

THE MERCURY
Tuesday, May 9, 2000

MBEKI HAS TURNED OFF THE LIGHT

THERE was hope in Africa. One single shining light at the end of an ever darkening tunnel. Could there be an exception to the rule that black independent government was synonymous with corruption, incompetence, injustice and the abuse of power?

The democratic South African government was winning great respect worldwide for mature, sensible, non-racial governance. The vision of an African renaissance even sounded plausible when championed by this new breed of African statesmen.

President Mbeki inherited this mantle and looked set to build upon it with his vision of an African renaissance. At last we thought we had a leader of courage and foresight. In the last few weeks he has totally destroyed his credibility.

The whole world has judged Mr Mugabe to be corrupt, manipulative and power-crazy. They have no illusions that he must be brought to account for the slaughter of the Matabele in the '80s; that he has engineered the land crises for personal political ends; that he would oversee the total implosion of his country's economy (and all the misery that portends), if only to save his own political neck.

The international media have been slow

to make these judgments, but they have now been made, and no one around the world is fooled by the trumped-up "land-distribution problem".

Mr Mbeki has had three clear opportunities to denounce this appalling behaviour. Each time he has shrunk from his responsibility and mumbled inane platitudes, while holding hands with this evil man.

The world wanted to see a clear message conveyed to Mr Mugabe about his state-sponsored intimidation, murder and corruption, and that no outcome other than a totally free and fair election under the rule of law administered by an impartial police force can be accepted.

Instead we were told that Mr Mugabe is a champion of the rule of law and that it is all the British government's fault. Does Mr Mbeki think that the world is peopled by fools. It shows great disrespect for the intelligence of his own people.

Mr Mbeki has proved himself to be a very irresponsible leader. If he thought he could sup with the devil and not be tainted, his judgment is badly flawed.

The rand seems to echo my views.

ROB HAMILTON

GOVERNMENT TO ACCELERATE R5 BILLION REDISTRIBUTION PLANS

70 000 black farmers to get state land

THE government plans to resettle about 70 000 black commercial farmers on nearly 2 million hectares of state land over the next 15 years.

The major land resettlement initiative will cost the government an estimated R5 billion in grants and administrative costs to aspiring, formerly disadvantaged farmers.

An annual amount of about R300 million for the 15-year period has been budgeted for the programme.

KwaZulu-Natal will be among the first provinces to start resettling farmers on 275 000ha of state land – a step which could see agricultural production in the province rise from R5 billion a year to R18 billion a year by 2020.

KZN Agriculture Minister Narend Singh said his department would soon begin resettling farmers on about 70 000ha of land which was not in use.

The department planned eventually to settle between 10 000 and 15 000 farmers on available state land in KwaZulu-Natal.

Details of the programme were confirmed by Deputy Agriculture Minister Dirk du Toit yesterday.

Mr du Toit said that about 700 000ha of land was immediately available to start resettling farmers.

In this regard, a power of attorney had been granted to all provincial agriculture ministers about two weeks ago to start leasing or selling land to beneficiaries. "We are talk-

ing about substantial state assets here," Mr du Toit said.

"About 15% of state-owned land suitable for commercial farming will be redistributed to the formerly disadvantaged."

Mr du Toit said that the scheme would greatly enhance land resettlement and agricultural performance in the country.

The resettlement scheme comes amid mounting pressure on the government to speed up its land resettlement programme.

Invasion

The land issue has been highlighted recently by the invasion of private commercial farms in Zimbabwe by thousands of squatters, which has resulted in widespread violence.

Mr du Toit said the department was still working on the finer details of the policy document, but the broad framework for the resettlement programme was in place.

An official announcement about the programme will be made later.

Mention of the initiative was made earlier this year during the budget speech of Agriculture Minister Thoko Didiza, who is currently on maternity leave.

Besides the 700 000ha of state-owned land available, there are more than one million hectares of land which were part of the former self-governing territories and the TBVC states. – Sapa

Landowners warned to co-operate 'or else'

KHATHU MAMAILA

JOHANNESBURG – The ANC has issued a stern warning to landowners to co-operate with the government to make land available for redistribution, or face selling the land at prices determined by the state.

