

Bulletin of Tanzanian affairs

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RELIGION

As in the case of so many troublesome things in Tanzania these days it all began in Zanzibar. Tension between Christians and Muslims is nothing new in Tanzania. It had been building up for some time but Zanzibar's unilateral act in joining the 'Organisation of Islamic Conference' (OIC) without prior consultation with the mainland part of the United Republic created a storm, soon fanned by the very free Tanzanian press, a number of Christian leaders, the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, many angry Members of Parliament, and, according to one rumour, at least one Western embassy.

Zanzibar's membership of the OIC was said to have breached the Tanzanian constitution because, firstly, the country is a secular state and should not be part of an international organisation based on religion and, secondly, because it was done unilaterally in what was described as a secretive way.

THE MARMO COMMITTEE

Members of Parliament demanded an enquiry into the matter and a 'Parliamentary Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee' was set up under the Chairmanship of Philip Marmo MP to examine whether the constitution had been breached by Zanzibar's membership of the OIC and also by President Mwinyi who may have connived in it or at least failed to prevent it. Fire was added to the flames when the 12-person Committee came out with a forceful report, described by some, as one of the most direct results of Tanzania's new policy of openness and frankness.

The report stated that Zanzibar's membership of the IOC violated articles of the Union constitution and that Zanzibar should be directed to withdraw immediately from the OIC and those responsible for the move (assumed to be the President of Zanzibar and the Chief Minister) should be asked to resign; two other Zanzibar ministers, who had refused to appear before the Committee, should be punished. The report of the Committee said that Zanzibar had been admitted to the OIC only after receiving written assurances from the Tanzanian Embassy in Saudi Arabia but that the assurances given had not been authorised by Dar es Salaam. President Mwinyi, himself a Zanzibari, was not mentioned by name but appeared to be so by implication as he had earlier defended Zanzibar's action by arguing that the OIC was not an organisation of Islamic states; many of its African members had Christian Presidents (e.g.: Uganda, Cameroon, Guinea, Burkina Faso) and some even had Christian majorities in the population. But the Marmo report said that the issue was not ambiguous - foreign affairs was under the jurisdiction of the Union Government.

PARLIAMENT'S DECISION

After what was described in the Daily News as a heated and at times emotional debate in Parliament a motion from the Attorney General was passed by 186 votes against 23.

It stated, inter alia, that 'This House:

congratulates the Parliamentary Committee for the good job it did in a very short time;

agrees that Zanzibar joined the OIC, which is an international institution dealing, among other things, with economic and social development issues and that it did so as stipulated in the Zanzibar Constitution of 1984.....;

accepts that some sections of the constitutions of the United Republic (1977) and Zanzibar (1984) conflict with each other

advises that the Union Government in collaboration with the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar should resolve the issue by reviewing the the two constitutions with the objective of removing the conflicts between them...and that the work should be completed in not less than twelve months:

where it has been established that some leaders....misbehaved then the government should look into the issue and take the necessary legal steps....'

In the meantime, the Supreme Council of Tanzania Muslims, 'Baraza Kuu la Waislamu Tanzania' (BAKWATA) filed a petition with the National Assembly requesting the MP's also to investigate the long standing diplomatic relations between Tanzania and the Vatican.

SEDITIOUS PREACHINGS

The Family Mirror then quoted the Daily News as having said that in Dar es Salaam seditious preachings, masterminded by Muslim fundamentalists, were urging Muslims to prepare for 'Jihad' (religious war) and were advising Muslims to burn CCM (the ruling Party) membership cards and to vote for a Muslim President in the 1995 general elections. Cassettes criticising Christians were said to be circulating in Dar es Salaam.

There followed responses from Christian groups. Reacting to a statement from the Catholic Church (supported by the Evangelical Lutheran Church) whose bishops had complained about government inaction when certain groups were 'openly moving around preaching contempt and blasphemy against the Christian faith', President Mwinyi summoned Christian bishops to State House for consultations. He promised to react to their concerns. The Tanzania Episcopal Conference had also earlier criticised the government for its silence in the face of 'continued scandalisation of the Christian faith'.

Meanwhile, the long standing dispute between the splinter group (Bulletin No 42 of May 1992) Mount Meru Diocese of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (claiming 84,000 followers) was declaring that its adversary, the Meru Diocese (which it claimed had only 2,500 followers) was 'an ice block which would melt in the sun' according to the Family Mirror (January 1993 Issue). The Lutheran bishops have been opposing strongly the establishment of the breakaway Mount Meru Diocese and strenuous efforts have been made to bring about reconciliation. The government felt it necessary intervene; Minister of Home Affairs and (now) Deputy Prime Minister Augustine Mrema held meetings throughout Meru and said that everyone wanted to have only one diocese. Unless the people of Meru made it clear that they wanted more than one, the government would enforce an agreement which had been reached between the 19 Lutheran parishes in Meru. indication that the problem had not been resolved, however, was the reported arrest of 18 people, two of whom had been been convicted in connection with violence related to the issue.

A similar religious dispute has been reported from Kyela where 22 persons have been arrested on a charge of attempted murder related to a religious conflict in the Moravian Church. The accused are alleged to have set fire to nine houses as part of their demand for a diocese separate from the Rungwe headquarters of the church.

Adding to the religious ferment in Dar es Salaam has been the visit of the German Pentecostal Evangelist Reinhardt Bonnke who, according to the BBC, which intends to present a television documentary about him later this year, attracted a crowd of 100,000 people during his Dar es Salaam crusade.

Tanzania remains secular state, Parliament says

'Let us not fight: we are one'

Pork butcheries attack

Dar demo

Police break

Isles OIC membersing illegal, says House team Isles OIC membership

Zanzibar's hidden 'Religious rows' agenda exposed

Do Tanzanians want Sharia law?

urges religious tolerance

Chief Kadh

Bishops decry religious violence

One Tanzania, One Nation

RECONCILIATION

In February the Business Times reported that representatives of various faiths - Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Bahai (which sponsored the gathering) and Zoroastrian had come together in Dar es Salaam and proposed the setting up of an 'Inter-Religious Association (IRA) to promote fellowship amongst different religions. After all they, agreed, 'all people worship and believe in God as the universal creator; all believe in the brotherhood of man; every religion teaches a code of ethics and moral values'.

