. In Mozambique, the two sides have very little in the way of independent sources of income. Renamo's campaign, for instance, is being funded by a trust set up under the Rome peace accords.

In terms of per capita GDP, Mozambique is the poorest country in the world. Whoever wins the elections will need foreign support.

Fourthly, there is a chemistry between President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo chief Afonso Dhlakama. They have met at least a dozen times since Rome in 1992.

"They appear to be able to talk openly and resolve problems," said a Western diplomat.

Nobody ever said that of Angolan President Jose dos Santos and Unita's Jonas Savimbi.

"Chissano is a pragmatist," the diplomat added, "and Dhlakama is not a Savimbi."

Perhaps the most hopeful feature of the Mozambican process is that there is already a public debate on the merits of forming a government of national unity.

The foreign powers are keen to avoid a "winner take all" election. They believe it was this that made the results in Angola so explosive.

When Mozambican journalists ask Chissano about a coalition, he refuses to commit himself. He points out that he is fighting an election to win votes, not to make deals. But he does say he would appoint a government that would bring stability.

Dhlakama is more favourable to the idea. He says he would bring outsiders into the Cabinet, as Renamo lacks experienced personnel.

Ajello believes a coalition government would be "extremely wise".

(218)



Star 16/6/94

## Bid to halt mutinies in camps

Maputo — In an effort to stem a tide of mutinies sweeping through troop assembly camps, Mozambique's government and former rebels are to send about 15 000 soldiers to the barracks of a joint new national army while they await retraining, Radio Mozambique announced yesterday (218)

When the soldiers enter the

new barracks they will cease to be members of either of the two former belligerent forces and answer to the new army command, the radio said, citing a high-ranking government official.

Soldiers have protested over poor conditions in the camps and demand that they be moved out immediately. — Sapa-AFP.

# West raps Maputo <sup>(218)</sup> over troops

ARG 23/6/94

**PAUL FAUVET**  
Argus Africa News Service

**MAPUTO** — Western ambassadors have sharply criticised the Mozambican government for its slowness in demobilising its troops — and have warned that this is threatening the goodwill of the international community.

The warning was issued by the ambassadors of Britain, France, Italy, Portugal, Germany, the United States and France, together with the representative of the Organisation of African Unity.

All sit on the Supervisory and Control Commission (CSC), the body in overall charge of implementing the 1992 peace agreement.

In a joint statement they warned that elections, scheduled for October, could not be held until demobilisation was complete and that the goodwill of the international community was threatened by the government's failure to meet obligations it had freely accepted.

So far only 77 percent of the government troops have reported to the assembly points from which they are being demobilised, and the deadline for completing troop assembly is July 1.

More than 11 000 troops still have to check in at these points.

The process may be further delayed by the mutiny of a commando unit, which yesterday threw up barricades on the main road leading from Maputo to the north and centre of the country.

Star 6/7/94

## Poll registration not fast enough

Maputo — Mozambicans are registering to vote in their first free election at a rate of about 100 000 a day — and the roll contains about 3 million names.

But this is not fast enough to complete registration on time for the October 27-28 election.

The electorate is estimated at more than 8,5 million and, at the current rate, only 6 million will be registered by the August 15 deadline (218)

A 25-day extension is planned, but only for "special cases", such as returning refugees or demobilised soldiers, said Brazao Mazula, chairman of the National Elections Commission.

He denied Renamo allegations of fraud at registration posts — Star Foreign Service.



# REBUIDS OF DEATH

## HOW SA COLD WAR WARRIORS BRING HOPE TO WAR-TORN MOZAMBIQUE

By PETER De IONNO

**SOUTH AFRICAN Cold War warriors are turning their swords into ploughshares to free Mozambique from the lethal pestilence of land mines.**

At Mutarara, on the Zambezi, a minn foreign legion has been working seven days a week to de-mine bush roads to clear the way home for up to a million war refugees still camped over the border.

The mine teams were called in after roadbuilders for South African civil engineers Basil Read had to halt work on a \$5-million contract when mines were uncovered.

Using traditional mine-clearing methods covering a kilometre or two a day, the project would be reduced to an impossible crawl, anything else would be a constant gamble with death.

Sakkie van Zyl, a softly spoken but hard-eyed veteran of South Africa's public and covert wars, is field manager of the six-strong team of former special forces operators who saw action together in Namibia and Angola and now work for Mechem, the Denel subsidiary.

"Some of us did things and

**EVERY day the estimated 100 million mines sown in more than 60 countries claim new victims. In Mozambique 6 000 people have been killed or maimed by land mines since 1980. The casualty rate is increasing as hundreds of thousands of refugees return home, lured by promises of peace and the UN-managed elections in October. Last year 883 Mozambicans became casualties. Half of them died.**

crossed borders while we were obeying orders but that is not relevant now. Those old days are over. "South Africa SA has changed and I am glad. Some of those things were a waste, but I did my duty to my country at that time," he said.

He snorts into his beard when asked if he feels that SA has a moral obligation to help rebuild the country that South African weapons, including mines, helped to tear apart.

"This is business and we are the best there is," he says.

The best does not come cheap. Wages start at about R10 000 a month and top R25 000 for the bosses. The living conditions are primitive but for some that too is an advantage.

"Too many people breathing the

same air in the cities," says Sakkie. "What else is there for people with our kind of experience?" The reality is that only people with military experience can do this and they have to be good or mistakes get made and they end up dead.

"If we can help Mozambique get back on its feet that is good too. I try to do one good thing every day."

Rocky van Blerk, a fiery-eyed red-headed "free spirit" is the team leader. He worked with Sakkie clearing hundreds of antipersonnel mines from sabotaged power pylons near Ressano Bassa and later on demining for Frelimo troops.

This time they are in Renamo territory. "We treat them all the same".

He rebuffs probing questions

about his past with silence.

"It does no good to anyone to drag all that up now. People are sick of hearing about it," he says. "We don't talk about that stuff between ourselves."

And so it goes with them all, quietly menacing, friendly but wary. Lionel Snyman from Pretoria, British-born Jim Macdonald and Irish-born Buddhist Paddy Giblin — both ex-SADF and now SA citizens — have been partners for 20 years since the Rhodesian war. Dog handler Brian Lewis, the smooth-faced baby of the bunch, trained sniffer dogs during his national service.

"We know each other so there is trust without question. Nobody has to be told what to do. It is the only way," says Rocky.

No one smokes and serious drinking is reserved for the end of the job. Their 12-hour day starts at dawn with PT sessions and ends with running repairs to their Sespri, a Caspir fitted with an extra front axle and wheels, designed to absorb damage from a mine blast.

The armoured monster, once a feared weapon of SA's military might, is now a tool for spreading

peace and goodwill as it lumbers along the collections of potholes that pass for roads. Regularly, locals come to ask the team to lift mines that have threatened their safety for years. They are never refused.

In Senan, five kilometres across the Ponto de Ana rail bridge — still cut in two places after spans were dropped by Rhodesian special forces — Mark Buswell, a former British army sapper working for the charity Norwegian People's Aid, heads 90 former Frelimo soldiers clearing a minefield.

The area changed hands eight times and mines and unexploded munitions from both sides in the war are scattered indiscriminately around the town.

Mark too is a veteran. After the Gulf War he cleared mines in Cambodia.

Progress is slow, each piece of debris left from the fighting sets the detectors whining, demanding another painstaking mine-recovery drill. Dumped wheelbarrow loads of shrapnel fragments, spent cartridge cases and rocket fins are scattered around like rusty ant heaps.

A dozen mines, some planted with mortar bombs alongside to boost the explosion, await lifting. On the far edge of the minefield two bleached skeletons, believed to be mined, await burial.

"The fear of mines is greater than the threat," says Mark. "But the only way to rid the fear is to let the people see that we trust our work and are prepared to go into the areas that have been cleared."

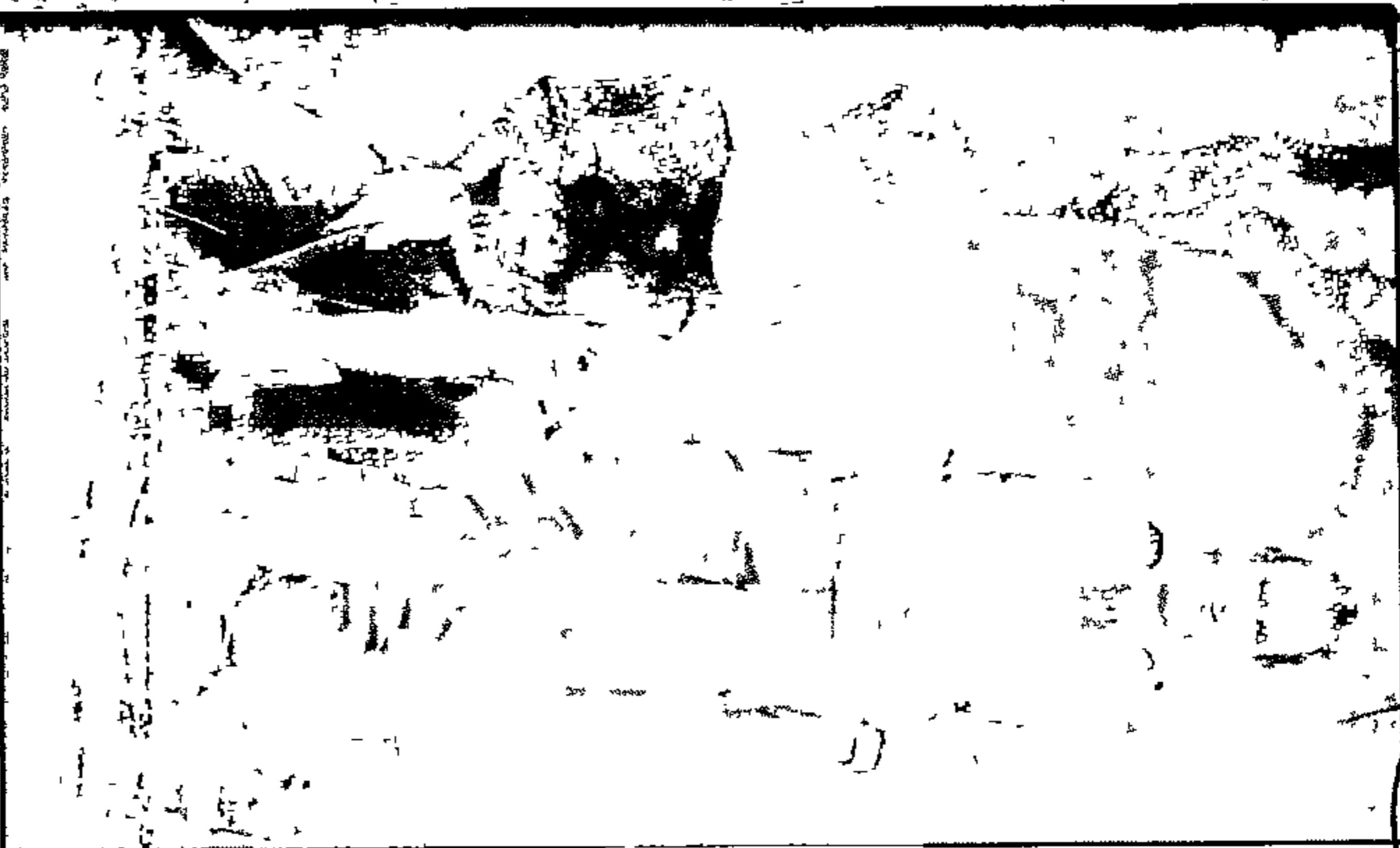
He is frustrated by Mozambican and UN red tape but is full of praise for his men who are starting to trust their month's training and take the initiative.

The feeling is mutual. Ncupa Xavier, a former Frelimo gunner, harbours no ill will towards mine clearers, even if they are from SA which supplied his former enemies.

"It is a very good idea that people from other countries come to help us. We couldn't do anything without them," he says.

"They are helping our country develop. They are helping us to get our freedom."

● SEE PAGE 25



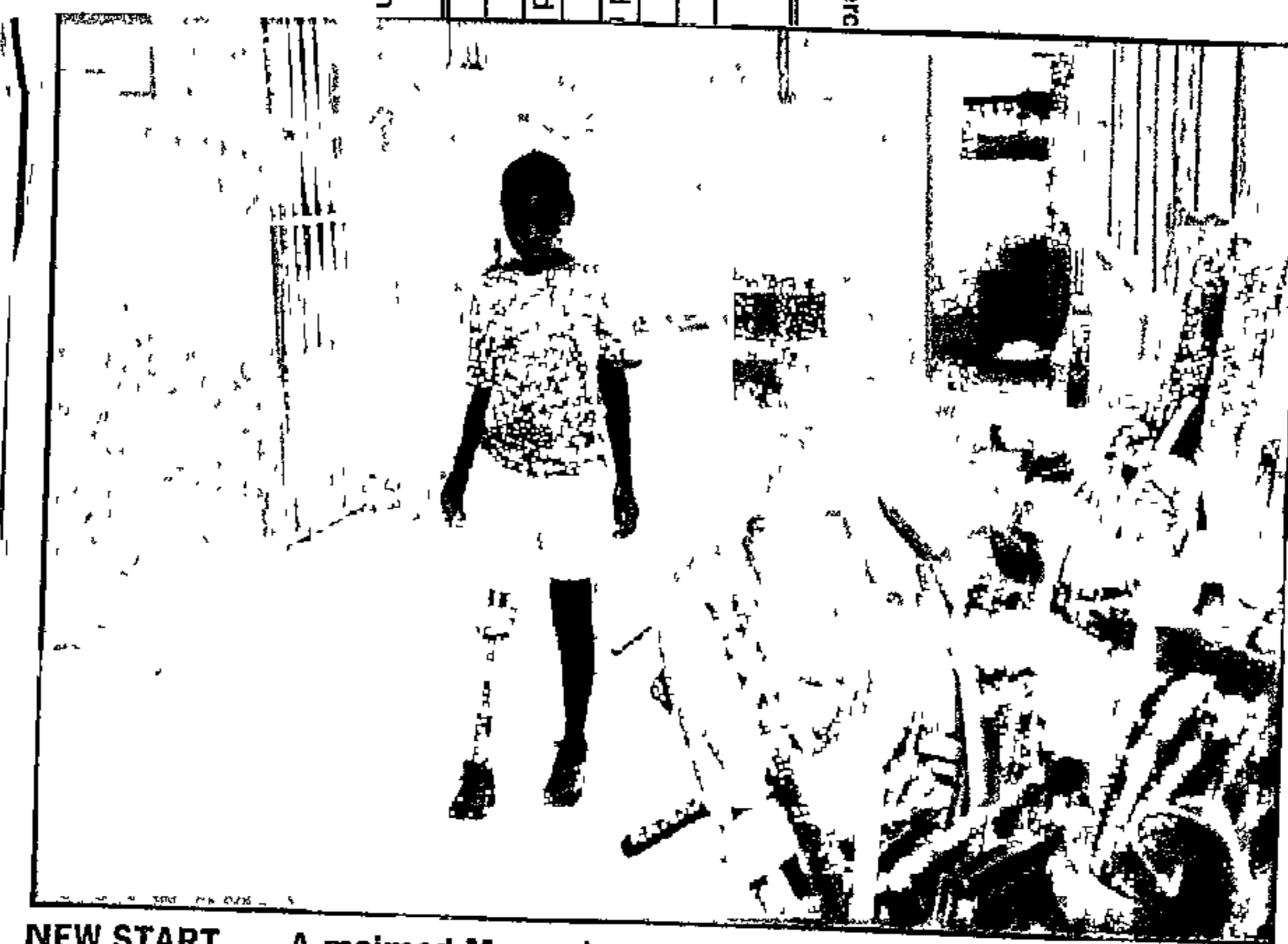
**DANGER ...** Mark Buswell and Ncupa Xavier clear a mine. Pictures: COBUS BODENSTEIN



Table 12 1c Perc

Very satisfied	
Satisfied	
Neither satisfied	
Dissatisfied	
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Total	
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NOTE Based on



**NEW START** . A maimed Mozambican woman tries out her new prosthesis

# New legs give hope to mine casualties

By PETER De IONNO

THE orthopaedic centre at Beira General Hospital, one of seven in Mozambique where legs are made and fitted for the endless stream of land mine casualties, caters for everyone from toddlers to the very old

Isabella Ancria, 21, her two-year-old son strapped to her back, expects to find it easy to walk again because the mine that took off her right foot left the rest of the leg intact. However, she too faces long-term hardship because her husband left her soon after she was maimed on the way to her maize plot in Gorongosa 18 months ago.

"I did not know how I could go on with only one foot," she says. "Now I can look after my child. We can start again."

By South African standards new "starts" are cheap in Mozambique. It costs about R650 to make a leg that will get an amputee back on two feet.

"We say it is a bargain. People who come here are not charged, and with the leg they get back part of the life the mine

has destroyed," says Beira Red Cross chief Uli Muellez.

But it is a bargain that few mine victims could ever afford without foreign charities' free provision of prostheses and long-term care.

And that is now in the balance with the Red Cross, which has spent millions equipping the centre, planning to pull out in six months if the current uneasy truce holds after October's elections.

All the technicians and nursing staff are employed by the government but funding to run the centre is not yet guaranteed.

The Red Cross is negotiating with all possible benefactors including the South African government to find promises of R2-million a year to keep the leg factories operating.

If support can't be found, the Red Cross will stay. It is a commitment tempered by weary reluctance. The demand is endless. With every new war from Rwanda to Azerbaijan there is another call on its primary function of giving care and comfort where angels fear to tread.

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# Poll fraud, cries Renamo leader

Star 18/7/94

Maputo — Rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama accused the Mozambique government of preparing to rig the October election, and threatened to reject the results of the poll.

Dhlakama, who led Renamo in a 16-year civil war against the government, said at the weekend that he would put his charges of electoral fraud to President Joaquim Chissano at a meeting tomorrow or on Wednesday.

"We have time to try to stop the fraud," he said. "This is dangerous."

The "biggest problem" lay in the registration of voters, which was entirely in the hands of the Mozambique government.

"What we see now I can call proper fraud," Dhlakama said.

He accused the government of issuing flawed registration cards which would be rejected during the election, of registering foreigners from neighbouring countries, and of deliberately delaying the process so that

many rural Mozambicans would not be registered by the August 20 deadline.

"If the majority of Mozambicans do not participate because they did not register, how can we consider that a proper election?" Dhlakama asked. (218)

However, the man who played a leading role in the brutal civil war pledged that he would not return to the battlefield.

"Even if the election is not free and fair, we won't again use bazookas or cannon or AK-47s because I'm tired after 16 years in the bush," he said.

Pressed on what he would do if the government won what he believed to be a fraudulent election, he said that with the help of the Mozambican people and the international community he would push for a re-run of the election.

"But what we will not do is use arms," he said — Sapa-AFP



# Alarm bells ring for Mozambique peace venture



Bush bandits . . . last week, a group of Renamo soldiers set up roadblocks and held several hundred people hostage for food

The nightmare scenario of a second Angola, where a United Nations-monitored ceasefire and democratic elections collapsed into one of Africa's bloodiest duels for power, overshadowed President Mandela's visit to Mozambique this week — his first state visit.

Officials of Angola's rebel Unita movement were in Pretoria on Monday to prepare for a visit by their leader, Jonas Savimbi.

In Mozambique, former government and rebel soldiers, demanding to be fed and demobilised, are rebelling. The opposition leader, Afonso Dhlakama, complains of attempts to rig elections planned for October. Budget-conscious Western donors are hurrying to withdraw the massive UN operation in Mozambique, Onunoz. It all has the familiar ring of Angola about it.

Mozambique is important to South Africa. This was made clear by Mandela's decision to make his first state visit there. Resumption of the civil war, which began after independence from Portugal in 1975 and ended with a ceasefire agreement in October 1992, would be a disaster for Pretoria. South Africa is already flooded with tens of thousands of refugees from Mozambique seeking work.

The decision by the ruling Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) to support the nationalist wars in Zimbabwe and in South Africa cost it dearly. For years, Mozambique was a key supply route for arms and trained fighters to the African National Congress's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe. South African commandos attacked Maputo several times and killed Frelimo's Prime Minister, and wife of Housing Minister Joe Slovo by letter bomb.

The Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) was armed and trained by South African military intelligence for a civil war, which killed as many as 1 million and forced millions to seek refuge across borders.

Lawlessness, banditry and corruption are increasing fast, as a plan to demobilise the Renamo and Frelimo armies and mould the soldiers into a new army falls behind. Revolts by both armies held in primitive camps and lacking food and pay, have multiplied.

Last week, a group of Renamo soldiers put roadblocks on the main road north of Maputo and held several hundred people hostage, including UN per-

**ANGOLA'S current woes haunt President Mandela's visit to Maputo, reports Karl Maier (218)**

sonnel, until food was delivered.

The UN Security Council has ordered Onunoz to quit Mozambique by the end of November. Donor funding for programmes to retrain demobilised soldiers has been minimal. Some Russian estimates put the number of AK-47s in the country at the time of the peace accords at over a million, although thousands were sold in South Africa. Seeking to invoke the same kind of compromise which he used to subdue the conflict with Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party in

KwaZulu/Natal, Mandela is expected to calm Dhlakama's nerves by assuring him of South Africa's neutrality.

Dhlakama on Monday accused the Frelimo government of trying to rig October's elections, by issuing fake voter registration cards, registering foreigners and preventing rural Mozambicans from getting their voting cards by the August 20 deadline.

While he ruled out a return to war, Dhlakama's statement that he would not accept the result of a rigged vote sounded ominously similar to a statement that Savimbi made a week before the September 1992 polls in Angola.

He cried foul and started the civil war again, which, according to some estimates, has killed about 500,000 people in 18 months. — The Independent News Service

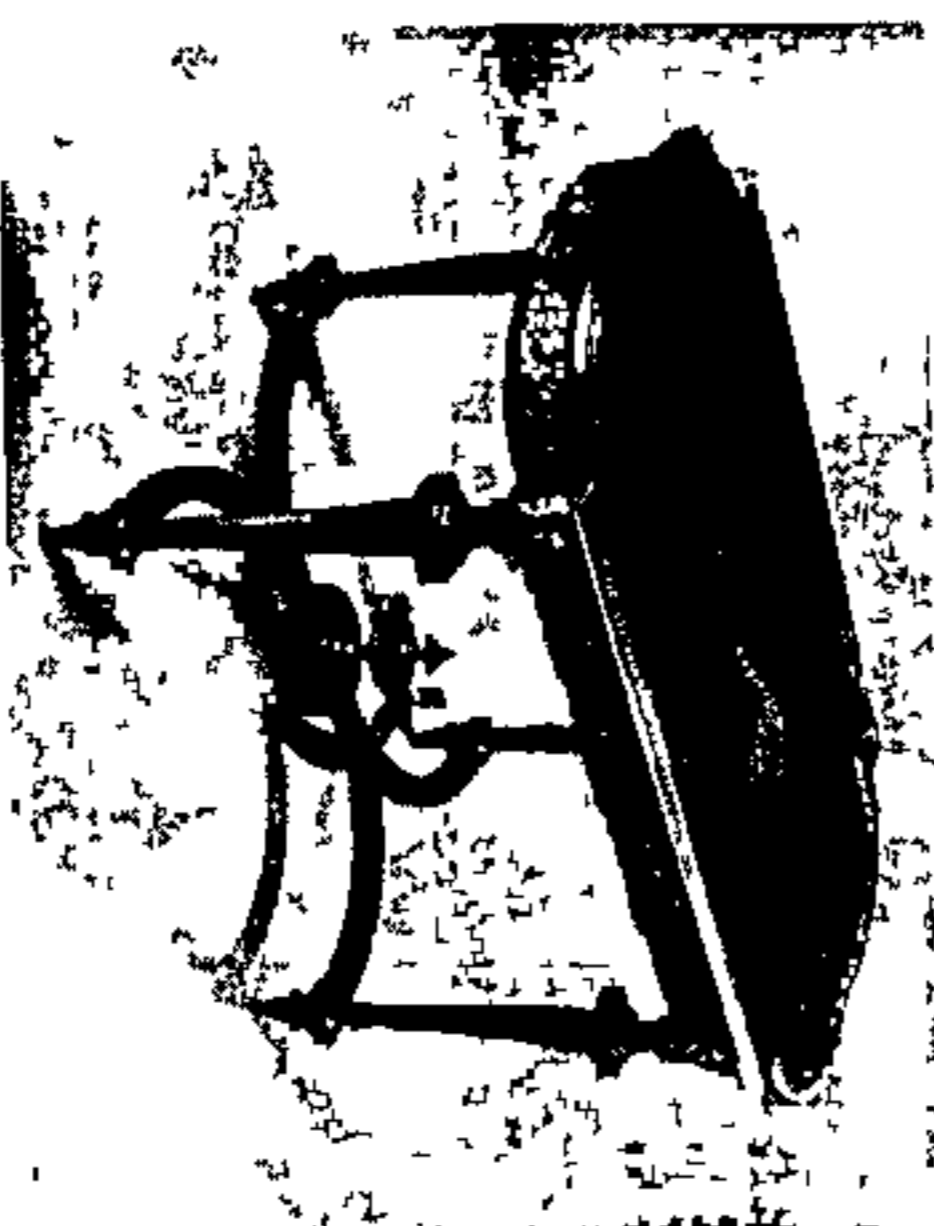
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**NEWS** First official state visit of President ● Labour ministry intervenes in strike

# Mandela in

# Maputo

*Sowetan* 21 July  
**PEACEFUL ELECTION SA**

wary of military intervention:

**M**APUTO — South Africa's political parties undertook several conciliatory initiatives, among them agreeing to a government of national unity to secure a peaceful election and transition to democracy, President Nelson Mandela told Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano yesterday

Mandela was speaking to Chissano before a formal round of talks on cooperation between the two countries. Mandela had arrived only hours earlier to the impoverished former Portuguese colony on his first state visit abroad.

He emphasised he was not "lecturing" Mozambique which faces its first multi-party elections after years of civil war between Chissano's Frelimo government and the Renamo rebel movement.

Chissano has, *contd.* under pressure from Western governments to agree to a form of power-sharing before the elections.

Mandela said the South African initiatives included an end to hostilities, agreeing to a transitional executive council to take partial control of the government before the elections and the installation of a government of national unity. — *Sapa*



SA 'a model for Mozambique'

# Mandela offers hand in election

Star 22/7/94

Maputo — President Mandela offered logistical support for Mozambique's October election and held out South Africa's transition to democracy as a model for its neighbour yesterday

After a meeting with Mandela on the second day of the president's first state visit since his inauguration, National Elections Commission (CNE) president Brazao Mazula said "He offered us help with air transport, vehicles and means of communication, and explained the hard path to elections in his country as a useful example for our own process"

With three weeks left of a 10-week voter registration campaign, only 3,7 million voters have been registered — less than half the 8 million estimated potential voters in Mozambique's first multiparty election.

Registration officials have been hampered by a lack of adequate transport and means of communication

And since the multiparty CNE had "failed to reach consensus", 350 000 Mozambican emigrants, many of them living in South Africa, will not be allowed to vote, Mazula said

Yesterday, Mandela indicated that Mozambique had repeated its opposition to forming a government of national unity before the election

At a press conference in Maputo, Mandela said "the leadership of Mozambique has drawn a distinction between our case and that of their own country. Whether I may agree with that or not, I must leave it to them to decide what is best for their country"



Solemn . . . Mandela on his way to Samora Machel's grave yesterday. (218) PICTURE GARY BERNARD

He said he was prepared to meet Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama as scheduled today

Yesterday he laid a wreath at Heroes Acre in Maputo in remembrance of Mozambique's first post-independence president, Samora Machel

Later, President Joaquim Chissano accompanied him to Maputo's disused harbour which South Africa is hoping to revive.

■ Mozambican government soldiers yesterday paralysed the northern fishing port of Angoche, in the latest of a spate of mutinies at United Nations assembly points, state-run Radio Mozambique reported

The assembly points are part of the monitoring system established by 1992 peace accords which ended 16 years of civil war between the government

and Renamo rebels

The state radio said the mutineers, who were demanding immediate demobilisation, closed down the local power station after threatening electricity workers. Most shops and public services in the town were closed, for fear of looting.

Trouble in Angoche first flared up on Wednesday, when 1 300 soldiers stormed the local police station, beat up the commander and seized four AK-47s. They raped two women and barricaded the road to the provincial capital, Nampula. In the confusion, a truck ran over and killed a civilian

The radio said the mutineers also held one of its journalists hostage for several hours and threatened to kill him. — Sapa-AFP-Reuter



# Mandela sees Renamo

MAPUTO — President Nelson Mandela yesterday said he was impressed by Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama's commitment to peace.

Mr Mandela was speaking after a brief meeting with Mr Dhlakama during his state visit here

Efforts had been made in the past for him to meet Mr Dhlakama, but the time factor had made this impossible, he said

He said he was impressed by "the extent to which he (Mr Dhlakama) has stressed the ques-

ET 23/7/94 (218)

## Impressed by peace pledge

tion of peace and the question of addressing problems together with President Joachim Chissano

"Some of the problems he has outlined are problems which have been outlined by President Chissano

"These are problems of communication and

the number of landmines that are littered throughout the country, which make campaigning very difficult"

Mr Mandela said Mr Dhlakama had adopted a conciliatory tone and a desire to reach a settlement with President Chissano

The meeting between

the two leaders took place against a background of opposition by Mozambique's ruling Frelimo Party, which feared that Mr Dhlakama would derive political gain from being seen in public with Mr Mandela

Mr Dhlakama, whose Renamo is Frelimo's main opposition in elections due in late October, said Mr Mandela was an important figure in Southern Africa. He said his intervention in Mozambique's peace process was to be welcomed

# Mozambican mutineers halt SA trains to Maputo

The Argus Foreign Service

JOHANNESBURG. — All trains between South Africa and Maputo have been suspended after mutinous soldiers seized and looted a Spoornet goods train at Matola station near the Mozambican capital.

The passenger trains that normally run three times a week to Maputo will turn round at Komatipoort until further notice, Spoornet said today.

No goods trains would run to Maputo until the Mozambican railway authorities gave the all-clear.

Normally three or four goods trains travel daily to Maputo, carrying a total of 7 000 tons of freight.

The hold-up is expected to be a severe setback to South African efforts to divert more traf-

fic through Maputo under the programme of economic assistance to Mozambique.

The goods train seized at Matola, about 25km west of Maputo, was held for several hours on Wednesday by the mutineers, who looted much of its cargo of South African citrus fruit before allowing it to proceed.

The hijacking is the latest in a series of mutinous actions by Mozambican soldiers angered by delays in demobilising them under the peace process. Some of the troops are also complaining that they have not been paid and are being poorly fed.

All traffic on Mozambique's main north-south highway was halted when troops blocked the road at Machafutene, about 15km from Maputo. The road-block was removed today.

(218) ARG 29/7/94

## Volunteers lacking for new Mozambican army

MAPUTO — A lack of volunteers was hampering efforts to create a post-war army in Mozambique, with only 5 900 of the necessary 30 000 soldiers signed up, a UN official said yesterday

A deal signed by the government and rebels envisioned a 30 000-member army by the time elections were held from October 27-28, but UN special representative Aldo Ajello said this would not be possible.

Nevertheless, the UN has insisted the election be held as planned. It was delayed once after having been scheduled for 1993. Disagreements between the government and rebels have delayed the transition to democracy. (218)

Problems forming a new army out of former government and rebel fighters are blamed on a lack of interest due to low pay and rough conditions. The army is to

be comprised of volunteers, who are instead seeking better paying jobs rebuilding the country.

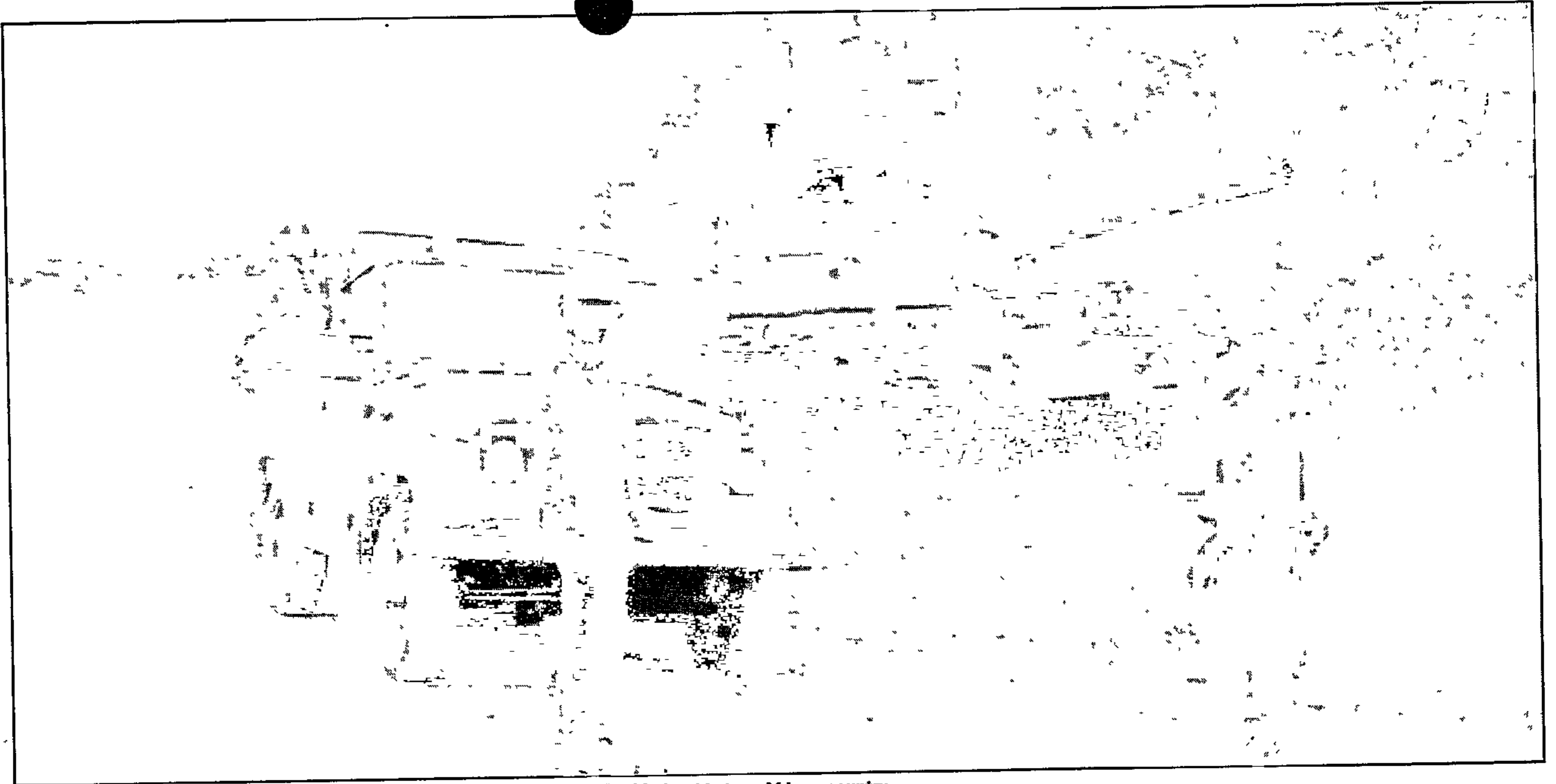
The new army is to be comprised of 15 000 men each from the government and rebels, and Ajello said recruitment and training would continue throughout the election.

A 6 000-strong UN contingent is helping oversee the 1992 peace accord, which ended 15 years of fighting. Despite the slow pace of forming a new military, UN officials say they are not too concerned about a resumption of fighting because of both sides' acknowledgment that they could not win the war.

More than half a million people died in Mozambique's war between the Marxist government and right-wing Renamo guerrillas — Sapa-AP



## NEWS FEATURE *Optimism runs high but Mozambicans worry over acceptance of balloting*



The time for war in Mozambique is over; now is the time for democracy in this trouble-torn African country.

# Hope as Mozambique faces poll

**■ NO THREAT**  
Still an overriding anxiety for peace remains:

Despite indications to the contrary, Mozambique is still moving steadily towards its first free election, writes **Gerald L'Ange** of the *Sowetan* Foreign Service:

**M**OZAMBIQUE'S peace process seems to be a mess, with soldiers mutinying across the country, the troop demobilisation far behind schedule, the joint army nowhere near ready and banditry on the increase.

All of this suggests that the election scheduled for October 27 and 28 cannot be held on time and even that the country might descend into chaos.

Yet diplomats in Maputo take quite a different view. They are confident that the demobilisation will be completed before the election, that the election will take place and that it will stand a good chance of being declared generally free and fair.

They are more concerned about what will happen afterwards. They worry about whether the reconciliation process can be maintained, whether the winning party will wreak vengeance on the loser. Whether the next government will be able to launch measures to rebuild the devastated economy, whether it will be able to return the thousands of ex-soldiers to a productive civilian life, whether it will be able to contain crime and other problems arising from mass unemployment.

### Peace process

From their accounts and others it is clear that the problems besetting the peace process have done nothing to weaken the tide of popular support for it. On all sides there remains an overriding anxiety for peace to be firmly established and for the people to be allowed to start rebuilding their lives and their country after more than a quarter-century of war.

Both the former rebel movement, Renamo, and the government appear to remain committed to ending the fight-



Frelimo leader Alberto Chissano

ing, whatever happens in the election. There is a universal determination to avoid a duplication of what happened in Angola, which was plunged back into war after the election collapsed.

The demobilisation problems are seen as a peculiarity of the peace process, not a threat to it. They stem from bureaucratic bungling by the Frelimo government, the United Nations and the former rebel movement, Renamo — probably in that order of culpability.

Far from being politically inspired, the mutinies are simply an expression of the intense frustration and resentment

felt by soldiers who have been kept idle, in some cases for as long as six months, in the camps where they have been assembled for demobilisation.

Linked to this is the fact that the vast majority of the soldiers are strongly averse to joining the national army that is supposed to be drawn equally from both the former warring sides. There were few volunteers on either side in Mozambique's civil war. Most of the government troops were conscripted and some simply press-ganged into the army. There was probably a higher proportion of volunteers in Renamo, but

many of Renamo's soldiers came into its forces as captives and remained under threat of death if they deserted.

The last thing these unwilling soldiers want is more military service. Rather than secure employment in the armed forces, they prefer to take their chances among the army of unemployed that has been left by the war and the destruction of the economy.

The demand of the mutineers is simply to be released, although some of the government troops have recently demanded in addition the wage increases that were given to civil servants.

The UN, which is in charge of the assembly camps, has been blamed for not fully carrying out its responsibility to disarm the men in the camps. Imposing a one soldier, one rifle rule, they overlooked the fact that many of the troops brought more than one weapon into the camps.

Being armed, the mutineers were able to set up roadblocks on main roads, to hold officials hostage, to loot shops and to hijack and loot a South African goods train. It was perhaps fortunate that a tank unit based near Maputo was able to operate only three of its 30-odd tanks when it mutinied — the others were either unserviceable or out of fuel.

The mutinies had results. Diplomats report a marked increase in the pace of demobilisation since the mutinies began early in July and spread across the country, with about 30 rebellions reported by the end of the month among Renamo as well as government soldiers.

Under the timetable approved by the UN Security Council, demobilisation was to have been completed by May. At the end of July the government had demobilised only about 28 000 of its 49 000 troops. Renamo had demobilised only about 10 000 of the 23 000 combatants it had claimed to have in its ranks.

### Optimistic

With the speed-up prompted by the mutinies, diplomats are optimistic that demobilisation will have been completed by the end of this month. This would mean that there would be no rival armies to fall upon each other if the election outcome is disputed, as was the case in Angola, where there was only

partial demobilisation.

Despite reports of arms being hidden by Renamo, diplomats say there is no hard evidence of significant concealment of weapons or troops by either side.

The only major force in the country at election time should be the joint army of 30 000 but only about 14 000 recruits have so far been found for it. Only a few of these have undergone training by the British, Zimbabwean and Portuguese instructors who are trying to put the new force together, and several hundred of them are understood to have deserted already.

One reason for this could be that the training camps provided by the Mozambican government are reported to have been so dilapidated as to be virtually uninhabitable in some cases.

It seems unlikely that the national army will be at more than half strength by election time but that will not matter if demobilisation has been completed and there has been no large-scale concealment of armed forces by either side.

Learning from the experience of the grossly under-monitored Angolan election, the UN and other international bodies plan to station large numbers of observers in Mozambique. In this situation, diplomats believe it will be difficult for any party to engage in major election trickery. The chances of the election being declared generally free and fair would be good.

It would still remain to be seen whether the losing side accepted defeat gracefully. A Frelimo victory is not assured and in any event is unlikely to be a landslide, given that public opinion polls have shown strong support for Renamo in some areas.

Renamo leader Alfonso Dhlakama is said to recognise, however, that his party does not have the wherewithal to form an effective government even if it does win the election. This may explain his proposal for a government of national unity regardless of the election outcome.

Frelimo has not accepted this proposal but that seems not to have unduly soured the election contest.

With three months to go, Mozambique is still moving forward to its first free election—staggering, deviating, brawling, but not falling down.



## Mines dispute on new path

ERICA JANKOWITZ

THE NUM and Chamber of Mines have agreed to appoint independent political and economic analyst Eugene Nyati as the chairman of a conciliation board hearing which is scheduled to start today 8/8/94

Commentators said they believed this was the first time a chairman without a legal background had been appointed to head a statutory dispute resolution mechanism of this kind

Nyati, who is director of the Centre for African Studies, is expected to bring a new perspective to the collective bargaining process and actively participate in the hearing

His grounding in economic and social processes was welcomed by both parties in the belief this would contribute to the conciliation process

The parties reached deadlock with the chamber offering an average 8% wage increase and the NUM demanding 12%. The NUM lodged a second dispute with the chamber on the issue of adult basic education and the development of skills

The conciliation board is scheduled to sit for two days in the hope that the parties will end the dispute and reach a settlement.

Meanwhile, Seifsa and its 12 recognised trade unions begin a wage mediation process today after the parties failed to reach a settlement. Seifsa has offered an 8% wage increase but the unions are demanding between 9% and 12%

An exemption proposal proposed by some employers was also in dispute

## Black fuel retailers reject petrol pumps at taxi ranks

THEO RAWANA

THE erection of petrol pumps at taxi ranks was not a good plan because it meant taking a slice of business from black petrol retailers, the National Black Fuel Retail Association (Nabfra) said at the weekend

The Organised Taxi Industry (OTI) is on the verge of getting government approval to erect 25 petrol pumps at major taxi ranks nationwide following talks with Mineral and Energy Minister Pik Botha

The scheme, which will provide relief to the taxi industry through distribution of benefits to members, received the approval of the Minister, who is in turn due to present it to Cabinet on Wednesday.

Nabfra chairman Moses Moloele said last Friday that while his organisation sympathised with the taxi industry, the deal did not address affirmative action because it amounted to taking from blacks to give to blacks.

Moloele said whatever arrangement was worked out in addressing the question of fuel-dispensing to taxis should be worked out with his organisation, which had more than 450 members in the Transvaal alone.

"Our organisation has many service stations in the townships.

"We benefit a lot from the taxi industry and we see the two sectors as members of the same family which should not be separated by any other force.

"We have been trying to get in touch with the OTI, with a view to finding a solution that will benefit both sides, but they have been at meetings all week, Moloele said.

"We feel that any deal that comes out should have our input. We all come from a disadvantaged community."

## Land offer draws SA farmers

LOUISE COOK

THE promise of free land in Mozambique had attracted large-scale inquiries from SA farmers, sources said at the weekend.

Farmers were also being enticed by promises of various attractive guarantees and financial incentives from Mozambique

Deputy director of Mozambique's Investment Promotion Centre Mussa Usman said at least 25 inquiries from SA reached his office every month

The move had the backing of the Mozambican government, which was encouraging the resettlements in a bid to help the economy recover after years of civil war

Jose Albert, senior manager of Mozambique's Trade and Travel, a company assisting in visa appli-

cations, said rice, cotton, maize and cattle were the main sectors attracting interest. Most of the inquiries were from Eastern Transvaal farmers.

He added that interest was also being shown in potato and maize farming in the area on the Mozambique side of the Sabie region. Interest was also being shown in fruit farming, despite the fact that farms were smaller than similar units in SA.

Mozambique was looking for investment and skills from all over the world and South Africans could be joining many others settling there, Albert said

"Once an agricultural project proposal is approved, Mozambique allocates free land for a two-year period, during which sufficient progress must be made with the farming project," he said.

Meanwhile, sources from the Northern Transvaal Agricultural Union confirmed that efforts were being made to help resettle struggling farmers in Africa, but these farmers were more likely to move to Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Northern Transvaal Agricultural Union chairman Gert Ehlers said local farmers' interest in moving elsewhere was linked to bleak economic prospects locally.





**D**espite indications to the contrary, Mozambique is still moving steadily towards its first free election, Gerald L'Ange writes for the Star Foreign Service

# Mozambique is stumbling but peace is still on track

Star 8/8/94

**M**ozambique's peace process seems to be a mess, with soldiers mutinying across the country, the troop demobilisation far behind schedule, the joint army nowhere near ready and banditry on the increase

All of this suggests that the election scheduled for October 27 and 28 cannot be held on time

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They are more concerned about what will happen afterwards. They worry about whether the reconciliation process can be maintained, whether the winning party will wreak vengeance on the loser, whether the next government will be able to rebuild the devastated economy, return the thousands of ex-soldiers to a productive civilian life and contain the problems arising from mass unemployment

From their accounts, it is clear that the problems besetting the peace process have done nothing to weaken the tide of popular support for it. All sides are anxious for peace and for the people to be allowed to start rebuilding their lives and their country after more than a quarter-century of war

Both the former rebel movement, Renamo, and the government appear committed to ending the fighting.

## Determination

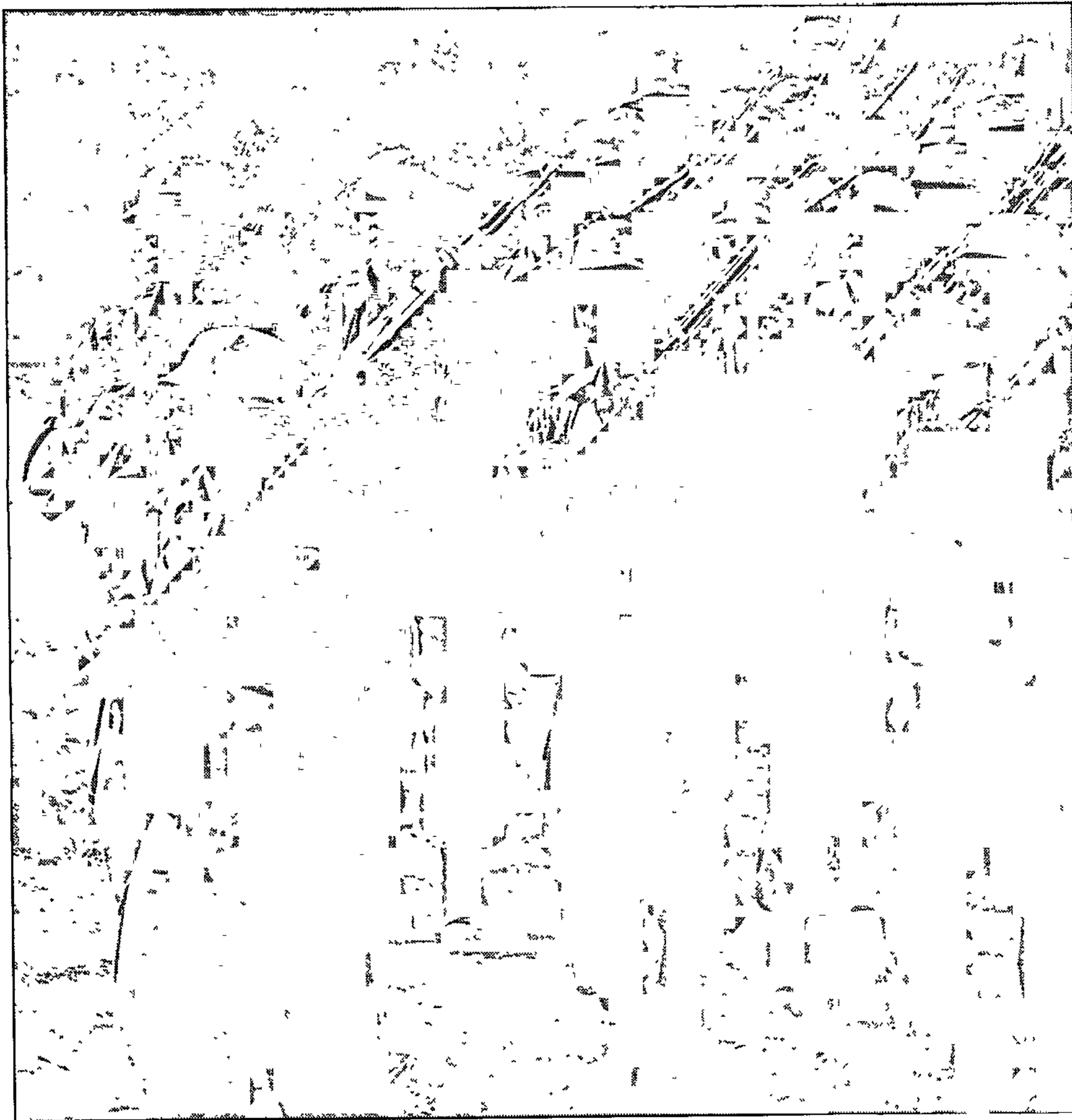
There is a determination to avoid a duplication of what happened in Angola, which was plunged back into war after the election collapsed

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Far from being politically inspired, the mutinies are simply an expression of the intense frustration felt by soldiers, who have been kept idle in the camps where they have been assembled for demobilisation

Linked to this is the fact that the majority of the soldiers are averse to joining the national army that is supposed to be drawn equally from both the former warring sides

There were few volunteers on either side in Mozambique's civil



Forward march . . . now Mozambique must transform the well-entrenched military culture into a more democratic and economically active way of thinking.

war. Most government troops were conscripted. There was probably a higher proportion of volunteers in Renamo, but many Renamo soldiers came into its forces as captives, threatened with death if they deserted

The last thing these unwilling soldiers want is more military service. Rather than secure employment in the armed forces, they prefer to take their chances among the army of unemployed

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218

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Despite reports of arms being hidden by Renamo, diplomats say there is no hard evidence of significant concealment of weapons or troops by either side

The only major force in the country at election time should be the joint army of 30 000. Only about 14 000 recruits have so far been found for it, but few of these have undergone training by the British, Zimbabwean and Portuguese instructors who are trying to put the new force together, and several hundred of them are understood to have deserted already

One reason for this could be that the training camps provided by the Mozambican government are reported to have been so dilapidated as to be virtually uninhabitable

## Concealment

It seems unlikely that the national army will be at more than half strength by election time, but that will not matter if demobilisation has been completed and there has been no large-scale concealment of armed forces by either side

Learning from the experience of the grossly under-monitored Angolan election, the UN and other international bodies plan to station large numbers of observers in Mozambique to make it difficult for any party to engage in major election trickery

It still remains to be seen whether the losing side accepts defeat gracefully. A Frelimo victory is not assured and, in any event, is unlikely to be a landslide, given that public opinion polls have shown strong support for Renamo in some areas

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama is said to recognise that his party does not have the wherewithal to form an effective government even if it does win. This may explain his proposal for a government of national unity, regardless of the election outcome

Frelimo has rejected this proposal but that seems not to have soured the election contest

With three months to go to elections, Mozambique is staggering, deviating, brawling, but not falling down



Star 12/8/94

## Chissano retires from the military

Maputo — Major-General Joaquim Chissano, president of the republic and official head of the Mozambican government army, retires from military service today, it was announced yesterday.

His retirement will mark a symbolic step in the ongoing extinction of the government's Armed Forces of Mozambique, giving way to the new national Armed Defence Forces of Mozambique, made up jointly of former government and Renamo opposition troops (218).

Meanwhile, Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama claims he has already beaten the August 15 deadline for demobilising all troops on either side under the latest timetable for fulfilling Mozambique's peace accord to end the civil war.

However, United Nations peacekeepers supervising the demobilisation say Renamo still has many more soldiers to discharge — Sapa-AFP

## Unified Mozambique army takes over defence

(218)  
MAPUTO. — Mozambique took a major step towards lasting peace with the formal transfer of responsibility for national defence to an army composed equally of government soldiers and former rebels.

ARL 17/8/94  
At a ceremony yesterday in Maputo's Heroes Square, President Joaquim Chissano dissolved the army he helped to form 30 years ago to fight for independence.

The new Armed Forces for the De-

fence of Mozambique (FADM), which eventually should have 15 000 men from the old government army and 15 000 from Renamo, under a peace agreement signed in 1992, is now the official military — Sapa-Reuter

## Chissano stakes his claim

MAPUTO — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano has officially put in his bid for another five years in office, becoming the first politician to register as a candidate in October's first multiparty election.

Mr Chissano, expected by political analysts to win the vote, delivered a pile of documents to the chairman of the independent national electoral commission.

His political rivals from the deeply divided opposition have until August 29 to register.

Mr Chissano's most serious contender is Afonso Dhlakama, leader

of the former rebel movement Renamo which fought the Frelimo government for 16 years until peace accords in October 1992.

Mr Dhlakama must formally re-tire from Renamo's armed forces before he can register and he has said he will become a civilian on Friday. (218) ARL 18/8/94

Mr Chissano was a founding member of Frelimo in 1962. From September 1974 to June 1975 he was prime minister in a transitional government. He was foreign minister for 11 years, after independence from Portugal, before assuming the presidency — Sapa-Reuter.



# It's not good to be home

City Press, August 21 1984

(218)



By RODERICK NGORO

By the end of October international watchdogs on democracy will pronounce the outcome of Mozambique's elections either rigged or free and fair — and if the latter, will call upon the losers to accept defeat gracefully.

But in the country that has not known peace for nearly three decades backers of democracy are holding thumbs that the holders of official voters' cards will in fact exercise their right to vote

When six truck loads of Mozambican nationals returned from Guyana in South Africa to the transit camps Chicalacuuala and Mapai in Mozambique a week ago, I accompanied them

Instead of rebirth and renewal, I witnessed hopelessness, sickness, hunger and thirst.

The only semblance of authority was the posters placed by the National Commission of Elections — urging Mozambicans in Portuguese to "Vote for the future" of their country. No political party posters were to be seen — either for Frelimo or Renamo

Many Mozambican refugees in South Africa do not believe the peace that has returned to their country is enough reason for them to go back

As the United Nations High Commission for Refugees repatriated 200 Mozambicans, chief Solomon Thukwani from the Hlupikane camp in Guyana set out on a fact-finding mission to his own area in Mabalane. When I saw him again



NOT EMPTY-HANDED... The returnees from South Africa are happier and better off than those from Zimbabwe. These two only left for SA in 1982.

in Mapai three days later I asked him what he was going to tell his people waiting in South Africa

"I'm going to tell them the truth," he said. "I cannot tell them that there's food there or that they will have water to quench their thirst, cook and clean themselves. Or that their animals will be able to drink water — because if I do that I will be lying

"They cannot work either — and even if they had money they couldn't buy any food because there are no shops for more than 60 kilometres

The UNHCR officer at Guyana, Hendrick Stierbrand, said "It is

difficult to see these people having a future in their own country."

Noah Fambayi — an ex-Frelimo soldier with 15 years' service and demobilised in 1987 — runs the equivalent of a spaza shop at Mapai

Most of his stock is from South Africa and Zimbabwe, with no Mozambican product in sight

But the enterprising Fambayi does have medicine to treat sexually transmitted diseases — especially rife among the young Frelimo soldiers

"I get my medicine from a doctor 'connected' of mine in Maputo. I pay in rands," he says. Meanwhile, the clinic at Chicalacuuala has no

medicine. The 'system' in Mozambique works according to bribery, it seems. Officials divert any available goods and services for their own gain.

The returnees who suffer the most seem to be those from Zimbabwe who fled from the war almost two decades ago. In contrast, some of those from South Africa were embraced by relatives they had last seen only six months before

Felipe Camargo, the UNHCR officer based at Chicalacuuala, aired his own personal view. "I do not think these so-called refugees from South Africa are anything other than work-seekers."

While their counterparts from Zimbabwe were war-weary, returnees from South Africa filled the air with laughter, carrying all sorts of flashy goods such as ghetto blasters and 12-speed bicycles

Meanwhile the ill-equipped government officials at Chicalacuuala watch the so-called "vulnerables" — groups of returnees from Zimbabwe consisting of very sick and dying aged people and orphaned youths who scarcely remember where they were born — starve and die from thirst

Camargo is quick to apportion blame. "They are a government respon-

sibility" But the government departments he mentions — Social Welfare and one with the acronym NAR which is so new that not even a Mozambican embassy official knows what it stands for — have no vote from the government budget for dealing with the plight of such people.

The apathy of the junior officials at Chicalacuuala may be understandable — they are in the same position as the returnees. Even they have no water supply

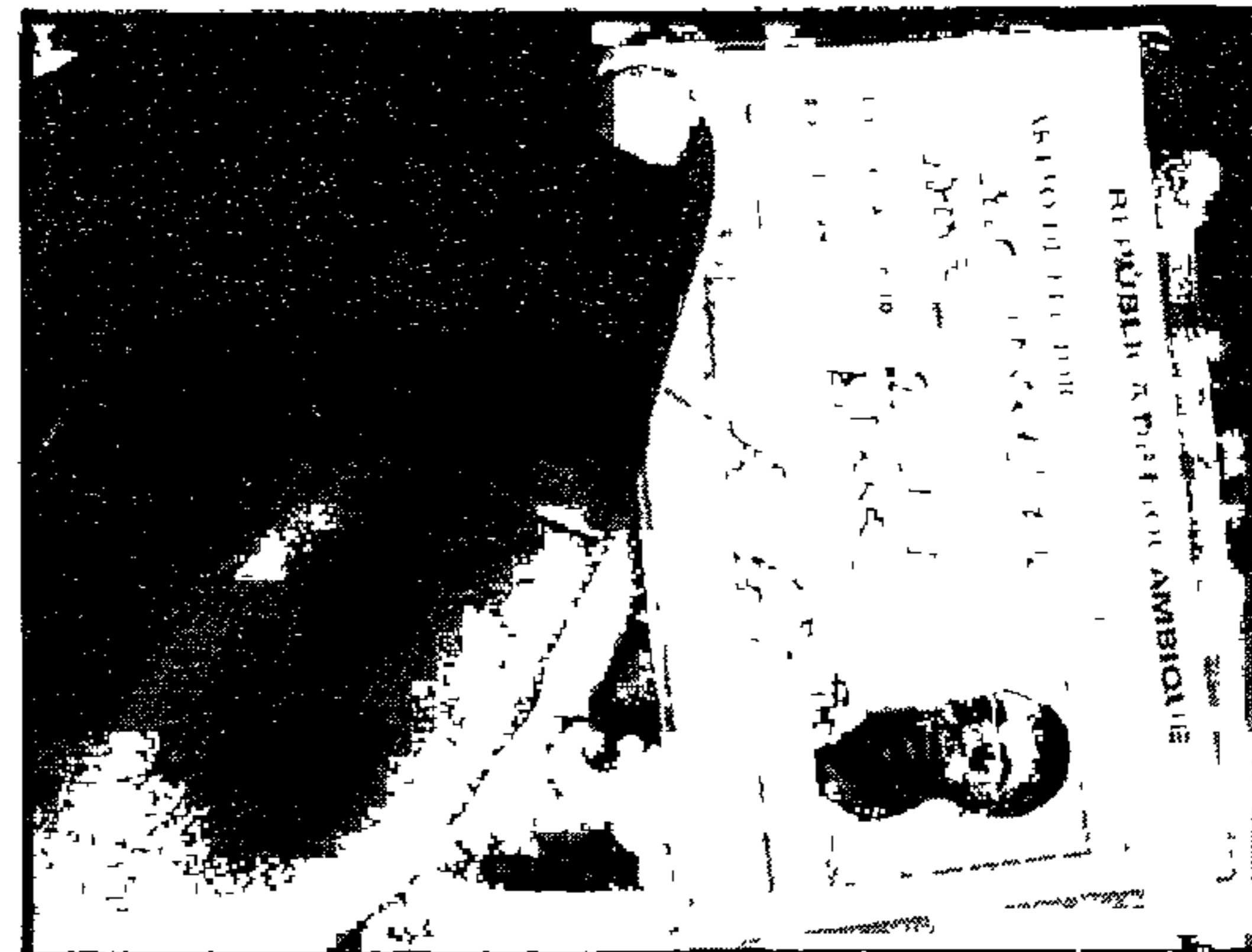
Usually a Mozambican Railways diesel engine brings two tanks of water twice a week — but the day we arrived in Chicalacuuala the train was al-

ready three days late. Even when the water is delivered, it is sold — for 50c a twenty litre bucket

George Nyamazana, a refugee returning from Zimbabwe, summed up the disgust of many at the conditions in Mapai.

"How can they bring these people from Zimbabwe — where they were at least being looked after by nurses — under false pretenses? The UNHCR told us they would look after the people until they were resettled — but look at this!

"Fortunately I'm strong and able-bodied," he sighed — Moto



KEY TO A BETTER FUTURE?... Mozambique's official voter's card.



BLACK MARKET  
This man is sitting trial for food stolen in the Red Cross. He claims a Mozambican official sold him the food, meant for returnees. Food, water and medical supplies are in short supply at the transit camps.



INTO THE UNKNOWN... A child born in a refugee camp in South Africa comes 'home' to a strange country.



# Renamo candidate in election quandary

MAPUTO — Afonso Dhlakama, a former rebel leader and candidate in Mozambique's first post-war presidential election in October, had still not collected the 10 000 signatures required to back his candidacy, electoral officials said yesterday.

The UN-backed elections are the first to be organised in the southern African country since the current government, and rebels signed a peace treaty in Rome in October 1992, ending a 17-year civil war which started after independence from Portugal in 1975.

However, with four days to go before all the presidential lists have to be filed, Dhlakama, leader of the former South African-backed Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo), needed 115 signatures to complete the minimum requirement of 10 000, said a spokesman for the National Elections Commission.

"Some of Dhlakama's supporting signatures were invalid because the same people signed up for other candidates," he said.

By contrast, Joaquim Chissano, Mozambique's current president and the presidential candidate of the ruling Frelimo party, had already presented 20 000 signatures and had all his documents in order, the spokesman said.

Among the other parties, Domingos Arouca, leader of the non-armed opposition party United Front of Mozambique (FUMO), has more than 12 000 names on his list.

Padimbe Kamati, leader of the minor PPPM opposition party, who had claimed he would clinch victory in the election with 85% of the vote, had only a fistful of valid signatures by last night.

And the leader of the "offbeat" religious-based PPLM, Neves Serrano, needed approximately 9 000 more valid signatures (218).

The spokesman said the two major parties contending the elections, Frelimo and Renamo, had all their documents in order for the candidates in the parliamentary election to be held at the same time.

So too did FUMO, the National Coalition Party (PCN) and the Workers' Party (PT).

Frelimo's list of parliamentary candidates is dominated by present-day ministers and other leading government members.

Some Frelimo members have expressed disappointment that the party in power since 1975 is fielding the same names and is showing no apparent intention of changing its approach after the ending of the war. — Sapa-AFP.

## Renamo's poll funds run dry

Star 14/9/94

Maputo — A trust fund set up with foreign money to pay the election costs of the Renamo rebel movement has run dry, the top UN official in Mozambique said yesterday.

Aldo Ajello, the UN special representative, told reporters that only \$11.6 million of the \$19 million (R66 million) sought for the fund had been raised from foreign donors, and that the rebels had spent it all.

A rebel statement on Monday said the movement needed more money to compete in the nation's first multiparty election, scheduled for October 27 and 28.

### Unrest

(218)

It said the group would boycott the vote unless rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama obtained more money. Dhlakama reportedly told Portuguese television that Renamo must get a further \$5 million by September 18 or it would boycott the election.

A Renamo boycott would jeopardise the credibility of the vote and increase chances of unrest at election time.

"It's Renamo's decision to do what they think fit. It's not a UN decision," Ajello said of the Renamo threat.

The UN set up the trust fund last year after Renamo said it needed money to compete on an equal footing against President Joaquim Chissano's government, its enemy in the 15-year civil war that ended with a peace treaty in 1992.

UN officials have said they expected Chissano to win the vote, and that Renamo demands for money, housing, cars and other items were a final bid to get as much material gain as possible before the election.

Chissano's Frelimo party and Renamo are the largest of the dozen or more groups expected to take part in the election.

Mozambique's civil war erupted in 1977, two years after the country gained independence from Portugal. Warfare, disease and famine killed 600,000 people.

— Sapa-AP.



**NEWS FEATURE** *Thousands of Mozambican refugees trek back home as ceasefire holds*

# Returning to a bleak future

218

**TINY HAMLET** *Refugees return to barren fields and a chance of rain:*

**By Sharon Chetty**

**T**HE dark clouds gathered ominously as the mud day heat — made more unbearable by the dust — enveloped the tiny hamlet

Lucas Hlungwani looked at the barren fields, then a weak smile covered his wan, wrinkled face, bringing relief to this weary man with the demeanour of someone twice his 42 years

He gestured "this is my land this is where I will plough"

After five years as a refugee in South Africa, Hlungwani, his wife, and four children returned home to the banks of the Limpopo river on Monday

In 1989 the family — who had lived for years in terror after numerous attacks on their village — decided their only hope of survival was to flee to South Africa

Over four days the desperate group walked from Mozambique through the Kruger National Park and to the former Gazankulu homeland Hlungwani and his family are part of the 1.5 million who fled that ravaged country during its sixteen years of civil war

Now that a two-year ceasefire appears to be holding and elections are scheduled for next month, refugees are

being helped to return from neighbouring South Africa, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Tanzania and Malawi

When the Hlungwanis left five years ago, obtaining food, clothes, water and other basics was a problem

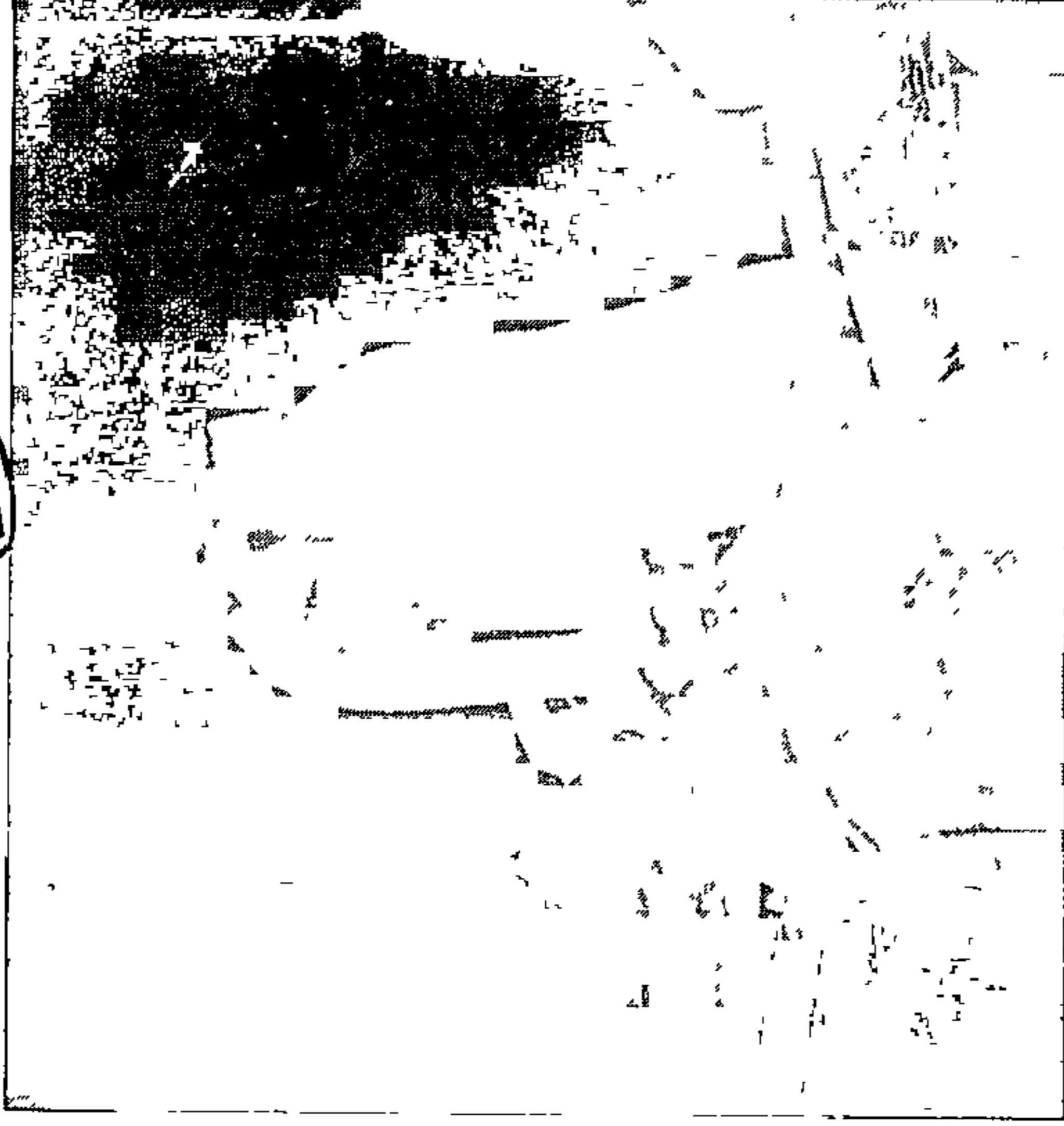
Not much has changed

The promise of safety, a chance to earn a bit of money, and escape from the bloody civil war fuelled their flight.

It did not matter that they went on foot for most of the way or that the wild animals in the Kruger National Park were a danger "When you are scared of one thing, you do not think twice about other dangers," he said

"All we wanted was to get to South Africa. Everyone knew that once we were in Gazankulu, we would be all right" They left for South Africa desperate and terrified When they returned, it was in a more dignified manner Until late the previous evening, the Hlungwanis and others who had registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees were fetched from their villages and taken to transit stations

By three the next morning they were in trucks with all their worldly possessions After a long, bumpy journey on barely navigable roads, the convoy carrying over a hundred people arrived at a town called Mapai Perhaps the most touching part of the mission was the



**Lucas Hlungwani's wife and children unloading their baggage on arrival at their home.**  
PIC VELI NHLAPO

refugees' arrival at Mapai

No one appeared pleased it was all a frantic rush to claim possessions, register, and make arrangements to travel to further destinations Most looked resigned — a life of hardship awaited them and they were acutely aware of this The onlookers who gathered to watch the new arrivals were equally subdued they hung on to the fence, ob-

serving the goings-on in a bored manner Only when a woman shouted out in excitement at spotting her long-lost niece she had given up for dead, were we reminded that the bustling crowd had returned home

When the Hlungwanis returned to their piece of land in Mapai, they found their old thatched hut still there, some of their cattle had survived and even mem-

bers of their family who had remained in the area In the five years he spent in South Africa, he had had no contact with his family "I prayed every day that they would be all right," he said

He hoped that if anything happened to his extended family, he would get news from other refugees arriving in South Africa

As part of the repatriation programme, seed and tools are given to returnees who receive rations until the first successful harvest

For generations the Hlungwani family cultivated a patch along the mighty Limpopo — when their village was attacked by Renamo, they simply moved further along the banks and continued their farming

When the UNHCR offered him a chance to return home, he had to choose between living in a refugee camp and battling to support his family with piece work on mines and farms or cultivating his own land, as the Hlungwani's had done for decades

"They told me that the war had stopped. But I knew that I could not stay in South Africa

"Mozambique is my country I wanted to go back to where I was born My big fields were waiting," he said

The Hlungwani's fourth child was born a refugee — now he hopes his children will never again have to suffer the indignity and trauma of escaping from the land of their birth

As he bustled himself with setting up house again he looked up at the sky and said a silent prayer... grateful for the first signs of the coming rain

## Poll race in Mozambique

Today marks the start of the official election campaign in Mozambique with 14 parties and coalitions in the race for the elections on October 27 and 28. *Star*

Fears that Afonso Dhlakama's Renamo movement would not take part were set to rest earlier this week and both he and Frelimo leader President Joaquim Chissano will launch their campaigns today. *22/9/87*

There are 12 candidates for the presidency but observers believe that the poll is a two-horse race between the ruling Frelimo and former rebels Renamo. *Star Foreign Service*

(218)

# Frelimo's manifesto for peace

Star 28/9/94

## ■ STAR FOREIGN SERVICE

**Maputo** — Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party has committed itself to peace and reconciliation in its election manifesto

The manifesto was released yesterday with the launch of the official election campaign in preparation for the multiparty elections on October 27 and 28

Frelimo claimed that if it won the elections, its goal would be to achieve an average growth in gross domestic product of between six and 7 percent between now and 1997.

