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ZANZIBAR - GOVERNMENT CHANGES

Zanzibar was hitting the headlines in the media in Tanzania throughout the month of January this year:

Sunday News. January 3. WAKIL WARNS DETRACTORS

Daily News. January 4. VIJANA HAIL SPEECH

Daily News. January 6. WAKIL REAFFIRMS ISLES UNITY

Daily News. January 6 EXPOSE DETRACTORS ISLANDERS URGE

xxxxxDaily News. January 13. PLOT TO INVADE ZANZIBAR REVEALED

Daily News. January 23. WAKIL SUSPENDS CABINET

Sunday News. January 24. WAKIL RESTRUCTURES ZANZIBAR MINISTRIES

Daily News. January 26. WAKIL NAMES NEW CHIEF MINISTER

Daily News. January 27. WAKIL PICKS NEW CABINET

Daily News. January 29. WAKIL NAMES PRINCIPAL SECRETARIES

WHAT HAPPENED?

Readers of this Bulletin will recall that developing differences of opinion in Zanzibar first came into the public eye in July 1987. We quoted from a Daily News column (Bulletin No 28) to the effect that Zanzibar Chief Minister, Seif Shariff Hamad had "blamed the restive political situation on disgruntled elements who are disillusioned by the socio-political changes which have steadily whittled away their personal prestige and economic interests". Mr Hamad had denied that by accepting aid from Gulf countries or by liberalising trade the Zanzibar Government had abandoned socialism or compromised on the Isles' sovereignty.

Readers will recall also that political rivalry between Mr. Hamad and the President of Zanzibar, Mr. Idris Wakil, goes back at least to the time before the last Presidential elections in 1985 when Mr. Hamad was beaten by Mr Wakil as Party candidate for the Presidency of Zanzibar. Mr. Hamad received 80% support in Pemba; Mr. Wakil got almost the same in the other island, Unguja. The fact that Mr. Wakil was subsequently elected President by a very small majority (Bulletin No 23) indicated the strength of Mr. Hamad's support.

The subsequent appointment by President Wakil of Mr. Hamad as Chief Minister was clearly a brave attempt to ensure Zanzibar's future unity. For it to succeed however the two main parties (Wakil and Hamad) had to work closely in tandem. This apparently did not happen.

And so we come to the bombshell of January 12, 1988. President Wakil revealed that the Government had information that funds were being secretly collected to buy arms and hire mercenaries to invade Zanzibar. He said that those behind the plan were going about telling people that they wanted to liberate the island from foreign rulers. He reminded the people that Zanzibar was part of the United Republic of Tanzania and that any invasion of the Isles would be an invasion of Tanzania as a whole.

WHY THE CHANGES?

Observers of Zanzibar's always volatile political scene have suggested that various factors may have influenced the recent Government changes.

It was Pemban nationalism say some. Many people in Pemba have long felt that their island is neglected by those in authority in Zanzibar.

It was Zanzibar nationalism say others. A feeling that Zanzibar is an unequal partner in the Union.

Or, perhaps the changes were linked to different attitudes to Tanzania's trade liberalisation policies and, in particular, to the former Chief Minister's encouragement of increased Omani and Arab investment in the islands.

To Mlamali Adam in Africa Events it was a case of obsession with the past and racism. "The summary dismissal of Chief Minister Seif Shariff Hamadi, the purge of his presumed sympathisers from the Civil Service coupled with the ill-disguised court intrigues are a sideshow, a diversion even, from what lies at the heart of the matter. The trouble with the islands, or with some of its leaders at any rate, is obsession with the past and - not to put too fine a point on it - with racism.....The truth is that Hamadi was unwanted from the beginning. Coming from Mtambwe, Pemba, he is the wrong shade of black, has wrong ancestors and his parent's relatives made the mistake of enrolling in the wrong Party, all of thirty years ago. Therefore, Seif, like blacks in South Africa, must now pay for 'original sin'".

Tanzania's official News Agency, SHIHATA, was clearly angry. In an article headed 'Hands Off Zanzibar', published at the beginning of the January events, it wrote:

"The people of Zanzibar last Monday spat on the face of the country's detractors when they staged a mammoth rally in support of President Wakil's speech to the House of Representatives. In the speech, the President decried elements of confusion inside and outside the islands and the mainland and called for collective determination to frustrate the detractor's moves.

In a show of support unprecedented in the history of their young country, the Zanzibaris called for the blood of the divisive elements, urging the Government to expose them, remove those inside the country from their responsible positions and punish them to save the people from unnecessary problems. In a no-nonsense speech, which registered its message in no uncertain terms, Wakil warned the detractors that the people of Zanzibar were wide awake and were waiting for them. The

people were alert and would crush any move to undermine their unity under the leadership of the CCM Party. He added that some external enemies were using local agents and the media to create dissent between the people of Pemba and Zanzibar as well as between the Isles and the Tanzania mainland. Whatever their pretexts, he said, those trying to destabilize the political setting in Zanzibar were colonial agents who wanted nothing less than the re-introduction of foreign rule and feudalism. Zanzibar had not achieved miracles (in recent years).... but the basis for an egalitarian society had been firmly laid and is discernible through improved health, education, better communications and transport, reliable power supply and enhanced agricultural and industrial development. Above all, there had been the unprecedented revolution in the democratic process whereby, now, people had a full share in the decision-making mechanism, whose policies are governed and implemented by the people's own institutions".

The SHIHATA article concluded with these words: "And those inside the country who think everything is going wrong in Zanzibar are very free to leave and go to join their mentors. Good riddance!"

THE CHANGES

Mr. Seif Shariff Hamad was replaced as Chief Minister by Dr. Omar Ali Juma (47) who was previously Principal Secretary in the Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Natural Resources and also comes from Pemba. Dr. Juma obtained a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the Moscow Veterinary Academy together with an MSc degree during the period 1961 to 1968. He took a post-graduate degree in Tropical Veterinary Medicine in Edinburgh between 1976 and 77. He has also studied at Reading University. He is married with eight children.

The new Cabinet has 11 Ministers with 4 new faces. Five former Ministers were dropped.

The Cabinet now includes the following persons:

Omar Ali Juma	Chief Minister (new)
Idi Pandu Hassan	Minister of State, President's Office and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council
Taimur Saleh Juma	Communications and Transport (new)
Jaffar Mfaume Ali	Finance and Planning (new)
Rufeya Juma Mbarouk	Minister of State, Chief Minister's Office (new)
Soud Yussuf Mgeni	Agriculture, Livestock Development and Natural Resources
Maulid Makame Abdullah	Health
Abubakar Khamis Bakary	Water, Construction and Energy
Ramadhani A Shaaban	Information, Culture and Tourism
Abdullah S Mugheiri	Trade and Industries
Omar Ramadhani Mapuri	Education

AND THE SITUATION NOW

At the time of writing - early April 1988 - calm seems to have returned to Zanzibar, if indeed it ever departed.

The new Chief Minister appears to have been making a good impression with an energetic and no-nonsense approach. In recent speeches he has been quoted in the Daily News as having said:

"The time has gone for the Youth Organisation VIJANA to prepare long and impressive messages at public rallies".

"Zanzibaris are free to criticise both the Isles' and Union Governments provided they use the proper fora. Grievances should be put down in writing, with proper details and genuine names if they are to be treated seriously"

"The economic situation is so bad that the time might come when the Government will fail to meet it's obligations to the people.... People must increase the spirit of hard work. There are people who right now do no work deceiving themselves into thinking they are boycotting the Government"

TO SUMMARISE

It seems that there has been too much political passion in Zanzibar during recent weeks and that there is a good chance of things now settling down. The former Chief Minister appears to have been over-ambitious in his pursuit of his policies, somewhat impetuous and lacking in the spirit of compromise necessary if progress is to be made in a divided country. One must wonder whether, in certain of his public statements, the President also might have over-reacted.

Meanwhile, in London, senior Government officials, asked to comment on the Zanzibar events, pointed out that what had happened was that a new Chief Minister had been appointed and a few Cabinet changes had been made. There was nothing unusual in that. In neighbouring Kenya, at about the same time, the country's Vice-President had also been removed from office and given a post of lower status.

And the Zanzibar Government has indicated that the former Chief Minister remains a free man and is continuing to represent his Mtambwe constituency in the Zanzibar House of Representatives.

David Brewin

TANZANIA AT THE WORLD TRAVEL FAIR

The World Travel Fair, held in London from December 1st to 6th 1987, has become a dynamic force for the development of international tourism and no country which wants visitors can afford to neglect it. It was therefore a sign of positive progress to see a Tanzanian stand at the Fair. Previously, the other countries of Eastern and Southern Africa have had it all their own way. But, at last, Tanzania joined them, with a stand on the upper floor at Olympia, very near the stands

of Zimbabwe, Botswana and Kenya.

The Manager of the Tanzanian exhibition was Mr. Amant Macha, the Director of Marketing of the Tanzania Tourist Corporation and I spoke to him about the principal aims of Tanzania's tourist effort. First of all, he made it perfectly clear that Tanzania had neglected tourism for far too long and had now set itself very definite targets for the years ahead. Although tourist development was still in its infancy, Mr. Macha thought it possible that the number of tourists could increase to over 200,000 by the early 1990's.

The second priority for Tanzanian tourism is obviously the construction of far more hotels and motels, catering for a wide range of tastes and income brackets. In the short and medium term Mr. Macha thought that the country must aim at what is usually called the upper middle class of the market. Visiting Tanzania for a fortnight or three weeks and viewing the safari parks is not going to be cheap and any thought of mass tourism packages is not being considered at present.

Mr. Macha's final theme was that Tanzania needed to concentrate on two main areas, firstly, wildlife and secondly, Kilimanjaro.

Judged by these aims the Tanzanian stand had done moderately well. It had displayed well designed and photographed wall posters concentrating mainly on the game parks and mountains. There were also two British tour managers on hand to explain Social Interest holidays to visitors.