BUTCHERS SHOPS ATTACKED

However, angry religious expression amongst a small group in Dar es Salaam continued. The next event was on April 9th when a group of Muslim fundamentalists stoned and demolished three pork butcheries in Dar es Salaam. Thirteen people were subsequently arrested and Deputy Prime Minister Mrema said that the attacks had been the work of a group of externally financed persons. Another 13 people were arrested during a protest march about the arrest of their colleagues. The protesters were carrying a red and white flag with the slogan - 'Muslims are ready to die in defence of their fellow Muslims. Help us God'.

A few days later Sheikh Yahya Hussein, leader of the extremist Koran Reading Development Council (BALUKTA), who had admitted that the people who had destroyed the butcheries were his followers, was also detained.

Chief Sheikh Hemed bin Juma bin Hemed and the Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) gave their full support to the government's action saying that Tanzania was a secular state; they advised Muslims to maintain peace and stability.

Tension increased further on April 22nd when police used tear gas to disperse about 100 people trying to make their way to the courtroom where now 36 Muslims were being charged with illegal demonstration and destruction of property. They were refused bail.

BALUKTA STRUCK OFF LIST

As this Bulletin goes to press the Daily News (April 29 1993) reported that the Government had struck BALUKTA off the Register of Religious Societies for engaging in activities other than those for which it was registered. Minister of Home Affairs Augustine Mrema, addressing a meeting of religious leaders at the Diamond Jubilee Hall, said that since 1988 BALUKTA had been undertaking activities such as marriages which were the responsibility of BAKWATA. Mr Mrema called on BAKWATA to set up its own Koran reading section to replace that of BALUKTA. He also said that anyone in possession of seditious tapes recorded by BALUKTA should surrender them or face prosecution. In future, the Minister said, any religious sect wanting to be registered would have to have the blessing of BAKWATA for Muslims and the Christian Council of Tanzania

(CCT) for Christians. The meeting ended with religious leaders present shaking hands. However, several Muslim fundamentalists refused outright to shake hands with anyone including their fellow Muslims.

POLITICS

The Marmo Report was found unacceptable in Zanzibar and so Tanzania was plunged into a situation which brought into focus the constitution itself and its seemingly increasing ambiguities.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL DILEMMA

Professor Issa Shivji, writing in Africa Events (March 1993) questioned whether the constitution - and in particular the increasing numbers of items which have been added to the list of matters reserved to the Union Government over the years (for example, foreign exchange), was itself lawful. 'The OIC membership, which is presumably a matter concerning external affairs and is therefore a Union matter cannot be treated in isolation from the basic issue of distribution of power which lies at the core of the problem of the Union' he wrote. Pointing out that every time anyone had tried to question the official interpretation and structure of the Union such opposition had been stifled, he quoted three cases in support of his contention - the case of the former President of Zanzibar, Aboud Jumbe, who was 'ignominiously booted out in 1984 for raising the issue'; the Nyalali Commission's recommendation for the creation of three states (the mainland, Zanzibar and the Union instead of the present two) which had been 'brushed aside'; and, the issue of the Vice-Presidency of the Union which had been postponed at the last session of the National Assembly (Bulletin No 44). 'At the end of the day' he wrote, 'the disease is in the very heart of the body of the Union. The rest (including the IOC issue) are all symptoms. Whether we like it or not, history has objectively placed a new constitutional order on the agenda. The longer we resist it the more the damage to our social fabric and political stability'.

MAN EXCELS WHEN HE WISELY LOOKS FOR SOLUTIONS

Zanzibar President Salmin Amour stated that Zanzibar had joined the IOC for economic and social gains because the organisation offered interest-free loans unlike the World Bank and IMF. He urged MP's to assess the Union bearing in mind that unity of any kind required not only goodwill but also resolve to uphold its tenets. "There were areas where we went wrong" he said "and areas where we did well". There were differences among people but "man excels when he wisely looks for solutions".

THE CIVIC UNITED FRONT (CUF)

party which is believed to represent the main opposition to the CCM in Zanzibar had three of its top leaders briefly arrested on February 10th; they had their luggage searched. According to the Business Times, the Police seized two empty cartridges of bullets said to have been used in a Police shoot out of CUF members in Pemba early in February in which it was said that one person had been killed and a few others injured. The Police were said to have immediately appointed a probe team and suspended 11 policemen.

THE CASE OF THE REVEREND CHRISTOPHER MTIKILA

extreme element Another in the political-religious situation in Tanzania is the Rev. Christopher Mtikila, head of the 'Full Salvation Church' and Chairman of the as yet unrecognised Democratic Party who is openly advocating the break-up of the Union. He has vowed not even to seek the 400 from Zanzibar needed if his sponsors party registered.

After a speech in Dar es Salaam in January, a group of his supporters apparently caused a breach of the peace and paramilitary forces had to be brought in to keep order.

Let Tanzanian opposition learn from

Kenva

Nyerere 'sick and tired' with CCM and government Let's have local chiefs back

Who sacked who in UMD What makes Nyerere 'Father of the Nation'?

Zanzibar condemns stoning

Union must be sustained, says Amour

Tough times ahead for CCM

Mwinyi must resign

CCM accused of harassing opposition

Don't libel Nyerere

UMD CRISIS

Top CUF leaders arrested

Tumbo fired

'Political jiggers' bent on causing chaos

What is Mtikila up to?

