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K.A.R. TO T.P.D.F.

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## DEVALUATION

On November 4th 1988 the value of the Tanzanian shilling was reduced from Shs 98 to Shs 120 to the dollar or about Shs 220 to the pound and further creeping downward adjustment was envisaged in subsequent months down to the end of the financial year in June 1989. This adjustment was made with the agreement of all concerned, including the government and the Party, following a review of the developments in the economy resulting from the Economic Recovery Programme. It was not an easy decision to take (*President Mwinyi, speaking to the Zanzibar House of Representatives on November 10th 1988 described it as 'very bitter but inevitable' - Editor*), nor was the extent of the planned devaluation easy to determine. Even at Shs 120 to the dollar, the latter still appeared to be exchanged at a value below the informal market rate in shilling terms, but the market rate probably includes a premium reflecting the intensity of desire to obtain dollars not otherwise obtainable through legal channels in order to gain access to foreign markets; moreover, open market transactions in currency, being strictly illegal, are clandestine and accordingly difficult to evaluate with precision.

There were a number of reasons for the difficulty in deciding on the new value. Exporters always obtain an advantage from devaluation because it reduces the cost of their wares, without cost to them, in foreign markets. On the other hand the dramatic rise in the shilling price of the dollar since the middle of 1986 has confronted importers with a serious problem in financing their purchases of foreign exchange, which has become increasingly expensive in shilling terms. Although importers can expect to get their money back when they sell their imports, their purchases have to be financed in the meantime and sales may be slow. Where resort to a bank loan becomes necessary, they are likely to be confronted with a demand for interest in the region of 30% This problem of interim financing also confronts exporters where imports are necessary for the production of their export commodities.

The government therefore finds itself navigating between Scilla and Charibdis. If exchange rate adjustment is abandoned, or slowed down, Tanzania will be progressively priced out of foreign markets, while import pressures will increase, leading to chaos in the country's foreign exchange account. On the other hand, excessive depreciation of the shilling will impose impossible burdens on Tanzanian industry, including that part of it catering for the foreign market. Between these two policies resides the fact that there is no single objectively correct rate of exchange, but rather a range of values which maintains an equitable balance between the interests of exporters and importers and broadly corresponds with relative price levels in Tanzania and abroad. Within this range the fixing of a rate is a matter for political and administrative judgement and it was the difficult task of arriving at such a conclusion that underlay the choice of shillings 120 to the dollar in November 1988. Not everybody will agree with this choice, but the fact has emerged that it is nevertheless acceptable to

the World Bank, the IMF and other donors, including the United Kingdom, as a valid basis for continued support of the government's Economic Recovery Programme. The result has been a commitment of Bank money on soft (IDA) terms of US\$ 135 million, supported by the African Development Fund in the sum of US\$ 24 million and co-financing from Switzerland of 14 million, the Netherlands of 10 million and the United Kingdom of 15 million dollars.

Exchange rate adjustment, by increasing the cost of imports in shilling terms, is also a contributor to inflationary pressures. At the same time it is the rate at which Tanzanian prices are rising in comparison with the rate of inflation of Tanzania's trading partners that largely determines the need of exchange rate adjustment. If inflation in Tanzania can be brought down to a low figure, comparable, let us say, to the present rate of inflation in the United Kingdom, the need for further exchange rate adjustment in Tanzania will largely disappear. Moreover, the inordinately high nominal rates of interest now chargeable on bank loans, themselves a severe burden on industry, will be considerably reduced. The movement of the exchange rate that we have been witnessing - technically known as 'exchange rate management' - can thus be seen as a way of adjusting to the consequences of high inflation, though a medicine with unfortunate side effects.

Exchange rate adjustment is thus seen as a necessary though uncomfortable feature of economic policy. It is probable, therefore, that the reduction of the rate of inflation, itself a cause of impoverishment and potential social unrest, will now become a major object of government policy. There are already signs that inflation is beginning to slow down and it is clear from the budget speech of June 1988 that the fight against it will from now on be intensified.

J. Roger Carter

#### THE LONG HAUL BACK TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Tanzania is now in the fifth year of its economic recovery following six years of drought. Food production has grown at 3.5 to 4% over the past three years. The economic growth rate for 1988 seems certain to reach 5%, with inflation on the decrease and some signs of vigorous recovery in industrial output. Over the past four years the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has grown about one fifth from its low point in 1983, and over one seventh from its recession level in 1978. These figures show the long hard slog that faces Tanzanians on the road back to full recovery. The present pace of growth remains unsatisfactory, with the living standards of almost half of urban households and, perhaps, a third of rural households still only at, or even below, the poverty datum line.

Sustained recovery now depends on at least a few more years of reasonable rainfall; increased efficiency in the public and private sectors; a lessening of the defence budget (which has risen because of the military aid being given to Mozambique); and on the terms of foreign trade not changing adversely. Given these conditions it is possible for Tanzania to maintain a growth record of 6 to 8 % through to 1991; even so, this would restore per capita income to between 93%

and 100% of the 1977 level - the year of Tanzania's economic collapse due to the quadrupling of oil prices; the beginning of the six year cycle of drought; the cost of the war against Amin's Uganda; the downturn of world trade prices for the country's exports, and the increase in the cost of imports; as well as because of some mistaken government policies, especially in the performance of several parastatals.

Writing in the next volume of the African Contemporary Record, Prof. R. Herbold Green of the Institute of Development Studies of Sussex University, estimates that the cost of Tanzania's military assistance to Mozambique was between US\$ 125 and US\$ 150 million in 1987-88. Two thirds of this expenditure involved direct or indirect imports. The restoration of security across the border would therefore be of considerable benefit to Tanzania's national budget.

Weather and trade terms are ever present threats. However, the last four averagely good harvests have enabled the country to build up a maize reserve of up to 180,000 bags, which is enough to see it through at least one bad season.

Prof. Green estimates that external financial gross inflows are probably in excess of between US\$ 500 and US\$ 900 million. If technical assistance is excluded, the figure is between US\$ 650 and US\$ 800 million which, he says, is not enough for the country's needs - especially if there is still no agreement on alleviating the unmanageable external debt-service burden.

Exports have not increased as much as was hoped for due to disease of cashew nut trees, falls in coffee prices, a slow turnaround of sisal production and bottlenecks in processing and transporting cotton. But even if these products, which form the old bases of export earnings, are marketed normally, they would still be insufficient to produce the needed lift-up of the total economy. They will need to be supplemented by increased manufacturing, natural gas exploitation and greater gold production.

Efficiency increases have been achieved - from grain marketing through operations of the Dar es Salaam harbour to electricity; but there are still sectors of poor services such as water supply for the capital, local transport, agricultural processing and in much of industry.

Prof Green cites three reasons why Tanzania's external balance remains fragile.

First, with 1987 imports of goods at US\$ 1,092 million and exports at US\$ 347 million, only a net transfer receipt in excess of exports is able to keep the gap plugged. Second, exports are not rising rapidly, remaining static over 1986-87, with main commodity proceeds falling over 20% for price and volume reasons, balanced by rises in manufacture, secondary commodities and minerals. Third, the 1987 import level of US\$ 1,092 million (only 4% up nominally and down perhaps 6-8% in volume terms on 1986) includes US\$ 125-150 million worth of consumer goods and, perhaps, US\$ 50-75 million defence-related elements not included in the US\$ 1,200 million minimum imports for efficient rehabilitation and operation of the economy so that the shortfall is of the order of 20%. Compared to the 1983 situation, however, imports are up over 35% in nominal terms (and

perhaps 25% in real terms), and external transfers are up markedly, albeit exports have actually declined (largely for price reasons), falling over US\$ 90 million to 1985 before rising to over US\$ 60 million thereafter.

On a fiscal year basis the trends are slightly more encouraging. The 1986-87 level was US\$ 355 million and 1987-88 is estimated at US\$ 388 million; but even here main commodity exports showed a fall of US\$ 44 million whereas exports of manufactured goods rose US\$ 32 million (the whole net gain), and of minerals and secondary commodities by US\$44 million.

Colin Legum

## KILIMANJARO - A CENTENNIAL

The first encounters between European missionaries and explorers and the local Africans led to very mixed reactions. The same is true of the impact of the colonialists who came in their wake. While they brought Christianity, education, medicine and a degree of development they also exposed the continent to distortions which still vibrate today in the form of unbalanced economies, alien cultural trends and previously unknown diseases. And Africa is facing difficulties in trying to correct such distortions while continuing to enjoy the benefits of the better aspects of these encounters such as mission hospitals, charitable organisations and, not least, foreign aid.

This bitter-sweet relationship between the first Europeans and local Africans was due to be re-lived in a novel way in Kilimanjaro region early in November 1988. The re-living, in the form of a historical musical drama, 'Kilimanjaro' was due to be staged at the International School, Moshi, from November 3rd to 5th 1988. It was written by the school's music and drama teacher, Kevin Allen-Schmid in collaboration with several local residents. The occasion was also intended as a tribute to the 99th anniversary of the first recorded climbing of Mount Kilimanjaro by a German geologist, Hans Meyer, and an Austrian mountaineer, Ludwig Purtscheller on the 5th October 1889. The proceeds are to be used primarily to establish a scholarship fund to assist the needy and enable local students to attend secondary school. Although the mountain was reportedly climbed for the first time in 1889 it had already been sighted 41 years earlier by another European, Johannes Rebman, a missionary sent by the Church Missionary Society, on May 11th 1848 (locals had of course 'discovered' the mountain from time immemorial). Much to his dismay, Rebman's report of a 'great snowy mountain' near the equator was received in Europe with outright scepticism. It was not until 1860 that the existence of snow-capped Kilimanjaro was generally conceded in Europe.

The drama has been based on the diaries of Rebman, and another early missionary, Ludwig Krapf, but the geographical focus of the play is the village of Machame and through stories, songs and dances typical of the 1840's we learn as much about the Machame villagers of the time as we do about the first Christian missionaries.