But there is clearly a great deal more to be done before tourism is launched on a wide scale. Several questions remained unanswered. How 'international' are the hotels already in existence? Do they offer a wide ranging cuisine? Can they give a distinguished and reliable service? Even more important, is there a good car-hire service and is there a decent network of roads and sufficient travel information for a visitor to take his family on their own tour through the country?

There was a great deal spoken by all the officials on the stand about the beauty of Tanzania's wildlife. But what of the coast? The discerning visitor wants to see mountains, wildlife, beaches and, not least important, he wants to meet the people. Tanzania has to realise that other countries very near it have a huge head-start in the organisation of their tourist industries, and the competition is not only keen, but getting tougher all the time. Clearly, much good work has been done in the past year and the participation in this Travel Fair will have done much to strengthen the links which have just been forged with some of the world's leading tour operators. But it is absolutely essential to open up the whole country to international visitors and to provide as free and friendly a holiday visit as possible if Tanzanian tourism is to thrive. State tours are really no substitute for freedom of choice.

But the potential is huge. Tanzania is arguably the most beautiful and varied country in the African continent and the coloured posters at the back of the stand took me back twenty-five years to my first visit to that truly enchanted land. Wild buck leapt from darkness to light and then back into the semi-shadows; rivers gleamed and flashed in the early morning sun; Makonde carvings displayed in abundance,

spoke of a rich cultural heritage which no discerning visitor could ignore. And, overall, Mount Kilimanjaro shone radiant, with white snowy flanks. It seemed irresistible. One visitor to the stand summed it up exactly. "It all looks so marvellous and so new. I didn't know until today that you could really visit Tanzania". That, perhaps, is the strongest card that Tanzania can possibly play in the tourism game. Its new. The great novelty of going there and seeing something absolutely fresh is undoubtedly the best weapon in the armoury of the Tanzania Tourist Corporation. It will be interesting to see how skillfully it plays it in the years that lie ahead.

Noel K. Thomas

INSINUATIONS: TANZANIAN LITERATURE AFTER THE ARUSHA DECLARATION

(Extracts from a paper presented at the International Conference organised by the University of Dar es Salaam on the Arusha Declaration)

One of Tanzania's most important political landmarks, at least on paper, was the publication of the 1967 Arusha Declaration. The Arusha current manifested its far reaching waves in works of literature and the arts. Some artists laid all their hopes in the Declaration and, thus, sang or wrote its praises. Others had the 'let's wait and see attitude' and, therefore were left as bystanders watching by the roadside. Yet others were sceptically critical from the very beginning and did not agree to swallow wholly the words of politicians.

These groups did not emerge only in poetry as some erroneous views seem to suggest. Tanzania, which had been regarded as the driest patch in what Taaban Lo Liyong had termed in the sixties 'the East African literary desert' was emerging as a gigantic and very important oasis of a written, indigenous African language literature. Many works poured out in prose, poetry and drama. Obviously, Taaban's was an artificially created barrenness as it ignored completely the rich and abundant oral literature of hundreds of ethnic groups in East Africa and overworshipped written literature.

Theoretically, largely due to the Declaration, Tanzanian literature was now overloaded with the call to go back to the village. A theme that had been initiated antedatedly in Shaaban Robert's novel 'Utobora Mkulima', (Utobora the Farmer) got new blood in such works as Penina Muhando's play 'Hatia (Guilt)', Ndyanao Balisidya's novel 'Shida' (Hardships), in Mathias Nyampala's 'Ngonjera' poems and in hundreds of poems written in Tanzania's dailies and weeklies and on Radio Tanzania. Different music bands, choir groups and such prominent fine artists as Sam Ntiro increased the impetus of the theme by specialising in it.

Thus the period immediately after Arusha up to the mid-seventies is full of works of art and literature that are mainly concerned with content. It is at this time that one finds the artistic level of the written works at its shallowest. Even such a fine work as Muhando's 'Hatia' is marred, as its creator gives us a very contrived solution

to her heroine's predicament - to go and join the villagers in the newly formed Majogo village. Ironically, it is also at this time that the concept of the village, the Ujamaa village especially, is portrayed as a conglomeration of, among others, all those 'thugs' and whores who have been failed by town life.

The artistic failure of the works in this trend keep on surfacing in literary pieces whose creators are led by the nose by political and ideological ideals at the expense of appropriate artistic standards. Perhaps the most glaring examples here are J. K. Kiimbila's 'Ubeberu Utashindwa' (Imperialism will be Vanquished) and F. E. M. K. Senkoro's 'Mzalendo' (Patriot). These two novels deal with the liberation struggle in such a manner that the reader feels that he has been reading political treatises rather than works of art. K. K. Kahigi's and Ngevera's play 'Mwanzo wa Tufani' (The Storm's Beginning) and Mohamed Seif Khatib's epic poem 'Utenzi wa Ukombozi wa Zanzibar' (a poem on the liberation of Zanzibar) are two other works worth mentioning here. While the former emulated the Arusha and Ujamaa sloganeering, the latter was, in earnest, just a description of important successive events in the history of Zanzibar.

Following suit are the novels of Shafi Adam Shafi 'Kasri ya Mwinyi Fuad' (the Luxurious Palace of Fuad, a Feudal Lord) and 'Kuli' (Coolie). The latter, though, has one merit in that it was the first major literary work in Kiswahili that did not advise the worker to leave the city and go back to the village.

The first ever collection of poems in English written by young Tanzanian poets 'Summons: Poems from Tanzania' has an introduction that quotes, among others, Mao Tse Tung on the importance of high artistic quality that matches progressive ideas in literary works. However, a closer look at most of the poems in this anthology, shows, with all due respect, a very poor artistic standard. Obviously, this was an aftermath of Arusha, for as we are told in the introduction, this is a new generation of poets who 'started primary education after Uhuru, secondary education after Arusha'.

Lastly and perhaps the most typical of all in terms of sloganeering and parroting, was the anthology of poems that dealt with the Arusha Declaration and ten years after: 'Mashairi ya Azimio la Arusha Baada ya Miaka Kumi'. In this anthology representative poets like Shaki, for example, claim that everyone in Tanzania, thanks to the Declaration, is extremely healthy due to having too much to eat!

Tanzanian literature has grown in various phases out of the process of negation. (This concept is not in the strictly Hegelian sense but rather loosely implies the process under which one type of literature emerges and takes the place of the type before it). Thus, as an indirect protest against, and negation of, the above trend of artistic bankruptcy, there were a number of developments in the literature. Three major groups can be randomly identified. The 'popular' cluster, the satirical clique and the free verse poets.

Tanzania's 'popular' Swahili literature was the most attractive and consisted mainly of potboilers, cheap books, junktales and exploitation. This, in direct opposition to the content-oriented

works, aimed at the audiences glands, fascinating their minds and exciting their flesh through the sensational and sentimental rather than the intellect. Popular variants of magazines such as Sani, Fahari, Ulatati and even the Party weekly Mzalendo became the major outlets for such 'popular' authors as John Rutayisingwa, G. Twarindwa, Mbunda Msookile and others. Love thrillers like J. Simbamwene's novelettes 'Mwisho wa Mapenzi' (the End of Love) and 'Kwa Sababu ya Pesa' (Because of Money) emerged as short lived best sellers. In these 'popular' pieces, and through them, one noticed a distortion of social reality. How fair is it to take these works as 'popular literature' when, by all standards, they are just cheap potboilers? Popular literature should suggest contemporary literary tastes and the needs of the masses in terms of improving their standard of living and making them understand their environment better so that they can change it.

The works cited above do not fulfill the above noble task. Rather, they continue leaving the masses in the prison of their predicaments.

The 'popular trend was part and parcel of 'mass production' which, by its nature, turned everything into a commodity ready for sale in the capitalist market. The trend was a direct consequence of the preceding one; it was an immediate negation of a former, content-oriented literary movement.

The second major group that emerged with quite a force was that of the satirical artists. These filled Kiswahili literature with biting satirical voices which, in a way, portrayed the hypocrisy of those in power who were pretending to be serving the Declaration, and thus, the masses.

Examples in which satire appears in combination with other literary modes can be seen in Harrison Mwakyembe's novel 'Pepo ya Mabwege' (Fools Paradise) and in C. G. Mumg'ong'o's 'Njozi Iliyopotea' (A Lost Dream). These novels portray the the gluttonous corruption of the ruling clique who are busy swindling even the little that the poor man is supposed to have. Yet the works show how, ultimately, these greedy skunks are merely enjoying a fools' paradise which is very short lived. One discovers in these novels 'exposure by ridicule'.

In short stories like those of G. Ruhumbika in his two works, 'Parapanda: Wali wa Ndevu na Hadithi Zingine' (Horn: Rice from the Beards and Other Stories) and the hilarious and most successful one both artistically and in content, 'Uwike Usiwike Kutakucha' (Whether You Crow Or Not It Will Dawn) one finds whole piercing satirical pieces which mock at the out-moded culture of society's gluttonous leaders.

As in the case of the 'popular' literature, the satirical literature seems to have emerged as a negation of the content-oriented sloganeering literature discussed above. There was a need to have a more lively form to make the social and political measures interesting to the audience. There was, for example, a need to make the audience laugh at themselves and, in the process, prescribe some kind of panacea. There was no better medium here than the satiric voice.

Satire is peculiarly one of the arts that presupposes a body of settled social and political standards which shall serve as sanction for its rebuke and, at the same time, a certain security and tolerance

in the application of the standards. The Arusha Declaration set those standards and artists were keen in following the implementation of the Declaration's objectives.

Almost immediately after the Declaration's proclamation some greedy leaders began going against the standards set by the blueprint. This is clearly and hilariously shown in the play by Penina Muhando and Amandina Lihamba 'Harakati za Ukombozi' (Liberation Struggle). In this play one discovers humorous ridicule and rebuke containing a demand for correction from those who have betrayed the Declaration.

Edward Rosenheim insists somewhere that satire can be identified partly by its concern with historic particulars. If we find no such particulars then, insists Rosenheim, a work is NOT satire. In other words satire must ask historic whys and, if possible, answer them.