Needed: Tanganyika government

Mtikila was subsequently arrested and charged with unlawful assembly, breach of the peace and using abusive language against CCM leaders and the Government (on January 28th in Dar es Salaam). It was alleged in Court speech had stirred his followers into rioting and attacking people of Asian origin; many people were injured and some lost property. During the first stage of the court case Asian shopkeeper Almoonir Jiwa (22) said that he had had to have six stitches on his face after being attacked. A Police Officer told the packed courtroom that Mikila had told the rally that President Mwinyi was a thief, Tanganyika had been sold to the Arabs and Indians, that its wealth was under the control of 161 people he termed 'gabacholis' and that it was time to dismantle the Union and declare the liberation of Tanganyika.

The case against the Rev Mtikila was subsequently dismissed apparently on the grounds (amongst others) that stating Mwinyi and Mama Sitti were thieves was merely a President figure of speech meant to attract political sympathy. The verdict seems to have raised eyebrows in legal circles in Dar

es Salaam.

OPPOSITION PARTIES PLAN MERGER

Three opposition parties - CHADEMA, the National League for Democracy (NLD) and the Tanzania Peoples Party (TPP) plan a merger to form a powerful opposition against the CCM.

Meanwhile, another party has fallen into disorder. Chairman , Chief Fundikira, has attempted to dismiss the Secretary General, Ambassador Tumbo, and his committee and to appoint a 'task force' to r executive to run activities - a move described by Mr Tumbo as unconstitutional.

THE FIRST MULTI-PARTY BY-ELECTION

Considerable interest was directed towards Kwahani in Zanzibar in April as the first by-election to be held in since multi-party politics were introduced Tanzania approached. The former MP had been killed in a road accident.

The opposition parties reached what they described as a gentleman's agreement to boycott the by-election, claiming that conditions in Zanzibar were not conducive for the holding of a free and fair election. However, the Tanzania Peoples Party (TPP) later decided to break ranks and fielded a candidate against the CCM. According to the Business Times the registration of voters went smoothly and campaign rallies met with broad satisfaction. But only the Civic United Front (CUF) was thought to be able to provide serious opposition to the ruling party (CCM) and it had decided to bovcott the election.

The result, announced on April 19th was:

2,634 Mohamed Ali Khamis (CCM) Boniface Justin Mgodas (TPP) 219 (7.42%) Spoiled votes 98

The TPP candidate walked out of the Hall during the vote count complaining of election irregularities. He was advised to petition through the normal channels and is expected to do so.

A FINE DEMOCRATIC EXAMPLE

The Daily News hailed the result and wrote that the people of Kwahani had shown the rest of the country the way to manage an election in a multi-party system. 'It should be a great inspiration to Tanzania and a demonstration to the rest of the world that we are masters of our own destiny. The turnout of 2,951 voters out of 3,327 registered is impressive by any standards anywhere. All we need is discipline, tolerance, respect for the law, fair play and acceptance of the ultimate results'.

RACE

The issue of indigenisation - favouring greater African participation in Tanzania's economy (Bulletin No 44) - has not gone away. Advocates of indigenisation claim that, although Asians number only 200,000 they control 30% of commercial businesses and indigenous Africans control only 3%. The state still has over 60%.

IMPERIALISM AND CAPITALISM

Demands for indigenisation are all the fault of the IMF according to former Minister Abdulrahman Mohammed Babu, quoted in the Business Times during a visit to Tanzania for a meeting of his International Institute for Human Rights. Babu castigatd political leaders who subscribed to parochial ideas and models like indigenisation saying they were out to wreck the nation. Specifying Christopher Mtikila's 'gabacholi' political model, which suggests that Asians are the exploiters and black Tanzanians the exploited, Babu said that the model was aimed at sidetracking the real issue facing Tanzania "which is Imperialism". He said that Tanzania belonged to all people who lived in it

Not at all, hinted 'annoyed citizen' in the Business Times (February 12); it was Mwalimu Nyerere who was responsible. 'He brought about the Arusha Declaration and the Leadership Code which resulted in the business field being left entirely in the hands of Indians'.

THE AID AND INVESTMENT DIMENSION

USAID representatives in Tanzania have indicated their concern at the recent turn of events. They said that ownership of an enterprise did not matter as long as the investor paid his taxes in Tanzania, employed Tanzanians and earned foreign

exchange for Tanzania. They warned that the competition for capital in today's world was very keen. Investors could invest in Tanzania or some place else.

As if to emphasise the problem, the Canadian International Development Agency announced on March 4th that Tanzania was among eight African countries which had been dropped form the list of recipients of Canadian aid because of financial problems in Canada. A week later Sweden announced that it too was cutting its aid by 10% because of its unprecedented economic crisis and because 'it was time for developing countries to stand on their own feet'.

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But Norway has indicated that it intends to maintain its level of development financing to Tanzania largely for economic development. By contrast, the European Commission has announced a change of direction in its aid to concentrate more emphasis in future on the social rather than the economic sector. There would be no cut in the amount.

Mwalimu Nyerere himself has consistently dismissed the indigenisation campaign as a camouflage by a small elite of African capitalists to cheat the Tanzanian masses by purchasing formerly state owned parastatals, which the people helped to build up, at rock bottom prices. He said that if Tanzanians begin to discriminate against non-indigenous Tanzanians what would there be to prevent further discrimination between for example, the Gogo and Chagga - Editor.

HAIRDRESSING FREEDOM AND BALD HEADS

Member of Parliament Stephen Nandonde raised the issue of Tanzania's culture and youth in a question at the February sitting of the National Assembly. He complained that many young people were now shaving in a funny and indecent manner and using a lot of things including honey in hair dressing.

The Member for Musoma Urban countered that he welcomed the

The Member for Musoma Urban countered that he welcomed the use of honey and raw eggs in hairdressing as that meant a growth in the market for these products. The Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Charles Kabeho, said that hairdressing was a matter of fashion and people were at liberty to fashion their hair according to their own wishes.

On the equally important matter of baldness the government dismissed as a hoax reports that bald heads were in great demand in Kigoma 'where heads are claimed to fetch a lot of money'. In May 1991 Raphael Mvukuye and Emmanuel Ngarama had been convicted of murder after they were found in possession of a man's head. The Member for Bariadi said he had been worried about the fate of bald headed ministers, who might have been afraid to visit Kigoma unless assured of tight security. Amidst much laughter the Minister of Communications and Transport, Professor Phillemon Sarungi and the Minister of State (Defence), both extensively bald, told the house that they had been to Kigoma, had not worn hats and had returned safely to Dar es Salaam - Daily News.