It has identified rural development as its priority and the decentralisation of state structures in order to achieve a participatory democracy

The party's economic programme pledges a rechanneling of state resources in support of the rural population and into health and education. This implies cuts in the country's defence and security spending, currently its largest budget item

Price control is also suggested through a commitment to stabilise prices of basic consumer goods.

The election campaign saw a largely Frelimo-supporting crowd through the streets of Maputo, easily outnumbering those of the other party contenders.

Renamo posters bearing a portrait of Afonso Dhlakama proclaimed him the one and only president.



## AFRICA

# Mozambique could opt for govt of national unity

MAPUTO — The ruling Frelimo party is under pressure from neighbours to form a government of national unity after its expected victory in Mozambique's first democratic elections this month, regional political analysts say.

Concerned countries want Frelimo leader President Joaquim Chissano to give former guerrilla chief Afonso Dhlakama a prominent role in a new administration

"I understand there is some private persuasion going on from officials from neighbours like SA and Zimbabwe and also from some Western countries," a Maputo-based African analyst said

"And then there is the inherent pressure of being surrounded by governments of national unity in Malawi, Zimbabwe and SA"

The election, Mozambique's first pluralist parliamentary and presidential poll, completes a process started two years ago when Chissano's government and the Renamo rebel movement agreed to end a war that killed more than 100 000 people.

Chissano himself has complained

that Frelimo, which has governed Mozambique since it gained independence from Portugal in 1975, was under pressure to establish a government of national unity after the October 27-28 poll

Such a government, its proponents argue, would consolidate the peace process, which began in 1992 when Dhlakama's Renamo movement agreed to end a 16-year-old civil war against the government

"If Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe could accommodate opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, President Nelson Mandela was able to co-exist with Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and former SA leader FW de Klerk ... it should be possible for Chissano to accommodate Dhlakama," a Zimbabwe foreign affairs official said

Frelimo is expected to win the elections. Diplomats in Maputo say a winner-take-all stance by the party could drive Dhlakama, seen coming second in a contest of nearly a dozen parties, back to war

"I think Chissano is very aware Mozambique can be another Angola," one African diplomat said

Jonas Savimbi's Unita, which had reached a truce with the government in 1991, restarted the war the following year after Savimbi lost general elections that were certified free and fair by the UN

The African diplomat said "I think his (Chissano's) better judgment will prevail but he has to convince his colleagues a government of national unity is the right thing to do."

Mandela told journalists during a visit in July to Mozambique, his first to an African country since being installed president in May, that he would not advise Mozambicans on how to resolve their problems unless asked to do so

"Forming a government of national unity in SA was the correct step in South Africa but the leadership of Mozambique draws a distinction between the SA case and of their own country," Mandela said.

"Whether I agree with that or not, I must leave it up to them to take their own decisions," he added.

A Zimbabwean official said "Zimbabwe and SA's main concern is that there must be peace in the region and that is the point they emphasise most" — Sapa-Reuter

*UN's biggest peacetime operation*

# 1,2 million Mozambicans repatriated

Star 7/10/94

■ BY WINNIE GRAHAM

Maputo — The UN has resettled 1,2 million Mozambican refugees in what is probably the biggest peacetime repatriation programme yet undertaken by the organisation.

The operation, handled by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), is proceeding so smoothly that 2 million people from six countries — South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Tanzania and Uganda — will have been moved by the middle of next year.

All the refugees in Swaziland were returned in June, those from Zambia last week while those from Tanzania will be home before the end of this month. Repatriation from Malawi, hampered by an outbreak of bubonic plague at the border town of Mutarara, has been temporarily halted.

In the meantime, convoys carrying refugees from South Africa and Zimbabwe are leaving transit camps at regular intervals.

Army trucks, planes, trains, buses even boats, are being used to ferry people back to their homelands.

Officials from the office of the UNHCR in Maputo are understandably well-pleased at the speed with which the operation is proceeding.

The UNHCR, working with non-governmental organisations, is helping with road construc-

tions. It is building clinics and classrooms and doing "all that is necessary to make the people self-sufficient."

On a hazardous excursion through the Limpopo River corridor, some 400 km northwest of Maputo last week, I saw thousands of newly arrived refugees in their villages trying to rebuild their lives shattered by the Renamo/Frelimo conflict.

The logistics involved in moving so vast a body of people are difficult to comprehend.

Before repatriation starts, every refugee has to be identified and issued with an ID document known as a VRF (Voluntary Repatriation Form).

The document becomes the refugee's passport, entitling him or her to transport, food and basic assistance for the coming year.

Felipe Carmargo, a UNHCR field officer at a transit camp at Chicualacuala, on the Mozambique border, said refugees displayed enormous eagerness to return.

"We thought we would have to leave one woman behind because she was about to give birth but when the truck left, she was on it — with her 10-hour-old baby."

Carmargo says the people need help to get restarted but "they are coping very well."

► Refugees pick up the pieces — Page 13



# Mozambique braces itself for the elections and the battle for peace

(218) ARG 8/10/94

MOZAMBIQUE is hanging precariously in pre-election limbo with a few weeks left before the elections on October 27 and 28.

"It's too far down the road to stop," said one diplomat, but the people of Mozambique seem so uncertain about that road. The potential for violence — while not held to be on the scale of a resumption of a war proper — is enormous.

Colonel Piero Segala, the Italian officer who heads the ceasefire commission for the United Nations mission in Mozambique, Onumuz, quotes the 148 000 weapons officially rounded up with the disbanding of the former warring sides. More have been discovered since and Colonel Segala's estimate of the number of weapons at large in Mozambique to be a million.

There are also arms deposits claimed by former rebels Renamo which Onumuz cannot find.

"We'll fix that," says UN special representative Aldo Ajello.

While the soldierly assessment of Colonel Segala is that Renamo is "no Unita" and in that he is almost certainly right. The medium and longer term threat to Mozambique is random banditry and violence

Mozambique is unlikely to be "another Angola" following elections this month, but it is plagued by a disturbing myriad of "minor" problems which do nothing to calm fears of turmoil. **DALE LAUTENBACH** reports

and the balkanising of the countryside into pockets of resistance.

"Banditry will increase dramatically," he acknowledges, but for this the Mozambicans need assistance with the training and equipping of an effective police force, he says. The international community must help, he adds, clearly of the view that it is not a problem Onumuz will have to deal with as they are due to leave shortly after the elections.

"When we pull out there will be a vacuum," Mr Ajello acknowledges, but it is that very vacuum which so threatens Mozambique's post-election period.

The ruling Frelimo party is not considered to have a firm hand on government right now and Renamo, while Mr Ajello notes that they cannot be dismissed as a bunch of armed bandits, has no stronger administrative capacity to offer in spite of their firm grip on some areas of the country.

In that immediate post-election period, much will depend on how the victor struc-

tures the new government. Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has been pushing strongly for a government of national unity and members of the international community have glibly risen to support him on this quoting the success of the South African model.

Voices in South Africa's Department of Foreign Affairs feel that the GNU-model that has worked so far in South Africa cannot just be foisted on others as a magic solution.

As to who will have the people's nod to form the new government, opinion has turned recently in Frelimo's favour.

It is also common cause that the two former belligerents will face their real test in the populous northern provinces.

But, as the election campaign heads into its third week and political leaders snap at each other, the people of this war-ravaged country are moved by what's in their stomachs and not by politicians.

A riot in Maputo this week was prompted by

transport price hikes. In Beira people were selling their voter registration cards for "financial reasons" — for the princely sum of eight dollars (R28,80) which nonetheless translates into 50 000 meticaes and not to be sniffed at.

Observers have found the Mozambican electorate apathetic compared to the Angolan, Malawian and South African electorates.

While many problems echo those that beset Angola — the incomplete national army, unruly demobilised soldiers, an almost total lack of trust between the two formerly warring sides — there is one very significant factor. The new South Africa.

"It can have a vital role in avoiding a derailing of the peace and ensuring that the winner uses wisdom rather than cleverness," says Mr Ajello.

He notes that Vice-President Thabo Mbeki has "excellent contact" with Mr Dhlakama and the new South Africa's hand has been scrupulously neutral in the region.

Muscular diplomacy might be what it takes to get Mozambique through the months ahead.

■ Dale Lautenbach is foreign editor of *Argus Newspapers*



10

Edited by Mike Siluma

THE STAR / TUESDAY OCTOBER 11 1994

**M**ost observers believe Mozambique will not be "another Angola" following this month. But to what extent will the myriad "small headaches" that have been to peace result in a "big" problem? Foreign Editor Dale Lautenbach reports.

# Where acronym GUN symbo

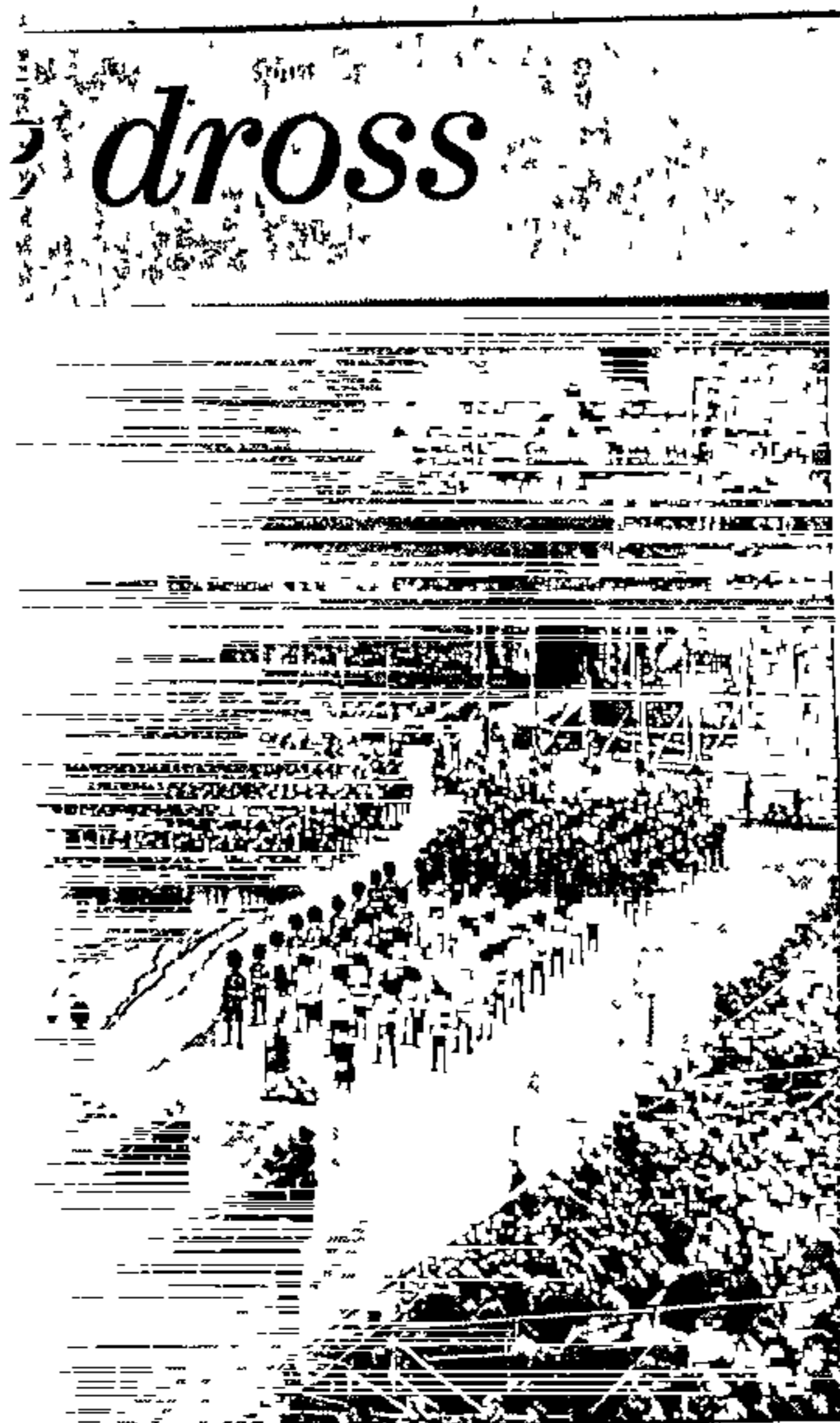
Star

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...e will not be "another Angola" following the elections later  
...e myriad "small headaches" that have beset the transition  
? Foreign Editor Dale Lautenbach reports from Maputo.

# GUN symbolises GNU

Star 11/10/94



...y tattoo when renowned Scots regiments like  
... for displays of precision marching and military

...warned! The average  
...attendance at any  
...is eight That's right

...yet there really is no  
...It Our own Grahams-  
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...my family and I went  
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...were received with per-  
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...the most complex and

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...on the side of the massive rock-  
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...tary assault on the massive cas-  
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...like a huge artery of creative im-  
...pulse which gushes until it is  
...spent, the Edinburgh Festival  
...leaves any participant chal-  
...lenged and renewed

Mozambique is in limbo a few weeks before the democratic election on October 27 and 28.

"The country's too far down the road to stop," said one diplomat of the poll, but the people of Mozambique seem uncertain about "the length" of that road and the potential for violence remains enormous.

Colonel Pier Segala, the Italian soldier who heads the cease-fire commission for the UN mission in Mozambique (Onumoz), estimates more than a million weapons have not been handed in by the former warring sides.

About 148 000 weapons were officially rounded up at the time of disbanding and only a few more have been recovered since.

"That means the UN has rounded up 15 percent at best," said Segala grimly.

There are also caches of arms which the former Renamo rebels have identified as their own but which Onumoz cannot find.

Segala says there are 20 such deposits but the co-ordinates he has been given are wrong.

"We'll fix that," says UN special representative Aldo Ajello confidently, but his style has been to project confidence and he has been criticised for minimising the many problems.

## Banditry

He has been criticised for dismissing many cases of rioting and banditry by former soldiers as a "criminal" issue that must be addressed by the police.

While Segala militarily assesses Renamo as "no Unita" — and in that he is almost certainly right — the medium and longer-term threat to Mozambique is random banditry and violence from the balkanisation of the countryside into several pockets of resistance.

Ajello insists that securing the election process is "no big deal".

He is confident Onumoz has the capacity and that the new national army, although only about 11 000-strong instead of the 30 000 envisaged, is up to the task.

"Banditry will increase dramatically," he acknowledges and for this the Mozambicans need assistance with the training and equipping of an effective police force.

The international community must help, he insists, giving the clear impression the worry is not one for Onumoz, which will leave shortly after the election.

"When we pull out there will be a vacuum," Ajello concedes — and it is that very vacuum which so threatens Mozambique's post-election period.

The ruling Frelimo party is not considered to have a firm hand on government at the moment and Renamo — even though Ajello notes it cannot be dismissed as a bunch of armed bandits — has no stronger administrative capability to offer, despite its firm grip on parts of the country.

In the immediate post-election period, much will depend on how the victor structures the new government.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama has been pushing strongly for a government of national unity and members of the international community have nimbly risen to support him, quoting the success of the South African model.

Voices in South Africa's Department of Foreign Affairs feel the GNU model which has worked so far in the Republic can be foisted on others as a magic solution.

In the Mozambican context, this caution appears appropriate — and not only because the Portuguese acronym for GNU is, unfortunately, GUN.

President Joaquim Chissano has stood firm against any pre-election unity deal but has committed himself to creating a government which "unites Mozambicans and serves the country".

He promises "institutional space" for the opposition so that "it feels a participant in the building process of the decisions of state".

Opinion as to who will win the election has strongly turned in Frelimo's favour recently but the outcome is still not an absolute certainty.

There might even be a second round of presidential elections but it is generally held that Chissano, characterised as a pragmatic although uncharismatic leader, is more popular than his party.

It is also common cause that the real test for the two "armed parties" — as the former belligerents are called to differentiate them from the 12 other, smaller political bodies which have sprung up in the new multiparty environment — will be in the populous northern provinces.

Nampula and Zambezia hold about 40 percent of the national electorate and are allocated 101

of the 250 seats in the National Assembly.

The latter will probably go to Renamo but Nampula is considered to be open.

But there is something of an ethnic dimension to these two provinces as Muslims comprise between 40 and 50 percent of the population, according to various estimates.

But as the election campaign heads into its third week and political leaders snap at each others' throats, the people of this war-shredded country are aroused by what is in their pockets, and not what comes out of the mouths of politicians.

A riot in Maputo earlier this week was prompted by increases in the cost of transport, and from Beira came the report that people were selling their voter registration cards for "financial consideration".

Some observers have found the Mozambican electorate apathetic in comparison to the excitement that surrounded the Angolan, Malawian and South African polls.

October 4 was Peace Day, a holiday commemorating the signing of the accord between Frelimo and Renamo.

## Festive

Last year Maputo was festive and celebratory on the occasion. This year it was quiet, "as if the people didn't give a damn", said a resident of the capital.

But there has also been some less than apathetic election-related violence in recent days.

Dhlakama's helicopter was stoned last week and supporters of the smaller parties have come under attack.

While so many of the problems seem alarmingly similar to those that beset Angola — the incomplete national army, unruly demobilised soldiers, an almost total lack of trust between the two formerly warring sides and arms, arms and more arms — there is one very significant difference: South Africa, the new South Africa.

"It can have a vital role in avoiding a derailing of the peace and ensuring that the winner uses wisdom rather than cleverness," says Ajello.

He notes that Deputy President Thabo Mbeki has "excellent contact" with Dhlakama — and South Africa's hand, despite old habits and old guards, has been scrupulously neutral in the region so far at diplomatic level.



After centuries of bloodshed, Mozambicans went to the polls last week . . .

# PRAYING FOR PEACE

218

City Press, October 30, 1994



**SEEKING OFFICE . . .** Feared Renamo leader Alonzo Dhakama is demanding a well-paid political post. ■ Picas AP



**ANOTHER CHANCE . . .** Popular Frelimo leader Joaquim Chissano casts his vote for a second round in power for his Frelimo movement, despite criticisms of incompetence and corruption.

## Last-minute stayaway rocks the first election

**T**HE first ever multi-party general elections to be held in Mozambique were plunged into chaos on Thursday morning, just hours before **AFTER** nearly 16 years of brutal and devastating civil war, the people of Mozam-

The streets of the capital, Maputo, were deserted on the first day of voting save for the multitudes thronging around the polling stations and reports from the north

# STAYAWAYS



polls, when it was announced that Renamo, the main opposition party and former guerilla army, would not take part in the elections

Late on Wednesday night Radio Voice of Renamo started to broadcast that Renamo, together with five of the other 13 parties, would not be contesting the elections and that the elections would not take place. After a late night meeting with representatives of the international community Renamo's chief negotiator, Raul Domingos, confirmed that Renamo would not take part and a stunned population awoke up on Thursday morning to hear the alarming news on Radio Mozambique

However, on Friday Renamo lifted its boycott, Sapa-Reuter reported

"I am going to vote," Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama said in the garden of his residence overlooking Maputo Bay after intense talks with international envoys

Dhlakama told the media he had obtained guarantees from the international community against electoral fraud

The real reasons behind Renamo's withdrawal from the elections are not clear, but Dhlakama's appearance at the Summit of Frontline States in Harare on Tuesday could provide the answer. Dhlakama went to Harare to try to persuade the leaders of the Frontline States to put pressure on Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano, leader of the governing Frelimo Party, to accept a proposal for a Government of National Unity (GNU) after the elections. That was also a course of action being advocated by the US government - but Chissano was having

**week to vote on their future. It was no easy walk; Renamo baulked up to the last minute, but late in the week the election seemed to be going ahead. JULIAN DREW reports.**

none of it and he defiantly declared that Mozambique's future government would not be imposed from outside

The Frontline States supported Chissano's wish to choose his own government in the event of a Frelimo victory and Dhlakama went home empty-handed even though he stayed an extra day in Harare to try to save his lost cause

With an expected Frelimo victory in the National Assembly, Dhlakama faced the prospect of wielding no power in the government despite his considerable support base in the densely populated provinces in the north of the country. He thus may have made a last ditch attempt to precipitate an international lobby in favour of the GNU proposal by boycotting the elections

If this was the case then his modus operandi was flawed from the outset because the electoral law stated that any party wishing to withdraw from the elections for the General Assembly had to do so at least 72 hours beforehand and any presidential candidate wishing to do likewise had to provide 15 days notice

All the last minute controversies seemed to have little effect on the electorate, however, and many people went early to the polling stations oblivious to the unfolding drama

healthy turnout by the electorate. According to the National Electoral Commission, about half the country's more than six million voters turned out on the first day of the two-day elections - which indicated that Renamo's call for a boycott may have fallen largely on deaf ears

Afonso Muambe was at the Josina Machel Secondary School in Maputo by 5 am and had only heard secondhand about the Renamo withdrawal

"My aim in voting is to see if we can finish with the struggle," he said. "Afterwards we will see what is the position of Renamo, but all we really want is peace"

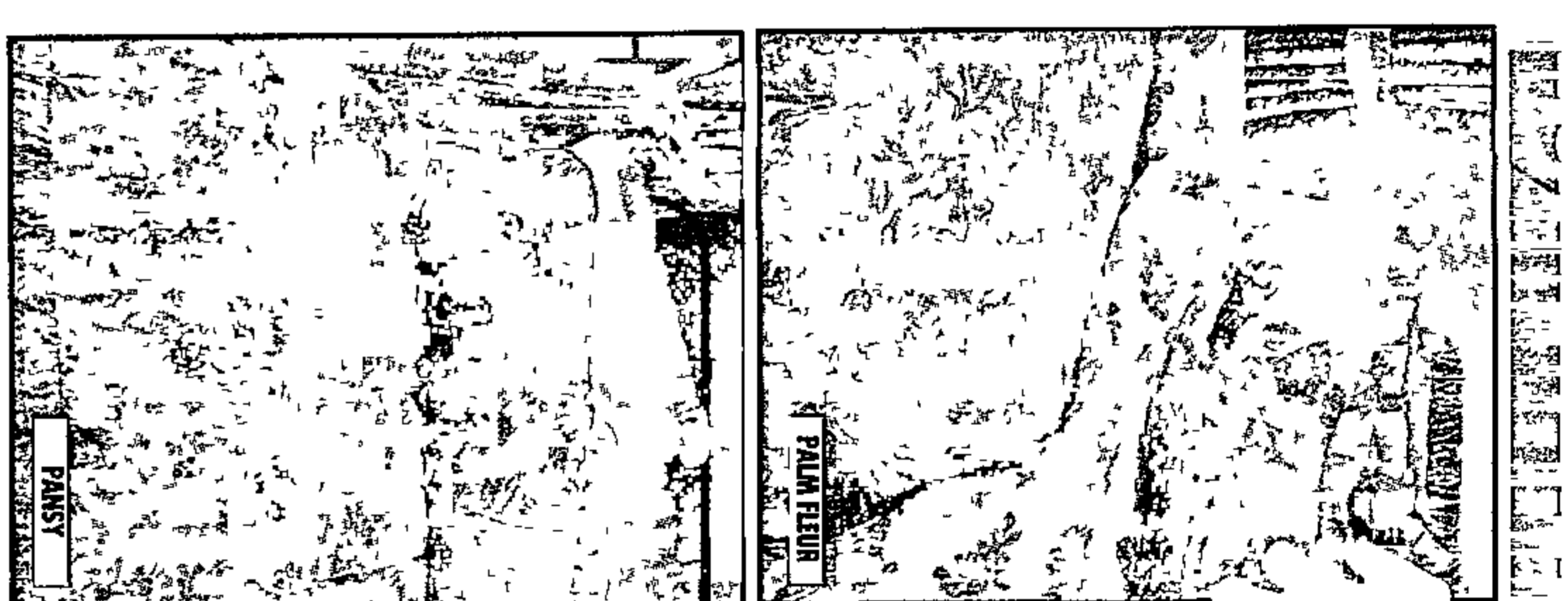
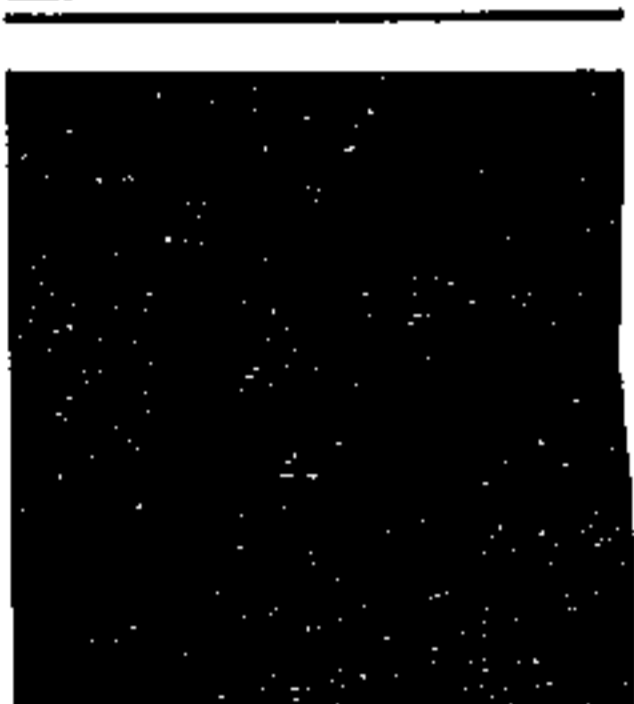
Although Muambe was going to vote for Frelimo, as most of the people living in the south were expected to do, his sentiments were reciprocated by most of the nation's voters irrespective of their political affiliation

At a Renamo rally just before the elections in the north-western province of Manica, Maria Gevi had a similar but more harrowing message. She and her family were attacked by Renamo in Tete Province in 1991 and she had to watch as Renamo hacked her husband's head off and killed her father and two children

"I am not angry with him," she said of Dhlakama after the rally

"It is best if he doesn't make war anymore. He brought peace and democracy to the country and for that I will vote for him." That anyone could be so desperate for peace that they could vote for those responsible for butchering their family is an indication of just how much the people of Mozambique have suffered

**ELECTION FEVER . . . Renamo's Dhlakama seemed happy meeting with supporters in the run-up to the elections but then pulled out - and then came back in again.**



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Delivery in 2 - 4 weeks. Orders subject to credit approval. Stocks are limited.

**FLTRBYM,**



Peace most popular candidate in Mozambique

# A people weary of war

Star 22/10/94

**CHIMOIO** (Central Mozambique) — Sitting at a thatched, open-air bar overlooking the rolling plains of central Mozambique, Shorinco Churixa poured himself another glass of Portuguese wine and loudly told everyone his views about the country's impending elections.

"Peace is what we want Peace!" said Churixa, a customs official at the nearby border between Zimbabwe and Mozambique. "Forget about politics. Forget about political parties, they only separate people. The Mozambican people want to be united and we want peace."

"Viva Pax!" cheered another member, but Churixa interrupted him. "No, not viva," he said. "That sounds like a political slogan. We just want peace. Peace." The group at the bar nodded their heads in agreement and drank to peace.

This convivial scene at a fishing camp just off the Beira Corridor,

the 300 km road and rail route linking Zimbabwe to Beira port, illustrates the attitudes of most Mozambicans to the October 27 and 28 national elections.

Peace is the most popular candidate. Overwhelmingly Mozambicans say they want peace, when asked about the elections, and they say political parties are of secondary importance to them.

"We want to see unity, to see all the political parties work together," said fellow drinker Augusto Mindo. "There is not much difference between the main parties, so they must work together."

The widespread apathy towards the two main political parties — the ruling FRELIMO party and the former rebel group RENAMO — suggests Mozambique is an ideal candidate for a government of national unity, a coalition that would provide representation of all the country's major political and ethnic

**THERE is an unfamiliar tolerance and striving for peace shown by both FRELIMO and RENAMO supporters in the run-up to the first free and democratic multiparty election in Mozambique's war-torn history.**  
**ANDY MELDRUM of the Foreign News Service reports.**

218

groups. "I think they will give us more stability. But many people here are going to vote RENAMO."

In Chimoio, the city of 150 000 midway on the corridor between Zimbabwe and Beira, two young men in bright new FRELIMO T-shirts stroll past the city's RENAMO headquarters. Youths and women wearing RENAMO stickers are unconcerned by the FRELIMO pair in their midst.

Nearby a schoolteacher wearing a FRELIMO T-shirt is asked if she supports the party. "For the moment," she answers nonchalantly

representative to Mozambique Aldo Ajello. He and the international community are pressing RENAMO and FRELIMO to agree to a formula for a unity government.

Influential Mozambicans, like the director of the national electoral commission, have also urged the parties to avoid a winner-take-all outcome. Even Mozambicans sporting FRELIMO buttons and wearing RENAMO stickers say they support the idea of a government with representatives of all groups.

But the most likely winners, the ruling FRELIMO party and President Joaquim Chissano, have resisted pressure for a national unity government. Chissano is held back by hardliners in his party who do not want to see FRELIMO's strength reduced from the days when it ruled a one-party state. Chissano is clearly more popular than the party itself, which is dis-

graced by misrule and pervasive corruption. The able president says he will appoint individuals to post-election government, but will avoid formal coalitions with parties. A strong showing by RENAMO would force Chissano to give serious representation to those outside the old guard of FRELIMO.

Another threat to continued peace is the potential for banditry throughout the sprawling country. The country remains awash in weapons, ranging from AK-47 rifles and machine-guns to missiles and aircraft. Military sources say there are enough weapons to fuel a war for three to four years. The United Nations has been criticised for not carrying out a widespread campaign to round up weapons.

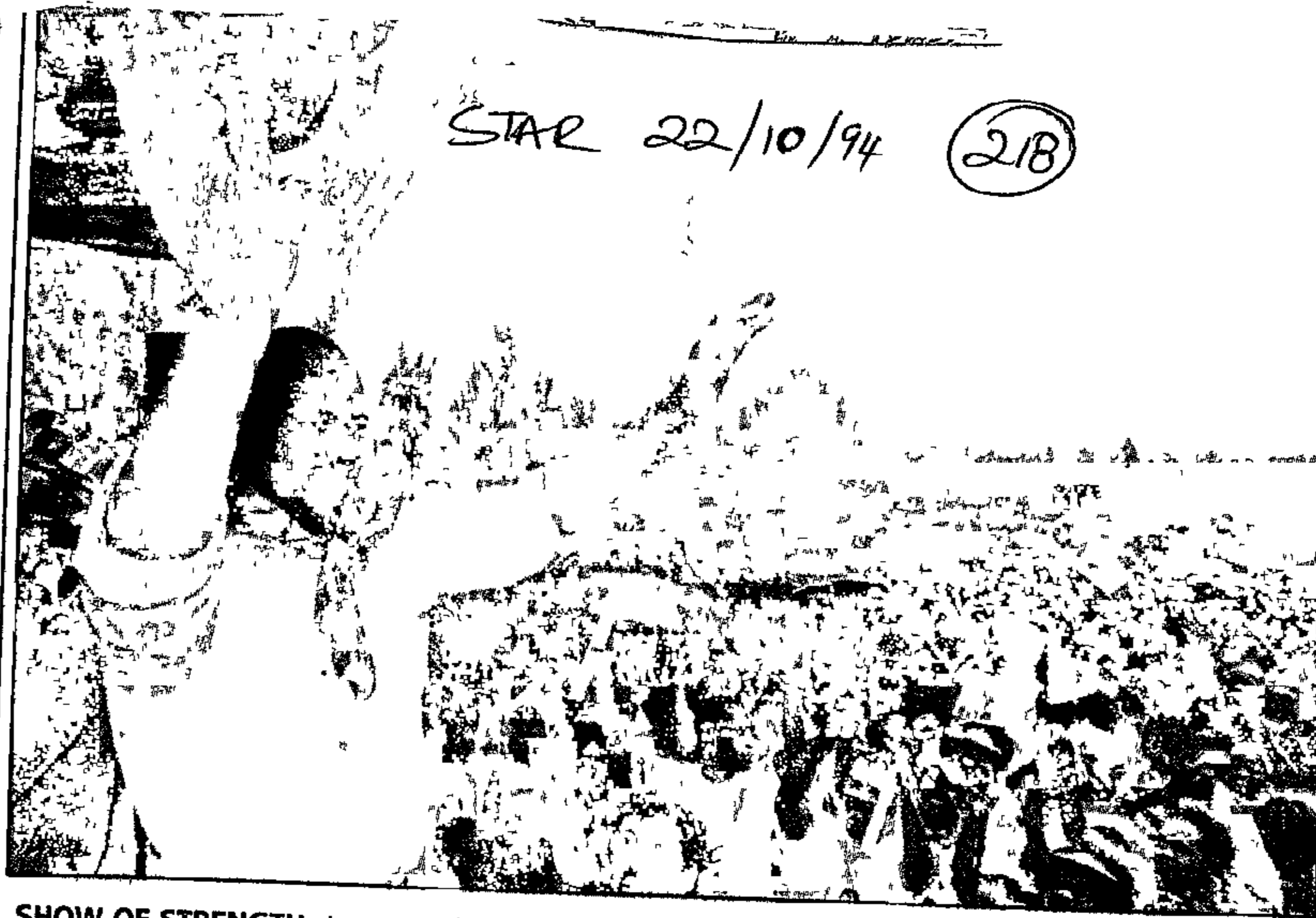
Although the popularity of peace in Mozambique is unchallenged, it will take skilful and diplomatic efforts by all sides to make sure it thrives after the elections.

CONT. →



STAR 22/10/94

(218)



**SHOW OF STRENGTH:** Joaquim Chissano, Mozambique's president and leader of the ruling FRELIMO party, salutes his supporters at a rally in Xai-Xai, southern Mozambique, this week PHOTOGRAPH AFP

## Earning more important than voting to migrants

A TRIO of Mozambicans shovelling sand at a building site in Johannesburg will not go home to vote in their country's first multiparty election next week — but they will go home for Christmas.

Earning rands, it appears, is far more important than voting. Furthermore, their home country has made no provision for migrant workers to return home for polling day.

One of the three workers is in South Africa legally. The other two ran the gauntlet of the electrified fence to come to the City of Gold in search of work.

All three, as well as their Afrikaans-speaking employer, refused to be identified.

Like an estimated 350 000 other migrant Mozambican workers around southern Africa — mainly in SA — these three will not be able to vote because the Mozambican National Elections Commission has not made provision for them.

"Earning rands over here is what is important," said one of the three, speaking in a mixture of Afrikaans, Fanagalo, Portuguese and English.

He would not disclose which party he might have voted for. "I do not trust RENAMO or FRELIMO. Only my God up there."

Also competing in the election will be 12 smaller parties, but apart from a minor showing by perhaps

**DUNCAN GUY**  
FOREIGN NEWS SERVICE

two or three of these, it is expected that former belligerents FRELIMO and RENAMO will be the main competitors.

What the migrant worker did understand was that those Mozambicans who fled to South Africa as refugees from the fighting had been assisted with repatriation and would indeed be voting.

Some 1.2 million refugees have already been repatriated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in what it claims is its biggest repatriation programme.

The civil war, which has raged for 16 years following FRELIMO's war for independence against Portuguese colonial rule, has cost Mozambique an estimated 600 000 lives and reduced the economy to tatters.

Little wonder illegal workers in South Africa such as the 18-year-old on the Johannesburg building site are shy and untrusting and not willing to divulge their personal circumstances.

At first the youngster said he had come into South Africa with a passport, but later confessed to slipping over the border in May.

"I was buying and selling things in Maputo after I finished school

but I earned very little money. I would rather stay in SA, working, than go home to vote. But I shall go back to Maputo at Christmas-time."

He earns R125 a week. His employer said he paid qualified builders R300 to R400 a week.

"I no longer employ any South African labourers," said the employer.

"Not since they started making trouble, striking and using any excuse to go to the labour office. I started doing all the work on my own and then began to use foreigners."

"These Mozambicans are the best. But I have to be hard on them."

He said police sometimes closed off streets in the suburbs to "pounce" on the illegals and he had occasionally needed to "duck into a block of flats with my guys."

"But they tell me 'Baas, the police are *dom* (stupid). When they arrest us and send us home we come back with more of our brothers'."

Mozambique's first democratic elections are scheduled for Thursday and Friday at 880 polling stations across the country in the culmination of a process which began with negotiations between FRELIMO and RENAMO in Nairobi in August 1989. The peace accord was signed in Rome on October 4 1992.



# Mozambique prepares to vote in first free election

By DESMOND BLOW

CIPROD

23/10/94

MOZAMBIQUE gears up for its first democratic election this week on Thursday and Friday amid fears that everything may not go off peacefully.

This week disgruntled former soldiers of Frelimo and Renamo, as well as election officials, threatened to disrupt the elections.

The Association of Demobilised Soldiers (AMODEG) demanded that politicians guarantee jobs for the 75 000 troops demobilised from the government and former rebel Renamo armies, under a peace agreement in 1992 that ended the 16-year civil war.

And some polling station officials are threatening to go on strike unless they receive a 200 percent pay rise.

Voters were asked to register between June and August 15, but by July 2, only about 2 million of the country's estimated 8.5 million voters had registered.

Although registration was expected to pick up over the last few weeks it is still uncertain if many of the population will be eligible to vote.

Seventy percent of the population is illiterate and a shortage of vehicles, the poor condition of many of the roads and more than likely inadequate police presence at polling stations, are regarded as the major causes for the poor registration.

Rain could threaten polling in large parts of the country because although the election dates were carefully chosen to miss the normal rain pattern, it has rained heavily in the last week.

However, the South African Air Force will help by flying in polling booths to remote areas in Mozambique.

It is expected that the ruling government of Joaquim Chissano will win the majority of the 250-seat parliament with Renamo coming second.

Frelimo ditched Marxism five years ago for democratic socialism. Chissano now presides over a market economy smiled on by the World Bank but Dhlakama has already threatened not to recognise the election result if he doesn't win.

Fears that Renamo's Alfonso Dhlakama may do what Jonas Savimbi did in Angola and continue the civil war is unlikely because Dhlakama has been promised an important position - with a good salary - in a government of national unity.



AFRICA

# 'Whoever wins, governs'

(218) ARLG 26/10/94

Cont



Rioting,  
looting,  
may be  
biggest  
threat

JUDITH MATLOFF  
of Sapa-Reuter  
reports from Maputo

The winner of Mozambique's first multi-party elections this week will inherit control of one of the world's poorest countries where potentially explosive social unrest simmers just beneath the surface.

Diplomats said that although the poll tomorrow and Friday might seal the transition to democracy after 16 years of civil war, a huge challenge facing the victor will be nursing an ill economy without sparking popular revolt.

Riots over rising prices, already seen in the capital of Maputo, may be the biggest threat to future stability rather than a resumption of civil war which ended two years ago.

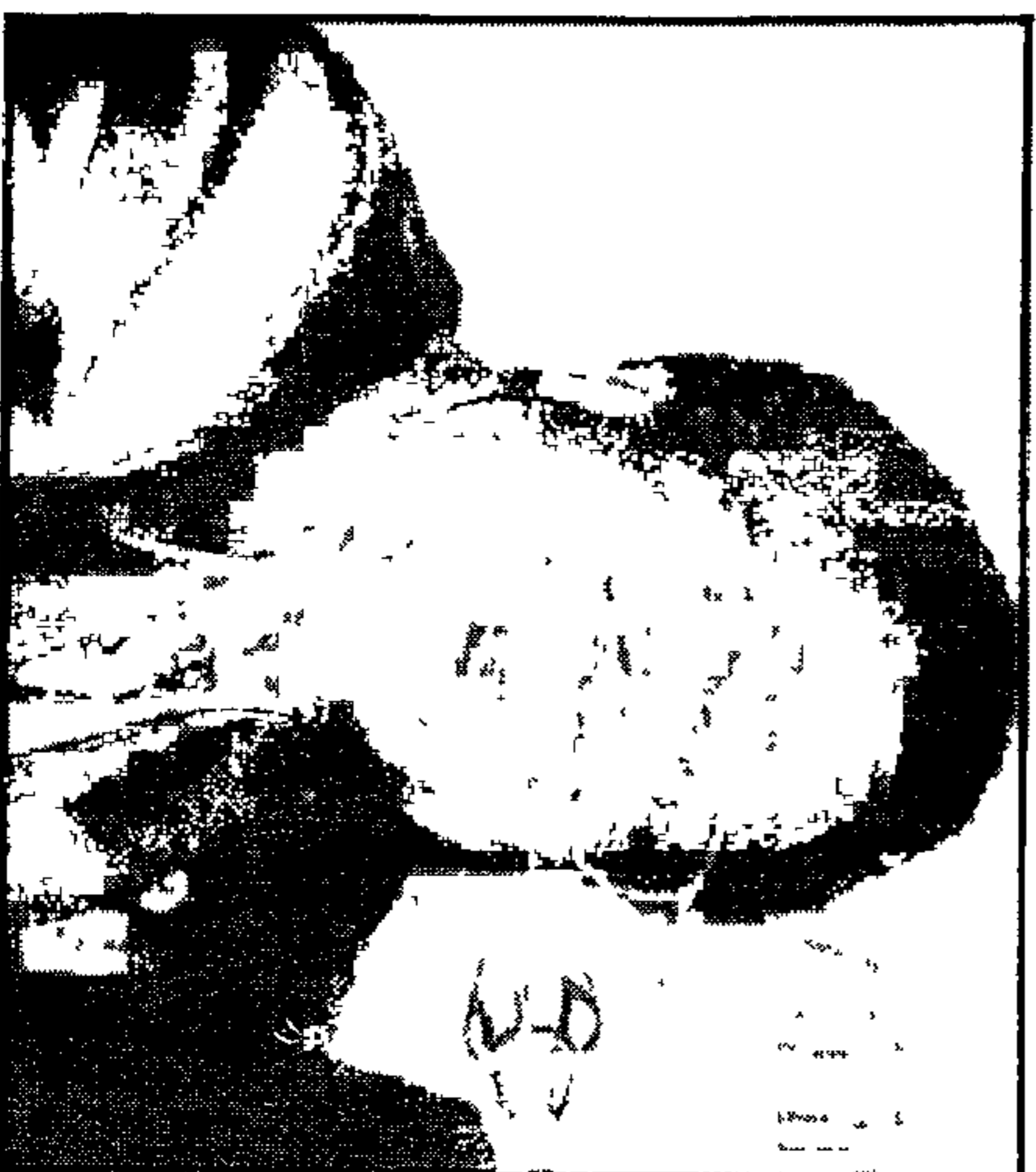
"Any new government will face a monumental challenge. There is going to be rioting and looting," said one senior African diplomat.

A Western diplomat said "The potential for social instability is great."

Mozambique is experiencing a huge increase in banditry and crime with the demobilisation of tens of thousands of soldiers who have little skills other than using a gun. The election is largely a



**VOTE FRELIMO!** President Joaquim Chissano addresses supporters at an election rally in Boane, 40km south of Maputo.



**WELL RESPECT RESULT:** Renamo leader Afonso Dhakama — he has pledged not to resume fighting if he loses the elections.

ANDY MELDRUM and  
DALE LAUTENBACH  
of The Argus  
Foreign Service

THE Frontline States have committed themselves to "timely and appropriate" intervention should the situation in Mozambique go awry in the crucial election this week.

At a summit meeting in Harare yesterday South African Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Aziz Pahad said "The whole region strongly and collectively signalled that they would not tolerate any attempt to subvert the democratic process."

Zimbabwe has gone even further and declared that it is prepared to send troops to Mozambique or Angola should the situation so demand, according to the country's Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira.

Meeting under the auspices of the expanded FLS grouping which now includes Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland, Southern Africa's leaders took their stand on the eve of Mozambique's elections due to begin tomorrow.

Mr Pahad said the region was committed to use "all its capacity to ensure that whoever wins, governs."

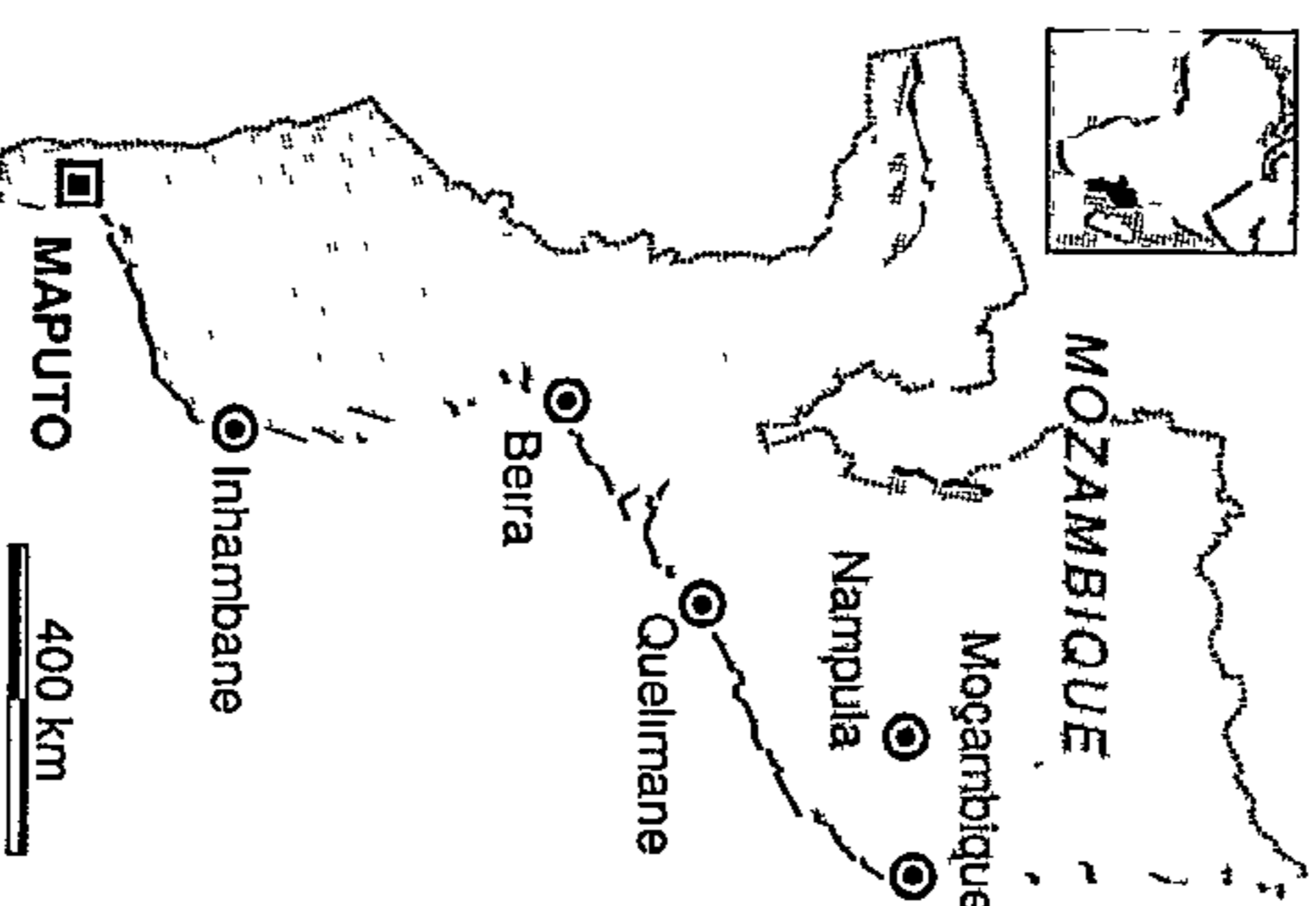
He said capacity would include any form of support from political to military and while South Africa, still in the process of integrating its armed forces, was not perhaps ready to commit combat troops, the SANDF certainly had military expertise in many areas outside this narrow definition of a military contribution.

All the regional heads of state with the exception of Nelson Mandela and Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola met at the summit and mandated FLS chairman Robert Mugabe and Ketumile Masire of Botswana to brief Renamo leader Afonso Dhakama on their deliberations.

The Frontline States, of which South Africa is now a

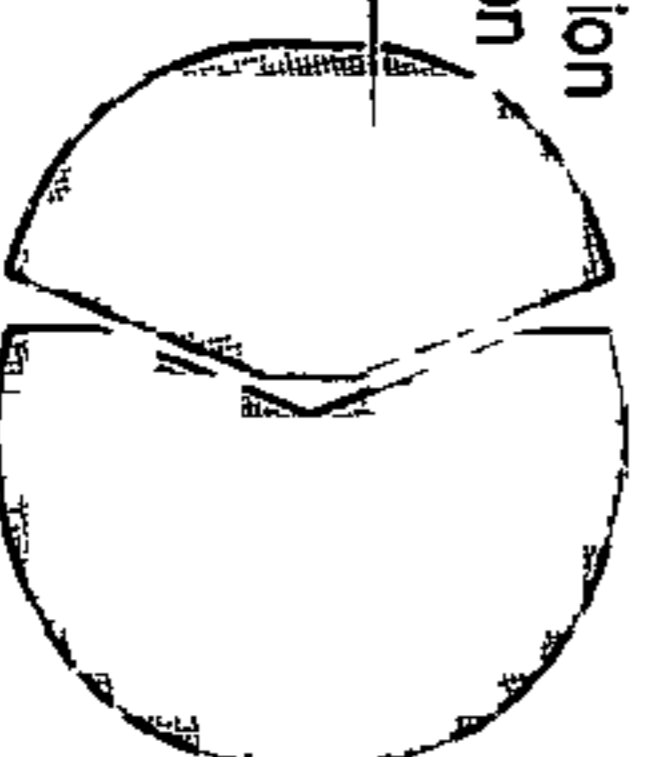
## MOZAMBIQUE'S FIRST FREE ELECTIONS

Mozambique's first multi-party general elections are to be held on October 27 - 28, with the final results expected within 15 days.



Total population  
over 16 million

Registered  
electorate  
6.4 million



There are 12 presidential candidates and 14 parties or coalitions taking part

### A brief modern history

1975

The People's Republic of Mozambique gains independence from Portugal on June 25 after a 10-year guerrilla war waged by the

Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo), which assumes power as a single party with military commander Samora Machel as the president.

1977

Frelimo carries out widespread nationalisations prompting exodus of white Portuguese settlers.

1980

South Africa-backed, right-wing rebel group, the Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) launches guerrilla war against Frelimo government, paralysing the national economy.

1984

Mozambique and South Africa sign the Nkomati non-aggression accord but the war escalates.

1986

Machel dies in plane crash. Joaquim Chissano becomes president.

International community commences massive emergency relief operation for war and famine victims.

1988

Chissano offers amnesty to MNR rebels and meets with South African president P.W.

1989

Botha to improve ties between the countries. Chissano initiates contacts with MNR through church intermediaries.

Frelimo drops its Marxist-Leninist ideology for a broader commitment to socialism.

1990

Frelimo introduces new constitution ending single-party rule and introducing a free-market economy.

member and which, as a grouping is emerging increasingly as a peace and security broker for the region, ad-

ressed not just Mozambique but Angola too at its meeting. The summit resolved to monitor the situation in Mo-

zambique and to stand "ready to take timely and appropriate action if the situation so demands".

REUTERS



former rebel movement Renamo (Mozambican National Resistance) and its erstwhile foe, the Frelimo party which has ruled uninterrupted since independence from Portugal in 1975

Frelimo is tipped to win but political analysts say that without reliable opinion polls there could be big surprises

Both parties' platforms are vague — promoting investment, free market policies and a better life with few specifics on improving appalling facilities for health and education

Diplomats spoke of a dire need to revitalise the economy, which has been reduced to one of the world's poorest by war, corruption and unsuccessful socialist experiments.

Mozambique has a per capita gross domestic product of less than \$70 (about R245) and one of the heaviest dependencies on foreign aid in the world

Exports, mostly of prawns and cashews, last year totalled an estimated \$145 million (about R507 million) against imports of \$900 million (about R3,15 billion). The foreign debt is roughly \$5 billion (about R17,7 billion). Its currency falls daily in value against the dollar

Prices of transport and food, which can rise up to 100 percent a month, will spiral again if the new government is forced to pare big subsidies of fuel and electrical power

Compounding the problem will be the withdrawal of about 7 000 UN peacekeepers, whose spending has helped keep local commerce afloat, and an expected drop in donor aid which accounts for more than 50 percent of Mozambique's revenue

They have all been spending a lot of money. When they go, there will be an economic void," said one diplomat

The return of hundreds of thousands of refugees has strained local resources and the UN World Food Programme has appealed for more food aid to stave off a potential crisis

Many foreign investors including South African giants Gencor and Anglo-American are poised on the sidelines, waiting to see the results of the vote

There have been just a handful of big investments, including the opening by South African bottlers of a Coca-Cola factory in July and a multi-million-rand deal with a US-based oil company to develop a gas field.

"Nobody is doing anything until after the elections," said one South African financier.

# Renamo pins poll hopes on chiefs

KARL MAIER of The Independent reports from Inhaminga

PASSERS-BY knelt in respect as Rosa Johnny Inhaminga sat in the shade of a mango tree, explaining why she was urging her followers to vote for Renamo and not for the Frelimo government

"Frelimo and Renamo are Mozambican, but Renamo likes the people and Frelimo committed many errors," Mrs Inhaminga, 48, said "Because Renamo fought for democracy, many people here will vote for them. If Renamo loses, the people's suffering will continue," she added

Her word carries weight in the Renamo-controlled central town of Inhaminga because, as her name indicates, she is a mpfumo, a local chief, part of a traditional political structure. President Chissano's Frelimo failed to sweep away during the revolutionary days that followed independence from Portugal in 1975.

Loyal chiefs who lent support against Renamo insurgents are a key factor in the movement's electoral chances. Although Renamo was accused of carrying out atrocities during the war, it appears to have strong support in Sofala and in the densely populated northern provinces of Zambezia and Nampula

Part of its popularity is due to a close relationship to traditional authorities. "Renamo does not control the traditional structure, but we value it," said Francisco Caetano Bero, 30, Renamo's political representative in Inhaminga. "Frelimo tried to do away with the people's traditional culture which was lost and forgotten"

Two Irish Catholic priests, Eamon Aylward and Derrick Laverty, said that the chiefs remained highly influential. "The people here do what their chiefs say," Father Aylward said. "If they say the people should register and vote for Renamo, they will do it"

Inhaminga — "a place of thorns" — is in Cheringoma district, in the heart of Renamo country and was cut off from the outside world for years. If the Renamo leader, Afonso Dhlakama, is to stand a chance against President Chissano, he will have to win handsomely in rural areas

such as Cheringoma, where 9 000 people have been registered to vote out of a national total of 6,2 million

Two years after Renamo and Frelimo signed a peace agreement in Rome to end the 17-year civil war, Inhaminga, once a prosperous railway junction 150 km north-west of the Sofala provincial capital of Beira, is the pride of the Renamo movement. It is the only big town still under Renamo control — a shattered town of 5 000 people

Renamo's control is firm. Frelimo's first secretary in Inhaminga, Chavica Chave Tingote, refused to be interviewed until a senior Renamo official gave permission

"We are a bit apprehensive because of certain attitudes of some Renamo personalities," Mr Tingote said, outside the rubble of what was once party headquarters. "We recognise their local administration but other people try to cause trouble for us. They have come around saying that if we do not vote for Renamo, they are prepared to start two more wars"

Other people causing trouble include 600 demobilised rebel soldiers, who set up roadblocks and took hostages last month, demanding demobilisation pay and food aid. As a result, the Renamo administration had to hand over food that was intended for hungry civilians

Mr Bero said he understood why the demobilised soldiers had decided to take hostages. "Only when people make a fuss do things begin to happen," he said. The crisis was defused only after the Frelimo-run provincial government in Beira sent in the specially trained "rapid intervention police" at night to disperse the former soldiers and to re-establish Renamo administrative control

Some residents fear a resumption of the war if Renamo loses the elections, as most analysts predict. Several non-governmental organisations in the area have temporarily pulled out. But Renamo members said that they would never return to war. "Take up arms again? What for?" one mechanic asked. "God will never forgive us if we go back to war"

The Argus

Wednesday

October 26

1994

218

## NEWS Frelimo 'corruption' blamed

# Renamo is 'voters choice'

MAPUTO — Renamo, the former rebel movement during 16 years of brutal civil war in Mozambique, seems to be winning the hearts and minds of voters in the country's first multiparty general election, diplomats say

The diplomats and aid workers in the former Portuguese colony now question past assumptions that the once Marxist Frelimo party will win an absolute majority in the 250-seat parliament

Final results from the poll yesterday and today will not be known until mid-November because of the distances involved and an infrastructure destroyed by fighting that claimed tens of thousands of lives

Disillusionment with perceived corruption within Frelimo, which has ruled since independence in 1975, has eroded its support among the 6,4 million registered voters, aid workers say "It may seem ironic, after all those reports of Renamo cutting off civilians' ears, noses and eyelids, but

they have strong support," said one foreign aid worker who has worked for the past year in Renamo territory near the border with Malawi and in Quelimane

"Many young people there have grown up thinking of Frelimo as the enemy," she said The movement is most popular among villagers in the northern and central hinterland of the war-devastated country, which is one of the world's poorest

Diplomatic and aid sources say the guerrillas, who were criticised abroad for atrocities during the war which officially ended two years ago, have built up strong support for the poll Presidential elections are also being held with incumbent President Joaquim Chissano widely seen as front-runner against Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama. But UN observers monitoring the poll have calculated how much it would cost to hold a second round of presidential elections if Chissano fails to win 50 percent or more — *Sapa-Reuter*



**Mozambique's elections:** The poll nobody wants — except the foreigners who've spent millions on it ...

# Who cares about electing 'thieves' and 'murderers'?

WM 21-27/10/94 (218)

A moral amnesia has beset Mozambique as it heads towards its first-ever proper election next week, reports **Eddie Koch**

"S the election nobody wants — and it could end a fragile peace. But Mozambique's first-ever proper election will go ahead next week, pushed along by foreign diplomats and donors who have poured millions into the coffers of the 14 contesting political parties.

There is a curious lack of uhuru fever on the streets of Maputo. A single line of plastic posters bearing the face of President Joaquim Chissano strung across the Avenida Julius Nyerere, mainly for the benefit of foreigners who live in the sumptuous Polana Hotel, is the only immediate sign that a major political event is imminent.

Thus is not a replay of South Africa in April. No reconstruction and development programme. No truth commission. No debates about widespread corruption that has paralysed the economy. No talk of correcting the wrongs of the past. It is as though a moral amnesia has beset the country and its people.

"There seems a sort of collective belief that to talk about the past will break the spell," says the latest edition of the *Mozambique Process Bulletin*.

Foreign governments and donor agencies have put a lot of effort into making sure the election goes ahead. "We have, to put it simply, bribed the parties of Mozambique to get along with each other," says a senior diplomat in Maputo.

In order for the elections to work, the United Nations set up two special trust funds, one to pay Renamo for its agreement to participate, the other to ensure compliance from the smaller parties.

By early this month Renamo had

received a staggering US\$19-million, including \$3-million that Italy diverted from humanitarian aid.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama gets a personal grant of \$300 000 (about R1-million) every month so that, in the words of UN special representative Aldo Ajello, he can dole out largesse to his supporters.

The smaller parties get \$100 000, paid in two instalments. This explains the proliferation of splinter groups and acronyms in the election lists, even though there is no discernible difference in their political programmes.

Everyone knows this election is a straight fight between Renamo and Frelimo, yet even these two groups fail to demonstrate significant policy differences.

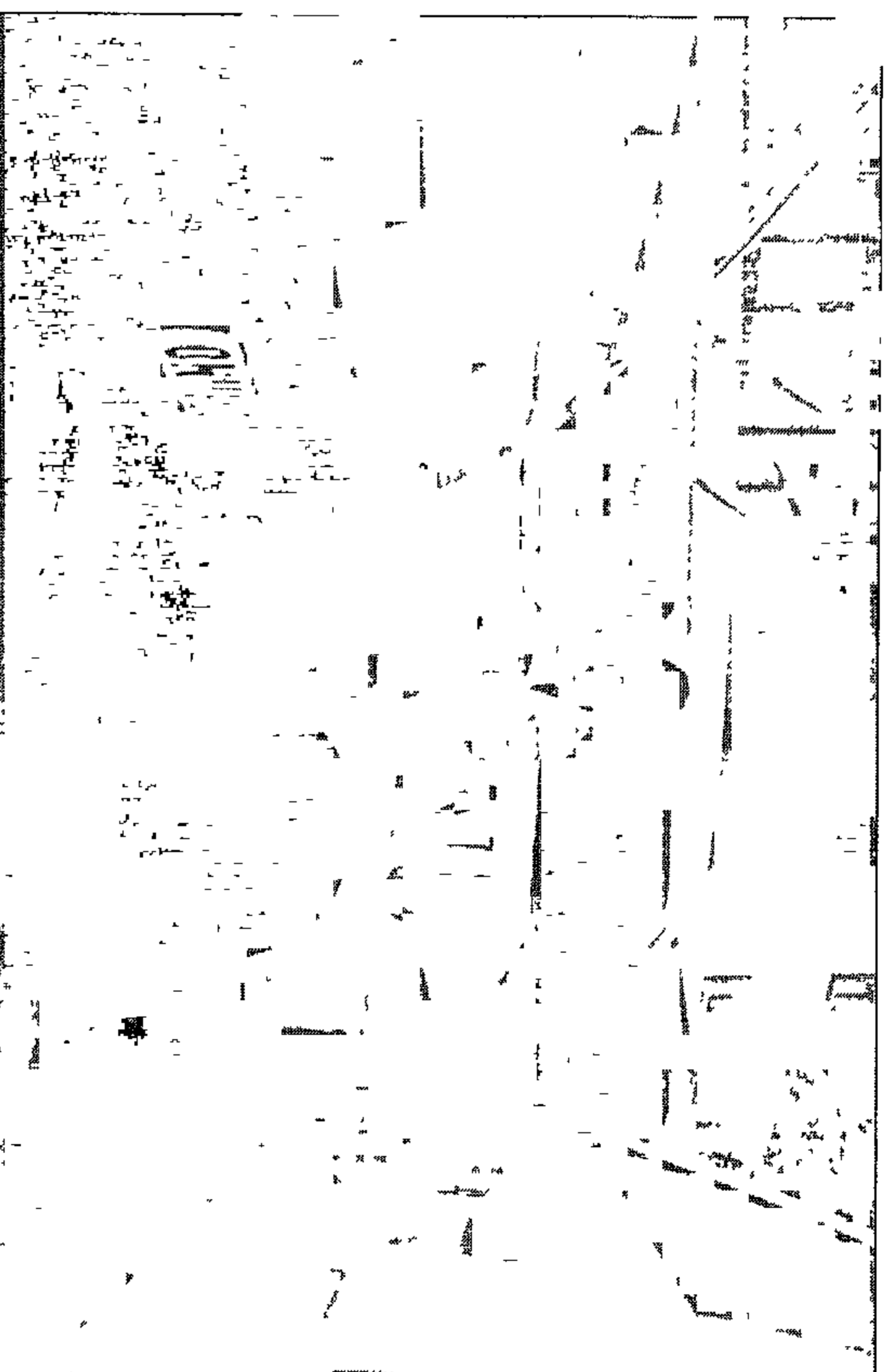
Both speak very generally about creating a liberal economy and political regime. There is some debate about regionalism and the parties are divided about whether to have a government of national unity after the elections.

Chissano is adamantly opposed to doing a deal with Renamo but has promised to let Dhlakama keep his house, his car and his salary as head of the opposition.

Participation in the poll is not about political ideals. It is simply a way for the politicians to share a cake that has been baked for them in the West.

"This election comes at the lowest ebb in Mozambican politics," says Carlos Cardoso, editor of an independent daily bulletin called *Medi-afax*. "There is no enthusiasm for it. Our war was organised by foreigners and now our peace is being organised by foreigners."

Renamo was part of South Africa's destabilisation campaign on the subcontinent in the 1980s. Its war in Mozambique cost one million lives and damage in excess of R50-billion. The end of the cold war



**United action.** Washing the many UN vehicles provide some work for the locals

PHOTOGRAPH: STEVE HILTON BARBER

brought peace settlements in Angola, Namibia, South Africa and Mozambique, where Renamo and the (Frelimo) government signed a peace accord in October 1992.

The ceasefire has held because neither side wants a renewed war. But key aspects of the peace accord have not been honoured.

All areas of the country were supposed to be open to both sides. Yet two years after the accord, many Renamo zones remain separate and government officials cannot enter them.

A new joint army of 30 000 should have been created before the election, it could have enforced the result. Instead, the new force has only 12 000 troops and barely enough training and equipment to defend its barracks.

Both sides should have demobilised their old armies by the end of August.

Yet since the deadline more than 1 000 Renamo soldiers have appeared to demand their demobilisation pay, saying their commanders instructed them not to disband.

All armaments should be turned over to the UN peace-keeping force by now — but Renamo claims more than 1 000 arms caches and has refused to say where they are, or to dismantle a sophisticated military

communications system.

Most observers are predicting a narrow Frelimo victory, although perhaps Chissano will require a second round in order to win a majority.

Dhlakama has been pushing the view that the candidate who comes second should become vice-president and leader of the opposition.

The United States has been advocating a South African-style government of national unity. In a recent speech, US ambassador Dennis Jett said the only way "Mozambicans can ensure that the outcome of the election is accepted is by reaching an agreement among themselves".

The US and the UN, he said, could not force the loser to accept the result of even a free and fair election.

If the elections in Mozambique are not like South Africa's, neither are they like Angola's, where UNITA's rejection of the outcome plunged the country back into civil war.

Renamo is likely to reject a Frelimo victory, but stop short of a return to war. Without oil and diamonds, Mozambique is less worth fighting for than Angola.

Most Mozambican soldiers and guerrillas refused to join the new army and demanded demobilisation

instead.

But there will be a period of "armed negotiations", perhaps lasting several months, as the losing party tries to take a bigger share of power and the post-election spoils.

*Imparcial*, a newsletter linked to Renamo, wrote last month that "if Renamo loses the election it will opt for destabilisation, for a short or long period, to force the international community to put pressure on the democratically elected government to form a government of national unity or to guarantee posts in the government".

In his campaign speeches Dhlakama has become more strident. In the town of Ribane he used words strikingly similar to those used by UNITA's Jonas Savimbi in Angola. "I have already won. Only by electoral fraud can Frelimo and Chissano win."

Mozambique's election is meant to lay to rest the spectre of a civil war. "People are tired of war and mismanagement of the economy," says Gal Lauriciano, editor of a journal called *Mozambique Inview*.

"They see the two main parties as responsible for each of these things. There is a popular saying that people now have a choice between murderers (Renamo) and thieves (Frelimo)."



*Astonishment as Renamo pulls out hours before election begins*

# Mozambique pulls out hours before election begins

## VOTING stations open on time but mood in Maputo is subdued after surprise decision

"I can't believe (Renamo leader) Afonso Dhlakama would be so stupid," said a regional ambassador in Maputo. "If this is true, it's the end of Renamo." (218)

South African Director-General of Foreign Affairs Rusty Evans was equally surprised. "How do you turn the elections off at this stage," he said, of Renamo's decision that it was boycotting the poll for "technical reasons" of fraud and "not political reasons."

Evans said he was inclined to discount the Renamo move as its logic was incoherent and there had not yet been any absolute confirmation.

Evans represented South Africa with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Aziz Pahad at the Harare summit on Monday. In a communique, all southern Africa's leaders committed themselves to supporting the democratic process in Mozambique and to tolerating no foul play by either side.

Both Dhlakama and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano were in Harare for the meeting although the Renamo leader was not part of formal proceedings. Evans said both leaders expressed several concerns but he at no stage had the sense from either of them that there might exist the idea to pull out of the elections.

Evans also failed to see how Renamo could today communicate its last-minute change of heart to its followers in a country with a communications in

▶ To Page 3

■ BY DALE LAUTENBACH  
and REUTER

Renamo's shock announcement that it was boycotting the Mozambique election has been greeted with astonishment.

The announcement was made by Renamo spokesman Rahil Khan just hours before polling began this morning.

Polls opened on schedule at 7 am in Maputo as the Renamo decision was being broadcast over its party radio station. Its supporters were being urged not to vote.

The radio is estimated to reach about 15 to 20 percent of Mozambicans.

BBC reports from Maputo this morning said Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama was in Beira about 1 000 km north of the capital. As Renamo decisions were usually taken by Dhlakama himself, members of the United Nations and the National Elections Commission were frustrated that the movement's leader was not available.

But one of his aides confirmed at Dhlakama's home in Beira that the rebels were boycotting the poll.

"Yes, we are not taking part in the elections," the aide told journalists, outside Dhlakama's heavily guarded, sea-front house. Other officials shrugged off questions.

Renamo sources said Dhlakama was expected to fly to the capital Maputo later in the day. Dhlakama is registered in Maputo and would have to vote there.

Sources close to the Renamo leader said he had been in a "foul mood" on the election eve on Wednesday, accusing the United Nations — which is monitoring a two-year-old ceasefire and the runup to democracy — of planning to stuff the ballot boxes.

Star 27/10/94  
Renamo

Withdrawals

◀ From Page 1

frustration as poor as Mozambique's. "If it's a tactical move, it's ill-conceived."

According to Reuters, Khan said early this morning that if its concerns over technical aspects of the voting were resolved it would resume participation.

A diplomat in Maputo said Renamo's "technical" problems were not a new matter but the party's old concern was that thousands of Zimbabweans had been shipped across the border to vote. (218)

National Elections Commission president Brazao Mazula told the nation in a broadcast last night that the conditions for free and fair elections existed and that the poll could proceed.

UN observers also said yesterday that in their view the poll should go ahead as planned.

Meanwhile the Star Foreign Service reports from the Lebombo border post that it remains open on the South African side.

There had been reports that hundreds of Mozambicans queuing to go home to vote were unable to pass through.

OCK



# Mozambicans cast votes as Renamo boycotts poll

(218) ARG 27/10/94  
DALE LAUTENBACH,  
The Argus Foreign Service

JOHANNESBURG. — As polling began on schedule across Mozambique today, Renamo's sudden announcement of an election boycott was greeted with astonishment.

"I can't believe (Renamo leader) Afonso Dhlakama would be so stupid," said an ambassador in Maputo. "If this is true, it's the end of Renamo."