Isack Mruma in his novelette *Nguzo ya Uhondo* (Pillar of Luxury) rather than ask the whys portrays the historic hows. In this work we meet the major character Lord Madengu, already dead from the very first chapter. The humorous ridicule comes out clearly in the commotion that follows the death of this Minister who, incidentally, and against the spirit of Arusha, is also Director and shareholder in various capitalist enterprises. The radio stops its normal broadcasts and plays soft, mournful army tunes bracketed by eulogical outbursts about the late son of the nation who died while building the nation. There is further hurlyburly among university students, some of whom are for and others against the late leader. There is tumult among the peasants and even amidst drunkards, the latter openly declaring that the death does not affect them so long as they are left alone with their illegally brewed gin. Meanwhile eulogies continue pouring out from the radio. The truth of the matter, however, and this is the satiric point that the author wants to drive home, is that the Honourable Minister died just when he was completing his eighteenth beer in the Mlimani Hotel!

Following suit are Penina Muhando's play 'Lina Ubani' (There is a Panacea) and E. Kezilahabi's play 'Kaputula la Marx'. The former portrays the traditional enmity between politicians and experts. The latter shows the plight of the intelligencia in a corruption ridden society. The whole play takes place in a prison cell where the prisoners, locked up after trying to stir up some unrest in the country somehow drill a hole in the wall and are able to percieve what is going on outside.

The above works show how angry the artist's sensitive pens have grown towards people, ideas and institutions that have betrayed the Arusha Declaration. The pens' assaults and attacks have been directed to persuading the audience to view, and if possible, act unfavourably towards those satiric objects.

F. E. M. Semkoro

'We hope to include further extracts from this paper in the next issue of the Bulletin - Editor'

VSO IN TANZANIA

The 1987 Annual Report of Britain's Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) highlights the work of the British volunteers helping in the fight against the grain borer beetle. It states that it was in 1982 that the first VSO research officer assisted in trials for the control of the 'Dumuzi' beetle and started work in the villages. By 1987 requests were coming in for nine pest control officers from VSO to help Tanzanian agricultural extension workers spread the message about the threat to maize posed by the beetle. *(A fuller account of this work is to be found in Bulletin No. 29 - Editor)*

The VSO report also indicates the nature of the work undertaken by the 80 volunteers who were working in Tanzania last year:

Agriculture	4
Forestry/Horticulture	2
Agricultural Science	5
Fisheries	1
Primary Health Care	4
Rehabilitation	4
Paramedicals	1
Mechanical Technicians	3
Construction Technicians/Technical	
Teachers	3
Other Technical Workers	1
English Teachers	13
Maths/Science Teachers	12
Other Subject Teachers	1
Teacher Training	19
Librarians	2
Business Development	2
Community Workers	1
Field Co-ordinators	1

50 years ago

Too much old school tie

"Tanganyika is no fairy land. It is suffering from too much old school tie". So wrote the Tanganyika Herald in its issue of 5th February 1938. It quoted extensively and prominently from some writing it had discovered in an Oxford newspaper by a Mr. John Balfour who had

recently returned from a 10,000 mile African tour.

Mr. Balfour wrote: "The Administrative Officer's life is to sit in an office from 8.30 to 12.30 and 2 to 4 doing sums, writing memoranda and reports just as he did for examinations at school. At 4 o'clock sharp he puts down his pen, has tea and then plays golf, tennis or football. The British magistrate adjourns his court even though in the middle of delivering a judgement. At sundown the officer sips whiskies and sodas and plays bridge.

From the lowest officer to the Governor, from the Governor to the Colonial Office, the administration is a machine in which no single cog can budge until a group of others has been started. Individual action brings frowns. An academic system of rules is pinned on the board like the rules of a public school.

An official with 15 years experience complained to me that he had less power, responsibility and money and more interference than when he started.

The Administration is grossly overstaffed. In a certain specialised department 66% of the expenditure goes to pay the official's salary; another hefty slice goes to the native subordinates.

But if staffs or salaries were cut down public schoolboys would not consent to be colonial administrators. The job would not allow them to lead the lives of leisured sportsmen from four o' clock onwards...."

Inciting Zanzibar Arabs

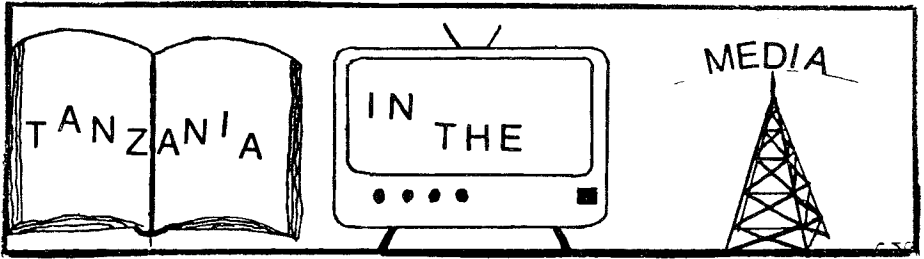
The 'Tanganyika Opinion' in its leading article of February 25th 1938 wrote that: "The British Resident in Zanzibar has fully maintained the honoured traditions of British diplomacy (fithina) in his recent speech at the Arab Idd Baraza. As all the world and its wife knows, the whole trouble about the clove trade in Zanzibar originated with the formation of what is called the 'Clove Growers Association' (CGA). To judge from its nomenclature, one would suppose that it is an association of the actual clove growers. But it is nothing of the sort and the leading lights of the CGA have as little to do with the growing of cloves as we have with the growing of potatoes. It is a body bossed by the representatives of British commercial interests in Zanzibar for the express purpose of ousting the Indian traders from the clove market. It has created an unjust monopoly so that the growers of cloves will have to content themselves with selling their produce to the CGA willy-nilly at prices much lower than they would have realised in a free and competitive market.

When this CGA was first brought into being the clove growers of Zanzibar (both Arabs and natives) strongly resented it but, being mostly an inarticulate and unorganised people, their protest could not take any tangible form.

The Indian traders were made of sterner stuff. Being an intelligent and self-respecting people they had no alternative but to resist the Government's Clove Decrees and, as they knew that India was a large importer of Zanzibar cloves they naturally sought the assistance of their motherland. India accepted the challenge and has

decided to maintain a boycott of Zanzibar cloves until the Government abolishes the CGA and recognises the principles of free trade".

The article went on to quote the speech of the Resident in which he indicated that the Government was considering a change of policy. He did not believe that (although he admitted that they had a grievance) the Indians would want to be in permanent antagonism with the Government and with their Arab and Swahili fellow citizens as all were suffering from the effects of the boycott.



The comments made in the extracts from the media which follow - and indeed articles in other sections of the Bulletin - do not necessarily represent the views of the Britain-Tanzania Society. They are published to illustrate the impressions of various writers on what they have seen and heard about Tanzania.

TANZANIA PURGES PARTY FAITHFUL

Under this heading the Independent stated on December 14th 1987 that three staunch socialist ideologues of Tanzania's ruling party had lost their ministries in a cabinet reshuffle and had been replaced by men more sympathetic to President Mwinyi's pragmatic economic policies. 'The three ministers have been identified for some time as obstructing the liberalisation policies of President Mwinyi and their removal will allow those policies to reach the vital areas of industry, trade and tourism which they controlled.

The ministers are Kingunge Ngombale-Mwiru, Minister for Local Government and Cooperatives, whose wish to concentrate on Party work partly prompted the changes, and who is replaced by Mr. Paul Bomani; Daudi Mwakawago, Minister for Industry and Trade, who is replaced by Joseph Rwegasira; and Gertrude Mongella, Minister for Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism who is replaced by Arcado Ntagazwa'.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT RESULT OF THE DODOMA CONFERENCE

The American publication Africa Report in its January-February 1988 issue wrote that "Foreign bankers and diplomats remain critical of Tanzania's Economic Recovery Program (ERP). The program took a major jolt at Dodoma when the newly elected National Executive Committee

decided to exclude the ERP's architect, Cleopa Msuya (Minister for Finance), from the Central Committee.'

'It was the most significant result of the conference,' commented one Western diplomat in Dodoma. 'Msuya will be left to argue his complex theories from the backstalls of the NEC where, quite frankly, few people will understand, and even less will care.'

Msuya never suffered fools gladly and his attitude, along with his theories, finally cost him his seat on the central committee. Remaining as Finance Minister - unless Mwinyi decides on a reshuffle, which is unlikely at this stage - Msuya will continue to negotiate with the IMF and pursue the government's liberalization policies.

After the Dodoma conference, life returned very much to normal. Nyerere and Mwinyi dominated the newspapers like nothing had happened. However, political analysts are attempting to decipher what lies ahead for Tanzania. With the reformers rejected by the party hardliners who held sway in Dodoma, the socialist path will be pursued with 'moderate to hesitant' reform. With Msuya on the outs, nothing is certain in the long term regarding the IMF, although the new loan is encouraging news. The big question now is who will lead the new vanguard of Tanzanian politics into the next century. The finger has been squarely pointed at Joseph Warioba, present Prime Minister and a Nyerere stalwart, who, like Salim Ahmed Salim, is favoured by the boss. However, unlike Salim, he will win universal appeal as a mainlander if he is nominated for the presidency. A common theory is that this will occur in 1990 when President Mwinyi finishes the first of his two-year terms'.

THE FORGOTTEN MUSLIMS

Africa Events in its March 1988 issue devoted 24 of its 82 pages to features on Tanzania. Most concerned Zanzibar but an article "In Praise of Ancestors" quoted from a forthcoming book by Mohamed Saidi on the 'forgotten' Muslims who contributed so much to Tanzania's fight for independence. It stated that there was a large body of Tanzania's political history which had the effect, if not the avowed goal, of writing down the role of Muslims. Yet..... their enterprises were not only crucial but daringly imaginative"

TANZANIAN TROOPS IN MOZAMBIQUE

Peter Godwin of the Sunday Times has been visiting Tanzanian troops in Mozambique. He said that he was the first foreign newspaper journalist to do so and wrote as follows on January 24th 1988.