WITCHCRAFT IN MODERN TANZANIA

In September 1992, the African Studies Association of the United Kingdom held a conference on the theme of Order and Disorder in Africa at the University of Stirling. I organised and chaired a "panel" on the theme of witchcraft in contemporary Tanzania, and I report briefly on this on the invitation of the Editor of the Bulletin.

Three papers were presented and were well received. One paper, on "Witch killings in Sukumaland" by Simeon Mesaki of the University of Dar es Salaam, was summarised from the chair because the author himself was unable to attend. The other papers, on "Witches, Witchcraft and the Question of Order: a view from a Bena village" by Solomon Mombeshora of the University of Cambridge and on "Shaving Witchcraft in Ulunga" by Maia Green of the London School of Economics, were presented by the researchers themselves. All three authors are doctoral candidates in anthropology and have a close knowledge of the areas they discuss. It is intended to put the articles together into a small book, along with one or two other papers on related themes, and it is hoped that the volume will be published by the Cambridge University Centre of African Studies in a similar format to my earlier edited book on Villagers, Villages and the State in Modern Tanzania, (1985).

Witchcraft in contemporary Tanzania presents practical and intellectual problems. As in many other parts of modern Africa, beliefs in the power of individuals to harm each other mystically or magically are still widespread there, in both urban and rural communities, and there is little if any sign that they are disappearing. Because such beliefs have largely, though by no means wholly, lost their force in many parts of Europe, it is often assumed that they will also fade elsewhere, but this may be an unwarranted ethnocentric assumption. Moreover, there is certainly no shortage of other, at least equally "unscientific" beliefs in Europe about intrinsic qualities of evil within human beings, as the horrors of so-called "ethnic cleansing" and panics about "satanic abuse" - to take two extreme examples patently and at times tragically reveal.

It seems clear that most of the villagers discussed in the conference papers consider witchcraft to be a dangerous reality which they would like to see controlled and, if possible, eradicated. There is, however, evidence of substantial temporal and local variation in the degree of general concern involved, and in the methods adopted to deal with the problem, though the documentation of such variation is sometimes difficult.

The issue of methods of attempted control is the most straightforward. There are sharp differences, for example, between Pogoro (in Ulanga) and Sukuma patterns in this context. Pogoro have developed peaceful forms of purification which involve both suspected witches and their accusers visiting a ritual expert and having their hair ritually shaven. Among the Sukuma, on the other hand, there has been a worrying tendency to resort to violence against suspects. This

has resulted in a number expulsions and even murders of suspected witches, and in the flight of many suspects, who are usually old women, from their villages into the towns. Some such women have subsequently been resettled elsewhere. Not surprisingly the Government has been very anxious about this development. In the Bena area of Njombe District studied by Mombeshora, there is also some evidence of a resort to violence, but this seems to be on a substantially lesser scale than among the Sukuma.

A historical perspective on these practices seems useful. Public accusations of witchcraft and violent retribution against suspects were strongly discouraged under the colonial regime, which was often thought of as protecting witches, and different ways of dealing with the problem developed in many areas. Witch finding movements such as Mchapi in the 1930s spread north from Zambia, and reappeared in some parts of Tanzania in the 1960s (Willis, 1968). Some suspected witches were expelled from their communities, and many of those who felt themselves at risk from witches moved elsewhere (cf. Abrahams 1981).

A spate of witch killing emerged among the Sukuma in the early 1960s, and there is evidence to suggest that some hotvillagers mistakenly believed that the independent government would approve of such behaviour (Tanner 1970). There seem also to have been many murders in the 1970s and 1980s. A further element in the situation appears to have been the villagisation "operations". There is a great deal of comparative material which suggests that people's anxieties about witchcraft increase when they are forced to live in close proximity to each other, and many Nyamwezi villagers expressed fears about this to me in 1974-5. Some of the comparative evidence on this issue, in Tanzania and elsewhere, goes back well beyond this period to the days of colonial sleeping sickness settlements. Indeed, the modern, peaceful pattern in Ulunga partly harks back to measures adopted during such colonial population movement, although its cultural roots go back beyond this also.

Another complicating element in the Sukuma area has been the development of Sungusungu "vigilante" groups (Abrahams 1987 and Abrahams and Bukura 1992). These grass-roots groups began to operate in part of the Nyamwezi/Sukuma area in the early 1980's, and they spread very rapidly to other parts of the area and beyond. They were aimed at raising the prevailing levels of law and order in the rural areas, and the control of cattle theft was the main focus of their activities. Some groups, however, also directed their attention against witchcraft, which they saw as a serious threat to security. It is not clear to what extent these groups and leaders have affected the situation beyond providing an institutional forum for the expression of anxieties about witchcraft. Nor, more generally, is it clear exactly how many suspected witches have been murdered among the Sukuma. Available statistics are hard to interpret, and I suspect that many of the figures quoted are too high. Nevertheless, it is clear that there has been a serious problem, and that the

pattern of recent reaction to suspicions of witchcraft has been much more violent among the Sukuma than among the Ulanga Pogoro.

There are many paradoxes in the contemporary situation, and some of these are interestingly highlighted by Mombeshora's paper on the Bena. He shows how structural conflicts between senior and junior generations have been exacerbated by the development-oriented emergence of new attitudes institutions, and by new possibilities for younger people to seek economic and religious independence from their elders. This leads the young to question both the wisdom and authority of their seniors, who in turn try harder to assert that authority through warnings of mystical punishment, which are in turn read as witchcraft threats by those at whom they are directed. In earlier days, such threats probably appeared more legitimate, and those so threatened could relatively easily move away to a safe distance if they wished, but population increase and modern controls over movement have inhibited the possibilities of doing this.