South African Director General of Foreign Affairs Rusty Evans was equally surprised. "How do you turn the elections off at this stage," he said of Renamo's announcement today that it was boycotting the poll for "technical reasons" of fraud and "not political reasons"

Reuter reports from Beira that Mr Dhlakama today met Portuguese, British and Zimbabwean diplomats who said they would try to persuade him to fly to Maputo to sort out problems that led to the boycott.

The Portuguese envoy, who declined to give his name, said the Renamo leader appeared relaxed. But the envoy refused to say what was discussed.

A Dhlakama aide earlier confirmed that Renamo was boycotting the polls. "Yes, we are not taking part in the elections," he said.

Renamo sources said Mr Dhlakama was expected to fly to Maputo later in the day.

Sources close to the Renamo leader said he had been in a "foul mood" on election eve, accusing the UN of planning to stuff the ballot boxes.

Mr Evans represented South Africa with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Aziz Pahad at a Harare summit on Monday.



VOTING: Mozambican President Chissano casting his vote in Maputo early today.

All Southern Africa's leaders committed themselves to supporting the democratic process in Mozambique and to not tolerating foul play

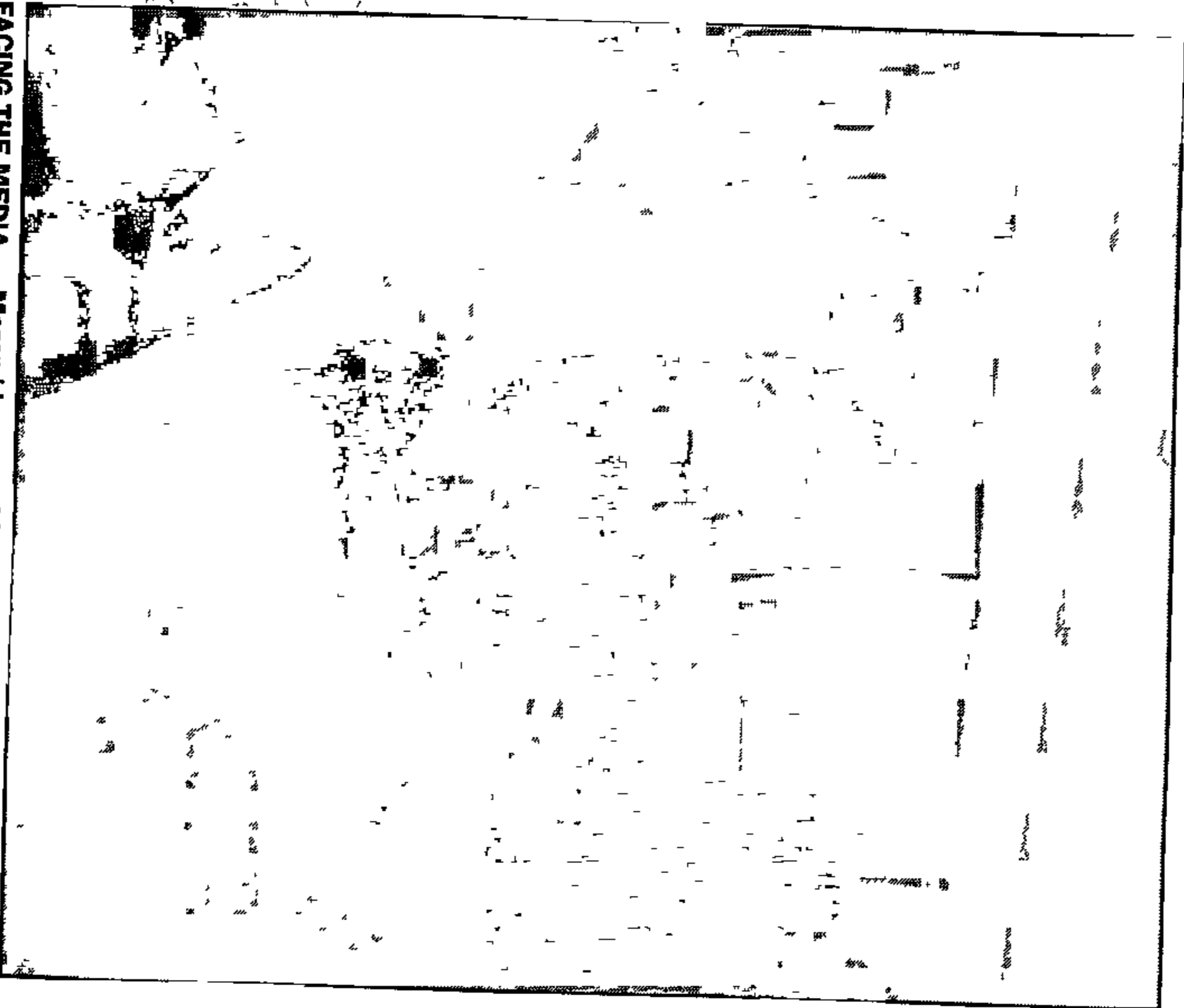
Both Mr Dhlakama and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano were in Harare for the meeting although the Renamo leader was not part of formal proceedings. Mr Evans said both leaders expressed

several concerns but he at no stage had the sense that there was any idea of pulling out of the elections.

Mr Evans said he also failed to see how Renamo could today communicate its last-minute change of heart to its followers in a country with a communications infrastructure as poor as Mozambique's. "If it's a tactical move, it's ill-conceived"

## AFRICA President Chissano tipped to win majority in 250-seat Parliament

13



**FACING THE MEDIA ...** Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano at a Press conference at Frelimo headquarters in Maputo this week.

PIC GARY BERNARD

# Stage set for first multiparty poll

**MAPUTO** — Electoral officials yesterday made final preparations for Mozambique's first multiparty elections, hoping that allegations of fraud and stockpiling of weapons would not mar the historic vote.

UN monitors overseeing the transition to democracy said they expected the poll, the first since independence from Portugal in 1975, to go ahead as planned today and tomorrow. About 2,400 international electoral observers and 7,000 UN peacemakers were taking up positions across the country, including remote areas.

Final results are expected by the middle of November. The war ended two years ago with a peace accord between Renamo and Frelimo.

The presidential and parliamentary votes involves 12 candidates and 14 parties or coalitions — but the election is expected to be a two-horse race between the former war foes. President Joaquim Chissano is tipped to win, with Frelimo likely to gain a large chunk of the 250-seat parliament.

Chissano has denied allegations by Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama of attempted vote-rigging.

One complaint alleged an "excessive" number of voter registration cards had been printed — on the basis of an estimated 8.3 million voters. Only 6.4 million people actually registered to vote in the elections.

Diplomats in Mozambique said the former enemies had been stockpiling weapons and equipment, including ar-

### ■ FINAL STAGES

#### Dhlakama again pledges

#### 'no more war' if he loses:

moured vehicles that were discovered hidden near Maputo harbour and arms found in coffins in the city's main cemetery. But Dhlakama pledged on Tuesday not to resume fighting if he loses the elections.

"We will use dialogue. No more war," Dhlakama said in the Zimbabwian capital Harare after talks with Zimbabwian President Robert Mugabe and Botswana's leader Ketumile Masire. "We will insist that the elections be held again," he said when asked what Renamo would do if it considered the polls were not free and fair.



never better, under intense pressure, expected to vote today

# Renamo boycott 'off'

Star 28/10/94

**'GOOD news is the boycott declaration now seems to have been a flurry, and not a storm'**

■ BY DALE LAUTENBACH  
FOREIGN EDITOR

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama is expected to vote today in a dramatic turnaround from his election boycott which has had the Mozambican election in confusion for the past 24 hours

As South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki flies to Maputo this morning spearheading a high-powered regional initiative to get elections back on track, news of Dhlakama's change of heart brightened the second day of polling in Mozambique

South African Director-General of Foreign Affairs Rusty Evans said Dhlakama had met United Nations special representative Aldo Ajello last night and told the latter that he would vote in Maputo today

"The good news this morning is that the declaration of a boycott now seems to have been a flurry and not a storm," said Evans

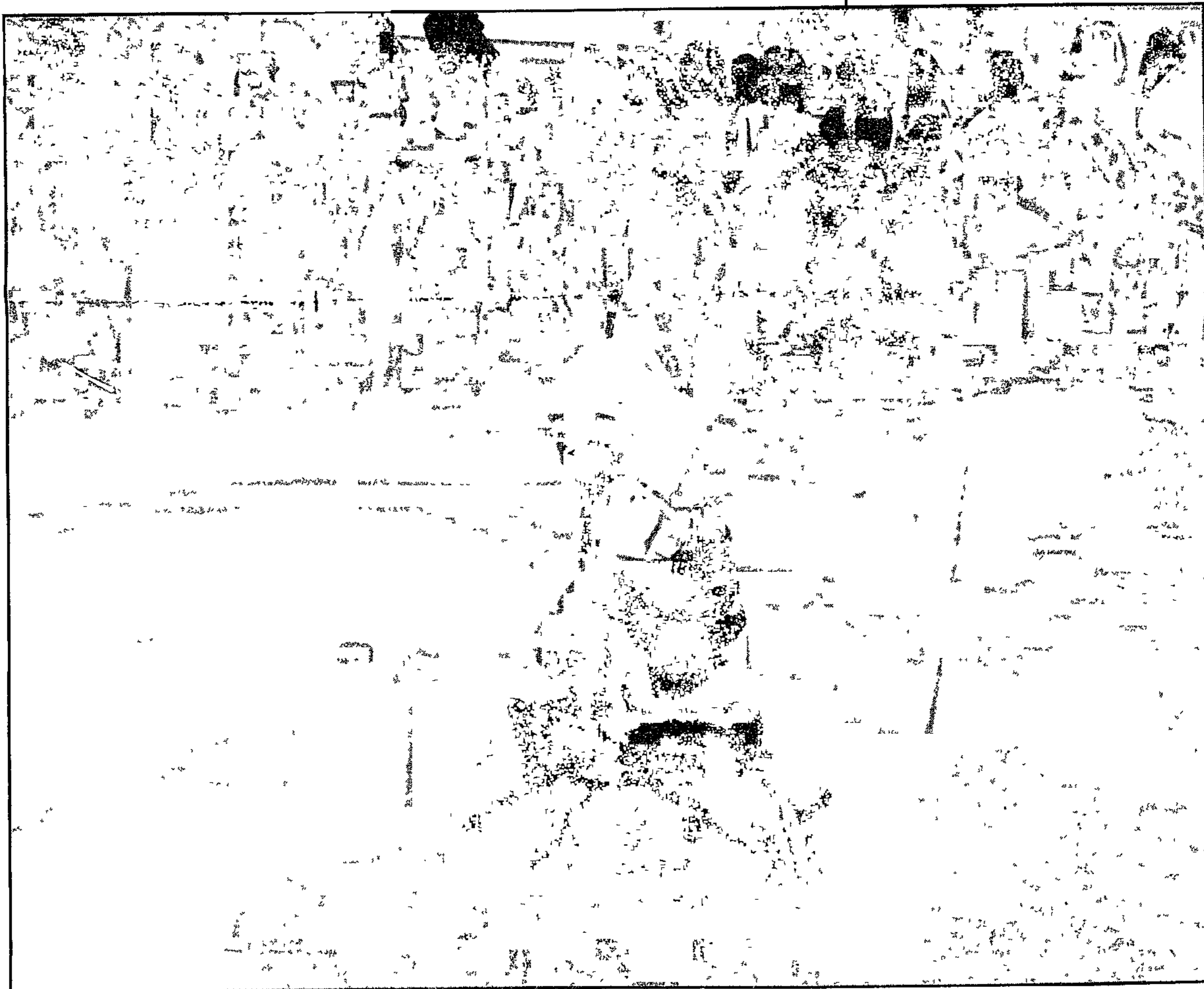
However, Mbeki's visit to Maputo as representative of leaders of all the Frontline states remains crucial to a broader resolution of the crisis. Signalling the seriousness of the initiative, Mbeki is expected to be accompanied by Minister of Defence Joe Modise and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi

Evans said the message that was being sent to Dhlakama was that the region, and the international community, did not take lightly the allegations of fraud and would in no way tolerate corruption of the democratic process

Dhlakama has declared fraud the reason for his boycott and has described the elections as a farce

Clearly, Ajello must have been able to convince him that the UN will not turn a blind eye as Dhlakama has alleged, and what Mbeki takes to Maputo today is a regional guarantee that the process should not be corrupted.

Yesterday about half of Mozambique's 6.4 million voters went to the country's 7 500 polling stations apparently either ignorant of or ignoring Renamo's boycott call



Island ballot . . . voters on Isle de Mozambique wait patiently in a queue to cast their ballots on the first day of voting in Mozambique's historic election yesterday

PICTURE GARY BERNARD

Meanwhile diplomatic efforts throughout the day yesterday prepared for Mbeki's visit mission today. Frontline states chairman President Robert Mugabe was consulted and blessed the initiative as did President Mandela, presently on holiday.

Pressure on Dhlakama to reverse his non-participation decision was intense yesterday with calls from the United Nations Security Council, the United States, the European Union and the Commonwealth

Mbeki has met Dhlakama before and established a de-

gree of rapport

There were no reports of intimidation or violence at the polling yesterday and the UN mission to Mozambique, Onu-  
moz, reported that even at the Renamo stronghold of Maringue voting had gone ahead

The Independent News Service reported that Dhlakama had told reporters yesterday that he did not plan to return to civil war, and had said he hoped the elections would be annulled and new ones organised in their place

Dhlakama (41) said he had evidence of plans by Frelimo to

rig the vote

He claimed the National Elections Commission had not accounted for 1.9 million unused registration papers and had not ensured that foreigners could not vote in the elections. He also claimed that his party agents were not being transported to the polling booths

■ The South African National Defence Force, planning for possible violence from Mozambique's elections, has deployed 350 troops on KwaZulu/Natal's northern border, army officers said yesterday.



## SA beefs up troops on border

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — As Mozambicans went to the polls amid uncertainty over Renamo's withdrawal, South African troops beefed up security along the border.

An army spokesman said that while no extra troops had been deployed, patrols had been increased and troops were on standby.

The spokesman said the number of illegal immigrants crossing from Mozambique had increased recently as that country neared its first democratic election in almost 20 years.

The spokesman said it was normal procedure for additional security measures to be taken when political change took place in a neighbouring country.

"We are not expecting any problems but we are certainly keeping a close eye on events," said the spokesman.

# Mbeki in bid to rescue Mozambique's election

High-level mission to reverse Renamo poll boycott

Argus 28/10/94

(218)

DALE LAUTENBACH

The Argus Foreign Service

JOHANNESBURG — Deputy President Thabo Mbeki is expected to fly to Maputo today heading a high-powered regional initiative to place the Mozambique election back on track.

This follows the withdrawal yesterday of the former rebel group Renamo from the country's first multiparty poll.

Mr Mbeki's mission has the blessing of regional leaders and results from extensive consultations yesterday between him and President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe. It also comes after the Harare summit on Monday, at which the Frontline States committed themselves to supporting the democratic process in Mozambique.

President Mandela, who is on holiday, has been briefed on the Mbeki initiative.

Deputy presidential spokesman Thami Ntenteni confirmed that Mr Mbeki had consulted Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama yesterday in preparation for the initiative. Mr Mbeki hopes to see both leaders in Maputo today.



**HELPING HAND:** A South African Air Force helicopter at Moussuril in Mozambique prepares to transport ballot boxes to polling stations.

Mr Ntenteni said Mr Mbeki would attempt to convince Mr Dhlakama to participate "in the interests of Mozambique and the region because non-participation has serious implications for that country."

Mr Mbeki has met Mr Dhlakama and the two men apparently established a degree of rapport which might serve Mr

Mbeki well today.

All signals from Mr Dhlakama so far suggest he is resolute and will not back down on his decision to boycott an election process he has characterised as a "joke in bad taste."

Mr Dhlakama returned to Maputo last night where he reportedly met members of his Renamo council.



# Mozambique war drums beat again

Sowetan 28/10/94

**M**OZAMBICAN REBEL MOVEMENT RENAMO leader Afonso Dhlakama flew to the capital Maputo from Beira last night in what observers believe could lead to a change of mind over his boycott of the country's elections. Radio reports from Mozambique said last night Dhlakama had held urgent discussions with United Nations officials and Southern African leaders who had urged him to rethink his move.

The decision by Renamo to boycott the coun-

try's first multiparty elections has sent shock waves through Southern Africa, provoking fears of renewed war. African leaders fear Mozambique could be hit by the "Angolan syndrome".

Angola's Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi resumed the civil war there after rejecting defeat in UN-monitored elections in 1992 that ended an 18-month ceasefire with the Luanda government.

Dhlakama said yesterday his movement's decision to boycott the elections was final. "We have made this decision because we have proof that

there will be massive fraud in this election. It is not an election, it is a picnic. We want new elections," he told journalists in Beira. (218)

Dhlakama said, however, he would not return to war. "I am tired of telling people that I am not going back to war. I will be in peaceful civilian opposition." In early reaction, Namibian President Sam Nujoma said "We urge the Renamo leadership to seriously and urgently reconsider the decision not to participate in the general elections." Their withdrawal is a serious setback to the establishment of

a true democracy in Mozambique and poses a renewed threat to national reconciliation in a country torn apart by civil war for so many years."

South African Foreign Ministry sources said the situation was confused and it was too early for an official statement. There was no immediate official comment from Zimbabwe, whose President Robert Mugabe hosted a summit of Southern African leaders in Harare on Tuesday where they said they would take "appropriate action", possibly military, to ensure peace in Mozambique. — Sapa-Reuter



Mozambican president Joaquim Chissano casts his vote in Maputo as his country went to the polls yesterday. PIC: JOHN PARKIN (AP)

# Dhlakama call for election boycott falling on deaf ears

MAPUTO. — Mozambicans vote for a second day today amid signs that the war-weary population will largely ignore an 11th-hour demand from the Renamo opposition to boycott the election

The boycott call, issued by the former rebel movement hours before the two-day election began yesterday, surprised both Mozambicans and foreign governments, who feared a return to civil war

"All we want is to rebuild our lives in peace," said a middle-aged Maputo resident, his legs aching from queueing for hours to vote

Officials of the independent National Electoral Commission said about half the 6.4 million voters had ignored the boycott call of Renamo leader Afonso

(218) ARGT 28/11/94  
Dhlakama, issued on the grounds of alleged fraud

"Until we have other information, we can say the elections were free and fair today," electoral official Manuel Frank, a Renamo member, told reporters

"Signs are that voting is going normally, even in Renamo areas. We expect it to continue like this on the second day"

Mr Dhlakama demanded new polls and said his boycott decision, joined by three small opposition parties, was final. But he said he would not return to the 16-year war which ended with a peace accord two years ago

"The elections are fraudulent," he told reporters on leaving his home in Beira for the capital Maputo yesterday

President Joaquim Chissano, whose rival Frelimo party is expected to win Mozambique's first democratic elections, appealed in a broadcast to Mozambicans last night for a big turnout

He said Mozambicans were tired of the fighting, which has killed hundreds of thousands of people and helped to reduce the country to one of the world's poorest

Some diplomats suggested Mr Dhlakama was trying to gain leverage to force a reluctant President Chissano to include him in a future government of national unity

But a senior Renamo official said it was unclear, even to party officials, why Mr Dhlakama had acted as he did — Sapa-Reuter



# Boycott move fails to stop vote

28/10/94

(218)

MAPUTO — Mozambique's first multi-party elections began yesterday despite a surprise boycott by former rebels that raised fears of new conflict in a country trying to leave behind its devastating history of civil war

The Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo, one of the two main parties in the vote, shocked organisers with its last-minute announcement it was pulling out of the elections after two years of preparation. It said it feared irregularities in vote procedures would allow fraud.

Elections commission chairman Mr Brazau Mazula went on national TV to urge calm and say the two-day vote would proceed as planned. He termed the Renamo pullout illegal.

US ambassador Mr Denis Jett said the objections raised by Renamo were "simply logistical problems that will be worked out" during the day.

## 'Cheating already'

But the Renamo leader, Mr Afonso Dhlakama, interviewed on Portuguese Radio Nova, condemned the voting under way as "a tasteless joke".

"Cheating is already in play. No one wanted to boycott the elections, but they had to."

His movement waged a civil war against the leftist government for 15 years that left an estimated 600 000 people dead. Yesterday, however, he said he was not contemplating a return to the battlefield.

Meanwhile South Africa has beefed

up its security along the border with Mozambique with armed border guards patrolling the area. There are fears that if fighting breaks out in Mozambique thousands of refugees could flee into kwaZulu/Natal.

Despite the boycott, voters lined up for hours in Maputo. People were also standing in lengthy lines in the northern Renamo stronghold of Nampula.

The rebels and President Joaquim Chissano's Mozambique Popular Front were expected to win almost all of the 250 parliament seats. Mr Chissano was favored to gain the presidency and had indicated he might give Mr Dhlakama a post.

## Renewed fighting?

A UN spokesperson, Ms Michelle de Rosset, said it was unclear how a withdrawal by the rebels would work. Ballots include Renamo candidates, and poor communications make it difficult to spread a boycott message.

If the rebels reject the election, it could set the stage for renewed fighting like that which wracked Angola when the former Unita rebel movement lost elections in 1992.

German Foreign Minister Mr Klaus Kinkel, speaking on behalf of the European Union, said Renamo's objection that a fair election could not be guaranteed was not convincing.

He noted in a statement that more than 2 000 international observers were present — Sapa-Reuter-AP

# Renamo ends poll boycott

29/10/94 (218)

MAPUTO. — Mozambique's main opposition party Renamo yesterday ended its boycott of the country's first multi-party elections, and the country's independent National Electoral Commission (CNE) extended the elections for an extra day

Renamo had called for a boycott just hours before polls opened on Thursday

Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama said he had decided to withdraw from the elections because of alleged evidence of plans by the President Joachim Chissano's Frelimo party to rig the vote

The end to the boycott came as South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki travelled to Maputo early yesterday in a bid to convince Renamo to take part in the elections

It was reported from Maputo yesterday that Mr Mbeki had consulted President Chissano and Mr Dhlakama in preparation for the initiative

## Mbeki to talk with leaders

Meanwhile, kwaZulu/Natal is preparing for a flood of Mozambican refugees and hundreds of soldiers have been deployed on the border as fears of an election collapse run high

And senior SA National Defence Force officers expressed grave concern that the Mozambican defence force (FADM) — numbering only about 12 500 — would not be able to deal "with a deterioration in the security situation".

Many weapons caches from Renamo's 16-year guerilla war

against the ruling Frelimo party still remained unearthed and "the conflict risk is quite great," said Major Andries Koen

It was known that an "armed group of 12 000 Renamo and Zimbabwean dissidents is in place to assist Renamo if the armed struggle resumes", he said.

The departments of health and home affairs and security forces had identified a massive piece of land with electricity and fresh water supplies at Manguzi, near Kosi Bay, which could accommodate up to a million people.

SANDF intelligence officer Lt-Col Braam van Wyk said the refugee camp could be "up and running to cater for about 5 000 refugees within four hours".

However, the Renamo leader said yesterday the rebels would not return to war.

Col van Wyk said South African military intervention in Mozambique could not be ruled out but would only occur with United Nations Security Council approval. — Sapa-AFP, Own Correspondent



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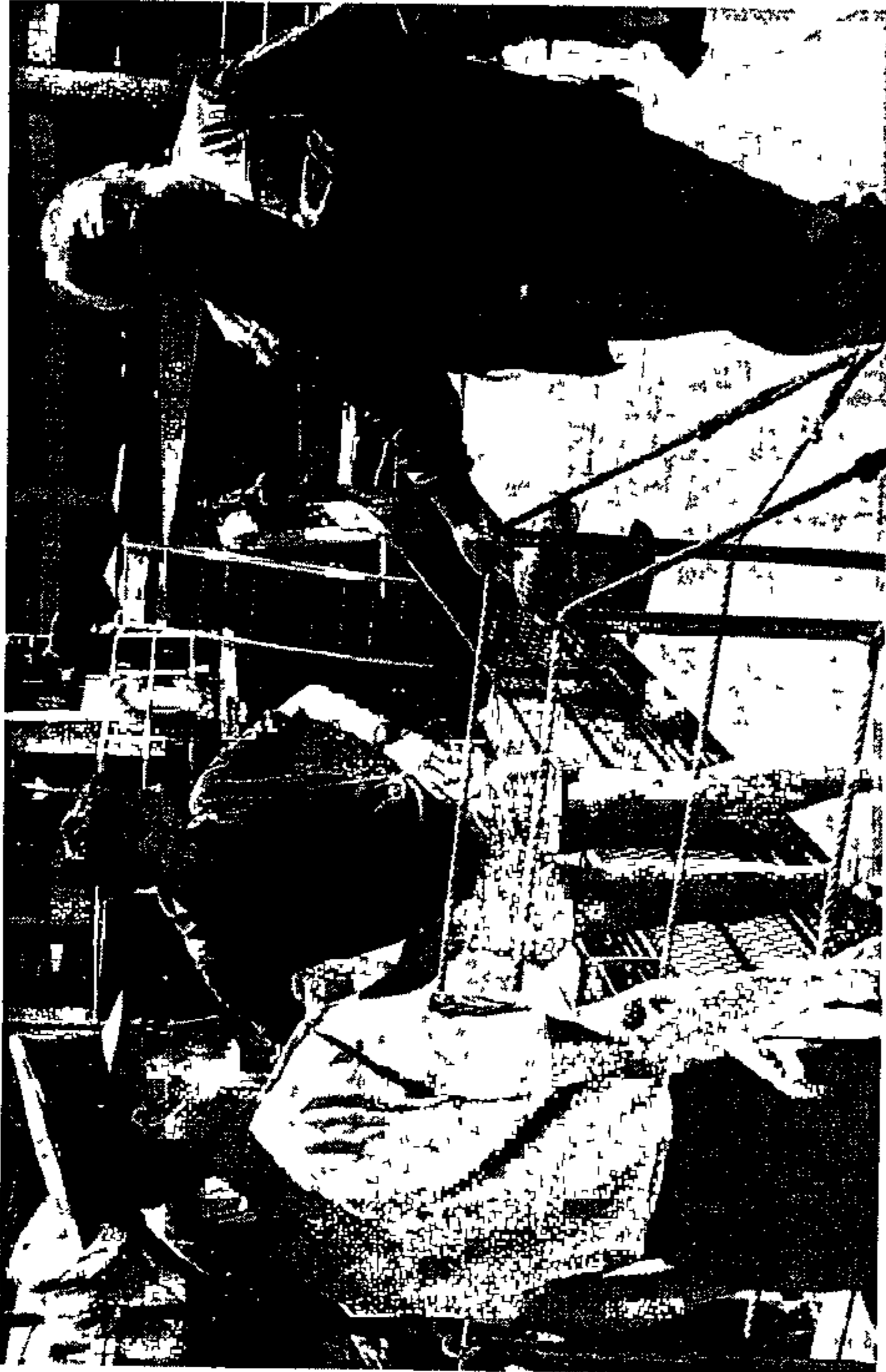
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Many weapons caches from Renamo's 16-year guerrilla war



**HISTORIC VISIT** British film-maker and human rights champion Lord Richard Attenborough paid Robben Island a "reverential" visit yesterday. He is in South Africa as a goodwill ambassador for the United Nations Children's Fund and attended the International Donors Development Conference in Cape Town. He also had discussions with Arts and Culture Minister Dr Ben Ngubane and his deputy Mrs Winnie Mandela.

Picture: BENNY GOOL

## Sir Richard on Robben Island visit

FILM director Lord Richard Attenborough, who made Gandhi and Cry Freedom, paid a "reverential" visit to Robben Island yesterday.

Sir Richard, in South Africa as a United Nations Children's Fund goodwill ambassador promoting children's rights, said going anywhere associated with President Nelson Mandela was "reverential".

The experience was similar to visiting Gandhi's home in India. Sir Richard and his wife Sheila were singled out for applause by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki at the opening of the International Donors Development Conference on Wednesday night.

He was at the conference to find out where children fitted into the RDP and hoped to involve the arts in promoting children's needs.

He discussed setting up drama workshops and film-making schemes with Arts and Culture Minister Dr Ben Ngubane and his deputy Mrs Winnie Mandela.



Dhlakama pressured into climbdown

# Military threat 'saved election'

Star 29/10/94



MAPUTO — Tough talking, backed by the threat of possible military intervention, helped persuade former rebel RENAMO leader Afonso Dhlakama to lift his eleventh-hour boycott of Mozambique's first multiparty election yesterday.

Dhlakama voted in Maputo yesterday after ending the poll boycott that had sent shock waves through southern Africa. The independent National Electoral Commission has extended the election, which began on Thursday, by a day until today.

"Dhlakama was told in no uncertain terms he was destined for the political wilderness if he didn't take part," said Greg Mills, director of studies at the South African Institute for International Affairs. "Military intervention was also a possibility. The fact that Zimbabwe had committed troops (to Mozambique) in the past was a strong incentive to Dhlakama to sit up and take notice."

See Page 2

Mills said the sending by South Africa of its Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad, with the blessing of other regional states, to pressure Dhlakama had shown the RENAMO leader the depth of anger at the boycott, which had threatened to unhinge years of work to restore peace in the impoverished southern African country.

"I am going to vote," Dhlakama told a news conference in the garden of his residence overlooking Maputo bay yesterday, 24 hours after saying the election was a sham and he wanted new polls.

Dhlakama, dapper in an immaculate black suit, white shirt and mauve silk tie, grinned and joked with aides as he voted in the grimy Polana Secondary School in the capital. The former rebel leader refused to comment to the crush of journalists on his sudden about-face after announcing his former rebel party would boycott the elections.

Mills said the decision to lift the boycott was the only course left to Dhlakama as neighbouring states, the United Nations and other world bodies

CSK

## Star 29/10/94 ◆ Dhlakama

condemned the RENAMO leader for propelling his war-weary country back into political uncertainty. The boycott decision, said Mills, announced only hours before polling began on Thursday, highlighted a deep split within RENAMO, which fought a 16-year war against Mozambique's formerly Marxist rulers of President Joaquim Chissano's FRELIMO party.

"There is a very big split within the (RENAMO) party, with Dhlakama and his advisers on the one side, and on the other a large number of party officials who realised RENAMO had very little option," said Mills. Mozambicans and African leaders had feared the boycott could lead to a renewal of the devastating 16-year civil war which ended with a peace accord between RENAMO and FRELIMO two years ago.

"We did not know what was going to happen after today. We were frightened that there would be a return to war. Now we are sure that this won't happen," election official Ruth Mondlane said. Dhlakama sped away from the voting station in a Mercedes limousine with bullet-proof windows, escorted by bodyguards on motorcycles and in accompanying cars.

Chissano welcomed Dhlakama's decision. "This is what all of us wanted," he told Reuters after a meeting with Mbeki. "This is a successful outcome of the efforts made by all of us — the international community and particularly President Mandela and Vice-President Mbeki."

Richard Cornwell, analyst at the Africa Institute, said Dhlakama's initial decision to boycott appeared aimed at creating an alibi if RENAMO did not do well in the elections. "He must have been aware that to call the boycott at such a late stage wouldn't really have a great effect if he doesn't do well he can turn around and say it was because of the boycott," said Cornwell.

"But it was a very irresponsible thing to do a leaf out of the Buthezi book of political etiquette," said Cornwell, referring to the last-minute decision by Chief Mangosuthu Buthezi to lift his Inkatha Freedom Party's boycott of South Africa's April election. The National Electoral Commission estimated that more than half the country's 6.4 million registered voters cast their ballots on Thursday. Voting had sunk to a trickle in Maputo by the time Dhlakama reached his polling station in warm, overcast weather.

But observers reported heavy turnouts in rural areas, where logistical problems and the RENAMO boycott had an effect



# Boycott of elections called off

(218) ARG 29/10/94

MAPUTO — Mozambique's former rebel leader has called off a boycott of the country's first free elections and cast his vote, bringing hope of a successful end to the peace process as officials extended the poll

"Renamo does not want to sabotage the elections and I call on all our supporters to vote," Afonso Dhlakama said

"Today is a festival for Mozambique," he added

The National Elections Commission later stated that voting would continue for a third day today, but did not directly refer to a call Mr Dhlakama made for an extension and for a fraud inquiry before the end of the election

"My victory lies in that there are elections in Mozambique," Mr Dhlakama said when he cast his vote here as reports across the country said Mozambicans were still flocking to polling stations

"Mr Dhlakama's decision has lifted a shadow," said Aldo Ajello, head of the UN operation in Mozambique

"Mozambique can enjoy a great festival of democracy"

The 41-year-old bush warrior, the main rival in the presidential race to the incumbent

■ Voting in Mozambique's general election was extended by a day after the Renamo opposition called off its boycott.

head of state and Frelimo chief Joaquim Chissano, had announced the boycott on Thursday

"I don't want to have to accept a false result, because I don't want a false president," Mr Dhlakama said then, causing consternation here and abroad.

He changed his mind after talks with Mr Ajello and ambassadors from Portugal, the United States, France, Britain, Germany and Italy, who jointly form the Supervision and Control Commission (CSC) overseeing the poll

Mr Dhlakama said he was "very satisfied" with a document signed by the CSC, which "recognises that the National Elections Commission has not been capable of providing satisfactory answers to the objections raised by Renamo"

The statement said the CSC "will make every effort to examine the complaints in thorough fashion before the end of the vote", and commended Mr Dhlakama for his change of heart "in spite of the reservations expressed in the past few days"

"Elections are a very nervous time," said British envoy Richard Edis

"I think Mr Dhlakama changed his mind after natural reflection and after receiving many messages from the international community urging him to join the voting"

The main opposition leader's decision was also welcomed by Mozambique's 10 southern and eastern African partners in the Frontline States group, currently chaired by Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe

In a statement the Frontline States, which have assumed a regional peacekeeping role, said Mr Dhlakama changed his mind "following a lengthy telephone conversation on Thursday" with Mr Mugabe

Renamo was apparently humiliated on Tuesday by implicit Frontline backing for Frelimo — which Zimbabwean troops supported during their 16-year civil war — when the group called Mr Dhlakama and Mr Chissano to a summit and warned of possible military intervention in the event of trouble — Sapa-AFP

Picture, page 4

# Chissano takes lead in elections

CT 31/10/94 (218)

MAPUTO — Incumbent President Joaquim Chissano took a substantial lead in early unofficial results from Mozambique's first multi-party elections, the state-owned news agency said yesterday.

The Mozambique news agency said Mr Chissano had received 36 348 votes to 4 446 for his rival, Renamo opposition leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama, as vote-counting after the three-day ballot got under way.

Mr Chissano's Frelimo party also held a substantial lead over Renamo, at 19 567 to 3 816.

No returns have been reported so far from Renamo strongholds in central provinces. As expected, the other 12 parties and 10 presidential candidates received few votes.

Officials have said they expect the counting of votes from 7 446 polling stations to take almost all of the two weeks permitted under election laws. Earlier Mr Chissano predicted the former rebels opposing him in elections would accept defeat if they lost, and resist the temptation to return to violence.

Speaking on Saturday, the last polling day of the nation's elections, Mr Chissano said Mr Dhlakama "has neither the moral nor material conditions, nor enough internal or external support to go back to war."

He said Mr Dhlakama, who is expected to lose the vote, "will try to justify the defeat claiming fraud or other excuses, but in the end I assume he will conform with the results."

With pollsters predicting re-election for Mr Chissano, the country's electoral commission estimated voter turnout at about 90% of the 6.4 million people registered to vote.

Mr Dhlakama called a snap boycott on the first day of voting, alleging election fraud, and only agreed to join polling on Friday.

"Renamo were trying to find arguments to justify the bad results they expect," Mr Chissano said.

He said should Mr Dhlakama reject an election defeat and turn to violence, he "is sure the people would resist".

"The Southern African states would never condone any violence. They would take appropriate measures to avoid war here, because peace in Mozambique means peace for the region," Mr Chissano said.

"If the situation deteriorates, we will not wait for UN forces to come in. We will take measures at hand nearby to prevent any escalation of war."

Mozambique's National Electoral Commission estimated that 90% of the 6.4 million voters cast their ballots — Sapa-AFP-Reuters



**COUNTING** . . . The presiding officer at a polling station in the Reed City township outside Maputo reads out the ballots yesterday as vote counting began in Mozambique after the country's first multi-party elections, which ended on Saturday. The first official results are expected in about two weeks. Electoral commission officials estimate the voter turnout at about 90%.  
Picture: AP



**AFRICA** Delay in Mozambique electic

# Vote counting begins in Mozambique

**GOOD TURNOUT** Model election  
despite Renamo crying foul over fraud:

**M**APUTO—Vote-counting in Mozambique's first multiparty elections was under way yesterday after officials reported a 90 percent turnout among the Southern African country's 6.4 million voters

Fears that the turnout would be badly affected by 75 percent illiteracy, logistical problems and an initial boycott by the main opposition Renamo movement proved unfounded in an election which international observers termed a model for Africa

"The people of Mozambique provided us a lesson in democracy. This process was a great sign for the rest of Africa," said Italian churchman Don Mateo Zuppi

He helped to negotiate the 1992 UN-supervised peace accords which ended 16 years of civil war between Afonso Dhlakama's Renamo and President Joaquim Chissano's ruling Frelimo

Voters had a choice between 12 presidential contenders and 14 political groups seeking places in the 250-seat National Assembly

Manuel Frank, spokesman for the National Electoral Commission, said that due to the laborious process of checking ballots in a country with a shattered infrastructure, complete re-

sults might not be known for two weeks

Fears of a return to war emerged when Dhlakama cried fraud just hours before polls opened on Thursday and called on his supporters to boycott the election

This sent tremors through southern Africa, whose leaders feared a repeat of the situation in Angola where Unita rebels rejected defeat in 1992 elections and resumed a bitter bush war

But Dhlakama reversed his decision on Friday under intense international pressure—and a defiance of the boycott by many Renamo members

Diplomats said they expected him to repeat his fraud allegations before and after the results were announced

But they believed his assurances that he would not return to war

"He never questioned the Rome (ceasefire) agreements," said Zuppi, who played a key role, with Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, in persuading the Renamo chief to lift the boycott

Chissano and Frelimo, which has ruled since independence from Portugal in 1975, was tipped to win the elections, with Renamo picking up votes in the populous north and centre of the country

"We will be working hard in the coming days to ensure the results will be accepted by all parties and that it will be judged free and fair," said Zuppi — Sapa-Reuter

### On the edge



**Making history . . . a National Election Commission official displays a ballot paper to other officials in Maputo yesterday to confirm the vote in Mozambique's general election**  
PICTURE GARY BERNARD

## Chissano appears well in the lead

Star 31/10/94

BY DUNCAN GUY  
STAR FOREIGN SERVICE

Maputo — Mozambique's National Election Commission should be able to begin publishing election results towards the end of the week, commission president Brazao Mazula said at a press conference yesterday.

He confirmed that around 90 percent of the war-battered country's 6.7 million registered voters had cast their ballots.

When the Star Foreign Service visited polling stations in Maputo yesterday, counting was in progress for the presidential ballot, with President Joaquim Chissano well in the lead.

Sapa-Reuter reports that Chissano took a substantial lead in early unofficial results yesterday.

The national news agency AIM said Chissano had received 36 348 votes to 4 446 for his rival, Renamo opposition leader Afonso Dhlakama, as counting got underway.

(218)



# Frelimo predicts it will win Mozambican election

(218)

ARL 11/11/94

MAPUTO. — Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party says early unofficial results show it will win the country's first multi-party election with just over 50 percent of the vote

A Frelimo projection yesterday said parliamentary results so far indicated the party would poll 50,22 percent against 31,3 percent for Renamo

It gave Frelimo leader President Joaquim Chissano 60,71 percent and Renamo chief Afonso Dhlakama 29,64 percent in the presidential poll

It was not clear how Frelimo arrived at the projection.

Final results are not expected for two weeks and political analysts said it was far too early to predict a solid trend, especially in the north and central regions where Renamo had traditionally commanded support

Voting passed relatively peacefully, but diplomats and analysts say the potential for violence is high in the impoverished nation as it tries to heal

the wounds of civil war

Mr Chissano, in a front-page interview with the state-run Noticias newspaper, urged Mozambicans to stay calm

"I appeal to the public not to let yourselves be carried away by speculation which might lead to discouragement or to fears about your safety," he said

Mr Dhlakama caused consternation when he called for a boycott of the election just as voting was about to start

Mr Dhlakama, who said the elections were rigged, later lifted the boycott after pressure from Mozambique's southern African neighbours.

United Nations special envoy Aldo Ajello has been consulting both Mr Chissano and Mr Dhlakama to try to ensure post-election peace

An estimated 90 percent of the 6,4 million registered voters voted, an extremely high number for a country with high illiteracy and transport and communications devastated by civil war — Reuter

# Frelimo ahead in votes

Sowetan 11/11/94

**M**APUTO — Mozambique's governing party has taken a substantial lead in the country's first multiparty election, according to an unofficial survey yesterday by the United Nations.

President Joaquim Chissano and his Mozambique Liberation Front, Frelimo, has just over 50 percent of the vote, based on results randomly selected from about 400 polling stations nationwide, a UN source said.

Frelimo's main opposition, the former rebel Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo, has about 30 percent of the vote, according to the survey.

The UN has not yet received reports from northern areas considered Renamo strongholds. But the source said the trend is unlikely to change even if

Renamo sweeps those areas, meaning Frelimo will likely win a majority of the 250 parliamentary seats and Chissano will reach the 50 percent threshold in presidential voting to avoid a runoff election.

The official count by the National Election Commission is expected late this week. Poor roads and communications make counting a slow process.

The UN conducted its survey to determine whether it might have to plan for a presidential run-off vote. More than 6 000 UN peacekeepers and administrators are helping to provide security and prepare for the election.

Voting on Thursday, Friday and Saturday was the climax of two years of preparation that began when Frelimo and Renamo signed a 1992 treaty ending their 15-year civil war.

Some 600 000 people have died because of fighting, famine and disease before the truce was struck and the country's economy was destroyed. The election is seen as a chance to begin rebuilding and reform.

Election officials said 80 to 90 percent of the 6,3 million registered voters went to the polls.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama was making plans to meet Chissano yesterday, an aide said.

"Renamo and Frelimo are the two major parties," said Raul Domingos, a top adviser to Dhlakama. "We need to discuss the situation of the country."

Domingos would not say whether the two leaders will discuss the election results.

Dhlakama has raised fears of renewed conflict with a last-minute protest last Thursday that the election was open to fraud, but he called off the failed boycott the next day.

Maputo newspapers reported yesterday that Dhlakama met with Brazao Mazula, head of the election commission, and pledged to accept the results if the commission deemed the vote free and fair.

— Sapa-AP

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— Sapa-AP

## FREE AND FAIR Chissano is unlikely to face run-off election:



# Mozambique poll results trickle in

Star 2/1/94

## ■ STAR FOREIGN SERVICE

Maputo — Mozambique's National Elections Commission has been slow in issuing results from last week's presidential and parliamentary elections

Yesterday, officials from Maputo travelled to the country's nine other provincial capitals to fetch ballot papers

Reuter reports that with a tiny percentage of votes counted, the ruling Frelimo party has already claimed to be 50 percent ahead in unofficial counts (218)

A summary of unofficial results from 355 polling stations, out of more than 7 400, gave President Joaquim Chissano 190 276 votes in the presidential ballot

His nearest rival, Renamo's Afonso Dhlakama, had 75 731 votes in the presidential race.

In the party ballot for the 250-seat national assembly, Frelimo had polled 168 940 and Renamo 88 754.

But the majority of results available so far come from Frelimo strongholds in the south and in the far north

Dhlakama is winning by a two to one margin in Beira, and by an even larger margin elsewhere in his home province of Sofala

The patchy results available from Nampula show Dhlakama and Renamo winning in coastal areas, but Chissano and Frelimo doing well in the interior.

Rioting has broken out in several parts of the country as polling station staff demand more money from the local offices of the electoral administration technical secretariat.

# UN sees no sign of fraud in Mozambique poll — official

(218) AR 4 3/11/94

## The Argus Foreign Service

MAPUTO. — The 2 300 United Nations observers in Mozambique saw no signs of fraud or serious irregularities in the country's first multiparty elections, held last week, says UN special representative Aldo Ajello

It remains unlikely that the two main contenders, President Joaquim Chissano and Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama, will meet for negotiations until final results have been announced

It is expected that Renamo,

which is likely to be a large opposition party, could be offered a role in the country's administration

While the days of ballot counting have been marked by demonstrations as officials demand more pay, Mr Ajello yesterday described the three days of voting as "among the best-organised of elections in developing countries, and certainly in Southern Africa"

He said the UN observation of the polls "would not support any possible claim of fraud or intimidation or any other patterns of incidents that could

have affected the credibility of the elections" The UN had received "no information about any major irregularity, incident or breach of the electoral law which could have adversely affected the validity of the elections"

The UN will give its final verdict only when the counting of votes is over and the results are announced, at the earliest later this week

The local media have conducted their own tallies at 25 percent of polling stations, showing Mr Chissano ahead of Mr Dhlakama by 851 773 votes

to 409 925 in the presidential election

In the parliamentary election, these polling stations show 700 205 votes for Frelimo against 409 953 for Renamo

But this sample of polling stations is focused on the easily accessible southern four provinces where Mr Chissano and Frelimo enjoy an overwhelming advantage

Meanwhile, riots and other disturbances by polling station staff demanding more money for their four days of work are spreading across the country



# Pressure is on for Mozambican unity

HARARE — Zimbabwe, wary of a fresh civil war breaking out in neighbouring Mozambique, had increased pressure on President Joaquim Chissano to form a post-election unity government, official Zimbabwean sources said yesterday.

"We are giving strong advice that it is in Mozambique's national interest that Frelimo (the Mozambique Liberation Front) and Renamo (the Mozambique National Resistance) work together in a government of national unity," a source said.

Chissano and his ruling Frelimo party, which has governed Mozambique since it gained independence from Portugal in 1975, are expected to retain power after the general election held late last month.

His main rival, Afonso Dhlakama of Renamo, which waged a 16-year guerrilla fight against Frelimo until 1992, is seen trailing second in the poll. (218)

The first official results of the election showed Chissano and his ruling party well ahead of his former rebel challengers.

The National Elections Commission released results on Monday from more than 2 000 of the country's 7 444 polling stations. Chissano had 62% so far in the presidential race, compared to 26% for Dhlakama.

In the separate vote for parliament, Frelimo led with 52%. Renamo, had 30%.

Unofficial results compiled by various news agencies since the October 27-28 election, have also shown Chissano and Frelimo leading.

Final results, in which some 90% of the 6.4-million registered electorate voted, are expected some time next week.

Many ordinary Mozambicans and governments around the region fear Renamo

could resume its war if it is left out of new power structures in the country.

"What we (countries in the region) are saying is that Frelimo must not leave it to chance: a government of national unity will help Mozambique's reconciliation process," a Zimbabwean foreign affairs official said. 9/11/97

He said Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, who left Harare for a conference in France at the weekend, was co-ordinating a regional campaign for a unity government in Mozambique.

The idea, the official said, was backed strongly by SA, Malawi and Zambia.

"Everyone is tired of war," he said.

Three members of the SA Cabinet, Defence Minister Joe Modise, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad, flew to Maputo yesterday for meetings with top political leaders and UN officials overseeing Mozambique's peace process.

The Foreign Ministry said from Pretoria the ministers would "reaffirm SA's commitment to the peace process and economic reconstruction of Mozambique".

Landlocked Zimbabwe, which has an eastern frontier with Mozambique stretching hundreds of kilometres, backed Frelimo militarily against Renamo and still maintains a token troop presence in the Beira Corridor — one of its key trade routes to the Indian Ocean.

"Although we have threatened to intervene again if Renamo is foolish enough to launch another conflict, deep down no one here is keen to get involved and we are working for unity in Mozambique," another source said — Sapa-Reuter.

# Frelimo win likely, but Renamo 'a major force'

MAPUTO — Mozambique's first multi-party elections have launched the former rebel Renamo movement as a major political force, partial results indicate.

But results reported so far also suggest the nation of 16 million people is divided along regional lines that reflect a mix of political and ethnic loyalties.

With one-third of the ballots counted from the October 27-29 poll, Presi-

dent Joaquim Chissano and his Frelimo party, which has ruled since 1975 independence, look set for victory.

But the government's support has been mainly restricted to the south and north. Renamo has mustered substantial support in its traditional central strongholds.

An anti-government Maputo weekly, Savana, noted that Renamo, once derided as a band of terrorists by many Mozambicans and accused by Western

governments of wartime atrocities, is now the second most powerful political force in the land.

Most analysts say that final results, expected to be announced this weekend, will give Dr Chissano a clear victory in the presidential race over his main rival, Renamo leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama.

But Frelimo is expected to claim only a narrow win for the 250-seat National Assembly, prompting un-

ease about divisions after the elections.

The worst fears for many Mozambicans are that Mr Dhlakama will not accept defeat gracefully, or that geographical divisions will create further problems.

"I just want peace. Everyone should accept the election results," said Maputo resident Ms Lana Banze.

In Mr Chissano's home province of

Gaza in the south, he won 95% of the votes against less than 2% for Mr Dhlakama.

In the far northern provinces, independent electoral commissioners, journalists and Frelimo are predicting big victories for the ruling party.

But in the populous central provinces of Sofala, Manica and Zambezia, Frelimo itself is predicting electoral disaster — Sapa-Reuter

(218) or 10/11/94



# Mozambique results delayed

**DUNCAN GUY**  
The Argus Foreign Service

218

MAPUTO. — The official results of Mozambique's elections will be released next week and not this weekend, according to the national elections commission (CNE)

Sunday — 15 days after the last day of voting last month — had been the target for the final, official announcement of both the party and presidential ballots.

"They don't want to make mistakes"

The slowness has also allowed time for parties, notably the former

rebel movement Renamo, to come up with allegations of fraud and irregularities which earlier this week were given attention by a high-level South African delegation

So far the ruling Frelimo party is well in the lead in the 28 percent of the party ballot already counted, doing particularly well in the southern provinces Renamo has the upper hand in the central and northern provinces

In the presidential election, President Joaquim Chissano appears to be well ahead of Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

# Spoils delay Mozambican poll results

Sowetan 11/11/94

■ **BALLOT BRAWL** Parties complain

legible voting papers were thrown out:

**M**APUTO — A large number of spoiled ballots was delaying the counting in Mozambique's first multiparty elections, the National Election Commission said yesterday.

The ruling Frelimo and President Joaquim Chissano were leading, according to partial results compiled by the commission and news agencies from the October 27-29 parliamentary and presidential elections.

The commission had planned to make final results public next Tuesday but said yesterday the announcement would be delayed indefinitely.

Officials said they must review some 250 000 votes that were declared invalid during counting at more than 7 000 polling stations.

Political parties have complained that ballots that should have been counted were thrown out, and election officials indicated they would accept many of the invalidated ballots.

Voters had the choice of marking their ballots with a cross or a thumb dipped in ink. Some voters used both methods and their ballots were invalidated even in cases where two marks indicated a preference for a single can-

didate

In other cases, voters made their cross over pictures of their candidates instead of in the boxes where they should have indicated their choices. Such ballots were accepted at some polling stations but rejected at others.

The elections commission has not released results since Monday, when its count of about 30 percent of the ballots showed Chissano with 62 percent of the vote, compared with 26 percent for his nearest challenger, former rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama.

Chissano's Frelimo led with 52 percent in the parliamentary race while Dhlakama's Renamo had 30 percent of the vote.

(218)  
Unofficial results compiled by various news agencies also have shown Chissano and Frelimo in the lead. But Renamo was gaining enough support to be a viable check on Frelimo, which had enjoyed absolute power since independence from Portuguese colonial rule in 1975.

The vote came two years after Frelimo and Renamo signed a treaty ending 15 years of civil war that devastated the southeast African nation, leaving it dependent on foreign money for most of its budget. — Sapa-AP



# Please don't send us back to land of war?

Star 15/11/94

The induna fetched a bench and invited us to be seated under an enormous tree in front of his hut.

Then the men arrived with stools, found a spot to the left of us and waited silently while the women stretched out grass mats on the ground and settled down with their babies. Behind us, about a hundred youngsters gazed in the dust. This was the scene at Rhlulani Village, in the Mhala district of Gazankulu, when I went to meet the people who did not

want to return to Mozambique

I was accompanied by two representatives of Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF). Carlotia Mtebule, the retired director of nursing in Gazankulu who now works with Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) and who was to be our interpreter, and Stuart Highton, the organisation's logistical officer.

MSF, a non-profit international body providing medical aid to people in crisis situations, is working with the United Nations Organisation to repatriate Mozambicans

They had suffered greatly but they had found peace in their new country — South Africa. Now they wanted their position legalised — and to be left alone (218)

They had heard that when white Portuguese Mozambicans came to South Africa after independence in 1978, the government had accepted them as immigrants. Could not the new Government of National Unity accept them, too? They had, after all, been here many years.

A young man entered the debate. "We Mozambicans are hard-working," he said. "We want jobs but we are not allowed to work."

## Donkey carts

"I can make carts, the kind donkeys pull. I know I could sell them, but if I chop a branch off a tree I am arrested. We can make bowls and spoons and many things of wood, but we have no resources."

A middle-aged man said food aid to the refugees had been stopped, but though they had no jobs, papers or money, they were not starving. They managed to survive on what they grew and the little money they earned working for local people. He, for instance, had been paid to plough a field. What he earned, he shared.

A man shook his head. They had heard, he said, of the land mines. His group had come from an area where there had been fierce fighting. If they went back, where would the children play? How could the women gather firewood or fetch water? Were they going home to die or to be maimed?

And what of the children at school in South Africa? Some would be writing matric soon. They did not want their education disrupted. They wanted

them to learn English.

An older woman said her daughters had married South Africans. If she returned home alone, who would help her? Another woman stood up to speak. "We do not listen to the nasty things people say about us," she said. "But we are afraid of the rumours. They say that soldiers will come with trucks, surround our village and take us back to Mozambique by force. We do not know if this is true. But we also do not know if it is untrue. We are afraid. We do not sleep at nights. There is always fear in our stomachs."

Would it not be better if they returned to Mozambique with the United Nations so that they could be comfortably settled and cared for? The UN had offered to transport their possessions and to give them food aid until they were re-established.

"No!" said a tall young woman. "We came here with nothing. If we are taken away by force, we will go with nothing. We may have to accept our fate, but we will not go willingly."

Calmly, dispassionately, the villagers in conclave made their points. After years of living in the area, they want to be accepted as fellow South Africans. They do not want to be uprooted again.

The induna spoke again. He had been back to Mozambique and found the country changed. The drought there would make it impossible to grow crops. He had priced mealie meal and found it cost much, much more than in South Africa. Here, in his village, their ground nuts, cow peas and mealies were flourishing.

"If we go back, we will starve," he said. "Please. Do not force us to return. Here we are at peace. There we do not know what awaits us."

though the programme is nearing to a close, the number of refugees willing to return has dwindled to a trickle.

In Mhala, particularly, the Mozambicans — many of whom have been there between six and nine years — are carrying on as usual, delivering babies, planting crops, burying their dead.

They were expecting us. The people of Rhlulani had agreed to tell us why they wanted to stay — and their main reason is fear.

The grey-haired induna opened the proceedings with a courteous welcome. They had had rain, he said, but water was still a problem. The women had to walk 4 km to the nearest tap to fetch supplies.

"But we do not complain," he said. "We are happy here. The people of Gazankulu have been good to us. They gave us a place to stay when we fled the bullets."

Maybe it would be easier in Mozambique? No, said the induna. Much as he and the villagers wanted to return to the land of their ancestors, things there were different now. They knew of the Peace Accord, but what would happen if Renamo, like Unita in Angola, refused to accept the election result?

Someone said Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama had been quoted on radio as promising that when he came into power he would "chase the Shangaans from Gaza Province back to Gazankulu." How could they be sure Renamo soldiers would not be waiting for them in Mozambique?

A woman took up from the induna. "We do not like to talk about what has been," she said. "When we ran away from the bullets, we left behind the bodies of our people who were killed. We did not bury them. Their bones have been bleached by the sun. How can we go back there now?"

# Renamo 'occupation' feared

MAPUTO — Mozambique's former rebels are preparing to occupy the port city of Beira and the northern town of Nampula because they appear to be losing the first free elections, a government official charged yesterday.

"It seems that demobilised soldiers of Renamo are returning to their bases, with arms, while armed groups have been spotted" around Nampula, provincial governor Alfredo Gamito said

Renamo was also planning to occupy Beira, Mozambique's second city and the stronghold of former rebel leader Afonso Dhlakama, sources in the ruling Frelimo party said

UN officials overseeing the peace process have expressed scepticism over the reports.

Dhlakama rejected allegations that he was preparing to return to war and said they were lies fabricated by Frelimo

"It's a disinformation campaign by the Frelimo party," he said

"I don't know if (President) Joaquim Chissano is behind this, but I

think Frelimo is afraid, because despite fraud in the elections, Renamo has won a strong position in parliament"

An alleged Renamo document reprinted in the pro-Frelimo Domingo newspaper on Sunday described plans for reorganising Dhlakama's ex-guerrilla forces to contest their forecast defeat in the historic elections, held on October 27-29 under a peace accord ending more than 16 years of civil war

Dhlakama said "Perhaps Frelimo thinks one day we will get irritated and go back to the bush, but I want to assure Mozambicans, we are intelligent, we can negotiate"

Gamito said the Nampula provincial government and police and UN peacekeeping forces were monitoring developments

The latest poll results indicated that Chissano would maintain his lead Officials said final results would be announced by tomorrow night

Figures released so far give Chissano a clear lead in the presidential poll and his ruling Frelimo party a

narrower advantage in the race for the 250-seat parliament

Renamo and Dhlakama were placed second in both presidential and parliamentary contests

Independent National Electoral Commission head Brazao Mazula said the deadline for announcing the results had been extended by two days because of deliberations over a large number of spoiled ballots

The other 10 presidential candidates and 12 parties or coalitions picked up only a handful of votes

Mazula said that by Sunday night Frelimo, which has ruled since independence in 1975, had garnered more than 1,73-million votes, or nearly 46% in the parliamentary contest Renamo had 1,41-million, or 37%

A small coalition, the Democratic Union, had picked up just more than the 5% needed to win seats in parliament

In the presidential elections, Chissano won nearly 2,2-million votes, or 55% Dhlakama trailed with 1,3-million votes, or 33% — Sapa-AFP-Reuter

BIDAY 15/11/94

(218)



# Chissano's Frelimo squeak in

**FRELIMO** leader Joaquim Chissano was elected Mozambique president in the first free elections to be held after a brutal civil war, electoral officials announced yesterday.

Frelimo won 44,3 percent of the votes against 37,7 percent won by Renamo, the National Elections Commission said.

It said Chissano won the presidential race outright after the first round of elections with 53,3 percent of the votes.

Chissano's main rival, Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama, scored 33,7 percent of the vote.

The results from the October poll were originally scheduled to

be announced on November 16, but were delayed because of "technical" problems.

Of the 12 other parties that took part in the election, only the Uniao Democratica (UD) won more than the five percent necessary for parliamentary representation, tallying 5,1 percent.

Frelimo will now, for

the first time since independence in 1975, have to face up to a strong opposition in parliament.

Mozambique's police were placed on full alert on Friday as the country braced for the announcement of the final results.

Renamo urged its members to accept the results with calm

yesterday.

Though Renamo leaders continued to allege election fraud, Dhlakama promised to accept defeat in the interests of continued peace.

Renamo spokesperson Rahil Khan told reporters: "It's disappointing to lose because of fraud,

but we will still celebrate a victory, that we have brought democracy to Mozambique."

The former South African-backed Renamo, renowned for terrorist tactics during the 16-year civil war, claims it forced the ex-communist Frelimo to accept a multiparty regime. — Sapa-AFP.

# Test of peace faces Mozambique

**A RUINED economy and lack of experience in democracy are problems, writes Judith Matloff**

**M**ultiparty elections have brought Mozambique back from the depths of civil war, but huge problems loom for a desperately poor country with no experience in democracy.

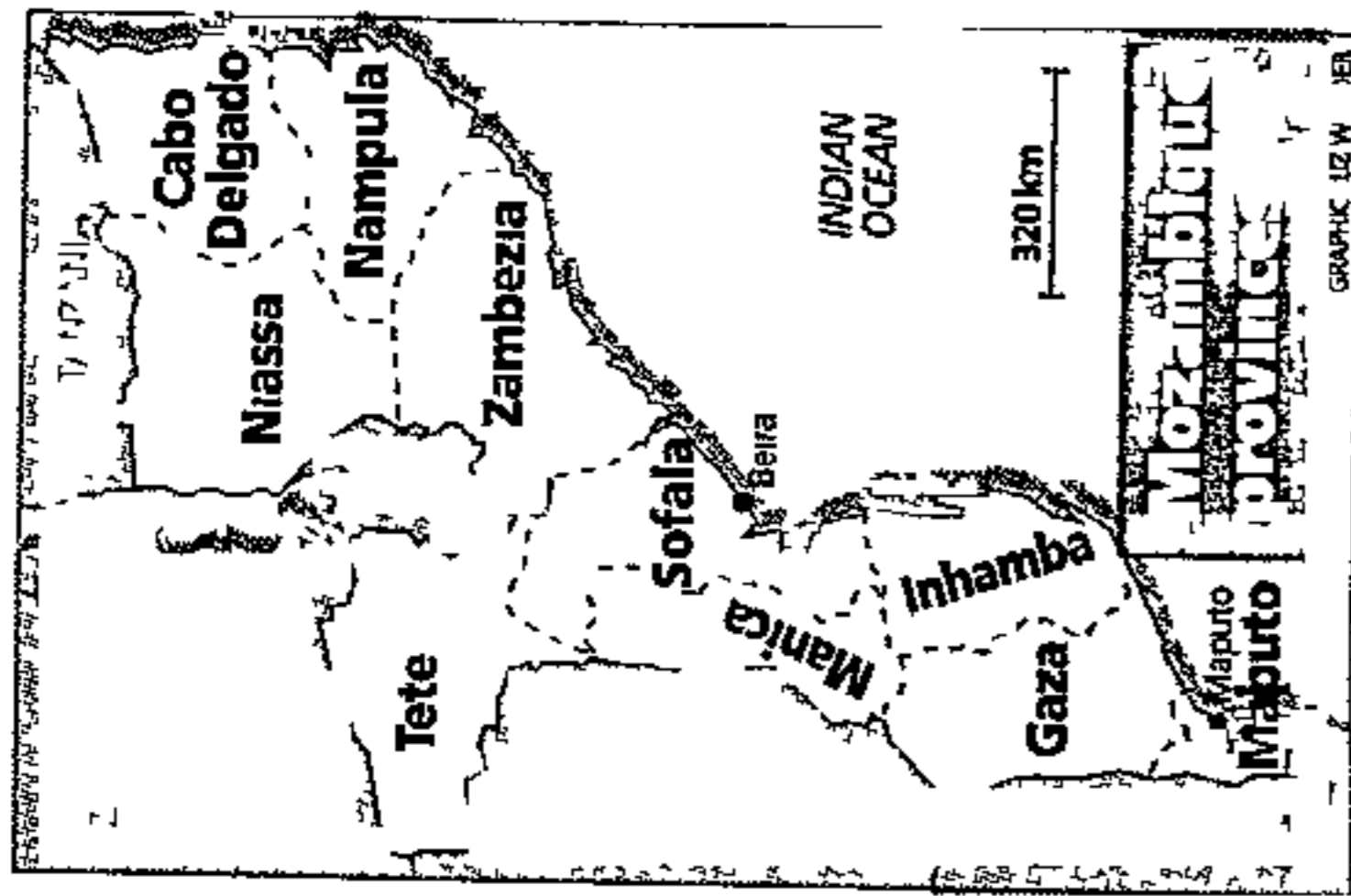
The former rebel movement Renamo's acceptance of its defeat by President Joaquim Chissano and his ruling Frelimo party in last month's general elections has consolidated 1992 peace accords.

It also aligned Mozambique with the southern African fraternity which has made peaceful transitions to pluralism — South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Zambia, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

But with the economy devastated by drought and nearly 20 years of war and failed socialist experiments, Mozambique must compete with richer, more strategic neighbours for the foreign aid on which it depends.

Doubts also loom over how Frelimo, which has ruled since independence from Portugal in 1975, will deal with political opposition and deepening regional and ethnic divisions.

"War is unlikely now that (Renamo leader Afonso) Dhlakama has accepted the results," said one Western diplomat. "The elections were just one stage. Hard work lies ahead."



clear what the role of the new 250-seat parliament will be. Frelimo has 129 seats — a slim majority if, as most expect, Renamo and the small UD (Democratic Union) present a unified front with their respective 112 and nine seats.

Chissano, who won 53 percent of the votes for the presidency over Dhlakama's 33 percent, has resisted international pressure to form a coalition government akin to South Africa's. The notion is unpalatable to party hardliners.

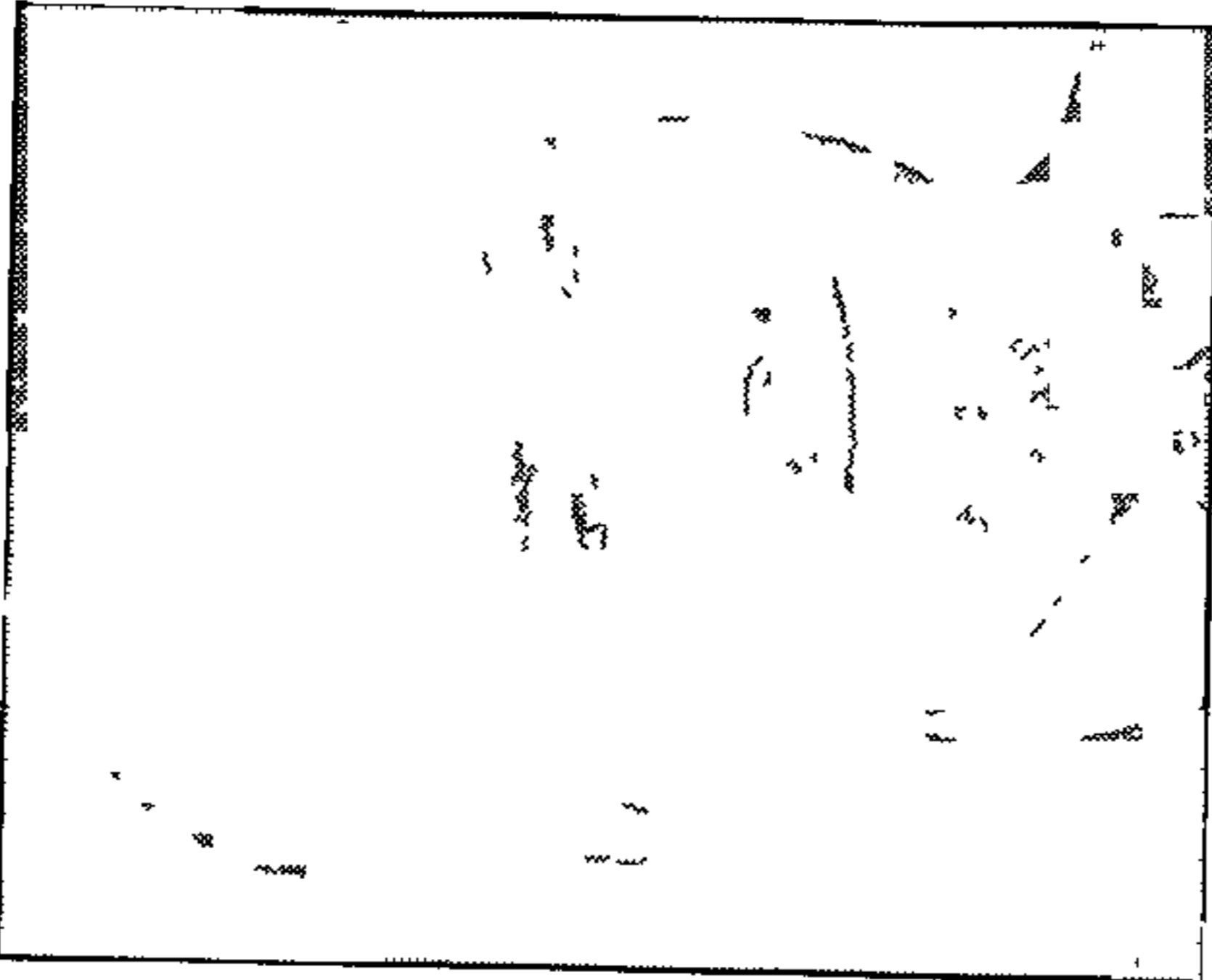
In Saturday's victory speech, Chissano said the opposition was best represented in parliament and society. But he said he would open dialogue with other parties to form a "competent and efficient" government.

Diplomats say this could mean including opposition figures in the Cabinet due to be formed by mid-December, though probably not Dhlakama himself.

Dhlakama appeared on Saturday to accept gracefully his role as chief opposition leader. But he would undoubtedly be less sanguine if Chissano failed to appoint Renamo governors to at least some of the central and northern provinces where the party did well — Tete, Nampula, Zambezia, Sofala and Manica.

A strong regional divide between the two parties' traditional strongholds — Frelimo swept the south, including the capital Maputo — has raised concerns about ethnic splits deepening.

"A big problem we now face is building up trust," said Aldo Ajello, the UN special representative who has overseen the peace accords. — Sapa-Reuter



**Joaquim Chissano ... will open dialogue with other parties to form a "competent and efficient" government.**



**Afonso Dhlakama ... his acceptance of the election results reduces the risk of war.**

Stars 22/11/94



*Renamo accepts result*

# Chissano's poll win now official

## ■ STAR FOREIGN SERVICE

Maputo — Almost three weeks after the polls closed, Mozambique's Independent National Elections Commission (CNE) finally announced the definitive results of last month's general elections at midday on Saturday.

It was something of an anti-climax, since it had been possible to collate results from the notices posted at polling stations and dozens of election offices throughout the country.

The CNE confirmed that Joaquim Chissano has been re-elected as president, and his Frelimo party has an overall majority in parliament.

Chissano won 2,6 million votes (53,3 percent) to 1,7 million (33,7 percent) for Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the former rebel movement Renamo. The rest of the votes were divided among 10 minor candidates.

In the parliamentary election, Frelimo, with 44,3 percent of the vote, won 129 seats. Renamo, with 37,8 percent, took 112 seats. The Democratic Union (UD), a coalition of three small and virtually unknown opposition parties, picked up 5,2 percent, just enough to secure parliamentary representation. It has nine seats.

Frelimo thus has an overall majority in parliament of just eight, which should guarantee some cliffhanging votes.

The UD's surprisingly good showing is due perhaps to its

good fortune in coming last in the lottery for places on the ballot paper.

Chissano occupied the bottom position on the presidential ballot paper, and had repeatedly told his supporters to "vote for the bottom name". It seems that a sizeable minority of illiterate Frelimo supporters mistakenly voted for the UD on the parliamentary ballot paper 21/11/94.

In a broadcast victory speech Chissano said he would listen to "other thoughtful voices" before appointing a prime minister and other government members.

He stressed that "competence and efficiency" would be the key criteria in selecting them.

## Dignified status

Chissano is unlikely to invite Renamo members into the government. He made it clear that the government would implement Frelimo's programme.

He did not mention Dhlakama by name, but stressed that the runner-up in the presidential election should be given "a dignified status".

Dhlakama told a press conference that although he did not think the elections had been fair, they were the only ones possible, and so he accepted the outcome.

"Renamo accepts the results," he declared categorically, thus ending speculation that he intended to imitate Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi and return to the bush.