"A contingent of 6,000 Tanzanian soldiers is all that prevents rebel troops in Mozambique overrunning the strategically vital province of Zambezia and slicing the country in two. As the struggle to control (Mozambique) continues refugees are streaming into heavily fortified towns to look for food, shelter and protection.

Privately the Tanzanians admit that they have no hope of winning the war.

Mopeia, which used to be a prosperous district capital and centre for sugar estates was captured by Tanzanian troops a year ago. Today the only safe way in is by air landing at a rough landing strip covered in hip-high grass.

From the air the Tanzanian defences are clearly visible; deep trenches and bunkers forming a circle round the ruined town centre. The refugees build grass shelters around the town centre and try to grow maize to help feed themselves.

Tanzanian officers, speaking on condition that they would not be identified, said they estimated that 80% of the civilians supported the guerrillas. They do not cooperate with the Tanzanians, with whom they have no common language, and often deliberately mislead them.

'Half the women and children who take refuge here probably have sons and fathers fighting with the rebels' said one officer. 'We trust none of them. It's difficult to tell who are rebels and who are civilians'.

'This is a civil war - we can't win it for Frelimo' one soldier said.

More than 500 troops defend Mopeia and its swelling population of 22,000 'dislocados'. The only school and hospital have been destroyed and the few buildings still standing are used by soldiers.

HINTS OF BIGOTRY

A.M.Babu referred in the March 18th issue of African Concord to the Islamic revival movement which he described as taking Tanzania by storm. "Muslim's were well known for their lethargy in community activities....But now this is a thing of the past."

"When Ali Hassam Mwinyi, a devout Muslim, took over the presidency he followed more or less the same tolerant approach as Nyerere, a devout catholic.

His only apparent departure was to appoint a Muslim Minister for Education, a post to which Nyerere traditionally appointed a Christian, presumably because of the many missionary schools in the country. But this alarmed the bishops and they started to wonder aloud if Mwinyi was not promoting Islam. During October's CCM Party conference in Dodoma, a letter was written to the chairman of the party, Nyerere, by the Rev Christopher Mtikila. It openly and maliciously attacked Mwinyi and his administration, accusing him of being anti-Christian, of conspiring to promote the spread of Islam at the expense of Christianity and to the detriment of the people of Tanzania. He all but accused Mwinyi of being under the influence of Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran'.

But, as A.M.Babu pointed out in the article, the regime in Tanzania cannot be anti-Christian when the chairman of the ruling party is Nyerere. "To accuse Mwinyi's regime of being anti-Christian is to accuse Nyerere of being anti-Christian as well, which is absurd".

"But the Reverend seems to be echoing the universal fear of the established churches. It is futile to blame Mwinyi for what is

developing almost spontaneously. It is far better to explore the reason for this new Islamic movement, not only in Tanzania but also throughout Africa."

HEMINGWAY SAFARIS

In a lavishly illustrated article the December 1987 issue of Travel and Leisure Asian Edition, wrote that "Ever since American President Teddy Roosevelt strode manfully into the African bush followed by 260 porters, safaris have been regarded as luxury outings. It seemed that nothing more was demanded of the pampered sportsman than that he fling down his Champagne flute, take up his high powered rifle, mutter 'good show' and pulverise whatever unwary beast was driven into his sights. In truth, however, East Africa tormented travellers with mosquitoes, snakes and tsetse flies, to say nothing of biologically complicated water and roads that defied reason. Few tour companies have so successfully overcome the discomforts of the safari as Abercrombie and Kent International (well known in Kenya), a firm which is now offering the (Kenya) style of travel in neighboring Tanzania. They have named the trips after Ernest Hemingway, a committed big-game hunter who thought himself as much a marksman as an author.

Tanzania looks and feels like a country little changed from the way it always was, less familiar and more elemental than Kenya. 'You go into a park in Kenya' says the A and K boss in Tanzania, Sandy Evans, and you are likely to see one lion and twenty minibuses. In Tanzania you get 20 lions and one vehicle!. It may well be that only one in 20 vehicles survives the Tanzanian roads...

(In the Serengeti) at sunset, the sun takes on colours from cherry-pop red to irridescent orange, lighting the sky like a forest fire, and then the wind comes up, the heat drops and the animals start moving, heading wherever animals go in the night".

Readers of the magazine were advised that they could obtain further information from the Tanzanian Mission in Tokyo, 21-9, Kamiyoga, 4-chome, Setagaya-Ku, 03-425-453103.

THE SOUL OF TANZANIA

According to Richard Dowden in the Independent (December 30, 1987) there is a struggle going on for the soul of Tanzania. "On one side stand the stalwarts of Chama Cha Mapinduzi, the country's sole political party with its commitment to socialism and self-reliance. On the other side stand those who believe that liberalisation of the economy has been so popular that it will have to continue....According to Party sources, former President Nyerere decided to stay on as Chairman because of the widely broadcast view of western diplomats and bankers, that if he went, so would socialism in Tanzania. His decision was met with groans by those diplomats and bankers, but within Tanzania, it was accepted, such is the respect for age and for the man who embodies the nation...

An unofficial view of what happened (at the Party election) was

that (in spite of what he had indicated earlier) Mwalimu Nyerere (for the reason given above) let it be known that he was 'flexible' on the possibility of a second term as Party Chairman. Mr. Mwinyi, who does not have a big power base in the Party or the country, had to accept this as Mr. Nyerere's wish to continue.

The reality is that Tanzania had no choice but to accept the deal. Some observers think that Mr. Nyerere believes that economic liberalisation will fail and that Tanzania will have to return to socialist orthodoxy. In this view, President Mwinyi is the 'fall-guy' for the IMF

Others, however, believe that there is no way that the tide of economic liberalism can be rolled back because too many Tanzanians benefit from it...

No one who thinks that Tanzania is slipping into capitalism should underestimate the strength of Mr. Nyerere's adherence to his philosophy, his political ruthlessness and the respect in which he is held. Even his strongest critics come away from meeting him mumbling about his magical charm. In the battle for the future of Tanzania these are powerful, possibly trump cards"

IS TANZANIA SO SPECIAL?

A reader in African Concord's March 1988 issue took to task a contributor in an earlier issue who had written about corruption under the heading 'Tips and Handshakes'

"It is true that there are problems prevailing in our country. There are drunkards, executives who think they own public institutions, people who build houses randomly etc. This is not strange! Even in thoroughly developed societies you find some big people are accused of taking heroin; some responsible people in Government are gay; some even involved in dangerous scandals. This is not new in developed countries like the USA. Then what is so special for a poor country like Tanzania!

What the writer wrote was just a repetition of what the Government is trying to remove. Remember President Mwinyi's Iron Broom and other related actions taken by the Mwinyi administration.

Does the so called Mwananchi want the Tanzania Government to hang people in order to remove tips and handshakes? Or is he interested in Sharia laws or firing squads?

DAR ES SALAAM PORT AIMING TO BE MORE EFFICIENT THAN MOMBASA

According to New Africa's January 1988 issue, Dar es Salaam Port is already on a par with Mombasa Port in terms of efficiency and it could soon overtake its Kenyan counterpart.

"New construction well underway and a new streamlined method of cargo handling is speeding throughput".

Until recently the port's biggest drawback was the lack of cranes which could lift the containers carrying most of the cargo. Only 'self-sustaining' ships with their own cranes on board could load or unload containers in the port. Now, two ship-to-shore cranes are being

installed and there is provision for a third.

Many other improvements are planned including a new dhow wharf. Several donor agencies are assisting in the work in view of the importance of the port, not only for Tanzania, but also for other countries of southern and central Africa which use some 50-60% of the goods passing through the port.

ARMED GUARD AT THE PHARMACY

African Concord's cover story on Health Care Delivery (February 12th issue) included three stories on Tanzania.

The first stated that "An armed guard with a machine gun pointed towards the pharmacy door is kept around the clock at the army barracks in Dar es Salaam. Armed police also guard the national medical stores following several break-ins. The stores have been gutted by fire twice in circumstances believed to be attempts to cover up evidence of thefts. This highlights the obstacles the Government faces in its concerted efforts to rehabilitate the health system."

GREAT STRIDES IN CHILD IMMUNISATION

The article went on to explain that the main thrust of Tanzania's 'Health for All by the Year 2,000 Programme' is the laying down of a sound mother and child health care service. "The Health Ministry estimates that a child dies every 15 minutes in the country - a victim of the six preventable diseases - measles, tuberculosis, polio, whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria. All in all, for every 1,000 births, 137 children die before the age of five.

The Universal Child Immunisation Programme was launched in Tanzania in 1986 by President Mwinyi. Pilot schemes have since been started in selected urban and rural areas and 54% of the children have been covered. 'If the enthusiasm shown to date is maintained all children below five years of age will be inoculated by the end of 1988' says Health Minister, Dr Aaron Chidua. 'By so doing, we shall have made great strides in achieving the nation's long-term goal of slashing the child death rate from 137 to 50 per 1,000 live births'. This year, 6,000 child weighing scales are being distributed to rural clinics and 7,500 bicycles have been given to auxiliary staff to enable them to cover the villages."

AND IN DISTRIBUTION OF CAPSULES FOR GOITRE

In a second article African Concord stated that Tanzania has launched a campaign to cut the spread of goitre, which authorities estimate affects one in every four Tanzanians. Goitre is the enlargement of the thyroid gland due to an inadequate intake of iodine.

Under the programme everyone under 45 living in an area where goitre prevalence is 60% or more will be given two capsules containing a total of 380 milligrams of iodine. Some 60,000 capsules are to be distributed

SISAL ESTATES SOLD

According to the 4th March 1988 edition of the African Economic Digest the Tanzania Sisal Authority has completed the sale of 10 of the 13 sisal estates it put on the market in 1986. The estates, which have mostly gone to local companies, cover a total of 20,300 acres. The sale agreements are believed to stipulate that a percentage of the land remains under sisal. Many buyers had been keen to obtain the estates in order to grow other crops. Joint venture partners are still being sought for 24 other estates.