It remains to be seen whether recent reforms and relaxation of controls on settlement and economic enterprise in Tanzanian villages will help or hinder the resolution of these problems. The greater freedom of individuals to choose where they live may once again permit them to establish 'safety zones' between themselves and others, but it is also possible that this will be offset by increased jealousies and suspicions arising from further economic differentiation between richer and poorer sections of the population.

Ray Abrahams

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THE 'NO-POTHOLE' POLICY - TANZANIA'S AMBITIOUS INTEGRATED

ROADS PROJECT (IRP)

Tanzania has benefited from a number of donor assisted highway projects over the years many of which provided fast smooth roads which then disintegrated because too little was done to maintain them; many were broken up by over-loaded

lorries. The World Bank estimated that Tanzania was spending up to US\$ 150 million annually (one third of total export earnings) on vehicle operation due to the bad roads.

Tanzania therefore launched in 1991 a much more ambitious programme than any that had gone before - the Integrated Roads Project (IPR) for which World bank and other donors are contributing 90% of the total cost of US\$901 Under this project it is intended to improve 34,650 million. Tanzania's 55,000 kms of roads to 'all weather. maintainable standards'; 10,150 kms will be trunk roads (only 10% of which were regarded as satisfactory in 1991) and the remainder rural roads. The IRP will also decentralise the Ministry of Works to enable it to cope better with maintenance and hopes to introduce a new 'road maintenance culture'. There will be a 'no pothole policy' aimed at repairing faults before they damage the road foundations and new methods are being introduced such as grinding up old Tarmac and using it again. The target is to have 70% of the trunk roads and 50% of key regional roads in good condition by 1996.

Work began in mid-1991. The Chinese are building the 226 km Tunduma-Sumbawanga road giving better access to the maize-rich Rukwa region; local firms are rebuilding the 310 km Bereku-Singida-Shelui and the 278 km Usagara-Lusahanga roads. Other components of the project include a 58 km section of the Tanzania-Zambia highway from Igawa to Igurusi which is assigned to a British company (Stirling), the Dar es Salaam-Kagera corridor via Dodoma and Mwanza with a branch to Tabora; and a design study of a new road from Tabora to Kigoma.

In Morogoro Region, in the interests of austerity and greater permanence, local 'petty contractors' from the villages are repairing short lengths of minor routes, and tracks for oxen, donkeys and horses using hand labour.

DAR ES SALAAM ROADS

The roads in and around Dar es Salaam are a special problem which is being tackled by the Japanese. When I was last in Tanzania I was shocked by the number of private cars, especially the host of new ones bearing the 'TX' number plates (formerly used for duty-free vehicles) many belonging to aid agencies. Perhaps too much is being spent by donors on these cars and other creature comforts. I think it would be a good thing if development could be drawn away from Dar es Salaam which is creating part of the problem by being so insatiable for supplies from afar. I visited Dodoma in 1991 and it was clear to the officials I met that even they did not agree on where they would be able to find enough water to support the town as a capital city. I think that Tanzania would be better served if there were a number of prosperous and fairly self-sufficient regional centres and market towns rather than one huge megalopolis on the coast.

C T Hart

I MET MALCOLM X IN DAR ES SALAAM

It was during his second extended visit to Africa. It was a Quaker friend, an Afro-American, who told me that Malcolm X would visit Dar es Salaam and urged me to meet him. To what end I asked? I then told Bill about my first encounter with Malcolm X, at a United Nations reception in New York a year or so earlier. There, Malcolm X had been unyielding; there was no way that he would use his considerable leadership skills to involve whites as well as blacks in the struggle against injustice. In his world scenario there were no positive roles for whites. Given that experience, was there anything further for me to discuss with Mr X?

My friend was not put off. Malcolm had been transformed at Mecca, he said. I would profit personally from exchanging views with him, and Malcolm himself would gain from meeting not just Africans and black Americans but people like me, white Americans working in Africa with Africans.

Later that day I headed for a phone booth on the verandah of the old New Africa Hotel. The phone was being used. Occupied by whom? Malcolm X hung up, smiled, introduced himself. Some four hours later, we finished talking.

Malcolm X told me how his hadj - his pilgrimage to Mecca had transformed him, and how his conversations with African leaders like Julius Nyerere and Jomo Kenyatta had enriched him. The two neighbouring countries had had widely disparate colonial histories, and, consequently, starkly different independence struggles: Tanzania's was a triumph of reason, revolution. Malcolm X appreciated Nyerere's Kenya's а perspective that his country's argument with the colonial master was with the British government, not with the British people. And he was aware of Kenyatta's capacity to come to an understanding with Kenya's white settler farmers, and gain their great respect. Malcolm marvelled most that both presidents were free of racial animosity.

Now, despite our earlier encounter, I could see not a trace of racism remaining in Malcolm X. The impact of Mecca and of his meetings with African leaders, enhanced by his unique ability to assimilate ideas and viewpoints, was profound.

Something else had happened. He began to see his struggle for justice as reaching past the issues of American civil rights to that of global human rights.

I have never, before or since, met a person with so incisive a mind or so great a capacity to ask probing questions and to learn what moved people. Responding to his questions, I explained that this was my third year in Africa and that I was there out of concern for justice and fairness that were planted in me by my parents, my educators and my Christian faith.

I was not to see Malcolm X again; just weeks later he was assassinated. Still, from that one meeting I knew that, at the end of his life, Malcolm wanted all of us to join in making the world a better place, more human and more humane, and that he was in a hurry.

Margaret Snyder

A TALE OF IGUSULE

In the north west of Nzega district there is a village called Iqusule where, sometime in May '91, I found myself in the process of organising a village seminar. I would be meeting with my friend, the village Extension Officer, at the cattle crush which can be found in the forest along Iqusule's southern edge.

When I found Gordons he was busy vaccinating cattle; there were only some thirty or forty head, but since this Tanzania, where nothing is simple, it turned out to tremendously hard work. The cattle crush was in an extremely sad state of repair, so much so, that rather than aiding Gordons with his work it was in fact inhibiting him.