'Kilimanjaro' was first staged two years ago by the International School and Weruweru Girls School students but has been revised to provide a more historically accurate picture of Rebman's experiences.

The original was mostly in English; the new version has dialogue in three languages - Machame villagers speaking Kimachame, coastal people speaking Kiswahili and missionaries and their guides speaking English. By tracing Rebman's steps from Europe to East Africa, 'Kilimanjaro' provides a wide ranging variety of music from Bach to traditional ngomas. A remarkable aspect of the production is the diversity of Moshi residents who participate including not only actors and dancers but, for example, the Moshi advocate Eric Ng'maryo who translated some of the dialogues and lyrics into Kiswahili and worked as a consultant on historical details and Mrs. Elly Nkya, Head of the International School's Science Department who did the same into Kimachame. According to the author, although some of the audience will not understand all three languages the plot is easy to follow and the music can be universally appreciated.

SHIHATA

*(Tana Travel of Stratford-on-Avon are arranging visits to Kilimanjaro in 1989 to celebrate the Centenary of the first recorded climb of Mount Kilimanjaro. After the climb there will be a celebration dinner at the Moshi Hotel on October 6th 1989 - Editor)*

#### PRESIDENT MWINYI'S VIEWS ON ARCHITECTURE

President Mwinyi has been expressing views about architecture which seem to be in some sympathy with those of Prince Charles.

He is quoted in the October 13 issue of the Daily News as having said in Zanzibar that architecture should focus on the need for privacy, the desire for beauty and the serenity of a harmonious environment. These human needs, he said, should not be held hostage to fashion or technology.

"There is much to learn from the experience of earlier generations, gathered by centuries of trial and error, before we seek to discard this legacy for the often illusory promise of solutions imported from the western world" he told an international seminar organised by the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.

Explaining that the pressing demands of a modernising world were straining the continued existence of a historical inter-cultural architecture in Eastern Africa, the President stressed the need to preserve and enhance the indigenous heritage. He commended efforts being made to preserve this heritage, citing the Bahari Beach Hotel buildings and the Mosque at the University of Dar es Salaam.

#### WILLIAMSON DIAMOND MINES - IN NEED OF A FACELIFT

Asukile Kyando of SHIHATA has been interviewing Mr. Sylvanus Mipawa, General Manager of Williamson Diamond Mines about the present state of affairs at the mines.

They are situated in Mwadui town in Shinyanga region and were first discovered in 1940. They have the largest Kimberlite pipe in the world with a surface area of 360 acres. 50% or more of the production is gem quality diamonds. Total gross diamond sales between 1958 and 1987 are quoted at Shs 5,309 million. There are about 3,000 workers. The mines

recorded their highest production of diamonds in 1966 - 47,000 m carats (a carat is equivalent to 0.2 grams) but in 1987 there were only 124,000 m carats

One of the main reasons for the fall in production is the diminished ore grades. The former and richer deposits have been depleted after 48 years of mining but there still remain some 75.4 m tons of ore reserves at a grade of 5.1 carats per 100 tons. Ore available for mining to the planned 300 ft level is 35.1 m tons with a total of 2,202 m carats of diamonds. "So therefore" Mr. Mipawa said, "we shall keep on hearing about Mwadui mines for a very long time to come - we are certainly talking of a lifespan of at least ten years - provided that steps are taken to rehabilitate the plant and machinery".

Mr. Mipawa was asked how he compared the old Mwadui and today's Mwadui. He replied: "Mwadui town is relatively new. The biggest part of it was built in the 1960's. Hence people have sweet memories of new houses, roads and other facilities. But now the town has started to age. It requires a facelift. Mwadui was also famous for its very modern self-service supermarkets with almost everything one can think of on sale. That is no longer the case and the difference is significant. .... Even in the production areas things have changed. The plant is old and its performance is very unsatisfactory. .... What we have in mind is to carry out a rehabilitation programme that will put plant availability back to an average of 80%. In order to do so we will need at least US\$ 5.0 million."

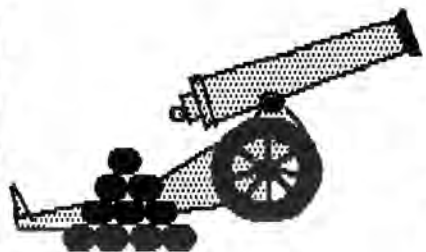
--FROM--

KINGS  
AFRICAN RIFLES

--TO--

TANZANIA  
PEOPLES  
DEFENCE FORCE

THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF A NEW ARMY



(Extracts from a paper presented by Col. F.S. Swai at the International Conference on the Arusha Declaration)

#### THE COLONIAL PERIOD

The colonial army - the Kings African Rifles (KAR) - was both a pan-territorial army and a segment of the British army with allegiance to the Queen and empire. KAR soldiers did not have to serve in their

country of origin but could be stationed anywhere in East Africa. At the time of independence there were two battalions of the KAR - the 6th in Dar es Salaam and the 2nd in Tabora. The total strength was around 1,500 soldiers.

#### INDEPENDENCE AND THE MUTINY

At independence, the new government of Tanganyika took over the two battalions and renamed them the Tanganyika Rifles (TR). An arrangement was made for the soldiers who had been recruited in Kenya and Uganda to return gradually to their respective countries while those from Tanganyika who were serving outside could equally do the same. But apart from the change of name and the moving out of non-Tanganyikan soldiers, the military establishment remained the same both in its composition and its ideology. The so-called martial tribes (in particular the Wahehe and Watende (Wakuria) constituted the bulk of the soldiers while the command structure remained British. The 29 British officers, under a British Brigadier, were retained in the army and given the task of training the locals until such time as they were able to manage their own affairs. But if the past was to be taken as the British pattern of promotion then it was going to take many years before the command structure would be completely nationalised. This structure of command, dominated by white officers imbued with their racial superiority and looking down upon the African officers and the rank and file and the dim prospects for change, despite the changed political situation, was to become a source of tension and the major contributor to the military mutiny in 1964.

In the end the native rank and file thought that they had no alternative but to resort to mutiny to air their grievances. The grievances were basically two. The soldiers wanted British officers removed and they wanted an increase in pay and the restoration of certain fringe benefits.

The mutiny was organised by a handful of local rank and file. Initially it was only the battalion stationed in Dar es Salaam that was involved. They were poorly trained and armed and yet they managed to put a whole government machinery to a standstill from January 20th to 25th 1964. This was possible despite the good organisational set-up of TANU throughout the country. For five days neither the Party nor the government machinery managed to organise any local resistance. On the other hand, the suppression of the mutiny required only a handful of British marines.

Hence we find that by January 1964 Tanganyika, like most other independent African countries, had a military that was too small for the defence of the territorial boundaries and unreliable for national reconstruction.

After the mutiny all private soldiers were dismissed and sent to their home villages. Their place had to be taken by recruitment of fresh youth.

#### DESIGNING THE NEW ARMY

In designing the new army the government and the Party took into



consideration three factors. In the first place, while immediately after independence the government and Party had tried to find ways of accommodating different sectoral interests such as those of the trade unions and the civil service, the same was not done for the military. The military did not identify itself with TANU policies, nor did the leaders of TANU have any contacts with the military. The military was taken as an apolitical institution. Secondly was the fact that most of the nationalist leaders who had struggled for independence saw high government posts which were to be vacated by the colonial administrators as the quickest means of amassing wealth and leading a comfortable life. In this struggle for sharing the 'National Cake' the military was ignored and left out. A third factor was the obvious weakness of the political system demonstrated by the mutiny and its later suppression.

In designing the new army the military was no longer to be taken for granted. Its place in the political set-up had to be well defined so that it identified with the policies of the Party and the government.

#### THE ARMY IS STRENGTHENED

The period between 1964 and 1967 was crucial in defining the role that the military would play in Tanzania.

It was in 1964 that the first shots were fired by FRELIMO to mark the launching of the guerrilla war against Portuguese colonialism in Mozambique. Tanzania was to become the rear base for this protracted war. The OAU had also selected Dar es Salaam as the Headquarters of the Organisation for African Unity's Liberation Committee which was covering all the other liberation movements in Africa as well. To the political leadership in Tanzania, this position that the country was taking up had to be backed up by a stronger military than two battalions of the TR.

It was also during the period of 1964-67 that the country had to demonstrate its non-alignment. Unlike the time when all weapons systems had come from NATO the army started to acquire arms from the Eastern block and especially from China. The Canadians were called in in 1966 to train in administration while the Chinese came for tactics in 1967.

After 1964 the Tanzania Peoples Defence Force (TPDF) as it was now known had three infantry battalions - in Dar es Salaam, Tabora and Nachingwea. The air transport battalion was started in 1964, the tank and armour battalion in 1965 and a navy unit in 1967.

#### INVOLVING THE WHOLE POPULATION

Concrete measures had to be taken to involve a greater part of the population in defence matters. In 1966 a National Service Act was introduced. This required all youths finishing high school or doing any advanced training after Form IV to join the National Service.

Idi Amin's coup in Uganda made it crucial for the political leadership to secure army loyalty in Tanzania. Previous to this there had been the abortive invasion of Guinea by Portuguese forces because of that country's support for the liberation movement in neighbouring Guinea Bissau. There was fear that something similar would happen in

Tanzania because of its support for FRELIMO in Mozambique. The suppression of the attack on Guinea by a citizen militia led the Party to call for a similar type of military preparedness in Tanzania.

Serious involvement of the masses in military preparedness came about therefore after the Party Guidelines (MWONGOZO) were issued in 1971. TPDF instructors were sent to every district and work place throughout the country to provide military training. Militia training is done in the evening after the normal working hours and it takes up to four months to complete the course. Recruitment of the militia is done by the Party at branch level. After training, personnel become part of the reserve army but its command is directly under the Party and not the military. The use of the militia during peace time is to perform police and security duties.