Exports of raw fibre have remained stable but the market for finished products such as baler twine and carpets has increased significantly and much better results are anticipated from the sisal industry this year.

DUCKS AND TILAPIA

Fish Farming International in its December 1987 issue discussed the various attempts being made by foreign donor agencies and churches to help in the development of fish farming. Agencies mentioned included the US Peace Corps (14 volunteers working with Fisheries Officers), the Lutheran Church and the Christian Refugee Service (helping with extension), the Anglican Church (a fish farming development programme including a demonstration farm near Dodoma), the Church Missionary Society, the Anglican Church of Canada, the United Methodist Church of the USA and others.

Since 1984 the Dodoma demonstration farm has used integrated duck-fish ponds where Peking ducks live in slatted floor houses over the ponds. The ducks thus fertilise the pond water with a resulting improvement in Plankton and algal growth on which the fish feed.



Letters.

Send letters to:
The Editor,
Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs,
14B, Westbourne Grove Terrace,
London W2 5SD.

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PROTECTION OF THE MUFINDI RAIN FOREST

Re "Menace of Désertification in Iringa District" in the last Bulletin, I feel that some assurance is needed about the vast quantities of wood used by the Southern Paper Mill from the Sao Hill Forest Plantation and about protection of the old Mufindi Rain Forest.

There is a project write-up of the Mill called 'Paper at any Price' by Anthony Ngaiza in *Towards Sustainable Development* published by the Panos Institute. It is stated that at full production the Mill requires 300,000 m³ of wood per year. There are some 90,000 ha of pine and eucalyptus trees to be harvested and the Government plants about 1,000 ha per year.

In another paragraph it is stated that by the year 1991 the Sao Hill Plantation will cover 65,000 h. Does this mean that 25,000 h are being lost?

The Mufindi Rain Forest lies close to the Mill and I hope that this is not being further destroyed. Much must have been lost to tea plantations, commencing in pre-war days. This forest must be of important environmental/ecological value and ought it not to be protected, if it is not already?

Christine Lawrence

(We referred this matter, through the good offices of Mr. Cyril Kaunga, to the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources and we are grateful to Mr. G. Mbonde, a Senior Forest Officer, for the following comments:

The Sao Hill Forest Project comprises 12 Forest Reserves with a gross area of 136,000 ha. The net plantable area is 65,000 ha which will cover any expansion needed from 1990 to 2000. 16,745 ha known as the Mufindi Scarp Forest Reserve is incorporated in the Sao Hill Forest Project. Some 40,000 ha have been planted there in 1986/7. Within this reserve enrichment planting of valuable indigenous species is being carried out. The Paper Mill is expected to produce 75,000 tons of paper per annum after 1990; this is equivalent to 300,000 to 400,000 m³ per annum. From 1988/9 we will only be replanting areas which have been harvested by the Pulp Mill (and the Sao Hill Sawmill) plus areas where there may have been fire or disease damage. Planting beyond 40,000 ha will depend on future forest industry development. Studies are in progress. Such developments will not include the Mufindi Scarp Forest reserve - Editor)

THE RATE OF LITERACY

I gave a talk the other day to a geography class and told them that literacy in Tanzania was over 60%. A young boy challenged me by quoting from the book *Understanding Human Geography* by Michael Raw which states that the rate is 10% Can you give me the up-to date figure.

Brother Amos,
The Society of St. Francis,
Dorchester

(Yes. Dr. E.D. Mwaikambo, Secretary of the Tanzanian Chapter of the Society, has checked with the Ministry of Education in Dar es Salaam. The present figure is 90.4% It varied in 1986 from about 99% for men in Dar es Salaam to 83% for women in Shinyanga - Editor.

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO LIVE IN TANZANIA?

Thankyou for Bulletin No. 29. I liked the articles - the one on the re-election of Mwalimu Nyerere was especially interesting. Were you there? It seemed so from your article. (*Unfortunately not!* - Editor)

I would appreciate some more regular articles on what it is like to live in Tanzania. I was last there in 1984. For example: What is the price of various essential commodities - maize flour, rice, soap, petrol, meat? How are salaries changing if at all? And other matters that would concern socialists who would like to go back to live in Tanzania.

Tony and Anna Goodchild.
Queensland. Australia.

(The recently announced controlled price of first quality printed Khangas is Shs 536; one Pilsner beer costs Shs 80. The current exchange rate is Shs 169 to £1 (mid-April 1988) Perhaps someone in the Tanzania Chapter could help us with answers to the main questions you asked? Editor)

A POEM

On December 9th 1987 more than 20 Tanzanians and other nationalities celebrated Uhuru here in the colleges. The Catering Department of Westhill had laid on a buffet and we had a most enjoyable time with music, speeches and recitation of poetry.

One poem seems to me to warrant wider publicity. It was composed by the Rev. Charles Almodad Munga for the occasion:

Selly Oak tumetimu, twakumbuka Tanzania
Wana Vyu na walimu, sote tunafurahia
Hakiku twaiheshimu, siku hii kwa mamia.
Selly Oak twakumbuka, Uhuru wa Tanzania

Tisa Decenba twafika, Uhuru twafurahia,
Hata wegwi wakicheka, sisi tunajivunia,
Wahenga waliyafyeka, mapambano mia mia.
Selly Oak twakumbuka, Uhuru wa Tanzania.

Moja Tisa Nane Saba, Ni ishirini na sita,
Miaka tumefikisha, Si michache ya kusita,
Rabuka katupitisha, mapori tunapita.
Selly Oak twakumbuka, Uhuru wa Tanzania.

Hasani na Julius, Jina mmetuwekea,
Kwa wenu huo ukwasi, baraka mtapokea,
Siasa yenu ya kasi, Uwanja inawekewa.
Selly Oak twakumbuka, Uhuru wa Tanzania.

Twautakia fanaka, Ujamaa Tanzania,
Tuwatoe na mashaka, wasiufikiria,
Tutadumu kuushika, Mola atatujaia.
Selly Oak twakumbuka, Uhuru wa Tanzania

Wapigania Uhuru, Siku moja kutakucha,
Kumuondoa Kaburu, tutafuga na makucha,
Wang'oke kwa msururu, kucha kutakavyokucha.
Inshala twatumaini, Mola atawajalia.

Hapa kituo naweka, Birmingham sikia,
U.K. acha mahoka, Umma unapozimia,
Ondoa vyako vishoka, Umma upate sikia.
Selly Oak twakumbuka, Uhuru wa Tanzania.

S.v. Sicard.
Centre for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations
Selly Oak Colleges,
Birmingham

MAKONDE AND MAWIA

I have seen the letter in the last Bulletin about the Makonde and the Mawia. I am a Makonde from Newala. When I went to school I first met the Mawia people who came from Mozambique. They were escaping from the war. We were very cautious and afraid of them. They were a fierce tribe. There are differences between Mawia and Makonde. We never had incisions on our faces - not even my grandfather. Nowadays they try and assimilate with us and in Dar es Salaam and Tanga they call themselves Makonde..

Francis Libungo.
Dar es Salaam.

(We have spoken to other persons who insist that the Makonde and the Mawia are one and the same - Editor).

MWINYI AND NYERERE

Among the rare references to Tanzania in the press in this country and abroad a common theme has recently been the state of conflict which is said to dominate the relations between President Mwinyi and Party Chairman Julius Nyerere. The Independent, for example published on December 30th a highly imaginative article bearing the sub-heading 'The former President is using his prestige in a bid to curb the liberalising trend fostered by his successor'. But the presumption of conflict is highly misleading. The President and the Party Chairman are not, of course, alike either in experience, or in temperament. Nyerere, as his writings testify, is a thinker and a visionary of outstanding quality; Mwinyi, so far as we yet know, is guided by an acute practical assessment of the needs of the moment. But it is needless to assume that

these contrasting qualities inevitably presuppose conflict. Nor is a discontinuity in national economic policy at the time of the changeover in the presidency to be inferred. While greater recognition is now paid to the operation of market forces and the role of the private sector is openly acknowledged, these trends cannot be interpreted as symptoms of conflict between President and Party Chairman. The vision of greater cooperation and equality as the ultimate goal remains in place, unobscured by changes that have been made in response to the country's critical economic situation and the pressure of world forces.

The Economic Recovery Programme on which Tanzania is now embarked, was approved by the Party under Nyerere's chairmanship. Moreover, certain aspects of policy, including the sale of derelict sisal estates to the private sector and the retention by exporters of a proportion of their foreign exchange earnings, had already been promulgated while Nyerere was President. Neither Nyerere nor Mwinyi has abandoned a critical view of the IMF, though the introduction of a structural adjustment facility is acknowledged to be a step in the right direction. Fortunately, though the IMF initially played a leading role in respect of support for the ERP, it emerged as a junior partner in the pattern of support that resulted.

Speaking at the University of Dar es Salaam in September 1986, Mwalimu Nyerere called for the full participation of the private sector. While insisting that within the socialist policies of Tanzania major sectors of the economy must remain under public control, he said that private individuals and companies must also be given scope to perform the services that the state could not accomplish. As to the loss making parastatals, he said, that they were a serious drain on the nation's resources and that it was neither disloyal nor anti-socialist, to require them to make profits that could be beneficially reinvested in the economy.

It is in fact difficult to find in the public utterances of Nyerere anything that is substantially at odds with the known views of Mwinyi. Nyerere is sensitively aware of the discordant role that a former President might play. His continuation in office as Chairman represented a reluctant decision made only on the insistence of President Mwinyi and in view of the extremely heavy burden of work already falling on the shoulders of the President in carrying out the difficult political task of organising Tanzania's economic recovery.

Conflict is more sensational and apparently more 'newsworthy' than co-operation. I fear that the imaginings of anonymous correspondents and diplomats speculating about the interaction of these two distinguished men caught in a formal relationship that is, to say the least, unusual have been allowed to make up for the shortage of hard news. I would be grateful for your help in putting a contrary view.