Addressing a media conference yesterday, ANC spokesman Smuts Ngonyama accused some landowners of stalling the process of redistribution.

He said some landowners, including farmers, did not want to sell their land.

In cases where they put their property on sale, they increased the price, making it impossible for the government to acquire the land, said Mr Ngonyama.

He warned that if the willing-

seller, willing-buyer option failed to address the land question, the government would have to pursue the expropriation option. In terms of this option, the

government can acquire land for public use at prices determined by the courts.

Of the more than 63 000 land claims that have been lodged since 1994, fewer than 4 000 have been processed.

ANC secretary-general Kgalema Motlanthe said while the issue of land was important for South Africans, he did not believe that the Zimbabwean situation of land invasions would be repeated in South Africa.



MOTLANTHE

DAILY NEWS **TUESDAY** MAY 9 2000

Today the European Union celebrates 50 years of economic and political co-operation. As one of the largest trading partners of South Africa, the EU has a significant part to play in the development of South Africa and its entry into the global economy.



TRADING GAME: Michael Laidler, the head of the European Commission delegation in South Africa

DAILY NEWS
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2000

EUROPEAN UNION

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

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Trade agreement a victory for Europe and SA

The Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement entered into between the European Union (EU) and South Africa ensures not only favourable trade opportunities but also development aid for South Africa.

"The mutual benefits of this agreement go far beyond trade," says Michael Laidler, the head of the European Commission delegation in South Africa.

"We all think of this agreement as being mostly about trade. And while the establishment of a free trade area is of extreme importance, it sometimes overshadows other significant benefits such as the chapters on development

co-operation, trade development, social and cultural co-operation, political dialogue and institutional arrangements.

It is a comprehensive and far reaching achievement which establishes a strategic, even visionary, partnership which, at the same time, constitutes an important plank in South Africa's own process of transition.

"I would like to underline that, despite the well publicised differences of opinion as to how to deal with the question of protection for certain denominations of spirits, the agreement has been in force without interruption since January 1 and its benefits are already being reaped.

"I think we must all recognise the remarkable achievement this trade deal represents. It does credit to both negotiating teams. Aside from the sheer volume of work it represents (on the trade side alone, it handled some 20 000 tariff lines), it was a groundbreaking experience for us all," says Laidler.

"It was certainly the first time South Africa had entered into such discussions and, for the EU, it was the first such negotiation which included an offer in the agricultural sector and with a single distant partner already in a customs union.

"The negotiators also had to take account of the requirements of the World

Trade Organisation as regards the establishment of free trade areas.

"The bottom line is that there are serious and long-term benefits for both sides. Otherwise the deal would not be in place. Coverage of the free trade area is about 90 percent of total trade between the EU and South Africa. This means that about 95 percent of imports from South Africa will be fully liberalised by the end of a ten-year transitional period and, 86 percent of South African imports from Europe fully liberalised after a 12 year transition period (there is an asymmetry in both coverage and timing to reflect the development focus of the agreement and in recognition

of South Africa's restructuring process).

"Trade with the EU is important for South Africa as it represents roughly 40 percent of its imports and exports.

"At current rates of exchange, South Africa exports nearly R60 billion of goods to the EU and imports goods worth marginally more.

"It is also worth noting that at least two-thirds of all foreign direct investment in South Africa come from the EU.

"Another key issue is that the maintenance of financial assistance to South Africa at substantial levels is an integral part of the agreement.

"Our European Programme for Reconstruction and Development is running in excess of R800 million in grants every year and I fully expect that our assistance will continue at around that level for the foreseeable future.

"It is one of our largest single programmes anywhere.

"It means that when the European Investment Bank's programme of loans is taken into account, plus the significant programmes of the individual European Union member states, taxpayers from the EU constitute by far the largest source of development assistance to South Africa," says Laidler.