Next followed changes in the composition of the regular army. From 1976 a TPDF Bill was passed in Parliament to the effect that only officers, non-commissioned officers and technical personnel would be employed by the army on a permanent basis. The rest of the rank and file would join the army on a contract basis after which they would go home to form part of the reserve army, while fresh recruits were taken from the National Service. This policy of involving the masses proved its worth during the 1978-79 war between Tanzania and Uganda. Every level of the Party had to mobilise for the front or rear defence work. In this way it proved possible, within two months, to raise an army of 50,000 men that finally brought down the Idi Amin government in April 1979. After the war demobilisation was done by the Party in the same way. Some of the militia were returned home (this exercise took only one month); the bulk of the militia remained in uniform and constituted part of the now much larger TPDF.

#### POLITICISATION

After the mutiny Mwalimu Julius Nyerere called on TANU youths to volunteer for army service. Selection was undertaken by Party branches on the basis of commitment to and identification with the Party and its policies. This process produced 500 new recruits. But this number was not enough for the new army. Hence there was a selective recall of former members of the TR. As long as they had not been directly involved in the masterminding of the mutiny they could be recalled. By this process most of the former TR soldiers were taken back. However, they had to become TANU members.

In this way we find that since its formation in 1964 the TPDF was made up of soldiers who identified themselves with the ruling Party. The soldiers not only undertook professional training but were also subjected to political education. This education emphasised the history of the nationalist struggle for independence and the goals of the Party and political leadership in creating a unified nation. Under the Arusha Declaration the role of the army was defined as that of being a vanguard for the building of socialism and as a college for defence and socialism.

When addressing soldiers in Zanzibar in 1973 Mwalimu Nyerere said ...."there is no single African country which will succeed to build socialism and bring respect to the African man without making its army

accept socialism; if our army accepts socialism no one will be able to prevent socialism in our country."

After the 1971 Party Guidelines there was instituted a system of Political Education Officers most of whom had graduated from the Party Ideological College in Kivukoni. It was their responsibility to raise the level of political consciousness of the soldiers at each level. Around 20% of training time is allocated to this.

The army was organised on the basis of 'democratic centralism'. Thus the control of the army by the Party organ is found at the national level. But below this level the Party operates as two parallel organs in the army and outside. The major difference is that, while in the civilian organisation of the Party the chairmen of the various organs are elected and do not have government executive powers, in the case of the army, the chairmen of the various organs are not elected and hold their positions by virtue of their executive powers in the Command structure. For example, the moment one is appointed a battalion commander one automatically becomes the chairman of the Party branch in the battalion. Similarly, one cannot become a branch chairman in the army if one is not first appointed battalion commander. Whoever is appointed the Political Commissar of a formation in the army automatically becomes the secretary of the Party at that level. Apart from these two posts of chairman and secretary all other committee members in the army are elected according to the Party constitution and procedures. In Party meetings an atmosphere is created whereby the ordinary soldier can ask about and criticise Party policies and their implementation. But the success of the meetings depends very much on the ideological clarity of the chairman and his secretary in creating an atmosphere of free discussion, given the strong command powers they possess.

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#### WARIOBA STRESSES MILITIA TRAINING

Prime Minister and First Vice-President Joseph Warioba has called on the Tanzania Peoples Defence Forces (TPDF) to step up militia training in order to contain incidents of burglary and crime in general. Mr Warioba, who was speaking at the Monduli Military Academy on September 24th 1988, said that in times of peace defence forces should be utilised in internal security matters. He therefore urged the TPDF to understand the new militia policy.

Daily News

#### AN OPEN UNIVERSITY

The Daily News reports that Tanzania's Ministry of Education has appointed a 14 man task force 'that will be responsible for the setting up of an Open University.' The Chairman is the former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dar es Salaam, Mr. Nicholas Kuhanga.

#### EDUCATION FOR SELF-RELIANCE - 20 YEARS AFTER

Tanzania's Education for Self-Reliance Policy together with Universal Primary Education (UPE), both of which caught the world's

attention as the country's proudest achievements in fighting ignorance still do not have very much to show in achievement.

The present crisis of primary school leavers, as exemplified by the flooding of urban areas with an influx of young semi-literates who cannot get a place in secondary school or fit into rural life in their villages, appears to be both confusing and compounding.

It is confusing because the introduction of self-reliance was meant to adapt pupils to the realities of a country in which 95% of the population lives in a rural environment. The education reform was also meant to be a means of slowing the rural exodus into the cities, thus lowering the unemployment rate and preparing the youth for appropriate roles in society and working towards better living.

But twenty years later the migration of youths from the villages to urban centres has increased; so has the youth's disillusionment as they confront the growing appreciation that urban streets are not paved with gold.

And along with this disillusionment the young people question and disregard the relevance of mainstream social values, leading sociologists to fear that the costs of this attitude to individuals and the nation may be monumental. What worries them is the number of those growing up with a limited and hostile sense of life. For many, they say, the future is tightly hemmed in by horizons so narrow that moving out of poverty seems unthinkable.

With no capital to make a living in their villages most of these youths, some as young as fourteen, drift to urban areas where, finding no reliable source of income, they soon drift into alcoholism, drug abuse, burglary, armed robbery, stowing-away and other unbecoming behaviour like prostitution.

But in a country where education has long been considered to be one of the basic social needs and accorded a high status, the situation raises some controversial questions.

Officials blame the young people who enjoy the benefits of a free education and go on to spurn facilities which society places at their disposal. But critics think society itself is to blame as these young men and women are merely victims of circumstances and forces they cannot control. As soon as they come out of school a stark, colourless life without any support is what greets them in the poor villages. Squeezed between poverty and indifference the urban streets look like the only outlet to them.

Critics of the existing education system say the problem has been caused by ignoring actual facts in overall education planning, notably the economic structure of the country and its growth trends which limit and overestimate employment opportunities.

Ministry of Education officials however counter that the current educational and economic systems in the country clearly depict the spreading of modern agricultural methods and appropriate technology, especially in the villages. And while UPE has raised the literacy rate from 41% to 85% and this may have resulted in a considerable gap between the appreciation of rural facilities and their availability this is an achievement and a situation which every level-headed Tanzanian has to understand rather than condemn. The officials maintain, and very rightly perhaps, that those who feel disillusioned

with the current situation in the villages do so for their own selfish ends and not because of lack of government goodwill and efforts to develop them.

SHIHATA

#### PRESIDENT MWINYI AND MOTHER TERESA

As President Mwinyi's motorcade was leaving State House to drive out for lunch on its way to the airport on October 31, 1988 the President heard that Mother Teresa, who was in Tanzania for one day to attend a ceremony in which eight new sisters of her order took their vows, was just entering the gates. He thereupon immediately demonstrated his respect for old ladies (Mother Teresa is 79) by breaking his journey and returning to State House to welcome her. Mother Teresa looked delighted by the President's gesture. "I have nothing to give you. But this is what I have" she said. She presented the President with a statue of the Virgin Mary.

Daily News

#### THE NATIONAL CENSUS

August 28th 1988 was Census Day in Tanzania. After months of preparation some 50,000 enumerators began updating the statistics on Tanzania's population.

The last census was in 1978 and estimated Tanzania's population at 17,512,610. Assuming a growth rate of 3.2% p.a. the population is now estimated at 23,997,000.

Apart from the general population census certain sections of the community were asked to provide more detailed information. Do you speak Swahili? What is the highest formal education you have received? Do you have water, electricity in your house? were among the 32 questions asked of this sample.

Many people complained that they had not been counted on Census Day. Miss Lucy Lameck, the National Census Commissar, explained that there had been problems because of rain in certain areas, shortage of forms, changes in maps and failure of some enumerators to turn up. Miss Lameck was confident however that everybody would have been counted during the following few days.

A provisional estimate of the result was expected by the end of the year. Final figures would not be available until 1992.

Daily and Sunday News

#### BOOMING TRADE IN OX CARTS - IMPROVED COTTON PRODUCTION

A direct link between improved cotton production in Shinyanga and the rapidly increasing popularity of ox carts has been pointed out by Emmanuel Bulugu writing in a recent issue of the Sunday News.

The article explained how cotton production had dropped in the region in the mid 1970' partly because of the villagisation programme. For peasants who wanted to continue to use plots they had previously

cultivated in villages which had then been abandoned, long distances became an obstacle not only to continued cultivation of the crop but also the harvesting. The peasants did not have time to make the long journeys involved.

However, with the advent of animal drawn carts in Shinyanga, things are now changing for the better. The carts have greatly simplified transportation of the cotton from distant plots to primary cooperative societies.

The whole business is in private hands. One entrepreneur was said to have started with one cart in Shinyanga town. Each weekend he would go to town to collect the money his previously unemployed 'driver' had earned for him. Soon he had bought three more carts for work in the town and two which he employed in carting crops in his village. Now many others are following his example and areas previously too far away to be cultivated are coming back into production.

The carts are not being manufactured only in Shinyanga. There are now private cart makers in several urban areas including Maswa and Lalago. The carts are well constructed with pneumatic tyres on vehicle axles and expensive timber is used in their construction. Cart makers are charging Shs 50,000 to 70,000 per cart.

#### HALF THE PARASTATALS ARE LOSS MAKING

Nearly half the parastatal organisations whose accounts were scrutinised by the Parliamentary Parastatal Organisations Committee in 1986 were loss making the National Assembly was told recently. The loss making institutions included the Tanzania Railways Corporation which lost Shs 110 million in 1982; Mwanza Textile Mill, Shs 87.2 million in 1984; the Sugar Development Corporation Shs 39 million in 1985; Musoma Textile Mill Shs 28.3 million in 1984; Tanganyika Planting Company Shs 19.8 million in 1985; and the Kagera Regional Trading Company Shs 15.9 million in 1983.

Profit making parastatals included the National Bank of Commerce with a profit of Shs 405.1 million in 1985, the Bank of Tanzania Shs 303.1 million in 1985; Tanzania Harbours Authority Shs 45.5 million in 1983; Aluminium Africa Shs 29.1 million in 1984; Arusha Regional Trading Company Shs 29.1 million in 1984; and Tanzania Elimu Supplies Shs 29 million in 1983.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs and Planning, Mr. Cleopa Msuya, has been telling a 'Workshop on Public Enterprises' in Dar es Salaam that the public sector had grown from 43 parastatals in 1967 to 421 today.