J. Roger Carter

THANKYOU

The 'Friends of Ruaha Society' would like to express its thanks and appreciation to those generous readers of the Bulletin who made

donations to the society following Colin Imray's letter in the May issue. We would be delighted to hear from any other readers who have an interest in the Ruaha National Park.

The September issue of the Bulletin carried an interesting letter from Brenda Bailey concerning the management of National Parks. Perhaps I should explain that 'Friends of Ruaha' is not primarily concerned with theoretical management issues. Management decisions are made by the Chief Park Warden and the Director of National Parks. Our job is to help. We have provided fuel, oil, spare parts, boots, cement, rewards for rangers, grader blades, funds for fire control, road construction, anti-poaching, general repairs and maintenance. We have just approved a request for funds to build a new permanent ranger post. This is the practical side of running a park. Ruaha is an area the size of Wales with fewer than fifty rangers. Tanzania has eleven national parks - a tremendous commitment to the world's wildlife heritage. The resources to divide amongst them are slim.

We are able to help the park through donations from the public and our responsibility is to ensure that those donations are used effectively. If Brenda Bailey would like to donate some copies of *Managing Protected Areas in the Tropics* we would be delighted to pass them on to the park. For the £18.50 that the book costs we can buy six pairs of ex-army boots - rangers cannot wear ideas. That having been said, we did discuss with the Park Warden the idea of visits to the park from schoolchildren in the surrounding villages. Such visits have been paid in the past but lack of transport prevented them from continuing. We are now looking at the cost of hiring the Idodi village bus in the hope that 'Friends of Ruaha' can support more visits in the future.

To do this we need your help.

Hon. Secretary,
Friends of Ruaha Society,
P.O. Box 60,
Mufindi

RECORD COTTON PRODUCTION

Cotton production has reached a record level of 450,000 bales this year. But this substantial production is exacerbating certain related problems. The ginneries cannot cope and transport remains a bottleneck.

The Government has been considering arranging for ginning to be done in neighbouring countries and plans have also been made for two new ginneries (for 50,000 bales) in Shinyanga and Mara regions. Other ginneries are to be rehabilitated.

Daily News

THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAMME - AN INTERIM REPORT

Letters from Tanzania suggest that the decline in the economy has 'bottomed out' and that there are definite signs of incipient recovery. There is certainly more activity among producers and traders, while the response of farmers to the provisions of the economic recovery

programme has caused serious crop storage and movement problems. However, in spite of this more hopeful picture, the persistent trend of price inflation remains a serious worry, particularly to those on fixed salaries. Though hitherto the Government, aided by reasonable harvests, has been successful in sustaining morale and avoiding a food crisis, it would be rash indeed to assume that the Economic Recovery Programme has surmounted the formidable obstacles that lie in its path. Of these, the two most urgent and perplexing are the problems confronting the rehabilitation of exports and the debt overhang.

Except in 1968, Tanzania enjoyed a favourable balance of trade throughout the first decade of independence. But thereafter, for reasons that are too complex to discuss here, the trading account was consistently in the red and in 1986 export revenues at US\$ 348 million were no more than one third of the cost of imports at US\$ 1,047 million. This very serious outcome was the sequel to a fall in export volumes of sisal, cotton and cashew nuts, but other products increased in export tonnage, notably coffee, Tanzania's largest export crop. For the moment the outlook for coffee is promising and indeed in 1986 a 15% increase in exports was matched by a 130% increase in prices, resulting in a growth in earnings of 167% in shilling terms. But coffee is subject to seasonal fluctuations and in 1986 the difficulties encountered by the Brazilian crop created exceptional, though temporary, market opportunities. Over coffee, as with most of Tanzania's traditional export commodities, hangs uncertainty about future total world demand, while increasing competition among Third World primary producers anxiously trying to rectify their trade deficits and fund their increasing burden of external debt casts additional doubt on the prospects for Tanzania's staple export. This means that Tanzania can only hope to return to balance on her trading account through a resolute policy of export diversification in the years to come.

While the trade deficit imposes an intolerable burden on Tanzania's balance of payments, it is also the debt overhang that gives rise to special anxiety. At the end of 1986 Tanzania was in debt to the rest of the world to the extent of nearly four billion dollars. Leaving aside private and short-term obligations, about two thirds of the outstanding public debt was to other governments and one third to the World Bank and the IMF. The interest and repayment of external public debt in 1986 consumed 15% of the income from Tanzania's exports, a burden which, although much less than that suffered by the Sudan, Somalia and some other countries, is likely to increase with the expiry of grace periods on multilateral loans and rescheduled debts in the nineteen nineties.

Some of this burden can be relieved by converting bilateral loans into gifts. The United Kingdom has already done this, but with an outstanding bilateral debt in 1986 of US\$ 2,112 million there is obvious scope for further relief along similar lines. Of the debts outstanding to the World Bank, US\$ 656 million was due in respect of IDA (interest free) credits, which will fall for repayment in the next thirty or forty years as grace periods expire. But no less than US\$239 million was borrowed in the early seventies on so-called IBRD terms, that is, at substantial rates of interest. Some consideration is now being given to

the means of alleviating this debt burden, though it is far from clear what options will be open. Of the remaining debt burden, US\$ 186 million represented accumulated commercial debts subject to export guarantee schemes, that is, in effect debts taken over by governments. It is believed that the U.K. would be willing to extend maturity periods and reduce rates of interest, but the implementation of such a proposal seems to depend on an agreement in the Paris Club (the main industrial nations) and there appears to be doubt about the willingness or the legal ability of the United States to co-operate.

It is of course difficult to foresee in this uncertain world the future outlook for Tanzania's efforts at economic renewal. A downturn in the economies of the industrial nations could seriously jeopardise the prospects for many Third World countries dependent for their livelihood on the export of raw materials. The solution to the formidable balance of payments problem is still far away and exportable items and necessary commercial skills remain inadequate for the purposes of a vigorous export programme. Underlying all efforts at economic renewal is the restoration and development of communications - roads, railways, port facilities, telephone and telex systems - a programme that will require years rather than months to produce significant results.

But in spite of these hindrances and hazards, Tanzania possesses two important advantages, a stable government and a buoyant state of morale. Although the short term burden of reconstruction is falling disproportionately on the urban wage earner and his dependents, the absence of ostentatious private wealth and policies such as the minimum wage legislation help to offset, if only partially, the rigours of the recovery programme. These advantages cannot be assessed in developmental terms, but they create a favourable environment for growth. It must be our sincere hope that the benefits of structural adjustment, to which the Government has committed itself, will soon accrue to those who are paying the price.

J. Roger Carter

PRESIDENT MWINYI TO VISIT BRITAIN

The Tanzanian High Commission in London has announced that President Ali Hassan Mwinyi will be paying an official visit to Britain from June 6th to 10th 1988. He will be lunching with the Queen and having extensive discussions with Mrs. Thatcher. It is also expected that, amongst his many other engagements, he will be meeting members of the Britain-Tanzania Society.

THREE SPECTACULAR CRIMES

(Tanzania is no more free of serious crime than any other country. And crime is also very much the same the whole world over. For this reason, the Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs rarely features news or articles on the subject. However, during the first months of 1988, the attention of

many Tanzanians has been rivetted on three particularly spectacular crimes. And these crimes tend to illustrate some of the social problems besetting President Mwinyi's Government. The crimes concern elephant tusks, travellers cheques and a hijacking. The social problems which they reflect are poaching, theft by public servants and a recent and growing trend amongst young people to try and get out of Tanzania to greener pastures believed to exist elsewhere. We are indebted to the Daily News and SHIHATA for the information contained in the following three stories - Editor).

THE CASE OF THE ELEPHANT TUSKS

On January 9th Police in Ruvuma announced the arrest of the Member of Parliament for Songea Urban, together with three others, for unlawful possession of 105 elephant tusks valued at over Shs 2.0 million. The MP was arrested in his Government Landrover near Namabengo village, 32 kilometres from Songea. Thousands of Songea residents thronged the Police station after the news was released. The Police revealed that they had received a tip three days before and were on the alert.

The High Court of Tanzania was due to hold a special session in Songea to try the case on April 5th because it falls under the Economic Sabotage and Organised Crime Act. The Prosecution indicated that they would be producing 15 witnesses. The case was expected to last at least one week.

I WANT TO RUN FOR PARLIAMENT

Adam Lusekelo, the Sunday News' satirical writer wrote in one of his recent regular Sunday features that he had decided that he wanted to run for Parliament. "Which means that I have got two and a half years to practice speech (addressing a mirror for two hours every day), a bit of theatre (the Pawkwa Theatre Association will take care of that) and, of course, a respectable wardrobe of Kaunda or safari suits (two, ill-fitting, to be worn while I am campaigning. Someone told me that wearing ill-fitting safari suits shows that one is nearer the masses).

A friend asked 'And where do you plan to stand for MP?'

'Some place near the Selous Game Reserve.....I've got some jumbo sized ideas in mind'.

'But first you'll have to persuade some guys in some Party panel that you are serious about being an MP for a constituency near some game park....What are you going to tell them to convince them that you are MP material?'

'Alright, I'll say this: Gentlemen, I come before you as a potential MP and all you have got to do is to look at my face. You all will agree with me that my face is an honest face. My face is a reflection of my being. I love this country. I love the people. I love the land. I also love the animals of this country. It pains me to see some unscrupulous persons out in search for a quickie. They are pauperising the country. I am boiling with indignation. I also feel, dear Gentlemen, that those who introduced the anti-sabotage economic bill into Parliament were

suspiciously clement. I think we need something much tougher'.

'Come to think of it, you could make it you know. And then you'll get your brand new Landrover'.

'No way. I need something bigger than that. A Scania lorry'.

'What, a whole truck to travel around just to meet the voters with?