# Cahora to supply <sup>ARG.</sup> Zimbabwe

26/27/94  
218

MAPUTO. — An agreement signed yesterday calls for the war-damaged Cahora Bassa hydro-electric dam to be refurbished with money from some of its power being sold to neighbouring Zimbabwe.

The dam, situated on the Zambezi River in western Mozambique, was a showcase project for the region when it opened in 1975.

Built by Portugal before it ended colonial rule in Mozambique that year, Cahora Bassa became a target of rightist rebels in civil war that broke out in 1977.

By 1983, Mozambique had to import power from South Africa to replace the lost capacity at Cahora Bassa. Now, the dam generates less than two percent of its 2 000 megawatt capacity.

Under the agreement signed yesterday, Norway would provide financing worth \$24,5 million (about R85,75 million) to construct transmission lines to Zimbabwe. The project would allow Zimbabwe to draw 500 megawatts from Cahora Bassa.

With new stability in southern Africa after South Africa's April elections and democratic votes in Malawi and Mozambique, the Cahora Bassa project is considered a key to spurring regional development. — Sapa-AP.

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# Renamo

walks

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out of

(218)

# assembly

MAPUTO. — Newly-elected opposition lawmakers from Mozambique's former guerilla movement Renamo and another party walked out of the new parliament's opening session yesterday after the vote to elect the new speaker.

Speaking for Renamo, whose members are in parliament for the first time after 16 years of war against the former Frelimo government, Mr Manuel Pereira said: "This is not the parliament we hoped for."

Renamo and UD (Democratic Union) deputies to the Assembly of the Republic (parliament) left the room before the speaker elected by the Frelimo majority, Mr Eduardo Mulembwe, was formally appointed.

The opposition deputies, who had wanted a secret vote, refused to participate in the open vote to elect a speaker.

The decision whether to use a secret vote for electing the president to parliament was itself taken by open vote.

Mr Pereira objected that "Frelimo's majority seems to mean any idea of Renamo's will not succeed." He added "This shocks us."

October's first post-war elections gave Frelimo a simple majority with 129 seats. Renamo got 112 seats and nine seats went to the UD.

President Joaquim Chissano earlier ushered in a new era of Mozambican politics by formally opening the country's first multi-party parliament and calling on the 250 deputies to work together for the good of the nation.

In a conciliatory speech, Mr Chissano told the deputies: "Mutual respect is the first stage of tolerance, without which pluralism is impossible," he said. — Sapa-Reuter

# Chissano's new term of peace

MAPUTO — Joaquim Chissano, Mozambique's president since 1986, was sworn in for a new five-year term yesterday with a pledge that peace would last in the war-weary southern African country.

"This spectre of war has been removed. Peace has come to stay," he told a crowd of thousands in Maputo's Independence Square, among them his former civil war rival Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the main opposition RENAMO party.

He also made a plea for reconciliation: "This is a time for us to continue healing all our wounds and overcome distrust. We must know how to begin a new relationship,

without preconceptions and without rancour. We must bury forever our hatreds and renounce vindictiveness once and for all."

At Thursday's formal opening of parliament Chissano said the 16-year war between his ruling FRELIMO party and RENAMO was over and that now was the time for fruitful dialogue.

But soon after his conciliatory remarks, RENAMO walked out of the sitting in protest at the procedure for electing the parliamentary chairman.

Chissano won the October presidential poll with 53 percent of the 5.4 million votes cast, against Dhlakama's 34 percent.

The presidential and parliamentary elections followed a 1992 peace agreement between FRELIMO and RENAMO. FRELIMO, the formerly Marxist party in power since independence from Portugal in 1975, won an eight-seat majority in the 250-seat parliament. (218)

Chissano stood to attention on the podium as the national anthem was played and the national flag was raised. Later there was a 21-gun salute. The ceremony was broadcast live on national radio and television.

Portugal's Mario Soares, Botswana's Ketumile Masire, Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe, Soa Tome and Principe's Miguel Trovoada, Angola's

Jose Eduardo dos Santos and President Mandela were among heads of state in Maputo for the ceremony.

In Thursday's parliamentary session, the FRELIMO candidate for the chairman's post, Eduardo Mulembewe, won all the votes cast. RENAMO and other opposition parties did not vote because of a dispute over procedure.

Chissano declared Mulembewe chairman but RENAMO legislator Manuel Perreira objected that the vote was invalid.

RENAMO and Democratic Union deputies then walked out of parliament and did not return for the official ceremony to swear in Mulembewe — Sapa-Reuter.



ARK  
17-18/12/94  
213

# Chissano's peace plea marred by walkout

MAPUTO — Joaquim Chissano, Mozambique's president since 1986, has been sworn in for a new five-year term with a pledge that peace would last in the war-weary country

"This spectre of war has been removed. Peace has come to stay," he told a crowd of thousands in Maputo's Independence Square, among them his former civil war rival Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the main opposition Renamo party

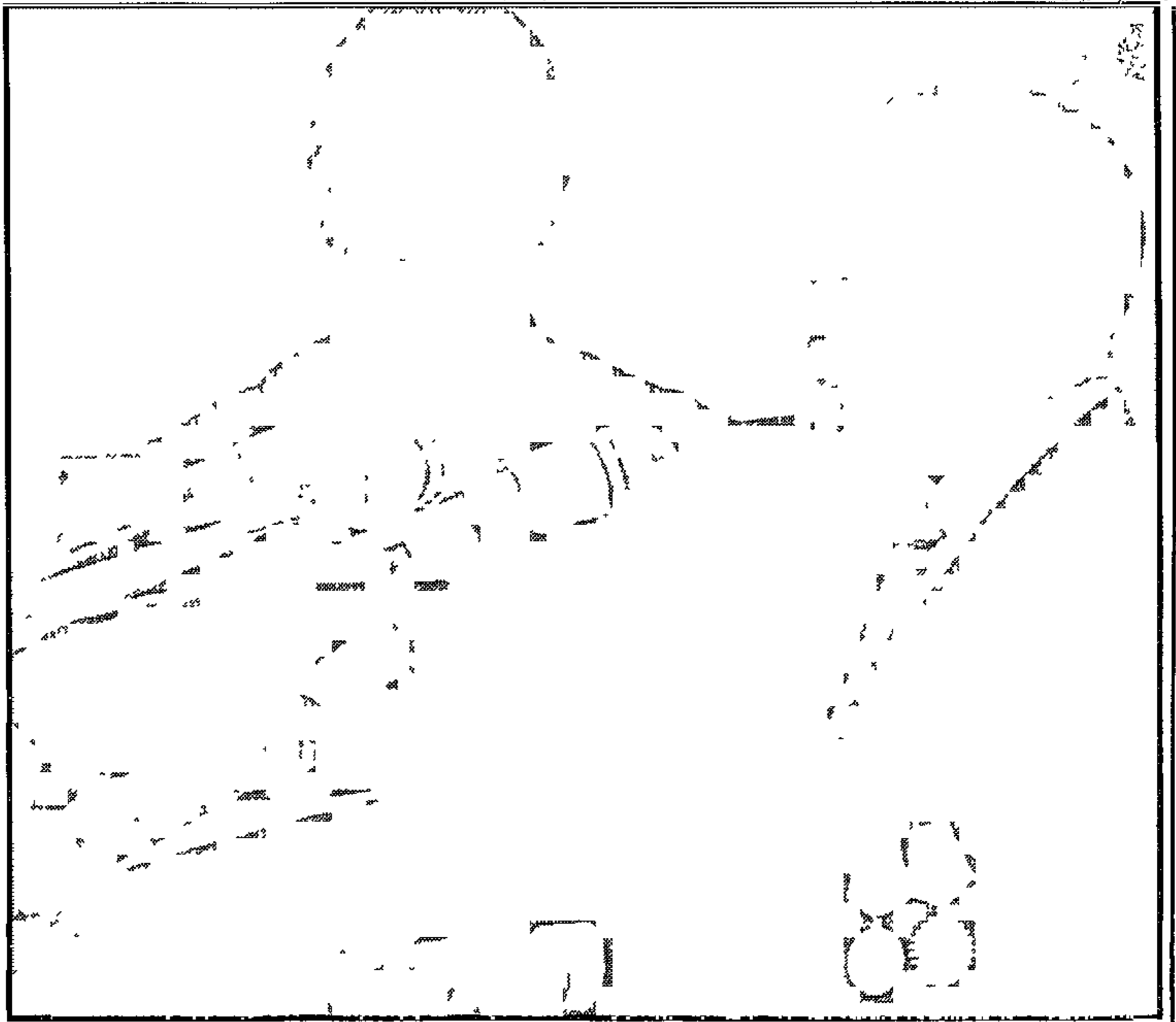
He also made a plea for reconciliation

"This is a time for us to continue healing all our wounds and overcome distrust. We must know how to begin a new relationship, without preconceptions and without rancour. We must bury forever our hatreds and renounce vindictiveness once and for all," he said. "Let us forgive the wrongs of the past."

At Thursday's formal opening of parliament Chissano said the 16-year war between his ruling Frelimo party and the former rebel Renamo was over and now was the time for fruitful dialogue

But soon after his conciliatory remarks, Renamo walked out of the sitting in protest at the procedure for electing the parliamentary chairman

Frelimo Transport Minister



□ **MOMENT OF TRUTH:** Joaquim Chissano is sworn in as Mozambican president yesterday.

Armando Guebuza described the walkout as "regrettable"

Chissano won the October presidential poll with 53 percent of the 5.4 million votes cast, against Dhlakama's 34 percent

The presidential and parliamentary elections followed a 1992 peace agreement between Frelimo and Renamo. Frelimo,

the formerly Marxist party in power since independence from Portugal in 1975, won an eight-seat majority in the 250-seat parliament

The inauguration ceremony was addressed by leaders from Christian, Muslim, Hindu and Baha'i communities

Later there was a 21-gun salute. The ceremony was broad-

cast live on national radio and television

Portugal's Mario Soares, Botswana's Ketumile Masire, Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe, Soa Tome and Principe's Miguel Trovoada, Angola's Jose Eduardo dos Santos and President Nelson Mandela were among heads of state in Maputo for the ceremony — Sapa-Reuter

# Parliament reopens — without Renamo

Maputo — Mozambique's first multiparty parliament reopened yesterday without Renamo.

Deputies from Frelimo, which has 129 seats, and the marginal opposition Democratic Union, with 9 seats, took up their place in the 250-seat national assembly, with no sign of Renamo

A meeting on Tuesday between President Joaquim Chissano and ex-guerrilla leader Afonso Dhlakama apparently did nothing to resolve a 10-day crisis that has paralysed parliament

Renamo, entering parliament for the first time after a 16-year bush war, refused to attend until Frelimo agreed to new

internal voting rules allowing for secret ballots

Renamo deputies started their boycott during the inaugural session on December 8, when they objected to the use of an open vote to elect the speaker of parliament, Frelimo candidate Eduardo Mulembwe (218)

However, the chief of Frelimo's bench, Armando Guebuza, said yesterday "We cannot delay parliament any longer"

While Frelimo seems unprepared to make concessions to Renamo, Guebuza said "15 million Mozambicans depend on the state apparatus functioning and this needs money, which has to be approved by parliament"

— Sapa-AFP.



MOZAMBIQUE - GENERAL

1995

# Calm returns to Maputo

21/05/1995

(218)

Maputo — Mozambican police said yesterday calm had returned to a Maputo suburb where a soldier and a policeman were killed in clashes between the security forces that wounded three other policemen.

They said the trouble began on Monday night when police arrested a member of the army's Second Commando Battalion on charges of kidnaping a civilian woman.

About 30 fellow commandos went to the police station in Maputo's Liberdade suburb, where the soldier was being questioned, and tried to set him free.

Police reinforcements soon arrived and a shootout ensued, leading to the death of a commando and the wounding of two policemen. Commandos returned to Liberdade on Tuesday morning and attacked the

police station, wounding two more policemen.

One of the wounded policemen died in hospital.

A policeman was abducted in the clashes, and his whereabouts were not known.

The detained soldier has yet to be released.

It was the second incident of serious indiscipline among commando units of the new Mozambican Defence Force, the FADM, within a week.

On Friday, commandos in the northern port city of Nacala mutinied, demanding money and better food. They put up barricades on a road leading out of the city and started shooting at random, killing a civilian driving by in a car.

The commando battalions are part of a new 11 500-strong defence force built up in 1994 with volunteers — Sapa-  
Reuter



(18)  
star 5/1/95  
**Mozambique  
inflation now  
up to 48,9%**

Maputo — Mozambique, one of the world's poorest countries, failed to beat spiralling inflation which had risen from 30 percent to 48,9 according to a new year report from the governor of the Bank of Mozambique published this week.

Adriano Maleiane said inflation had risen from 30 percent in 1993 to 48,9 at the end of October in 1994.

Contrary to government expectations, the inflation rate worsened.

Former finance minister Eneas Comiche, said in 1993 he hoped the government would bring the annual rate of inflation down to below 18 percent by December 1994.

No official figures are yet available for November and December but they are unlikely to show a brighter picture.

During the pre-Christmas period local newspapers were full of consumer complaints about big price increases. —  
Reuter

# Mozambican investors told of obligations to labour

LABOUR legislation in Mozambique established minimum wages for all workers and a 7% tax-deductible levy paid to the social security system, the latest Old Mutual employee benefits in Africa series said.

Trade union activity and the right to strike were constitutionally recognised and employer and employee organisations existed and operated in an environment geared for collective bargaining arrangements.

Appraising employers intending to invest in Mozambique of their obligations to workers, Old Mutual assistant GM Henk Beets said the 7% social security levy was currently fixed at a 4% contribution from employers with the balance paid by workers.

The main objective of the system is to guarantee the subsistence of workers whose

labour capacities are jeopardised due to accident, illness or old age. On reaching retirement age workers qualify for a pension under the social security system, while employees who become disabled before reaching retirement are able to apply for a disability pension.

However, he said pensions were inadequate as evidenced by the stipulated minimum wage which was the equivalent of about R60 a month.

Beets recommended employers supplement this by providing additional medical and retirement cover as well as adding value to low salaries through the payment of such benefits as study assistance and interest-free loans.

He said Mozambique's health infrastructure was both poorly-financed and badly equipped.

It was unable to cope with healthcare demand and private clinics had been established to deal with the overflow.

The Mozambique Labour Act stipulates that employers are responsible for all medical expenses if an employee falls ill or has an accident and the cause is directly related to his or her occupation.

Extensive maternity rights were also contained in the Act, including a provision preventing employers from firing workers during pregnancy or for a year after childbirth.

Termination provisions served to protect workers from mass dismissals and lock-outs. If the labour court found an employee to have been unilaterally dismissed without just cause, the employer would be obliged to reinstate the employee and pay compensation, Beets said.

ERICA JANKOWITZ

2/1/80



# Nigeria restores market reforms

(218) CT 17/1/95  
ABUJA — Nigeria, a big oil producer hit by low prices and weak economic management, said yesterday it will be able to meet less than half its expected obligations in 1995 for servicing foreign debt

"It is estimated that about \$4 397,762m will be required to service current maturities and

interest charges on external debts in 1995 fiscal year," acting finance minister Anthony Ani said when giving the breakdown of the 1995 budget on Saturday

"Government has however decided to earmark \$2bn for external debt service for the year because of budgetary constraints," he said

He said that as at the end of October Nigeria's debt stood at \$29,43bn.

Experts welcomed Nigeria's 1995 budget, which cautiously restored free market reforms after a year of political and economic turmoil, but reserved judgment on how successfully it could be implemented

# Mozambique launches nature restoration plan

BD 27/1/95 (218)

MAPUTO — After years of its national game parks being the domain of guerrillas and armed poachers instead of tourists, Mozambique is taking steps to recover its natural heritage.

Licensed safari hunters are moving back to game reserves while plans are afoot to restore national parks to the tourist attractions they were before civil war began to take its toll in the mid-1970s.

Now that the peace agreement signed in 1992 has eased former enemies into elected roles in government and opposition, a prime target for rehabilitation is the central Gorongosa National Park.

Once famed for its abundant wildlife, including hippopotamuses, lions and a herd of 14 000 buffalo, Gorongosa was the infamous wartime headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) guerrillas in the 1980s.

Little now remains of the wildlife population but a few antelope which are still the targets of poachers.

Timber merchants are felling trees at the edges of the park — which is protected by law but not by fences — while impoverished villagers who are looking for better land have moved in to start farming.

Plans to restore the park should get under way in February.

Mozambican national wildlife department director Bartolomeu Soto said "The first phase is an 18-month emergency programme funded by the European Union."

Under the million-dollar plan, the park is to be reoccupied by game wardens and wildlife experts. Hunting is to be controlled and detailed studies are to be made for its long-term management.

The African Development Bank has pledged a further \$10m for natural resource management in central Mozambique, including the Gorongosa and Marrromeu reserves.

Some of the money, Soto said, could be put to future use in repopulating the game park with stock from neighbouring countries, and reconstructing its tourist infrastructure.

With support from the World Bank's Global Environment Fund, the wildlife department has plans to link its own reserves to those in neighbouring countries.

Wildlife authorities from Mozambique and Zimbabwe are already holding talks on the probable creation of a trans-frontier wildlife park across their common border in the Chimanimam mountains.

Recent studies funded by the World Bank show there is little potential for conflict in Chimanimam, the only real constraint being the lack of infrastructure on the Mozambican side.

"I cannot say when the plan will go into operation — it depends on our funders as well as us, but once it does, tourists could be using it within a year," Soto said.

Another initiative in the pipeline is to revive the Maputo Elephant Reserve and open up the Futi Corridor, the ancient migratory path leading over the border to Tembe Elephant Reserve in SA.

Wildlife officials say peace in the zone has already encouraged elephants to move back into the Maputo Reserve, where game wardens have started patrols.

As a first step to reopening the corridor, the wildlife department has asked the ministry of agriculture to put a freeze on land concessions in the area, and find somewhere else for people settled there to go.

However, Soto admits it could be a slow process requiring delicate negotiation with local communities and recently returned wartime refugees who have settled inside the reserve.

— Sapa-AFP



ANIES

BD 14/2/95  
Maputo harbour's Matola coal terminal is expanding (218)

MICHAEL URQUHART

THE Matola coal terminal in Maputo would increase coal exports from 800 000 tons to 1.1-million tons this year, said Matola operator CMR Engineers and Project Managers (CMR) MD Carlos Ramos.

About R8m had been invested on expanding the terminal. A further R8m would be invested this year to upgrade capacity to 2-million tons by the end of 1996. The money would be spent on a second reclaimer and a ship loader.

The aim was to increase the capacity of the Matola terminal to between 3.5-million and 4-million tons, but to achieve this the Maputo harbour channel would have to be dredged and the railway line to Maputo from the SA border would have to be upgraded.

The harbour's dredger, operated by the Mozambican government, was out of order. Talks were being held with Portnet with a view to enlisting its help to dredge the harbour.

Ramos said the harbour could only handle ships of 40 000 tons at the moment, and freight rates for these were extremely high. The freight charge for a 40 000-ton ship was between \$15 and \$17 a ton, compared with about \$6.75 a ton for a 150 000-ton ship.

The harbour would need to be able to handle ships of at least 60 000 tons, but he hoped it would be able to handle 80 000-ton vessels, he said.

The railway line, which could easily handle the current volumes, would have

to be rehabilitated. This would cost between \$12m and \$15m.

The harbour would also have to be open 24 hours a day. This was currently not the case. Ramos said CMR would install a diesel generator to ensure that operations would not be interrupted by breaks in power supply.

CMR was training people working at Maputo harbour to ensure there would be skilled staff available to handle the expected volumes of traffic.

Maputo would probably get most of its coal from SA, with a portion coming from Zimbabwe and Swaziland.

The Matola terminal would attempt to replicate the operations and efficiencies of Richards Bay Coal Terminal, but would not really be able to compete with it because of economies of scale, Ramos said.

It would be more likely to draw business from Durban, as it would have an advantage in terms of distance. It was about 850km to Durban from the Witbank coalfields, but only 440km to Maputo. This meant it would cost between \$3 and \$5 a ton more to rail coal to Durban.

However, Maputo harbour suffered an image problem because of unreliable service during the civil war.

Previously the system had not been commercially orientated.

# Minister opposes bid to resettle farmers

PRETORIA — Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekirk criticised the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions for their efforts to resettle SA farmers in Mozambique.

Van Niekirk warned at the Agricon conference that farmers seeking opportunities "between landmines" could face a lack of markets as well as a lack of safety following the war in that country. He said they could be accused of creating a new form of colonialism.

He warned against creating "pockets of white affluence" in neighbouring states.

"SA farmers could be drawn into a politically flavoured situation in Mozambique," he said.

Van Niekirk warned that it would have been acceptable if the farmers moved there for the purposes of exchanging knowledge and skills, but the invitation and initiative for this should have come from Mozambique, not the agricultural unions.

Van Niekirk said additional produce from Mozambique, marketed in SA, would deprive farmers who remained in SA.

The Free State and Transvaal agricultural unions, led by Freedom Front leader Constand Viljoen this week returned from a visit to Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano to pave the way for farmers to settle there.

Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo, meanwhile, was accused of a lack of interest in the reconstruction and development

programme (RDP) after failing to attend the conference.

Agricultural policymakers said the RDP office had missed a good opportunity to spell out its needs to the agricultural sector and to boost the RDP. Sources said Naidoo had been approached months ago to open the conference, but had notified organisers only this week that no one from the RDP office was able to attend.

In his opening address, Visimed MD Kobus Loubser said the RDP would fail if its main function was the static redistribution of wealth.

The RDP had to be visionary in its approach and government should not fall into a trap of "overdemocratising and oversimplifying" structures.

Van Niekirk said a vibrant agricultural sector was one of the cornerstones of the RDP because it created employment and training opportunities, provided food and encouraged technological development.

"I am of the opinion that the agricultural sector has gone a long way to realise the objective of economic empowerment for the people of SA."

Agriculture was well equipped with an infrastructure capacity to realise RDP objectives, Van Niekirk said.

He said commercial agriculture had been largely free of government support, "save for one or two commodities".

(218)   
BD 24/2/95  
LOUISE COOK



# Police to 'flood' trouble spots

PRETORIA — Police would flood trouble spots this week to crack down on violent crime and lawlessness, Commissioner George Fivas said yesterday.

This followed President Nelson Mandela's announcement on Monday that troops and additional police would be deployed in volatile areas in a bid to put a lid on the spiralling crime and murder rate.

Barely hours after Mandela's announcement, gunmen shot dead four people in Izingolweni, taking the death toll in Kwa-Zulu/Natal since Sunday to at least 15.

Fivas said: "We are putting a contingency plan on the table and then we are going to deploy."

The plan was immediately condemned by the Inkatha Freedom Party, which said Mandela's announcement was a military response to the Zulu-based party's walking out of Parliament last week.

However, Fivas said the deployment would concentrate on crime-ridden areas in Eastern and Western Cape and Gauteng, as well as KwaZulu/Natal.

Fivas's spokesman, Maj Joseph Ngobeni, said the number of troops and police to be deployed was being worked out. Entry points to SA would be secured to stem the flow of illegal weapons into SA.

Mandela, who said crime could scupper the reconstruction and development programme, was reportedly concerned about the effect of the Inkatha row on the security situation in KwaZulu-Natal. "The government, along with the rest of society, is acutely concerned about social stability, investor confidence and, above all, the need to protect the lives of all South Africans," he said.

50/1/98

Inkatha countered that the ANC was using state resources to harm a political rival. Inkatha's youth brigade said house-to-house weapon searches in KwaZulu/Natal would be tantamount to imposing a state of emergency, denying citizens their basic rights. The brigade said it would propose peace initiatives as an alternative to Mandela's suggestion of house raids to quash crime.

Meanwhile, Gauteng safety and security MEC Jesse Duarte said she would meet senior officers from the SA Police Service and SA National Defence Force to discuss the situation in Gauteng. "We are going to be particularly tough on those who show no respect for the law — those who barricade roads, plan bus boycotts or try to set up settlements in the streets," she said. — Sapa-AFP.

# Chissano asks for aid on gas fields

ADRIAN HADLAND

(218)

CAPE TOWN — SA had been invited to assist Mozambique in developing its natural gas resources, Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano said yesterday.

After meeting Deputy President FW de Klerk Chissano confirmed talks were under way on SA involvement in the development of gas in Mozambique and in other projects.

Chissano said areas had been identified for co-operation with the SA government and private sector. These included providing energy — other than through SA's interests in the Cahora Bassa dam — to Mozambique, developing transport in the Northern Transvaal, tourism, agriculture and mining.

The formulation of a policy on the use of rivers common to SA and Mozambique was being considered, Chissano said.

He said while labour was one of the strongest historical links between the countries, he had arrived in SA this week without a specific agenda on migrant labour or related manpower issues.

He is scheduled to meet the Chamber of Mines and Cosatu before returning to Mozambique on Friday.

Earlier yesterday Chissano signed agreements with SA on crime-related and tourism matters.

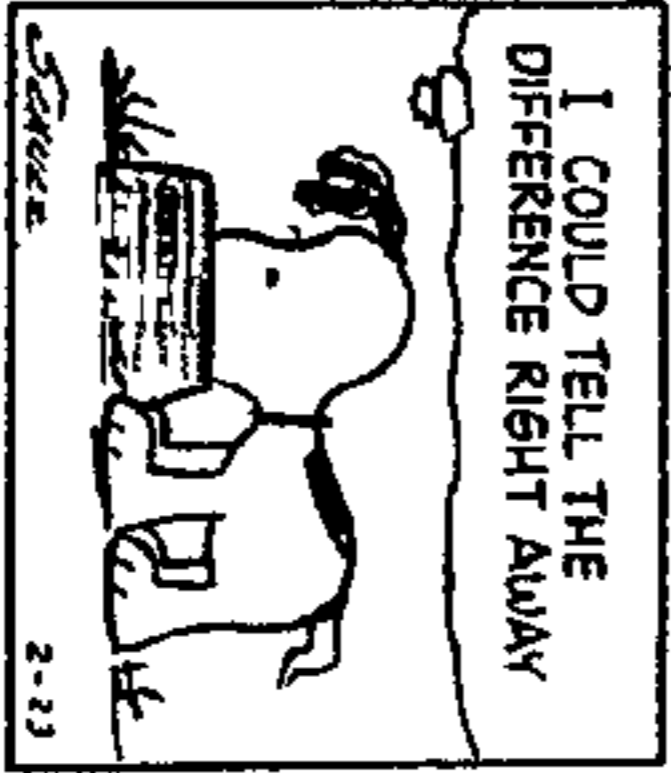
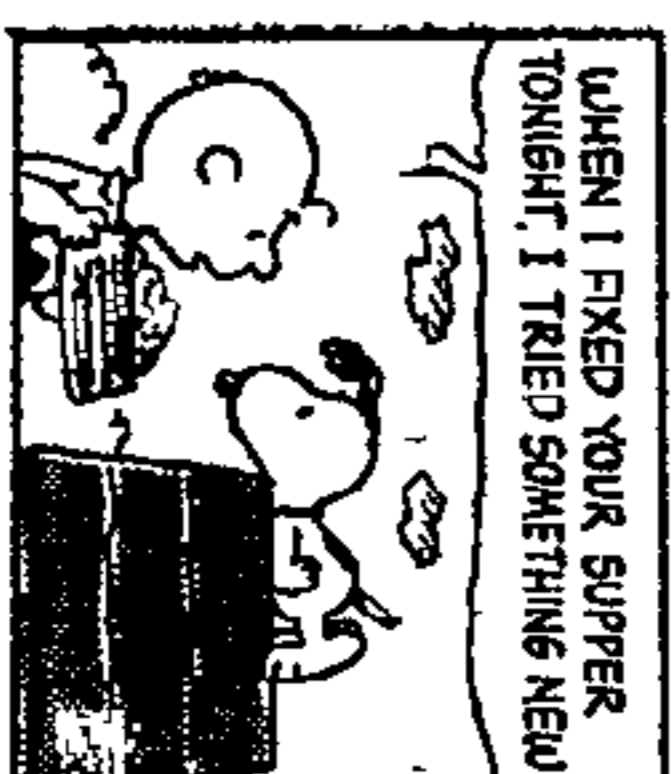
The crime agreement would facilitate the movement of police officers between Mozambique and SA.

Sapa reports he was awarded the Order of Good Hope (Gold Class) by President Nelson Mandela.

The citation said the decoration recognised Chissano's support for the democratic process in SA and Mozambique's assistance to South Africans who sought refuge there during the liberation struggle.

## PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



2-22

6/23/45  
**Farmers to go  
 on great trek**

TIM COHEN

218

CAPE TOWN — SA and Mozambique yesterday agreed in principle on a Freedom Front initiative for about 1 000 Afrikaner farmers to embark on a "new great trek" to farm in Mozambique. These farmers will also assist agricultural development in the war-torn country.

Involved in the agreement were President Nelson Mandela and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano, and the presidents of the Free State and Transvaal agricultural unions, Piet Gouws and Dries Bruwer.

Sapa reports that the two agricultural unions proposed to "canvass a number of experienced SA farmers to become involved in a joint effort to strengthen the agricultural sector and related industries in Mozambique".

Chissano said his government was proud of the agricultural co-operation initiative, which would benefit not only the two countries but the whole region.

He complimented Bruwer and Freedom Front MP Pieter Mulder for brokering the deal.



Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano, second from right, was met at Jan Smuts Airport yesterday by Gauteng education minister Mary Metcalf, left, and health minister Amos Maseondo. He returns home today. PICTURE: NICKY DE BLOIS

**No regrets over apology to Mozambique**

CAPE TOWN — Speaker Frene Ginwala's apology to Mozambique was not made on behalf of the ANC, but on behalf of the democratically elected representatives of the people of SA, leader of the National Assembly Trevor Manuel said yesterday.

He said the NP's call for Ginwala's resignation was "devoid of any substance".

Manuel said Ginwala's apology for the "terrible crimes" committed by fellow South Africans against Mozambique was supported by the majority of South Africans inside and outside Parliament.

"Her apology is based on a fundamental morality, a concept alien to the NP," Manuel said.

The NP was incapable of

understanding the wrongs which it had perpetrated against the people of SA and the region.

"The NP remains a collection of the selfish who lack the faculties of remorse so necessary for reconciliation."

Manuel said the National Assembly would stand by the Speaker. — Sapa.



# White SA farmers may aid Moz

SOUTH AFRICA and Mozambique have agreed to investigate plans by white South African farmers to foster agricultural development in war-ravaged Mozambique.

A joint statement of intent was signed yesterday by President Nelson Mandela, Mozambican President Joachim Chissano and the presidents of the Free State and Transvaal agricultural unions, Dr Piet Gouws and Mr Dries Bruwer.

A joint working group would report on

all details of the farmers' intervention and consider its swift implementation

Earlier, the ANC caucus said Parliamentary Speaker Dr Frene Ginwala, was expressing the sentiments of the overwhelming majority of the people when she apologised to Mozambique for the "terrible crimes" committed there.

House leader Mr Trevor Manuel said the NP's call for the resignation of the Speaker was devoid of substance.

"The apology was not done on behalf of the ANC. It was tabled on behalf of the democratically elected representatives of the people of South Africa both inside and outside Parliament," Mr Manuel said.

The NP caucus yesterday decided to seek an interview with Dr Ginwala to discuss her apology. The NP wanted to express its strongest displeasure with her remarks to Mr Chissano — Political Staff, Sapa

2/3/95

(2/8)

# SA plan to rid Mozambique of landmines

(218) ST 19/3/95

**COLUMNS of South African armoured vehicles will roll into Mozambique within weeks if an ambitious R60-million plan to remove up to a million landmines from agricultural land gets government backing.**

The plan, which has won the endorsement of South African foreign affairs officials and the tacit support of the defence force, is expected to be presented formally to the Mozambican government by the end of the month.

It is aimed at helping kick-start the crippled Mozambican economy by freeing tens of thousands of hectares of arable land of anti-personnel mines which last year claimed 600 lives and maimed thousands of people.

South Africa stands to gain if a resettlement of farmers near border areas beset by food shortages and near total unemployment helps to stem the increasingly expensive tide of economic refugees flooding across the eastern frontier. The benefits will come from both millions saved and goodwill.

The key to the plan is a home-grown technique that transforms the Casspir, once a symbol of South Africa's security forces, into a weapon of peace.

Pretoria-based Mechem has proved that the 10-ton armoured personnel carrier can be turned into an effective anti-personnel mine clearing machine simply by sheathing its huge wheels with steel bands and driving it in a meticulous criss-cross pattern over the minefields.

The mines, containing about 200g of explosive and often small enough to fit in the palm of a man's hand, have enough power to tear off a foot or a leg.

However, they make little impression on a Casspir — apart from an occasional shredded tyre.

While conventional systems using rollers to detonate the mines can leave about 10 percent of the killer devices behind, the Casspirs boast a total clean-up.

They can clear a minefield in hours

By PETER De IONNO

instead of the weeks it takes mine clearers working by hand, cutting costs to about a tenth of competitors.

In 1991, five men and two vehicles cleared 12 000 anti-personnel mines from 60 minefields around the Mozambican power pylons between Maputo and Komatipoort in just six weeks.

"We left the veld already ploughed and as flat as a tennis court," says Sakkie van Zyl, a former Special Forces operator who is completing a Mechem survey of hundreds of unmarked minefields.

There are an estimated two million mines in Mozambique.

In Maputo province alone, Mr van Zyl has mapped 60 major fields containing about 240 000 mines barring access to about 25 000ha of prime farm land.

Mechem head, Dr Vernon Joynt, said the plan, using about 50 Casspirs, would require the government to sanction the use of defence force equipment.

"If we can get the right logistical support in place by the beginning of the dry season in May, we can remove up to half of the mines within a year," he said.

David Laubscher, Department of Foreign Affairs director for southern Africa, described the plan as "the bargain of the decade".

"The problem with resettling Mozambique is landmines. Any economic recovery will have to be agriculturally based.

"If you can start resettling the people on land they can work. The need to cross the border will disappear," he said.

It is known that SANDF planners want to ensure that any equipment and manpower used for mine-clearing in Mozambique is available for deployment inside South Africa to assist in securing the local government elections in November.

● Defence Minister Joe Modise said he was considering a request from Mozambique for South African Navy assistance to patrol its waters to prevent foreign plundering of fish stocks, the SABC reported yesterday.



**T**he political deadlock in Nigeria has reduced life for many of its citizens to a matter of the survival of the fittest, writes Eniwoke Ibagere of The Star Foreign Service

# World directs its frown on Nigeria

Star 5/4/95 (218)

**N**igeria seems lost in a political labyrinth, its military leadership unable or unwilling to find the way to a long-promised democracy, despite growing international pressure

The latest pressure comes from South Africa, with President Mandela sending Archbishop Desmond Tutu to Abuja as his emissary

Mandela's office confirmed that Tutu would meet Nigeria's military strongman, General Sani Abacha, this week in an effort to secure the release of Moshood Abiola, the man widely held to have won presidential elections in 1993, which were subsequently annulled by the army. Abiola, a businessman, was jailed a year later on charges of treason when he declared himself the rightful president.

Tutu will also be concerned about the house arrest of General Olesugun Obasanjo, another pro-democracy voice punished by the regime recently

Importantly, Mandela's concern is not alone. In a virtually unprecedented move, black American civil rights leaders have turned their fury on a black African leader. Randall Robinson, executive director of TransAfrica, the organisation which spearheaded a US anti-apartheid lobby, has launched a campaign to restore democracy in Nigeria.

And late last month it was the intervention of former US president Jimmy Carter that secured the release from jail of Obasanjo, who was accused by Abacha of plotting a coup

But whether the increasing glare of negative publicity moves the militarists at Nigeria's helm remains to be seen

The constitutional conference is still the only political initiative to have come from Abacha's government. Established in Febru-



Emissary to Ajuba . . . Archbishop Desmond Tutu

ary last year, it had the mandate to pave the way for a handover to civilian rule

The conference has proposed January next year as the target date for a return to democracy, but has yet to submit its report to the government. The March deadline for that report came and went, now May is the new date

These delays mean that the conference is now many months behind schedule. It is also riven by internal bickerings between mostly government-appointed delegates, and many Nigerians have become disillusioned with its work, dismissing it as a silly charade

Moreover, when it does finally make its report, it remains in the hands of the present military government to implement a democracy timetable

A recent government promise that the military regime would not "perpetuate itself in power" has done little to convince the

politically harried citizenry

Nigeria has been in this crisis since the 1993 elections were annulled. Apart from the ongoing detentions and harassment of pro-democracy voices, among them Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka who fled the country, the independent press in Nigeria has been silenced

Newspapers critical of the government's repressive policies remain shut down. Talks initiated with opposition leaders and pro-democracy groups have yielded no results

The dropping by Fifa of Nigeria as host to the world youth soccer championship, was yet another incident underscoring the instability in Africa's most populous nation

But, perhaps because civilian rule has proved little better, Nigerians do not consider themselves victims of military regimes which, since independence in 1960, have held sway for a total of about 25 years through a cycle of coups and counter-coups

"The past civilian regimes have not fared better. We've all been insensitive to the common man's needs because of personal interests," said Ali Shettima Mongum, a former minister in the Second Republic, between 1979 and 1983

The strikes and riots which erupted out of the political stalemate last year have hit the economy hard. Western nations, increasingly critical, have frozen badly needed new investments, and some firms — the latest among them being American Express — have withdrawn

There has been large-scale retrenchment in many firms and job opportunities are non-existent, even for university graduates

In this environment, living conditions have become unbearably hard for most Nigerians. Basic necessities — shelter, food

and transport — are as scarce as gold. And where they are on offer, their prices put them beyond reach of most citizens

"We now operate in an environment of survival of the fittest. If we find ourselves alive the following day, fine. If not, too bad!" said Rasheed Adedigba, a small-time trader and father of five

Many fear there will be no change until the political impasse is resolved. "Abacha has to restore democracy immediately," said Bala Usman, a radical critic at a university

"Unless all those arrested and detained are freed and the government reaches an accord with Abiola, there can never be democracy in this country," said Bade Onimode, another academic, in a recent public lecture

Both these men probably speak the minds of many. But the possibility of a resolution appears remote to Nigerians who view Abacha as increasingly intransigent in the face of demands that he step down

Still, hard as life is now, many Nigerians recall the even greater hardships of last year during the two months of crippling oil strikes and riots. There seems little motivation for the public to rise up again. "What, against the military?" said one young man in Lagos

So while the constitutional conference might be viewed by some with cynicism, there is also a hopelessness in the absence of other alternatives waiting for the conference report, and more importantly, the government's reaction to that report, still seems the best option right now unless international voices can make a difference

Meanwhile, a local musician has released a new album which is proving popular. *Which Way Nigeria?* is its title. It could be the country's theme song

# UN troops in Angola as peacekeepers

CT 10/5/95

LUANDA· Portuguese troops flew to Angola yesterday as part of the deployment of more than 7 000 UN peacekeepers to monitor the implementation of a pact ending 20 years of civil war

UN special envoy Mr Alioune Blondin Beye said the Portuguese would reinforce logistical teams already in the country, including 679 British military engineers

The deployment comes after Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi held UN-brokered talks on Saturday, aimed at reducing mistrust after their two sides signed an accord last year

All logistical units should be deployed by the end of May, the

Portuguese responsible for communications, Rumanians to operate hospitals and Argentines to provide naval support, as well as the British engineers

Infantry troops from Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Uruguay and Zimbabwe would be deployed from June, Mr Beye said

Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi, after their meeting in Lusaka on Saturday, declared they were ready to work together for peace

"The meeting was a big success and the result was beyond my expectations," Mr Dos Santos said.

Dr Savimbi said he had been moved by the cordial atmosphere and was "going back a very comfortable man" — Sapa-AFP

# Action plan for Moz approved

(218)

MAPUTO· Mozambique's government won a fresh political victory yesterday when the nation's first multi-party parliament approved its five-year plan of action with no major amendments.

Frelimo holds 129 of the 250 seats in parliament, the ex-guerrilla Mozambican National Resistance has 112 and the Democratic Union, nine seats

Prime Minister Mr Pascoal Mocumbi said yesterday the five-year plan pointed the direction for government, society and the business community to follow. Its key policy themes are to reconstruct and extend Mozambique's social and economic infrastructures, to continue economic liberalisation and reinforce its forces of law and order.

CT 10/5/95

The Mozambican parliament will approve the government's economic and social programme and budget for 1995 before closing this week. — Sapa-AFP



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CT 10/5/95  
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## Mozambique 218 set to privatise

MUNGO SOGGOT

WINDHOEK — Mozambique was on track to privatise most of its large industrial companies within the next two years, World Bank acting resident representative in Mozambique Simon Bell said yesterday.

He told a Press seminar that Mozambique's main privatisation agency — which was supported by the World Bank — had so far privatised 14 of the 55 "large" companies in its portfolio

Foreigners — mainly from Portugal and SA — were the main investors, but the government had kept 20% of each company to sell off to Mozambicans at a later stage.

Two other privatisation agencies focused on selling off smaller state assets, which had more Mozambican investors

Bell said the sale of Mozambique's telecommunication and electricity utilities was still a long way off.

However, there were plans to privatise its two state banks by the end of next year.

"Mozambique has one of the most successful privatisation programmes on the continent," he said.

The programme began in 1991 when a privatisation Act was drafted. Privatisation of its services — including its national air carrier and port terminal facilities — were also on the cards

Bell said Mozambique's economic fundamentals were still "extraordinarily weak". It had a \$65 per capita income, against SA's \$3,000; had had to resettle about 4-million people by the end of last year; had a \$1bn economy and was saddled with a debt of \$5bn to \$6bn.



# Frelimo ups rent — to R6 (218) a month

ST 28/5/95  
By RACHEL WATERHOUSE

MOZAMBIQUE'S government broke a long-standing social pact this week when it announced rent rises of between 160 and 200 per cent on state-owned housing, effective from June 1.

Yet so far there's been no public outcry from tenants, who will still pay little more for housing, a month, than it costs to buy a kilogram of rice.

The increase will take monthly rent for a typical two-bedroom flat in the city centre from around 5 000 meticaïs (R2,50) up to 12 000 meticaïs (R6).

A loaf of bread costs 1 000 (50c) meticaïs in the capital, the same as a short bus ride through town.

Nonetheless, as Housing Minister Roberto White implied when he announced the increases, the new rents represent a radical change in the philosophy of state property management.

When Frelimo came to power at independence from Portuguese colonial rule in 1975, it nationalised all rented accommodation and "abandoned" property.

The effects of a cheap rent policy on the quality of national housing stock has been disastrous.

With no income to speak of from tenants, the state housing body has been unable to maintain its property, much of which is now an eyesore, if not a health hazard.

Nine children died in Maputo this year when the wall of a state-owned housing block collapsed on top of them.

The rent increases announced this week are just one step in a complete overhaul of state housing policy.

State tenants are now being offered their houses for sale, and pre-independence owners can claim back their property — if they can prove they never really abandoned it.

However, the concession hasn't satisfied the hundreds of Portuguese who fled to South Africa or Portugal in 1975.

Mr White this week further announced plans to set up a National Housing Institute and Housing Development Fund before the end of the year to build low-cost housing in urban areas.

These houses will be sold to private owners.

In the long term, the government hopes to sell off most of its rented housing stock and encourage private home-ownership.

# Mozambique's ambitious privatisation plan

Reg Rumney

**W**HILE the world waits for South Africa to spell out its privatisation plans, next door, Mozambique

has thundered ahead with a far-reaching privatisation programme

By the end of February this year, Mozambique's government had privatised 21 large, strategic enterprises, and plans to privatise a further 40 or so over the next two years, said World Bank resident representative Simon Bell at a regional press seminar in Windhoek.

By the end of 1996, says Bell, most industrial sector activity would be in private hands. "The process is now

accelerating with the sale of the cement plants to Portuguese interests, the cashew nut processing plants to Mozambican and other interests, and the sale of soft drink plants."

The sale of the breweries, additional cashew nut plants, coastal shipping operations, and plastics factories is being negotiated with serious bidders.

The irony is all the more obvious against the strongly socialist stance of the Frelimo government in the past. To be sure, South Africa did not nationalise to anything like the extent that Mozambique did after its independence, and so there is not as much to privatise.

One of the main concerns of the World Bank, said Bell, was the dra-

matic decline over the past seven years in the relatively well-diversified and dynamic industrial sector Mozambique had at independence.

On the agricultural front, as part of what could be construed as a kind of recolonisation, Anglo American is coming back to work its old cashew nut processing plant at Xai Xai, though Mozambican investors have put money in as well. Mozambique now produces 10 percent of the cashews it did at its peak.

International investors were also involved in cotton, Bell revealed, with Lonrho in a joint venture operation.

Recently there have been moves to privatise some of the large sugar, copra and tea estates.

Fisheries were among the first to be privatised and sold to, among others, Mozambican, Spanish, Portuguese and South African interests.

In transport, feasibility studies are underway for a toll road from Komatiport to Maputo, and similar private sector initiatives may be possible through the Beira corridor. There could also soon be private sector involvement in the national airline, LAM, and there is already involvement in Maputo port.

Along with financial sector reform which allows new banks to be licensed in Mozambique, the government recently announced that Mozambique's two state banks, which account for about 70 percent

of total banking system assets, would be privatised.

Investment is not confined to privatisation: Fortune 500 company Enron is involved in a \$30-million Parade gas field study. If the project, in which the World Bank is playing a catalyst role, comes off it will be a big foreign exchange boost, bringing in \$200-million a year for a \$400-million to \$600-million investment.

It is no surprise that much of the private sector investment comes from outside, specifically South Africa and ex-colonial master Portugal. Mozambique is the world's poorest country, with a 1993 national income per head of \$80. It is also one of the world's most aid-dependent countries, with most aid pledges made in March of \$800-million constituting a big chunk of the country's gross domestic product of \$100-million.



# Inter-state co-operation that made a model repatriation

(218)

Star 30/6/95

**W**hen the last 341 Mozambican refugees returned home from Malawi earlier this month, it brought to an end a two-year repatriation effort by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). It had cost \$203-million (R739-million) to return nearly 1.7-million people who fled the war that devastated Mozambique for 16 years.

This was the largest assisted repatriation effort by the UNHCR in the world, with the next largest being the assisted return of 350 000 Cambodians from Thailand.

According to UNHCR regional representative Nicolas Bwakira, one of the fundamental reasons why the operation was a success — and was finished one year ahead of schedule — was the role played by the key political actors in Mozambique, and the positive and swift reaction of the international community to the crisis.

Bwakira said the SADC countries played a particularly important role, including ensuring the success of the peace agreement between Frelimo and Renamo, and the peaceful conclusion of the elections in October when Renamo threatened to walk out.

"This created a climate of peace and trust which enabled the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate in Mozambique, which increased confidence among Mozambicans in

**UNHCR has successfully completed its largest repatriation effort yet. More than 1.7-million refugees have been returned to Mozambique, writes Michael Sparks**

refugee camps to return."

Bwakira points out that although the UNHCR assisted all the refugees, most people walked across the borders. The agency provided transport for 353 000 refugees.

But thousands were transported in trains, trucks and buses from the six host countries — Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, South Africa, Zambia, and more than a million from Malawi.

The UNHCR helped all the more than 1.7-million refugees.

Although organised repatriation is now over, there are still nearly 90 000 Mozambicans in South Africa.

According to UNHCR spokesman Yusuf Hassan, these people would still be regarded as refugees for another year and the organisation would try and encourage them to return home in that time.

Although the UNHCR would not provide transport, the refugees would still be eligible for assistance on arrival.

If they did not return before June, when a cessation agreement was likely to be signed, they would lose their automatic refugee status and would have to show indi-

vidually that they were fleeing persecution or be regarded as illegal aliens.

A large proportion of the assistance from the UN agency was to the communities people returned to, in the form of providing or repairing infrastructure such as ensuring communities had access to water, schools, clinics, or providing them with agricultural tools and seeds, and with food until crops were produced.

This benefited not just the returnees, but also the nearly 4-million people who were displaced within the country, as well as those who did not feel compelled to leave their homes.

Bwakira emphasised the importance of co-ordinating the various actors in the repatriation process — more than 170 NGOs in Mozambique.

But it is also important to involve the national institutions in the process, giving them ownership of the reconstruction which ensured the skills were retained in the country.

If this was done quickly, in conjunction with a concerted international effort, it increased the trust of the returnees in the process, encouraging them to return home

"Outside assistance cannot achieve much unless there is trust from those involved, and there is a concerted effort towards peace and reconciliation," Bwakira said.

The speedy delivery of seeds, for example, meant people were reliant on food handouts for a shorter time, avoiding a sense of dependency developing.

Another important factor was the control of firearms, which were a major obstacle to peace and security.

Bwakira also made a special appeal to countries to avoid using military hardware that maimed people, such as landmines, which he described as "one of the most dangerous obstacles to the reconstruction of Mozambique".

A similar problem would also face the next large repatriation effort in the region — Angola.

Millions of unmapped mines lie in wait for innocent victims in both countries, long after peace accords have been accepted.

Visitors to Mozambique see the devastating effects of these mines everywhere, as people hop along on single long poles that serve as crutches.

But the other danger, particularly for a country reliant on agriculture, is that it severely restricts the amount of arable land and also turns potentially productive people into dependants, Bwakira said.

## Mozambique peace boosts crop planting; fewer imports needed

(218) ARG 4/7/95

MAPUTO. — Impoverished Mozambique will need to import 446 000 tons of cereals in the year to March 1996, 25 percent less than the previous year, says a UN report

The report said the overall national food supply situation in the 1995/96 marketing year was much better than in recent years.

The report follows a mission to Mozambique — one of the world's poorest countries — by teams from the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

Mozambique's food aid needs have gone down sharply since a peace agreement in October 1992 ended a 16-year war between the government and guerrillas of the Mozam-

bique National Resistance (Renamo), now the country's main opposition party

Food needs for the 1993/94 international aid programme, when the effects of the war were still very much in evidence, were put at more than 1,3 million tons

As stability has returned so has crop planting. The UN mission found the area planted with food crops had increased 13 percent in 1994 and cotton and other cash crops by 10 percent.

"This sizeable increase in the area planted was due to extensive repatriation and resettlement of refugees, as well as the increased numbers of demobilised soldiers and internally displaced persons returning to their areas

of origin," the report said.

One of the big problems now was the need to move surplus crops from parts of the country which had good rains to others suffering drought, before they were sold to neighbouring states

The WFP's chief representative in Mozambique, Philip Clarke, said surplus maize was already being sold in Malawi by farmers in the fertile Angonia area in Mozambique's northwestern Tete province

But some parts of Tete were hit by drought and had seen none of the surplus

The UN report warned donors they had to move fast if they wanted to stop this trend — Reuter



# Mozambique is where the heart is

(218) Star 12/8/95

In the past few months, the last convoys of trucks and buses, crammed with Mozambicans, their live chickens and plastic bags, have rattled into the country. The whole resettlement business has already cost the UNHCR nearly \$1.2-billion - roughly as much as Mozambique's GDP

The district administrator, a roundish fellow in an early nylon suit, was grumbling because the door-hinges on the new health clinic had been fitted back-to-front. Such a lack of gratitude irked the man from the United Nations, who had driven for several hours along a bumpy track to the village of Machamba to hand over the clinic. But the villagers clapped politely; the clinic was declared open, and a few hours later, back at the district administrator's bungalow, decorated with Portuguese furniture and little lace doilies, the two men were celebrating over lunch. Another small step in the UN's withdrawal from war-battered Mozambique was complete.

The UN pulled out its peacekeepers at the start of the year, having watched over a ceasefire between the Frelimo government and Renamo rebels, largely managed a peaceful election - which Frelimo won - and, as important, got Renamo to accept the result.

Now the UNHCR, its agency for refugees, is winding down its work. Over the past 18 months, it has helped bring back 1.7 million refugees.

The whole business, including help with resettlement, water and health, has already cost nearly 1.2-billion US dollars - roughly as much as Mozambique's GDP.

Over the past few months, the last convoys of trucks and buses, crowded with Mozambicans, their mattresses, live chickens and plastic bags, have rattled into the country.

In all, more than a million refugees have come back from Malawi, tens of thousands from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland, South Africa and Tanzania. The UNHCR gave each family a starter pack: a piece of blue plastic sheeting for shelter, a hoe, a bucket, some cooking oil, a few sacks of maize and beans, some drought-resistant seeds.

Most families asked to be taken back to the villages they had fled during the years of civil war.

In Machamba, beneath a rickety wooden roof laden with drying maize cobs, Rose Chavelala is roasting pumpkin over an open fire, her small baby strapped firmly to her back.

She cannot remember how long she lived as a refugee in South Africa, but she fled there on foot, walking for three days through the Kruger National Park. Now she has brought her four children back to a home they have never known.

Mozambique is better, she says, because "I can work wherever I please, in South Africa, you have to work for the white man."

Three-quarters of Machamba's 250 families are *repatriados*. During the war, the village was largely abandoned, the bush crept in over once-cultivated fields.

Some relics of war remain. The UN has knocked red warning signs onto posts to identify land that is still mined. But now the bush has been cleared and



**RELUCS OF EXILE:** Homecomers have brought back whatever belongings they've managed to salvage such as tin cooking utensils and mattresses. Some mothers who fled to South Africa on foot have returned with their children to a country they have never known. But most say they are happy to be home.

maize is growing again.

The homecomers have brought back their own relics of exile: a red velvet bed-head, white plastic garden chairs. And less tangible things: one man worked as a builder in South Africa and has taught villagers how to fire mud bricks for their huts.

At a time when the UN is groping about for an operation it can call a success, Mozambique comes pretty close. Plainly, neither peace nor repatriation would have worked had the belligerents not tired of fighting and the refugees not wanted to come back. As it is, the UNHCR's guess that 200,000 would want to leave South Africa proved hopelessly exaggerated: only 73,000 did, others preferring to stay on despite losing their rights as refugees.

Some will probably still creep back into South Africa to look for work.

"Continuous movement of Mozambicans to South Africa started 50 years ago," says Felipe Camargo, who runs the UNHCR's operations in southern

Mozambique, "and the activities of the UNHCR are not going to change that."

Now comes the harder part: the rebuilding of the country's shattered economy.

Mozambique is little more than a string of trading ports, where fishermen spear their catch by hand in the shallows, and a vast interior, once farmed by the Portuguese in huge estates and now mostly gone back to bush.

Twenty years ago, Mozambique was the world's biggest exporter of cashew nuts, now it ships out barely a tenth of what it then produced, along with some prawns, cotton and coconuts.

Foreign aid, says the World Bank, makes up three-quarters of its national income.

"It has been so dependent on aid that there is a sort of dependency syndrome," says Simon Bell, acting head of the Bank's office in Maputo, the capital. How can such a fragile economy, drip-fed by the rich world, be revived?

The answer, or at least the hope, is a reform programme as convulsive as any in Eastern Europe. The once Marxist government has begun to undo the centrally planned economy it spent two decades constructing.

Though it still allows land only to be leased, not sold, it has put two-thirds of the 600 state enterprises listed for sale, from cashew-nut processors to breweries, under the hammer. State banks and the airline are to follow soon.

To the dismay of some Mozambicans, the buyers have mostly been Portuguese or South African. Yet, and for all the fears about aid-dependency, Mozambicans are proving zealous free-marketiers. Maputo's streets, still named after Karl Marx, or Kim Il Sung, are cluttered with little stalls selling cigarettes, hub caps or oranges.

New restaurants have opened in tree-lined avenues, serving Indian Ocean prawns and South African wine.

The World Bank says Mozambique is the poorest country in the world (GDP per person is about \$90 a year). But such statistics mean little.

Hundreds of villages, like Machamba, are outside the money economy, there is no market but maize or bricks or hoes are swapped. It is the government, rather than its citizen, that has the dependency habit. It has little incentive to boost its revenues - by, say, improving tax collection or stamping out customs fraud - as long as the world continues to pump in aid. Out in the villages, the UNHCR is mindful of the risk of dependency.

It will distribute free food only until those who have come back have harvested their first crop after that, they will be on their own.

There is little in these villages but determination. "We are suffering," says one young man back in Machamba from South Africa.

"I miss clean water, and a bed. But I feel good, because I am at home." - The Economist





Downtown Chimoio . street children, the mentally ill, cripples and war victims dominate street life

Star

21/8/95

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## ▲ *A country in search of itself*

**M**ozambique, the world's poorest country, sits like a powder keg on South Africa's shoulder, its survival far from certain

Were it not for an all-encompassing weariness with war, hostilities would more than likely break out again, plunging the people into even greater depths of misery, starvation and poverty

Among middle-class Mozambicans, the consensus seems to be that their country is irredeemably lost. Development is so painstakingly slow, many feel, that even in 50 years the country will not be as developed as any of her neighbours

Most look to South Africa and Zimbabwe for medical care, shopping and education and yet, perhaps surprisingly, very few consider leaving. They find their neighbours cold and cynical, too "British" and too arrogant. One might think that in a country all but destroyed by decades of war and where virtually nothing works, middle-class people would seek out the relative comforts and efficiencies of their neighbours

Frelimo officially governs the country - where and when it can. However, there are areas, such as Dombe district in Manica Province, where Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama is in firm control. Renamo's official line is that a return to war is inconceivable now that Mozambique has its first democratically elected gov-

**SOUTH AFRICA is helping to reconstruct Mozambique but, while some welcome the assistance, others deeply mistrust "mabhunu" (the boers) whom they believe have raped their land. Brian Latham of the Independent Foreign Service reports.**

ernment. But this assurance can be accompanied at times by a thinly veiled warning that Renamo remains well-organised and trained

In reality, Mozambique is run by non-governmental organisations (NGOs). And even they can do little to resurrect the country. UNOMOZ, the UN peacekeeping force deployed last year to monitor the elections and to collect all weapons of war held by both factions, did a less than perfect job. Some estimate there are about 1-million AK-47s still unaccounted for in Mozambique - and several million undetonated anti-personnel and anti-tank mines

Renamo's Chief of Internal Administration in Manica Province, Albino Muchanga (40) says his party is not confronting

Frelimo, but that nurses, teachers and administrators in Renamo-controlled areas are dissatisfied that they are not being integrated into the civil service

Nevertheless, Frelimo officials are not welcome in Dombe. When a police contingent arrived there recently, they were immediately sent back to Chimoio, the capital of Manica. Muchanga declined to admit that this had happened, but did say that the police contingent had been carrying AK-47s and that the Renamo officials in Dombe had taken exception to government police carrying weapons of war in "their" zone

Despite Renamo forming "governments" within the government, there are signs that the Renamo hierarchy is not in full command of its grassroots leadership. Banditry, as much as politics, is the motivation behind the chaos

Because of the absence of real government and administration in Mozambique, information and statistics are scant. Ask a businessman in Chimoio what the rate of inflation is and he will shrug his shoulders. "Maybe they know in Maputo," he'll say

Nevertheless, local people complain that prices of many commodities seem to double every few months and that the meticais (the local currency) is now worthless. People exchange currency openly, despite the law, and shops, restaurants and bars will accept Zimbabwe dollars,

South African rands or US dollars with alacrity

With unemployment standing at a possible 80% and a minimum wage of about R50 a month, poverty and squalor is pervasive. Investment has been negligible and virtually all development is donor-funded

Despite the desperation, the almost complete absence of infrastructure and the overwhelming poverty, the Mozambican government has made it difficult for foreigners to invest in the country. But now in a bid to lure investors, Finance and Planning Minister Tomas Salomao says the government has cut red tape to make it more attractive and easy for foreign investment

Foreigners wanting to invest in Mozambique must have a Mozambican partner with a minimum stake of between 10 and 15% - and again, the bureaucracy involved can tie the investor in knots for months and even years

Even tourists have had to cut a swathe through bureaucratic red tape - and pay for the privilege - before entering Mozambique. Simply crossing borders can take hours as apathetic customs officials demand foreign currency for every piece of paper they have to process. One faces problems with officials of all sorts, perhaps because they are paid infrequently, but Mozambicans complain incessantly about corruption within their own police force



**B**Y ALMOST every measure, Mozambique is the poorest nation on earth. It is, however, well endowed by nature. The Pande gasfields, 300km up the coast from Maputo, could generate \$150m in annual exports, half as much again as Mozambique's total exports in 1993. But releasing those gains assumes that SA, the only market on the horizon, is willing to buy the stuff at close to R12 a gigajoule, double the cost of bulk gas in the US.

The World Bank is excited by the thought of what Pande gas could do for Mozambique. But an informed review of the bank's own published work on the subject raises questions about the level of risk involved. Bluntly is the market really there?

A Gulf/Amoco consortium discovered Pande in 1961, but relinquished its concession because there was no market. Interest revived in the late '80s. The World Bank got into the act in 1990 and released a fairly exhaustive report two years later, identifying SA as the key market.

**(218)**  
**EN**mpresa Nacional de Hidrocarburos, Mozambique's state-owned oil and gas company, took the report to SA. A letter of co-operation was signed with Sasol.

By March last year, the company and Sasol were casting around for a partner versed in pipeline construction. Enter Houston-based energy company, Enron. When, in July, the Mozambican company and Sasol fell out, mainly over the price Sasol was prepared to pay for the gas, Enron took over as primary partner. In December, Enron signed a memorandum of understanding with the Mozambican company and government giving it exclusive rights, effective until next April, to develop a plan for the extraction, transmission and marketing of the gas.

Since then there have been all kinds of angry noises coming from behind the stage curtain. At one point, Enron persuaded congressmen Ben Gilman and Lee Hamilton, chairman and ranking minority member respectively of the house international relations committee, to write to President Joaquim Chissano stressing the importance they attached to Enron's continued par-

# Is Pande gas an economic lifeline or a potential fiasco?

SIMON BARBER in Washington

However, rumours persist that Enron is on the outs with Maputo and that Sasol is back in, but World Bank officials remain confident that this is not the case, and that the parties will soon sign a formal term sheet.

Once that is done, Bank officials see it taking another 18 months to finance and close the deal, and perhaps as long again to build the necessary gas treatment plant and pipeline. In the interim, the bank is financing the drilling of two wells later this year to confirm reserves, and is providing technical assistance to bring the Mozambicans up to speed on running a gas industry.

In theory, then, Pande is set to go on stream by 1998. Who is going to buy the gas? Aside from a small portion that will be piped into Maputo and other towns to power factories and cool hotels, current thinking calls for almost all of it to be routed around the Kruger Park, through the Eastern Transvaal and back up to Phalaborwa. There it will be pumped into a mighty, IDC-backed chemistry set to turn some 150-million tons of iron-rich coppermine tailings — magnetite — into iron carbide at a planned rate of 4-million tons a year.

At first glance, the scheme is elegant. It takes care of Mozambique's market problem. It also permits SA to turn environmentally noxious mine waste into a valuable commod-

ity (iron carbide cuts out the blast furnace stage in steel production).

At the same time, Pande gas has a chance to establish a foothold in SA, where its availability will attract other consumers.

Well, there may be several reasons for feeling queasy. Pande and Phalaborwa each represent \$600m bets, or more. There is something unnerving about having two megaprojects so mutually dependent. A glitch in one can mean the failure of both. And neither country can afford to throw away such sums.

What is being proposed at Phalaborwa is no piece of cake. The only other plant where iron ore and methane are used to make iron carbide is in Trinidad, and it is less than one 10th the planned size of the Phalaborwa project.

Also, the high titanium content of Phalaborwa's magnetite might pose technical problems.

**A**nd then there is the market. Is there really sufficient world demand for iron carbide? If so, what is it going to cost in other infrastructure improvements to get the product to the coast? Can Phalaborwa survive a steel glut and, if not, what happens to Pande?

The believers say not to worry. Phalaborwa is only necessary to

achieve Pande's initial viability. What with the Kudu field off the Namibian coast, the coal-bed methane deposits in the Waterberg, not to mention Sasol's methane-from-coal output, SA is going to become a gasified country over the medium to long term, especially if the government creates the right regulatory and tax environment. As industry refits, expands and grows more environmentally conscious, gas will look ever more enticing as both a fuel and a feed stock — if it is available at the right price.

What is the right price? That is a complicated question, but one may reasonably wonder whether Kudu or Pande (beyond the Phalaborwa phase) have a realistic chance of quickly achieving it. The Kudu field lies in deep, treacherous waters. Development costs are estimated at up to \$1.5bn. To recoup that investment, while staying competitive with coal in price per delivered gigajoule, Kudu gas will need to be sold in huge, steady volumes. In other words, it might just be able to compete with coal for electricity generation in the Cape.

Pande gas comes out of the ground cheaply enough. The costly part is getting it across the 900km to Gauteng. Even transporting it to Richards Bay/Durban would require a serious piece of pipe.

In terms of transmission costs to Gauteng and Phalaborwa, Water-

berg would seem to have a considerable edge. The believers counter that what Waterberg gains in relative proximity to major customers, it loses in other ways. A lot of wells will have to be drilled to access the coal-bed methane, and the environmental and treatment costs will be higher because the gas reaches the wellhead with nasty chemicals in it. Perhaps the most important variable in trying to determine what would constitute the right price for Pande gas is the degree to which SA needs it.

Sasol already makes its own gas and distributes it, in the Gauteng area at least, through Gaskor.

The Sasol product produces less heat than the natural kind, but that is largely a matter of tweaking the chemistry. The Secunda plant is already turning out high-calorific-value gas. Plans are afoot to pump it down a re-jiggered Petronet pipe to Richards Bay. Furthermore, some argue that Secunda may have a potential flow rate higher than Pande.

**T**his adds to the list of things an investor in the Pande/Phalaborwa deal might want to know.

What are Sasol's intentions? As protection levels for its liquid fuels diminish, does it mean to produce more high-calorific gas, or will it devote the gas it would no longer be using for synfuels to upping production of other chemicals?

Does it propose to use its market power — especially in Gauteng, where it owns the Gaskor network, but also arising from its alliance with Petronet to supply KwaZulu-Natal — effectively to dictate the price at which these imports enter SA pipes? Will government permit this? And what, by the way, is the real cost of Sasol gas?

Unless the answers to these questions are the right ones, the chances of Pande gas being used for anything but making iron carbide in Phalaborwa seem remote. And that is assuming Phalaborwa works out and does not turn to gas supplies nearer home. Waterberg is rather closer, after all.

Perhaps this is alarmist, but the people of Mozambique deserve better than to be the fall guys in yet another development fiasco.



ongoing mismanagement and environmental damage have ruined resources

# water shortage

MG 13-19/10/95

irrigation water required for one hectare of land is enough to meet the domestic needs of almost 900 people a year. Water losses associated with the supply of irrigation water are around 30 percent. A one-percent reduction to 29 percent would meet the basic water needs of nine million people.

Water restrictions imposed on urban consumers and increased tariffs on users of bulk water from government dams mainly municipalities and large industries, are one way of ensuring that water is conserved.

But government owned water is just a tiny proportion of the resource and the only long term solution lies in a thorough overhaul of the country's water law to allow the state to regain control of the bulk of water resources and allocate these in a planned and equitable way.

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry has begun to do just that, by preparing a White Paper on water law reform. This will allow for the creation of catchment authorities that will have real powers to allocate and control water use. In this way rivers like the Olifants can be better cared for and used by a greater proportion of the population — instead of being subjected to an unregulated system that encourages the owner takes all principle.

But organised commercial agriculture which feels under siege from new land restitution and redistribution laws has already indicated it will fiercely resist any initiatives that will erode their rights to water — especially at a time when years of drought have pushed many farmers to the wall.

The owners of large agricultural estates and plantations will also be emboldened by property clauses in the Interim Constitution that are interpreted by many as a protection of their land and thus riparian and private water rights.

In 1852 Chief Seattle wrote an often quoted letter in response to US government requests for title to his peoples land. It said: "How can you buy or sell the sky? The land? The idea is strange to us. If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them? The rivers are our brothers. They quench our thirst. So you must give to the rivers the kindness that would give any brother."

In South Africa the waters have been bought and sold under a system of private management that defies compassion.

"This highly distorted access to natural resources is not the fault of the haves. Large scale bulk water users such as forestry, agriculture and municipalities are merely responding to the legal circumstances concerning the control of water," says Forster.

**T**he fault lies with the laws which govern the ownership, allocation, access to, use and management of water and the political system which maintained such laws. The only solution, he says, is for the state to take back public ownership of the rivers and the groundwater.

The problem is that civil strife in South Africa is more likely to take place over water reform than the land that is often mistakenly described as the most heavily contested resource in this country.

## A river barely runs through it

(218) MG 13-19/10/95

Mozambique's rivers all originate elsewhere — and by the time they get to the drought-ravaged country, they are almost useless.

Justin Arenstein reports

**M**ozambican goodwill towards South Africa is drying up — with a growing clamour that South Africa is responsible for that country's increasingly parched crops and dwindling rivers.

Not even a flying visit to Maputo late last week by South Africa's water guru Kader Asmal is expected to satisfy Mozambique's increasingly militant agriculturalists, who are convinced that South Africa is over utilising a limited resource.

The growing outrage in southern Mozambique stems from the fact that Mozambique has been forced to rely on its rivers for water because of its severely under-developed water infrastructure.

None of these rivers, however, originate within the country and all are heavily utilised by neighbouring countries such as South Africa, Zimbabwe and Swaziland before entering Mozambique. After three years without any significant rains, Mozambique's rivers are drying up.

Mozambican government authorities contend that a number of South African dams on the Injaka and Inkomati rivers in Mpumalanga and the increased agricultural use of the Olifants and Crocodile rivers have aggravated this situation to the point where many of Mozambique's once major waterways have ceased to flow.

Asmal was attempting to address this growing dissatisfaction when he flew to Maputo last week for an urgent one-day meeting with his counterparts there.

"Yes, South Africa is very aware that the Mozambicans are unhappy about the quantity of water reaching them. In fact, the Mozambicans were so unhappy that they declined to sign a proposed Memorandum of Understanding — they called it a 'feel good document'," said Peter van Niekerk, Asmal's chief engineer for project planning and a delegation member.

"Instead, they immediately signed a draft document calling for the creation of a joint water commission between our two countries. This is much more than we had expected or hoped for and, as a result, a formal treaty between South Africa and Mozambique is scheduled to be signed in early November — after the two countries' Cabinets approve the document, of course."

Acknowledging that the proposed treaty won't bring any dramatic or other gains for either Mozambique or South Africa in the short term, Van Niekerk explained that "the present drought is so severe that we don't have the capacity to supply Mozambique with much more water than it's currently getting."

"But what we're actually doing is laying the framework for 10 to 15

years from now. This agreement will be the keystone for similar treaties throughout the sub-continent."

Although no formal complaint has yet been lodged with South African authorities, it is also hoped that Asmal's visit will quash grumblings for a World Court lawsuit against South Africa for allegedly violating international water conventions.

"We've informed the South Africans that we don't agree with unilateral decisions to build dams on international rivers such as the Sabie River," explains Mozambican National Water Board Director Luis Elias.

"We depend on the rivers that flow from neighbouring countries, but if we don't like their decisions what can we do?" asks southern Mozambique's Regional Director for Water Affairs, Issufo Cautamila. "We can't just go and knock the dams down."

Although the threatened legal action is seen as nothing more than a political lever to impress the South Africans with Mozambique's seriousness, the threat itself could seriously harm South Africa's image both within the sub-continent and in the Organisation for African Unity (OAU). South Africa has repeatedly tried to emphasise that although it is a regional superpower, it will not bully its neighbours.

Declining to comment on a possible meeting between Minister Asmal and his regional counterparts to establish non-riparian rights to water systems for all the countries within the sub-continent, South Africa's Director of Legal Services for Water Affairs, Willem Labuschagne, would only say that "non-riparian rights are on the cards. But there is no concrete framework for this yet and only long negotiating will produce such a framework."