He said that out of the 707 establishments in the industrial sector employing 10 or more people 196 were wholly or partially state owned.

He spoke of the deficits in certain parastatals as being a matter of grave concern and said that they were suffering from inexperienced management, over-extended involvement, over-employment, failure to adjust to changing circumstances, financial problems, inefficient working practices and inappropriate technologies.

Mr. Msuya noted that in the UK nationalised businesses were being privatised, in the Soviet Union a policy of 'Perestroika' was being

evolved and in China 'open door' policy had been adopted.

In Tanzania loss making enterprises like sisal estates had been sold and others closed or merged.

Daily News

### WHO WILL BOSS THE BOSSES?

This problem of loss making parastatals became the subject of a subsequent article in the Sunday News by its satirical writer, Adam Lusekelo.

'Why can this be?' he asked. 'Frankly I don't know' he wrote. 'You ask the guys who are supposed to be in the know and they mutter something about socialism.'

But then, who said that socialism means losses, inefficiency, embezzlement and nepotism? It's stuff like this that gives socialism a bad name.

But should the parastatals be allowed to bleed the Treasury of a cool 2.5 billion bob?...For example the money could be used by the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Nyatis to increase the number of anti-poaching game rangers from 100 to 1000 and provide them with decent tracking equipment.

Again, do we need the loss-making paras? Of course we need them - otherwise they would not be there. Besides, they are pretty to look at. 141 loss-making paras means 141 prosperous looking general managers. 141 loss-making paras means platoons of marketing managers, legions of glamorous looking secretaries and other staff half of whom are relatives of the big boss. Long live the extended family.

Which is why I decided to approach one of the general managers to ask him why his para was making a terrible financial loss and still surviving.....'

"We lose money, yes, but that is because of sabotage, imperialist propaganda, lack of inputs and...."

"Lack of foreign exchange" I finished the song.

"Good man. This is what I always say. Newsmen have a role to educate the masses. Now if you know that my para doesn't have foreign exchange then the masses will know....."

So I shifted to new ground. "The accountability thing. You remember Sir?"

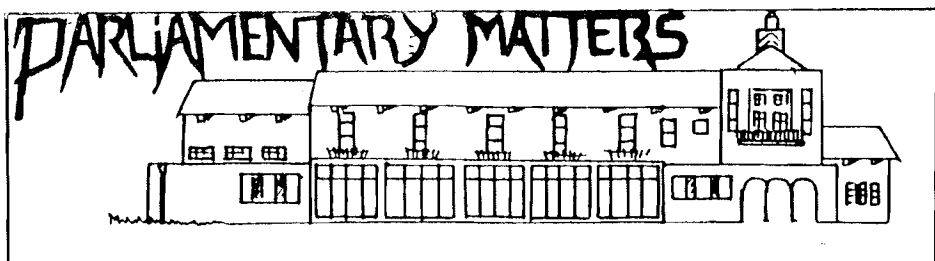
"Of course I remember.

"Are you going to take full responsibility for the losses?"

"Of course I will".

"So what are you going to do? Resign or beg forgiveness?"

"Who! Me? Resign? You are bonkers. Never leave your job in Tanzania. What I will do - since I am the top boss - I am going to write a strongly worded letter... to myself. I will warn myself that the habit of losing government money should stop forthwith....and, to pay for my sins, I will not drink more than four beers a day at the club....compared with my usual twenty. I am sure that that is punishment enough even in this age of accountability....."



The 12th session of Parliament (covered also in Bulletin No 31) ended on 8th August 1988 with the Prime Minister praising members for having been challenging and having based their arguments on facts. This year's budget session was the longest yet. It took almost seven weeks but the House had not been meeting on Saturdays as was the case with past sessions. Mr Warioba said that the session had been unique in that, for the first time, the newly instituted Parliamentary Regulations and Procedures had been applied. Contrary to the situation during past sessions when an MP would speak on scores of subjects in the thirty five minutes of debate, MP's at this session chose one or two subjects and spoke on these with detailed facts and figures.

The Prime Minister cited Mr Samuel Sitta's (Urambo) contribution to the debate on the estimates of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Planning which had been good and challenging to the government. "MP's should not hesitate to debate in Parliament even when they disagree with the government" he said.

Mr. Sitta had threatened to hold up approval of the estimates of the Ministry because of what he considered to be the exorbitant cost of rebuilding the Bank of Tanzania after it was damaged by fire. The cost was Shs 144,943 million in local currency and Shs 44.5 million in dollars. He further claimed that the Managing Director of the company awarded the contract for rebuilding had a criminal record and that no tenders had been floated. Mr. Sitta said that the foreign exchange to be spent would be enough to supply power to 12 districts, buy drugs and medicines for nine years or complete the Kibiti-Lindi road. Mr. Sitta, who was supported by other members, was only prepared to back down after six cabinet ministers had called him to a meeting outside Parliament and he had been given an undertaking that there would be a report on the matter to the next session of Parliament.

The next session of Parliament was in October 1988. The Minister of State for Finance, Dr. D. Mbogoro, announced that the National Construction Council had submitted a preliminary report on the matter, (which was discussed at a House Party Committee) but that the Council had asked for more time to do a good job. It was agreed to defer the matter until the next Parliamentary session in January 1989.

There was a further lively debate during the 12th session. The Speaker, Chief Adam Sapi, interrupted the Minister for Industries and Trade, Mr. Joseph Rwegasira, at 7.43 pm to announce that it was almost time for the adjournment and that the leader of government business in the House should ask for extra time to enable the Minister to wind up the debate. The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr.



Charles Kileo, rose, on behalf of the Minister, and asked for extra time. But when the Speaker asked the MP's to vote on the motion there was a thunderous "No". The House was then adjourned leaving a big question mark over the Ministry's estimates.

The Minister had earlier been trying to explain issues raised by MP's during the debate. He agreed that distribution of commodities was unsatisfactory but said that this was due to shortage of transportation facilities as well as problems of liquidity with Regional Trading Companies (RTC's). For example, rising prices of commodities had prevented RTC's from purchasing enough stock to meet demand. Sugar prices had more than doubled since 1984/5. "Since it is the RTC which distributes commodities in the rural areas the rising price crippled their financial capability and thus the shortage" the Minister said.

Accepting that inadequate preparations had been made before establishing the Mbagala Sheet Glass factory, Mr Rwegasira said that the factory had no electricity, no water, no roads to allow transport of its products and other infrastructure. As a result, the factory had not been commissioned and some of the electronic equipment in the plant was malfunctioning. He said the equipment would need rehabilitation before the plant began production.

After further explanations and a statement from the Minister that he would not tolerate deliberate mismanagement in parastatals his estimates were finally approved.

Meanwhile the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism decided that before their estimates were debated they would present to the Speaker an impressive new table and to members of the House a rare treat - a barbecue of eland and buffalo meat. An official of the Ministry told the Daily News that the gestures and timing were in no way connected with the tabling of the Ministry's estimates on the same day. "We are just implementing some of the Ministry's projects decided months ago" he said.

Sadly, although the Speaker's new table was installed, the barbecue never materialised. And MP's were further put out when they learnt that because of the anticipated arrival of the game meat the canteen that Members use had not ordered any other supplies.

The Bulletin understands however that the estimates of the Ministry were eventually approved!

#### UNIVERSITY LINKS - THE LARGEST BUDGET IN AFRICA

The British Government's Overseas Development Administration (ODA) makes an annual grant to the British Council specifically aimed at assisting the development of higher education in the Third World. One of the most important means currently used to achieve this aim is support for academic links with British institutions. In 1987/88 Tanzania benefitted from the largest ODA link budget in Africa.

Academic visits represent the core of the activity. This year it is planned that 47 Tanzanian staff members will be attached to departments in British universities or polytechnics for an average duration of 13 weeks. The purpose of these visits varies according to the needs of the Tanzanian department but are typically designed to exploit the

facilities of the host university to advance the visitor's research, but sometimes will also include attendance at short courses. This year it is also planned that 36 British academics will visit their link departments in Tanzania for an average duration of four weeks. Typically they will help to advance joint research with Tanzanian colleagues, advise on curriculum development or, sometimes, teach.

The British Council provides an annual grant for most linked departments to acquire equipment in Britain. This year it averaged £3,180 per link. Books have been provided - to the value of £8,900 for the University of Dar es Salaam and £3,600 for the Sokoine University.

Links with the University of Dar es Salaam include:

- University Administration - University of Bath;
- Geography - University of Glasgow;
- Sociology - University of Hull;
- Foreign Languages and Linguistics - University of Lancaster;
- Epidemiology and Biostatistics - University of Manchester;
- Chemistry - University of Salford;
- Commerce and Management - University of Sheffield.
- Education - University of Southampton;
- Statistics - University of Southampton.

There are also three academic links with Sokoine University of Agriculture:

- Development Studies - University of East Anglia;
- Veterinary Medicine - University of Glasgow;
- Rural Economy - University of London, Wye College.

#### ONE OF THE NICEST AND HAPPIEST COUNTRIES

Britain's Minister for Overseas Development, Mr. Chris Patten, has visited forty countries but considers Tanzania to be one of the 'nicest and happiest'. He said this at a ceremony at the Ranfurly Library Service in London on December 7th 1988 to mark the 200,000th book to be sent under the 'Textbooks for Africa Project'. This project is supported also by Rotary International, the British Council and ODA. To mark the occasion Mr. Patten handed over a copy of 'Abbotts Physics' to Mr. Ulli Mwambulukutu, the Minister Counsellor for Tanzania in the High Commission in London. The ceremony was held in a spacious 8,000 square-foot warehouse stacked with tea chests containing thousands more books destined for Tanzania, Malawi, Gambia, Botswana and other countries.