'Oh, come on; don't be so small minded. What if I meet some constituents who want to transport their cardamom to some profitable destination across the border? Who will help them if not their MP?...What if, during my nocturnal drive, I lose my way and find myself in the middle of the game park where I meet a herd of elephants who feel like voluntarily contributing to the Mozambique Government to help in it's fight against MNR bandits'....."

THE CASE OF THE TRAVELLERS CHEQUES

The case of Sarah Simbaulanga, a National Bank of Commerce (NBC) employee who stole Shs 31.0 million in foreign exchange (mostly travellers cheques) astonished Tanzanians because of the sum of money involved in the theft, the apparent ease with which it was carried out and, the biggest surprise of all, the immediate admission of guilt after the lady had been arrested. The accused looked very calm in the dock. "Yes" she said "it is true" to the five counts she was facing. The Principal Resident Magistrate asked her twice if she really understood the charges against her. She confirmed her plea of guilty.

The evidence presented to a packed court in Dar es Salaam was, in abbreviated form, as follows:

Between October 19th and 29th 1987 Simbaulanga and an accomplice named Torcha (whose extradition from Kenya is being demanded by the Tanzanian authorities) stole from the NBC 1,100 travellers cheques worth US\$ 390,000 and 200 travellers cheques worth £20,000. Simbaulanga and Toroha had been friends since the early seventies when she had been at Kisutu Secondary school in Dar es Salaam. She and Toroha hired two rooms at the Skyway Hotel on the night of October 29-30. Simbaulanga had managed to obtain four passports for herself and her three children. They travelled on an Air Tanzania plane to Nairobi on October 31st. They then used some of the travellers cheques to buy five KLM tickets to London. On November 1st and 2nd they made twelve different transactions using \$246,000. The Police are still trying to trace the remaining travellers cheques.

The accused then bought five tickets to Nairobi on November 5th. and in Nairobi they carried out further transactions with new travellers cheques they had bought in London. Toroha bought four mini-buses and a pick-up and registered them under the name of his wife Elizabeth.

Later three other suspected accomplices were arrested - Simbaulanga's NBC Controller, a KLM Sales Manager and a businessman.

On February 10th Simbaulanga was sentenced to 35 years imprisonment, seven years on each count, to run concurrently. But, on February 16th, the Prosecution appealed the case and asked the High Court to issue an order for the sentence to run consecutively. Subsequently, Simbaulanga was sentenced to 28 years in prison.

The case was one of many referred to later by SHIHATA under the heading 'Tanzania's thriving theft industry' in which it quoted a whole spate of thefts by servants of the NBC from branches all over the country. It estimated the total loss at over Shs 60.0 million.

AND THE CASE OF THE FOUR TEENAGE HIJACKERS

An attempt to force an Air Tanzania Boeing 737 plane to fly from Dar es Salaam to London on the night of February 13th 1988 failed after the pilot duped the hijackers and landed at the Dar es Salaam International airport.

The plane was seized by four youths who had been transit passengers from Zanzibar ostensibly on their way to Kilimanjaro. Thus they were not subject to normal security checks. The hijackers were subsequently found to be in possession of two toy guns and a knife. The leader of the group threatened passengers that he would blow up the plane in mid-air. The Captain of the plane noticed that the hijackers could not read his instrument panel and so he was able to travel in a wide circle and eventually land again at Dar es Salaam. Passengers were not allowed to leave the plane by the hijackers who believed that they had made a stopover in Northern Kenya for refuelling. But, as dawn broke, the hijackers realised that they had been tricked and surrendered.

In the trial which followed (very quickly after the event) each hijacker received a sentence of 15 years in prison.

WORLD BANK HAPPY WITH TANZANIA

According to SHIHATA the World Bank is so pleased with Tanzania's economic recovery that it is now working on new programmes to stimulate production in the country's priority areas. "The results of the Economic Recovery Programme have been encouraging and we would like to further assist the Government to get the economy growing at a sustainable pace" said Enrique J Rueda-Sabata, the Bank's Deputy Representative in Tanzania. "The Government has to be congratulated" he said.

Furthermore, the journal 'World Bank News' reported that in a recent speech, Edward Jaycox, the Bank's Vice-President for Africa, had said that "Many African Governments have recognised the nature of the crisis that confronts themand we are beginning to see some positive economic results". He gave two examples: "Since Ghana launched its reform programme in 1983 its GDP growth has averaged 5% a year. Tanzania achieved positive per capita growth in 1986 for the first time in a decade."

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BOOK REVIEWS



NYERERE OF TANZANIA: THE LEGEND AND THE LEDGER. UFSI Reports 1987/No 3. pp13. US\$ 3.50

In the mid-Sixties Gus Liebenow found Dar es Salaam one of the cleanest cities in Africa, its port charming, and its citizens honest and industrious. He expands on this romantic view by describing the University at that time as a modern Camelot where Tanzanian scholars met with a host of radical expatriate academics. At the Round Table they set about constructing a new development strategy based on the concept of African Socialism in what is described as one of the most intellectually stimulating campuses in Africa.

Gus Liebenow was shocked when he returned to Tanzania in 1986. He observed dilapidated taxis; decaying streets, pavements and buildings; uncleared garbage; sanitation and water supply inadequacies. He noted reports in the Daily News of cholera outbreaks, neglect of duties by Government employees; increasing incidence of AIDS; food and cash crop smuggling; striking sugar cane workers killed by Field Force Unit police; public sector inefficiency, laxity and dishonesty.

What went wrong? According to this highly readable and concise survey, pretty much everything. The problems are judged to have begun with pre-Colonial Arab influence on the mainland followed by 70 years of German and British rule. Adverse economic factors beyond the control of the Government such as climate, falling commodity prices and higher oil bills in the 1970's are cited. Then there were costly political events such as the break-up of the East African Community and the war with Uganda. Much of the blame is placed on the Socialist development strategy, which is considered ill-judged and disastrously implemented. While the Left seeks to explain the failure by claiming that the strategy has not really been socialism at all, Gus Liebenow observes that in June 1986 the remarkably open, self-critical and pragmatic Tanzanians moved to begin winding up the great experiment in African Socialism.

It's tempting to continue Gus Liebenow's imaginative Morte D'Julius analogy. Much of the time in Camelot was spent in organising a fruitless search for the Holy Grail. The downfall of the fellowship and high ideals of the Round Table came about when the trusted Sir Lancelot betrayed King Arthur by kissing Queen Guinevere. Who should be cast in these roles - is Lancelot the state bureaucracy and Queen Guinevere inefficiency and petty corruption - or is Lancelot Ali Hassan Mwinyi and Queen Guinevere the IMF?

Michael Hodd

LABOUR AND POVERTY IN RURAL TANZANIA. Ujamaa and Rural Development in the United Republic of Tanzania. Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1986. pp 143.

This is a small book with great pretensions. Aiming to provide an up-to-date assessment of Tanzania's experience in rural development (a big subject) it claims to provide "a basis on which many of the current controversies can at last be solved empirically". This it certainly does not do, even if it provides some interesting statistical results worthy of further investigation. Its claim to superiority is its application of econometrics, based on a sample here of 600 households drawn from over 8 regions in a range of different ecological situations. One might say that the results demonstrate both the advantages and the limitations of the approach. As far as the sample is concerned, it is nevertheless concentrated in a curve along the East and Centre of the country from Tanga through Dar es Salaam to Dodoma: Sukumaland and most of the West and the South East are omitted. At the same time there are problems associated with bringing together households taken from villages within agro-ecological zones which vary greatly and considering them as a group.

The core chapter is on peasant differentiation which is found to be substantial - not in itself an original finding. The interesting result here is that, despite the range of conditions from which the sample is drawn, only 15% of inequality is accounted for by inter-village variation, 85% being due to variation within villages irrespective of location. Looking at the cause of this variation in income per adult equivalent, this turns out to be differences in non-labour endowments. Of the total variation 44% is due to crops, 21% to livestock and 30% to non-farm income. To illustrate the criticism made earlier, there are difficulties here in analysing the livestock factor since livestock play very different roles in different areas of Tanzania, being virtually absent, for instance, in the South East. Access to crops such as coffee is important in respect of cash crop income and here the results may disguise differences in the quality of land owned, coffee land being a very different kind of asset from that in the lowlands. There is no discussion in the book of correction for land quality. The variation in crop income is ascribed to differences in the use of inputs, associated itself with greater income, which also is thought to generate a greater willingness to assume risks, rather than any difference in land or labour availability.

There is some useful hard data on the economics of the communal plot, which is the focus of Ujamaa. As much as 20% of total labour time is spent on the communal shamba, although output yielded per household is only some 28 shillings from individual plots, implying a substantial opportunity cost.

The authors summarise with a strongly negative view of the Tanzanian economy in which "Rural isolation is compounded by a poor transport system and limited availability of even the most basic goods. In this way, Tanzania's economy is in sharp contrast with many other peasant economies which are characterised by a dense network of market transactions and a wide variety of economic activities". The implication

is that this is largely the consequence of rural and development policies adopted, including Ujamaa. It is probably an exaggerated picture which fails to take adequate account of regional variations within Tanzania and the handicaps of infrastructure and climate with which it has to contend.

Nevertheless the statistical vigour of the approach followed, the hypotheses put forward for testing, and the variety of individual findings derived present a challenge first to establish a broader statistical base to the data, along the lines of Kenya's Integrated Rural Surveys, and secondly, to explore them in more detail at the level of each agro-economic zone.

Ian Livingston

TANZANIA AFTER NYERERE: ed. Michael Hodd, Pinter Publishers, London and New York, 1988.

This book presents in abbreviated form some of the papers submitted at a conference under the same title held at the School of Oriental and African Studies in June 1986. At the time of the conference it was fully expected that the chapter of Tanzanian history coinciding with the influence and leadership of Julius Nyerere would come to a close in the following October on his final retirement from the Chairmanship of the Party. But his unexpected re-election to office for a further five years means that this collection of essays must now be regarded as an interim report rather than an epilogue. From the title one would have also expected a tinge of prophesy, but mercifully nearly all the contributors have wisely avoided any such endeavour. Only one, taking his life in his hands, has concluded that 'an authoritarian state, gravedigger of democracy, is appearing'. Well, we will see.