Information for this article comes from Jasper Becker's book *Hungry Ghosts*, published in 1996

THE beaming Chinese pig farmer put a single banana and a single cigarette on the darkwood table where we were seated with luminaries of the Communist Party in Zophu town, 50km outside Shanghai.

It was his mark of prosperity, I was told, to share a banana and a cigarette with a foreigner – as was the new house he was living in, a three-storey affair tiled from top to bottom, a television set in every bedroom, five in all.

Later I asked him why he had so many television sets, if only he and his wife lived in the house.

"I don't know what to do with all the money," he giggled.

The farmer had been trotted out by the party to showcase China's "economic miracle", which had transformed the country since President Deng Xiaoping declared in 1984 that to get rich was glorious.

Peasants had been the main beneficiaries, in a bold land reform programme which saw former communal lands rented out to whoever had the money, with only one order, to make more of it. Now, the new mansions of successful farmers dot the Chinese landscape, standing out against the old, drab communal buildings, or the huts of farmworkers.

Rural roads are glamourised by 4x4s of every stripe and sort.

Television aerials create a new skyline in every village. The new farmers have been spoilt and pampered by the state to an unrivalled degree, except, perhaps, for white Zimbabwean commercial farmers in the early years of independence.

The comparison is apt, for 50 years ago China was in the grip of a similar push for land reform as in today's Zimbabwe, which eventually turned into a full-scale land revolution that led to one of the world's worst famines, in which 10 to 30 million people died.

Land reform had been a central plank in the manifestoes of all serious political parties in 1940s China, also that of the ruling Kuomintang, the Nationalist Party led by Chiang Kai-Shek. Like the Lancaster House agreement between Britain and Zimbabwe in 1980, their land reform policy was a "land-add" programme aimed at preserving successful farms, but allowing poorer peasants greater access to land.

China's hundreds of millions of peasants' greatest burden at that stage was debt, which was often so high that whole families had to work for a lifetime to pay them off.

The government was to supply money to pay debts and also buy land from rich landowners and resell it at low prices to poorer peasants.

But the Kuomintang, infiltrated by the underworld, was notoriously corrupt, and most land reform money ended up in the pockets of Chiang's cronies in the "Green Gang".

When the communists came to power in 1949, they began implementing a much more radical programme, on the model of the Soviet Union's Joseph Stalin, who had eradicated its population of kulaks (landowners) in the 1930s, with the loss of millions of lives, mostly in a subsequent famine.

The Soviets kept this famine a secret, also hoodwinking well-meaning Western intellectuals into believing that a successful and morally correct revolution had been launched.

As a result, the Chinese, avid admirers of the Soviets, implemented a first stage similar to theirs, and, one might add, probably to that envisaged by many a land reformer occupying a Zimbabwean farm.

Chinese peasants were all almost equally poor, but nevertheless the party under its land reform emperor Kang Sheng began dividing everyone up into landowners, rich peasants and the poor.

The land of the first two groups was taken over – or "invaded" – and the unfortunate owners turned into farmworkers if they were lucky, or killed in some of the most gruesome slaughtering on record. Many were buried alive with their children. Others were stripped naked and then given a thin cotton vest soaked in water and left outside in sub-zero temperatures.

This was called the "glass curtain" method. The "opening of the flower" consisted of bashing in the skulls of landowners

buried up to their necks in pits.

The next stage was collectivisation. Many more people were identified as "counter-revolutionaries" or "rightists", and were murdered when they disobeyed the myriad orders aimed at forging vast communes of up to tens of thousands of peasants in some cases.

Peasants were forbidden to cook and fires at home were banned – all food had to be supplied by communal kitchens.

In pursuance of "scientific materialism", one of the strands in Soviet communist philosophy, the party decreed that it would abandon old-fashioned ways of farming, ostensibly aimed at exploiting cheap labour.

In Mao Zedong's "great leap forward" campaign, a whole range of new methods were applied, such as close-planting and deep-ploughing.

Close-planting involved sowing two or three times more plants in a furrow. Deep-ploughing was based on the theory that the deeper seedlings were plant-

ed, the bigger their root systems would grow, with a resultant greater yield.