Let me explain by using a small metaphor; the water funnel; the mob of cattle enter at the wide mouth of the funnel and, as they progress inwards they are eventually reduced to a single file procession; at this point, as they

pass Gordons one by one, he vaccinates them.

That, anyhow, is the theory. In practice it worked like this...so many cattle had passed through the crush that by the time they had come to a single file they had worn a deep trench into the ground. By now the trench was so deep that the cattle could no longer keep their heads and horns above the latticed steel bars that formed the crush's frame. As soon as a cow would enter the single file area its horns would become entangled in the steel frame and it would panic, thrashing its head from side to side and sometimes bucking and its compatriots behind that would unanimously to retreat.

Unfortunately, that sensible option was available to them, for not only had the funnel mouth been long since closed, but also, there was the presence of several enthusiastic youths armed with long flexible sticks. These drivers had their own goal and that was to force the cattle down the funnel so that Gordons could do his work. By rushing about wildly, gesticulating and yelling, the boys encouraged the miserable cattle to congregate in the narrow end of the funnel. This was bad enough but, occasionally, a lone and foolish cow, panic stricken by the confusion in the front ranks of its fellows, would break through the cordon of youths thereby provoking them into terrifying action. I stared amazed as another cow broke free from the bovine melee and attempted to rush the stockade frame. Two youths left the cordon and neatly out-manoeuvred the hapless escapee who then received several lightning quick blows with the sticks right between the eyes. Such alarming treatment was enough to persuade the cow that the unknown dangers of the narrow path were preferable to those presented by these horrendous demons with the awful sticks. The cow would dive back into the safety of

its own kind thus further encouraging the general forwards motion.

All these cattle were the property of one man who stood to the side quietly leaning on his long staff. I asked him how many cattle he owned and he answered by indicating the scene in front of us, replying, "Only thirty to forty". In fact he was currently the owner of around eight hundred head, and that wasn't including the many goats and sheep he undoubtedly had as well. He had not always been a rancher; only two years ago he'd been a successful businessmen in Shinyanga owning two buses and a few other smaller vehicles. One day he had sold them — all bar one — and moved back to the village to keep cattle.

By now the youths had valiantly forced the cattle past Gordons' vaccinating gun, but for the beasts the ordeal was still far from over. Once out of the first single file passage the cattle would emerge into another stockade with another funnel, this time followed by the need to leap into the dipping pit. But the passage, having suffered the passing of countless thousands of hooves, had had a deep trench worn into its bottom. The boys were now covered from head to foot with wet green cow manure and were using the sticks so often that the weapons would fragment and shatter until all they had left was not much more than they were grasping in their hands. In the end it was worth the effort; the cattle had been dipped and vaccinated so were now fit for transportation and to be sold.

The cattle owner, who went by the name of Mzee Balole, invited Gordons and I back to his house to eat, which, I might add, I refused. His house was typical of Igusule and other villages of his district in that it was surrounded by his cattle corrals and therefore, as far as I was concerned anyway, was plagued by the millions of insect followers that African cattle inevitably attract. Besides, when I'd arrived in the morning I'd expected to have more of Gordons' time and so I was already lacking in patience. We did go to Mzee Balole's house. We stayed and drank some sour milk. But lunch was going to be a long time coming and eventually my patience plus my inability to deal with the flies forced me to drag Gordons away from a free meal. Nobody else noticed the flies, not even Gordons who is from Mount Kilimaniaro where this kind of cattle culture doesn't exist. Should one or more of the insects happen to investigate a particularly sensitive orifice or organ, it was calmly wafted away like the useless and poor excuse for an irritation it was.

THE SECRET SOCIETY OF RIFLE MAKERS

When I had left the homestead I knew I had committed an unforgivable social faux-pas and I became depressed, so Gordons tried to cheer me up by telling me a few tales of the bush. Like myself, Gordons had a passionate interest in all things to do with the wild and, having lived in Tabora region for some years,he was capable of telling the most incredible stories. To begin with he tells me that some of the villagers

here still manage to hunt in the forests that lie to the south. Unfortunately for the wildlife, Iqusule is a large village and so most of the bigger game have been forced deeper into the woods; the last lions here were poisoned as far back as 1971. The one notable exception though was the magnificent secretive Greater Kudu whose meat is regarded especially sweet by many Tanzanians; an adult bull male may weigh in at over three hundred kilogrammes and has, mounted into his skull, two spectacular spiralling horns. However, though its exceptionally shy nature means that even a large adult male would rather run whenever threatened it must still be quite a handful to kill, so I remarked on that to Gordons. "No" he replied, "if you have a torch and you hunt at night it is really very easy. Many people have rifles in this village".

This was definitely news to me and I said so. "Yes" said Gordons, "we use this local rifle, the one where you load the ammunition and the gunpowder in the muzzle" and he offered to

show me one when we got back to his house.



When I saw it I was taken aback. In its dark wooden stock there were inlays of bright metal, and perhaps ivory too, fashioned into subtle Arabic shapes and signs; it had a long barrel braced its entire length with the wood of the stock and slung below was the ramrod that confirmed for my disbelieving eyes that it was indeed a muzzle loader. I took it from Gordons to examine it. I was sure that it could be ancient so I asked Gordons if he knew its age, "Oh yes I think maybe, fifteen years" he replied.

Gordons really knew how to surprise me and having so gained my attention he began to tell me more about the rifle. Some eighty or a hundred miles south east of here there is an extremely large and wild tract of bush where lives a secret society of rifle makers. So secret are they that, should an unwelcome stranger happen to stumble upon them, they might

well murder him in order to protect the secret.