As an account of various facets of the Tanzanian experience during the years of Nyerere's presidency the book has much to commend it. All the essays are short and most of them reproduce in summary form the gist of accumulated knowledge without too much partisan treatment. There are, however, two aspects of the history of the period that, though not entirely absent, might profitably have received greater emphasis.

One is the issue in which the evolution of policy reflected a learning process. An example is to be found in the changing attitude towards legislation. In the sixties there was certainly a naive belief that Government had only to issue an order and the desired result would ensue. Today there is a clearer perception of the limits of Government power and of the importance of a longer perspective. The relaxation of price controls was not simply obedience to the IMF, but a recognition of their futility in times of dire scarcity, when the alternative market takes over. It would be unfair to attribute these changing perceptions solely to a learning process in a young democracy. Some aspects of policy, such as the belief in capital intensive agriculture, at the time was conventional wisdom, shared by so-called experts everywhere. We must not overlook the fact that we, too, are learning.

The other feature of the period under examination was the personality of Nyerere himself. This is touched upon by one or two

writers, but deserves wider recognition. Nyerere is after all a giant of a man, not only in his own country, but also the world over. His utter incorruptibility, his frugality amidst poverty and above all his readiness to admit mistakes, failures and shortcomings were certainly part of the secret of his great moral influence. As a factor in the history of the period it is characteristically difficult to assess, but it is nevertheless undeniably an important component.

It is a pity that the book retains quite a number of printing errors, a few of them significant, such as a statistic that accidentally loses the word 'million'. The use of initials and acronyms without explanation is also unfortunate. But there is good stuff in this book and I commend it to your readers.

J. Roger Carter

7,000 TRADITIONAL GUARDS - AND A NEW STATUE - IN TABORA

The eleventh anniversary of the CCM was celebrated on February 5th this year in Tabora. There were two new features to the celebrations.

Some 7,000 Sungusungu (Traditional guards) clad in rugs and hats made from feathers paraded past Party Chairman Nyerere. They danced, flexed their muscles and stamped the ground and displayed their weapons - bows and arrows and pangas. These traditional groups had been formed five years ago and have had much success in stamping out cattle rustling and tracking down criminals.

Also, to mark the occasion thirty years ago (January 26th 1958) when Mwalimu Nyerere had addressed a historic TANU pre-independence rally, a light iron and aluminium statue of Mwalimu was unveiled by President Mwinyi. The statue depicts Mwalimu standing with a walking stick. A picture of the rally is painted below the statue.

Daily News

THE WORD 'NATIVE' WELL USED

In a recent letter to the Daily News a reader in Dodoma defended the use of the word 'Native' in the 'Kilimanjaro Native Co-operative Union'. He was responding to earlier questioning of the word because it had been "used by colonialists in contemptuous reference to Africans".

He explained that "the *Chambers Dictionary* defined the word as follows: 'Born in; being; having to do with place of birth or origin'.

"It is quite clear" he went on "that the word has a broad meaning quite apart from its colonial connotations. KNCU (1939) and KNCU (1984) to me are nostalgic. They remind me about the period up to the year 1976 when the co-operative movement of Tanzania was leading in Africa.

Why did the founding fathers opt for 'Native' or 'African' Co-op Union? For the under thirty years age group let me explain that the 'Natives' had little choice in the matter because of the segregative racial policies of the colonial authorities... and it was therefore a fitting symbol of protest for Africans to start and run their own co-operative union so successfully right under the nose of the colonial master".

FROM NYERERE TO NEO-CLASSICISM

Nyerere dies and is met by St. Peter at the Pearly Gates, only to be told that Heaven is full and that he will have to go to Hell. When St. Peter sees Nyerere's face fall, he relents a little and says that the best he can do is offer Nyerere a choice of a Socialist Hell or a Capitalist Hell. Nyerere says he will opt for a Socialist Hell. St. Peter expresses surprise. Hadn't Nyerere had enough, seeing as he had been living in a Socialist Hell for the past twenty years? Ah,' says Nyerere, 'you don't understand. Your chances in a Socialist Hell are so much better - there's no matches, shortage of firewood, long queues for paraffin, and the man who lights the fire is a government employee who is always away at a CCM party meeting. In the Capitalist Hell, there's plenty of cheap matches, firewood and paraffin, and the man who lights the fire is paid on piece-rates, so you get burnt straight-away.'

This is one of several jokes that could be heard in Tanzania directed against the Socialist development strategy. This strategy is now being changed. Why are the changes being made and are the new policies proving successful?

The Nyerere Years

'I think I must be a Neo-classical economist - in any case, that is what people who don't like me have taken to calling me.'

The above quotation is from the 1987 Nobel Prizewinner in Economics, Robert Solow. It serves to illustrate the dislike of Neo-classical economics in some quarters. Neo-classical economics argues that competitive markets, with firms striving to maximise profits, lead to the most efficient use of a country's resources. In the 1950s and 1960s, the general feeling was that free markets and private enterprise did not meet the development needs of poor countries. The criticisms that economies did not function as Neo-classical theory demanded and gave rise to unacceptable income distributions, carried the day. The advice offered was that government intervention by way of planning, fixing prices, and running productive enterprises would increase the pace of economic development and ensure that the distribution of income was fair.

These views were nowhere more apparent than in Tanzania's Ministries and in the University of Dar es Salaam. At Independence there were few Tanzanian economists working in senior positions in government. It was the political scientists, sociologists, lawyers and historians, stiffened by expatriates attracted by Tanzania's commitment to African Socialism, who were giving the lead on development policies. The Socialist commitment of the University was reflected in the policy that staff going to study or research abroad should go to Eastern Europe or the Soviet Union. No African country pursued non-market ideas more vigorously in this period than did Tanzania. Under the Arusha Declaration there were widespread nationalisations and people were grouped in villages and encouraged to farm collectively. The prices of some 3,000 items were fixed by the authorities. Foreign investment ceased and imports were controlled. While Tanzania was implementing these policies, the economy was buffeted by a series of adverse external shocks which included the oil price rises of 1974 and 1979, drought in 1975, the

break-up of the East African Community in 1977, and the war with Uganda in 1979.

After good results in the 1960s and satisfactory results in the 1970's Tanzania's economic performance began to deteriorate seriously in the 1980s. During the 1970s mainstream development economists had begun to change their ideas. Two decades of ineffective planning, and expanded, corrupt bureaucracies led to the realisation that planning failures might lead to worse economic performance than inefficient markets. Developing countries which relied on international trade, and had strong private sectors, such as Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea, and in Africa, Ivory Coast, Malawi and Kenya, had done well. Certainly the market mechanism had a lot of flaws, but the message seemed to be that economies expanded output faster with less government intervention. And although the rich might get quite a bit richer, the poor get better-off as well.

The Mwinyi Reforms

'Mwinyi is more popular than ever Nyerere was. Everyone is happy there are goods in the shops again. I tell you, there are people in my village who have tasted sugar for the first time since Independence.'

All Hassan Mwinyi took over as President of Tanzania having had a record which reflected mild encouragement for the role of the private sector. Any changes in economic policies were expected to be minor, at least until Nyerere relinquished the Party leadership. In the event, the changes were sudden and extensive.

In June 1986, Tanzania came to to a new agreement with the IMF. Tanzania had to agree to undertake reforms that would bring the economy more under the control of market forces. This meant a reversal of the Socialist strategy followed since 1967. But it is also clear that there is a huge gulf between the Government and the Party on economic strategy, and this split poses a problem for the Government, bound as it is by Party directives.

In this context Nyerere's role as Party Chairman over the next five years is likely to be critical. One view is that he will use his position to reign in Mwinyi's reforms. The other is that he supports the reforms, and that as Party Chairman, reinforced by the immense respect in which he is held, he will be able to ensure that the Party does not thwart Mwinyi's plans.

From Mwalimu to the Market

The eighteen-year-old Tanzanian on the bus from Nairobi to Dar es Salaam described himself as a businessman involved in the export-import business. In the luggage compartment of the bus he had 400 pairs of plastic sandals purchased in Nairobi for Ksh 7 a pair. They would be sold for Tsh 300 a pair in Dar es Salaam. At the time, the official exchange rate was Tsh 3.3 = Ksh 1, with the black market rate at around Tsh 6 = Ksh 1. The importer had official documents allowing him to import goods into Tanzania, but he was not allowed to purchase foreign exchange with Tanzanian shillings at a bank. So as the bus entered Tanzania, he changed money for travellers, giving them favourable black market rates for their Kenyan shillings.

Here's how the transactions work out. The consignment of sandals cost the equivalent of \$US 200. They would be sold for a equivalent of \$US 1,333 when the

Tanzanian shillings are converted at black market rates. Expenses such as bus fares both ways, bribes at border posts and road blocks and accommodation in Nairobi and so on would be under \$US 100, giving a profit of well over \$US 1,000. One trip a week would yield an annual income of \$US 50,000.

The initial reaction to the changes has been very favourable. The trade liberalisations, have made basic commodities more readily available. 1986 saw the first rise in Tanzania's living standards since 1981. Despite these encouraging beginnings however, there is a long haul ahead.

Neo-Classical Rule

For the past twenty years the best economics graduates have been studying in America and Europe where they get a thorough training in Neo-classical economic theory. They appear to have enjoyed themselves and liked what they saw of market economies. Their experience is in marked contrast to those who went to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. As well as the burden of having to learn another language, they have been unhappy with living conditions and dismayed to see how poorly the industrialised planned economies perform. The experiences related on their return have led to the best graduates opting for study in Europe and America. Western trained economists are now in senior positions in the key Ministries, and in the University. Visiting officials and academics have observed that the present group of economists in Tanzania are the most able in Africa.

The new generation of Tanzanian economists do not feel that they have to persuade other social scientists that their views are correct. They have the ear of government, and their advice is that the market works and it works for everybody. Let's hope for Tanzania's sake they are right.

Michael Hodd

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