Sometimes eager peasants dug ditches three metres deep, and the army supplied them with old civil war ordnance to blow holes into

the earth.

China also went into a catch-up-with-the-West frenzy.

To increase steel production, the kitchen utensils and garden equipment declared redundant by the party were smelted in hundreds of thousands of furnaces sent to villages.

Woks, basins, spades, pots and pans all went.

Of course, the harvests failed, and because there was no farm equipment left and because the poorer peasants who had survived the purges were often the least knowledgeable, famine broke out on a scale never seen before in human history.

All of this was kept secret, and because of illiteracy and linguistic differences, and also plain fear of the communists, peasants did not speak out until recently.

One woman described to

American author Jasper Becker how the worst memory was the silence in her village. All people were dead or too famished to speak, and even the rats that used to scrawl along on roofs had been eaten. In many areas cannibalism was the only way out for the survivors.

American demographers concluded that about 30 million people died. Other estimates put the figure at 10 million. China has only been released from the permanent prospect of famine by the land reforms of the 1980s, which amounted to a large-scale return to the exploitative, profit-chasing farming system that Mao Zedong and his revolutionaries loathed so much.

Zimbabwe is still far off from the China of 1960, but the revolutionary rhetoric by war veterans and politicians points to a similar mindset.

The ruling Zanu-PF party has been leading a systematic assault against "sell-outs", which is another term for the "rightists" the Chinese had been killing. These are hunted down among farmworkers, who are supposed to be the prime victims of white Zimbabwean farmers' exploitation.

The interruptions of farm work have been setting off alarm bells over the nation's wheat harvest. Already the army has to aid hungry "war veterans", among whom there are many who do not know the first thing about farming, let alone the economics of agriculture. Also shared with the Chinese is the idea that farming is a simple matter, and that anybody is able to master it overnight.

It is still unclear exactly what the "war veterans" want to do with the land they want to confiscate, with some simply reselling "re-identical plots" to homeless people from Harare townships.

On the few schemes the government had launched in the past, the ownership of land was communal. Critics say this dispensation will stay, as it allows the party greater control over the peasants.

But perhaps the closest parallel is between the beginning stages of the respective "land revolutions". The Kuomintang's policies failed simply because of corruption.

Similarly, President Robert Mugabe's failure to achieve much in 20 years of government has been ascribed by most analysts to the looting of development-aid by his cronies in the ruling Zanu-PF party.

This has set off a chain reaction of even s, culminating in the country's current desperate state.

Imports drop 6,5% while exports are steady

Global trade with Africa slips 3,6%

FROM REUTERS

Tunis - Africa's trade with the rest of the world fell by 3,6 percent to \$251,3 billion in 1999 compared to \$260,8 billion in 1998, the African Import-Export Bank (Afreximbank) said yesterday.

"African trade again suffered from the lingering negative effects of falling commodity prices arising from overproduction and low global demand," Afreximbank said in a report released at its annual shareholders' meeting in Tunis.

"African trade performance was weakened by a 6,5 percent drop in imports and almost unchanged export levels."

Exports remained steady in value terms at \$117,9 billion from \$118,2 billion, with weak agricultural and metals prices offset by higher oil prices.

Oil producers accounted for more than 35 percent of Africa's exports, the bank said.

Imports fell to \$133,4 billion from \$142,6 billion because of a fall in domestic demand caused by weakened economic conditions and lower purchasing power as a result of high oil prices, the report said.

In 1999 South Africa, Nigeria and Algeria were the leading exporters, accounting for about 46 percent of Africa's total exports.

South Africa, Egypt, Morocco, Algeria and Nigeria controlled more than 50 percent of imports.

Trade between African countries declined to \$25,1 billion in 1999 compared to \$27,3 billion 1998.

The report said this reflected the general weakening in trade performance of non-oil producers caused by falling commodity

prices, as well as a significant drop in South Africa's intra-African trade levels.