The raw material used in the manufacture of the rifle barrel is the steering rod of a car which, I believe, is somehow either cold or slow drilled through its entire length to form the business end of the muzzle loading musket. Should you wish for something more up market, you could go for one of their .404 hunting rifles, "the one they use to kill the elephants" Gordons tells me. Even the gunpowder for the musket is made by these experts. The shot on the other hand, is readily available in most big towns and comes in the form of standard sized solid, round steel bars known as 'Nondo'; these are sawn up into suitably sized plugs of maybe one centimetre thickness that fit surprisingly well down the barrel of the musket. I couldn't say what calibre the muskets were but the

muzzle looked very wide. My imagination began to run amuck as I thought about the packing of the barrel with powder and then plugging it with that formidable steel shot. Pulling the trigger must have produced the most sensational results.

Gordons went out again and a short while later came back. This time he had some local 'baruti', or gunpowder, with him. "Watch" he said. "It works very well". He poured a measure onto the floor, and then he touched a match to it and with a brief violent orange flash it flared explosively and died. My retinas were left with the impression of its brilliant signature. But I remained in doubt as to whether these locally produced items were really capable of performing their intended task. "Even shot like this kills elephants very nicely" Gordons solemnly assured me, rather unnecessarily I thought. I couldn't imagine that it would be very accurate, but firing it must have been somewhat akin to loosing off an old siege cannon, and woe betide any being luckless enough to interrupt the passage of that formidable plug of steel.

A DIFFERENT PLACE

By the time we had conducted our business of the day I had toured much of Igusule, meeting and talking with some of the farmers. Gordons had also taken me to the market to meet a few of the stall holders. Igusule was going to be a boom town. The railway from Dar es Salaam came right through as did the fabled African trams-continental highway. In the future they were going to build at Igusule a new railway cargo terminus, with a new line going north to Bukoba starting right there. Blessed of all, the Tarmac part of the highway, beginning in Kigali, Rwanda, would be extended all the way to Igusule. Change was coming and Igusule was going to be a different place.

Michael Ball

ONE OF THE LARGEST AND BEST TRAINED GOVERNMENT RESEARCH TEAMS

The Department of Research and Training (DRT) in the Ministry of Agriculture has recently prepared a comprehensive new Research Plan. This Plan has been developed to ensure that Tanzania's limited resources are focused on the most important technical problems constraining agricultural production. The Plan was developed with the financial assistance of Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom and the professional assistance of the International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR). The plan was completed in 1991.

The Research Masterplan was launched by the Government of Tanzania during a Workshop held in the Kilimanjaro Hotel, Dar es Salaam in March 1992. This launching was effected with the help of the Special Program for African Agricultural Research (SPARR). SPAAR was established in 1985 by 23 donor members to strengthen African agricultural research systems through

the launching and start-up of a collaborative plan of priority agricultural research.

The Government has established a Consultation Group with its donor representatives in Dar es Salaam. This Group is called regularly into session by the DRT to discuss implementation plans and financing needs.

The Department of Research and Training are now putting the finishing touches to their detailed commodity research programme plans, to their plans for using some of the surplus research stations for alternative purposes and to the redeployment of some scientific and support staff from low to high priority research stations. Tanzania is fortunate to have one of the largest and best-trained teams in Africa (more than 350 graduates with over 10% holding a doctorate degree).

OPTIMISM AND ENTHUSIASM

There is a new mood of optimism and enthusiasm in the air at Temeke (the old headquarters of the Tanzania Livestock Research Organisation and now DRT's HQ near Dar es Salaam) and one can anticipate that this new consolidation and focus of effort will pay dividends in the years to come.

effort will pay dividends in the years to come.

However, this new enthusiasm is likely to be difficult to sustain without rapid action by Government to reform its civil service with significant improvement of salaries and rewards for exceptional work. At present, Tanzanian scientists, including those with PhD and many years experience are paid little more than an attendance fee, needing to supplement their salaries with other work. No useful agricultural research system can ever function with part-time scientists. The long-awaited reform is coming but maybe not in time to stop the emigration of those who can find an incentive salary elsewhere.

This new initiative by Tanzania to consolidate the support of its donor community (about 16 SPAAR members now finance research in Tanzania) behind its new Research Plan is exciting and should help Tanzania develop its agricultural production with resulting benefits all round of greater food security and more foreign exchange earned.

Andrew Spurling

AIR TANZANIA CORPORATION RESTRUCTURED

Air Tanzania has reduced management posts at its head office by 30%. Departments have been reduced from five to four. The airline has three aircraft - two Boeings and a Fokker; progress is being made towards privatising the airline.

WE WAKE TO THE SONG OF BIRDS

We came back to Tanzania in October 1991 and again are very happy here. We live at Mafiga, Morogoro, where we have a lovely old house (formerly a sisal farmhouse) and large garden: from our verandah we can see the steep Uluguru Mountains and the view from the back is dominated by another range, Mindu. The garden is a naturalist's paradise: it contains a wonderful range of tropical plants - many of which provide us with our own fruit - and abounds in birds, reptiles and invertebrates.

The bird life is particularly impressive. We awake each day to the songs of white-browed robin chats (Cossypha heuglini), spotted morning warblers (Cichladusa guttata) and yellowvented bulbuls (Pycnotatus barbatus). Pied crows albus) and white-naped ravens (Corvus albicollis) come and drink from the water bowls that we have put out in the garden, as do balck-headed weavers (Ploceus cucullatus) and, from time time, other birds such as bronze mannikins (Lonchura cucullata) and blue-capped cordon bleu (Uraeginthus cyanocephalus). Scarlet-chested sunbirds (Nectarinia senegalensis) and variable sunbirds (N. venusta), feed from flowers in the garden and little beeeaters pusillus) hunt insects. African yellow-billed kites (Milvus migrans parasitus) often frequent our trees by day - there is also a large roost, mixed with the European race, only a few kms away - while barn owls (Tyto alba) hunt in the garden at night. Bateleur eagles (Terathopius ecaudatus) regularly soar overhead and cattle egrets (Bubulcus ibis) pass over morning and evening.