Labuschagne also dismissed hopes for 'quick fix' solutions to water shortages via exchange programmes with countries such as Zambia and Zaire which have abundant water.

"Water exchange schemes with such countries is just talk at the moment," he said.

"Water supplies to Mozambique should increase, though, when programmes such as the eradication of exotic trees along water courses in South Africa begin to have an effect. These plants can consume up to 30 percent of river-borne water."

Labuschagne also added that the entire body of South African water legislation is presently being reviewed, including farmer's riparian rights to water that flows through their property.

"This process allows for public participation and good suggestions will definitely not be ignored," he said.

● Submissions can be sent to Dr Kader Asmal, Minister of Water and Forestry Affairs, Private Bag X9052, Cape Town, 8000 — African Eye News



PHOTOGRAPH: HENNER FRANKENFELD



PANDE GAS (218)  
PM 20/10/95

## Great expectations?

A significant natural gas deposit was discovered in north-central Mozambique in 1961. But efforts to exploit it have proved elusive. The most recent failure, over price, was a proposed deal with Sasol to absorb

the gas into its expanding industrial gas pipeline.

Now the Industrial Development Corp is negotiating to bring the gas to Palabora to convert waste magnetite owned by Palamin (more than 200 Mt) into iron carbide or iron. One technical problem would be the high titanium content of the magnetite. It would also be capital-intensive — a cost of around R1,5bn has been suggested.

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US oil and gas company Enron has been vigorously promoting the development of the Pande deposit. It has signed a "memorandum of understanding" with the Mozambican government. And the World Bank is keeping a close eye on prospects.

Enron claims there is enough gas to operate the magnetite process for 30 years at a rate of 50m gigajoules a year. The idea is beautiful but transport costs pose problems. The shortest route would be 500 km but Mozambique might prefer to route the pipeline through Maputo to give access to potential domestic consumers. Then the line would be more than 850 km.

Proven reserves at Pande stand at 1,7 trillion cubic feet of gas — enough to run a 600 MW generator for 25 years. Mozambique's national hydrocarbon company, Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH), claimed recently that total reserves could reach some 8 trillion cubic feet, though this seems to be optimistic.

Price is still the main issue. A press report claims Sasol was willing to pay R12/gigajoule — not enough for ENH.

All of Pande's gas would be of only marginal importance to SA — where coal reserves dwarf other fossil fuel resources — but could be of great value to poverty-stricken Mozambique. ■

# IMF agrees to fund Mozambique afresh

FROM SAPA-AFP

Maputo — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) had agreed to fresh funding for impoverished Mozambique, Finance Minister Tomas Salamao said yesterday

Salamao, who returned from talks with the IMF in Washington at the weekend, said the Mozambican government would negotiate funding for a new three-year economic reform programme to begin in February next year

An IMF mission is due in Mozambique early next month, a week before the government will present its budget proposal to parliament for approval

Mozambique began its first IMF-backed structural adjustment programme to liberalise a centrally state-planned economy in 1987

But the country still depends on foreign credit to finance more than 60 percent of its budget

It has received more than \$1 billion in foreign aid and credit this year, including balance-of-payment support

Salamao said the talks with the IMF were tough and that while the

CT(PR) 24/10/95 (218)

financiers agreed Mozambique was fulfilling some of its conditions, it complained the country fell short in some areas, such as its failure to reduce inflation

The IMF has further criticised the government for agreeing to a 37,5 percent wage hike last month which has brought the minimum monthly salaries up to 218 153 meticals (\$21)

## Criticism

Yet the IMF's tough stance has provoked increasing criticism from some of Mozambique's bilateral donors, while effects of the reforms, such as rising prices, are causing social unrest at home

Hundreds of youths took to the streets of Maputo earlier this month, protesting the rising cost of living, while trade unions have threatened a general strike for the past six months

Economists here say that while the cost of living for ordinary people has soared since the launch of the reforms, overall national production levels are no higher than they were before.



# MISSION Maputo

□ Mbeki set for security talks with Mozambique leaders  
(2/18) AAG 27/10/95

## Political Staff and Reuter

DEPUTY President Thabo Mbeki and deputy foreign minister Aziz Pahad flew to Maputo today for security talks with Mozambique leaders.

"The meeting was at the request of Mozambique to discuss the security situation there," government spokesman Ricky Naidoo said.

A foreign affairs spokesman said the meeting followed discussions between President Nelson Mandela and his Mozambican counterpart, Joaquim Chissano, when the two heads of state were in New York last week for the United Nations anniversary celebration.

Mr Naidoo was unable to say whether the talks would focus on the internal security situation in Mozambique or that on the border between South Africa and Mozambique.

It was not clear whether the South Africans would meet Mr Chissano but they will meet Mozambican Prime Minister Pascoal Mocumbi.

Mr Mbeki's office, commenting on the discussions, said the deputy president had to cancel all of today's engagements to enable him to make the trip.

A spokesman for President Nelson Mandela said Mr Mbeki had been sent to "attend to urgent matters of state".

However, he said, this should not be interpreted as meaning the situation was grave.

It was expected the deputy president would make a statement on his return tonight.



Thabo Mbeki

# US firm to develop natural gas field in Mozambique

By JOHN FLEMING

Maputo — Mozambican government officials involved in the negotiations on the development of the Pande natural gas field indicate the government has reached an agreement with Enron, the Houston, Texas-based corporation.

Enron officials in Maputo and in Houston refused to comment on the deal, but Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano said in New York last week that Enron would soon sign a contract with the government to develop the field.

The Mozambican Minister of Mineral Resources, John Kachamula, said the agreement with Enron was

reached last week.

The estimated \$500 million investment in developing the field in Mozambique's southern Inhambane province, and building the pipeline to South Africa, is enormously important to the continued development of Mozambique. But it could also have a major impact on the long term energy strategy for South Africa.

For Mozambique, the Pande project could generate annual revenues of \$150 to \$200 million in hard currency, according to Kachamula, roughly doubling the current exports of the Mozambican state. Officials say both the government — which will go into the project

with Enron as a joint partner — and Enron, must each acquire financing for the deal. The World Bank, which funded an initial \$23 million study of the project, has indicated its willingness to help finance Mozambique's share of the investment.

While financing is not a huge concern, there are worries about finding a customer for the gas.

Many involved in the project are pinning their hopes on Palabora Mining Company as a major buyer. Palabora has studied using the gas to produce iron carbonate from the tons of waste produced in mining copper.

American Embassy officials in Maputo point out that the sale to

Palabora and other mining outfits could benefit Mozambique by creating exports that could flow back through the port of Maputo.

"Mozambique would be making money coming and going," said American ambassador Dennis Jett.

"If Palabora buys the gas, they could create a product from their waste material, reduce most of the environmental damage at the mine site, and be able to export the iron carbonate back through Maputo — a shorter distance than to the South African ports."

Others, including Kachamula, express their fear about finding buyers. "According to the agreement, Enron has six months to line

up some buyers in South Africa I worry that they might not find them," Kachamula said.

Enron has courted Eskom, Sasol and a number of mining companies but so far all have said that Enron is asking too much for the gas. Eskom officials say that it currently costs some R8,80 to produce a kilowatt of energy from coal and would cost more than twice that to produce a kilowatt from natural gas.

Eskom spokesman Peter Adams said his company had "spoken to Enron about the Pande project but that Eskom, "has lots of coal now and there is no strong likelihood of using natural gas in the short term." — Independent Foreign Service

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## Enron ready to wrap up deal on Pande gas fields

(218) BD 3/11/95  
Mungo Soggot

US EXPLORATION company Enron is poised to sign an agreement with the Mozambique government to develop the Pande gas fields, in what could be the first major investment in the war-ravaged country in years. ud

Mozambique's Coal and Hydrocarbons national director Niheriwa Maseliha said yesterday the two sides would sign an agreement for the \$800m deal in two or three weeks. Enron would have six months to find customers for the gas. ud

An Enron spokesman in Houston said the company was pleased with the progress of the negotiations and was confident of a "short time frame" to wrap up the agreement. ud

But officials in Mozambique have voiced fears that Enron will not be able to find a major anchor client. Potential clients, such as Eskom, say Enron's rates are too expensive. Eskom had considered using it for power generation. iw

Other exploration companies, including Switzerland's Asea Brown Boveri, have expressed interest in developing the fields, while Petrolet has expressed interest in distributing it. BR

Enron has been talking to the Mozambique government for more than a year. ol  
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90

# Animals killed for

(218) ARS. 6/11/95 (218)

## Wildlife 'slaughtered to fund wars...

Date/line: MAPUTO

**T**HE endless bush of Mozambique screams with silence. It stands stripped of wildlife thanks to three decades of war and thanks to what is emerging as a vast, systematic slaughter of animals, encouraged by the armed forces of apartheid-era South Africa.

A new judicial inquiry in South Africa reveals that military and intelligence units trafficked in poached ivory and rhino-horn to finance civil wars the regime fanned in Mozambique, Angola and Namibia during the 1970s and 1980s

Although South Africa has long boasted of leadership in conservation, the evidence suggests some in the white-minority establishment cared nothing about slaughtering elephants and rhinoceroses by the thousands in neighbouring nations

South Africa kept the wars alive to destabilise hostile black-ruled neighbours. The chaos allowed armed factions on all sides to decimate wildlife for food, personal profit and war-funds

In Mozambique alone, half a dozen armies used everything from assault rifles to aircraft to slaughter animals. Under the

cover of civil war, 90 percent of Mozambique's elephants were butchered

"Helicopters were used to absolutely decimate wildlife," conservationist Paul Dutton said "With a helicopter gunship, you could annihilate a whole river of hippos" Their teeth would be carved for decorations in Asia

Peace returned to Mozambique three years ago and officials rejoice that some surviving elephants have emerged from hiding. But, the legacy of war grips the countryside, where one can travel for hours and see nothing larger than a bird

White rhinoceroses, reintroduced to Mozambique in the 1960s, became extinct locally during the war. Only a handful of rare black rhinos are left. The elephant population fell from 65 500 in 1974 to an estimated 7 000 in 1989.

Environmentalists long accused the South African military of playing a big role in elephant- and rhino-poaching. This entailed them killing animals or getting allies to do it and arranging for tusks and horns

to be transported out of war zones and sold.

"This was an open secret," said Allan Thornton, chairman of the London-based Environmental Investigation Agency "Trafficking during the apartheid era was a formal or informal policy, at least on the part of some elements in the government"

In 1988, the South African army cleared itself of wrongdoing in an internal inquiry. That remains the official verdict until a new, independent commission appointed by President Nelson Mandela's government issues its report early next year

Mr Justice Mark Kumleben's inquiry heard recently four weeks of testimony, mostly from ex-military and intelligence men. Some of the evidence alleges

■ South Africa set up a front company in 1977 to fly weapons to Angolan rebels and fly out poached ivory to pay for them. A general claimed the traffic stopped in 1979 — a year South Africa issued permits to import 3 911 elephants tusks and 700 rhino horns from Angola. But, traders testified that South Africa's army kept moving iv-

ry out of Angola throughout the 1980s. Similar networks existed in Mozambique

■ South African commandos in Namibia would cross the Zambezi River into Zambia in speedboats at night and return before dawn. One soldier said that the raiding parties would leave base with empty wooden crates. On their return, the crates held elephants tusks and rhino horns

■ Environmental groups investigating wildlife trafficking discovered that some dealers were members of the South African military, according to a confidential report in 1989 prepared by the World Wide Fund for Nature

South Africa was not alone in poaching in Mozambique. Of the six armies that fought there from the 1960s until a ceasefire in 1992, possibly only the Portuguese abstained from poaching

Mr Dutton, a wildlife consultant and former game-ranger who has worked in Mozambique since before independence, described finding a huge pile of bones at one national park near what was once a military camp

But, the issues of who poached what remains sensitive, at least in Mozambique, where two local armies, Rhodesian and Zimbabwean fighters also participated in the brutal slaughter during Zimbabwe's liberation struggle.

Judge Kumleben said at the start of his inquiry he hoped to separate fact from speculation on South Africa's smuggling — and to recommend steps to stop it from happening again

Bartolomeo Sotuo, Mozambique's director for wildlife, needs money from South Africa to restore his parks. He also needs the goodwill of his government and former rebels, now at peace, for whatever funds he can get from a limited supply

# apartheid

A total wipe-out for meat," he said "The only thing left in the whole park were some small antelope and a couple of hippos. It had been the only area in Mozambique where there had been giraffes. There's none now"

The wars in southern Africa, meanwhile, wound down with the end of the Cold War and South Africa's crawl away from apartheid. Mr Mandela was elected South Africa's first black president in April 1994 and pledged more neighbourly relations



# Mozambique's jam-packed jails notch up a heavy toll

Star 8/11/95

(218)

Beira - Mozambican prisons still apply the Siberian method of "rehabilitating offenders" adopted during the Frelimo government's dream of turning the country into a former Soviet-style communist state.

Between March and August this year, 31 inmates died at Cabeça de Velho in Manica, central Mozambique. The prison was built for 300 people, but it has 950 inmates. Officials do not report prison deaths, although it is generally known that hundreds die in other centres every year.

Prisoners - some as young as 14 - live in small, crowded cells. They are denied food, clothing, medical care and water.

Many simply starve to death, while others are too weak to fight off the numerous outbreaks of tuberculosis, pneumonia and malnutrition.

Lucky prisoners have one meal per day, usually thick maize porridge and beans or dried fish. "There is no need to talk about cooking oil," said a former prisoner.

The government says that it does not have money to improve the diet of prisoners. No attempts are being made to introduce a system that enables prisoners to grow their own food as part of their prison labour.

Prison conditions here attracted international attention for the first time after the death, due to starvation, at Chimoio Prison of four Zimbabwean gold panners this year.

The problem appears to be historical. Soon after independence from Portugal in 1975, the Mozambican government adopted Marxism-Leninism as its official ideology.

Under that system, offenders were supposed to be confined to re-education camps for reform.

Although the camps have since been abolished, the situation in Mozambican prisons has not changed to suit acceptable international conventions.

The introduction of economic reforms in 1987 caused a drop in the standard of living. This led to a rise in crime, putting pressure on the few prisons in urban areas.

Chimoio Prison, for example, was designed for about 300 people. Today, it has 920 inmates. Beira Central Prison, with a capacity of 400, has double the accepted number.

Other prisons in Buzi, Machanga, Gorongosa, Caia and Dondo have similar prob-

lems.

Mozambican police are also allowed, by law, to operate their own prisons. These are centres where they keep suspects awaiting trial or during investigations.

Those arrested can stay under such conditions for up to six months before they are brought before a court.

In Gaza, southern Mozambique, prisoners went on strike early this year in protest against such delays. Police say the system is so congested that delays are inevitable.

"Everyone is looking for an alternative for survival, since the economic rehabilitation programme is squeezing everyone," say police.

At Cabeça de Velho in Manica, prisoners have already requested the church and civil rights groups to pressure the government to improve their conditions. They made the appeal after receiving some food from a local church group.

While the society slowly recovers from nearly two decades of civil war, the Mozambican government has yet to realise that its prison system of confining people to re-education camps or under inhuman conditions contributed, though partly, to that war.

The former rebel movement, Renamo, emerged soon after the Rhodesian forces attacked the Sacuze re-education camp in Gorongosa in 1976, freeing thousands of people.

Among them was Andre Matsangaise, the man who immediately became the leader of Renamo. This party wreaked havoc for 16 years until the country held its multiparty elections last year.

Other camps, highly resented by the people, were Ruaria and Chaimite, in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, and Unango in Niassa Province.

Several political leaders and dissidents, including Uria Simango, Joana Simiao and Lazaro Kavandame, are known to have disappeared at the camps.

Chaimite, Ruaria and Unango housed suspects and convicted criminals. But in the majority of cases, people were sentenced to re-education for petty nuisances and minor offences like drunkenness, loitering, vagrancy, homelessness and prostitution. - Star Foreign Service-AIA

## Mozambique gets set to join the 'Club'

### Political Staff

AUCKLAND — Mozambique has been given the green light to join the Commonwealth.

A former Portuguese colony, Mozambique is surrounded by former British colonies which have much-needed access to Commonwealth funds and development expertise.

Commonwealth Heads of Government chairman Jim Bolger announced yesterday "with some enthusiasm and pleasure" that government heads had agreed to "warmly welcome Mozambique to the Club and the membership of the Commonwealth as a unique and special case"

He said that because it was ringed by Commonwealth member states, Mozambique had for some years wanted to be part of this association of states (218)

Southern African nations had backed Mozambique's application ARG 13/11/95



# Mozambique in the Club

CT 20/11/95 2/18



**PRESIDENT JOAQUIM CHISSANO:** The move to peace culminated in the country's first multi-party elections a year ago, won by Frelimo

administrative and the military field. So this will bring Mozambique into line with its neighbours," Edis said.

Mozambique is bordered by Commonwealth states on all its land frontiers: Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Swaziland. It has sought Commonwealth membership several times over the years.

Edis said that at the international level Mozambique would be able to take part in regular meetings of heads of government and ministers.

"Although the Commonwealth is not an economic organisation there are programmes of co-operation and scholarships only available to people from Commonwealth countries.

"Mozambique is joining a family of nations with a common approach to issues, such as democracy and human rights," he said.

Portugal as the former colonial power jealously guards its interests in Mozambique, but Edis disagreed with predictions that English would replace Portuguese as the official language.

and we look forward with other Commonwealth countries to working with Mozambique inside this new framework."

He arrived shortly before the November 1992 Rome peace accords which ended a 17-year civil war between the Maputo government and Renamo that devastated one of the world's poorest countries.

The move to peace culminated in the country's first multi-party elections a year ago, won by President Joaquim Chissano's Frelimo party, which had ditched Marxist ideology after ruling since independence from Portugal in 1975.

A British military advisory team has been training Mozambican troops from both sides for a unified army for several years.

Asked why Mozambique had wanted to join the Commonwealth, Edis (52), said he had discussed this with Chissano and Mozambican cabinet ministers.

## Co-operation

"The point that was made repeatedly was that Mozambique was the only country in this part of Africa that was not already a member of the Commonwealth, so clearly there is a dimension of improving regional co-operation," Edis said.

"I think it will help to promote Mozambique's interest in further integration in the region and through joining in what one can call the Commonwealth culture of the region.

"The Commonwealth countries of the region have similar ways of doing things, in the educational field, the judicial, legal,

**IAN CHRISTIE**  
MAPUTO Britain no longer has an ambassador in Mozambique, but that's a sign of friendship rather than hostility.

Richard Edis, ambassador since November 1992, was due to leave for London last Friday at the end of his assignment with a title different from the one he had when he arrived.

## High commissioner

"I haven't quite got used to it, but strictly you should address me as high commissioner," he said following Mozambique's admission to the Commonwealth last Monday.

He declined to say who his successor would be and it was not clear when the new high commissioner would take up his post. The former Portuguese colony - the 53rd member of the family of nations - is the only member not to have had colonial ties with Britain.

"It's traditional that heads of diplomatic missions in Commonwealth countries are called high commissioner rather than ambassador. The term is historical and I think it implies closer and friendlier relations between Commonwealth countries than those between foreign countries," Edis said.

"For Mozambique to have joined an association of nations which Britain was responsible for founding is a very exciting moment in the closing week of my mission in Mozambique," said Edis.

"We are very delighted to welcome them as the 53rd member of the Commonwealth

"I don't think that there are any immediate implications for the Portuguese language here. On Commonwealth occasions, one of the ground rules is that English is used, but I don't think this is a great problem. A lot of English is spoken here."

Sport is one area Mozambique can expect benefits from. Commonwealth membership: participation in the Commonwealth Games, for example. "But it doesn't mean Mozambique will have to start playing cricket," Edis added with a chuckle.

PANDE GAS.

**Paying the piper**

FM: 24/11/95

The Industrial Development Corp and US energy giant Enron are locked in negotiations which could see gas from Mozambique's Pande gas fields used for major industrial development at Phalaborwa in the Northern Province.

Enron, which recently signed an agreement with Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos de Mozambique, has been given six months by the Mozambican government to find an SA customer for its proposed US\$700m gas field development.

The target now is Palabora Mining's 200 Mt stockpile of discarded magnetite (iron oxide) tailings. The aim is to reduce and beneficiate the magnetite to iron carbide for use in steel-making.

Houston-based Enron spokesman Carol Hensley says the \$13bn corporation will be able to deliver gas to SA by 1998 after a customer approves the completion of a 900 km pipeline from Pande. "But," she adds, "we are not totally dependent on the iron carbide plant and are also talking to other prospective SA customers."

Though Iscor is also interested in the development, it is looking at other processes such as coal-fuelled iron reduction. Magnetite contains about 60%-70% iron and carbide 85%-95%.

Palabora Mining MD Frank Fenwick says indications are that Pande gas could be too expensive as a reduction fuel. "We are

**BUSINESS**

keeping our options open and talking to others apart from the IDC"

An Industrial Development Corp spokesman says it will be decided next week whether the corporation will co-fund a proposed R15m feasibility study, which should indicate by April whether the carbide plant could become an economically acceptable and technologically proven option

The spokesman says the corporation has had initial discussions with Palabora Mining, Anglo American Gencor, Sasol and Iscor to find joint venture partners for the development of the stockpile

He says coal-based technologies exist for the reduction of magnetite to iron units and that these are also being looked at. He adds that Foskor's phosphate rock plant at Phalaborwa has a magnetite stockpile of about 35 Mt, which could be beneficiated

"The total stockpile could allow a 30-year life for the proposed 4 Mt/year carbide plant," he says

Iscor mining consulting services GM Ernst Venter confirms Iscor's interest in the proposed beneficiation of Palabora's magnetite stockpile but says the gas-fuelled reduction process is one of several options being considered by Iscor

"A steel-making plant is also an option — once a decision is taken to develop the stockpile — but costly pelletisation would be required," says Venter

Adds Venter "One should remember that priority would be accorded to adding value to the magnetite — to the benefit of the owners, co-developers and SA's economy — not to developing the Pande gas field. But, if Pande gas could eventually become the fuel source, the two projects would fit together"



# US looks set to bully SA into buying costly Pande gas

## SA into buying costly Pande gas

SIMON BARBER in Washington

PD 5/12/95

(218)

**W**ITH the help of muscle from the White House, Houston-based energy giant Enron Corp has just signed a deal with Mozambique to develop the Pande gas field. Now it expects Vice-President Al Gore, in SA today and tomorrow for the second meeting of the US-SA binational commission, to persuade SA to buy the bulk of Pande's output.

The Clinton administration went to considerable lengths to see that Maputo gave the Pande project to Enron, rather than an SA-led consortium, but Enron still needs to find major consumers in SA to make the venture viable. Unless SA customers are ready to buy large, steady quantities of the gas, Enron and Pande could be in trouble.

That would not be pleasing to Gore, Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary or Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, all of whom have travelled to SA for the circus. If the administration's handling of Mozambique is anything to go by, they will not be brushed off lightly.

In a letter to President Joaquim Chissano last October, White House national security adviser Anthony Lake threatened that US aid to Mozambique could be terminated because of machinations by Energy Minister John Kachamula to bounce Enron in favour of a group including Sasol and Asea Brown Boveri.

Sasol had been in on the project until last year, when it fell out with Mozambique's energy parastatal, Empresa Nacional do Hidrocarbonetos (ENH), mainly over the price Sasol was prepared to pay for the gas. Enron then signed a memorandum of understanding with ENH giving it exclusive rights, effective until April next year, to develop a plan for the extraction, transmission and marketing of gas.

Then relations between Enron and Kachamula soured, to the point, sources say, where Enron's Maputo representative accused the minister of corruption.

In July, Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa, who is taking a keen interest in the Pande project because of the development oppor-

tunities it may offer his own province, disclosed he had been told on the highest authority that Enron was out and Sasol back in.

Meanwhile, US Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary, who had expected to attend a signing of a formal agreement between Enron and Mozambique at the end of her SA visit in August, came home disappointed. Congressional Republicans were already flaying her for her propensity to travel with large retinues without producing much return on the taxpayer's investment.

Moreover, she had been accused on the floor of the House of Representatives of actually helping kill another Enron deal, a \$2.8bn power plant project at Dabhoi in India's Maharashtra state. Although that project is now back on track, it left the rails earlier this year after elections in which Hindu nationalists took over the state government.

The new government moved to scrap the deal, which would have represented the largest US investment yet in India, saying it was too sweet to Enron. Congressman Martin Hake charged that O'Leary had only made things worse with a public warning to New Delhi that "the failure to honour agreements between project partners and the various Indian governments will jeopardise not only the Dabhoi project,

but also other private power projects that are being proposed for international financing".

Hoke said "This blatant intimidation tactic inflamed nationalist sentiments (in Maharashtra) during what was already a very, very tough and sensitive process in terms of trying to save this deal." O'Leary could ill afford another fiasco involving politically influential Enron, but that was precisely what seemed to be brewing.

**O**n October 12, according to The Oil Daily, a respected US trade journal, Kachamula officially notified Enron he was tearing up the memorandum of understanding — despite Chissano having just assured the White House that the deal was on. Lake responded by suspending \$13.5m Mozambique was still due as part of its aid allotment.

Lake also wrote to Chissano. His tone brought to mind the Godfather. "There is at the moment a debate of unprecedented intensity in Washington with regard to my government's overall budget and, particularly, funding for foreign assistance. Mr-President, we hope for a minimal effect on Africa from this debate. However, it will become increasingly difficult to defend such pro-

grammes if some are able to argue that promising countries like Mozambique are not moving ahead rapidly to ensure economic growth through resource development."

In other words stop messing around, or you will wake up with the head of your favourite race horse next to you in bed. Enron was quickly back in the picture.

An agreement was signed in Maputo on November 13.

Since Pande was discovered by a Gulf/Ammoco consortium in 1961, the chief obstacle to its development has always been the lack of regional demand for gas to make its exploitation worthwhile. Enron, and the World Bank, which is supporting the venture, think they have found the answer in plans the Industrial Development Corporation is coordinating to build a massive plant at Phalaborwa to convert magnetite-rich copper mine tailings into iron carbide for steel-making.

However, backers of the Phalaborwa megaproject — which remains at the pre-feasibility study stage — have made clear that the price at which Pande gas can be delivered remains a critical factor in their choice of technology for the conversion process. There is a coal-based alternative.

And while the chemistry of the gas approach is simple enough —

mix iron oxide and methane under the right conditions and you get iron carbide — the implementation is tricky and untested on the scale envisaged at Phalaborwa.

Moreover, even if the gas-based process is selected, there are other sources that would not require the construction of a 900km pipeline around the Kruger park: Sasol's Secunda plant, for example, and coal bed methane from the Waterberg, whose potential is being explored by some of the same companies that have been approached about participating in Phalaborwa.

The problem for Enron boils down to this SA, with its abundant reserves of coal, is not a gasified country, which makes it a buyers' market for gas.

Its existing needs can be met by Sasol, which also has plenty of potential excess capacity should it decide to scale back liquid fuel production as subsidies and protection levels for synfuels decline.

**M**oreover, raising SA demand for gas, attractive as that might be in environmental terms, will require considerable investment in infrastructure and conversion.

The key issue, then, is price. Sasol was let go from the Pande project last year because it was not prepared to pay what Mozambique wanted. Enron is understood to be asking close to R12 a gigajoule, double the cost of bulk gas in the US. This has satisfied Maputo, but has yet to generate firm buyers in SA. One has to wonder how shifting to an energy source and feedstock that is relatively costly in international terms is going to improve the overall competitiveness of the SA economy.

The scene is set for an interesting tussle. Will the Clinton administration try the same tactics on SA that it used on Mozambique? Probably. But don't get bent out of shape. Beneath the rhetoric Gore will no doubt be spouting for public consumption. SA is just another place where US companies would like to make money. Helping them make money is the foundation of US policy. Why else do you think there's a binational commission?

# IMF praises Mozambique for good economic progress

CT (BR) 7/12/95 (218)

BY IAIN CHRISTIE

Maputo — The head of an IMF mission to Mozambique said this week that the country was making good economic progress

"The whole system has evolved very well and the economy has shown results, Anpam Basu, the deputy director of the IMF's Africa department, told a news conference

Basu downplayed the importance of meeting fixed benchmarks

"Benchmarks are not policies. They are something to look at to see if anything needs to be done to the policy," he said

Mozambique had planned to end this year with inflation of no more than 24 percent, but the target was revised to 34 percent in September

Basu said this too could not be met and estimated that by the end of the year, annual inflation would be between 40 and 50 percent

This compared with 50 percent from September last year to September this year, and 70 percent in the same period 12 months earlier

He estimated economic growth this year at between 3 and 4 percent, and up to 7 percent in what he termed productive

sectors of the economy

Sector by sector, estimates put growth at 5,4 percent in agriculture, 5 percent in industries and fisheries, 7 percent in construction and 12,7 percent in transport and communications

Official statistics will be published in the new year

Basu expressed appreciation at the stabilisation of the exchange rate of the Mozambican currency. After a sharp drop earlier this year it has over the past few weeks held at about 10 900 meticais to the dollar

"If fiscal and monetary policies are prudent, the exchange rate will not slip," he said

The ruling Frelimo party is selling significant chunks of the economy and wooing foreign capitalists

The sell-off ranges from a ship repair yard to copra and tea plantations, factories, breweries, hotels and sea freight agents, the government's Technical Unit for Enterprise Restructuring said in a recent policy document

Under advice from the IMF, state-owned commercial banks will also be privatised. The national airline may also go under the auctioneer's hammer, but that move is still being discussed. — Reuter



# Plea to slow the land rush in Mozambique

BY ANITA ALLEN  
Science Writer

Any decisions on development in the ecologically sensitive southern region of Mozambique should be delayed until proper land use plans are in place, says Dr John Ledger, director of the Endangered Wildlife Trust, which is the only non-government agency presently operating in Mozambique.

Ledger was commenting on the scramble for Mozambique, particularly by big business developers. These ventures include:

■ The Mosa Florestal project, a joint venture between Sappi, the Mozambique government and two Mozambique companies, to develop afforestation on 30 000ha adjoining the Maputo Elephant reserve. The project has been authorised, subject to an environmental impact assessment.

The EIA, which was commissioned by Sappi, was released last week by Natal University's Institute of Natural Resources (INR). It found that should the project go ahead on the proposed area of 30 000ha, there would be a significant impact on water resources, and a high negative impact on biodiversity.

■ US businessman James Blanchard's Blanchard Mozambique Enterprises project proposes the creation of a world-class tourist destination, through the development of the Inhaca-Santa Maria Peninsula and the three-fold extension of the Maputo Elephant Reserve. In the process Inhaca would be linked to Ponto do Ouro, by means of a railway line along the coast, the idea being to run an antique steam engine mass transit system.

■ A proposal by a South African consortium of businessmen for the development of Ponto do Ouro as a tourist mecca and town, complete with a five-star hotel, golf course, casino, boat launching facilities, caravan park, shopping centre and residential development.

In addition, South Africans are flocking to the region in increasing numbers. In the process numerous, illegal beach cottages have been erected and unscrupulous fishermen are plundering marine resources, especially reef fish, Ledger says.

"The Mozambique government is hamstrung because there is no land use plan for the area. This is a serious hindrance and it's now every man for himself with every interest group doing its own thing," Ledger said.

The EWT has had a presence in the southern region since 1982, where it runs a joint project with Mozambique's National Directorate of Forestry and Wildlife (DNFFB).

The region has been identified as having high conservation and eco-tourism potential, which would be enhanced through the development of a transfrontier park linking the Maputo Elephant Reserve and three parks in KwaZulu-Natal-Nduno, Tembe Elephant Reserve and the Kosi Bay Coastal Reserve.

The transfrontier park proposal has been backed by World Bank-funded studies. The most recent for the DNFFB

(218) Star 13/12/95  
was released in January by the Southern African office of the World Conservation Union (IUCN). It supported Ledger's point of view.

"The entire region extending from the Maputo River to the coast between Ponto do Ouro to Machangulo Peninsula has been subject to haphazard and uncontrolled development - the area has literally been carved up," the IUCN report said. "Remarkably, this development has, and is, occurring without any prior land use planning."

The report warned that the development was robbing local communities of natural resource use rights while future options for appropriate land uses were continually being foreclosed.

"The situation requires bold and urgent action to prevent incompatible land uses becoming a permanent feature of the landscape."

Asked to comment on the Sappi project, group environmental manager John Schotcher said the company was investigating whether downsizing the Mosa Florestal project would still be viable. It had also commissioned the INR to look into factors which could mitigate against negative impacts its EIA had identified.

## “ Big development plans could have negative effect on a sensitive region ”

He pointed out that the EIA process was not yet complete. Public comment on the EIA was now being invited and had to be submitted in writing by January 5. Following this, public meetings would be held in Maputo.

The final decision would rest with Mozambique's Council of Ministers, he said. The project represented a R178-million investment, and would create 1 200 jobs and R80-million per annum revenue after eight years.

"In the end the Mozambique government has to decide if the negative impacts outweigh the obvious socio-economic benefits," Schotcher said.

"Wise land use today should consider how the natural resources of a region can be used in a way that brings tangible and sustainable development. We believe a diversity of land uses in southern Mozambique offers the best development options. We also believe that forestry provides the opportunity to kick start other development options in the area, such as eco-tourism and conservation, by providing capital infrastructure that such forms of land use normally have great difficulty in funding."

Ledger said the EWT was participating very closely in the INR EIA process.

"We are worried about closing options of land use by going with timber, which would lock up land for an extended period," he said.



# Hot air over gas find

(218) Sawetan 29/12/95

**B**ENEATH THE ROLLING grasslands of southern Mozambique lies a huge reserve of natural gas which if piped to neighbouring South Africa could earn Mozambique, the poorest country in the world, round R500-million a year in hard currency

And last month, an aggressive American gas company Enron Corporation of Houston, Texas, triumphed over several competitors and signed an agreement with the Mozambique government to develop the field

Enron plans to construct a pipeline about 1 000km long into the South African market, provided it can find a customer. The only problem is that during the bidding process, Enron may have alienated many of the South African energy companies that were the most promising customers. Some of those companies had wanted a stake in the pipeline themselves

"If they don't have a buyer for the gas, then Enron loses its rights," said Mr Eric Daffern, a World Bank official. "They can't sit on it forever." Indeed, Enron must find a customer by June or seek an extension from the Mozambique government

## American pressure

The joint venture between Enron and Mozambique's state-owned energy company took diplomacy to put together, company executives and US officials said. It nearly fell apart several times in the last three months as Mozambican energy officials complained that they were under political pressure from the United States to accept what they saw as a bad deal

In the end, the accord came only after Enron agreed to give the state energy company a bigger share of the venture, Mozambique officials said. Along the way, US diplomats in Maputo and several US senators mounted a lobbying campaign to persuade Mozambique to sign with Enron

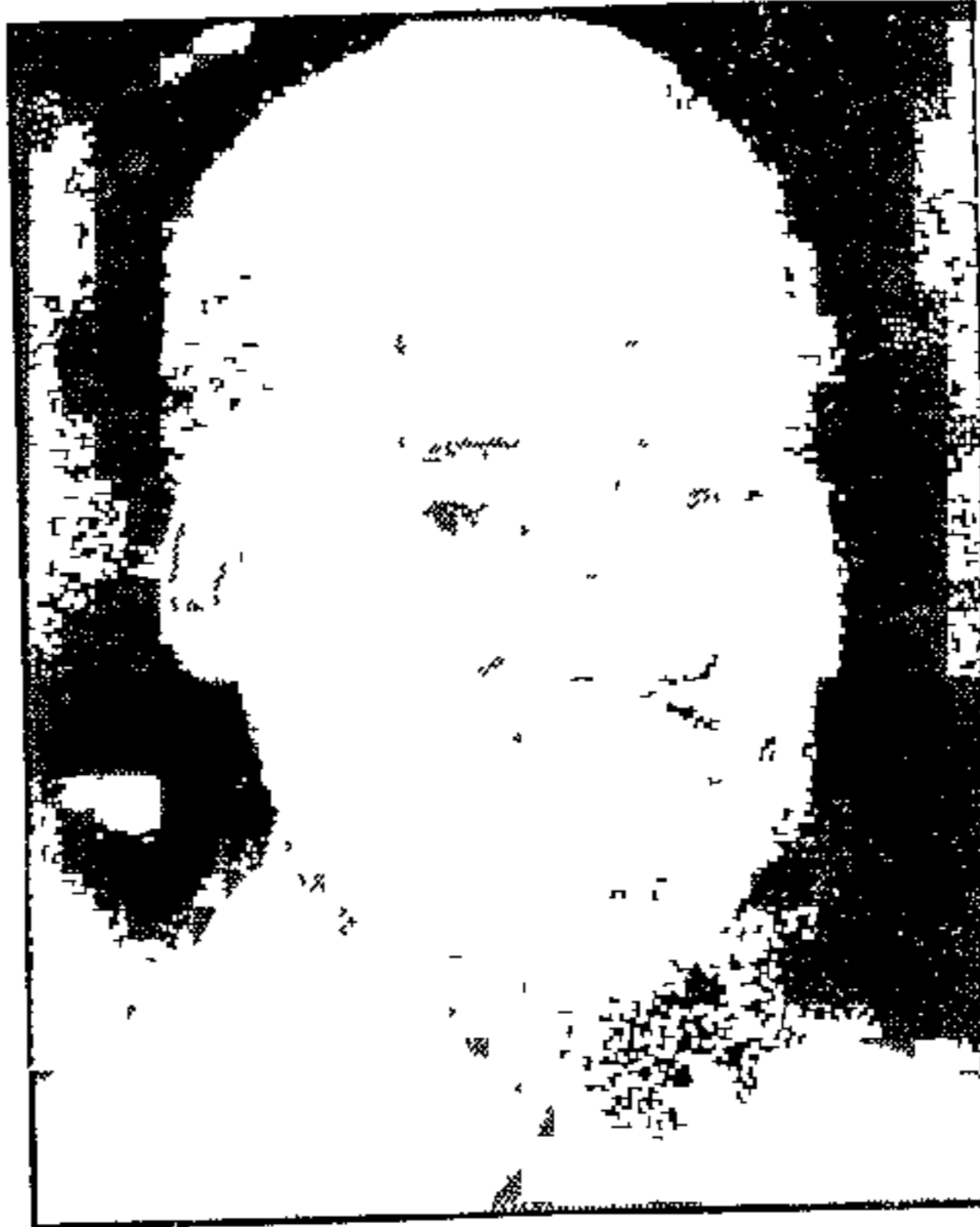
"Elements of the embassy did a bit of lobbying for the company, which I find a bit strange, because this is a commercial agreement," said Mr John Kachamila, Mozambique's minister of energy resources, who negotiated the deal. He contended that he was "told that other aid to Mozambique might be in jeopardy if this agreement was not signed"

Mozambique relies almost entirely on foreign aid for its budget and receives more than R140-million a year in US aid

US officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, denied that a specific deal to cut aid was made

"It was a little more nuanced than that," said one Clinton administration official. The Mozambique officials were told Congress would be less likely to approve the same level

An American company has won the contract to develop a vast Mozambican natural gas field but must find a buyer for the gas soon. **James C McKinley Jr.** of the *New York Times* explains why ...



**Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano**

of aid for the country if it rejected a major capital project, the official said

Enron's success in navigating the political waters of southern Africa is set against the background of its problems in India, where its project to build a R10,5-billion power plant in Maharashtra state was nearly derailed last summer after nationalist politicians charged that Enron had padded costs and bribed officials to get the contract

## Angered South African companies

But the hard-nosed American company is scarcely home free in Mozambique, for it stepped on the toes of South African companies to obtain the right to build the pipeline

One potential buyer, Eskom, has said the price for the gas was too high. Another possible customer, Sasol, is still stinging from having lost its bid to build the pipeline before Enron arrived on the scene in late 1994

Without sales contracts, Enron will never be able to attract the R2 100-million in financing to build the pipeline, World Bank officials say

Enron executives say they have high hopes of finding a buyer among South Africa's mining and steel companies, which could use the gas for mining operations

Joseph W Sutton, the president of Enron

Development, a subsidiary, said the talks were still in a preliminary stage

"We are hopeful," he said. "This is very early in the development stages of this project."

The pipeline project is Enron's first foray into Africa. The company is the largest natural gas supplier in the world, with 44 000 miles of pipelines in South America and the United States, and in recent years it has aggressively tried to break into new markets in the Third World

Gulf Oil Company discovered the Pande field in 1961 while drilling an exploratory well in Inhambane province. The field is 18 kilometres by 21 kilometres and has reserves of almost a trillion cubic metres. The Mozambican energy company Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos has exclusive rights to develop it

But 20 years of civil war in Mozambique hindered development. That changed when a peace treaty was signed in 1992. President Joaquim Chissano has been seeking to increase exports, which total only about R1 050-million a year, mostly prawns and cashew nuts. The Enron deal is one such effort

## Big money spinner

Although the terms of the joint venture are confidential, officials with knowledge of the details say Enron controls a majority of shares. After Enron pays taxes, however, the government will end up with about half the revenues – an expected R490 to R700-million a year

Last August, however, a tentative deal between Enron and the government began to unravel, a Clinton administration official said. US diplomats in Maputo tried to salvage it, and several US senators and Anthony Lake, the president's national security adviser, wrote letters to the Mozambican government

The World Bank then stepped in, concluding that Mozambicans were accepting too much risk. The deal was renegotiated and signed in November. But Mozambique officials then produced a minor political firestorm, complaining about US diplomats' role in the talks

In the end, however, the deal will hinge not on US diplomacy but on whether a market can be found in South Africa, a land with few gas reserves, Sutton said

If there is no sign of getting a market, Enron will be in trouble," Kachamila said



# Locals may have last say on wilderness area

(218) Star 30/12/95

Maputo - A pristine beauty spot in southern Mozambique has become an unlikely battleground for a power struggle between a South African company and an American billionaire

Although the battle - dividing timber merchants and tourism developers, politicians and ecologists - rages over their heads, local Mozambican villagers could fire the deciding shot.

In 1987 the Mozambican government invited South African timber giant, Sappi Forests, to invest in the southern Matutune district, bordering South Africa to the south and the Indian Ocean to the east

Civil war between the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo) government and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (Renamo) kept the project on hold until after a peace agreement in 1992

Now Sappi is keen to forge ahead with plans to plant about 32 000 hectares of Matutune with eucalyptus forest in a joint venture with the government and government-linked companies Sappi officials in Maputo said all the timber produced would be exported raw to South Africa.

The company promotes the project as "a tremendous opportunity for Sappi and for Mozambique, able to create hundreds of jobs and earn multimillion-dollar profits"

The Mozambican cabinet re-

approved the project in 1994, on the condition that it would not have a seriously destructive impact on the environment

Meanwhile, post-war Matutune has suddenly focused the interest of scientists, ecologists, wildlife conservationists and tourism entrepreneurs

Scientists have declared the rolling grasslands, swamp forests and lakes of Matutune as unique in southern Africa, and deserving international protection for its rare ecology and rich biodiversity

Conservationists working for the World Bank have said it has the potential to become a pioneering "trans-frontier conservation area" linking Tembo Elephant Reserve in South Africa to Maputo Elephant Reserve in Matutune

Under pressure from environmentalists, Sappi funded an environmental impact assessment study by the Natural Resources Institute of Natal University

The report said that while the Sappi project could present a "tremendous economic opportunity", water-guzzling eucalyptus trees could destroy the delicate balance of Matutune's ecology, ruining its beauty and destroying its wildlife

Louisiana businessman James B'anchard, meanwhile, has woven conservation concerns into a R2,8-billion tourism development proposal for 200 000ha of Matutune

Blanchard wants to put a fence around the Maputo Elephant Reserve, the Futi Corridor linking it to Tembe reserve in South Africa, and much of Matutune's scenic coast

He would create a vast private park with five-star hotels and private lodges, combining a game reserve with a seaside resort

His key condition is "Sappi out"

Both sides are pulling top political strings. While Sappi's project is a joint venture with the state, Blanchard was one of Renamo's key American backers during Mozambique's civil war

Some ecologists are in favour of Blanchard's proposal, arguing that profits from Sappi's eucalyptus plantations could be outweighed by a long-term ecotourism project for Matutune

The Mozambican government has yet to make a final choice

Meanwhile, its land commission argues that one vital element has been left out of the equation - the villagers of Matutune.

At present all land in Mozambique belongs to the state, but a new national land policy approved by the cabinet in September aims for the first time to protect the collective land rights of local communities.

If the new policy passes into law, both contestants for Matutune may have to come cap in hand not to the government, but to Matutune villagers - Sapa-AFP

MOZAMBIQUE — GENERAL

1996

JANUARY — JULY



# Mozambique has little to show for economic reform

BY JORGE DIQUE

Maputo — Eight years after adopting the International Monetary Fund's structural adjustment programme, the Mozambican government apparently has little to show for it.

Originally the government thought the programme would increase employment, but instead more than 35 000 workers have lost their jobs.

The government collects tax only in some areas of the economy.

Dependence on external donors has increased and industrial and agricultural production has stagnated. The official inflation rate is 21,5 percent.

The Mozambican Trade Union Federation's secretary-general, Soares Nhaca, said the programme

was deepening social inequality among the people — two-thirds of Mozambicans live in absolute poverty.

The Programa de Reabilitacao Economica, as it is called, was imposed by the IMF in an attempt to remove macro-economic imbalances.

Nhaca said the monthly minimum wage in 1987 was \$131, but now that was worth only US\$15. With this amount, he said, Mozambicans could buy only 29 percent of the basic needs of a family of five. This did not include the cost of transport, education, energy, health and clothing.

Nhaca suggested tax collection be extended to the informal sector and that the government impose price control measures on basic commodities — Independent Foreign Service/AIA

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ENVIRONMENT FM 12/1/96  
**Forestry vs ecotourism**

**SA timber giant Sappi and a US ecotourism entrepreneur are locked in battle over the development of 30 000 ha of nature-rich land in Mozambique's Maputo province**

In 1988 Sappi and the Frelimo government founded Mosa Florestal, a joint company which earmarked the area for commercial plantations

Last year, however, the World Conservation Union and the World Wide Fund for Nature recognised the Maputoland Centre as one of 84 botanical sites of global conservation significance as part of its Centres of Plant Diversity project

According to Pretoria botany professor Braam van Wyk, it is the most remarkable

area in Mozambique and its principal nature asset In a letter last October, Van Wyk, supported by the SA Association of Botanists, wrote to Mozambique president Joaquim Chissano to plead against Mosa Florestal's plans "Massive commercial afforestation in the core area of the Maputoland Centre would be a destructive activity of international concern In addition to the destruction of grassland and associated habitats, afforestation is expected to have serious long-term effects on the hydrology of the region, thus destroying a significant part of one of the most remarkable natural ecosystems in the world"

Also vying for Chissano's support is US entrepreneur James Blanchard, president of Blanchard Mozambique Enterprises, whose company has embarked on a US\$800m ecotourism project to develop Maputoland, revitalise the Maputo Elephant reserve, and

link both areas to the development of the Santa Maria-Machangula peninsula

Blanchard's proposed development includes mass transit by steam train (including services by the Orient Express and Blue Train), a floating hotel casino, access by hovercraft to the peninsula, exclusive home lots and a wildlife reserve on the peninsula

"It is a plan that could rapidly transform Mozambique from a sleeping giant into the envy of the world's investment and tourism industry," Blanchard wrote to Chissano in a letter accompanying his glossy 200-page proposal Blanchard's 214 000 ha development proposal is the result of studies conducted by Bechtel International and architects Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo, commissioned by SA landscape architects Gouws Uys & White

**Impact study**

The Sappi plantation proposal remains the stumbling block Despite a proposal in an impact study conducted by Natal University's Institute of Natural Resources to exclude plantations from certain areas, which would reduce Sappi's proposed plantation to 21 000 ha, Blanchard is adamant that unless Sappi's plan is scrapped he will not pursue his development

According to the institute's study, reducing the proposed forestry area would accommodate concerns about the hydrological impact and loss of land important to local resource use The study adds however, that "the loss of habitat and impact on biodiversity would remain as a significant issue, but the nature and the extent of the loss and impact would be reduced"

"Although a final decision has not been taken," says Van Wyk, "the arrogance of the developers is reflected by the fact that they have started bush-clearing"

This is refuted by Sappi's environmental manager John Scotcher, who says they were experimental plots established with the full knowledge of the Mozambique authorities and the permission of the local people

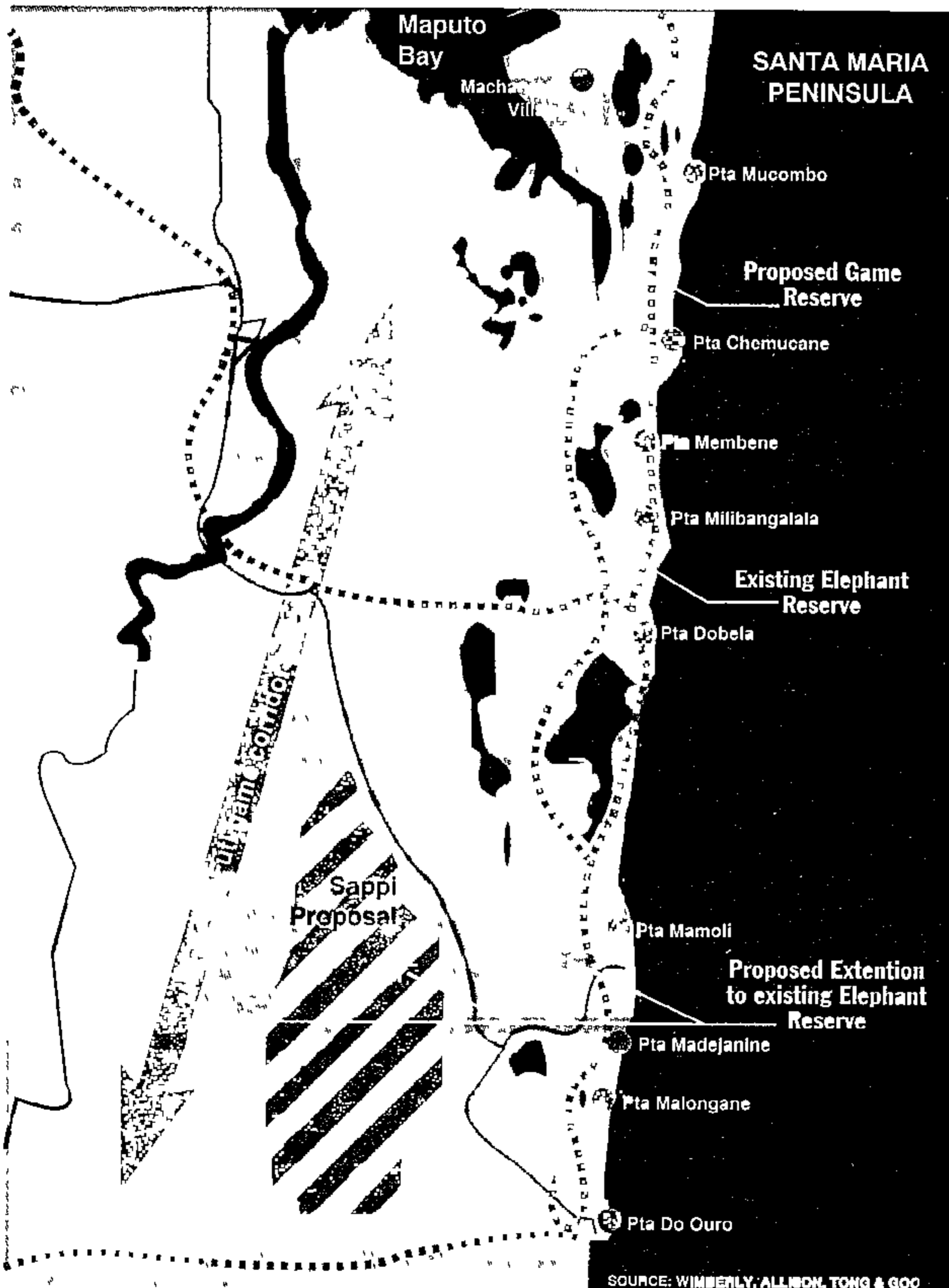
The institute handed its impact study to the Mozambican authorities in December and have asked for comment before the end of the week

Scotcher, a biologist formerly from the Natal Parks Board, says his company has adopted an open and transparent process and "we will reconsider our plans once we have received comment on our impact study and looked at Blanchard's"

Scotcher says he and Sappi are also concerned about the region's biodiversity "It would be wonderful to keep the area undisturbed but in the real world you can't have it all If we withdraw we will take away an opportunity from the local people to uplift themselves from poverty

He believes there is no reason why the forestry and ecotourism cannot be developed side by side

Eddie Botha





# Just fantasy — or is this dream possible?

American envisages exclusive ecotourist attraction in Mozambique that could bring jobs to 12 000 people

(218) Star 18/1/96

By ANITA ALLEN  
Science Writer

**F**our days in southern Mozambique and the capital Maputo leave the impression of a land of opportunity, where everything is possible as people dream even impossible dreams.

Four hours in a helicopter surveying the region from the city to Inhaca Island and south down to the border with South Africa, followed by a drive over the same terrain, revealed a vast wilderness of beaches, dunes, forests, lakes and open grasslands amid rolling hills, with very few inhabitants, and even less wildlife.

Big changes are on the way, in line with government policy to establish Mozambique as a paradise for ecotourists.

The aim is to get rid of the "paradise tourist" who comes over the border in his 4x4 pulling a hi-tech boat, with everything he needs, and buys only bananas from the inhabitants.

Instead, the Mozambique government is encouraging serious investors who will help develop world-class destinations, rivaling the best in Africa. As joint partners, the Mozambicans will put in their unparalleled natural capital, a slice of an African Garden of Eden.

The World Bank advocates the creation of three transformer national parks and has \$7-million (about R25-million) available to facilitate this. One park would be created by linking the 70 000ha Maputo Elephant Reserve to Tembe Game Reserve in KwaZulu Natal.

This would be the core conservation area which, along with the entire coastal zone from Ponta do Ouro to the tip of the Machangulo Peninsula, have been demarcated as concessionary areas suitable for ecotourism.

Now, James U. Blanchard III, a

wealthy businessman from New Orleans, Louisiana, has come riding in.

His connection to Mozambique is as a supplier of medical equipment and hi-tech radios to Renamo. He has been invited by President Joaquim Chissano to help with the development of the area east of Maputo known as the Santa Maria-Machangulo Peninsula.

Blanchard formed Mozambique Enterprises (BME), run by project manager John Perrott. With two overseas partners, and South African consultants Gous, Uys and White (planners of the Pilanesberg Game Reserve), he has come up with a proposal the likes of which the world has never seen.

The three-month study, costing over \$1-million (R3.6-million), found there would be serious viability problems with developing the peninsula on its own. However, these could be solved if BME took over the development of the whole area to Ponta do Ouro, and the Maputo Elephant Reserve was taken into the plan.

As a result, what BME is asking for is a 99-year lease over 16 000ha of the 21 000ha peninsula and 400ha of Inhaca Island. In addition, it wants a 50-year inclusive administration and management contract for the Maputo Elephant Reserve, which must be extended to 200 000ha from the sea to the Futi watercourse.

These areas form the heart of a unique ecosystem, the Maputaland centre, identified by the International Conservation Union as being of global importance in terms of biodiversity. The ecosystem stretches from Lake St Lucia to the Limpopo, and east to the Lebombo Mountains.

The plan, as explained by Perrott, would bring an immediate \$800-million (almost R3-billion) investment with shares for local inhabitants, and could create 12 000 jobs. However, Perrott explains, because Blanchard

was taking all the risks, it was a dog and tail thing.

"Blanchard is not going to say okay to the tail (peninsula) unless he's got control of the dog (extended Maputo Elephant Reserve)," the civil engineer from Texas said.

Inhaca would get two hotels, a dock and yacht marina, a floating casino (either a luxury liner or a Mark Twain Mississippi stern-wheeler), exclusive use of the coastline for game fishing and scuba diving, a golf course with villas, 200 exclusive holiday homes, and a Golden Gate-type bridge to the peninsula in the vicinity of protected corals.

All 5 000 inhabitants, who rely on fishing and subsistence slash-and-

burn farming, would be moved to a narrow 5 000ha strip on the west side looking across Maputo Bay.

Perrott explained that this move would be handled in consultation with the inhabitants, but fencing had to take place immediately because stocking a proposed 10 000ha peninsula private reserve with the Big Five and other game had to start by April.

The peninsula development in-

cludes fast access from a base in Maputo across the bay by either hovercraft, hydrofoil or helicopter, and 400 exclusive residential plots within the reserve.

Mayor development at the Lost City would be combined to 6 000ha of the northern tip in spectacular indigenous forests, and would include "a luxury hotel with casino and a tournament-status golf course."

Also an equestrian centre, international business centre and entertainment centre "on the highest elevation to take advantage of the views."

Access to Inhaca and down to Ponta do Ouro and west to Maputo would be by rail, in an antique steam train, running along the top of the highest dunes through sometimes tinder-dry grasslands and forests so that tourists can see the sea on one side and the Big Five on the other.

Within the extended park, only top-class five-star accommodation would be offered, with tourists being transported in 4x4s. No other vehicles would be allowed in the park, which would be for the exclusive use of tourists at lodges. The number of beds would be limited to a total of 2 000 a day.

All this and much more is described in the formal proposal handed to the Mozambique government, which Blanchard calls the Black Bible.

As he says in his preface, addressed to Chissano: "It offers a real-world, viable alternative to the current situation of low-to-no-spending, downscale tourism, characterised by a hodge-podge of small, under-financed developments that rely on clandestine, low-tide access up the beach from South Africa or environmentally insensitive projects." This last is a reference to Sappi's afforestation proposal on 3 100ha adjoining the Maputo Elephant Reserve.

"The overall plan for the reserve and peninsula will create an experience that is to be found nowhere else

in the world," Blanchard tells Chissano.

"The top echelon of international tourists will clamour to be part of it." The philosophies of the peninsula plan are sound. The details can be varied somewhat, but the overall plan needs to remain its spectacular flair to break into the market with a splash.

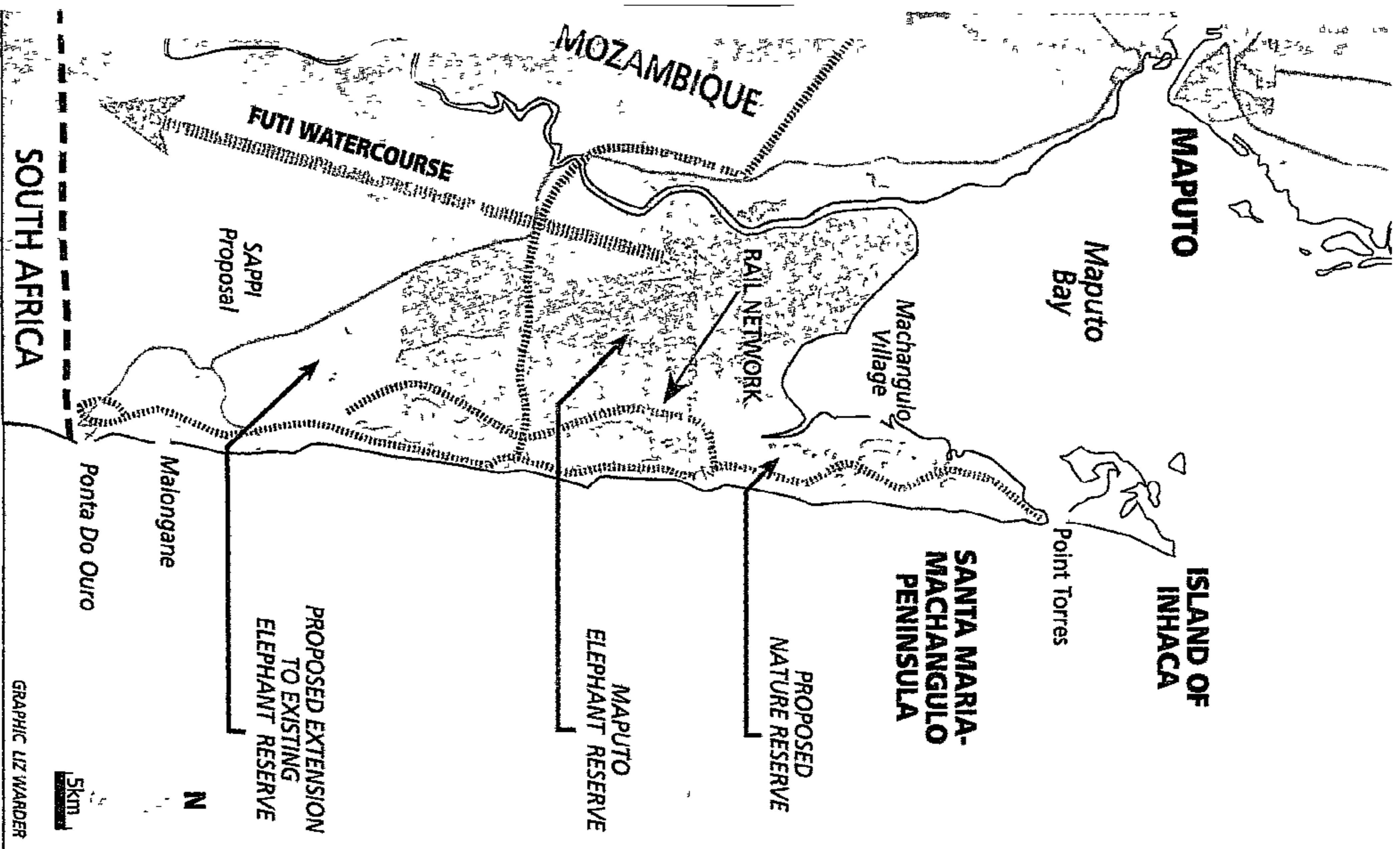
So far a preliminary environmental impact assessment, on the peninsula and Inhaca only, has been completed and handed to the Mozambique government. It endorses the overall Blanchard vision, but not surprisingly has serious reservations on many specifics.

The project, therefore, is far from being a *fait accompli*. Undoubtedly, the Mozambique government is giving serious consideration to the BME proposal, but even its own EIA casts doubts on the US company's ability to manage the development in the best interests of Mozambique and its people.

If being in Africa with Perrott in the driving seat of a turbo diesel 4x4 with only 1 000km on the clock is anything to go by, the reservations are well founded.

He got lost after ignoring passenger directions, faced arrest at a road-block because he couldn't make a policeman understand that he was there to spend R3-billion while she was haggling over not wearing a seat-belt. Then, while tearing down a sand track, he took his eyes off the road and sideswiped a telephone pole. The next day, he scraped the other side of his vehicle against a wall, just hours after blowing a gasket while driving on the beach without letting air out of his tyres.

"All I'm trying to do is speed up Africa," he said, sounding like a knight in shining armour riding to the rescue, but appearing more like a Don Quixote tilting at windmills.



GRAPHIC: IZ WARDER



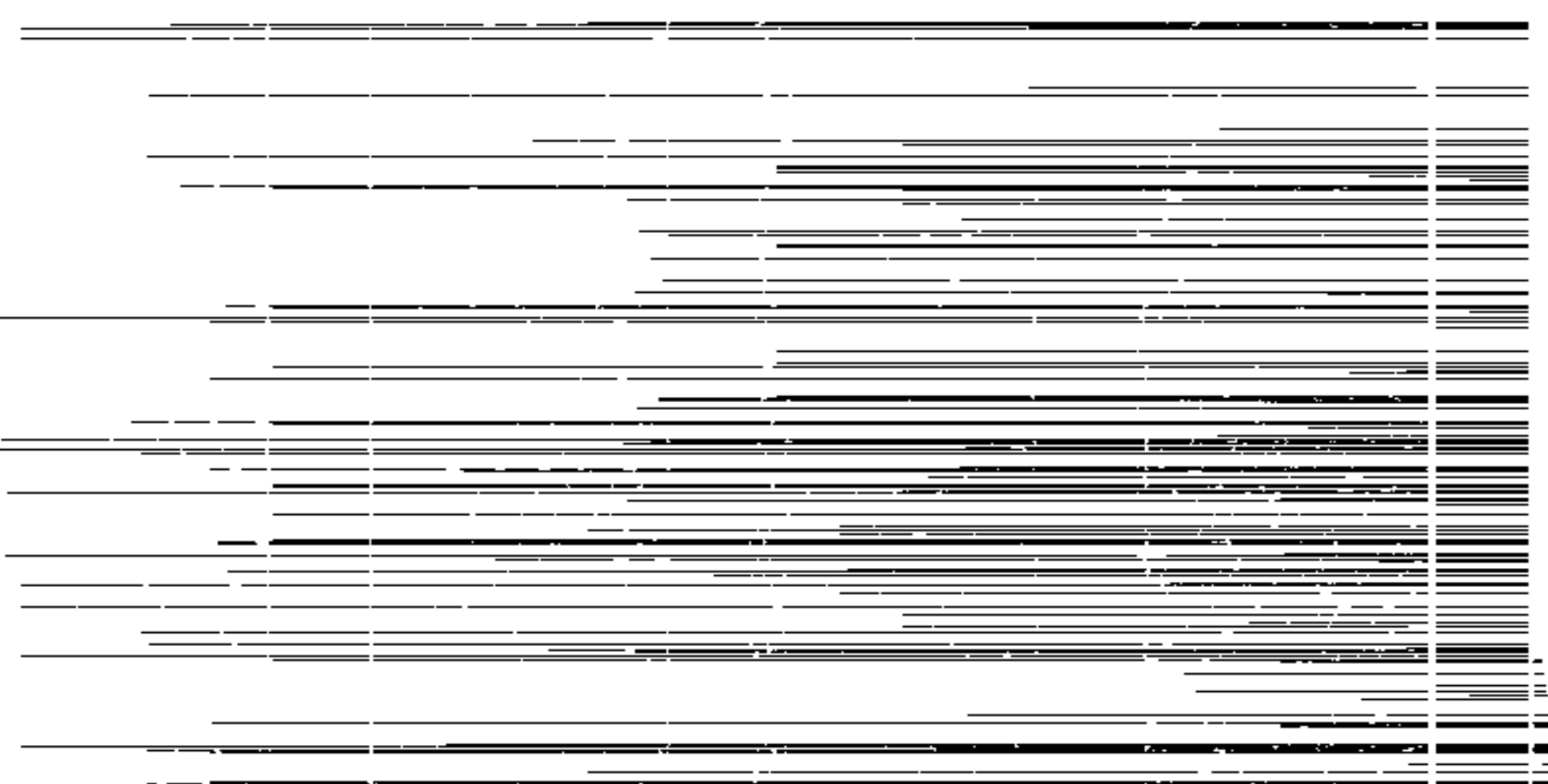
Friday January 18 1995

INSIDE

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ANITA ALLEN

Crowd pullers ...  
a small family  
group of  
elephants  
belonging to a  
herd of about  
100 which  
remains in  
Mozambique's  
Maputo Elephant  
Reserve.





# US millionaire plans Indian Ocean dream park

(218) M+G 19-25/1/96

Lozambique has a tough decision to make. Should it allow US millionaire to turn its south coast into a multi-million-dollar tourist mecca, or should it let the area be used for apple bluegum plantations? **Eddie Koch** reports

**Y**Ou and you! You! The big Texan is standing beneath the thudding turbine of a chopper in the middle of the

Lozambican bush. He is whooping and yelling and pointing at a group of ewilded peasants who huddle behind a tree to protect themselves from a sandstorm whipped up by the helicopter as it swooped into their settlement.

Gradually, above the cacophony, the villagers realise the American is telling some of them to "stop fiddle facking" (a phrase repeated so often it could be called his company's motto), get into the air and take a look at the natural beauty that surrounds them. This is John Perrott, general manager or flamboyant millionaire James Ulysses Blanchard III, and he is bringing his employer's version of rural development to one of the poorest countries in the world.

The vision of Blanchard Mozambique Enterprises is to create a massive wildlife and tourism mecca stretching from Inhaca Island off Maputo through the staggeringly beautiful Machangulo Peninsula, across the Maputo Elephant Park, where one of Africa's last free-ranging elephant herds lives, and then down to the South African border in the south.

The Machangulo Peninsula has the world's highest forested dunes which jut, south of the island, into a sub-

tropical sea abounding with coral reefs, dolphins, rays, sharks, marine turtles and endangered dugongs (strange sea mammal which gave rise to the mermaid legend because it has breasts to suckle its young).

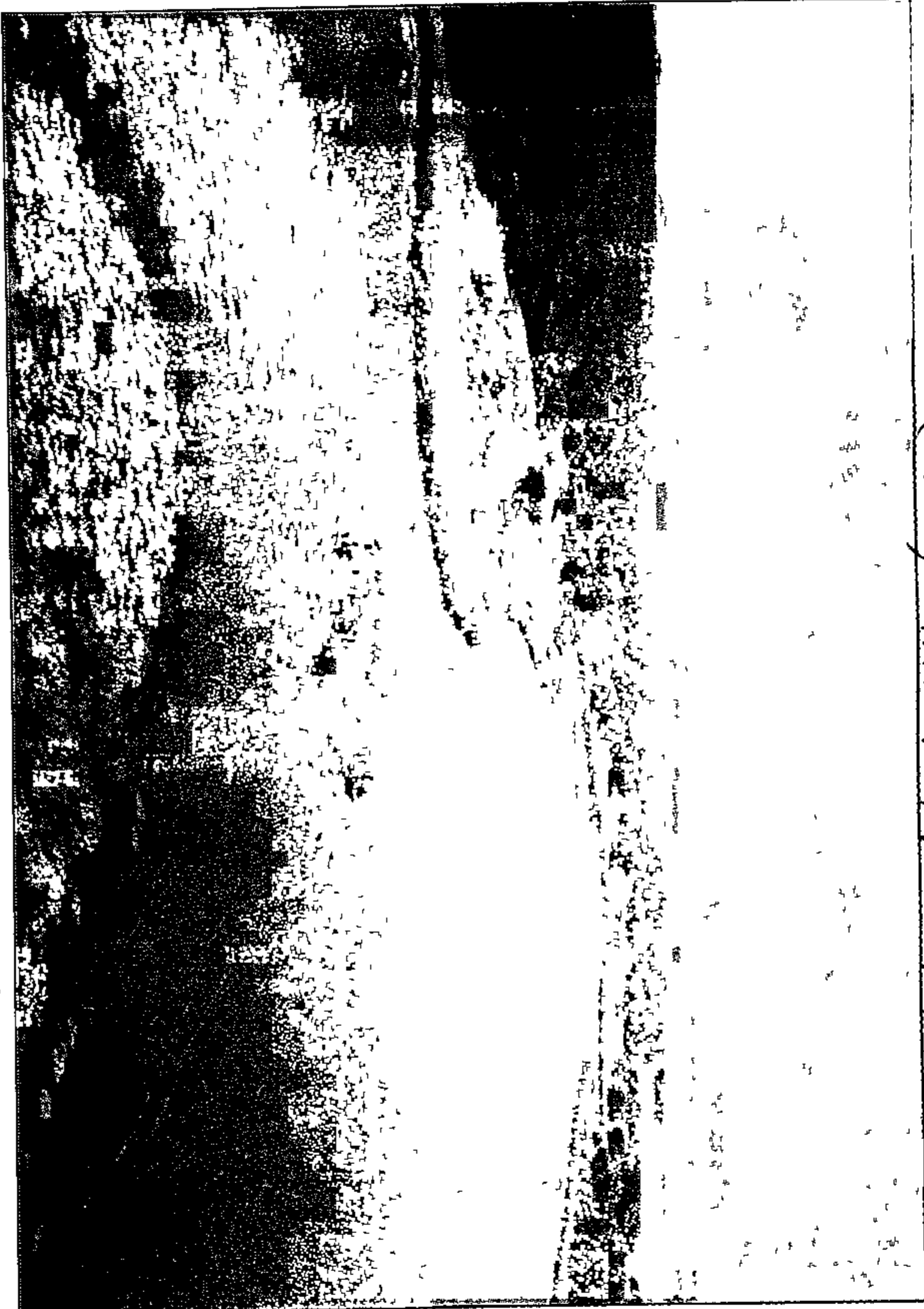
The \$300-million masterplan, outlined in a book called the Black Bible by Blanchard's men, includes hovercrafts to ferry jetsetting tourists from Maputo to Inhaca, a Mississippi Steamer which will become a floating hotel and casino off the island, a chain of upmarket lodges on the beaches and inland lakes that dot the peninsula, a national park that will be supplied with the big five and other animals in the biggest game restocking exercise ever undertaken in human history, scuba diving schools, game fishing expeditions, an aquararium, and a steam train to ferry tourists through this wonderland of wild game and marine life.