Mr. David Membrey, Assistant Director of the Ranfurly Library Service, explained to the Bulletin that Tanzania had been receiving books from Ranfurly ever since 1960. Some 725,000 had been sent altogether, including almost half a million within the last three years. He said that the Ranfurly Library Service was now supplying some three quarters of the books obtained by the Tanzania Library Service and large numbers were also going to schools and other institutions throughout the country.

# CHINA AND TANZANIA

## Some personal experiences

On my first day in China - before the arrival of colleagues - I was free. The rest of our time in China was very thoroughly programmed.

I glanced at the telephone directory. Tanzania was mentioned only once (apart from the Embassy). The entry read 'China - Tanzania Joint Shipping Company'. It was to be found, apparently, at Juanjieshu Beili, Building No. 7 in Chaoyangpu. I asked the hotel receptionist to write this for me in Chinese and he produced without hesitation this:

团结湖北里7楼

I went outside for a taxi. The driver was friendly but we had no way of communicating and soon got lost. We were in the right area of the city but, as in much of Beijing, were dwarfed by row upon row of massive apartment blocks (obtaining accommodation in such blocks, I learnt later, is the dream of most of the inhabitants of the city). All these complexes had their No 7 building. About a dozen conversations and 30 minutes later we found a much smaller building which was also No 7. But this one, to my relief and delight, had a notice on the gate in English - 'The China - Tanzania Joint Shipping Company.'

I climbed up one flight of stairs - having made sure that the taxi driver understood that he should wait - and wondered what my reception would be. Parastatal bureaucrats are never at their most welcoming when they come face to face with a journalist wanting to ask questions, regardless of whether the journalist is an amateur or a professional. And Chinese bureaucrats do have an 'image' problem.

Most of the offices were empty - it was Saturday morning - but I found two gentlemen at their desks. To my surprise they were friendly. Their contacts with Tanzania must have had a good effect. "How interesting" they more or less said "can we see a copy of the Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs?" and what would I like to know?

Mr. Lei Zhen Ya, the Manager, explained that the company started in June 1967. It is run jointly by the two governments, each with a 50% share and was designed to serve trade between the two countries. The company began with four second-hand vessels but these have all since been replaced by new ones - the Ruvu, the Ruaha, the Pingku and the Shuniji with a total tonnage of some 60,000.

Originally the ships served the needs of the Tanzania-Zambia (TANZAM) railway and transported workers to Tanzania from China (I can remember the arrival one Sunday morning in Dar es Salaam of 1,000 of these workers all dressed identically in Mao suits and all issued with the same standard suitcase - how things have changed in China in recent years!) The ships also carried railway construction material.

It was at this stage in the conversation that I decided to make sure to interview, before leaving China, one or two of the early

workers on the railway (there had been some 20,000 Chinese involved altogether) and hear how they looked back on their Tanzanian experience.

With the completion of the railway and a fall in the export from Tanzania of groundnuts and sisal, trade with Tanzania had gone down considerably. Nowadays cargo was sought wherever it could be found. Out of a total volume of 190,000 tons of goods transported by the company from China last year only about 7,000 tons went to Tanzania and no imports from Tanzania to China were carried. Furthermore, 1986 was the first year since the founding of the company that it had not made a profit. But relations with Tanzania remained warm and friendly. During the Cultural Revolution (a bitter memory to almost everyone to whom we spoke later) staff of the China-Tanzania Shipping Company had been left strictly alone and not persecuted in any way. Because of the link with a foreign friendly nation.

The 33 crew members of the two Chinese ships were all Chinese I learnt. The two Tanzanian ships had some 25 Tanzanian crew members and 7 Chinese including the captain.

Mr Lei said that the company was facing many problems but that the biggest by far was in obtaining sufficient cargo in a highly competitive market. But he was optimistic about the future: "With the recovery in Tanzania's economy, trade will increase" he said.

My own job in China was in the Ministry of Agriculture. "Do you know of anyone who used to work on the TANZAM railway" I asked. Yes, said one of our counterparts, his own father was still working in the Ministry of Railways and had many friends who had worked in Tanzania.

Mrs Tang, who works as a Swahili interpreter in the Ministry of Agriculture told me how she had spent five years in Tanzania from 1973 on a State Farm growing rice at Mbarali in Mbeya region. "I was the one woman amongst 100 men" she said "and they could only communicate with Tanzanians through me". It was hard work but she had enjoyed it very much. The Tanzanian people were very honest, (something which cannot be said for speakers at Chinese banquets whatever their nationality), very patient and easy to work with. And Swahili was so much easier to learn than English. She had been working only ten miles away from the railway and she knew many of those who had worked on it. She would get in touch with the Ministry of Railways and arrange for me to meet some of them.

I asked whether it had been easy to get people to volunteer to work in Tanzania in view of the harsh conditions at that time. "Yes indeed" Mrs. Tang said. "Only those with the best work records were allowed to go. Everyone wanted the chance. It wasn't only the pay (50% higher than in China); it was a unique opportunity to see another part of the world." But Mrs. Tang had had some second thoughts herself on her sixteenth day of sea-sickness on the way to Dar es Salaam.

Mr. Said Salim from Tanzania has been working in China longer than any other Tanzanian. 21 years. "They call me the Mayor of Beijing" he said. Originally he went there under the auspices of the organisation set up after the Bandung Conference as a journalist. Nowadays he works on the Swahili edition of a Chinese monthly magazine. He and his Zanzibari wife have four children, all taking university studies in Beijing. "They are more Chinese than the Chinese" he said. I asked him if he happened to know anyone who had worked on building the railway all those years ago. No, he said, but he dug into his archives and produced

an article he had written in the 'Afro-Asian Journalist' (No. 1, Volume 9) in March 1972:

"Two events different from, though closely related to each other and antagonistic in character yet very commonly known in Tanzania and Zambia, came to pass in Africa on November 11th. It was on this day in 1965 when the Rhodesian white settlers unilaterally declared their independence.....and it was on this same day, in 1971, that the track laying on the 502 kilometre Dar es Salaam-Murimba section of the now world-shaking Tanzania-Zambia Railway (the biggest donor aided project in Africa) was completed ...the two events seem like a 'historical accident'; ....because of the existence of profound mutual trust among the three committed countries and the exigency China understands for both Tanzania and Zambia to have the railway built as soon as possible, preparation had commenced in March 1970 before the Protocol was even signed....following immediately the tortuous surveys conducted from 1966 to 1970".

One of our young interpreters said one day that he had found somebody who had worked on the railway. It seemed that nearly everyone we met knew somebody who knew somebody who knew something about Tanzania. But unfortunately this person lived at the other side of Beijing (a massive city) and he did not think it would be possible for us to meet.

As I learnt each day more about the history, the politics, the economy, the agriculture (most people are remarkably outspoken and the English language 'Daily News' explores every issue with astonishing freedom of expression) the similarity of experiences and, in particular, the 'political language' in China and Tanzania became more and more apparent.

China had its 'Great Leap Forward', its nationalisation of private businesses, collectivisation of agriculture; Tanzania had its 'Arusha Declaration' and its villagisation.

And now, many years later, Tanzania has its 'Economic Recovery Programme' and its 'Structural Adjustment'. China has its 'Economic Reconstruction and Structural Reform'.

The decisive 13th Party Congress attended by 1,926 Chinese delegates in October 1987 found some echo in the 'Third National Party Conference' attended by 1,931 delegates in Dodoma in the same month of the same year. The Chinese Party Congress made what was described as 'a refined and systematic exposition on the theory of the primary stage (ie. the present stage) of socialism in China.' It reaffirmed 'the Party's pledge to build socialism with Chinese characteristics'. But it noted that a small number of Party members were engaging in tax evasion, smuggling, bribery, moral turpitude, breach of discipline....' And in Dodoma, Mwalimu Nyerere had spoken of 'some dishonest public servants and unscrupulous individuals who were taking advantage of the severe economic difficulties to enrich themselves.' (Bulletin NO. 29)

The 13th Congress clearly stated that the private economic sector in China should be allowed to develop to a certain extent. 'With the objective of common prosperity in mind, we should encourage some people to become well-off first through honest work and lawful business

operations'. A sentiment surely widely understood in today's Tanzania.

And in both countries the reforms are showing results. Chinese officials speak of a new vitality in the country's economy - a 103% increase in GNP, a 118% increase in industrial and agricultural output, 130% improvement in per capita income and, most spectacular of all (it is necessary to queue to climb the Great Wall or see the Terracotta Warriors) a 480% increase in income from tourism since the reforms began. And in Tanzania too, important gains can be seen. Growth up significantly for two successive years, substantially increased production of crops and so on.

But China has been making changes much more rapidly than Tanzania. The new 'Responsibility System' has decentralised decision making and the foreign investment code has brought about massive foreign investment all over the country. Factories are springing up everywhere.

And, just as the rate of inflation, especially in urban areas, dominates conversation in Tanzania, in China I learnt that, whereas reform in the rural areas brought almost immediate benefits for farmers, urban residents felt that the most noticeable feature of reform was inflation.

Tanzania has just devalued its currency. And, according to the December 3 issue of the Economist, China seems likely soon to do the same.

As Mr. I.B.Chialo, Acting Ambassador for Tanzania when I was in China, explained to me, the ideologies of the two countries have for long had their similarities and historically Tanzania has followed China in many ways. He felt that there was much to be learnt from China even today and pointed out that, at the time we were speaking, President Mwinyi was welcoming to Tanzania a delegation (later I learnt that it was the first visit to Africa of delegates of the organisation of such a high level of representation) from the China International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC) which can claim credit for the remarkable development of foreign joint enterprise and other investment now to be seen in China. The Daily News in Tanzania later quoted President Mwinyi as having asked the delegation to share with Tanzania some of China's experience in dealing with foreign investors in a socialist state.

And just as in Tanzania there are those in China who are saying that the changes must be halted as they are endangering the national policy of socialism and its objective of achieving equality amongst people.

Mr Chialo also told me that, although, because of the warmth of the relations between the two countries, Tanzania still received favours, the 'era of mutual admiration is over'. "We are learning to be tough in negotiation from them" he said. He quoted several potential joint projects in Tanzania being held up because of the severe conditions on which the Chinese were now insisting.