The intra-African trade share of the continent's total trade fell slightly to 10 percent from 10,5 percent in 1998.

"These developments were not unconnected with persistent regional conflicts which restrained cross-border activities, as well as a flood of lower-priced imports from Asia and aggressive market access activities pursued by many developed economies.

"The review shows that the global and African environments remained difficult, albeit gradually improving ... Commodity markets, however, remained depressed.

"The impact on Africa did not see much noticeable improvement. Trade growth was also slowed, while perception of the risk of Africa did not see much noticeable improvement," Afreximbank said.

Gross domestic product growth in Africa fell to an average 3,1 percent in 1999 from 3,4 percent in 1998, it said.

Afreximbank was established in October 1993 by African governments and African and non-African investors and financial houses, to finance and promote the internal and external trade of the continent. It has an authorised capital of \$750 million and has headquarters in Cairo.

The bank's loan approvals in 1999 totalled \$758,570 million compared to \$555,944 million in 1998.

Accumulated loan approvals since the bank started operations in 1994 was \$2,303 million. Its net profit in 1999 was \$13,6 million, up 5 percent from \$13 million in 1998.

**Higher rates
for oil helped
offset the price
weakness in
agriculture
and metals**

Zimbabwean land reform row could boil over into Kenya

RORBET OTANI

Nairobi – The land reform row tearing Zimbabwe apart could boil over into Kenya and the other African countries once colonised by Britain if the anti-British campaign continues.

In Kenya, in particular, the lone crusade by an opposition member of parliament, Stephen Ndicho, is already sending cold shivers down the spines of the ruling clique and the white farmers who stayed behind after independence in 1963.

Ndicho of the Social Democratic Party of Kenya (SDP) in Parliament represents an area in the fertile former white highlands, about 20km east of Nairobi.

In recent public rallies, the MP has threatened to mobilise landless Kenyans to invade farms owned by whites and have them redistributed.

Despite threats of prosecution from the government, especially Amos Wako, the attorney-general, Ndicho says he will not be cowed, arguing that he is talking for the common suffering Kenyan.

Ndicho cites as a typical example the case of the highly contentious East African Tanning Extract Company (Eatec) in the Rift Valley, which has gone under, and whose hundreds of thousands of acres of land are to be reclaimed by the indigenous communities, especially the Nandi, a sub-tribe of President Daniel arap Moi's Kalenjin community.

Ndicho says the Eatec case is



a pace-setter for the land reclamation process, and the area MP, Kipruto arap Kirwa of the governing Kanu party, has been urging his people to invade the farm to bring pressure to bear on the government to give the land back to the Nandi.

"If the Nandi are ready to take back their land, why not the other affected Kenyans?" wonders Ndicho.

The land reformists also cite Lord Delamere's Trarion farm near Naivasha, most of which they contend is lying idle and should be distributed to landless Kenyans. Others are a 300 000

acre chunk bordering President Moi's rural farm in the Rift Valley and owned by one Captain Barclay, and another measuring 25 000 acres.

Ndicho accuses the governments of the founding father of the nation, the late President Jomo Kenyatta, and that of President Moi of abetting and condoning colonialism in the constitution, and calls on the younger generation to play an active role in the land reform crusade.

"This is your ancestral right. We have lit a fire to agitate for the land; don't let the fire die down", he told a rally last week.

During the meeting he announced the formation of the Pan-African Movement Over Ancestral Land (Pamoal) to seize farms from the white settlers.

He said the movement would be officially launched on Friday. "This is not cheap politics," Ndicho said. "We're compiling a list of the farms, their acreage and who owns them. They must relinquish them immediately."

He said the land question in Africa is not unique to Zimbabwe.

He aims to draw the attention of the British government to its former colonies, and not only the

southern African country.

The anti-white campaign has ruffled the feathers of President Moi as it comes at a time when the aging head of state wants it least, what with a deepening constitutional crisis, an economy devastated by corruption and bad governance and an uncertainty over his succession. Moi's second and last term in office ends in December 2002.