South African consultants have advised Perrott that his dream to import a group of Bushmen from the Kalahari into the Mozambican theme park is likely to discredit the project. So has he given up the idea? "Hell no! If I get my way, I'll bring some of them little guys out here. Can you imagine tourists on the steam train looking out of one window and seeing elephants and rhino? Then they'll look out of the other and see the little bastards running around with their lion clothes and poison-tipped arrows. The way I see it we'll bring them rhino here and save them from going extinct so why not bring the little guys who are also going extinct?"

It is unlikely that either the Botswana or Mozambique governments will grant permission for Bushmen to be part of the scheme. But the masterplan is being taken seriously by the government in Maputo.

The biggest obstacle in Perrott's way is that in 1987, at the height of Renamo's civil war, the Frelimo-led government granted South African lumber giant Sappi a concession to plant more than 30 000 hectares of land with a plantation of bluegum trees — in partnership with two Mozambican firms.

The Maputo government's aim was to bring a big South African business into the area as a bulwark against bands of Renamo rebels, who waged a



Marked for a tourist mecca: A lake on the staggeringly beautiful Machangulo Peninsula. PHOTOGRAPH DAVID HOLTRIDDLE

destructive civil war in the area, with clandestine support from elements in the South African military.

Little thought was given, at that stage, to the fact that the concession zone is part of an incredibly rich area of plant diversity, known as the Maputaland Centre of Endemism, and that the commercial plantation will destroy botanical species which occur no where else on Earth and also one of the last tropical grasslands left in southern Africa.

An environmental impact study commissioned by Sappi has recognised that the plantation could have serious negative impacts on the biodiversity and water resources of southern Maputo province and has recommended the planted area be reduced from 32 000 to 21 000 hectares so the bluegums can be kept away from rivers and inland lakes in the area. The study points out that the plantation, which could earn Mozambique some R80-million (about \$23-million) a year and create 12 000 new jobs (not all of them full-time), does not prevent

other companies from implementing ecotourism programmes in the Elephant Park and on the Machangulo Peninsula.

But Perrott will have none of this. The Blanchard proposal, he explains, could bring in an investment of \$800-million and will create 20 000 jobs in the long run. However, it depends on "critical mass", a realisation of the grand plan, and it cannot have a patch of bluegums in the middle of it.

So James Ulysses Blanchard III has presented an ultimatum to the Mozambicans. He will not go ahead unless Sappi is out.

Perrott's job is to persuade the local population and the media that his boss is right which is why he is now in the middle of the bush with a chopper and a convoy of four-by-fours conducting an exercise in what the newspaper contingent on the trip dubbed the Texas School of Community Communication.

While the local chief, his wife and two other volunteers from the village are taking a flip in the helicopter, the

Texan begins dishing out colourful T-shirts with a huge map of southern Mozambique on the front proclaiming that the area is now a national park. The logo on the back says — in English even though the villagers speak only Shangaan or Portuguese — "Nix to water guzzling bluegums."

Women, men and children scramble for the T-shirts while a group of men gather around Perrott and his Mozambican translator. "Tell them they gonna have shares in this project," says Perrott. "The elephants we bring here are gonna belong to them too. Now you tell them that in your best Shangaan (sic)."

Perrott insists that a democratic approach is vital for conservation to work and that his company will treat the local communities as equal partners. "We're gonna put a fence up and make this place a national park and they will be able to choose. We gonna come here and say 'Okay, now you're in a national park. Your village can either get fenced in or you can have them wild animals

walking right through your main street'."

Early in February the Cabinet will meet in Maputo to decide on the bluegum-plantation-versus-ecotheme-park row. The debate has become Mozambique's equivalent of the St Lucia controversy in South Africa and is likely to be the biggest and most complex economic decision the Mozambican government has ever had to make.

Cabinet members appear divided on the issue. The agriculture ministry favours the plantation because it is ready to proceed and will bring immediate jobs to the depressed area. The environment ministry wants the ecotourism plan because the plantation will cause irreversible damage to Mozambican wildlife while it provides raw materials for the South African paper industry.

Another source of concern in the Cabinet is that Blanchard — a cold-war warrior from the 1980s with close links to far-right groups in the US — has good friends in Renamo and also the Inkatha Freedom Party in KwaZulu-Natal.

For the time being though, it appears that opinion in Maputo's government and intellectual circles is swinging Blanchard's way. The government will insist on a proper land-use plan and assurances that the ecotourism project will not be used to benefit Renamo during the next elections, or link up with secessionist movements in KwaZulu-Natal. It also plans to set up a group of monitors to ensure that the rhetorical commitment to a partnership with the local landowners is put into practice.

But it now seems that the man who once led a rebel army in the US State Department once described Renamo as worse than those of the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia is likely to be rewarded with control over a huge chunk of Mozambique's richest province.

It is just one of the many paradoxes that pervade this poor country. "To understand it," says one of the officials who works with Perrott on the project, "you must realise that Mozambique in the past hasn't had bulldozers that work. Now we have one that does."

CONF 2



# Row over IMF plans for Mozambique <sup>(218)</sup>

Eddie Koch and  
Carlos Cardoso

**A** ROW has broken out over International Monetary Fund (IMF) plans to impose tight curbs on wage hikes and the few social security benefits that still exist in Mozambique.

The country has one of the poorest economies in the world and one of the lowest annual incomes per head for its 15-million people. \$90 to \$100 (about R315 to R360)

The row began when the IMF started negotiating a new agreement with the Mozambican government in September last year. The Mozambican government had just agreed to increase the minimum wage of \$14 (about R50) a month by 37,5%

The IMF responded by pointing out the post-election government had not met all its budget-cutting targets and issued a hard-line statement about the need to tighten up the fund's basic controls for Third World economies. These include cutbacks in state expenses, curbs on inflation and monetary circulation, financial reform and further privatisation.

Officials from the IMF have since softened their stance after a number of Mozambique's donor countries — which usually back the organisation's medicine for ailing economies — wrote a letter saying the Frelimo-led government, which won the election last year, was actually doing well in terms of economic reform and that the fund should relax its hard line.

However, IMF officials have indicated they will not relax monetary constraints and availability of invest-

ment capital until the government slashes the country's inflation levels, currently running at around 40%, down to 15%.

The fund has also been criticised for ignoring the informal sector in Mozambique. It says this accounts for 30% of the country's GDP, while senior government sources insist that it is as high as 60% — and operates as the most important cushion against starvation, rampant crime and redistribution of resources.

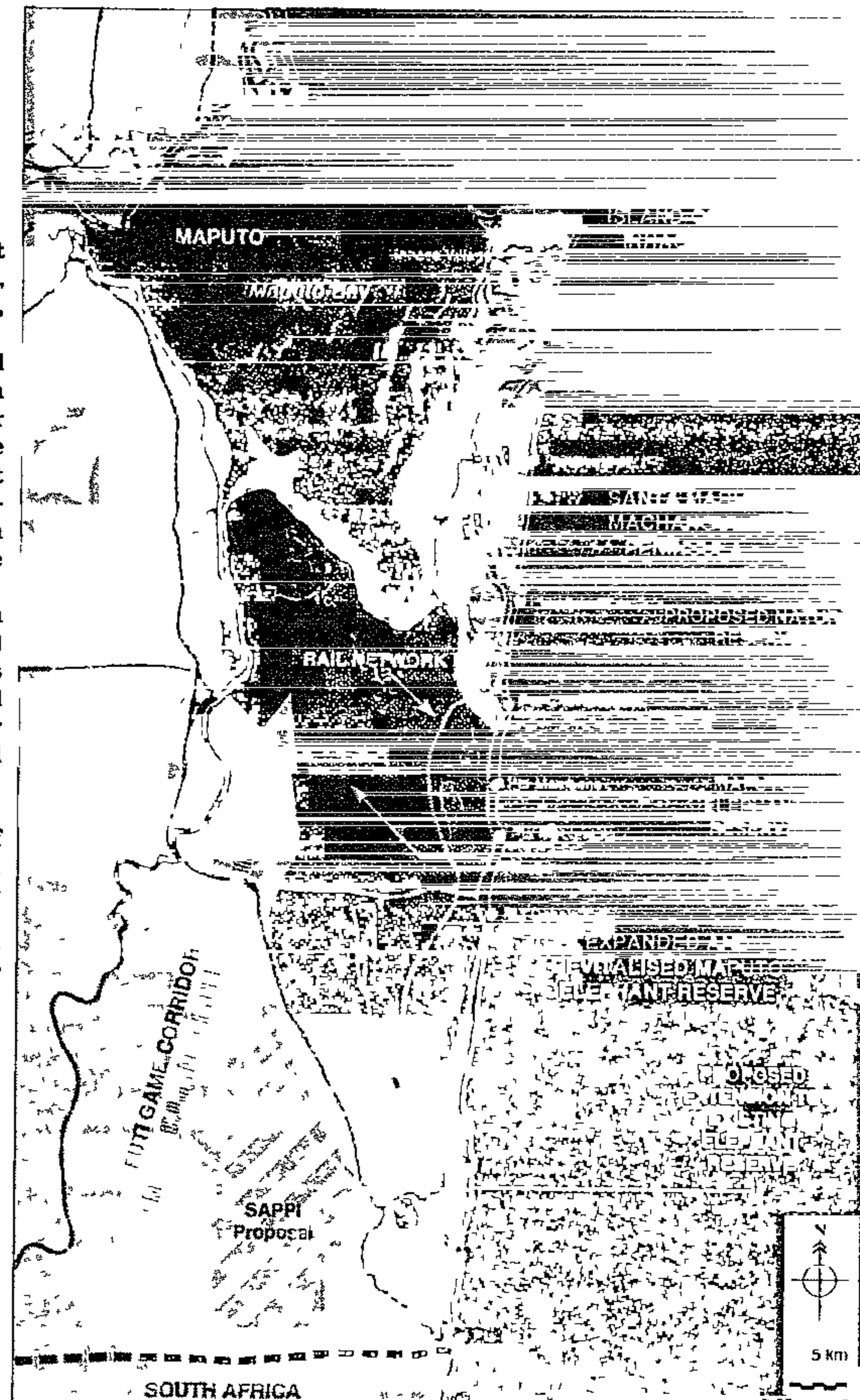
Yet average wages for children on the *dumbanengues* (black markets) range from 30 000 to 75 000 meticaís (R10 to R25) a month, plus one meal — much less than the already abysmal R50 minimum in the formal sector.

**T**he International Confederation of Trade Unions (ICFTU), which held a workshop in Maputo in November last year, urged the IMF to realise that the country's informal sector had mushroomed as a byproduct of the tough austerity programme.

"The government must begin to accord proper attention to the needs of workers in this sector, with a view to integrating them into the formal economy," says the ICFTU report.

The ICFTU also urges the fund to negotiate its new package of financial constraints for the next three years — which is expected to be finalised in Maputo next month — with organised labour and emerging civic organisations. The international union organisation also wants measures designed to ensure food security and social spending for vulnerable groups such as women, youth and the aged.

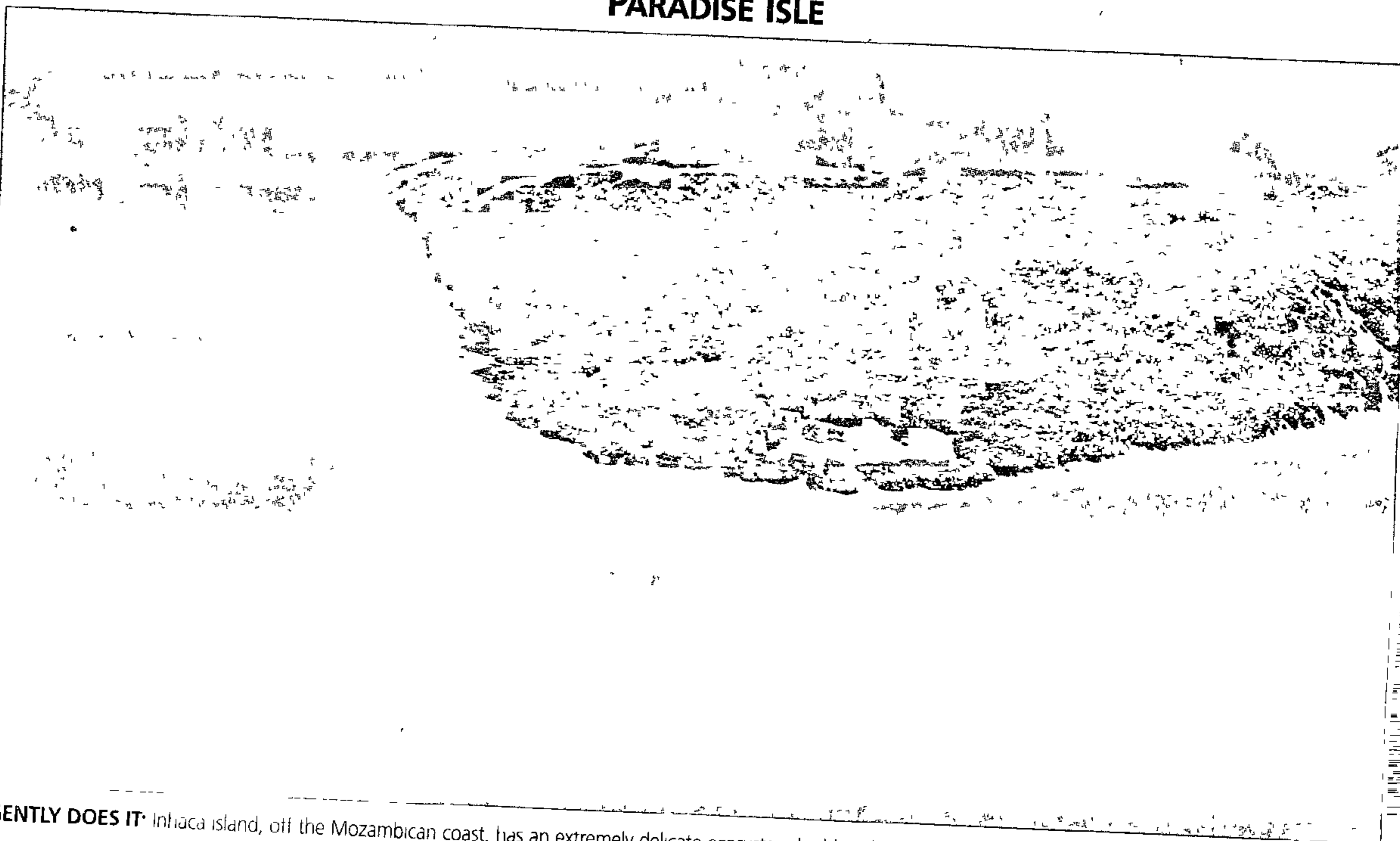
MTG 19-25/1/96



The masterplan: The developments proposed by Blanchard Mozambique Enterprises for the southern Mozambique coast



## PARADISE ISLE



GENTLY DOES IT: Inhaca island, off the Mozambican coast, has an extremely delicate ecosystem highly vulnerable to human impact

PHOTOGRAPH ANITA ALLEN

# Mozambican mega-project hangs in the balance

By ANITA ALLEN  
SCIENCE WRITER

For the second time, a would-be developer in Mozambique has received less than enthusiastic reviews from its own environmental impact report (EIA), and both proposals now hang in the balance.

The latest EIA was commissioned by a US consortium, Blanchard Mozambique Enterprises (BME), for its \$800-million ecotourism proposal on Inhaca island and 220,000ha of the adjoining peninsula near Maputo.

The proposal is a Sun City/Pilanesberg Game Reserve clone on a much larger scale, the likes of which the world has never seen. It includes exclusive concessions for up to 99 years over the 220,000ha, a railway line for a fire hazard antique steam train, a Golden Gate bridge, a tournament golf course, a Mississippi-type floating casino, and exclusive use of surrounding seas for, among other activities, game fishing.

The EIA makes a key finding that the BME proposal is a broad outline, but lacks crucial details

As it currently stands, therefore, it must be considered as a concept rather than a detailed project proposal," it says, and concludes that for that reason, the EIA itself was preliminary and would have to be followed by other EIAs on the specific impacts of components of the multimillion-dollar development.

Mozambique is in a unique position of having vast pristine and uninhabited wildernesses. Therefore, it has the opportunity to develop from scratch and get land-use issues right the first time.

The proposal falls in the middle of an identified biodiversity centre of international importance. In addition, the sea off Mozambique is perhaps of even greater global significance. It was off this sea that a trawler caught a large female coelacanth on August 11, 1991. The search to establish whether this extremely rare fish occurs off the African coast continues.

The EIA acknowledges that the scale of the development will significantly modify pristine environments but sees that as the inevitable cost, and the scale in relation to the total area available as "acceptable from a conservation

point of view." However, it was most especially concerned about the social impact of the development on local inhabitants.

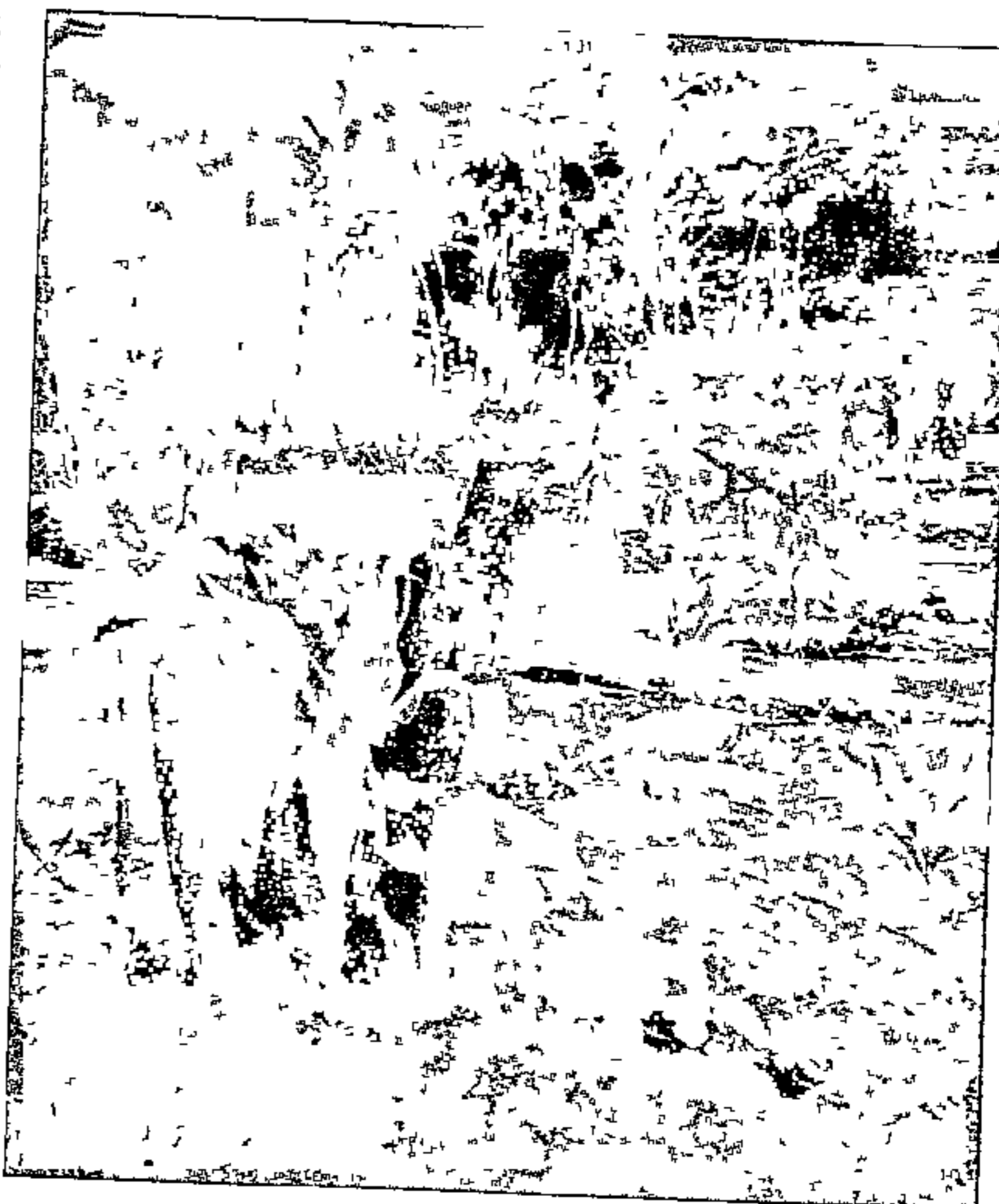
"Although the spirit and intention of the plan to create a partnership with local communities are sound, the mechanisms to achieve these objectives are weak. The developer seeks to make the project work to the benefit of the people but lacks know-how, and the skills to work with people," the EIA says.

The result may be that the project will create significant economic growth but at the expense of local people and environments.

Last month, the EIA on Sappi's proposal for afforestation on 31,000ha in southern Mozambique found that there would be unacceptable environmental impacts.

Public hearings are currently taking place in Maputo, after which Sappi will submit its final proposal.

The Sappi proposal falls within the borders of the same area where BME is seeking exclusive concessions. It has said that if the Sappi proposal gets the go-ahead it will withdraw from Mozambique.



EYESORE: Slash-and-burn subsistence farming needs to be replaced by ecotourism

PHOTOGRAPH ANITA ALLEN



# Caught between giant companies

Sametian 31/1/96 (218)

By Ruth Bhengu

**E**LIAS BIYELA IS CHIEF of the Zitundi district, south of Mozambique's capital Maputo

Biyela and his people are caught between two giant companies who want his land for their business

On the one hand is a South African forestry company, Sappi, which wants to expand its gum forests in the rich and fertile area and on the other is an American industrialist called James Blanchard

He owns Blanchard Mozambique Enterprise (BME) and wants to turn the area into a spectacular holiday resort

Mozambican law requires that investors who want land concessions in the country must obtain the permission of the inhabitants who are the traditional land owners

Biyela does not understand the implications of what both companies are proposing

He is not even aware of how desperate the two investors are likely to get in their attempts to gain his approval in the next few weeks

All he knows is that there is a possibility of jobs being created for his people

"I don't understand properly what is happening," he said paging through the expensive formal proposal by BME which has come to be known as Blanchard's black bible

"I heard rumours that some company will be planting trees in this area Today I am told that another company wants to build hotels

"Both companies say they will create jobs But I am waiting to hear from government what is really happening," said Biyela, who has worked in South Africa as a farm hand, a domestic worker and a labourer

## Unaware of scramble

Biyela and his people may be unaware of the scramble for their area by big businessmen but as a stakeholder he will have to be consulted and play a major role in the developments

The government has to put in place a Land Use Plan and laws to protect the environment

It also has to legislate for the protection of people living in the areas earmarked for development by the Land Tenure Act.

Since the government has to start from scratch to reconstruct the country after almost two decades of civil war, everything is painfully slow

According to government adviser and environmental expert Mr Mio Cotjo, although there is a new Land Policy in place, government is still working on legislation to establish the customary rights of local people

"If any investor wants a concession he has to negotiate with local people who are the traditional holders of the land

"The fact that, in the strictest sense, it is the government which owns the land, does not give it the right to lease the land without the consent of the communities

"Also an environmental impact assessment of the area should be done," said Cotjo.

The environmental impact assessment will be commissioned by the World Bank

## Mozambican peasants have to decide who will use their land



Chief Elias Biyela and his people are being wooed two corporate giants.

The organisation advocates the creation of three trans-frontier national parks and has set aside an amount of \$7 million (about R25 million) for this project

One park would be created by linking the 70 000ha Maputo Elephant Reserve to Tembe Game Reserve in KwaZulu-Natal

## Core area

This would be the core conservation area which, along with the entire coastal zone from Ponta do Ouro to the tip of the Machangulo Peninsula, have been demarcated as areas suitable for eco-tourism

BME wants an area that is breathtakingly beautiful an area of untouched beaches, dunes, forests, lakes and open grasslands which are sparsely populated by both humans and animals

But they have to contend with Sappi which has already planted forests on part of the area

Both investors argue that their projects are exactly what this poverty stricken area needs. Like the rest of the country, this area has been ravaged by the civil war

Sappi says it will create 1 200 jobs for the villagers who are barely surviving

The Americans have a fantastic

plan to invest at least \$800 million (almost R3 billion) and create about 12 000 jobs initially and ultimately more than 20 000 in the next 10 years, according to BME's project manager Mr John Perrot

He argues that apart from boosting eco-tourism, his plan makes provision for the locals to own preferred shares in the enterprise

This could improve their lives to a considerable extent

The government, which desperately needs investment, is being pressurised to choose between the two investors

The big question is should it be the trees or the birds and the animals?

Although the majority in the cabinet is said to favour eco-tourism, a few influential individuals in the Ministry of Environment are said to favour Sappi's project

There are also political undercurrents Sappi has a long standing relationship with the Frelimo authorities while Blanchard is a known Right Wing supporter who supplied Renamo with medical supplies and hi-tech radios

## 'Banana tourists'

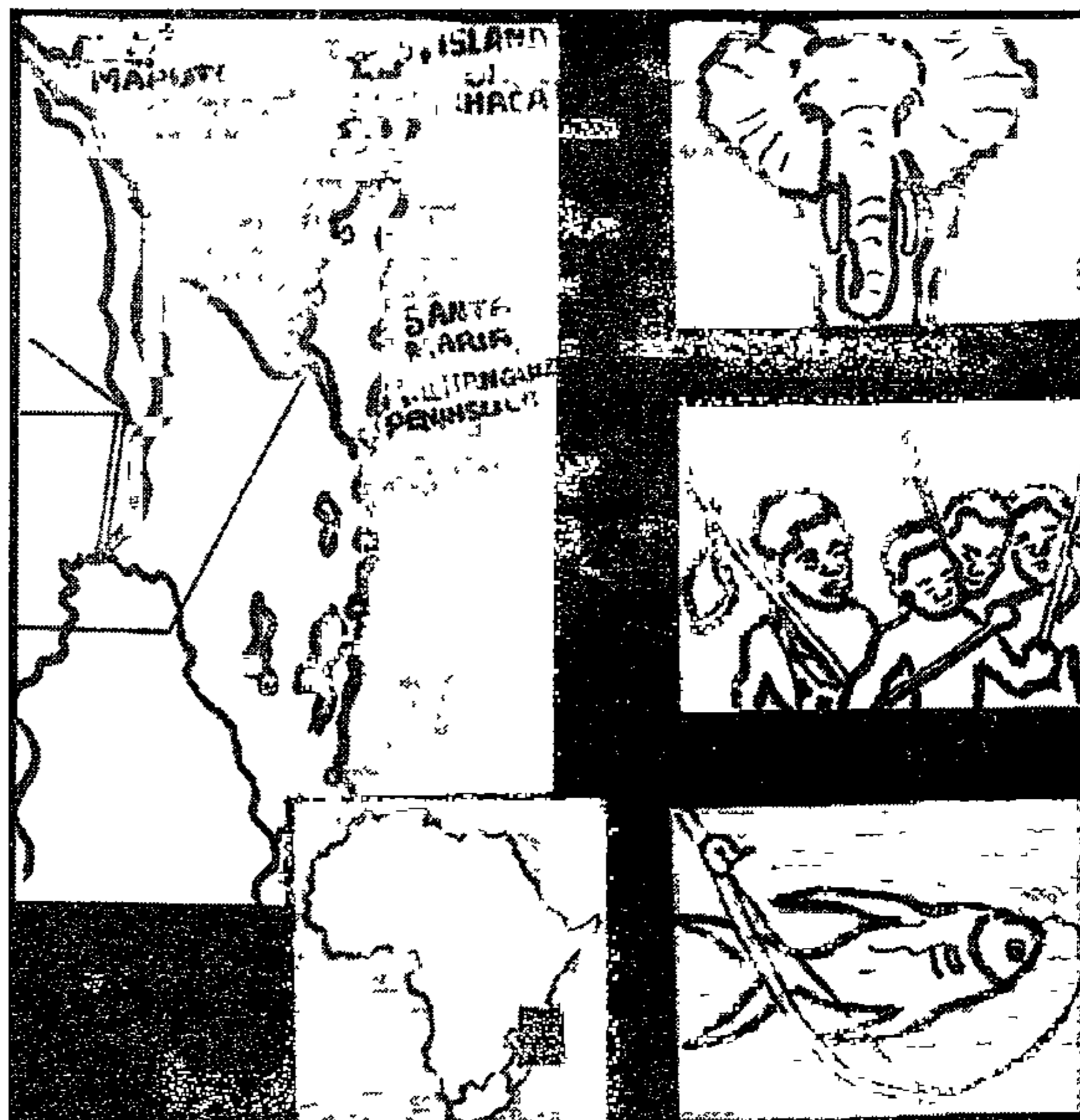
But economists feel that Mozambique, which is one of the poorest countries in the world, needs something as spectacular as the BME plan, instead of small investors who would create what Perrot refers to as "banana tourists"

He means those who "come over the border in their 4x4s, pulling a high-tech boat and everything they need and who only buy bananas from the road side vendors"

Besides, Blanchard has come into Mozambique at the invitation of President Joaquim Chissano to help with the development of the area east of Maputo known as the Santa Maria Machangulo Peninsula

What BME wants is for the government to expel Sappi from the area because it would "irreversibly destroy the rare grasses and trees that can only be found in this area"

Although Perrot is feeling pressure from investors to show results of more than the \$1 million (about R3,5 million) he has already spent, the law must take its course



# Plan to create tourist bliss

By Ruth Bhengu

WHAT is the Blanchard Mozambique Enterprise Plan (BME)?

The BME project is seen by overseas investors as a way of bringing Mozambique back into the international tourist fold with a spectacular splash

It is also viewed as a high risk venture because James Blanchard is laying out the initial funding without any guarantee that he can attract investors into the project

The plan, which will bring in at least US \$800 million (R3 billion) and create some 12 000 jobs includes the building of two hotels, a dock and yacht marina, a floating casino, a golf course with villas and 200 exclusive holiday homes in the Inhaca area

Some 5 000 people on the peninsula, who rely on fishing and subsistence farming, will be removed to a 5 000ha strip across the Maputo bay

Blanchard's project manager, Mr John Perrott, says the people will be persuaded to see that a move will be worthwhile

The peninsula development includes an equestrian centre an international business centre and an entertainment centre on the highest point to take advantage of the view

An antique steam train will carry tourists along the top of the highest dunes in the Ponta do Ouro area west of Maputo, so they can see the sea on the one side and the game reserve on the other

So far BME, run by John Perrott, two overseas partners and South African consultants Gous, Uys and White, has spent over US \$1 million (R3,6 million) on a three month feasibility study

It found that the plan would not be viable if BME developed the peninsula on its own

As a result BME is asking for concessions to develop the whole area south of Maputo to Ponta do Ouro and the Maputo Elephant Reserve

It is asking for a 99 year lease over 16 000 ha of the 21 000ha peninsula and 400ha of Inhaca Island

In addition BME wants a 50-year inclusive administration and management contract for the Maputo Elephant Reserve which must be extended and developed

A preliminary environmental impact assessment on the peninsula and Inhaca island has been done and handed to the government of Mozambique which is giving it serious consideration

But a decision has not been made yet as the government has some reservations

**BME wants to develop the whole area south of Maputo to Ponta do Ouro**

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## Maputo rejects trees project

BY ANITA ALLEN

Science Writer

*(218)* *(318)*  
*stan 9/2/96*  
Sappi's forestry project in southern Mozambique has been turned down by that country's council of ministers

Mozambique's Minister of Environment Affairs Dr Bernado Ferrez said yesterday that the concession for the project had been cancelled on the basis of the ecological damage it would cause and the negative impact on the area's biodiversity

Sappi spokesmen said they were distressed by the news, which had not been officially conveyed to the company.

"Until we have seen the official announcement, we are unable to comment," a spokesman said

Sappi and two Mozambican partners, Socimo and Socief, formed a company which was granted a concession subject to an environmental impact assessment for afforestation on 31 000ha of land adjoining the Maputo Elephant Reserve.

The project represented a R178-million investment, and would have created up to 1 200 jobs and R80-million a year in revenue after eight years.

Ferrez added that a tourism proposal costing R2,8-billion by US businessman James Blanchard's Blanchard Mozambique Enterprises was under scrutiny

# Ribbon revival for Maputo link

(218) ST (P) 11/2/96

MOZAMBIQUE and South Africa will this week launch their biggest joint development project — revival of the Maputo Corridor at an estimated cost of R1-billion

Several new private-sector ventures, including two mines, will benefit from the improved infrastructure provided by the project

Mac Maharaj, Minister of Transport, and Paul Muxanga, his Mozambique counterpart, will leave by train from Johannesburg for Maputo next Sunday to signal the start of the project

Further details of the project will be announced at a news conference in Maputo

Khetso Gordhan, director-general of transport, says more than 20 investment opportunities for local and international companies could be linked to the project

By SVEN LUNSCHE

The main aim is to divert Gauteng's trade through Maputo, as harbour facilities at Durban and Cape Town are congested. Only 5% of Gauteng's trade goes through Maputo, compared with 40% in the early 1970s.

The most ambitious and high-profile of the government projects will be a toll road from Witbank to Maputo at a total estimated cost of about R600-million, which includes R140-million for upgrading the existing road between Komatipoort and the Mozambique capital

Mr Gordhan says the tender will be awarded on a build-operate-transfer system. This stipulates that a private sector company builds and runs the toll road until its investment and a certain

return have been recovered, after which it will be handed back to the governments of South Africa and Mozambique

It is expected that the road will pay for itself in about 20 years.

The second phase of the transport infrastructure is the upgrade of the 90km rail link between Komatipoort and Maputo at an estimated cost of R20-million. Spoornet and CRM of Mozambique are jointly responsible for the upgrade

For the first time in 23 years dredging operations at Maputo harbour will allow vessels larger than 30 000 tons to enter the port. Private-sector tenders will be invited to cut new channels.

Mr Gordhan says a Murray & Roberts subsidiary, Pento Marine, has submitted a proposal to dredge Maputo's harbour at a cost of about R40-

million. Work is already under way to improve port facilities and several wharves were recently privatised by the government.

Funds from international donors could be used to finance some of the infrastructural work linked to the Maputo corridor.

Mr Gordhan expects the project to stimulate industrial, mining and agricultural development and sees great benefits for tourism in Mozambique and Mpumalanga province.

The agricultural sector in particular should benefit from the export of citrus via Maputo. Citrus is currently shipped through Cape Town. Two new mining projects are also on the cards. Mr Gordhan says Palabora Mining is considering underground mining if the route is opened. The second project is the development of Anglovaal's Nko-

mati nickel prospect. Both projects will benefit from the improved road and rail links.

A decision on the Nkomati project is expected in March next year. It would cost about R1-billion and take about two and a half years to develop.

Jay Naidoo's RDP ministry has indicated that substantial amounts of next year's R7,5-billion RDP fund could be devoted to funding development projects along the Maputo Corridor.

Mr Gordhan indicates that a Maputo Corridor Company could be formed as a vehicle to channel private and public sector funds.

The Industrial Development Corporation, the Development Bank and private sector consultants are currently completing feasibility studies into the project



## Sappi baffled by reports of shelved project

(218) BD 12/2/96  
Business Day Reporter (19)

SAPPI was baffled by reports suggesting its planned forestry project in Mozambique, worth about R200m, had been scrapped, chairman Eugene van As said yesterday.

Responding to reports that Mozambique Prime Minister Pascoal Mocumbi had said the plan was cancelled, Van As said Sappi had tried but failed to contact government officials to clarify the situation.

He declined to say what action Sappi could take if the project had been dumped. But he said the R13,2bn-a-year group would "not take kindly" to the project being scrapped without good reason. "As far as we're concerned the project is a good one — it's been welcomed by the local community.

"If there is not a good reason why it has been halted, we'll look at it in the context of that."

The company already has a written undertaking from the Mozambican government — the main partner in the Mosa Florestal project — that the scheme will go ahead, subject to an environmental report which has said it should be scaled back. Sappi is due to make its final presentation to the Mozambican government on February 20.

But Reuter reported on Friday that Mocumbi said on radio the project was off. Socimo — a local company involved in the scheme — told a newspaper the cancellation was "a disaster".

The project has raised environmental concerns, and an alternative ecotourism plan for the area has been tabled by US entrepreneur James Blanchard.

Van As said it would be "helpful" if Sappi could contact government officials this week to clarify matters.

The company had already spent roughly R1m on studies for the project.

**Mozambique government slammed over cancellation of timber project** (218)

ET (DR) 12/2/96  
Maputo— The Mozambican company Socimo criticised the country's government at the weekend for the cancellation of a project to establish a 32 000ha eucalyptus plantation in the south of the country.

— "It is a disaster. The decision was premature and incorrect," Socimo's managing director, Francisco Carvela, was quoted as saying. Socimo was one of two local companies involved in a consortium with Sappi and the Mozambique government, which planned to export timber from the Mosa Florestal project to South Africa.

Prime Minister Pascoal Mocumbi said last week that the project had been cancelled after being criticised by environmentalists, who said the trees, native to Australia, would disrupt the area's natural water balance. — Reuter

03

Faint vertical text and markings on the right edge of the page, possibly bleed-through or scanning artifacts.



# Amended Act will restrict Zulu king

BO 14/2/96

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Controversial government amendments to the Ingonyama Trust Act will forbid the Zulu monarch from infringing on any land rights of interests within the territory of the old KwaZulu

This emerged yesterday when Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom tabled the Ingonyama Trust Amendment Bill.

It was the first time a national minister had amended a statute of one of the provinces.

The original Act, approved by the KwaZulu government in early 1994 and re-enacted by the KwaZulu-Natal legislature last month, is currently before the Constitutional Court after a dispute between minority parties and the Inkatha Freedom Party over whether it is constitutional.

The amendment Bill, which KwaZulu-Natal insiders predicted would be interpreted as the theft of Zulu land, also provided for a mechanism that transferred the functions that were performed by the old KwaZulu department to

the department succeeding it in terms of the constitution.

Because land matters are not on the schedule of provincial powers, this means the national land affairs department will take over those functions.

The Bill would also enable national land programmes to apply to the land governed by the Ingonyama Trust after consultation with the Zulu king.

The king, in terms of the Bill, may within the constraints of the law, deal with the land according to tribal law.

The explanatory memorandum attached to the Bill says that the land covered by the original Act includes urban townships, government buildings, commercial and industrial sites, roads, dams and parks.

Financial institutions are refusing to grant loans and bonds to people in these areas because the land is registered to the trust.

"The result is that housing and industrial and commercial development are being stifled in the area of the former KwaZulu," Hanekom said.

## No SA input on Swaziland govt

Tim Cohen

(218)

BO 14/2/96

CAPE TOWN — SA would not "dictate" what form of government should exist in Swaziland because it was the sovereign right of the kingdom's people to decide what they wanted, Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo said yesterday.

He indicated SA would not press the country's administration to concede to the demands of the trade union-led democracy movement, which recently saw industry brought to a standstill in a five-day national strike.

Asked if SA was intending to support protesters in favour of changes to the absolute monarchy in the country, Nzo said the issue had been discussed by President Nelson Mandela when Swaziland's King Mswati paid a state visit to SA last year.

The king had given the assurance that the issue was being discussed by the people of Swaziland.

The situation was not comparable to Lesotho, because SA had objected to the manner in which the democratically elected government was removed by the then monarch of Lesotho, he said.

Nzo also denied that SA was supporting the pro-democracy forces in Nigeria.

# Blanchard unveils resort plans on Sappi site

Amanda Vermeulen

SAPPI's rival for the Mozambican government's favour, US entrepreneur James Ulysses Blanchard III, unveiled plans yesterday to build an \$800m residential and leisure complex on the site where Sappi had planned a forestry plantation.

The SA group, which was unable to contact Mozambican government officials over the past week, has been called to a meeting tomorrow.

Blanchard told a Sandton news conference the Mozambican government would take a stake in the project. He declined to give the amount. Blanchard

Mozambique Enterprises's project would consist of a \$650m residential development, with the balance invested in ecotourism facilities and casinos.

His project would put up \$20m to bring wildlife into the planned game reserve. He said he had lined up US corporations and individual investors to buy into the scheme but refused to name them. Sappi's scheme would be relocated, he said.

Sappi — which had proposed a R200m forestry scheme on the site — read media reports at the weekend that its plan had been canned. Commercial manager Dave Wood said Mozambique Agriculture Minister Carlos

do Rosario would not confirm that the project had been cancelled or relocated. He said the project's nature meant it could not be shifted to another site.

It is understood Do Rosario asked Sappi's negotiators to bring two bottles of anti-dandruff shampoo with them to tomorrow's meeting.

Blanchard said the government had ditched Sappi's project to protect the biodiversity area. His project manager John Perrott said the development was one of 10 high risk speculative schemes around the world in which Blanchard and nine others had invested.

Picture: Page 3

~~14/2/96~~ 14/2/96 (218)



# Maputo bows to tourism

## Over pulp and paper

(218)

~~218~~

MTC (PM 16-22/2/96)

Mozambique's rejection of Sappi's R200-million afforestation scheme has boosted the chances for a tourist development, reports **Karen Harverson**

**M**APUTO'S rejection of pulp and paper giant Sappi's forestry project in southern Mozambique may have more to do with economic considerations than with green issues

Sappi's R200-million proposal to plant between 20 000 to 30 000 hectares of Eucalyptus trees, creating about 1 200 local jobs, may have seemed attractive back in 1991 when it was first approved but since then the government has had other carrots dangled before it, including a multi-million dollar tourism development.

The forestry project has also provoked a huge outcry from environmentalists who say Sappi's plantation would negatively affect the unique ecosystem of the area and was not the best form of land use.

The cancellation of the project, announced in the press last week, took the R13,2-billion company by surprise as it had received no such indication from the Maputo government.

Sappi Forests managing director Barry Melrose said the company had been given a written undertaking by the minister of agriculture in August 1995 of the Cabinet's commitment to abide by a 1991 Cabinet decision that unconditionally approved the afforestation scheme in southern Mozambique.

"The only remaining issue was the total area to be afforested, which was subject to an environmental impact study. This study has been completed and has recommended an area of 21 000 hectares," said Melrose.

He said he had spoken to the minister of agriculture on Monday evening, but was unable to find out for certain if the project was indeed cancelled.

"The minister answered 'You know what the press are like' and suggested that we meet face-to-face on Thursday to discuss the matter," said Melrose.

The outcome of this meeting was not known at the time of going to press but it seems likely that Sappi will be asked to pursue the project in a different area.

Melrose would not comment on the action Sappi would take if the deal was off and remained tight-lipped on whether he would agree to a proposal by government to relocate the project, saying he would not comment until he had spoken to the minister.

Earlier this week, Melrose indicated that no other area would be suitable for this specific project. The timber from the project would have been used to supply the Ngodwana mill, near Nelspruit, and the Enstra mill in Springs.

"The consequences of the deal being rejected means less timber would be bought locally and more bought overseas, and future expansions at these plants could be jeopardised," said Melrose.

Sappi owns and manages 400 000 hectares of timber plantations in Southern Africa, which supply only 50% of the company's domestic wood requirements.

"The costs of siting this project in the area proposed are reasonable as there is an existing rail infrastructure. The timber plantation would be sited

about 120km from Ngodwana and is within economic transport costs."

If the forestry project were sited further north, the timber would have to be railed to Beira, shipped to South Africa and then railed again.

Melrose said the company had explored other areas further north in Mozambique but these were being considered for a different type of project involving a processing plant. He added that the company would reconsider these plans if the forestry project fell through.

He said the company had also had minor contact in Angola and other Southern African countries and planned a full-scale investigation into available opportunities later this year.

American entrepreneur James Blanchard, who plans to build an \$800-million tourist scheme, which will create 12 000 jobs in the same region, called a press conference on Tuesday to commend the Mozambican government on its 'brave' decision to turn down the Sappi project.

"It's a short-term loss for a long-term gain," he said. Although sketchy on the exact details of how the project would be financed, Blanchard said



**James Blanchard: 'Truth is on our side'**

PHOTOGRAPH NASHONZALK

he believed he was close to winning a concession agreement from the government, which would be a stakeholder in the scheme.

He was not concerned about the possibility that like Sappi, any concession agreed on might be rejected later. "I'm confident the truth is on our side."

Blanchard's project — which he likened to a Sun City/Plainsberg-type concept — includes the development of exclusive homes on the Peninsula connected by steam train

railroad to the Maputo Elephant Reserve, which he intends restocking with game. Also on the cards are a casino and golf course.

If granted the concession, Blanchard plans to sell sub-concessions to other developers to build the luxury homes. "We'll invest in the infrastructure and bring in the game."

Although Blanchard admitted he had no experience in this type of development, he said his area of expertise was in fund-raising and financial planning.



## PRIVATISATION



**AFRICAN LINK** Six consortiums have approached the government in a bid to get a slice of the road building contract which will link Witbank in South Africa with Mozambique's capital Maputo

# Maputo toll road attracts offers

BY ANN CROTTY

Six consortiums have approached the government in a bid to get a slice of the road-building contract, worth about R600 million, involved in the revival of the Maputo corridor

Details of the tendering process have still to be worked out, but in a significant departure from similar projects in the past, the proposed toll road, which will run from Witbank to Maputo, will cost the government nothing. The initial building and maintenance will be funded by the private sector. Returns to the private sector will be generated by the toll fees, which means that if the road is not adequately maintained that source of income will be under threat.

Referring to the proposal, the director-general of the transport department, Ketso Gordhan, said the government would be exposed to no financial risk on the road-building contract. This would be earned by the private sector.

While the proposal is in line with the operation of a large percentage of infrastructure projects in the major international economies, it marks a change for the South African construction industry.

As the chief executive of one of the major South Africa building groups pointed out "We're used to being part of a financing package, but the difference now is that whoever gets the contract will own and run the toll facility."

While he pointed out that the parties were still involved in the details of the tendering process, he remarked "This is the only way we will be able to expand and maintain this country's infrastructure."

For the purists, it represents a form of privatisation. But for those who oppose it in principle it probably represents the most acceptable form of privatisation. With the

enormous pressure on the government to develop the country's infrastructure restrained by its financial resources, it is likely that many projects will not happen unless they are led by the private sector.

At this week's conference on restructuring of state-owned enterprises, organised by Cosatu-linked research unit Naledi, such projects seemed to represent the only scope for agreement between the government, labour and the private sector.

The trade unions are vehemently opposed to privatisation — at the Naledi conference, Cosatu general-secretary Sam Shilowa referred to the government's obligations in terms of the RDP, the government's attitude seems uncertain with different players in different departments expressing conflicting views — Gordhan noted that the government was trying to formulate a national strategic vision and to this end a document would be presented to Cabinet this week, the private sector is virtually unanimously supportive.

Without a coherent strategy, the government and its alliance partner could lose the initiative to the private sector and that restructuring/privatisation policy will be affected on an ad hoc basis determined by the objectives of public enterprise managers and private sector players. Thus, despite the existence of the National Framework Agreement that exists between government and labour.

There is little doubt that the resources available to Telkom management and its potential international partners ensure that they are directing the process of introducing a strategic equity partner to Telkom with labour left running far behind.

The international success rate of the sort of strategic alliance that Telkom is considering is between 20 and 30 percent. Speaking

at the conference, the deputy director-general in the state enterprises ministry, Siphoshe Shabalala, said that in the sort of competitive collaboration alliance with enterprises like Telkom, "the strategic interest of achieving the long-term win/win outcome tends to be unlikely or is contingent on the equal distribution of the partners' learning capabilities and their equal ability in accumulating the invisible assets. These include management and organisational skills, knowledge of the market and technological capability."

Shabalala urged caution in regard to strategic alliances. "The critical issue is whether our state enterprises are ready for the marriage — do they have tacit knowledge, skills, organisational learning capabilities and right attitudes to benefit from strategic alliance managements?"

"The organisational capability and the willingness to learn is the key to protecting competitive advantage in competitive collaboration and in the control of the strategic direction of the venture."

Even in ideal circumstances, strategic alliances either fail or benefit one partner at the expense of the other.

While Telkom management has in part based its request for an equity partner on the need for technology transfer, Shabalala argued that technology transfer was not an assured process and outcome. "The ability and commitment to pass and to receive and internalise acquired technology is critical. In general, partners bringing in pioneering proprietary technology tend to raise walls to make sure that their core competitive competence is not passed to the other partner."

Bringing an international perspective to the debate, British-based consultant Brendan Martin warned of the dangers of transferring too much control of SA's infrastructure and utility services to transnational corporations whose growing power will rapidly come to dwarf that of the nation-states and municipalities with which they are doing business."

CT (BR) 22/2/96 (218) (218) (218)



Karen Harverson went to Mozambique to be briefed on a possible boost to the economy

# The R1-billion corridor to success

(218) (E) M+G (PM) 23-29/2/96

**T**HREE industrial projects — still just a glimmer in the eye — may be built in Maputo, if the R1-billion infrastructural corridor project to improve road and rail links between South Africa and Mozambique is successful.

Primary aluminium producer Alusaf may consider building a second smelter in Maputo as part of its long term strategic planning. "The temptation would be to use power from Cahora Bassa," says managing director Rob Barbour, adding that it is still just a concept.

The company is busy commissioning its R5-billion double-size smelter plant in Richards Bay with a production capacity of 460 000 tons. The first smelter was commissioned in December 1995 and completion of the second phase is expected by July this year.

Barbour says other international companies had looked at the Maputo option before but rejected it because of the lack of infrastructure. "Now hopefully this won't be such a big factor in the future."

Two other projects still under discussion — both involve state-owned Foskor and the international fertiliser market.

The first fertiliser project concerns Indian company Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation (Spic) expected to arrive in South Africa within a fortnight to evaluate

building a plant in Maputo to process phosphate rock, mined by Foskor, into phosphoric acid for supply to India.

Foskor managing director Danie Vorster says interest has been expressed by certain companies in India to establish a phosphoric acid project in Maputo based on phosphate rock from Phalaborwa. "It is possible that Spic is part of such a consortium but we have not had a direct approach from Spic in this regard."

He said the company had previously had discussions with Spic

### If the project in Maputo got the go-ahead, it seems likely that Foskor would increase its production

about the possible supply of phosphate rock to its facilities in India, but to date no real interest has been shown on their part for such a supply.

Foskor's phosphate rock is of a high grade and some 25% of production is railed to Indian Ocean Fertilisers in Richards Bay — jointly owned by Foskor and the Togolese government — both for beneficiation and export.

If the project in Maputo got the go-ahead it is likely that the company would increase its production as its reserves are believed to be enormous.

Two options for transporting the rock to Maputo could be considered. One involves the building of a slurry pipe to transport the rock but this is dodgy because of the general shortage of water in the area. The second option would be to rail the rock, and this could be facilitated by the plan to build an artery off the main development corridor from Witbank to Maputo up into the Tzaneen region.

"At present there are no pipeline facilities for the delivery of rock to Maputo and phosphate rock is not exported via Maputo by Foskor," says Vorster.

In the second proposal, Maputo is being considered as a second option only. It involves a large fertiliser complex being built in Richards Bay with players Sasol Phalaborwa based Foskor and Norwegian company Hydro Agri each bringing their comparative advantage to the table.

Sasol would supply gas from Secunda. Foskor would provide the phosphate rock and Hydro Agri would supply its marketing network in the international fertiliser market. "As an option other sites such as Maputo could be considered because it is closer to Phalaborwa," says an industry source.

Link-up: Matthews Phosa and Mac Maharaj on board for the Maputo development corridor

PHOTO: KAREN HARVERSON



## Bid for the best route

**T**HE squalor of Johannesburg Station was momentarily lifted last Sunday evening with the arrival of the Minister of Transport Mac Maharaj and Mpumalanga Premier Matthew Phosa bound for Maputo.

The press was invited along to savour the delights of Spoornet while the minister briefed us on a scheme to develop a R1-billion infrastructural corridor to boost economic activity.

The train trip while enjoyable took more than 19 hours and we arrived in Maputo more than two and a half hours behind schedule. One of the first issues to be tackled in the project says Maharaj will be to set up a one-stop immigration customs and excise structure to speed up border crossings.

The rest of the proposal outlined by Transport director general Ketso Gordhan is ambitious and if successful will help rebuild the economy of Mozambique as well as offer business opportunities in mining, tourism and agriculture.

The main thrust of the developmental corridor is to build a tollroad between Witbank and Maputo. Gordhan says local companies, in consortiums with international partners are lining up to bid for the contract.

"We will invite companies to submit proposals by mid-March to build, operate and maintain the road and the contract will be awarded in June," says Gordhan.

The concession will require regular upgrading to the road. Completion of the first set of improvements is expected at the end of 1997.

The tollroad, which will involve upgrading the existing N4 in South Africa and building a new road from Komatipoort to Maputo, is expected to top the R1-billion mark, including maintenance and improvement costs over a 25 year period.



On track: Locals will benefit from the corridor PHOTO: KAREN HARVERSON

The road from the South African border to Maputo will shorten the 120km distance to 86km. Upgrading the road between Nelspruit and Komatipoort will begin this year while the second phase into Mozambique will start in early 1997 at an estimated cost of R2-million a kilometre. Extensive work will be needed in the Waterval Boven area, which could include widening the existing tunnel where the cost a kilometre may reach more than R4-million.

About R78-million will be spent on rehabilitating the railway line on the Mozambique side to curtail derailments — a not infrequent occurrence judging by the rusted coaches littered along the route.

Some \$50-million is to be spent on Maputo's port to upgrade the terminal facilities. The harbour will provide, highveld companies with an export destination 150km closer than Durban's congested port.

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## 'Maputo corridor' to cost R1-bn

Star 7/3/96

Cape Town - Work to turn Maputo into a major conduit for South African exports will begin by June and cost R1-billion.

Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal told Parliament yesterday the Government had spent R5-million on planning the "Maputo corridor" linking the Mozambican port with SA's industrial heartland.

Building it would cost R1-billion, with the private sector financing most of it, including a new toll road. Upgrading transport links on the route would cost about R600-million for roads and R25-million for rail. Renewing port facilities in Maputo would cost about R300-million. - Reuters

(218)



# On board for Mozambique

MTG(BM)1-7/3/96

(218)

## Madeleine Wackernagel

**T**HE appointment of Graca Machel to the Thebe Investment Corporation's (TIC) board should ensure it a first bite at Mozambique's privatisation cherry

Litha Nyhonyha, executive director of TIC and chief executive officer of its financial arm, Msele Financial Holdings, said the new appointments underline TIC's intention to be a major player in the Southern African region.

"Having people such as Machel and Stride Masiyiwa [chairman of Retrofit Holdings of Zimbabwe] on the board means we have a direct line to developments in those countries and are well placed to capitalise on new opportunities as they come up

"In addition, original input from

people in the know helps us to diversify in the right areas and maximise our growth potential," he said

An obvious first choice for Thebe is Mozambique's airline, which is high up on the country's privatisation list and offers the complementarity that Thebe seeks. Its South African Express offshoot already flies to Namibia and Livingstone in Zambia, primarily for the tourism market. With tourism seen as a potential growth area for Mozambique, the synergy could be substantial

Thebe Properties is also looking beyond South Africa's borders for possible investment openings, as is Thebe's financial services division. Moves in Zimbabwe to relax controls on foreign investment are to be welcomed, says Nyhonyha, and should



**Graca Machel Appointed to the TIC board**

PHOTOGRAPH ANDREW MOHAMED

help the company to unlock growth potential

Plans for Angola are still very much at the drawing-board stage, but options are being studied in trading, possibly in primary commodities

(1) The Office for Serious Economic Offences confirmed that an enquiry was instituted on 17 January 1996 into the affairs of Phoenix Airways (Pty) Ltd. This followed information which led to the suspicion that a serious economic offence had been committed or that an attempt had been made to commit such an offence in respect of the airline and/or by officials or employees of the airline. The enquiry is at an early stage and will take some time to complete. No findings have therefore yet been made regarding the investigation.

(2) According to the Office for Serious Economic Offences it is still premature to say that the collapse of the airline "constituted" a serious economic offence. It must be stressed that this investigation does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Department of Transport.

#### NSRI, funding

\*10 Mr J A JORDAAN asked the Minister of Transport

Whether he intends increasing the amount of funding allocated to the National Sea Rescue Institute, if not, why not, if so, (a) when and (b) by what amount? N117E

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY (for the Minister of Transport)

An amount of R250 000 was provided to the NSRF for the financial year 1995/96. This amount is to be increased to R269 000 in the 1996/97 financial year. The contribution to the NSRI for the financial year 1997/98 will be R290 000. This is an annual average increase of 7,6%.

Maputo corridor: projects

\*16 Dr P J WELGEMOED asked the Minister of Transport †

(a) When are the first projects on the so-called Maputo corridor expected to commence, (b) what is the total estimated cost of the whole project, (c) what amounts from the budget will be spent on the various projects and (d) what are the dates envisaged for the (i) completion and (ii) implementation of the various projects? N123E

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY (for the Minister of Transport)

(a) The first projects are expected to start in the second quarter of 1996.

(b) The South African Government has spent R5m on the planning process for the entire project.

When implementation goes ahead, the expected total costs of the project will be of the order of R1bn. A rough breakdown of this figure is as follows:

- ±R600m on road rehabilitation and upgrade [±R400m for the Witbank to Nelspruit section of the N4, ±R100m for the Nelspruit to Komatipoort section, ±R100m for the Komatipoort to Maputo route.]
- ±R300m for the rehabilitation of Maputo port facilities
- ±R75m for dredging of Maputo port
- ±R25m for upgrading the Komatipoort-Maputo rail link

(c) It is envisaged that the major part of the costs will be borne by the private sector through mechanisms such as joint ventures and Build, Operate and Transfer projects. For example, it is proposed that the Witbank-Maputo road link would be entirely financed by the private sector on a BOT basis.

#### New questions

#### Masterbond: findings of Nel Commission

\*1 Prof B TURROK asked the Minister of Finance

(1) Whether the Nel Commission investigating the affairs of Masterbond over the last four years has made any interim findings and/or recommendations, if not, why not, if so, (a) what were the findings and/or recommendations and (b) when is it anticipated that the Commission will conclude its investigation,

(2) whether any wrongdoing by persons other than the directors of Masterbond has been uncovered, if not, what were the findings in this regard,

(3) whether any steps have been taken in this regard, if not, why not, if so, what steps? N179E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

(1) No,

Note: Basically, the terms of reference of the Commission consist of—

(a) An inquiry into the affairs of Masterbond and persons or institutions who have been involved therewith

(b) An investigation regarding protection of investors by existing legislation and possible legislative proposals to ensure more adequate protection

As a result of the activities of the Commission it was possible to successfully prosecute the main directors of Masterbond. The completion of this part of the inquiry had to await the finalisation of the criminal trial before the directors could be interrogated. A report in this regard is being prepared.

Existing legislation does not afford adequate protection to investors and far-reaching amending legislation is necessary not only to the Companies Act, but also in respect of *inter alia*, regulating authorities, intermediaries, auditors and the prosecution of so-called white-collar criminals. It is evident that there are serious shortcomings in this regard ranging from a total lack of prosecution to a totally unacceptable delay prior to prosecution or ineffective prosecution.

Various aspects of the Companies Act have been referred to the Constitutional Court and judgments in respect thereof may have far-reaching implications for the protection of investors.

In order to make meaningful proposals, the legislation of all modern countries is being researched. This part of the inquiry has not been completed, however, interim reports will be issued during this year.

(b) At this stage it is foreseen that the investigation will be completed during the course of this year.

(2) Yes

(3) In terms of the provisions of the regulations governing the activities of the Commission, these wrongdoings have been referred to the Office for Serious Economic Offences.

Prof B TURROK: Mr Speaker, I would like to thank the hon the Minister for that very comprehensive reply. Arising out of that reply, does the Minister agree that a reading of the evidence, such as the evidence by Mr Jonker to the commission of inquiry, which I have here, shows that the regulatory processes under the previous government were not properly observed, and that the possible inference is that there was a cover-up by a number of people in different institutions? Does the Minister agree with that inference?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr Speaker, I cannot really respond to that with any authority. I have not studied the evidence to that extent, and I will take the inferences that are drawn at face value. What it does show, as I have said in my reply, is that there would appear to be certain gaps in the regulatory system that we have in South Africa. There is definitely not enough protection for investors. Further investigation is certainly necessary and the Nel Commission is busy with that.

Prof B TURROK: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, does the Minister agree that the excessive leniency exercised by officials in various institutions amounted, in fact, to a total disregard of the interests of the investors? Furthermore, does the Minister agree that Parliament and its committees should exercise greater vigilance over the range of financial institutions which are there really to regulate the industry, but also to protect the interests of ordinary people? That is my second follow-up question.

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, my response to the second part of the question would be yes, it would be wonderful if Parliament could take a greater interest to see that the regulatory systems that we have in South Africa are better and more adequately dealt with. Again, not having studied the evidence to the extent that the hon questioner has, I really cannot respond to the inferences that are made from it.



# Remote wilderness may end up as a 'beast and beach' resort

The plan, which includes an antique steam train pulling guests through herds of elephant and antelope, could save the ecosystem in this part of Mozambique

**NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE**  
Maputo Elephant Reserve, Mozambique

In this remote and beautiful corner of the world, representatives of a conservative Louisiana millionaire used to hand American cash to a rebel movement so cruel that it kidnapped children for its assassination squads

Today, a representative of the same man is handing children little American and Mozambican flags. Mozambique's flag is the only one in the world with an AK-47 rifle on it, and the socialist government that the businessman was trying to undermine won the war and the elections two years ago

But that's history. Now James Ulysses Blanchard III wants to build an \$800-million (R3-billion) ecotourist's paradise in this wilderness of lakes and savannas edged by crystalline sands and Caribbean-blue waters. His plans include a floating casino,

thatched game lodges perched high over watering holes, a marina, a golf course with hippos in the water hazards and an antique steam train that would pull rolling hotels made of Orient-Express-style sleeping cars through herds of elephants and antelope

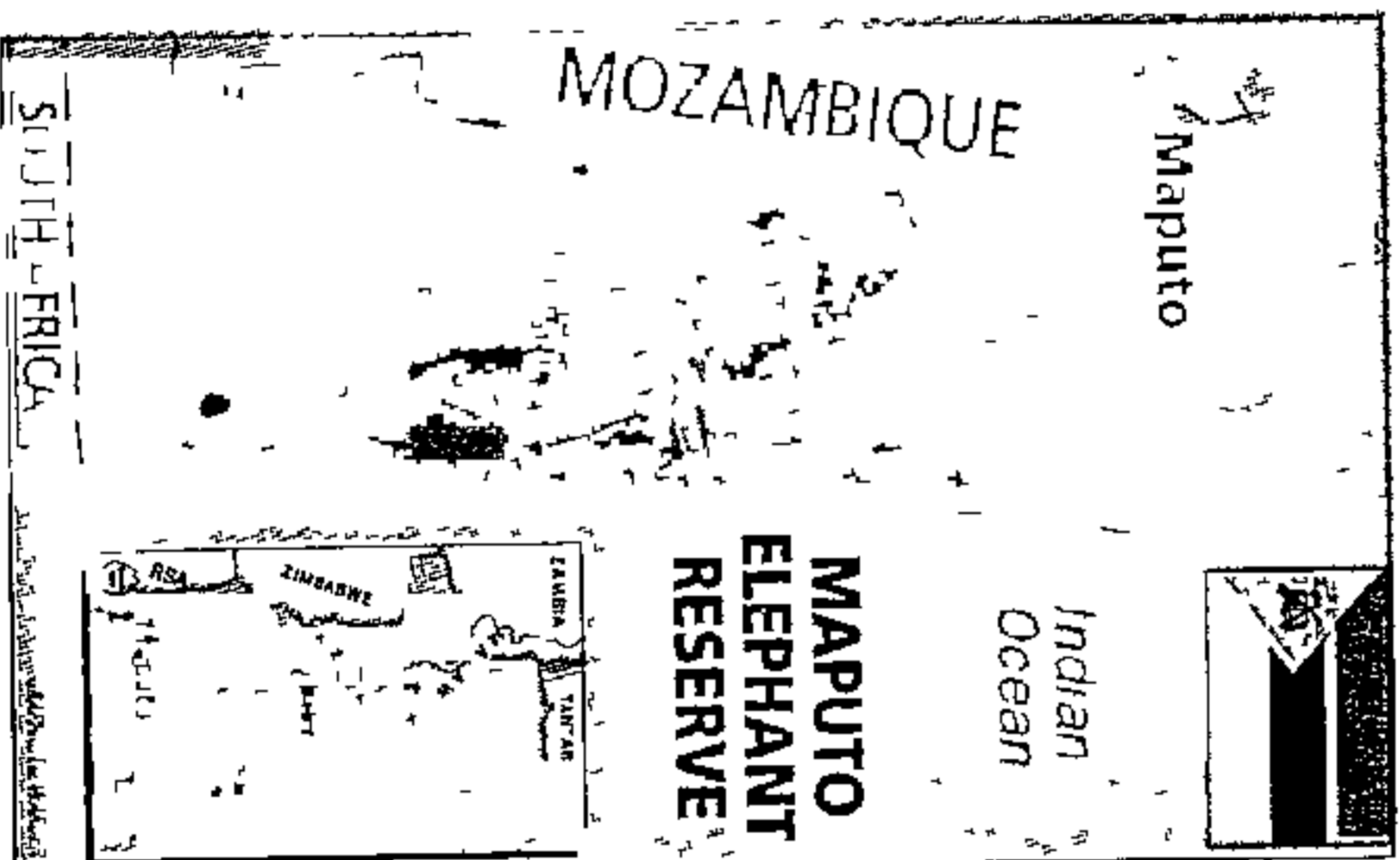
He may succeed in building his Disney World in the bush. Biologists consulted by the Frelimo government, his old foe, seem favourably inclined toward his plans for the 7 000 square kilometre area. And it may be the only way to save the ecosystem, which the 1992 Rio summit conference on biodiversity named as one of the 200 most remarkable on the planet.

Mozambique's coastline was once the playground for generations of white Rhodesians and South Africans. Now, after 17 years of destructive civil war, this desperately poor country is helpless to resist the hordes rushing in to exploit its natural wealth and

beauty. South African tourists zipping up the beach in Land Rovers, running over the nests of leatherback turtles and plundering the reefs of coral and tropical fish, war refugees sneaking back in to slash and burn tiny cornfields out of the rare vegetation, Mozambican military officers arrogantly hunting the reserve's last few elephants

"My budget is \$50 000 (R195 000)," said Mateus Chantal, the director of the elephant reserve, who lives in a half-burnt-out compound and whose near-dead Land Rover leaks water he draws by hand from a well. "It came from American and European organisations because of the biodiversity conference, and it will run out in June. If we don't get more, we will have to abandon the reserve."

The flora of the park is largely intact. But its fauna suffered badly during the war between Frelimo and Renamo. About 500 of the 600 elephants are



dead

All the rhino were poached. One local environmentalist claims to have seen the last one mowed down in the dunes by a Cuban helicopter, which then swooped in to saw off the horn. "Pretty much everything else went into people's pots," said Donald Beswick, who runs the Mozambique desk for the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

The trust, an environmental organisation, doesn't endorse the Blanchard plan outright "but we certainly aren't anti-it," Beswick said.

Animals are the first step in the five-year plan, which was drawn up by the same consultants who created the Pilanesberg wildlife reserve and Sun City casino complex.

The \$9 million (R35-million) budget for game restoration reads like a cargo manifest for Noah's Ark: 500 zebras plus 30 white rhinos in Year 1, plus assorted giraffes, wildebees and other an-

(218) Star 12/3/96

imals. In Year 2, the first predators, 10 brown hyena, are to be introduced. Not until Year 4 does the item that worries the locals appear - 25 lions.

John Perrott, the project's general manager in Mozambique, wants the first restocking to be of crocodiles in the Maputo River, the area's western boundary. "Great game scouts," he says, "Real tough on poachers."

Perrott, a burly former pipeline engineer and big-game hunter who has worked everywhere from Alaska to Tanzania, has some ideas even more radical than the plan. He wants to import the last remaining Bushmen from the Kalahari Desert.

"People make fun of me for that," he says. "But I'm not talking about just a tourist attraction. I say let the little guys in and let them hunt. Their homeland in Botswana is being wiped out by cattle fences."

Blanchard foresees raising the \$800-

million over at least five years, at first from investors he knows and millionaires who want private homes inside a Big Five game park. Then he hopes to offer stock to emerging market funds and attract hotel chains like Club Med and Sheraton who see potential in a "beast and beach" package.

The displaced subsistence farmers and fishermen - who probably number fewer than 10 000 - will also get shares of the corporation and first crack at the 12 000 projected jobs as game trackers, construction labourers, chambermaids and the like.

The architect of all this, Blanchard, is a 52-year-old man of many interests - prominent among them gold, guns and right-wing politics - and of unquestionable daring. He buzzed President Richard Nixon's 1973 inauguration in a Cessna trailing a "Legalize Gold" banner. "That was fun," he says. "They flew jets up to chase us out."



# Renamo's Dhlakama holds high hopes for 1999 election

Star 13/3/96

(218)

By JOHN FLEMING  
Beira, Mozambique

**A**fonso Dhlakama claims he is on holiday these days. But nothing, save the beachfront location of his house in central Mozambique, suggests anything of the sort. He spends most of the day darting between the fax machine, the telephone and a cluster of advisors huddled around a diningroom table.

A few years ago, Dhlakama was seen by most of the world as one of Africa's most savage leaders. As commander of the Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo) guerrilla movement he waged a war against the leftist Mozambican government that some estimate cost more than a million lives. Many, including leading human rights organisations, accused him and Renamo of countless atrocities during the 17-year civil war.

Today, the former guerrilla general has traded in his fatigues for grey slacks and a Polo shirt, and spends his time directing his army of Renamo parliamentarians in their effort to gain a greater share of power in the governing of Mozambique. He took time out recently to reflect on his party's

hopes for the future, Mozambique's long civil war and his past and present relationship with South Africa.

It is 16 months since UN sponsored elections put 112 Renamo delegates in Mozambique's parliament. Much is uncertain and many argue Renamo is still disgraced and beaten at every corner by the ruling Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (Frelimo), with a majority 129 seats.

But one thing seems certain Dhlakama, not known for his willingness to work problems out in the past, seems to be content to fight from inside the political process. A return to war, the former general stresses, is out of the question.

"The place for fighting now is in parliament," said the son of a traditional chief. "I could cause a lot of trouble in Mozambique if I wanted to, I could take us back to war at any moment. But I don't want that, Renamo doesn't want that. The Mozambican people don't want that," he said.

Dhlakama seems content to sit back and wait for the 1999 general elections to arrive. He is confident he will win.