After a busy month my visit came to an end. The Ministry of Railways let it be known that it would not be possible for me to talk to any of the persons who had contributed to the great railway project. The Chinese bureaucracy is still there.

David Brewin



# JUSTICE IN TANZANIA



## ? LESSONS FOR ENGLAND

Tanzanian law owes much to the colonial legacy of English law, which overlaid the traditional customary laws of Tanzania's African communities, but some current developments and proposed reforms in English law reflect basic concepts familiar in Tanzanian legal experience. Some reforms already adopted in Tanzania are now under contemplation in England. These points emerged at a London meeting of the Britain Tanzania Society to welcome a party of senior members of the Tanzanian Judiciary.

Five Tanzanian judges made a study tour of Britain from 5th to 16th September 1988 following a request by the Chief Justice to the Commonwealth Magistrates' Association; the main purpose of the visit was to allow the judges to acquaint themselves with recent developments in the English legal and judicial system as part of a current comprehensive programme of judicial development and training being undertaken by the Tanzanian Judiciary. The visitors took part in a seminar for British judges and then visited courts, judges and other relevant officials.

The three guests who addressed a keenly interested audience on "Justice in Tanzania" were Mr. Justice Mfalila (a High Court judge since 1972), Mr. January Msoffe (Senior Deputy Registrar of the Court of Appeal), and Mr. Exuper Mtui (Senior Resident Magistrate). They had all graduated from the University of Dar es Salaam and Mr. Justice Mfalila was greeted at the meeting by three of his former British teachers and one of his examiners, in the form of three University of London Law professors and a senior solicitor from a big City firm. The visitors themselves personified the ways in which the development of legal education in Tanzania, although it started only on the eve of independence in 1961, has enabled the country to help sister African states: Mr. Justice Mfalila has served with distinction as a judge of the High Court of Zimbabwe from 1984 to 1987 and Mr. Msoffe has been a resident magistrate in the Seychelles.

The judges outlined the legal history of Tanzania. Colonial policies of indirect rule had protected indigenous local laws by maintaining a dual judicial system. After independence Government policies had sought to promote unification, introducing a unified system

of magistrates' courts (1963) and systematic, statutory "Declarations of Local Customary Laws" relating to the family and succession. A notable and mainly successful and pioneering experiment in unification had given Tanzania a unique lead as the only Commonwealth African state to have introduced a unified system of family law in the Law of Marriage Act 1971: this applies a single set of procedures and standards for the contracting of marriages and the settlement of matrimonial disputes including divorce, while recognising the validity of all the existing diverse types of marriage (customary, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, civil etc.).

In some ways Tanzanian law has always differed from English law. Thus, trial by jury was never adopted and serious criminal charges are tried by a judge "with the aid of assessors", whose individual opinions are advisory only; however, Mr. Justice Mfalila said that it was very rare for a judge to disagree with the Assessors and he had to state and record his reasons for doing so. By contrast, in the Primary (Magistrates') Courts, where the majority of cases are dealt with, the magistrate sits with local assessors and decisions are made by majority vote. It is interesting to note that a recent official enquiry in England recommended a trial with assessors instead of a jury for certain difficult trials such as serious fraud offences.

Within a few days of the meeting a highly significant development in Tanzanian law took effect: from 1st October 1988 the Bill of Rights added to the Constitution by amendment in 1985 became "Justiciable" - enforceable by the courts, an interval having been allowed for the adjustment of any existing provisions which might have been inconsistent with the Bill of Rights. This development greatly enhances the power of the judiciary to protect individual rights. Needless to say, the United Kingdom has no Bill of Rights except insofar as the European Convention on Human Rights allows the European Court of Human Rights to adjudicate on the validity of British laws and practices: that international Court has given a number of adverse decisions on British law, most recently (November 1988) on the impropriety of special powers against terrorism in Northern Ireland. In Tanzania the much criticised Economic Crime Control Act 1984 might have been challenged if the Bill of Rights had been in force then, especially insofar as it originally denied legal representation to persons accused, a provision which was modified at an early stage. The Act has been further amended to restore jurisdiction to try "economic crimes" to the ordinary courts, applying the Penal Code.

Here is another example of Tanzanian law being ahead of the law of England. Early in 1989 English lawyers will be studying the revised version of the Draft Criminal Code prepared for the official Law Commission. This will be more than a century after an authoritative project to enact a criminal code for England was abandoned in the face of opposition. The Penal Code of Tanzania, continuously in force since its enactment in 1930, had its original source in the draft code rejected in England in 1880, via the model adopted as the Queensland Criminal Code 1899 which was introduced into Nigeria in 1904. There is at least the possibility that, before the end of the twentieth century, English law will have caught up with Tanzanian law by adopting a code of criminal law - which should be a valuable element in making a most important area of the law clearer and more accessible to the people.



The Tanzanian judges were questioned at the meeting about various aspects of Tanzanian law, and they were also asked what they had learnt from British legal institutions. They commented on the training value of judicial seminars and on techniques adopted in English courts to reduce delays in civil cases. They noted that in England it is proposed to simplify certain technical rules of evidence, e.g. those which impose unduly restrictive requirements on evidence given by children as witnesses; such changes have already been adopted in Tanzania (1985)!

Finally, attention turned to an issue of over-riding significance in the common problems of controlling crime and treating offenders. For at the time of the meeting a Government "Green Paper" was imminent in England which emphasised the importance of compensation of the victim of an offence by the offender: English courts may be required to order compensation in future, unless they can record reasons against doing so in particular cases. Yet this is to recognise a truth which was accepted as fundamental in African societies of Tanzania (and other states) long before the advent of colonial rule. Indeed it was the focal point of a conference on Penal Problems in East Africa held at the University College, Dar es Salaam more than two decades ago, when a distinguished criminologist with a lifetime of practical service in Africa declared:

"The great Tsonga proverb is: 'The repair of the damage done is restitution'....the true corrective of crime has little value if the one who suffered is not compensated." [H.P. Junod]

Jim Read

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#### THE JUDICIARY AND THE PARTY

The Daily News in its issue of November 3, 1988 reported on a seminar being held in Dar es Salaam on 'The Role of the Judiciary in the Implementation of the 15-Year Party Programme.'

Party Secretary General Rashidi Kawawa, had told the participating judges that laws played a vital role in social and economic transformation especially in a society where the interests of the toiling masses were being trampled upon by the exploiting class. "The courts must at all times protect and champion the interests of the workers and peasants as a way of implementing the Party programme" he said.

Judge Goodwill Korosso, like many participants, observed that not all colonial laws were irrelevant to the aspirations of a socialist state under formation. British laws inherited at independence had been based on the principles of 'natural justice' which were the same for a socialist or capitalist society.

Judge Robert Kisnaga expressed concern over an allusion in the paper presented by party cadre Professor Daimon Mwaga to the effect that the courts of law could not afford to remain neutral in the overall struggle to build a state based on class interests. "I have in all my years in this job believed that the courts are an independent arm of the state" he said. He requested to be informed if the situation had changed.

## BRITAIN DOUBLES AID TO TANZANIA

Sir Geoffrey Howe visiting Dar es Salaam in September 1988 announced that British project aid would be increased to £18.0 million in the 1988/89 year, a 50% rise on the previous year. Sir Geoffrey also handed over 15 new trucks (part of a consignment of 30) for use by the Cooperative Unions in the Western cotton growing areas.

Speaking about the Economic Reform Programme at a dinner hosted by the Tanzania Government the Foreign Secretary said that he would like to salute the courage of President Mwinyi and all Tanzanians in pursuing "this hard but necessary road."

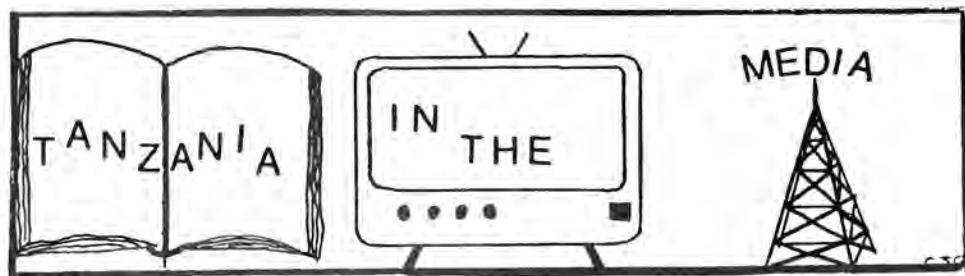
## DEALING WITH CRITICS

Zanzibar Chief Minister Dr. Omar Ali Juma has said that his government will not resort to repressive measures to deal with a clique of critics as long as actions by these adversaries do not develop into conspiracy or sedition against the state.

"The government has no intention of enacting a detention law or embark on mass arrests of dissidents because this will abort the democratisation process" he said.

The government was keeping dossiers on people engaged in anti-government activities to ascertain that their actions would not breach peace and security in the Isles.

Sunday News



## CHAPTER AND CLAUSE

Under this heading, Africa Events commented on the statement made by Mrs. Sophia Kawawa (Bulletin No. 31) concerning the rights of women which is alleged to have been the cause of the recent riot in Zanzibar in which a number of people were killed. Mrs Kawawa, the article said, had been the top lady of Tanzania's UWT, the Association of Tanzanian Women, for many years. As such, the article went on, the UWT wields no power. 'But in back stage politics some UWT leaders are known to be accomplished bridge builders, freelance power brokers and generally provide charm and glamour to the ruling Party the CCM. However, every Tanzanian woman knows that none of their number stands a chance of climbing to the Party's summit to engineer real change for the rest of her lot. The path is blocked. All key positions have been taken - for

keeps. Pro - woman sloganeering apart, CCM is male, chauvinistic and macho. In a predominantly Muslim nation, which Tanzania is, Mrs. Kawawa urged the abrogation of an Islamic law, in a speech which was candid in the extreme. Zanzibar burst into the streets to protest'.