At the weekend, the president termed Ndicho's threats cheap politics.

Addressing a public rally in Naivasha, about 100km west of the capital, and which is at the

heart of large farms owned by whites engaged in horticulture, President Moi said the continually louder call by the land reformists would succeed only in inciting Kenyans to fight each other.

He called on all Kenyans to reject politicians issuing inflammatory statements. "Ndicho is telling the people to invade farms owned by whites; where in Kenya are those farms owned by whites? The MP's call is meant only to incite Africans to attack one another. This is cheap and outdated politics".

President Moi is right and wrong, however. Wrong because there are quite a number of whites owning large farms, especially in the Rift Valley and in central Kenya. And right because, immediately before independence, jittery whites wishing to emigrate to Europe sold their farms, or gave them as gifts, to indigenous collaborators during the Mau Mau freedom uprising that led to independence.

And immediately after independence, President Kenyatta stripped some white farmers of their land and redistributed it to senior officers in the government and his cronies.

Thus, Ndicho's call cannot be a guarantee that only whites will suffer losses should the land reform be effected in Kenya.

In Kenya, land is still a very thorny issue. It is a ticking time bomb owing to its unfair and inequitable distribution. – Independent Foreign Service

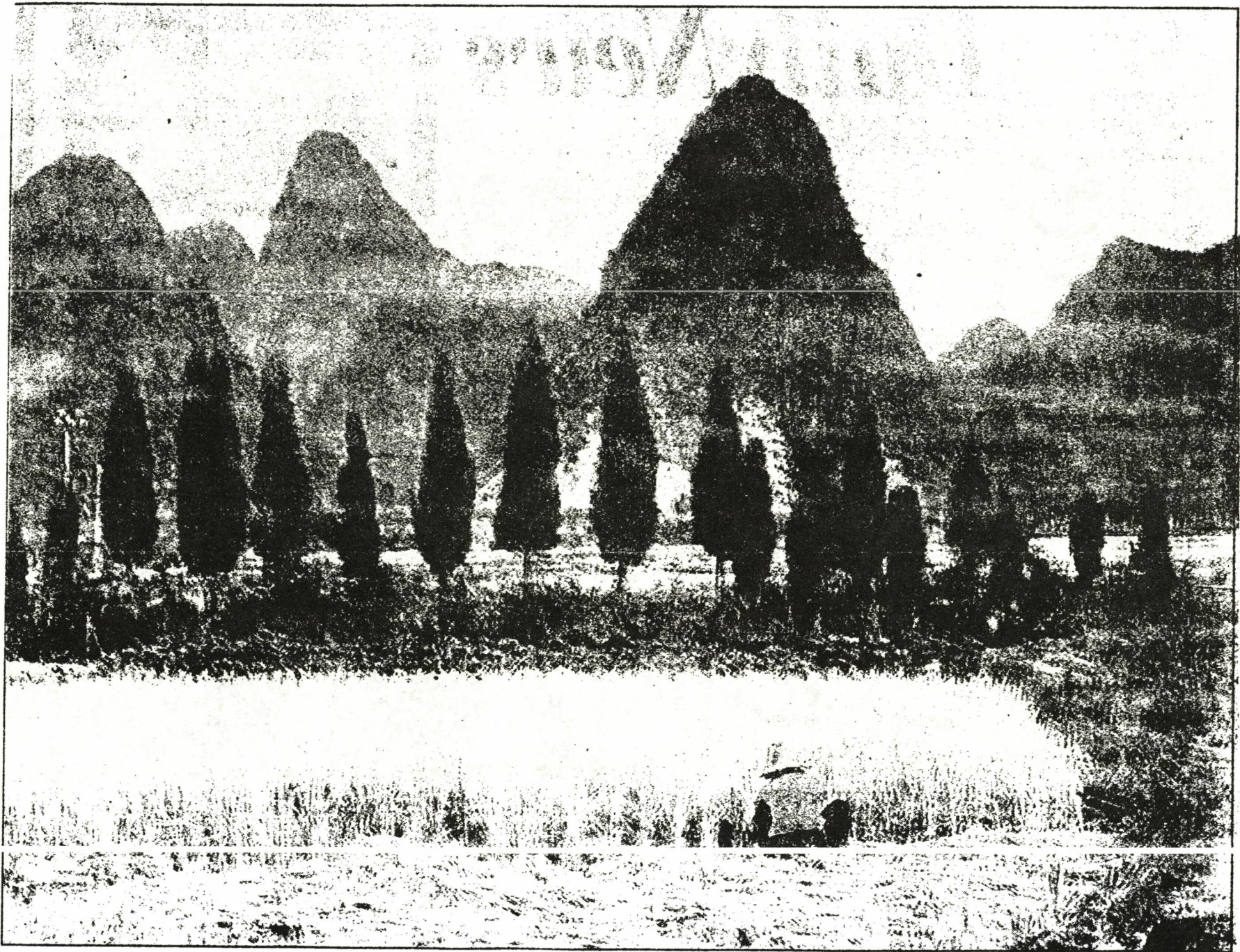
LAND REFORM: FAMINE CAN FOLLOW THE BEST-LAID PLANS

Zimbabwe: a lesson from China