"Officially, we are the minority party in parliament," he said, "but

the countryside and could do much better in the 1999 elections.

Dhlakama, a 43-year-old father of five from the village of Mangunde, in central Sofala province, denies that his army ever committed any atrocities during the country's civil war. He prefers instead to blame Frelimo propaganda for painting Renamo as armed bandits rampaging through the Mozambican countryside. He even ventured to blame Frelimo for committing massacres just to have an incident to blame on Renamo.

Such is the case with Homoine, a city in southern Mozambique where some 424 people were killed in 1987, including people who were in the town's hospital at the time. Human Rights Watch concluded years ago that Homoine, the worst massacre of the war, was the work of Renamo.

The former general falls silent when asked about the incident. Then, pounding his fist, he accuses Frelimo of the massacre.

"Our troops never did anything like that. We were never in Homoine, that was a Frelimo thing. They did it and blamed it on Renamo," he said.

Dhlakama also argued

throughout that Renamo never relied on Rhodesian and South Africa military support as much as has been suggested and could have survived without outside support at all.

"We got a bit of help early on from the Rhodesians," says Dhlakama. "The South Africans helped a bit more but only with small arms. We didn't really need outside help. The biggest supplier of arms to Renamo was the Mozambican army. We would attack them, they would throw down their weapons and run away, leaving them for us," he said.

Nearly all historians agree that Renamo was started by Rhodesian intelligence and later supported by massive South African military aid.

This aid continued even after an accord between the two countries in 1984 that promised an end to South African support of Renamo in return for Mozambique's promise to stop harbouring ANC officials.

Today, Dhlakama says he has the utmost respect for President Nelson Mandela. "I respect him like my grandfather," and claims he has a "great relationship" with Thabo Mbeki - Independent Foreign Service



# Rebels 'innocent of killings'

JOHN FLEMING of the Independent Foreign Service talks to former Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama.

ARG 14/3/96

(218)

**A**FONSO Dhlakama claims he is on vacation these days

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He spends most of this day darting between the fax machine, the telephone and a cluster of advisors huddled around a dining room table

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Many, including leading human rights organisations, accused him and Renamo of countless atrocities during the 17-year civil war

Today the former guerrilla general has traded his fatigues for grey slacks and a Polo shirt and spends all his time directing his army of Renamo parliamentarians in their effort to gain a greater share of power in the governing of Mozambique

Although busier than a stock broker he took time out to reflect on his party's hopes for the future, Mozambique's long civil war and his past and present relationship with South Africa

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"The place now for fighting is in parliament," said the son of a traditional chief

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"Officially we are the minority party in parliament," he said, "but on the ground, unofficially we are the majority"

"I travel all over this country and everywhere I go people tell me they love Renamo. Even those who voted for Frelimo say their lives have not gotten any better and are ready

to vote for us next time"

Mozambicans and western diplomats in Maputo familiar with Renamo, say Dhlakama's party is suffering from serious disorganisation and a lack of funds that is hampering their effectiveness in parliament

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# Gencor's investment in Mozambique worth \$500m

(218) B015/3/96

David McKay

GENCOR's mineral sands project in Mozambique would represent an investment of \$500m, the mining house said yesterday.

The group — which was detailing international exploration plans worth \$44m this year — said exploration on the Mozambique project showed a total resource of 1.1-billion tons yielding 3.98% heavy minerals, greater than the yield at Richards Bay.

The mine would produce 400 000 tons of slag a year.

The scheme would focus on two deposits near the northerly port-town of Moebase and a licence area further south below Pebane.

A further option for a licence area existed between Quelimane and Chinde.

Mineral resources CE John Raubenheimer said a full feasibility study would be complete by June. "But the project already seems to be robust," he said.

US exploration company Edlow Resources was also involved in the project. The Mozambican government was represented in the project through its mineral resources ministry which has an option to take a small stake in the project in the future.

Gencor said it also had a 50% stake in a \$100m underground nickel project in western Australia, in partnership with Australian company Forestania Gold.

The pilot plant was expected to produce more than 10 000 tons of nickel a year.

An A\$20m joint project in the Australian province of Queens-

land with Gencor's coal company Ingwe was exploring a shallow depth coal mine with an estimated resource of 500-million tons.

The group hoped to complete the feasibility studies by 1998 with an application for a mining development lease being made in 1999, he said.

Gencor was also negotiating with Cuban authorities to begin exploration on a joint nickel project. Raubenheimer was optimistic that an agreement to begin explorations would be concluded within the next few months.

Gencor would focus most of its other attentions on mining projects in Indonesia, the West African countries of Ghana, Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast and countries within the Andean Cordillera, Raubenheimer said.



# Renamo confident of 1999 election win

(218) Sowetan 15/3/96

By John Fleming

**BEIRA** — Alfonso Dhlakama claims he is on vacation these days. Nothing, save the beachfront location of his house in central Mozambique, suggests anything of the sort.

He spends most of his day darting between the fax machine, the telephone and a cluster of advisers huddled around a dining room table.

A few years ago, Dhlakama was seen by most of the world as one of Africa's most savage leaders. As commander of Renamo, he waged a war against the Mozambican government that some estimate cost over a million lives.

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Today the former guerrilla general has traded in his fatigues for grey slacks and a polo shirt, and spends all his time directing his army of Renamo parliamentarians in their effort to gain a greater share of power in the governing of Mozambique.

## Hopes for the future

Although busier than a stockbroker, he took time out recently to reflect on his party's hopes for the future, Mozambique's long civil war and his past and present relationship with South Africa.

It has been 16 months since United Nations-sponsored elections put 112 Renamo delegates in Mozambique's parliament. Much is uncertain and many argue Renamo is still disorganised and beaten at every corner by Frelimo, with a majority 129 seats.

But one thing seems certain. Dhlakama, not known for his willingness to work problems out in the past, seems to be content to fight from inside the political process. A return to war, the former general stresses, is out of the question.

"The place for fighting is now in parliament," said the son of a traditional chief. "I could cause a lot of trouble in Mozambique if I wanted to, I could go back to war at any moment. But I don't want that, Renamo doesn't want that. The people don't want that."

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— Even those who voted for Frelimo

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**Flashback ... Frelimo leader Joaquim Chissano during the last election in Mozambique in 1994.**

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Mozambicans and Western diplomats in Maputo familiar with Renamo say Dhlakama's party is suffering from serious disorganisation and a lack of funds that is hampering their effectiveness in parliament.

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"We got a bit of help from the Rhodesians," said Dhlakama. "The South Africans helped a bit more but only with small arms. We didn't really need outside help." — *Independent Foreign Service*

# Revival for Maputo's port

(218) ET(OR) 15/3/96

BY JON BEVERLEY

Durban — Maputo's container terminal will be handling 100 000 containers a year in four years' time David Cotty, the chief executive director of Mozambique International Port Services, told the Intermodal Africa conference yesterday

Capacity is about 12 000 containers a year at present, but a joint venture company that started up on March 9 is to pump R20 million into the venture this year and a further R10 million later He estimated that 80 percent of the traffic in 2000 would be in transit to or from other African countries

Cotty said P&O Australia was taking a 30 percent stake and man-

aging the scheme Rennues would have 37 percent and the Mozambican railway company CFM 33 percent

Cotty said the service had won a 10-year lease on the property, which it would develop by refurbishing the quay cranes, buying spreaders and spare parts, upgrading the terminal paving and lighting, and moving to computersation.

A dredging programme was under way to deepen the Polana Channel to 9,4m and a tender for a third crane would go out soon.

The developments in the Maputo corridor to provide road and rail links and growth in the CFM railway system were necessary if the target of 100 000 containers was to be reached, Cotty said



# Maputo links encouraged

BD 20/3/95 (218)  
Ingrid Salgado

MPUMALANGA premier Mathews Phosa urged government and business yesterday to join hands in developing the Maputo corridor to create jobs, develop skills and create links between industries.

Speaking at an investor seminar on the Maputo corridor in Nelspruit, Phosa said the initiative was the first step in "dynamically developing" the regional economy with Mozambique and Swaziland, based on the principles of soft political borders and mutually beneficial regional co-operation.

The project was launched last year when Mpumalanga signed sister agreements with Mozambique's Gaza and Maputo provinces. Phosa said local government should be involved in promoting "spin-offs" of the initiative for local small business, whose contribution to economic development was sometimes neglected.

Phosa said the tourism industry and agricultural development in Mpumalanga, Gaza and Maputo provinces had the potential to contribute "enormously" to their

upliftment, if planned correctly.

A number of pilot projects in the agricultural sector were being investigated in Gaza.

Construction of the N4 road between Witbank and Komatipoort was well under way. The road would be extended to Maputo.

It was vital that roads and railway lines between Gauteng through Mpumalanga to Maputo harbour were optimally developed, he said.

Agreements signed with Gaza and Maputo would see public administration training in those provinces, including training Mozambique government officials in "business English".

He said border post control had been identified as a "problem area" and co-operation in this regard would continue.

Mpumalanga economic affairs and tourism MEC Jacob Mabena said the project would turn the province into Africa's "industrial development mecca". A provincial participation mechanism would be set up to facilitate further projects in line with the Maputo corridor initiative.

# Law firms slate transport department

Mungo Sogge

(218)

LAW firms have criticised the transport department's decision to appoint Ismail Ayob & Associates — attorneys for President Nelson Mandela — and three other law firms to work on the Maputo development corridor project without advertising the posts

Transport department road division head Nazir Ali said the department and the Development Bank of Southern Africa, which is also in charge of the project, had not advertised for the

lawyers' positions, but had picked them from a selection of eight

"We invited eight law firms to come to the bank and then we selected four after we saw their proposals," he said

He rejected criticism from other law firms, who asked to remain anonymous, that the appointments breached tender procedures. He said the process had been open, transparent and in accordance with departmental and SA Road Board requirements

Continued on Page 2

BD 22/3/96

# Lawyers

(218)

Continued from Page 1

In any case, there would not have been enough time to advertise, and the complaints were a case of "sour grapes", he said

The other appointees are US law firm White & Case, Philip Loots & Associates and Mozambican firm José Manuel Caldeira.

Ayob, who also represented former Wits University deputy vice-chancellor William Makgoba during the recent controversy at Wits University, could not be contacted for comment

Ali said the department was also re-

cruting financial advisers to help draw up tender documents, but had not yet taken a decision on who the advisers should be. It had not advertised for these posts either, but had contacted every merchant bank in the country

"There is not a single one we have not spoken to," Ali said

The project involves construction of a toll road between Witbank and Maputo, a revamp of Maputo harbour and improvements to rail links between SA and Mozambique. Transport director-general Ketso Gordhan has estimated the infrastructure will cost R1bn.

Ali said foreign contractors had already expressed "tremendous interest" in the project, which was likely get started in 18 to 24 months



# Aid donors urge Mozambique to continue reforms

(Z18) CT(BR) 26/3/96

By IAIN CHRISTIE

Maputo — Mozambique's main aid donors are urging the country to press on with economic reforms ahead of a crucial international conference next month, the weekly newspaper Savana said at the weekend.

Savana said it had obtained a document delivered by the donors to the Mozambican government in January which set the agenda for the April 17-19 meeting in Paris of the World Bank's consultative group on Mozambique.

The group will bring together donors to discuss the country's funding needs for the coming year. This year's national budget of about \$600million has a deficit of 42.7 percent, which can only be plugged by foreign financing.

The document's most controversial points are demands for an end to the state monopoly on importing refined fuels, for further privatisation in the transport sector, and to switch funds from state media to the judiciary or legislature. The donors want a stop to the monopoly on fuel imports enjoyed by the state oil company, Petromoc, by the end of the month. They are demanding procedures that will allow private concerns to import refined fuels.

The document says that during this year the publicly owned ports and rail company should be privatised, or that the management of main ports and railways be placed in private hands. The donors want Mozambique Airlines to be privatised by June. Last year 78 state-owned firms, including 12 large ones, were sold off, and the trade union federation claims this cost 90 000 jobs.

The donors want the government to take a timetable for local elections to Paris. Alfredo Gamito, the minister of state administration, has said he wants municipal elections held in the middle of next year.

The donors repeated a call to privatise the two state-owned banks but the issue is no longer controversial and the sale is expected this year.

Privatising management of the customs service is another point on which there seems to be broad agreement. Last year Tomas Salomao, the finance minister, denounced the chaotic state of the customs.

The donors are pushing the government to implement pledges on fighting corruption by setting up a high authority against corruption by the end of the month.

Reuter

vey a legal maximum of 8 200 kg (89%), Henren Transport conveyed chemicals weighing 29 040 kg on a truck that had a legal maximum capacity of 16 400 kg (77%), and Rollco Roofing loaded a truck with 34 040 kg of sheeting (62%)

The four companies with the highest average overloads named in the report are Romatrans (4 815 kg per axle), BVB Transport (4 625 kg), Rabes Transport (4 524 kg) and Hobtrans (4 365 kg)

The Road Freight Association, which represents more than 50% of transport contractors, says it's joining the campaign to curtail overloading

As a voluntary organisation it cannot take punitive action against its members found guilty of overloading, other than ask them to resign "But," says CE Herman Lemmer, "we are doing our best to convince members not to overload as a matter of policy, and to try to guard against accidental overloading"

The association also wants regulations to be amended so that action can be taken "against shippers who aid and abet carriers in gross policy overloading"

Lemmer says factors leading to overloading include economic pressure on transport contractors and shippers, and lack of proper law enforcement, except in KwaZulu-Natal where the main routes are well controlled

"Law enforcement doesn't appear to be a high priority with the authorities," he says "The lack of law enforcement is encouraged by the shortage of funds needed to place weighbridges, and to pay well-trained staff to enforce regulations"

Like other provinces, KwaZulu-Natal has the power to stop and weigh all vehicles and punish offenders, but unlike the other provinces, it's determined to do its best to stop overloading

Provincial authorities believe overloaded heavy-duty vehicles cause about 60% of the damage done to SA's roads ■

MAPUTO CORRIDOR

EASTERN PIPELINE

Government took a step towards creating the Maputo Corridor this week when it called for tenders to upgrade the N4 highway which links Witbank in Mpumalanga with Maputo in Mozambique

It sees the corridor as an economic pipeline that will lead to the development of new industry and unlock the mineral and agricultural riches of Mpu-

malanga The corridor will also draw Reef-Natal traffic and reduce congestion in Durban's port

The project is budgeted to cost almost R1bn R600m for the road, R300m to dredge and upgrade Maputo's port and R25m to improve the rail link Joint ventures with the private sector will see government contribute only 10% of this

The road tender will probably go to a consortium, which will have to find R540m to finance the highway It will, however, be able to recoup this as it will have the right to run three toll plazas on the road, two of them in SA

The contract will be awarded in May on a build, operate and transfer basis The successful contractor will be expected to be on site in June or July

The SA road and Mozambique's will have to be upgraded and a stretch built to shorten the Mozambican part by 36 km



Malcolm Mitchell

Road Freight Association executive director Herman Lemmer is happy about the shorter travel distance Heavy duty truck operators will save R700 a journey in operating costs But, he says, the association opposes tolls on the road

The Automobile Association's Robin Scholz says: "We're not happy with an existing road being tolled" The Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut is also "against putting tolls on roads that have been paid for through fuel levies and other indirect forms of taxation"

But they were warned At the end of January, roads chief director Nazir Alli said Cabinet had approved the submission to parliament of a National Roads Amendments Bill which, among other new provisions, allows Section (9)(3)(9a) of the National Roads Act to be deleted That relieves government of the obligation to provide or maintain alternate routes to toll roads

The Bill also allows government to enter into a contract with a private company "to plan, design, construct and operate a portion of a national road and to charge a toll as approved by the Minister"

Transport Department deputy DG Malcolm Mitchell says the building, operation and transfer course of action is necessary "We need R7bn-R8bn a year to

wipe out the backlog on all inter-city roads over the next 10 years and to bring them up to a reasonable standard But there is no way government will increase the R3bn budget" ■

AIR TRAVEL

DOG FIGHT OVER DURBAN

Privately owned Comair has stepped aside to let government-controlled SA Airways and Sun Air fight it out for supremacy on the lucrative Johannesburg-Durban route

When Sun Air began flying the route on February 1 it directly challenged Comair, which had for years shared the route with SAA, and caused it to freeze plans to increase flights to Durban

Says Comair MD Piet van Hoven "We took out the two midday flights which we were planning to introduce and reduced our projected offering by more than 10 000 seats to 25 300 a month With Sun Air coming in, there will clearly be over-capacity on the route There isn't enough traffic to warrant the 136 000 seats SAA provide each month, together with Sun Air's 33 800 seats and the 35 500 we planned to offer"

Comair has shown a profit each year since it was founded in 1946 Van Hoven wants to keep it that way Speaking with the acquired wisdom of a man who saw Flitestar's previous challenge to SAA collapse, he adds "From an industry perspective, it's better to reduce capacities in the short term and let the route develop Last year, when we had two flights a day out of each city during peak periods, our load factors averaged a profitable 75% I believe we can still maintain an average 75% load factor with our lower flight frequencies"

Van Hoven is optimistic the Johannesburg-Durban route will develop

Sun Air chairman Dirk Ackerman says its decision to start flying the route is backed by market research "and by requests from our corporate passengers, who like the product we offer"

Ackerman believes Sun Air's load factors will range between 60%-70% and claims that "it isn't always possible to get a seat on a flight to Durban when you want it"

SAA CE Mike Myburgh says the market will decide "That's the beauty of competition However, history records that over-capacity eventually leads to airline loss" A veiled threat to Sun Air? ■

29/3/96





Flashback . Mozambican women during an election campaign in 1994

# New feminism in Mozambique

Women are slowly becoming aware of the need to assert themselves

*Southern 1/12/96*

218

By Mercedes Sayagues

**M**APUTO - "A DAY TO RENOVAR our rebelliousness" was the slogan chosen by the Women and Gender Department at the Centre for African Studies recently to mark International Women's Day.

Since the democratic opening up of Mozambique began in the early 1990s, boosted by the peace agreement of 1992 that ended 17 years of bloody civil war, Mozambican women are claiming the chance to speak out and to occupy high office.

If, during the days of one-party rule, women's issues were taken up exclusively by the Organisation of Mozambican Women, an arm of the ruling Frelimo party, today there is a flowering of non-governmental organisations that deal with women's issues. OMM broke free from Frelimo in 1990 and converted into an NGO.

### Women's Issues

About a dozen of the 60 or so national NGOs work specifically on women's issues. They network through Foro Mulher, an umbrella group of NGOs, politicians, academics, government institutions and donors working on women's issues, set up in 1992.

In the trade union movement, a women's committee is being set up to deal with problems specific to women workers, such as equal pay for equal work, sexual harassment and retrenchment of women due to privatisation of state companies.

At government level, in the enthusiasm that followed the Fourth United Nations World Conference for Women in Beijing in 1994, an Inter-Ministerial Group was formed in January to

**In 10 to 12 years we will see women challenging patriarchal power at all levels**

define strategies and priority areas for women

"Because women's lives are multi-sectoral, covering agriculture, structural adjustment, health and education, it makes perfect sense there should be a focal point for women in each ministry," says Ms Gita Welch of the United Nations Fund for Women.

In turn, the ministry for the coordination of social welfare has set up a gender department as a focal point with other ministries and NGOs.

"This is an important advancement, unique in Southern Africa," says Welch. "If the focal point can ensure that the women's dimension appears in the plans of other ministries, it could be the entry point to real power in decision-making."

However, Welch points out that a lot of gender-training and capacity-building will be needed for government officials in one of the world's poorest countries, where the government depends on foreign aid to finance most of its budget, good intentions are not enough.

"It remains to be seen what

resources, staff and level of intervention the focal point can have vis-à-vis other government institutions," says Ms Ana Loforte, a researcher with the Centre for African Studies.

"To have a woman minister or parliamentarian does not necessarily translate into power and priority for women's issue."

Mozambique has an unusually high percentage of women in parliament: 61 out of 250 members (24.4 percent).

"We may have 25 percent but only five percent are really committed to women's issues," says Ms Teresinha da Silva, president of Foro Mulher.

### Political experience

Ms Maria Enoque is a Renamo MP, representing Manica province. A teacher and mother of two, she has no previous political experience.

"I am learning to be a parliamentarian," she says. Several workshops have helped women MPs acquire self-confidence and skills.

"Women are very active in religious groups and cultural activities. They manage family and household, sometimes alone for many months," she says.

"But traditional education tells them that the closed circle of home and *mauchamba* (plot) is their life and nothing else."

"We have a lot to learn in working in a democratic way in groups," says Da Silva. "But in 10 to 12 years we will see women challenging patriarchal power at all levels." — *ALA*

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# Bids invited for R1bn Maputo corridor

BD 11/4/96

(218)

Robyn Chalmers

THE transport department this week kickstarted the R1bn Maputo corridor after inviting the private sector to bid for the construction of the toll road between Witbank and Maputo

In an important departure from past road projects, transport department roads chief director Nazir Ali said yesterday the proposed toll road, es-

timated to cost between R300m and R400m in two years, was not expected to cost government anything

It would be undertaken on a build, operate and transfer basis. The initial building and maintenance were expected to be funded by the private sector which would generate returns through toll fees.

Ali said there had been substantial interest shown by the private sector on the project. All tenders, local and international, would be considered provided they had a strong social responsibility component. The final deadline for tenders was May 24.

The road component of the Maputo corridor development consisted of construction of about 50km of new road and upgrading of 46km in Mozambique, as well as the upgrading of part of SA's N4.

Ali said about R70m had been set aside in the current financial year for N4 upgrading, to be re-allocated to other areas should private sector funding be secured.

The moving ahead of the road component of the Maputo corridor was expected to spur on those departments handling harbour and rail linkages. To dredge and upgrade Maputo's port, R300m would be needed, and another R25m to improve the rail link.

An investors' conference was scheduled for May 6 and 7 in Maputo, to secure private sector investment in infrastructure in the area.

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# Opportunity knocks for Maputo

(218)

ST (PT) 14/4/96

A DECISION by Gencor to proceed with a third aluminium smelter in Maputo, pending the outcome of a feasibility study, could do for the Mozambican port what Alusaf did for the once sleepy village of Richards Bay,

Mozambique, although still ranked by the World Bank as the poorest country in the world, is enjoying the dividends of peace after a 17-year civil war. The economy is growing — admittedly off a very low base — at more than 5% a year and South African tourists have started returning. Yet large-scale private sector investment has, until recently, veered elsewhere. This could change dramatically should Gencor proceed with a smelter in Maputo.

Gencor chairman Brian Gilbertson puts the capital cost of a 245 000 tons per annum smelter

at \$1-billion, with the capacity to expand this to 490 000 tons per annum — equal in size to Alusaf's Hillside smelter. This would substantially increase the size of Mozambique's R10-billion a year economy and create employment for thousands of Mozambicans in downstream industries. It would also catapult Gencor into the ranks of the top two or three integrated aluminium producers in the world.

A "go" decision depends on several factors, most important of which is access to competitively priced hydro-electric power from the Zambezi River. The rehabilitation of the Maputo port and the Mpumalanga corridor at a cost of more than R1-billion is essential to attract exporters from Mpumalanga, who stand to reap substantial savings by redirecting exports

from Durban to Maputo.

No agreement on power supply and the critical issue of price has yet been signed, nor is there any certainty on the kind of tax incentives being offered by Mozambique. Labour rates in Mozambique are considerably lower than in South Africa, and experience garnered in the course of building the Hillside smelter would prove invaluable in constructing a third smelter in Maputo.

"We have gained a great deal of pertinent experience during the building of Hillside," says Rob Barbour, Alusaf managing director. "Now that the Hillside smelter is running smoothly and reaching full production within a few months, the project team is available for work elsewhere."

Mr Barbour says the company is just one of several aluminium pro-

ducers considering Maputo as a location for new smelters. The growth in world demand for aluminium provides scope for roughly one new smelter the size of Hillside each year.

Several members of the Hillside project team have been redeployed to investigate the feasibility of a Maputo smelter. Richards Bay is not considered an ideal site for a third smelter due to the need for geographical diversification.

Gencor is known to be looking at restructuring its global aluminium interests, possibly housing them under a single off-shore entity. Gencor subsidiary Billiton — which has substantial interests in bauxite mining, alumina production and two aluminium smelters in South America — currently has an arms-length relationship with Alusaf.

# Plans made for R1bn upgrade of Maputo corridor

(218)  
By JON BEVERLEY

CT (132) 19/4/96  
Durban — Projects costing R1 billion are under way to revitalise the Maputo corridor, said the organisers of the Investor's Conference in Maputo on May 6 and 7.

South Africa and Mozambique are keen to return to the situation in the 1970s where about 40 percent of the trade generated in the PWV area was routed through the Maputo corridor.

Now the road, rail and port systems are being refurbished to open the corridor to develop mining, tourism and manufacture.

A R600 million toll road is being built from Witbank to Maputo.

This project includes the realignment of the Mozambican route at a cost of R140 million.

The builder will be allowed to operate the toll road.

The rail link between Komatipoort and Maputo will be upgraded at a cost of R20 million by the two country's railway operators.

A R40 million tender to dredge the Maputo harbour to permit ships larger than 30 000 tons to enter is under consideration.

Tenders are open for dredging and cutting of new channels.

Improvements to the port operations and facilities in the harbour are under way and several wharves have been privatised.

Telecommunications are also being improved.



# Swaziland for Maputo corridor

NELSPRUIT — Plans are afoot to include Swaziland in the R5bn Maputo corridor development initiative, Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa said yesterday

Announcing plans to establish a joint task team to explore ways of including Swaziland in the project, Phosa said the mountain kingdom would provide the most direct link for northern portions of KwaZulu-Natal to the proposed corridor, it was reported

"We are looking at creating a direct transport link straight through Swaziland from northern KwaZulu-Natal to serve as a second feeder for the harbour (at Maputo)," Phosa said. "The Mozambicans are very intent on keeping their pristine southern areas unspoiled for tourism, so the route through Swaziland is perfect"

Botswana had also asked to be included in the initiative, forming a northern import/export trans-

port axis through Mpumalanga, Phosa said. What had started as a bilateral development between SA and Mozambique had now developed into a subregional economic development drive

Immediate issues to be addressed by Swaziland included moves to open 24-hour border post facilities and a drive to develop joint tourism packages

Swaziland's Economic Affairs Minister Themba Masuku said: "Tourism is big and if we could develop a tour package including the Kingdom of Swaziland, your (SA's) game parks and Mozambique's beaches, we could all help grow each other's economies."

A follow-up meeting in Swaziland between Phosa, Mpumalanga economic affairs MEC Jacob Zuma and Masuku will be convened within two weeks to begin drafting an inclusive subregional economic plan — Sapa.

# Maputo Corridor will create 100 000 jobs

(218) ~~218~~ Star 23/4/96

By JOVIAL RANTAO  
Political Reporter

The Government has committed R1,5-billion to the Maputo Development Corridor, a job creating several multi-million rand projects aimed at increasing transport links in southern Africa.

Mpumalanga MEC for Finance Jacques Modipane told The Star the move by the national Government was a challenge to big business to claim a stake in the development which will yield an estimated 100 000 jobs.

Modipane also disclosed that substantial resources in the R4,8-billion provincial budget that he presented last week would be focused on making the Maputo Development Corridor a reality. "We call on local, national and international businesses to join us in this development. The national Government's commitment of this substantial amount of money proves our desire to make this development a reality," Modipane said.

He added that the corridor initiative formed part of the provincial government plans to reduce unemployment.

"The long-term benefits of these initiatives will manifest themselves in further bilateral development programmes that will assist the sub-region in infrastructure upliftment, job creation, improvement of skills and the establishment of big and small

business," Modipane said.

Other objectives of the development corridor include the revitalisation of economic links between South Africa and Mozambique, and to enhance the process of economic integration within southern Africa and improving the region's global competitiveness.

It will also create opportunities for the private sector and stimulate small and medium-sized entrepreneurs.

The initiative also intends to cement regional ties between the parties involved and to benefit the communities by creating jobs, developing skills and creating links between industries and businesses on an ongoing and growing basis.

The project is also a way of establishing the first step in developing the broader regional economy with Mozambique, Swaziland and possibly Botswana. Discussion have been held with authorities from Botswana. There has also been talk of linking south and west Zimbabwe with the corridor.

Mpumalanga Premier Mathews Phosa said the corridor will have a number of spin-offs for his province, Gauteng, the North West and Northern Province.

"It will increase our tax base and have countless spin-offs for emerging business who will benefit from out-sourcing programmes from the large corporations," Phosa said. Malaysian and local business had shown interest.



# Maputo project set to blast off

Review 25/4/96

218

By Maxwell Pirklisi

The continued fall of the South African rand and the landmine question in Mozambique must not be allowed to prevent investment in the Maputo Corridor says the Department of Transport.

Special assistant to the director in the Department of Transport Karin Pearce says the instability of the rand, and the threat of landmines in Mozambique must not derail the Maputo Development Corridor investors' conference scheduled for the Mozambican capital next week.

Over the past few weeks the rand has lost considerable ground against the American dollar and there are rumours in business circles about an imminent flight by investors from the country to more secure economies.

However, Pearce is confident the rand's behaviour will have little or an insignificant impact on fresh and big projects like the Maputo Development Corridor joint venture.

Presidents Nelson Mandela and Joaquim Chussano are to jointly host the Maputo meeting.

Delegates to the conference will be drawn from the business communities, public and the private sectors as well as potential investors from across the globe.

Pearce who is also South Africa's national projects manager for the Pretoria-Maputo project, says efforts have been made to remove landmines that were

scattered throughout Mozambique during the civil war.

The area through which the proposed toll road will stretch, from Maputo to Witbank, has already been cleared of landmines and other potentially dangerous explosives like handgrenades.

"And, in fact, the main focus and thrust of this conference remains that of stimulating growth and development within Mozambique and South Africa," Pearce

The Maputo meeting will be founded on the basis of mutual understanding between the two participating countries, with a strong call for the public and private sectors from both countries to become active participants in the project.

## Policy framework

The main objective of next week's gathering is to market the concept of the Maputo Development Corridor to would-be investors. A draft investment policy framework will be announced and tabled, and investment pledges will also be taken before the close of the conference.

The toll road, Pearce says has already gone out on tender and construction companies from both Mozambique and South Africa are now bidding for the lucrative contract.

She appeals to the business communities and other potential investors to take full advantage of the conference and to consider the benefits of investing in the devel-

opment corridor.

Mpumalanga and the southern part of Mozambique are set for a major economic growth as the road will increase access to the Maputo port Mozambique, in particular, seems poised for the better share as South Africa's wealth is expected to start spilling over into Mozambican markets.

President Joaquim Chussano's government is currently battling to rebuild Mozambique's economy after it was ravaged by two decades of civil war.

Expectations are high in that country that the project will become a landmark in Mozambique's reconstruction efforts.

According to Pearce, about five sectors have already been identified for development: manufacturing, mining, agriculture, forestry and tourism.

Commitments have also been made by the two governments in the infrastructure needed to support developmental projects in both countries.

Maputo and Mpumalanga are the fastest growing centres in the countries, with almost unlimited potential for growth and development.

Benefits from the establishment of the Maputo Development Corridor will not be confined to South Africa and Mozambique alone. Other countries in the Southern African region will also see their quest for economic growth and development receive a lifeline.



President Nelson Mandela



# Back to the future for the Moz economy?

CT 1/5/96

(218)

**THE RECONQUERING** of the road from Komatipoort to Maputo by the Mozambican authorities from plundering rogues is the first stage of an ambitious plan to revive the once vibrant trade and tourist industry from South Africa. In this the second of a two-part series, Independent Newspapers Features Editor **JIM SMITH** looks at how the re-opening of the Maputo Corridor will allow South Africa's neighbour to re-assert its natural economic importance.

**F**ROM the 1950s to the 1970s, the route from Komatipoort eastwards was for Transvaalers the road to the paradise of then Lourenco Marques, a journey fondly remembered by families who took advantage of the perfect beaches and placid islands.

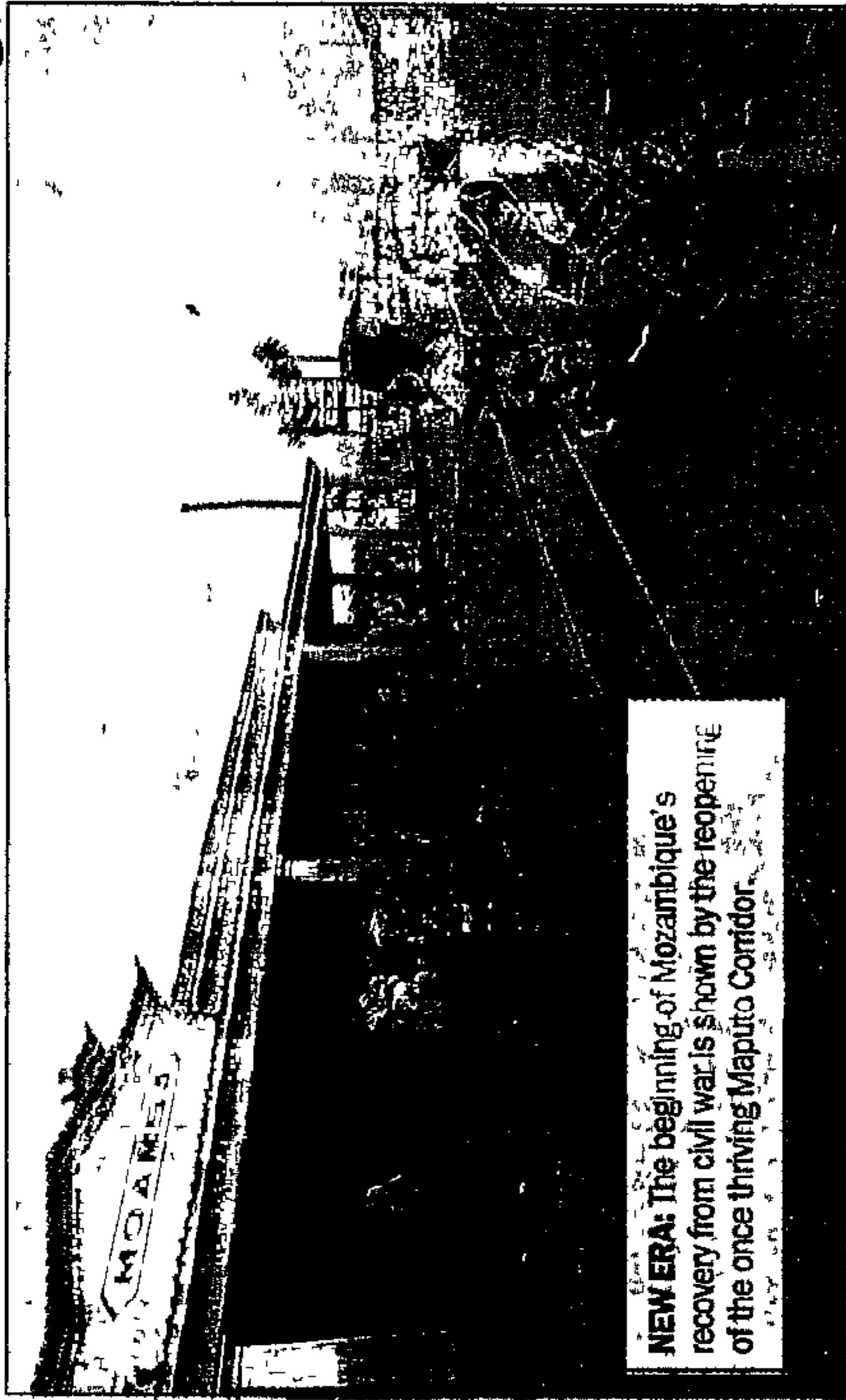
Then it became the road through hell in the days of ambushes and convoys as the Mozambican government fought the South African-backed Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo) in the 1980s — a time when bandits exploited the conflict to prey on passers-by.

Even now, the bush along the road is strewn with hundreds of rusted wrecks of cars and trucks. The imagination invents scenes of thugs with AK-47s spraying the passing vehicles, although it may simply be that some of these cars died natural deaths with no means to revive them — or even to bury them decently in scrapyards.

Mozambique suffered its first economic collapse with the Portuguese exodus at the time of independence, followed by a spurt of growth in the late 1970s only to be undone by the second, South African-fed collapse of the early 1980s civil war, only resolved with the 1992 peace accord that led to the elections of October 1994.

Even before the Maputo Corridor project begins, the road from Komatipoort to the Maputo outskirts has been purposefully reconquered by the Mozambican authorities from any rogues who might still consider plundering there.

As frequently as every 500 metres and never more than two kilometres apart, one or two policemen from the special Lightning Brigade unit are



**NEW ERA:** The beginning of Mozambique's recovery from civil war is shown by the reopening of the once thriving Maputo Corridor.

posted in tents to maintain the prevailing peace on the road.

The police are armed with assault rifles and there have been no reports of attacks on the road, which diplomats confirm is safe and which has been repaved from the Ressano Garcia border post for most of its length to Maputo.

The new route will be about 40km shorter than at present, and will include a one-stop border post to simplify and speed up crossings. The toll route will follow the existing wide road from the border to Moamba and from there a new road will be built straight to Maputo, no longer angling south from Moamba to Boane and then on to Maputo.

The new route will also give quicker access to the under-developed beaches north of Maputo.

In addition to the four unused bridges around Moamba, there is a fifth overpass on the road that does already bear some traffic. It is at the junction of a crossroads into the town of Moamba, a subsistence-farming and railway town located about 40km east of the border and a few kilometres north of the Maputo road.

But the Moamba flyover is so little used that truck drivers who know the area cut across the single

carriageway and take a shortcut via the on-ramp. After all, not a single yield, stop or directional road sign discourages such habits.

Neither is there a line painted here or at any other point on this road for the 100km from Ressano Garcia until the final 20km into Maputo.

Moamba, the only town of consequence along the Mozambican leg, symbolises the pain of past decades — as well as the potential of the corridor for Mozambique.

Two trains a day call in each direction at Moamba's quaint but decayed station, where just one track is in service and the rest of the sidings overgrown and disused.

Most of the brick homesteads in the farmlands beyond the edges of the town of 14 000 people are abandoned and gutted, victims either of the decade-long bush war from 1964 until independence or of the civil strife and banditry of the 1980s.

Moamba regional administrator Romao Muthisse says cattle once abounded in the sprawling district, now there are few.

The only signs of economic activity along the corridor road are the piles of hardwood and sacks of thatching grass, hacked from the bush by peasants

who live beyond the verges in tiny reed huts. Ancient trucks travel the road and buy up the wood and thatching to resell to squatters and refugees in city markets.

This reality notwithstanding, Muthisse envisions a future of hope, thanks to the corridor: a rebuilt cattle herd, and even an economic processing zone, with canning and other beneficiation of crops from a revived fruit and tomato industry.

Jeanne Stephens, the Canadian-born manager of the Austral consulting firm in Maputo which is facilitating several aspects of the corridor project, says Muthisse's notions are not so far-fetched.

With the new road, Moamba will be just 40km from Maputo rather than 80 as it is now. Moamba could become a pivotal crossroads for traffic to the proposed national park bordering the Kruger National Park, as well as to the beaches north of Maputo.

The point is that the corridor from Gauteng to Maputo has been a significant transportation channel ever since 1838, when Louis Trichardt trekked from the Transvaal to Delagoa Bay.

The first road linking Maputo and the Eastern Transvaal was constructed in 1871. By the late 1870s, the customs revenues from trade along the route were a significant source of income for Mozambique — as was the income from migrant workers on South Africa's young mines, a declining but still critical source of revenue for the Mozambican government.

The rail line to Ressano Garcia was started in 1884 and finished a decade later, with service to Pretoria starting in 1895.

Maputo is the closest deep-water port to Gauteng, the Northern Province and Mpumalanga, and carried 40% of Transvaal's foreign trade before Mozambican independence.

The devastating civil war slashed the percentage to five percent of foreign trade today.

Therefore, unlike some well-intentioned government development projects motivated by political imperatives devoid of economic logic such as the South African grand apartheid "decentralisation" schemes of the 1950s to 1970s, the corridor project starts from a base of common sense and practical value.

The corridor thus will not be artificially created. Rather, it was artificially destroyed by conflict; now it seeks to reassert its natural economic importance.



# Mozambique's lifeline revived

(2/8)

Presidents Chissano and Mandela open a conference next week on the Maputo Corridor, the projected link between their two countries Group Features Editor Jim Smith reports

MAN 1/5/96

Driving along the only tarmac road from the South African border to Maputo, you see the structure looming in the distance like a mirage in the desolate bushveld, not immediately believable. Yet it's real: a highway overpass built for a divided road with space for an imagined second carriageway.

It is an overpass to nowhere. At each end of the overhead bridge, there is not even a passable track into the empty veld. There are four of these derelict highway bridges, built in the early 1970s on the eve of Mozambique's independence, along the Maputo road.

They have long stood as gloomy reminders of how Mozambique's dreams of development turned into a nightmare of stagnation through guerrilla war, South African musketry, Marxist misrule and banditry.

Suddenly, however, the bridges have once again become signs of hope, reflecting a newfound belief that Mozambique's future consists of more than mere survival. For this road and the adjacent rail line are to become the main arteries of the Maputo Development Corridor, one of the most ambitious cross-border development projects ever undertaken in southern Africa.

Now it is not impossible to stand in the silent veld at Moamba and imagine that the overpasses will finally be put to use, and that in place of the solitary reed hut where a child now flogs a few soft drinks, an Ultra City service station will soon cater to the bustling traffic from what should be rapidly growing surrounding communities.

At a projected cost of R1-billion in initial capital spending, the project is hurtling ahead at unusual speed - inconceivable in Mozambique - thanks to an un-

With thanks to Maputo, and then after an expected 30-year concession period, transfer the road back to the two governments.

The Mozambican leg of the railway route will be upgraded and renovated for about R42-million. Transnet and the Mozambican railway and port enterprise, CFM, are negotiating a framework for joint ventures to manage the rail and port projects.

The controversially inefficient and corrupt Maputo port will be improved at a cost of roughly R110-million. The port is also run by CFM but management of several terminals has already been contracted out to private firms.

The Maputo harbour will be dredged to increase the capacity of vessels able to call there, in anticipation of greatly increased cargo passing through the port in years to come.

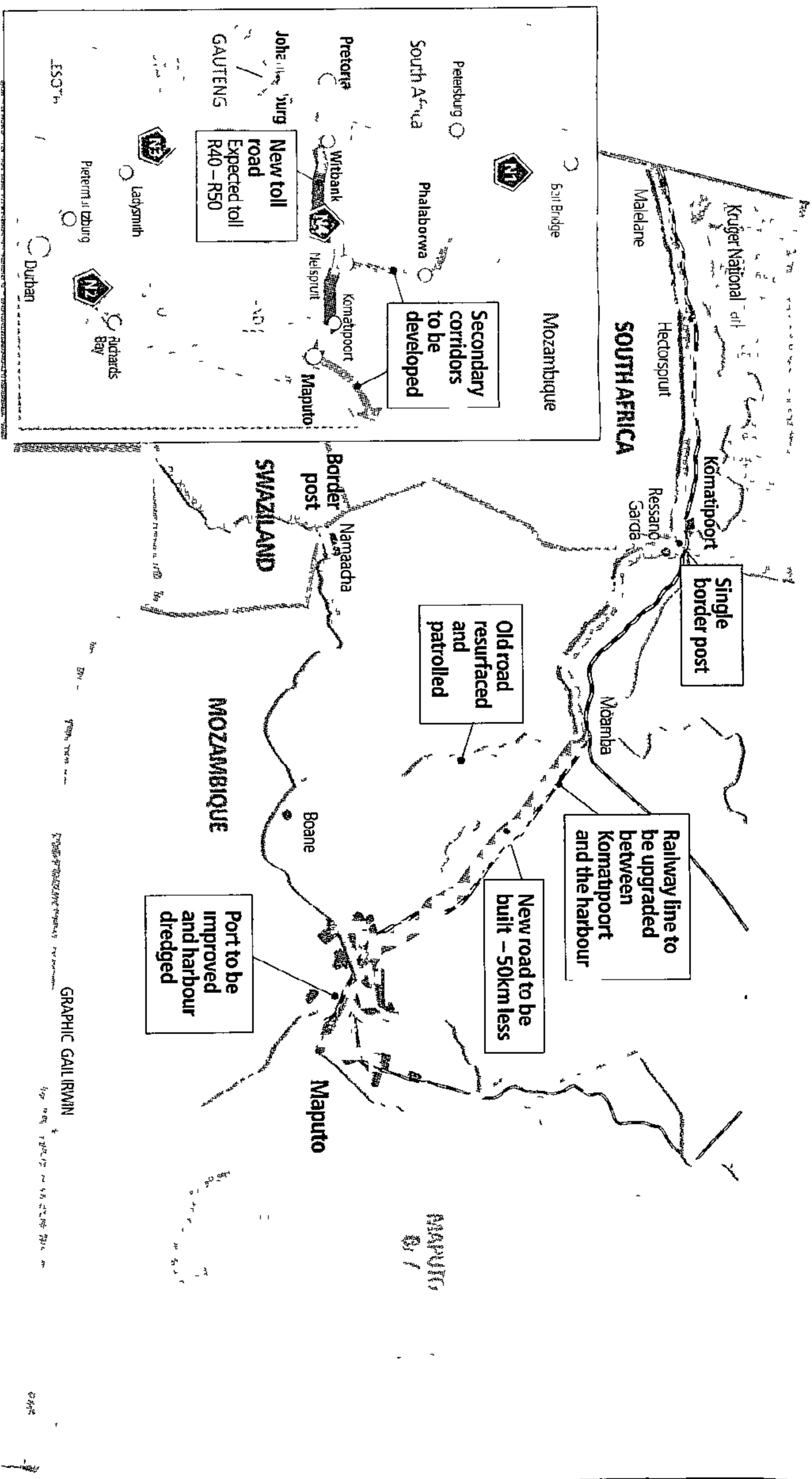
Along with the trunk road, two major subcorridor legs are

least because Transport Minister Mac Maharaj and Director-General Kheiso Gordhan have made it a crusade.

The joint interim team directing the project includes people like Paul Jourdan, an ANC member who lived in exile in Mozambique for nine years.

Jourdan, who has a PhD in political economics and is special adviser on the corridor project for the Department of Trade and Industry, has the determination of a missionary. One recent day started with a 6.30am meeting in Johannesburg, then back to his office in Pretoria in time for a 9.00am session.

A trained geologist, Jourdan wants to unlock the mineral and energy potential along the corridor route in both countries, all the way to Phalaborwa and Pandelare. The Mozambicans are far more accustomed to lengthy consultations with everyone remotely in-



GRAPHIC GAIL IRWIN



PICTURES THEMBA HADEBE

Nowhere ... a truck carrying bags of thatching approaches an unlikely overpass near Moamba.

to be on the safe side.

For Transvaalers, this was the road to the paradise of then-Lourenço Marques from the 1950s to the 70s, a journey fondly remembered by families who took advantage of the perfect beaches and placid islands.

Then it became the road through hell in the days of arm-bushes and convoys as the Mozambican government fought the South African-backed Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo) in the 1980s - a time when bandits exploited the corridor to prey on passersby.

Even now, the bush along the road is strewn with hundreds of rusted wrecks of cars and trucks. The imagination invents scenes of things with AK-47s spraying the passing vehicles, although it may simply be that some of these cars died natural deaths with no means to revive them - or even bury them decently in scrapyards.

Mozambique suffered its first economic collapse with the Portuguese exodus at the time of independence, followed by a spurt of growth in the late 1970s only to be undone by the second, South-African-led, collapse of the early 1980s civil war. This was only resolved with the 1992 peace accord that led to the elections of October 1994.

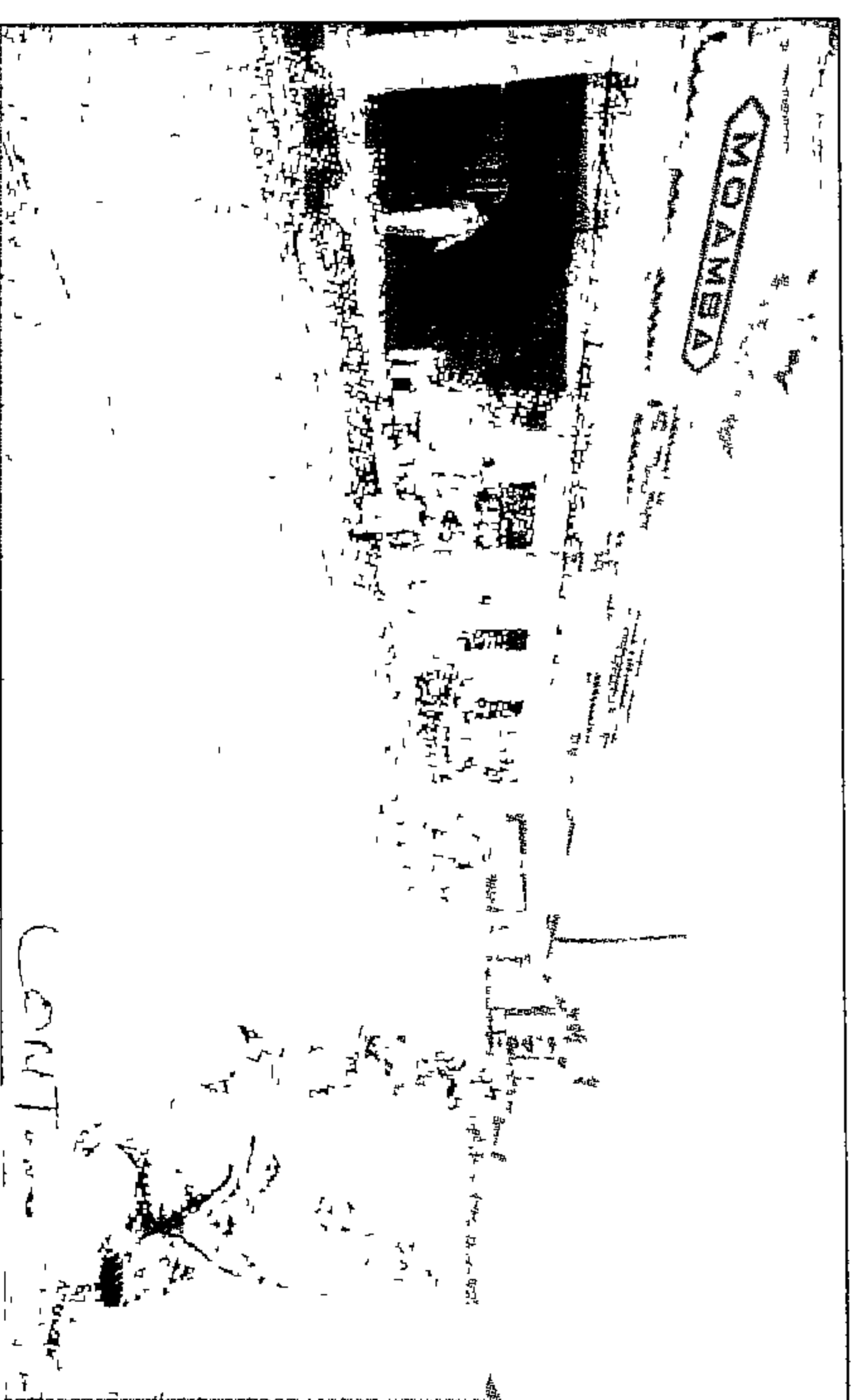
Even before the Maputo Corridor project begins, the road from Komatipoort to the Maputo outskirts has been purposefully re-

puto.

The new route will also give quicker access to the underdeveloped beaches north of Maputo. In addition to the four disused bridges around Moamba, there is a fifth overpass on the road that does already bear some traffic. It is at the junction of a crossroad into the town of Moamba, a subsistence farming and railway town located about 40km east of the border and a few kilometres north of the Maputo road.

bush war from 1964 until independence or of the civil strife and banditry of the 1980s. Moamba regional administrator Romao Muthisse says cattle once abundant in the sprawling district, now there are few. The only signs of economic activity along the corridor road are the piles of hardwood and sacks of thatching grass, hacked from the bush by peasants who live beyond the verges in tiny reed huts. Ancient trucks travel the road and buy up the wood and thatching to

been a significant transportation channel ever since 1838, when Louis Trichardt trekked from the Transvaal to Delagoa Bay. The first road linking Maputo and the Eastern Transvaal was constructed in 1871. By the late 1870s, the customs revenues from trade along the route were a significant source of income for Mozambique - as was the income from migrant workers on South Africa's Young mines, a declining but still critical source of revenue for the Mozambican gov-



Quaint but decayed ... the Moamba train station on the Maputo Corridor.



usuala cornu nation of comm the key players To get it right, they must change their habits and learn new skills The returns for both countries could be enormous

The corridor project has four main pillars, all emphasising partnerships between the public and private sectors

A toll road will be built from Witbank to Maputo at a cost of about R600-million, of which only 10% or so will be public money The rest will be raised by the consortium that gets the contract, probably by July

This is the first "Build, Operate, Transfer" highway project in southern Africa, says the South African director of roads, Nazir Ali

The concessionaire will construct the highway by December 1997, maintain it and collect the tolls, projected to be about R40 to R50 for the 430km distance from

envisioned from Nelspruit north to Phalaborwa and on toward the Northern Province, to open up mining and mineral processing projects that will benefit from better export access through Maputo and the Inhambane route from Maputo north to Xai Xai and beyond, to improve access to the Pande gas field and develop tourist potential along the coast

In addition to its technical challenges, the project thrusts together two very different organisational cultures The South Africans bring an efficient, well-funded and well-trained Department of Transport equipped with state-of-the-art hardware and methodologies, at Mozambique's DOT head office facing the Maputo port, the staff are keen but the expertise is limited, the lifts are dicey and the thunderstorms blow through the missing windows

The South Africans want to charge ahead on this project, not

involved, and many decisions are funnelled upward to the Council of Ministers, not delegated as in South Africa

Foreign donor funding accounts for more than half of the Mozambican national budget, giving the donors powerful advisory influence, South Africa can raise funds readily and is far more independent-minded

The contrasting bureaucratic cultures and capacities are evident as the two sides scramble to prepare for a major investor conference on the corridor project, scheduled for May 6-7 in Maputo The conference is designed to showcase the 140 or so immediate investment opportunities that are expected to become possible once the corridor infrastructure is completed

Mathews Phosa, the Mpumalanga Premier, has described the corridor project as critical to the growth prospects of his month

Already, Alusaf is considering a \$1-billion (R4.30-billion) aluminium smelter in Maputo, dependent on the proposed port rehabilitation and access to cheap power from the Zambezi River That project alone would be an immense addition to Mozambique's economy, with its puny gross domestic product of just over \$10-billion (R44.5-billion) Adding to the output from its new Hillside smelter at Richards Bay, Alusaf would boost its capacity dramatically with another smelter in Maputo

Tourism could benefit substantially as well as industry from an improved travel corridor, and traffic is already increasing

On the eve of the recent Easter weekend, even the old tourists were trickling back, boats in tow they often grouped at the border and raced along the road to Maputo in convoys of three or four,

authorities from any rogues who might still consider plundering there

As frequently as every 500m and never more than 2km apart, one or two policemen from the special Lighthouse Brigade unit are posted in tents to maintain the prevailing peace on the road

The police are armed with assault rifles and there have been no reports of attacks on the road, which diplomats confirm is safe, and which has been re-tarred from the Ressano Garcia border post for most of its length to Maputo

The new route will be about 40km shorter, and will include a one-stop border post to simplify and speed up crossings The toll route will follow the existing wide road from the border to Moamba and from there a new road will be built straight to Maputo, no longer angling south from Moamba to Boane and then on to Ma-

te use the . . . < drivers who know the area cut across the single carriageway and take a shortcut via the on-ramp After all, not a single yield, stop or directional road sign discourages such habits

Nor is there a line painted here or at any other point on this road for the 100km from Ressano Garcia until the final 20km into Maputo

Moamba, the only town of consequence along the Mozambican leg, symbolises the pain of past decades - as well as the potential of the corridor for Mozambique Two trains a day call in each direction at Moamba's quaint but decayed station, where just one track is in service and the rest of the sidings overgrown and disused

Most of the brick homesteads in the farmlands beyond the edges of the town of 14 000 people are abandoned and gutted, victims either of the decade-long

rese to squatters and refugees in city markets

This reality notwithstanding, Muthuse envisions a future of hope, thanks to the corridor a rebuilt cattle herd, and even an economic processing zone, with canning and other beneficiation of crops from a revived fruit and tomato industry

Jeane Stephens, the Canadian-born manager of the Austral consulting firm in Maputo which is facilitating several aspects of the corridor project, says Muthuse's notions are not so far-fetched

With the new road, Moamba will be just 40km from Maputo rather than 80km as it is now

Moamba could become a pivotal crossroads for traffic to the proposed national park bordering Kruger National Park, as well as to the coastal beaches north of Maputo

The point is that the corridor from Gauteng to Maputo has

erment The rail line to Ressano Garcia was started in 1884 and finished a decade later, with service to Pretoria starting in 1895

Maputo is the closest deep-water port to Gauteng, the Northern Province and Mpumalanga, and carried 40% of the then Transvaal's foreign trade before Mozambican independence The civil war slashed the percentage to 5% of foreign trade today

Therefore, unlike some well-intentioned government development projects motivated by political imperatives devoid of economic logic such as the South African grand apartheid "decentralisation" schemes of the 1950s to 1970s, the corridor project starts from a base of common sense and practical value

The corridor thus will not be artificially created Rather, it was now it seeks to re-assert its natural economic importance

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# Mandela aims to attract Maputo-corridor investors

By Ross Herbert

(218) (219) CT(BR) 6/5/96

Maputo — President Nelson Mandela will host a two-day conference starting today to promote investment in the Maputo corridor transportation project. The revitalisation of the Maputo corridor comes at a time when southern Africa is experiencing an investment boom in port and transportation links, with upgrades under way at Walvis Bay in Namibia, Beira in Mozambique, Mombasa in Tanzania and South African ports.

Mozambique is pinning much of its hopes for development on its programme of re-integrating the Beira and Maputo harbours into the region's international economy.

Before independence in Mozambique, Maputo harbour handled 40 percent of shipping for what is now the Gauteng area. Today it handles only 5 percent. Changing that will be no easy task. Despite offering Johannesburg business a shorter distance to the sea, Maputo is plagued with troubles.

The United States has withheld food aid and threatened to cut off financial support because 1 800 tons of donated food was stolen from Maputo harbour.

The Paris Club of creditor nations, which has been discussing debt rescheduling with Mozambique, has been highly critical of the country's government.

According to the Mozambique newspaper *Imparcial*, the Dutch foreign ministry slammed the Mozambique government at a Paris Club meeting late last month for "widespread corruption" that "makes it impossible" for economic

development to take place.

Large contracts to the upgrade Maputo harbour and the connecting road and railroad networks are expected to be announced at the conference. The organisers also expect to name the winner of the contract to dredge the Maputo harbour channel.

On Friday, Sumitomo Bank of Japan announced that it had joined Absa Bank to support a consortium of South African and Mozambican construction, civil engineering and consulting firms bidding for the Maputo corridor concession.

Sumitomo and Absa are backing the Consortium Via do Sol in its bid to build, finance and operate a R1 billion toll road linking Johannesburg to Maputo.

The consortium includes Group Five, Grimaker Construction, Kieve Steyn, BKS and the Profabil group, a Portuguese-owned consulting engineering firm based in Mozambique.

Despite the controversies, Maputo harbour increased the amount of cargo it handled by 26 percent last year and the country's railway cargo increased by 18 percent.

In February, France pledged \$4 million to upgrade the railway links to Nacala in northern Mozambique.

Maputo harbour will get a \$7,5 million container terminal able to handle 100 000 containers a year by 1999.

The upgrade will be handled by a joint venture company 37 percent owned by Remies South Africa, 30 percent by P&O Australia and 33 percent by CFM, the Mozambique state-owned railway company — Independent Foreign Service.

## Sumitomo, Absa link up on project

~~(218)~~ (218)  
Jacqueline Zaina

BD 6/5/96  
JAPAN's Sumitomo Bank has joined Absa Bank in supporting a consortium of SA and Mozambican firms bidding for the R1bn contract to construct a toll road between Witbank and Maputo

The toll road will form the backbone of the SA government's Maputo Corridor project, which gets under way today with a two-day investment conference in Maputo

By revitalising the transport route between Gauteng and its closest port, Maputo, the two governments aim to generate savings in costs and time and facilitate tourism in Mozambique.

The Via do Sol Consortium, including Group Five, Grinaker Construction, Keeve Steyn, BKS Incorporated and Maputo-based consulting engineering group Profabril, will bid for the contract, which will be awarded on a build, operate and transfer basis.

The Maputo Corridor project constitutes an important departure from previous SA road projects in that it is

Continued on Page 2

## Toll road

~~(218)~~ (218)  
Continued from Page 1

BD 6/5/96  
not expected to cost government anything. Transport department roads chief director Nazir Ali said last month the initial building, estimated to cost between R300m and R400m in two years, was expected to be funded by the private sector, which would generate returns through toll fees. The private sector had shown substantial interest in the project. All tenders, local and international, would be considered provided there was a strong social responsibility component.

Consortium chairman Bean Bornheimer said he was confident the consortium would be a formidable contender in the bidding process, which starts on May 24. A trans-border selection process had been under way for nearly a year to match the requisite talents to the tasks involved.

This was the first corridor development since the government of national

unity came to power, and its success was vital if similar projects were to follow, said Bornheimer. "We believe the bid will not simply be won by the biggest consortium, but by the group which can demonstrate its understanding of the complex development task which has to be undertaken."

Alan Dawson, the leader of the consortium's delegation to the Maputo conference, said the backing by Sumitomo Bank and Absa, as well as the assistance of UK engineering consultancy the Mott MacDonald Group, would enhance the consortium's bid.

The road component of the Maputo corridor development consisted of construction of about 50km of new road and upgrading of 46km in Mozambique, as well as the upgrading of part of SA's N4.

The development project also included the dredging and upgrading of the Maputo harbour, expected to cost R300m, and improvements to the railway link at a further R25m.

See Page 3



# Conference tackles cross-border project

(28) (3) BD 6/5/96  
Stephen Laufer

MAPUTO — Presidents Joaquim Chissano, of Mozambique and Nelson Mandela of SA are to open a conference in Maputo today which is expected to give impetus to a project to upgrade transport links and generate new investment on both sides of the border. Potential investors from several countries, ministers and senior public servants would discuss options for the Maputo-Mpumalanga development corridor which include an upgraded toll road from Witbank and improvements to the rail line from the border at Komatipoort to the Mozambican capital, and rehabilitation of the port.

Easier access to international transport links via Maputo could benefit industries in the eastern and northern parts of the country. By cutting costs and turnaround times, the new links have the potential to make marginal operations profitable and to attract new investment able to use local raw materials.

Improved telecommunications links would benefit business and tourism. Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa is on record as wanting to develop holiday packages which would include game park visits in his province and beach sojourns in Mozambique.

The SA department of roads has a major tender for the upgrade of the N4, and Transnet and the Mozambican railway system are understood to be negotiating co-operation on improvements to the plant, management of the railways and of Maputo harbour.

Sapa reports that Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said an accord on agricultural development accord between SA and Mozambique was to be signed.

# Mandela in praise of Maputo corridor

BD 7/5/96

(2/8) (2/8)

Stephen Laufer

MAPUTO — The planned Maputo-Mpumalanga corridor fitted firmly into SA's growth and development strategy and would strengthen regional co-operation, President Nelson Mandela told a corridor investors' conference in Maputo yesterday.

Centred on major infrastructure investment projects to improve the port of Maputo and upgrade the rail and road links between the two countries, the corridor aims to attract a significant private sector investment.

Among major projects presented yesterday was a plan by Mozal, in which Gencor and the Industrial Development Corporation are the principal shareholders, to build an aluminium smelter in or near Maputo. Similar to Alusaf's new Hillside plant, it would produce 245 000 tons, a year increasing to 490 000 tons by 2004.

Total investment would exceed \$1,825bn and the project would create several thousand jobs.

Representatives of SA and international banks, construction companies and suppliers of telecommunications and signalling equipment are among the more than 550 participants at the conference, opened jointly by Mandela and Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano.

Mandela said the project reflected the SA government's investment strategy as it was seeking public-private partnerships, significant infrastructure investment, stimulation of economic sectors capable of boosting foreign exchange earnings, job creation, and human resource development.

Transnet and the Mozambican railway system CFM took the first step towards a joint venture to upgrade and operate the 88km rail line from the Ressano Garcia border post to Maputo harbour when a declaration of intent was signed at the conference.

It is understood Transnet will own 16% and CFM 33% of the company which will also manage the line and the port's rail facilities. Transnet had initially hoped for a larger stake, but CFM is understood to have responded to World Bank pressure to raise its own stake and that of potential private sector investors.

SA's Pento Marine and Mozambique's state owned Emodraga signed a declaration of intent to form a joint venture to dredge Maputo harbour. The project will significantly improve Maputo's ability to handle larger ships.

Initial investment in the upgrade of the N4 between Witbank and Maputo was likely to be R400m, with a final investment reaching between R1bn and R1,5bn, an official said.

Tenders for the construction and operation of the 30-year toll road concession are due on May 24, but the deadline could be extended by a month.

Among the leading consortiums understood to be involved are the Via Dosol group, and a group including LTA Construction and Murray & Roberts Stocks & Stocks and Basil Reed are understood to be discussing a joint bid with French construction giant Bouygues Kharafi of Kuwait was likely to team up with Concor, Wilson Bayley Holmes, Nishai Matsu of Japan and Mota of Portugal, sources said.



*Private-sector involvement essential in corridor, says Mandela*

# Maputo project to 'boost region'

CT 7/5/96

(218)

From Sapa

Maputo — President Nelson Mandela said yesterday that private-sector involvement was essential to the success of the Maputo development corridor

Speaking at an investor conference in Maputo, Mandela said the governments of Mozambique and South Africa had been working together over the past six months to establish the necessary foundations to launch the project.

"The task now is to maximise the private-sector participation, essential to the success of the project," he said

"The development and co-operation elements of the initiative will make an important contribu-

tion to the peace and stability in South Africa"

He said investors had the opportunity to make the development corridor meaningful and sustainable, while earning profit for themselves

"Business often, and quite correctly, is in the habit of urging government to create conditions in which investment can thrive. This is one good example of such conditions, created with visionary zeal and a knack for practical detail," he said

Mandela said the conference was the first of many steps to engage the private sector in the initiative. Key infrastructural projects, some subject to agreement at the conference, would improve efficiency in transportation as well as

increase the carrying capacity for road, rail and port traffic, he said

The toll road from Witbank to Maputo, for example, would involve the private sector not only in construction, but also in its operation over a long period. Similarly, the upgrading of the port and rail facilities would be undertaken on a joint-venture basis between South Africa and Mozambique, with the private sector playing a critical role

"Substantial private-sector interest already exists and preparations have begun," Mandela said

He told the conference the corridor had strategic significance in more ways than one

"It is a practical implementation of the commitment of our governments to regional co-operation

within southern Africa. Already, the mutual advantages for Mozambique and South Africa stand out for all to see," he said

"Simply put, the corridor makes access to and from Maputo easier and more efficient. It makes expansion of existing operations in mining, manufacturing, agriculture and tourism feasible, and it opens substantial new investment opportunities in these sectors"

Local benefits, particularly in terms of jobs and the development of social services, would be felt along the corridor and beyond, Mandela said. Sub-corridors would open gateways to communities in Mpumalanga and Northern Province, and in the northern areas of Mozambique

# Maputo Corridor costs R1-bn

(218) Sowetan 7/5/96

By Maxwell Pirikisi

THE DEVELOPMENT of the Maputo Corridor between South Africa and Mozambique will cost both countries more than R1-billion.

This was disclosed by Transport Minister Mac Maharaj in an exclusive interview with *Sowetan Business* in Maputo yesterday.

Maharaj is in the Mozambique capital to attend the Maputo Development Corridor investors conference which is being jointly hosted by President Nelson Mandela and Mozambique President

Saupe. Maharaj said the rehabilitation of road and rail network between South Africa and Mozambique is a

## Development will eventually benefit entire Southern African region

enormous amount of work requiring an enormous amount of money.

"To get the transport infrastructure in place and fully operational, just the road and rail systems alone will cost us over one billion rands," he said.

### Boost economies

The corridor will not only link Maputo with Mpumalanga but will reach out to the entire Southern African region.

It will boost the economies of the region and increase foreign international investment in Mozambique and South Africa.

Maharaj said although a lot of money was going to be spent on the project, it was worth it because transport unlocks the doors to investment.

He said the first step - which will propel the resuscitation of the transport network - is the finalisation of an historic joint rail and harbour venture between the two governments.

This, he said, would attract investors from parastatals and the private sector from the respective governments.

Projected private sector equity in the entire Maputo Development Corridor project stands at 51 percent



Nelson Mandela

"Construction of the standard toll road linking Mpumalanga and Maputo is expected to start around August this year and is expected to be completed over 18 months.

"As for the rail, agreements on construction will be ready by November this year and we expect to start the rehabilitation process in January 1997," said Maharaj.

Overall, the transport network is expected to be fully ready in two years' time.

He told *Sowetan Business* at least ten international construction companies are vying for the road and rail rehabilitation tender contract.



# SA, Mozambique sign pacts to boost Maputo initiative

(218) Star 7/5/96  
Two historic agreements were signed yesterday between South Africa and Mozambique to finalise co-operation in agriculture, trade and economic development.

President Nelson Mandela and Mozambican president Joachim Chissano signed the agreements at the start of a two-day conference on the Maputo Development Corridor - a job-creating, multi-million rand project aimed at integrating infrastructure network to increase transport links in southern Africa.

The agricultural agreement is to formalise the involvement of South African farmers, led by Freedom Front leader Gen Constand Viljoen and the South African Farmers Union, in Mozambique. The agreement provides for co-operation and protection of SA interests in agricultural and private sector development in Mozambique.

In an address to the conference, Mandela said the development and co-operation elements of the Maputo initiative will make an important contribution to peace and stability in South Africa.

Mandela threw the gauntlet to the private sector and challenged it to match the boldness of the South African and Mozambican governments, who have joined hands to get the initiative off the

ground. He said the significance of the conference lay in providing opportunities for investors to help make the Maputo Development Corridor a meaningful and sustainable initiative, at the same time as earning a profit for themselves.

"The corridor has strategic significance in more ways than one. It is a practical implementation of the commitment of our governments to regional co-operation within southern Africa. Already, the mutual benefits of such co-operation for both Mozambique and South Africa stand out for all to see. The South African government is committed to co-operating with Mozambique in its reconstruction as outlined in the Economic Recovery Programme. The Maputo Development Corridor initiative represents one of the major undertakings in this regard.

"The Corridor initiative also fits firmly within South Africa's own strategy for growth and development. In this project are contained the most important elements of our investment strategy, such as partnership of government and the private sector, investment in infrastructure, the stimulation of sectors that boost foreign exchange earnings, the attention to developing our human capital, and the creation of jobs," Mandela said.