#### HANDS ACROSS THE EQUATOR

Under this heading the British Medical Journal in its issue dated September 3 1988 wrote an article by John B. Wood and Elizabeth A. Hills, two physicians, one at Hereford County Hospital and one at Hospitali Teule, Muheza, Tanga Region, who have been trying to learn something about each other's way of life and arrange for some practical help to be given by the richer community to the poorer. Each year four health workers from each community visit the other for six to eight weeks. The article contains accounts of their experiences by a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist, a hospital engineer, a laboratory scientist (who returned home with hepatitis B infection), and a non-travelling histopathologist from Hereford.

For the Tanzanian visitors, the main rows of wards at Hereford seemed familiar because they consist of corrugated huts like those at Muheza, only older. Most were surprised that methods of treatment, delivery of babies and the giving of anaesthetics were much the same as they were used to.

What changes had been made at Muheza as a result of the visits? There had been small changes in the operating theatre (a different routine for skin cleansing) but the biggest change was as a result of the visit of a medical assistant to the casualty department. She went home with a list of requirements concerning resuscitation, and changes have been made. A dressing room has been converted, a hole knocked through the department wall and a covered way is nearing completion.

#### AN INTEGRATED ROADS PROGRAMME

The African Economic Digest, in its October 28 issue, stated that donor agencies are expressing enthusiasm about the prospects for an integrated 3,000 kilometre roads programme for Tanzania. Consultants from the UK, West Germany, Canada, France, the Netherlands, and in particular, a US\$ 1.0 million study on the administration of an integrated programme being financed by Denmark are under way. The report on the latter is expected to recommend that financial responsibility for the programme should be centralised in the Communications and Works Ministry rather than, as at present, spread across several government departments according to the classification of road involved. The studies need to be ready for a donor meeting planned for February 1989 in Dar es Salaam. After the meeting the World Bank seems likely to begin preparation of a detailed integrated road project to which US\$ 100 million has been provisionally assigned.

#### WHY ARE ITALIANS NOT COMING TO MAFIA?

Under this heading the November/December issue of Tantravel explained how a prominent Italian businessman, Mr. Gian Paulo Benini, a

few years ago, shocked his fellow Italians by advertising in newspapers inviting them to 'join the Mafia Fishing Club'. What MAFIA club was this? he was asked. To the readers, the Mafia was an '*omerta*' meaning not to be mentioned. He had to carefully explain that he was talking about a fishing paradise in the waters of the Indian Ocean. In 1973 Mr. Benini had founded the club. It became very popular with international tourists interested in deep sea diving, snorkelling and goggling.

Nowadays however, according to Tantravel, tourism has declined in Mafia because of the lack of efficient transport to the island. Extension of the airport to carry bigger aircraft like the Fokker Friendship has been underway since 1980 but is still only 60% completed. Passengers often have to wait two weeks to get a place on a plane to the island.

Tantravel, in the same issue, also stated that Tanzania hopes to host over 270,000 tourists in 1989. This would represent an increase of 102,802 over the 1988 figure. Tanzania had earned Shs 400 million from the hotel levy in 1987/88.

#### SYMPATHY

Thailand's English language newspaper The Nation gave Thai readers an account of the long negotiations going on between Tanzania and the IMF in its issue of August 19th 1988. It reported that Western donors were pleased with the results so far from three years of Tanzania's economic reform programme and were in sympathy with the government's dilemma over devaluation (*as described in the first article in this issue of the Bulletin - Editor*). "They are doing very well and for an economy which was in such bad shape you cannot change things overnight" one ambassador had said.

#### SIR GEOFFREY FINDS THE SPICE HAS GONE FROM ZANZIBAR'S ISLAND PARADISE

The Guardian in its September 16th issue wrote that "one of the better routes to paradise, short of dying, used to be to take the short boat journey across the Indian Ocean from Dar es Salaam to its island neighbour.... Zanzibar is bathed in the aromas of cinnamon, lemon grass and cloves. It was the favourite posting of every 19th century Western diplomat in Africa. The modern diplomat-explorer, Sir Geoffrey Howe, crossed the water wedged into a tiny Cessna aeroplane to find that paradise is not what it used to be. 'Terminal Island' reads graffiti behind the Sultan's Palace, now the local headquarters of Tanzania's ruling Party. It is one of the milder expressions of disgruntlement by Zanzibaris. They regard the mainland government in Dar es Salaam and its representatives in the palace, as pernicious a potentate as their former Arab rulers and are pressing for more autonomy.

The island's new Chief Minister, Mr. Omari Ali Juma, an economic reformer, used a lunch for Sir Geoffrey Howe to discuss the island's problems. "It is a grim situation" he said. "There is a general deterioration in the quality of life. And I have to confess, some government policies have led to this present crisis." But Dr. Juma went out of his way to emphasise that the Union with Tanzania was safe.

Paradise, the article concluded, is not close to separatism.

Meanwhile, the Daily Telegraph, in reviewing what it described as a basically affectionate biography of Sir Geoffrey Howe published recently, revealed that, while on national service, Sir Geoffrey had climbed Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain. He had gazed into the volcanic crater, looked out across the plains of Tanganyika - and fallen fast asleep!

#### KENYA, UGANDA AND TANZANIA

African Events has been giving its views on the recent visit by Kenya's President Moi to Dar es Salaam and what it describes as the terminal stages of a slow-healing process that is about to close the rift that has kept the two ex-members of the East African Community apart for over a decade. 'The first reason for the visit was bound up with Kenya's rapidly changing fortunes in manufacturing and the problems she is having in developing exports. With the new economic liberation policies gaining ground in Tanzania...the Tanzanian market is beginning to look like an exporter's paradise...Kenya is bent on getting a piece of the action and on restoring the old-time special trading relationship with its neighbour.' A second reason for the visit, the article indicated, was to ensure that Tanzania should not be coaxed into allowing the various dissident groups which are making the Kenya government distinctly uneasy, to use Tanzania as a base for cross-border raids.

The article went on: 'If Kenya is keen on getting into Tanzania's good books, Uganda must be anxious that Kenya does not replace it as Tanzania's most favoured East and Central African state. It was perhaps the need to allay Ugandan anxieties that Chairman Nyerere of Tanzania was in Kampala when President Moi was in Dar es Salaam. Chairman Nyerere heaped praise on Uganda President Museveni with a trowel. He told Ugandans that Tanzania had cut its ties with ex-President Obote and would never lend him a hand to hop back to power. 'The Ugandans feel enormously grateful to Tanzania for evicting the tyrannical Idi Amin. They have shown some of this gratitude by putting a fair amount of trade on Tanzania's plate. Uganda would now buy consumer goods from Tanzania rather than from Kenya if they were available and the price was right. Tanga is gradually replacing Mombasa as landlocked Uganda's main port for its goods....in Kenya's eyes therefore, Tanzania is the key to its peace of mind on regional trade. Kenya wants to stalk into the sanctum of the evolving Tanzania/Uganda axis before it properly gels. Otherwise it might find itself out in the cold.'

In its October 21-27 issue African Concord reported that, during his subsequent return visit to Kenya, President Mwinyi, speaking to Tanzanians living in Kenya, called for the revival of the defunct East African Community. He said that the original community had broken up because of minor difficulties between member states.

#### AIDS AND TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

According to the November 3rd issue of African Concord, Tanzania's Traditional Medicine Research Institute has encouraged traditional

herbalists to continue treating victims of AIDS but has advised them not to do so by guesswork. The Institute's Director, said that herbalists should only provide treatment after the AIDS victim had been scientifically proven to have the virus. He said that since a cure for the disease had yet to be discovered, herbalists were free to treat patients who came to them.

#### THE GHASTLIEST PLACE ON EARTH

Such was the description of the blotchy pink waters of Lake Natron on Tanzania's border with Kenya given by Clare Hargreaves in the November 5 issue of the Daily Telegraph. She explained that the lake took its unearthly colour from the algae that thrive in its corrosive soda waters and provide food for its only inhabitants - millions of pink flamingoes. She went on: "these desolate, but hauntingly beautiful landscapes and the rough, dusty roads that go with them are not for travellers who need their home comforts abroad; here, ice-cold gin and tonics are as rare as Daimlers and baths are more often than not poured from a jerry can....

But as Kenya becomes the Benidorm of safaris, visitors who really want to feel the pulse of Africa without competing with scores of other white mini-buses, will find Tanzania superb. Back at the camp, our Tanzanian driver had just killed a 4ft long red cobra, which still writhed in the dust beside our camp fire. The cook was busy hacking a freshly slaughtered goat which he threw into a huge cauldron of stew, watched by 17 pairs of hungry eyes.....a day and a half away at Ngorongoro, waking in the night to a cacophany of roaring lions and 'whooping' hyenas ....this was the ultimate African adventure."

#### JAPAN AND TANZANIA

The Japan Times featured Tanzania in three successive issues during September 1988.

The first reported that the Matsushita Electric Company, the only Japanese company running factories in Tanzania, was facing 'production stagnation'. It cannot import raw materials for its products which include radios and batteries because Tanzania is short of foreign currency. Some of the 561 employees were said to be cleaning the floors, some repairing machines and some were doing nothing but chatting. The factory utilisation rate had dropped to 30%. But despite this, the factory manager was reported to have said that 'some' profits were still being made although he refused to be specific. The factory had not fired any of its employees. "If we do that, employees who are exempted from dismissal will not be able to concentrate themselves on their work thinking that they may be fired next" the manager had said.

The second article described how Tanganyika Tea Blenders Ltd. a government corporation selling tea and coffee wants to increase exports to Japan. However, Japanese trading companies were reluctant to import because of unstable supply and because they felt that the packaging was unattractive. Japanese importers "who are very punctual" do not tolerate delays said the head of liaison of a company specialising in trade with Africa.

In the third article the Japan Times gave the story of two Japanese agricultural specialists working on the strengthening of irrigation banks for rice in Bagamoyo. A photograph was published showing the Japanese agriculturalists helping Tanzanian farmers to operate a home-made cement mixer which can also act as a roller to consolidate the compressed soil on the banks.