*The international spotlight remains on land reform in Zimbabwe and the violence it has sparked. There are parallels in China's history, where a violent land-grab led to 30 million people dying in a famine that was hushed up, writes **Hans Pienaar** of the Independent Foreign Service.*



CLOSE-PLANTING during China's land revolution in the 1950s was said to yield such thickly-growing wheat stalks that children could stand on top of them. In this propaganda photograph, a bench was hidden underneath the wheat for the children to stand on



LAND reform in China, focusing on commercial enterprises like on this farm near Yangshuo in the south, has transformed the countryside



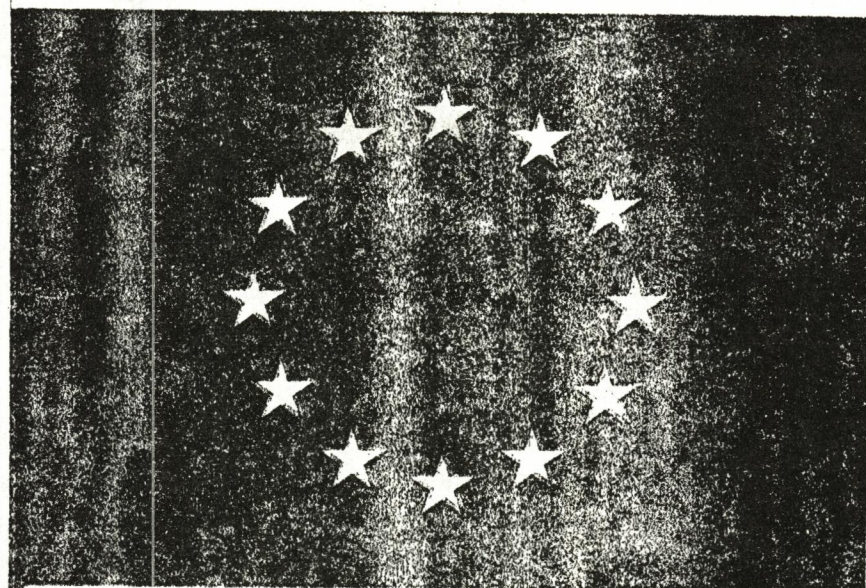
The South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) is one of the beneficiaries of European Union (EU) funding in South Africa. On 15 May 2000, SAQA will host an EU project launch acknowledging the contributions of the EU to SAQA. The Launch will take place at the Alexandra Technical College.

The mission of SAQA is to ensure the development and implementation of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) which contributes to the full development of each learner and to the social and economic development of the nation at large.

SAQA is at the centre of the human resource development strategy in South Africa. In setting the national education and training standards, it is bringing together the major role players of government, i.e. Departments of Education and Labour, organised business and labour, education and training provides, other critical role players including professional bodies and community organisations. Through a national quality assurance system, SAQA has the function of ensuring quality education for all learners.