- Political Correspondent

Thurs:

16 July

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# Major companies vie for Maputo job

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Sawyer 8/5/96

By Maxwell Pirikisi

**MAPUTO** - Major International companies, a top South African construction and road building outfit and a leading Mozambican company are in the running for the Maputo Development Corridor contract

Speaking shortly after Presidents Nelson Mandela and Joaquim Chissano had addressed the investors' conference for the project in the Mozambican parliament on Monday, Alan Dawson, leader of the Consortium Via Do Sol's delegation, said his multinational organisation was vying for the contract

"A careful trans-border selection process had been underway for nearly a year to match

the requisite talents to the tasks

"This corridor development in South Africa since the Government of National Unity came into power has to succeed if others are to follow," he said

The group says it has expertise in both South Africa and Mozambique

"We have one of the leading international banks and its local partner on board as well as the assistance of a top UK engineering consultancy, the Mott MacDonald Group, to support our bid," Dawson said

The major partners in Via do Sol at this stage include Group Five Limited, Grimaker Construction Limited, Keeve Steyn Incorporated, BKS Incorporated and the Profabril Group, a Portuguese owned multidisciplinary consulting engineering group based in Mozambique. They have a combined turnover of R6 billion

Financial advisers include Sumtomo Bank of Japan and SA's Absa Bank



## Rural aid fraud:

### R9,9-m repaid

*Star 20/5/96*

Maputo - Mozambique has repaid \$2,3-million (about R9,9-million) in Nordic rural development aid which had been misappropriated by agriculture ministry officials, a local newspaper said yesterday.

"For us, the PESU (emergency seeds and farm tools programme) case is dead and buried," the counsellor for cooperation at the Swedish embassy in Maputo told the Domingo newspaper

The money had been donated by Norway, but managed by the Swedish International Development Agency

At least six agriculture ministry officials, including PESU national co-ordinator Tuahira Dauda Hussein, have so far been detained over the case - AFP

(218)



# Ambitious plan to revive Mozambique

(218) ST (PT) 26/5/96

PEACE has been firmly established in Mozambique for three years, yet its economy shows few signs of rejuvenation.

A rail journey from South Africa to Maputo reveals barren land, devastated buildings and wrecked trains. Most buildings in Maputo have not seen a fresh layer of paint in decades and the roads are still full of potholes. The informal sector and the black market are thriving, but there is not much evidence of any growth in the formal economy.

Sheltered from the poverty in the elegant (SA-run) Polana Hotel, SA businessmen and politicians, led by President Nelson Mandela, earlier this month made a bid to reverse Mozambique's fortunes.

The occasion was the launch of the Maputo Development Corridor. The project, while largely driven by economic and business motives, symbolises South Africa's bid to right the wrongs of the past.

"For Mozambique the project signifies political payback time," says Ketso Gordhan, director-general of the Department of Transport, in reference to the 17-year-long civil war in which South Africa played a large role with its backing of Renamo.

While the project is a joint effort by both countries, and South Africa's first attempt at genuine regional economic co-operation, the SA Department of Transport is clearly the driving force behind the corridor project.

The economic rationale behind the project is simple. By spending up to R1,5-billion in improving

The Maputo Development Corridor is South Africa's most ambitious attempt at improving the economic fortunes of the region — in this case Mpumalanga and Maputo. The success of the project will depend on private sector confidence in the government's economic zeal, writes **SVEN LUNSCHÉ**.

infrastructure in the area, the government hopes to revitalise old trade links and stimulate new investments. In the early 1970s, 40% of Transvaal's exports went via Maputo harbour. Today, the figure is less than 5%.

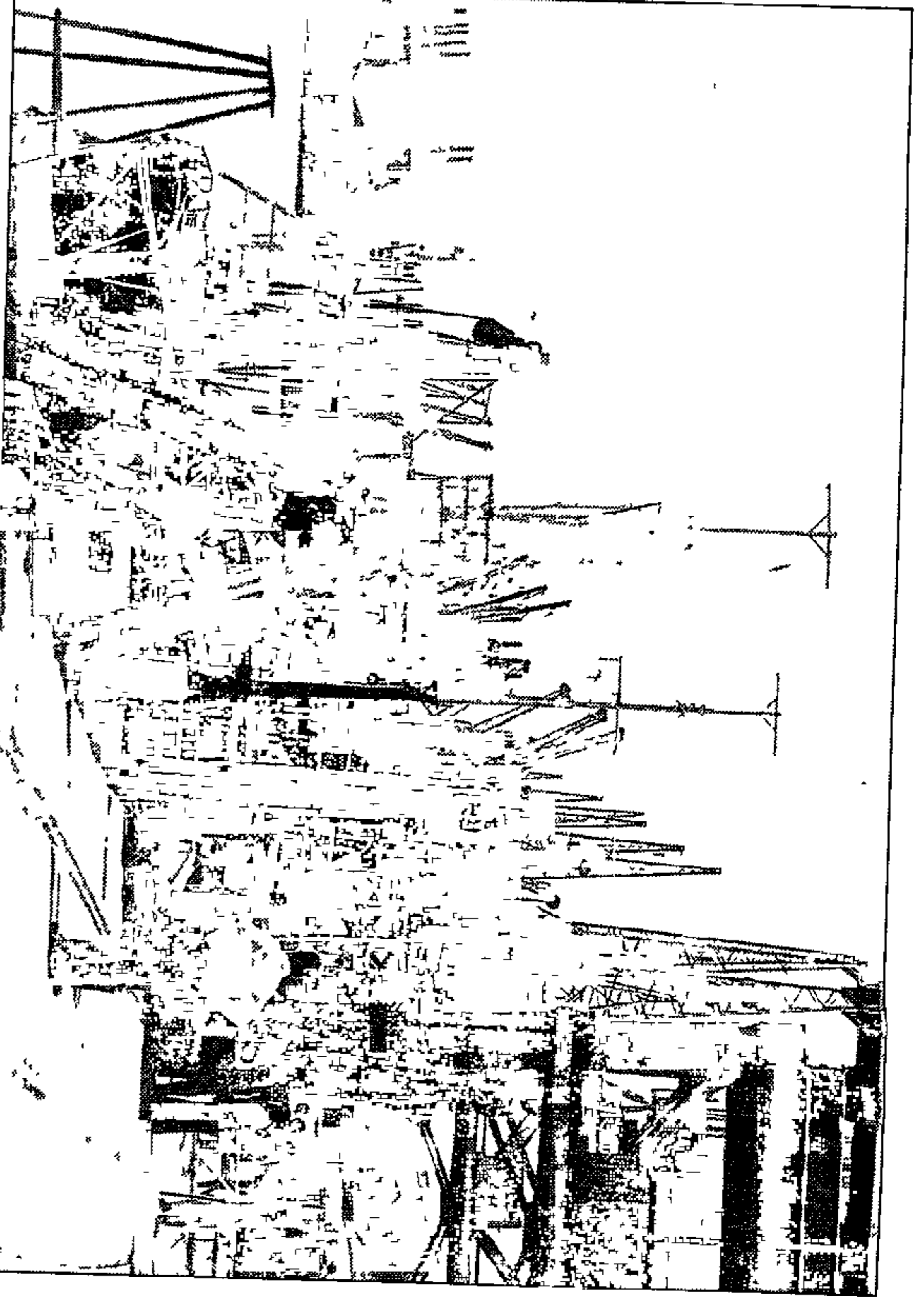
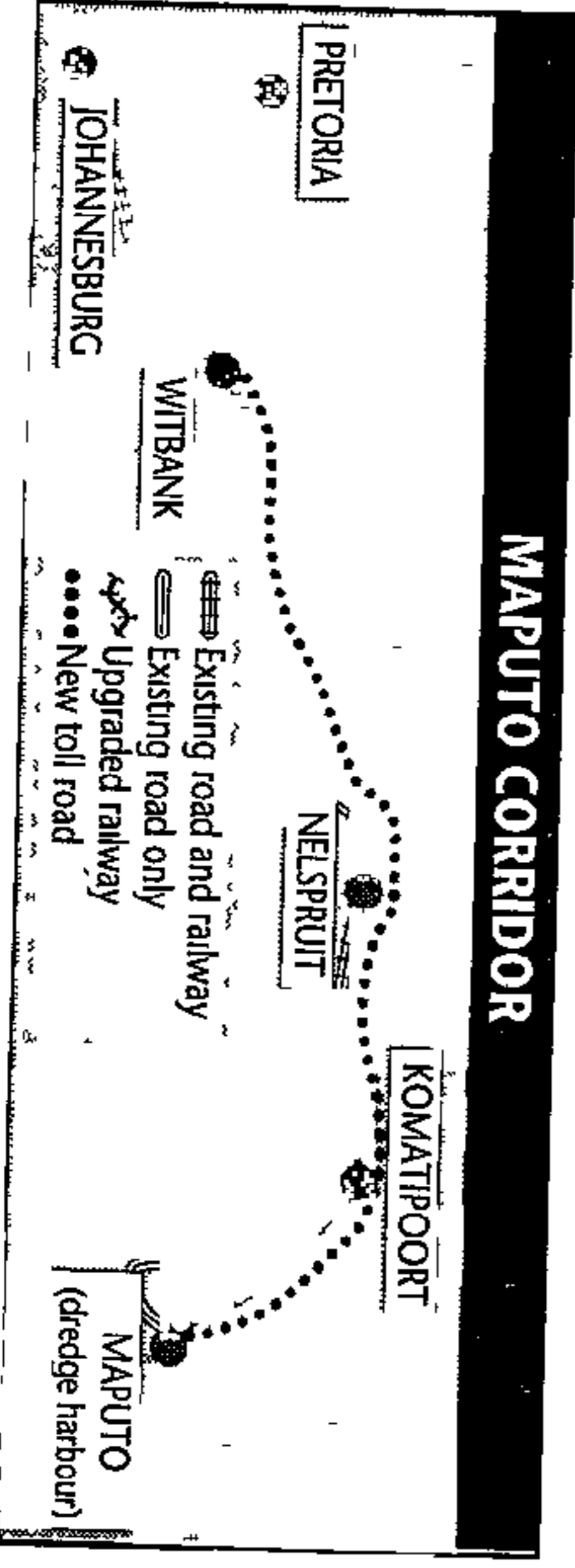
Step number one is upgrading the transport infrastructure that links Gauteng with Maputo harbour. On the SA side it involves upgrading existing roads, in Mozambique it means

rehabilitating roads and railways as well as dredging channels in the Maputo harbour.

The largest project is a R600-million toll road linking Witbank to the Mozambique capital. Six consortia have applied to build the road and operate it for an agreed period of time before handing it back to the government. Mr Gordhan says a R100-million contract will soon go out to upgrade the public road between Phalaborwa and Nelspruit with the aim of linking the mining and agricultural regions of the Northern Province to the corridor.

A new company formed from Spoornet, its Mozambique counterpart, CFM, and a future private investor has been formed to oversee the Mozambique side of the project, which is to build a railway between the SA border and Maputo and upgrade Maputo harbour at a combined cost of about R260-million.

The first stage of the dredging work in the port has begun in a joint effort between a Mozambique state company and a Murray & Roberts subsidiary. It will cost about \$160-million altogether to bring the harbour to full working condition.



PROGRESS: Maputo harbour is being upgraded as part of the Maputo Development Corridor project

Doubts are already being expressed about the Mozambique government's ability to oversee such a large project.

Yet without a working harbour the corridor is doomed to failure and most private investors are biding their time to see Maputo's ability to deliver.

A test of Mozambique's commitment to the corridor will be the establishment of a one-stop border post at an estimated cost of R100-million to reduce the current half-day waiting times to less than one hour.

Mr Gordhan says even if there are no private sector companies forthcoming, the improved transport facilities on their own are economically beneficial to the region. However, he admits that longer-term benefits

will be derived only if the corridor is backed by the corporate sector.

To date, only one major private sector project, Alusaf's R3-R4-billion aluminium smelter near Maputo, has reached the feasibility study stage. The final go-ahead will depend on the deal Alusaf can strike with the state-owned electricity company on keeping costs as low as possible.

Delegates at the launch were told of numerous other projects in the mining, tourism and agricultural sectors, but none of these are even off the drawing board.

The potential investments and priority projects listed in numerous documents nevertheless make for good reading. Apart from the immediate rail and harbour work in Mozambique, they include a further

\$2,1-billion of new investments (including the Alusaf smelter) on the Mozambique side. On the SA side mention is made of R8,7-billion possible new mining projects, both in Mpumalanga and Northern Province, as well as R5-billion investments in the chemical sector.

Among the mining projects listed are the Nkomatipoort zinc mine, new coal mining and export facilities at Secunda, a new Iscor mine near Gravelotte and a magnetite and vanadium project near Tzaneen.

Whether these projects come to fruition depends not only, of course, on the improved transport network. Nevertheless, a better road or a shorter route to the nearest harbour could well prove the extra incentive that is needed for the go-ahead.

## Advertisers to join the queue on the city's buses

By **MARCIA KLEIN**

A NEW company is installing television sets in Johannesburg Transport Directorates buses to offer advertisers a new marketing outlet and commuters a new entertainment option.

Danie van Zyl, director of Commuting Advertising Network, says the company was formed in line with the realisation that clients and advertising agencies were continuously looking for new ways of advertising. The installation of the televisions on buses enabled them "to reach a market not previously looked at".

The company's research showed that because of the varied nature of the routes travelled, there was a diverse audience of commuters in terms of social groupings, language, culture, economics and age.

According to the research, the commuter spends an average 28 minutes a journey on the bus, and there are 734 000 commuters travelling on the six busiest Johannesburg routes each month. By the end of May, Commuting



**DANIE VAN ZYL**

Advertising Network will have 35 buses with television installations operating on these routes.

Mr Van Zyl says there are 110-minute cassettes which are looped for continuous play, and a new cassette will be inserted each week. Each cassette has 58 advertisements which are 30-second slots (a 30-second commercial will cost R7 000 a month) and 18 four and five-minute promotional slots. Commuting Advertising Network also hopes to broadcast as many community awareness programmes as possible.



# Pande pipeline deal nears finality

Samantha Sharpe

CAPE TOWN — US gas company Enron is "days away" from formal contracts to construct a pipeline from Mozambique's Pande gas fields to a proposed direct iron ore reduction plant in the Northern Province in what would be a \$2bn project

Speaking at a World Economic Forum briefing on Friday, Enron senior vice-president Anthony Way said final heads of agreement between the Mozambican and SA governments would be formalised within a matter of days

The project was expected to come on

stream some time towards the end of 1998 or early in 1999, with a projected 30-year lifetime, he said

Way said Enron and the Mozambique state gas and oil company Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos would be jointly responsible for the funding, building and operation of the 800km pipeline.

The Industrial Development Corporation would be involved with the development of the iron ore reduction plant, although its precise location was still to be decided, he said. Direct in-

Continued on Page 2

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# Pande

Continued from Page 1

vestment in the pipeline and iron ore reduction plant would amount to about \$2bn, with just more than \$1bn related to investment in the plant

Way declined to comment on projected revenues from the project, but said the benefits to the southern African region would be enormous

While the project hinged on a unified taxation policy and regulatory framework for gas pipelines between

SA and Mozambique, this was unlikely to be problematic, he said.

Mozambique energy ministry special adviser Mario Marques said both countries were already working on a joint economic commission. While the countries' taxation and regulatory policies were unlikely to be identical, they would certainly be compatible, Marques said. Both Mozambique and SA were "keen" to ensure the required regulations were put in place

The Pande gas fields consist of about 14 wells, with proven reserves of about 2,5-trillion cubic feet and likely reserves of 3-trillion cubic feet, he said

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**RISK AND REWARD**

FM 10/5/96

(218)

Once again government has turned to the private sector to invest in a venture it considers vital for regional growth

At this week's bilateral conference in Mozambique, Trade & Industry Minister Alec Erwin was quick to point out that the fantasy of creating the Maputo Corridor would remain just that without the help of private enterprise

"This corridor would be nothing, and would remain a dream, unless the private and public sectors work together," Erwin told the conference

But where the risks are great so are the rewards. So far, some representatives of the private sector are in the thick of bid-

FINANCIAL MAIL · MAY 10 · 1996

ding for the concession to build a new highway linking Mpumalanga with Maputo. But others are biding their time.

The participants were unanimous in their willingness to "make that dream come true." But tough negotiations are still under way — and only one of the many bilateral agreements could be signed. The others will be finalised "in a few weeks."

By the end of 1997, according to its planners, a continuous toll highway will link Witbank and Maputo. Other projects include the rehabilitation of the railway line, which now operates at 50% of capacity. A joint venture between SA's Spoornet and Mozambique's railway company, Caminho de Ferode Mocambique, will run the line.

Improved access to Maputo's port is also needed and the docks require much work. A few terminals date back to 1912 and are bereft of any type of illumination for night operations. About 50% of the cranes are nonoperational.

So far, a joint venture has been set up between SA's Pentow Marne and the Mozambican public utility Emodraga to dredge the harbour. Probably the first project will be the fencing of the port, as up to 30% of goods in transit are stolen.

But for Reef-based industrialists access to the harbour could prove vital in future planning and could provide just reward for the risk. Already Alusaf has indicated that it will erect an aluminium smelter at Maputo, with the proviso that cheap electricity is made available. The Mozambican authorities have indicated their willingness to build a new dam below Cahora Bassa (*Business* April 26) to

facilitate this.

Last but not least, telephone links should soon be restored to normal. The land-based network is being improved at a cost of R3m and work should be completed by the end of this month. A cellular network for southern Mozambique is also being investigated.

A new "European type" single border post, open 24 hours a day, is to replace the existing crossing. SA's director-general transport Ketso Gordan says "It should even be possible to drive straight through. Motorists will be able to give their passports and documents through the car window, without leaving their cars."

And the cost of all of this? At 1996 prices, the bill is in excess R1,2bn. Government hopes to pay only 10% of this. But attached operations, such as the upgrading of the road from Nelspruit to Phalaborwa and the Northern Province, could see the final tally closer to R2bn.

"This is only the beginning of many initiatives," says Erwin with emphasis. "We are optimistic that the Maputo Corridor will be the first of many successes."

FINANCIAL MAIL · MAY 10 · 1996



# Doubts over Maputo corridor commitment

BD 13/6/96 (218)

John Dlodlu and David McKay

GOVERNMENT and the Industrial Development Corporation have downplayed claims which question the parastatal's commitment in the multibillion-rand cross-national Maputo corridor development

Senior government sources said this week the corporation had been sending "mixed signals" on its participation in the project, driven by the SA and Mozambican governments

Trade and industry ministerial adviser Paul Jourdan said yesterday that the IDC's board and chairman had expressed their support and "full commitment" to the project at a recent meeting with Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin

Jourdan said the IDC was involved in a plan to construct an aluminium smelter with Gencor's Alusaf

The project — the subject of a feasibility study — would be sited in resurgent Mozambi-

can capital Maputo pending a cheap power supply with the Mozambican authorities

It would produce about 300 000 tons a year of aluminium which could be upgraded at a later stage

## Active role

In a statement last night the corporation said that it was "astounded" by suggestions questioning its commitment to the corridor project

The statement out-

lined the IDC's involvement in the project which included participation in the technical team with the Development Bank and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

The IDC also played an active role — through its economics division — in carrying out a survey in all towns and cities in the SA part of the corridor to identify current and potential businesses which could benefit from the development.

However, the corporation was represented by only one person at the launch conference as other people were not able to obtain flights or accommodation during the conference.

The Pande gas project, which the IDC has supported with US project team Enron, has given impetus to a number of possible projects

Enron spokesman Debbie Whitmer said these projects included two iron ore production plants, a granular fertiliser plant and an alumina-from-phlogopite project.

Talks with Eskom about using gas for fuel were also under way, Whitmer said

Gas from Pande could also be used by Mozambique's state utility company Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos de Mocambique to power industrial developments associated with the redevelopment of the Maputo harbour, she said.

# Mozambique raises maize output

CT (BR) 13/6/96 (218)

From AFP

Maputo — Mozambique, which has been dependent on foreign food aid for decades because of war and drought, is approaching self-sufficiency in grain production, according to official figures released this week.

The estimate by the UN's World Food Programme for this year's harvest is 1 326 000 tons of grain against the country's total requirements of 1 626 000 tons.

Although that still leaves a deficit of 300 000 tons, it is 50 percent lower than it was three years ago. In 1993 the deficit was about 600 000 tons. Last year and in 1994 it was about 480 000 tons.

Philip Clarke, the programme's Maputo representative, said Mozambican farmers had produced their best grain harvest ever. But he criticised the government's pricing policy. He said that the minimum producer price of 1 500 meticals (about 57c) a kilogram of maize

was too high and could leave much of the grain unsold.

Clarke said the programme would have to consider buying maize from neighbouring countries. He said the programme had been offered South African maize at \$165 a ton, including all transport and other costs.

At the minimum price set by the Mozambican government, producers should get \$135 a ton, but transport and other costs pushed the final price to about \$250 a ton.



# Race is on to reform Mozambican land bill

CT (BR) 14/6/96 (218)

By Ross Herbert

Maputo — A quiet race is on in Maputo, the results of which will have a great effect on how much South Africans will have to pay to invest in Mozambique.

The pace in this race is set by a national land commission, which is drafting a more investor-friendly land law to replace Mozambique's Marxist-era rules.

Racing the commission's clock is a gaggle of politicians and well-connected Mozambicans trying to secure land concessions under the existing law. Next month, a revised draft Bill will probably go to the council of ministers, who will finalise it before forwarding it to the national Assembly in October, according to present plans.

Why the hurry? The old system does not require traditional occupants of the land to be compensated or consulted when a land concession is granted. However, compensation and consultation are key protections for the country's peasantry that are being pushed hard by international aid agencies, the World Bank and western donor nations. If politicians can secure concessions before the law changes, they will not have to pay compensation and will be well placed to profit by selling concessions to foreign investors.

The issue is rich in irony, with capitalist institutions advocating for the peasantry and formerly hard-line Marxists trying to avoid legal protections for the poor. The effort to reform the land law is also a remarkable sign of how much political thinking has changed since the days when the Frelimo party created Mozambique as a Marxist-Leninist state.

Under the country's constitution, the state owns all land and will continue to do so under the new law. Instead of granting land title in the Western sense, the government grants concessions to use land for specific purposes and time periods.

No market officially existed for land or buildings. An informal system developed in cities in which occupants of houses sold not the house but the keys to the house.

In the past year, the government began permitting occupants renting houses from the state to buy their homes at ridiculously low prices. A large multibedroom house could be bought for the price of a car. Subsequent sales are priced by the market, often at 10 times the price renters paid the government.

The system is widely conceded to be a mess, particularly for business uses of land. If an investor wants to obtain a land concession for agriculture, he must go to the agriculture ministry. If the purpose is mining, permission comes from the mining ministry. Worse, provincial and district governments have powers to grant concessions up to certain sizes.

No effective system exists for reconciling concessions granted by different ministries. The central land registry has not been maintained for years. There is no system of title numbers to allow searching for pre-existing land claims.

"The issue of compensation is very real. Who gets that compensation? Do you pay central government or the local people?" said Rich Newberg, the head of agriculture and food resources at the United States Agency for International Development.

The first draft bill in November said

traditional occupants of land must be consulted. In a later draft, the operative word was may, which critics say is meaningless. Other battles are being fought over communal lands should those who gain land concessions pay compensation for communal farm and forest land, or simply for the pieces of ground occupied by houses?

The outcome is far from certain and donors are gearing up to battle over the proposed law. A memo sent to donors by the World Bank discussed imposing escalating sanctions, including the possibility of a complete cut-off of aid if the bill did not require compensation and negotiation with existing land occupants.

One influential school of thought in the ruling party holds that Mozambique needs a wealthy class to develop. The only way to create such capitalists is to exploit the conversion to a free-market land system and resell to foreigners.

If cash-poor Mozambicans must pay compensation to traditional occupants, they will be unable to obtain concessions and the inevitable arrival of free markets will mean South Africans and Portuguese will eventually buy up all the land.

Cynics in the foreign-aid community maintain that there is no noble motive in such thinking, politicians simply want to profit while they can and oppose rules that stand in the way.

Roberto Chavez, the head of the World Bank in Mozambique, has twice suggested a moratorium on land concessions until the new law is final, but the government has flatly refused.

Another key issue is whether foreigners who obtain land concessions will be allowed to resell them to others freely or must return land to the state when a company wants to sell out. Allowing unrestricted market sales weakens the power of politicians, but boosts the amount con-



**SUPPORT** Compensation and consultation are key protection factors for the country's peasantry

cession holders can hope to gain

Despite his criticisms, Chavez and others agree that the way the land issue is being handled reflects a growing maturity in the country's democracy. Public comment is being solicited widely. Last Friday the country completed a national conference on the land law designed to gather public comment on the proposed law.

The Assembly, once a docile creature of

Frelimo, is asserting itself. Before drafting the recently proposed environmental bill, the council of ministers published a "politica", a statement of the law's goals. The Frelimo-dominated assembly rejected it because it had not been consulted. The assembly was not consulted on the land Bill "politica" and some fear that it will again reject the bill as a result.

Independent Foreign Service

# Money alone won't restore Maputo port

By Ross Herbert

Maputo — The ports at Richards Bay and Durban face no threat from the Maputo corridor project — if management of the Maputo port is any indication

True, the roads and railway lines that feed the port fell into disrepair during the country's long civil war. And the facilities at the port are ancient. Many of the loading cranes date from the 1930s and only about 40 percent are functioning.

However, in the wake of the Maputo corridor investors conference last month, experts say pouring money into new equipment alone will not restore Maputo's port. They cite examples such as the section of the port's loading docks that was recently restored with Norwegian aid money.

The state-owned transportation company, CFM, uses the new section to store the rusting hulks of ships left by a bankrupt state shipping company. The reason? Some electrical power needs to be maintained on the ships for running lights. If they were anchored out of the way in Maputo bay, CFM would have to pay for diesel to run generators. But if kept moored to the expensive dock, cables can be run from shore and the extra cost is undetectable in the port's electricity bill.

Many of the ancient cranes also sit. Captain Martin Schmidt-Bremer, a German adviser to the port director, said he was told the many broken cranes could not be moved out of the way and scrapped because they are still listed on the books as assets.

Such examples of mismanagement explain why many look at the investors' conference as little more than an expensive talk-fest. And they are why most Western donor countries have refused to provide additional funds to port

projects of CFM. A quiet struggle continues between the government here and donors, who will only open their cheque books again if CFM is fully privatised.

The government resists and in the wake of the conference, the ruling party's central committee called for continued state ownership of transportation as well as other key industries already earmarked for privatisation.

In 1974, Maputo carried 40 percent of Gauteng's cargo. Today it handles only 5 percent and runs at only 30 percent of its small capacity.

In shipping, speed and reliability are critical. But Maputo is a long way from being able to deliver on the natural geographic advantage it has over Durban and Richards Bay. The port refuses to pay the delay fees that are standard when cargo is delayed at a port.

"About \$400 million was pumped into the Beira corridor and there has not been any improvement in its performance," said Roberto Chavez, head of the World Bank in Mozambique. He said the same was true of Nacala port, where railroad links were upgraded to world-class levels but CFM continued to perform poorly.

The other huge obstacle to the corridor is corruption. Customs officials are notorious for delaying cargo. But despite CFM's performance, the private sector has been willing to invest. P&O, the Australian port-management company, CFM and Rennies of South Africa formed a joint venture that manages the Maputo container terminal. P&O has hired a private security firm and plans to fence off its section of the port — Independent Foreign Service

□ Tomorrow Ross Herbert looks at the experience of South African businessmen investing in Mozambique



## AFRICA

# Aid to Mozambique scaled down

(218) 8018/6/96  
MARUTO — Last month's harvest of 934 000 tons of maize, coupled with continuous peace for three years, have led major aid agencies in Mozambique to declare the crisis over and to slash food assistance.

Mozambique's largest food aid donor, the World Food Programme (WFP), has reduced the number of people receiving emergency food aid from 1.2-million in February to 154 000.

Those still receiving aid are mostly peasants affected by recent floods in Maputo and Gaza provinces and refugees who returned from neighbouring countries at the end of last year after the planting season.

World Vision, which handles 35% of overall food aid to Mozambique, has also stopped its emergency programme.

"After three years of fairly good rains, durable peace, and a successful seeds and tools distribution, our programme is now focusing on development," says World Vision's food for development programme director Bernie Fortes.

Both agencies are stressing food-for-work projects to reconstruct clinics, schools, roads and rural infrastructure damaged by a vicious 17-year civil war.

Aware that massive free food aid can create dependency and disincentives to agricultural production, WFP has been trying to shift to food-for-work.

"It is hard for people who have been receiving free food for many years in camps for refugees or displaced people, to accept

that they now have to work for it," says WFP head of development Gemmo Lodevani. He says that inertia, lack of implementation capacity among WFP's counterparts and natural disasters, such as poor rains and floods had slowed food-for-work, but now it should gather momentum.

The combined effects of peace and good rains have resulted in a decrease in food aid assistance, since the massive humanitarian operation launched after the peace agreement in October 1992 opened up a divided country ravaged by war and drought.

### Calamity

In 1993, WFP assisted 3.9-million Mozambicans with nearly 500 000 tons of food at a cost of \$192m.

Last year, WFP assisted a monthly average of 1.5-million people, delivering 120 000 tons of food, at a cost of \$28m.

This year, discounting any natural calamity that could occur, only 154 000 people will need free food aid.

Every year, a larger area has been planted and more people have become self-reliant. In 1992, the maize harvest was a paltry 133 000 tons.

The following year, when peace allowed peasants to farm safely, the harvest rose to 533 000 tons.

Against last year's maize harvest of 733 000 tons, this year's crop topped an un-expected 934 000 tons. It could have been

higher, had about 150 000 tons not been lost to floods and locusts. Similar increases are expected in other crops like cassava, the staple food in the north.

The harvest covers Mozambique's overall maize requirements, although the flooded southern provinces will have a deficit of about 200 000 tons. The northern provinces enjoy a surplus of maize and cassava but that is likely to be sold across the border in Tanzania, or to rot because of lack of silos, roads and markets.

Mozambique's weak transport network and costly logistics make it uneconomic to bring maize from the north to the south, so the deficit will be covered by imports either from Zimbabwe or SA.

The phenomenal crop increases of the past three years are largely due to peasants, or the "family sector" as they are known in Mozambique. Using basic tools, like hoes and shovels, little fertiliser and pesticides, peasant farmers have achieved the remarkable feat of covering Mozambique's maize needs.

Besides maize for household consumption, the family sector produces about 60% of the cash crops such as cashew, cotton and coconuts that bring in needed forex.

Of Mozambique's total 40-million hectares of arable land, less than 10% is under cultivation. Of this, about 90% is farmed by peasants, totalling 3-million families, or 80% of the total population of 17-million. — AIA.

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# Hong Kong bank to join SA bid for Maputo road

MD 18/6/96 (218) ~~(219)~~  
Robyn Chalmers

THE Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank has joined a consortium of top-level SA construction and banking groups to launch a bid for the R1bn Maputo Corridor toll road, pitting themselves against the Via do Sol consortium.

Dubbed Tracc, the consortium consists of building group Basil Read and its French parent Bouygues, Stocks & Stocks, Investec and Thebe's Msele Investments, along with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. The consortium will pitch for the contract to build a toll road between Witbank and Maputo on June 21, when the bid is presented to Mozambique PM Pascoal Mucumbi and other government officials.

The toll road will form the backbone of the Maputo Development Corridor project, which aims to attract private sector investment in improving the port of Maputo and upgrading rail and road links with SA.

Analysts said the formation of such a strong consortium with vast financial resources would place it in direct competition with the Via do Sol consortium, which consists of Group Five, Grinaker Construction, Keeve Steyn, BKS Incorporated and Maputo-based engineering firm Profabril, backed by Absa and Japan's Sumitomo Bank.

The road is expected to cost about R400m in the first phase, rising to a final investment of between R1bn and R1.5bn. The project will be undertaken on a build, operate and transfer basis.

Transport department roads chief director Nazir Ali said significant private sector investment was needed in order to get the toll road project off the ground, with returns to be generated largely through toll fees.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa has become involved, with a number of bank representatives forming part of government's team of technical advisers on the project.



# 'No quick fixes' for foreign investors in Mozambique

(218)  
OF (32) 2016/96

By Ross Herbert

Pretoria — Last October bats lived in the management offices and 1 000 squatters lived in the rooms and grounds of the Motel do Mar a beachfront hotel on the southern tip of Mozambique at Ponta do Ouro

Huge mounds of rubbish and disintegrating vehicles littered the grounds that had once bustled with South African tourists

South Africans have begun to trickle back, but the restoration has involved far more than chasing away the bats and the squatters

For Jan van der Merwe and Johann Taljaard, the restoration trail has been a tangled, three-year odyssey after the two Pretoria residents took over the abandoned motel with a minority Mozambican partner

Their tale provides a revealing look at the realities of investing in Mozambique's war-ravaged economy

The partners have learned so much that they are toying with opening a consultancy to advise other potential investors

## Prices for items sold in the restaurant and bar have to be approved in Maputo

Just 11 km from the South African border and about seven hours drive from Pretoria, Ponta do Ouro is the most accessible location in Mozambique for South African tourists

Van der Merwe, an architect by profession, and Taljaard, a quantity surveyor, first saw the motel three years ago when they stayed at a nearby camp

At first the pair thought they would use their professional skills to draft a restoration plan to sell to a hotel group

There were no takers, so they decided to do it themselves

The first stop was the Centre for Promotion of Investment, which outlined the legal process, provided the relevant forms and assisted in the creation of a development proposal

The partners had to take the Mozambique National Tourism company as a 15 per cent partner

They agreed to a detailed lease under which they would invest R3 million in the motel and pay rent of 5 per cent of turnover

The centre approved their proposal in October 1994, but the proposal then sat until April last

year before it was approved by the ministry of finance and planning

Once approved by the ministry, the centre takes a fee equal to 0,5 percent of the agreed investment

Specified levels of share capital must also be deposited with the Bank of Mozambique

After approval was granted, the partners encountered one of the biggest problems for foreign investors in Mozambique

a system that allows national ministers, provincial governors and even district officials to grant land-use concessions

The ministry of tourism granted the partners a concession to run the motel and an adjoining campground with chalets

The governor of Maputo province granted another operator the concession to run the campground

Without revenues from the campground, the motel is less profitable

Unfortunately, no central records system prevents such duplicate claims, which forces investors to consult every level of government before completing a deal

The restoration began last October, after which an operating licence was granted

Along the way were a myriad other hurdles

Logistics remain a huge challenge to any construction in Mozambique

The road from Maputo to Ponta do Ouro takes four hours in a four-wheel-drive vehicle

## Restoring the motel involved far more than chasing away the bats and the squatters

Prices for every item sold in the restaurant and bar must be approved in Maputo

Mozambique exempts goods invested in a business from import duties

Getting the list approved took so long that the partners imported most of their building materials without waiting for the list

If the importer needs unforeseen items, the exemption list must be re-approved

Though they have had shady offers to obtain quick approval for the project, Taljaard maintains that there are no quick fixes in Mozambique, in part because the investment process is becoming more regularised and stricter than when they began

Independent Foreign Service



PATIENT INVESTORS Johann Taljaard, left, and Jan van der Merwe have worked since 1993 to restore the abandoned beachfront Motel do Mar in Mozambique

PHOTO: PRETORIA NEWS



# New Maputo Corridor tests SA diplomacy

MHG 8-12-18/7/96

(218) (218)

Self-serving trade policies are being questioned by Mozambicans, reports **Colleen Lowe Morna**

**B**ENEATH the glitz that has accompanied the launch of the new South Africa's highest-profile regional project the Maputo Corridor poses one of the country's trickiest tests in regional diplomacy

Lauded for its self-help private-sector approach the R1-billion project to rehabilitate the road and railway to Maputo plus its port has inadvertently put South Africa in the camp of those pressuring Mozambique to privatise rekindling never far-from-the-surface fears of a new wave of colonisation

Failure to recognise that this is the last — not the first — of the major corridor projects in the region that began with valiant efforts to rehabilitate infrastructure in war-racked Angola and Mozambique has raised the ire of partners in the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

"The South Africans are going around drawing attention to the Maputo Corridor as if it is the only area of investment opportunity" said a senior SADC official "This is contributing to the growing anti-South African feeling that began

with complaints about its un-neighbourly trade policies"

Department of Transport officials say the SADC has misread South Africa's intentions over a deal born out of economic self-interest, and closely negotiated with the Mozambicans

But there has been a flurry of behind-the-scenes fire-fighting most recently at the launch of the SADC organ on Peace and Security in Gaborone, to which Transport Minister Mac Maharaj accompanied President Nelson Mandela.

On the face of it the corridor project should have been the dream of any new-era politician Its push comes not from the national government, but from provincial authorities in Mpumalanga, it is regional in scope and is the first real effort to get away from aid dependence in Southern African projects

Mpumalanga director of strategic planning Joe Magagula explains that the province is anxious to break out of its mould as a producer of primary products sent to Gauteng for manufacture

"We looked at what we had the N4, and proximity to the port of Maputo and said How can we use these?"



Fair deal? Workers at the port of Maputo shovel coal into the Fair Lady

PHOTO MARGARET WALLER

Before the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (Renamo) crippled the access routes to the port, 40% of trade from the areas now in Gauteng and Mpumalanga passed through Maputo Now that figure is down to 5%

Mpumalanga Premier Matthews Phosa has the enthusiastic backing of Maharaj one of the ANC's most able ministers who found himself consigned to the seemingly dull world of transport

In record time South African and Mozambican officials pulled together a plan that involves a \$600-million toll road from Witbank to Maputo a R42-million renovation of the Mozambican leg of the railway

route, and a R110-million rehabilitation of the port

Except for the R30-million dredging of Maputo port which will be financed by donors and 10% state financing for the toll road the remainder of the funds are expected to come from private sector sources

This is in stark contrast to the Beira and Nacala rehabilitation projects which were funded almost entirely by donors, in the heat of the political drive to find alternatives to South African ports These have continued to operate below capacity largely due to managerial problems, and have not been accompanied by related developmental projects

The Maputo Corridor project on the other hand is accompanied by a range of agricultural, mining and industrial projects

One unavoidable problem is the corridor is about three times longer in South Africa than it is in Mozambique Francisco Soares director of planning in the Mozambican Ministry of Transport is philosophical "We are looking for mutual benefits not equal benefits"

But even the latter presents difficulties in a country that hardly has a private sector Of the three consortia that have put in bids for the toll road — Trans African Concessions Via do Sol and N4 Concessions only the latter has Mozambican participation

A Mozambican businessman says while the reasons are understandable "it is hard not to feel swamped"

Mozambique is reluctant to hand over management of the project to a Maputo Corridor Authority 80% of which would be owned by the private sector South Africa is keen on

this and for a joint venture company, 51% owned by the private sector, to run the port and railway line

Donors have long been pressuring Mozambique's port and railway parastatal, CFM, to privatise Mozambique has already leased out a number of Maputo terminals to private-sector users from Zimbabwe and South Africa But it points out that the CFM is the largest employer in Mozambique and says it cannot privatise overnight

**A** recent central committee meeting of the ruling Frelimo party which resolved not to privatise transport sent jitters through the transport ministry in South Africa Officials say the Mozambicans have since explained that they won't sell assets but are amenable to management deals

That raises the question of other users of the port Following the reconstruction of the Limpopo railway line in treacherous war conditions Zimbabwe is the largest user of Maputo port followed by Swaziland

Neither was invited to the Maputo Corridor investors conference in May and both are angry

"We lost many lives on the Limpopo corridor" says Harare-based Beira Corridor Group managing director David Zausman "Why is South Africa behaving like Maputo belongs to it?"

Transport officials say Zimbabwe and Swaziland are welcome to be shareholders in the company that will run the port and the three railway lines leading up to Maputo with the CFM "It's the first I've heard about it," Zausman said "and we've been working with the CFM for years"

"Wanna make it out there?"

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# Enron under pressure over Pande gas

By SIMON BARBER

MOZAMBIQUE has large, cheaply recoverable reserves of natural gas — around three trillion cubic feet is the latest World Bank estimate — at Pande, but natural gas is worthless unless there's a market for it.

Houston-based energy giant Enron presently has the franchise to develop the Pande field in conjunction with Mozambique's state-owned Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH). To keep the franchise, Enron has until the end of the year demonstrate to Maputo that it has lined up solid customers.

Its most promising prospect is an Industrial Development Corporation-sponsored project in Southern Africa's Northern Province that would react the gas with locally abundant iron oxide — much of it sitting in environmentally dubious copper mine tailings — to make iron carbide for steel production do-

mestically and overseas.

Enron had hoped to sign a preliminary agreement with IDC last month setting out the intent of both parties to proceed in tandem, with the IDC putting together a consortium to build and operate the iron carbide plant while Enron and ENH worked on getting the gas out of the ground and building the pipeline to deliver it, either through or around the bottom of the Kruger National Park.

Both sides recognised that it was essential to have the consent of the governments involved, and that is where things became wobbly last month. On the Mozambican end, Mineral Resources Minister John Kachamula had had a serious falling out last year with Enron project manager Jay Fudem-

burg, since fired South African Department of Trade and Industry Minister Alec Irwin, being new to the post, evidently felt unwilling to override the reservations of his special adviser, Paul Jourdan, until he had had time to consider the issues closely.

When Enron's new project manager, Anthony Way, was quoted in the press as predicting that an agreement would be finalised within days, Jourdan publicly accused him of jumping the gun, and the whole deal looked to be turning sour.

There was speculation that Sasol, aggrieved at losing the Pande franchise to Enron and perhaps none too keen to see competition with its own synthetic product, might have been behind this hiccup. Some suspected the hand of Kachamula. There are also legitimate worries, some of them voiced within the World Bank, which is financ-

ing the current exploratory work in Pande to the tune of \$30 million, about having two billion dollar projects — the gas development and the iron carbide plant — so mutually dependent.

Others argue that there is nothing unusual about the arrangement and that the iron carbide plant, notionally to be sited at Phalaborwa, won't be the only customer for Pande gas. Another could well be a proposed urea plant near Maputo.

At all events, US Ambassador to South Africa James Joseph and the US Commerce Department's special representative Millard Arnold have since been practising a little "advocacy", and Irwin and Kachamula have been giving the matter further thought.

IDC MD Carel Van Der Merwe said last week he was confident that the DTI was now ready to back the IDC-Enron agreement.

His view was shared at the American embassy.

Another promising omen was confirmation by Steve Mavghlo of the US Trade and Development Agency that a grant agreement was to be signed with IDC on Friday, under which the US would put up \$300 000 — an unusually large sum for TDA — for feasibility work on the iron carbide project.

Also positive were Kachamula's uncharacteristically effusive remarks about Enron at the Fourth of July bash thrown by the US embassy in Maputo.

It would not be surprising if an agreement between Enron and IDC with Irwin's signature on it figured as one of the achievements to be announced at the meeting in Washington later this month of the US-South Africa Binational Commission chaired by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and US Vice-President Al Gore

ST (BAR) 14/9/96

(218)

# Mozambique, SA to sign corridor accords

Stephen Laufer

MOZAMBIQUE and SA would sign four agreements governing the Maputo-Mpumalanga corridor project late next week, the transport ministry in Pretoria said yesterday

Minister Mac Maharaj and his Mozambican counterpart Paulo Muxanga would sign an umbrella agreement between the two governments and three subsidiary contracts covering the details of a range of corridor-related issues on July 26. The agreements are the strongest indications to date that Mozambican state and private

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sector reservations about the project, apparently rooted in a fear of SA economic and political domination, have been overcome

A protocol on the planned toll road between Witbank and Maputo, for which the tender is due to be finalised within weeks, is among the agreements to be signed. Three separate consortia, including major SA construction and engineering companies and local and foreign banks are understood to have bid on the project, expected to involve an investment exceeding R1,5bn over the next 30 years.

The second agreement is an undertaking by both governments

covering the joint ventures between Transnet and Mozambican national railway CFM to upgrade rail facilities between the Ressano Garcia border post and Maputo, and to improve harbour facilities and management there.

The final agreement will create a development company to facilitate investment in projects along the corridor, including major capital investment projects. The corridor company, expected to run for two years, will also lobby the national and provincial governments on behalf of investors, ensuring timely permits and correct application of support mechanisms.



# Maputo corridor bid bolstered

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Two black consortiums in Mpumalanga had joined forces with Via do Sol in its bid for the R1bn Maputo development corridor project, Via do Sol chairman Alan Dawson said this week.

The consortiums, Vulindlela and Vula-kusile Africa, had joined as equity parties alongside Via do Sol's other consortium members, Grimaker Construction, Group Five, Keeve Steyn, BKS and Profrabril, a Maputo-based consulting engineering firm.

Dawson said the addition of two Mpumalanga groupings to the consortium was "most significant" given the

development aspect emphasised by the two national governments.

He announced the additions to Via do Sol at a briefing to the Mpumalanga government in Nelspruit this week.

Three other black firms, Asch Consulting, Painting Semanya Associates and Goba Moahloh & Associates, had joined forces with Via do Sol which since last month had been bolstered by the participation of Emocil, the Mozambiquan subsidiary of Portuguese construction company, Mota, and toll road operator BRISA Auto-Estradas de Portugal.

Tenders for the corridor project were being considered by the SA and Mozambiquan transport departments

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**ARTERIAL ACCORD**

PM 19/7/96

**Launched in** April amid political fanfare in Mozambique's capital, the Maputo Corridor project is starting to move beyond the conceptual stage

Three concurrent developments show that the venture, initially met with cynicism in some business circles, must now be taken seriously

Tenders for the R700m toll road between Witbank and Maputo are being evaluated by the Department of Transport. Three tenders have been submitted. These are for building and operating the road during a concessionary 30-year period, after which it will revert to government in terms of the so-called "build, operate, transfer" concept.

A decision on the contract is expected soon, says SA national project manager Karen Pearce.

Formal agreement on the Maputo Corridor Company is due to be signed on July 27. The company is a 51% privately owned joint venture with government agencies in both countries. Its role will be to rehabilitate and manage the Maputo port and the rail line between Komatipoort and Maputo.

"The holding company will control three operating companies which will upgrade and operate the rail links between Maputo and SA, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Mozambique's transport authority CFM will get a 30% share and Transnet will share the balance with other agencies," says Pearce.

Spoornet and Portnet — in the Transnet stable — will be interested parties.

Essential infrastructural upgrading costing about US\$180m has already been identified for Maputo harbour and the cost of the rail upgrading is estimated at \$30m. The harbour will require dredging — to allow Panamax ships of up to 60 000 t into the port.

Upgrading of the commercial quay, stricter security measures to protect against pilfering, and the rehabilitation of the fishing port will also be needed, along with dredgers, tugs, cranes and other port equipment.

Development Bank of Southern Africa's Dave Arkwright says "government wants to minimise its financial stake in the project — and joint ventures with the private sector are the best way to achieve this." He says the World Bank has offered guarantees to back govern-

mental commitments as this will help bring about private-sector participation.

Mozambique has already granted concessions to various port users (including Outspan International) for exclusive use of some terminals at the harbour.

Mpumalanga premier Matthews Phosa says the upgrading of the harbour is "crucial" to the success of the corridor concept. And, adds Mpumalanga Finance Corp MD Sam Cronje, streamlining of legalities such as visa regulations is also vital for success.

With infrastructural projects worth more than R1,6bn in the offing, the Maputo Corridor project appears to be the investment injection needed to get the region to thrive ■



# Mozambique drowning in the weapons of decades of war

Star 25/7/96 (218)

Glut of guns makes the country a  
magnet for criminals from SA who  
trade a few beers for AK-47s

By NAFTAL DONALDO  
Maputo

**M**ilitary equipment that has amassed over three decades of war in Mozambique – from the era of the revolution to the 17 years of civil strife – has left the army with the dilemma that it cannot account for the whereabouts and exact number of these weapons

Lazaro Mathe, director of the Mozambique defence force (FADM) equipment unit, says "We have more weapons of war than military personnel.

"The only problem is that we don't know how many or where most of these weapons are," he added

Worst of all, says Mathe, if a war were to erupt in Mozambique today, the national army did not stand

a chance to win as it was ill-equipped and in total disarray

Following the Rome Peace Accord, UN peacekeepers (Unomoz) were initially given the task of establishing three regional warehouses to store weapons from Frelimo and the Renamo rebel movement. But Unomoz completed their tour of duty before this could be effected

"Even those arms that had been identified for destruction were not accounted for," says Mathe

He admits there are brand-new Russian-built MiG-17, MiG-19, MiG-21 fighter planes and

BM21s in various air bases. But there are no pilots to fly them nor are there any ground crew to maintain and service them

Today demobilised pilots of the air force and navy, as well as technicians, are either self-employed or drafted into positions which have nothing to do with what they were trained for.

There are missiles, anti-aircraft guns, armoured vehicles, heavy ground-to-ground armoury and other military equipment without proper maintenance or storage

And there are AK-47 assault rifles which make Mozambique a haven for criminals from neighbouring South Africa and Zim-

babwe. A few cans of beer can easily buy them an AK47.

Damaged equipment cannot be repaired as there are no spare parts

## More arms than military personnel

available

And nobody seems to know whether the FADM will continue their co-operation with the foreign countries which supplied the equipment, or whether they will eventually turn to the West

Though Mathe is convinced that the situation will change for the better once a national defence policy is instituted, not everybody shares his view

Recent efforts to draft former pilots and technicians back into the national army failed because of rows over the national recruitment law now under discussion – Sapa-DPA

*Liberalisation paves the way for fierce competition*

# Private telecom groups find place in Tanzania

By Joe Khamisi

Nairobi — Tanzania's telecommunications sector has been invaded by privateers in the wake of liberalisation that has jolted the slumbering state-run Tanzania Telecommunication Company (TTCL) into an early wake-up call

For decades TTCL was the sole provider of telephones and other telecommunications services in Tanzania, but government protection and lack of development resources led to poor performance

Only a small percentage of the country's estimated population of 30 million has access to telephones. Millions of people who can afford the services are on the waiting list, sometimes for as long as 10 years

Even where services are available, static lines and frequent breakdowns make contact a nightmare

In the past year, several private companies have emerged in competition with TTCL. A local firm, ACG, has already installed 400 public wireless card telephone booths in the capital Dar es Salaam,

CT(22)25/7/96 (218)  
compared with TTCL's 17

Cathie Mathews, the director of ACG, says the company plans to extend its services to all major towns across the country

Another company, Tri Telecommunications Tanzania, started with cellular phones and has now established a walkie-talkie telephone system in the capital. It also plans to expand its services.

Its officials say that eventually a connection will be established with a reputable global system to enable cellular phone users to use their equipment anywhere in the world

Mobitel, another company with local interests, has also entered the cellular phone business and TTCL, fearing a loss of business to privateers, has expansion plans of its own

The state-run company plans to install a wireless telephone system known as a wireless local loop. When operational, customers will be able to use modern wireless telephone receivers.

"We shall start with Dar es Salaam and Arusha," a TTCL spokesman was quoted as saying

recently. "We intend to replace all coin-boxes with card phones."

The telecommunications competition has led to a price war, to the delight of consumers

The cost of cellular phone services has dipped by as much as 20 percent since the liberalisation about two years ago

In the meantime, recent reports from Washington say Tanzania has been named as one country that could benefit from a scheme to equip Africa with modern telecommunications technology

Communications Daily, a US trade publication, said recently that Africom, an African-American owned company, had signed a contract with Lockheed Martin Overseas to build a satellite intended to serve the hub of sub-Saharan cellular telephone systems

The satellite would be licensed to Ghana, but Tanzania was chosen as a backup in case the West African country opted out of the arrangement

The satellite system is expected to be operational by 1999 — Independent Foreign Service



# Mozambique's national airline faces operating crisis

By Jorge Dique

218

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Maputo — The Mozambican national airline, LAM, which will be restructured as part of the country's economic reform plan, is facing a crisis

Not only is it bedevilled by falling demand, a breakdown of its aircraft and maladministration, but it also faces stiff competition from South Africa

The airline has carried out no financial planning since its formation in 1980 after the demise of the Portuguese airline Deta. According to sources, that enabled the state to drain capital as profit

The crisis reached a head in 1992, when domestic flights ceased to be the main mode of transport after the civil war ended and roads and other forms of transportation were opened up

The number of passengers dropped to 134 000 a year, from 200 000, and turnover fell 33 percent. By last year, the airline had an accumulated deficit of \$6 million and a debt of about \$15 million.

The situation deteriorated when a lease agreement for three aircraft hired from GECAS of Ireland expired. The loss of the aircraft has prevented the airline from keeping up its commercial operations

LAM has faced constant equipment breakdowns because of old age, causing flight cancellations and claims that it may not be safe

Perreira Rodrigues, who has been with LAM and its predecessor for 38 years, says it is one of the safest airlines in the region. He says allegations that it is not safe are no more than attempts by competitors to give it a bad name

The liberation of South Africa has contributed to the problems because airlines from Europe, Asia and the US have re-established direct links with Johannesburg

The airline was forced to close its offices in Italy, Germany, Denmark, France and Zimbabwe

It has cut its staff to 1 335 from a peak of 2 000 in the 1980s and plans to cut it to 900 by next year.

Nevertheless, Jose Viegas, the managing director, thinks the economic reform plan will put the airline back on its feet, particularly if the management is improved

He says the problems of the reduced fleet, now down to two Boeings and 14 light airplanes, will be solved by chartering

But there is still debate on LAM's status under the reform programme. Though the government has not yet decided what to do, the World Bank and the IMF have insisted on its privatisation. The technical unit of the Restructuring of Enterprises, a government agency, also wants privatisation, but senior government officials want LAM to continue as a national airline — Independent Foreign Service / Africa Information Afrique

# Mozambique: Where beer can buy an AK-47

MAPUTO - Military equipment amassed over three decades of war in Mozambique - from the era of the revolution to the 17 years of civil strife - has left the army with the dilemma that it cannot account for the whereabouts and exact number of these military weapons.

Lazaro Mathe, director of the Mozambique Defence Force (FADM) equipment unit, says. "We have more weapons of war than military personnel. The only problem is that we don't know how many, or where most of these weapons are."

Worst of all, says Mr Mathe, if a war were to erupt in Mozambique today, the national army did not stand a chance, as it was ill equipped and in total disarray.

Following the Rome Peace Accord, UN peacekeepers (Unomoz) were initially given the task of establishing three regional warehouses to store weapons from Frelimo and the Renamo rebel movement.

But Unomoz completed their tour of duty before this could be effected

"Even those arms that had been identified for destruction were not accounted for," says Mr Mathe.

He admits there are brand-new Russian-built Mig 17, Mig 19, Mig 21 fighter aircraft and BM 21's in various air bases.

But there are no pilots to fly them, nor are there any ground crew to maintain them

Today demobilised pilots of the air force and navy as well as technicians are either self-employed or drafted into positions which have nothing to do with what they were trained for.

There are also missiles, anti-aircraft guns, armoured vehicles, heavy

(218) APR 25/7/96  
ground-to-ground armoury and other military equipment but without proper maintenance or storage

And there are AK-47 assault rifles - which makes Mozambique a haven for criminal elements from South Africa and Zimbabwe. A few cans of beer can buy one AK-47

Damaged equipment cannot be repaired as there are no spare parts available due to the origin of the equipment. And nobody seems to know whether the FADM will continue its co-operation with those foreign countries who supplied the equipment or whether it will eventually turn to Western countries for equipment.

Though Mr Mathe is convinced that the situation will change for the better once a national defence policy is instituted, not everybody shares his view.

Efforts by the military authorities to draft former pilots and technicians back into the national defence force failed because certain army chiefs and government authorities appear to be at loggerheads over the national recruitment law now under discussion.

While the country's military weapons are disintegrating or finding their way into the hands of criminals, the Mozambican government has entered into an agreement with the Zimbabwean government to train the mixed Renamo and Frelimo armies as part of the integration process.

Some Mozambican military instructors have since gone through their paces in Zimbabwe's eastern highlands Nyanga camp on the border with Mozambique. - Sapa-DPA



# BLAZING A TRAIL TO THE EAST

FM 26/7/96

(218) (269)

**W**ith investment projects valued at almost R20bn already identified by the SA and Mozambican governments, this week's "milestone" signing of a broad framework accord — and three ancillary agreements — will step up the pace of the Maputo Corridor project (*Business* July 19)

The entry of the giant Sumitomo Bank, together with Absa, Grinaker Construction, Group Five and two major Portuguese construction companies as members of the Consortium Via do Sol — one of three tender bidders for the toll road contract — indicates interest on the part of the big guns

Sumitomo, one of the largest financial institutions in the world, is also a global leader in the so-called "build, operate, transfer" concept, popular in developing Asian economies. It involves the private sector obtaining a government licence to invest in and manage a project for a specified period, after which ownership reverts back to government. Sumitomo is acting as financial adviser in the Via do Sol tender bid

Apart from high-level presidential support at the April launch, Mpumalanga premier Matthews Phosa recently visited Botswana and Swaziland to drum up support. "The process started to gain momentum with the signing of agreements between the provinces of Maputo and Gaza in Mozambique and Mpumalanga, aimed at regional co-operation," he says

An obvious selling point is transport cost savings by using Maputo rather than Durban. "Once the corridor is up and running, we will save substantially on stainless steel export costs," says Columbus Stainless CE Fred Boshoff

And adds Sasol spokesman Alfonso Niemand. "The development provides Sasol with an opportunity to increase the cost-effectiveness of transporting our export products"

Transport Minister Mac Maharaj says Maputo is only one of seven transport corridors in the SA Development Community (SADC) region, "each with its own catchment area of economic potential being linked to a port for export/import". Others, such as the Beira and Malawi/Nacala corridors, should also come in for international attention in the near future

"The next step," he adds, "together with our SADC partners, is to formulate a coherent strategy to develop these regional corridors. Mozambique and SA are willing to share the experience gained in the Maputo Corridor with the SADC"

Extensions of the corridor include linking up, through Rustenburg and Botswana, with Walvis Bay in Namibia via the planned Trans-Kalahari highway. And southern Zimbabwe also fits into the picture, through a link-up through the Tzaneen/Northern Province subcorridor route. An improved transport link between Maputo and Beira, along the Mozambican coastline, should also stimulate other developments

The agreements signed this week by Maharaj and Mozambican counterpart Paulo Maxanga include a protocol on the op-

erating framework of the toll road

"The way will be opened for the initial phases of the project rail, road and port upgrades which will lay the foundations for an integrated regional infrastructure network crucial to the realisation of the opportunities for economic growth and development which exist in the area," says Department of Transport spokesman Karen Pearce

Department of Trade & Industry special ministerial adviser Paul Jourdan and Department of Transport director-general Ketso Jordhan have just returned from the UK and the US after studying new trends in public-private joint venture partnerships. So, with this kind of top-level focus, private-sector investors can start planning to get in on the action

Says Maharaj "Both governments are confident that the take-off point has now been reached for the implementation of the many private-sector investments and public-private partnerships which together will release the enormous potential of

the corridor and subcorridor areas". Project details recently released by Maharaj and Maxanga, include

□ Essential transport infrastructure projects — which have entered various stages of tendering — such as the US\$180m toll road (rehabilitating 380 km of existing road between Withbank and Maputo and building about 50 km of new road in Mozambique), \$170m on port upgrading and \$20m on upgrading the 90 km rail link between Maputo and Ressano Garcia on the SA border,

□ Upgrading the telecommunications system, by way of a digital microwave system, to increase trunk carrying capacity between SA and Mozambique. Additional plans to establish a cellular network are also under consideration, and

□ Private-sector projects such as the \$700m Pande gas pipeline project, \$250m for surveying the development potential of building material resources in Maputo province, the \$300m Red River ilmenite/magnetite and vanadium project

near Tzaneen, Iscor's \$300m heavy minerals project adjoining Red River, estimated investments of \$1,43bn on the development of petro-chemical and stainless steel clusters at Secunda and Middelburg, \$37m on agro-industrial projects in Mpumalanga, as well as investment opportunities in the Mozambican fishing, forestry and tourism sectors (hotel developments valued at \$10m are being planned for Maputo)

Other investment projects already disclosed include Alusaf's \$1bn Maputo-based aluminium plant, a new multibillion dollar hydro-electric dam in the lower Zambezi river, a R3bn fertiliser plant (also in Maputo), Gencor's plans to develop heavy mineral sand deposits on the lower Mozambican coastline, Sappi's proposed forestry project south of Maputo, a costly, US-funded ecotourism project on the coast south of Maputo and proposals to link SA's Kruger National Park with a huge transnational park in Mozambique ■



Matthews Phosa

# Mozambican airline headed for bumpy landing

(218)

**M**OZAMBIQUE'S national airline (LAM), which is to be restructured as part of the country's economic reform programme, is facing a crisis. Not only is it bedevilled by a drop in demand and maladministration but it is also facing stiff competition from neighbouring South Africa.

Since its formation in 1980, following the demise of the Portuguese airline Deta, no financial planning of LAM has been carried out. This, according to sources, enabled the state to drain out capital as profits.

The crisis reached a head in 1992 when domestic flights ceased to be the main mode of transport following the end of the civil war and the opening up of roads and other means of transport.

The number of passengers dropped to 134 000 a year from 200 000 and turnover fell by 33%. By 1995, LAM had an accumulated deficit of \$6-million as well as a debt of about \$15-million. The situation worsened when a lease agreement expired for three aeroplanes hired from Ireland.

The loss of the aircraft has stopped the airline from keeping up its commercial operations. LAM has been facing constant breakdowns of equipment due to old age, causing cancellations of flights, and claims that the airline may not be safe.

But Perreira Manuel Rodrigues, who has been with the airline and its predecessor for 38 years, says LAM is one of the safest in the region.

"On no occasion have the standards of the manufacturer of the equipment not been observed rigorously," he says. "I feel safer in an LAM aeroplane than in one of any other airline."

For Rodrigues, allegations that LAM is not safe are no more than attempts by competitors to give the airline a bad name.

**T**he liberation of South Africa has also contributed to the problems as airlines from Europe, Asia and America have re-established direct links with Johannesburg. LAM was forced to close its offices in Rome, Berlin, Copenhagen, Paris and Harare. It also reduced its labour force from a peak of 2 000 in the 1980s to 1 335 at the moment. By 1997, there will be about 900 staff.

Despite the gloomy picture, managing director Jose Viegas believes the present economic reform programme will see the airline flying high again, particularly if management is improved. He says the problem of the reduced fleet — now down to two Boeings and 14 light aeroplanes — will be solved by chartering.

But there is still debate on the status of LAM under the reform programme.

Although the state has not yet decided what to do, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have insisted on its privatisation.

The technical unit of the Restructuring of Enterprises, a government agency, also favours privatisation but is facing opposition from senior government officials who want LAM to continue as a national airline —

AIA



# Trading beers for AK47s

218  
Sowetan  
26/7/96

**MAPUTO** - Military equipment amassed over three decades of war in Mozambique has left the army with the dilemma that it cannot account for the whereabouts and exact number of these military weapons. If you want it, you can buy an AK 47 on the black market for a few cans of beer.

Lazaro Mathe, director of the Mozambique defence force equipment unit, says "We have more weapons of war than military personnel. The only problem is that we don't know how many or where most of these weapons are".

Worst of all, says Mathe, if a war was to erupt in Mozambique today, the national army would not stand a chance to win as it was ill-equipped and in total disarray.

Following the Rome Peace Accord, UN peacekeepers were initially given the task of establishing three regional warehouses to store weapons from Frelimo and the Renamo rebel movement. But the peacekeepers completed their tour of duty before this could be effected.

"Even those arms that had been identified for destruction were not accounted for," says Mathe.

## Fighter planes

He admits there are brand-new Russian-built MIG17, MIG19, MIG21 fighter planes and BM21's in various air bases. But there are no pilots to fly them nor are there any ground crew to maintain and service them.

Today demobilised pilots of the air force and navy as well as technicians are either self-employed or drafted into positions which have nothing to do with what they were trained for.

There are also missiles, anti-aircraft guns, armoured vehicles, heavy ground-to-ground armoury and other military equipment but without proper maintenance or storage.

And there are AK47 assault rifles which make Mozambique a haven for criminal elements from neighbouring South Africa and Zimbabwe. A few cans of beer can easily buy them one AK47.

Damaged equipment cannot be repaired as there are no spare parts available due to the origin of the equipment.

And nobody seems to know whether the Mozambican armed forces will continue their cooperation with those foreign countries who supplied the equipment or whether they will eventually turn to Western countries for equipment. Though Mathe is convinced that the situation will change once a national defence policy is instituted, not everybody shares his view.

Recent efforts by the military authorities to draft former pilots and technicians back into the national army failed because certain army chiefs and government authorities appear to be at loggerheads over the national recruitment law now under discussion.

While the country's military weapons are disintegrating or finding their way into the hands of criminals, the Mozambican government has entered into an agreement with the Zimbabwean government to train the mixed Renamo and Frelimo armies as part of the integration process. *Sapu-DPA*

# Maputo terminal in full swing

BD 29/7/96

(218)

MBABANE — After four years of lying idle, the Maputo Sugar Terminal is now in full swing following an overhaul and modernisation by the Swaziland Sugar Association and the Zimbabwe Sugar Association

Since June 10 1995, the two associations have exported 283 000 tons to the European Union.

Mozambique and Zambia also send small consignments through the terminal

In 1992, Swaziland and Zimbabwe clinched an eight-year lease to operate the terminal as a joint venture

Storage capacity is 140 000 tons, divided among three sheds, one of 60 000 tons and two of 40 000 tons each. This year the two countries are expected to export 400 000 tons, rising to 500 000 tons next year.

Stam, a company owned jointly by the two associations, commissioned Techserve to refurbish the terminal. Exports through Maputo were stopped in 1991 because of the high prevalence of theft at the port, with Swaziland alone losing about 16 000 tons that year

The two countries were forced to switch to Durban, 600km further

away and about 20% more expensive

Security measures have been stepped up, with liner trains traveling non-stop to Siwemi in Mozambique where they are put under 24-hour guard

Manica Freight provides the around-the-clock security at Maputo, and the fence around the

terminal is electrified.

Swaziland will export 195 000 tons this year, made up of 120 000 tons to the EU, 15 000 tons to the US and 60 000 tons to the rest of the world

Zimbabwe will export roughly the same amount, but with only 60 000 tons going to Europe and more to the rest of the world. — AIA



## Economic corridor to Maputo may be extended

218  
Stephen Taylor  
20 29/7/96

**MAPUTO** The planned economic development corridor from Maputo to Mpumalanga could be extended beyond Gauteng to Rustenburg in Northwest Province by 1999, Transport director-general Khetso Gordhan said on Friday.

Gordhan was in Maputo with Transport Minister Mac Maharaj, his Trade and Industry colleague Alec Erwin, and Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Kader Asmal, who signed three accords on the corridor and one establishing a joint water commission.

Plans for the Maputo-Mpumalanga corridor now aim to extend the Johannesburg-Witbank highway to the Mozambique capital as a toll road, the improvement of harbour facilities, and the upgrading of the rail link from the Ressano Garcia border post to the port.

A feasibility study showed that an extension of the corridor, including the existing toll road between Pretoria West and Pelindaba costing between R700m and R800m, would be viable, opening access for industry and agriculture to Maputo harbour, Gordhan said.

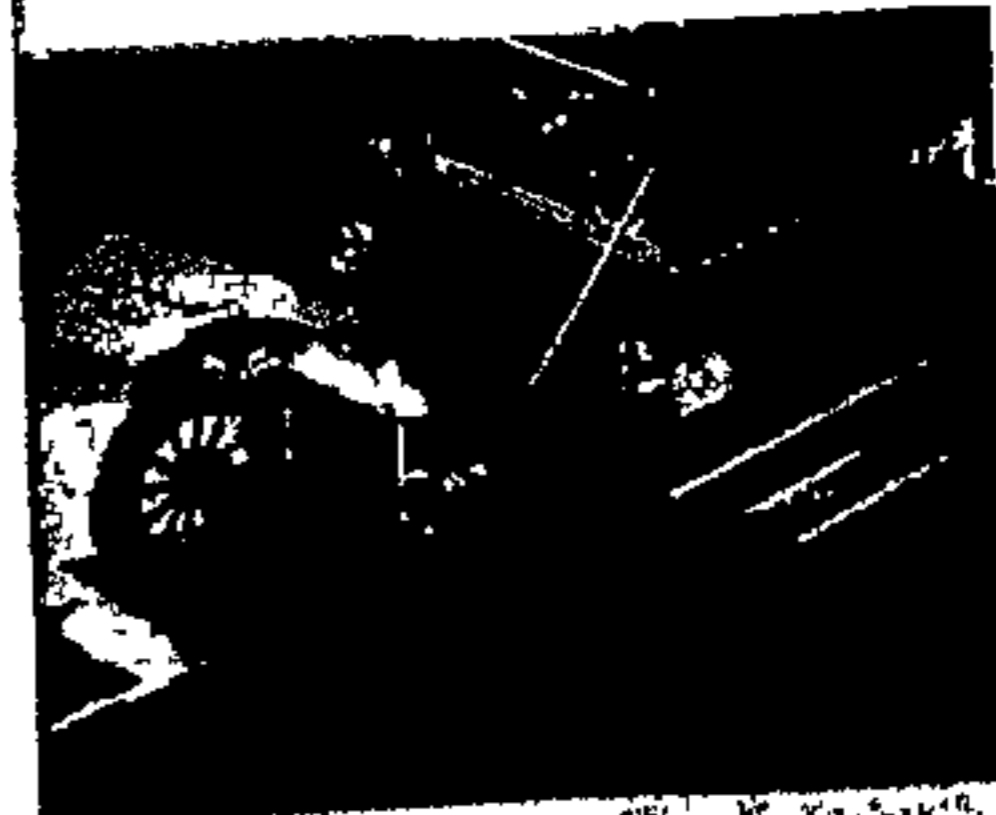
An extension, further westward to Gaborone, of the Pelindaba-Rustenburg highway did not appear to make financial sense yet, particularly as the Botswana capital was to be linked to the port of Walvis Bay via a new road by 1997.

Concerned about becoming economically isolated, the Botswana government is apparently pushing for inclusion in the corridor concept.

The transport department had received three formal tenders for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Witbank-Maputo toll highway, which will allow speeds of 120km/h.

Maharaj said he expected to award the contract in August, just a year after the corridor idea had first been mooted in earnest.

He would like construction to begin "the day after we sign the agreements". The road contract has been valued at R1,5bn over 30 years at current rates.



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# Maputo Corridor 'will bring the vision of the RDP to life'

(218) (218)

Mpumalanga premier says province must convey message of optimism and ability to deliver to outside world, then broad benefits will follow

By CLYDE JOHNSON  
Nelspruit

Mpumalanga had been first to initiate the Maputo Corridor, is first with the casino application process and is also first in economic growth, according to Premier Mathews Phosa

Speaking at a joint Nafcoc, Sakekamer and Chamber of Commerce meeting last week, he said this was enough for businesses in the province to convey a message of trust and optimism to the outside world

"We now need to concentrate on translating these successes into delivery," he told the well-attended meeting.

However, in order to be successful in their delivery efforts, the different cultures in the province needed to be understood, Phosa said.

"We should not attempt to change individuals to suit the companies they serve, but should rather capitalise on our many cultures which, if combined, can contribute tremendously to our success story."

There was no doubt in his mind that the Maputo Corridor initiative would bring the RDP to life

The shorter and more cost-effective movement of goods along the network of the corridor would ensure a mobile RDP, which, in turn, would result in

benefits for construction, tourism, and agriculture, as well as the technical, management and training industries, he said.

Phosa added that Nelspruit, as the capital of Mpumalanga, had enormous opportunities which could benefit the whole province.

Business had boomed since 1994, but it was important that

the business sector in the province recognised the government's efforts to realise these opportunities

"The business sector in Mpumalanga must unite in such a way that the government can communicate with them under one umbrella"

The government and business should also form a strong, united front against crime, which had become a national disease, he said.

An initiative allowing the government and business sector to join forces and create watch schemes to ensure that the province became investor friendly would be launched in Witbank soon.

**'Business, govt must unite and beat crime'**

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