#### NEW ARMY COMMANDER

The appointment by Tanzania of a new Army Commander, General Ernest Mwita Kiara and a new Chief of Staff, General Tumaini Kiwelu, has brought comment from two African journals. The African Economic Digest quotes observers in Dar es Salaam as stating that the changes will strengthen President Mwinyi's control of the army, a 'traditional Nyerere power base'. But New African went further in stating that many officers were asking why President Mwinyi should appoint such a man to head the army. The article was critical of General Kiara but noted that he originated from Mara, the region from which both Mwalimu Nyerere and Prime Minister Warioba came. The article further claimed that Tanzanian soldiers would have preferred other candidates for the post of Army Commander and that their favourite would have been Major-General J. Walden.

#### TUSK AUCTION

The Independent on September 6, 1988 reported that some 2,600 lbs of elephant tusks were on sale in Dar es Salaam. The auction was open only to trophy dealers who were not black-listed by Cites, the Swiss-based convention on international trade in endangered species. The ivory had to be paid for in foreign exchange and exported.

50 years  
ago

Fifty years ago Tanganyikans knew that a major war was threatening Europe. The Tanganyika Herald of 1939 included the following news items.

January 21. The East African Indian Congress passed the following resolution yesterday: 'This conference is of the opinion that H.M. Government should not bargain with Germany on the fate of Tanganyika; that the future of that territory should be decided on the principle of self-determination by the peoples residing in the territory and that, in the meanwhile, the administration should remain on the basis of British mandate under the League of Nations as at present.'

February 3. In a report from a correspondent in Britain: 'The activities of the Tanganyika League have been well received here. At any rate most intelligent people here now know where Tanganyika is on the map - which in my experience is quite a new thing. The ordinary man is, I think, opposed to giving the Territory away to Germany. But the Tanganyika League should not relax its activities; rather should it increase and intensify them. Absolute security is far from being won.'

February 25. Quoting from the News Review of London: 'On orders received from the Chancellery, the Berlin Colonial League has started classifying Germany's colonial claims. The details are to be included in a report which will form the basis for Germany's first demand. It will probably be for the return of Tanganyika which is needed for its sisal, cotton, timber, rubber, coffee, ivory, wax, leather and skins. The draft report also states that the number of German farmers in Tanganyika has grown from 400 in 1931 to 4,000 in 1939. All were said to be members of the German Colonial League.'

February 25. At a meeting of the Executive Council of the Joint East African Board in London it was revealed that the Council of German Jewry had stated that it was disinclined to organise Jewish settlement in Tanganyika.

April 1. Under the heading Town Gossip: 'I have heard it said that Tanganyika is the safest place in East Africa because the Germans will not throw bombs here when they have it in their minds that they would be destroying a country of which they hope to be the owners.'

April 22. It has been decided to carry out an experimental blackout in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday evening when all lights must be switched off between 9.30 and 10.30 p.m. Sirens will sound at nine p.m. An observer will cruise over the town in an aeroplane to report on the experiment.

May 5. The well known Indian advocate, Mr. D.M. Anjaria addressed a meeting of nearly 1,000 people in Dar es Salaam and explained about air raids, bombs, gas, precautions for the safety of buildings and measures already taken by the government.

May 5. With a view to accelerating the raising of the additional company of the Kings African Rifles which was announced on Friday, certain officers of the KAR Reserve of Officers have volunteered for service pending the arrival of regular staff from England.

May 12. The people of Zanzibar have been warned that in the event of an air raid it will be necessary to evacuate the town. Zanzibar possesses 800 vehicles and all of them will be used under Government supervision. The population should start constructing shelters at Shamba.

May 20. Under the title 'German Land in Africa' the first of a series of films is being shown in Germany. In the film German settlers at work in Tanganyika are described as model colonisers and the natives are depicted as awaiting with impatience the return of a German



administration. It is remarked that 'the German has a hard hand but a soft heart - the Englishman a soft hand but a hard heart'.

May 27. Nazi attitudes to Indian settlers in East Africa have been made the object of a special article in the *Deutscher Kolonialdienst*. It states that Indian settlers are a serious danger to the vital interests of Europeans. They are accused of acquiring properties from Germans after the Great War at a fraction of their true value.

June 3. H.E. the Governor has stated that 'the conviction is now, I believe, widespread, that whatever may be the terms of any settlement between H.M.'s Government and another power, it is not within the bounds of possibility that the handing over of Tanaganyika Territory will be included in those terms.'

## BOOK REVIEWS



P. 40000

THE SNAKEMAN by Margaret Lane. Hamish Hamilton. 1988. £ 6.95

This is a paperback edition of a book which was originally published in 1963 under the title 'Life With Ionides'.

C.J.P. Ionides was undoubtedly one of the great characters of East Africa; one of those singularly original people who escaped from the restrictions of a more ordinary life to find fulfilment in his own way. After a rebellious childhood, Rugby, Sandhurst, the army in India, he landed in Dar es Salaam in 1925 in pursuit of the love of his life, wild animals. He did two years with the Kings African Rifles before taking up 'professional' ivory poaching and finally managed to join the Tanganyika Game Department in 1933 where he made a name for himself as a disciplinarian and a great naturalist. His autobiography was published under the title 'A Hunter's Story' by W.H. Allen in 1965.

The author of this book is Margaret Lane whose most well-known book is an outstanding biography, 'The Tale of Beatrix Potter' (F. Warne 1946 and 1985) - not at all the same subject as Ionides, one would think, but I am not so sure.

Miss Lane was intrigued by the character of Ionides when she first met him in London after he had retired and went there for medical treatment. He was 'shocked' by London and persuaded her to visit him in idyllic Newala where he lived in 'a tin-roofed bungalow plastered like a swallow's nest on the edge of an escarpment, looking towards Mozambique.' Here there was an abundance of snakes and he was able to carry on his retirement trade with the zoos of the world without a lot of trouble.

It is not necessary to be a snake lover to read this book and possibly one can learn to appreciate snakes from reading it. Miss Lane even learned to handle them. Incidents with other animals and insects are also described attractively.

The book is primarily a character study of Ionides during the few months that Miss Lane spent with him in 1962. She found him something of an ascetic but not averse to enjoying himself in the right company. One was able to 'sit with him in his uninhabited-looking room and at a glance to see nearly everything that he would call his own'. He had, as he said, escaped from 'the tyranny of possessions'. He spent much time apparently meditating in a cloud of tobacco smoke with his feet on the tablecloth while he waited for news of snakes to be relayed to him through an elaborate system of messengers.

He employed eight servants 'for the comfortable running of his household' which of course included the snake-catching business. The servants, however, were certainly not overworked: all they had to do was to obey orders when summoned in a fearsome voice. ("Excuse me I am going to ring my bell!"). His diet was frugal and identical every day - a sausage for breakfast, rubber-like goat for lunch, melted cheese on bread for supper - and the minimum of housework was done. Miss Lane had to introduce her own diet in order to survive and to suggest a few household jobs for the sake of hygiene. Once this was done, the two of them appear to have got along together very well.

Ionides had charm, was always courteous to Miss Lane, and ready for any amount of deep, original conversation. He was widely read, though somewhat behind the times. His heroes all had 'a streak of violence in their nature' as he had himself. Chaka, King of the Zulus; Tipu Tib; Hannibal; Genghis Khan. "Jezebel now, I always liked her; a great woman who died so bravely, with much dignity". "It is the same feeling that he has for all wild animals" says Miss Lane. In Shakespeare, which he read often, he would always quote the references to animals.

The book contains interesting descriptions of life in and around Newala at the time together with Ionides' comments on it. Since he had 'an instinctive disapproval of anything called progress' there was much he did not like. Nevertheless he was very tolerant of people because he saw them as part of the animal kingdom and accepted them as they were.

Finally there is an enjoyable visit to Mafia, followed by a few days in Dar es Salaam where Ionides was greeted 'on every hand as a rare and auspicious migrant' his nickname being revealed as 'Iodine'!

I am glad that this charming classic has brought the Snake Man to our notice once more.

Christine Lawrence

#### FIGHTING CASHEW NUT DISEASE

A fungal mildew disease of cashew nuts, known as Powdery Mildew is considered by the Ministry of Agriculture to be the main cause of the drastic reduction in cashewnut production in Tanzania from 145,000 tons in 1974 to 22,000 tons last year.

Now, in a project jointly financed by the government and the World Bank, a serious attempt is being made to check the disease. Dr. A.B. Shrestha, an agronomist with the FAO has said that trials carried out in

1986 and 1987 showed that, where crops were sprayed with sulphur compounds, increases in yields of between twenty five and eighty per cent had been achieved.

According to Deputy Agriculture Minister, Amran Mayagila, large quantities of sulphur dust and blowers have been imported and a major campaign has been launched.

SHIHATA



## Letters.

Send letters to:

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579

In the September Bulletin there was a lively discussion of the Teaching of English in Tanzania. But unfortunately there was a good deal of over-simplification and even downright confusion about aims and objects.

Firstly, there is no doubt whatever that when a nation first becomes independent it needs to stress its own language for both social and cultural reasons. Anything less does not satisfy the aspirations of nationhood and the important sense of belonging to a country. But Tanzania has gone through that period many years ago. Secondly, a sound knowledge of English is much more important in the world today than it was even twenty years ago. There are many commercial and cultural avenues which are blocked if the nationals of a country - any country - do not have a fair knowledge of English. Thirdly it is not necessary to have Shakespeare 'rammed down the throats of pupils' in order to encourage them to appreciate him, not as an English dramatist, but as quite simply, the greatest dramatist the world has ever known - a title acknowledged everywhere as true.

In a word, Tanzanian educators and University personnel need to forget about English as the language of their former colonial bosses, and face the fact of English as an increasingly valuable asset - the most important of all the world languages.

I was recently speaking with some Tanzanian students in Birmingham, and they wished very much that before coming to England to further their studies, they had learnt a great deal more English as a means to a finer education and a better future. But they were all intensely proud of their own language. That surely is the point.

Noel K. Thomas

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