Furthermore, SAQA is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a National Learners' Record Database (NLRD). For the first time South Africa has a national database for learners' achievements. It records information on all the structures of the NQF ranging from qualifications and standards to specific learner achievements.

SAQA is proud of its partnership with the EU through which a quality education and training system is being established in South Africa.

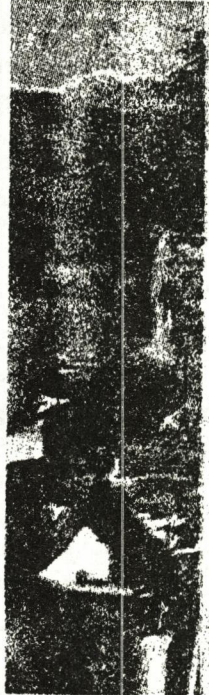


CELEBRATING EUROPE DAY,



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Portuguese presidency to end on a high note

THE Presidency of the European Council is held successively by each member state in the council for a period of six months.

The presidency, which convenes the council, has become increasingly important in the ever-changing and expanding union. It must arrange and preside over all EU meetings, find pragmatic solutions to problems submitted to the council, and secure consistency and continuity in decision-making. The current president of the European Council is António Guterres, the Prime Minister of Portugal. He took office in January 2000 and will hand over to the presidency at the end of next month.

"One of the key issues for his presidency has been the issue of enlargement of the European Union," says Manuel Fernandes Pereira, the Ambassador of Portugal to South Africa.

"Together with the ongoing accession negotiations with Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia, negotiations have also begun with Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania and Slovakia. This has called into discussion the size and internal arrangements of the institutions of the EU.

"One of the highlights of the current presidency took place in March, when a special meeting of the European Council convened in Lisbon. The theme was Employment, Economic Reform and Social Cohesion; towards a Europe of innovation and knowledge.

"A particularly important issue has been the furthering of good links between Africa and Europe. The informal council of development ministers, which took place in Lisbon at the end of January, launched a debate on conditions for a new partnership between Europe and Africa.

"It pointed out the importance of African ownership as a critical factor for development and peace, the need to support African capacity-building in fields of conflict prevention, crisis management and peace-keeping, the need to reduce poverty and promote development.

"The most significant event in the Africa-Europe relationship was the Summit that took place in Cairo in April. This happy partnership for the new century reflects Portugal's great attachment to Africa and its attention to African affairs," says Pereira.

To end the presidency on a high note, Prime Minister Guterres has invited President Mbeki to the European Council meeting in Lisbon next month. For more visit: www.portugal.ue-2000.pt

A brief history of relations

□ 1976: Following the Soweto uprising, the European Commission (EC) introduced a code of conduct for European companies operating within South Africa.

□ 1985: The EC adopts a policy of restrictive and positive measures to support movements for peaceful change and apply economic pressure to the apartheid regime. This includes a military embargo, the discouragement of sporting, scientific and cultural contacts and an end to oil exports to South Africa.

□ 1986: Restrictive measures are extended to include a ban on new investments and the suspension of steel and iron imports from South Africa.

□ 1986-1994: The EC commits over R2,8 billion to South Africa for about 700 projects aimed at offsetting the inequalities of apartheid.

□ 1990: EC responds to release of Nelson Mandela by lifting sanctions, and dropping the ban on investments.

□ 1993: EC oversees an electoral assistance programme.

□ 1994: The EC introduces a package of immediate measures, including improved market access for SA businesses.

□ 1995: The Special Programme for victims of Apartheid, in consultation with the South African government, becomes the European

Programme for Reconstruction and Development in South Africa (EPRD).

□ 1996: A bilateral agreement on science and technology is signed between EU and South Africa.

□ 2000: Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement between South Africa and the European Union enters into force.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The Department of Health congratulates the European Union on its fiftieth anniversary. The Department values and greatly appreciates the European Union's support of its health programmes in fulfilling its mandate to provide equitable, accessible and affordable healthcare to all South Africans.