Reptiles are also prevalent. There are striped (Mabuya striata) and house geckos (Hemidactylus mabouia) everywhere but we also see yellow-headed dwarf (Lygodactylus luteopicturatus), chameleons (Chamaeloe sp.) and Nile monitors (Varanus niloticus). The commonest snakes appear the white-lipped or herald snake (Crotaphopheltis hotamboeia) which is rear-fanged and the tiny blind snake (Typhlops sp.) which is harmless. Spitting cobras nigricollis) visit us from time-to-time and there is at least green bush snake (Philothamnus sp.) in the bushes overhanging our outhouses. Puff adders (Bitis arietans) are frequently reported by our Tanzanian neighbours and we are often called to remove them.

The invertebrates we see deserve a multivolume text to themselves. The most spectacular are the butterflies such as the mocker swallowtail (Papilio dardanus), citrus swallowtail (P. demodocus), African monarch (Danaus chrysippus), commodores (Precis spp.) and, especially after rain, grass yellows (Eurema spp.) which provide us with a far better spectacle than any butterfly house in Britain! Large wasps, bees, grasshoppers, mantids and beetles are ubiquitous and not proving easy to identify. Giant millipedes appear when it rains as do giant land snails (Achatina sp.), ant lions and termites.

We have a large collection of captive animals - some

"permanent", some temporarily with us while undergoing veterinary treatment and others in transit for only a few days. At present we have two dogs, four guinea fowl, two chickens (one the local Kuchi breed which has a bare neck), four pigeons, an Indian house crow, eleven rescued tortoises (of two species), an African rock python and various insects. Other species which have passed through our hands have ranged from freshwater crabs to young ostriches.

John and Margaret Cooper

OBITUARIES: LUCY LAMECK AND DUNSTAN OMARI

'It was an eerie evening for Tanzania's political terrain; on Sunday March 21 1993 the country lost one of the very few women who significantly contributed to the country's political profile, especially in the formative years. Lucy Lameck (59) - MP for two decades, member of the National Executive Committee of the country's post-independence ruling party, former Government Junior Minister - passed away in Moshi after battling for several months against a kidney illness. "I eat, sleep, think and talk nothing but politics" she had said in 1961. She was buried with full honours at a ceremony witnessed by Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, Zanzibar President Salmin Amour and Prime Minister John Malecela' - Daily News.

And Prime Minister John Malecela led the mourners at an elaborate funeral ceremony for Mr Dunstan Alfred Omari MBE (71) in Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam on April 16 1993. Mr Omari was the Director of several executive boards including those of the Standard Chartered Bank in Kenya and the African Medical Research Foundation. He became well known in his youth as one of the first African District Officers in the Colonial Administration.

NEW BRITISH COUNCIL BUILDING

The Duke of Kent opened the newly expanded and renovated British Council building on Samora Avenue in Dar es Salaam on March 30 1993. The half million pound renovation, designed to restore the architectural elegance of the original colonial building, had proved necessary because the Council had outgrown its exisisting office premises.

The Duke also inspected Commonwealth war graves in Tanzania during his visit.

NEW CHANCELORS

President Mwinyi has appointed Mr Paul Bomani as Chancellor of the University of Dar es Salaam (he was himself the previous Chancellor) and Mr Al-Noor Kassum as Chancellor of the Sokoine University of Agriculture in place of Mwalimu Nyerere whose term had expired - Daily News.



(In order to make this part of the Bulletin as interesting and representative as possible we welcome contributions from readers. If you see a mention of Tanzania in the journal, magazine or newspaper you read (excluding those regularly featured here) especially if you live or travel outside the UK, please cut out the relevant bit, indicate the name and date of the journal, and send it to the address on the back page. We cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive but if your item gives a new or original view about Tanzania we certainly will - Ed)

WHO ARE YOUR ROLE MODELS?

Asked, during an interview in AFRICAN CONCORD (February 1 1993) who were his role models, Chief M K O Abiola, one of the two candidates standing in the elections for the Presidency of Nigeria, selected two leaders. The first was John F Kennedy - for his charisma, his commitment and candour.

And second was President Nyerere. What qualities do you admire in him? he was asked. "His incorruptibility, his great belief in his ideals (although he hung on to them too long even when he knew that they were not working)...here is a President who would gladly fly in an economy seat, a man of God who believes that life should be a life of service. I met him at the summit of First Ladies in Geneva. He is a man of tremendous generosity. I will always remember him for the encouragement he gave me that day; he told me that I would soon not be just a chief but the most powerful of all chiefs. I am talking about someone whose attitude and whose policies to life and to people I want to emulate".

'IN A FEW YEARS DODOMA SHOULD BE A GREEN TOWN'

'In 1973' wrote Abdulrahman Said Mohammed in the April-June issue of the BBC's FOCUS ON AFRICA MAGAZINE, 'Tanzanians decided to move their capital inland from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma. But progress has been slow and not a single Embassy or High Commission had yet moved to Dodoma. The city is four times bigger than it was ten years ago and now boasts a population of 200,000 people...the Gogo people were the original inhabitants but few now live in the town centre. They have been displaced by the Chaga and Rangi, Indians and Arabs who dominate commerce and trade....despite the Government's apparent lack of enthusiasm, industry has been attracted to Dodoma. There are two bottling plants producing different kinds of wine, red port and Imaga brands. There are two printing presses...More than 5,000 new homes have been built... no buildings more than three stories high...emphasis

on the use of burnt brick and tiles...and a modern sewerage system has been provided....Millions of trees have been planted, creating a micro-climate, improving the rains and the scenery and reducing strong winds.... But, in spite of all this, Dodoma's future is gloomy. As a new multi-party era dawns, more and more politicians contend that the transfer of the capital from Dar es Salaam is too costly for a country as poor as Tanzania'.

INDIRECT RULE

Reviewing a book called 'Enigmatic Proconsul: Sir Philip Mitchell and the Twilight of Empire' in the DAILY TELEGRAPH Elspeth Huxley wrote: 'It was in Tanganyika that (the Colonial Governor) Mitchell made his name as an exponent of indirect rule - the system by which the colonial power governed through indigenous institutions such as chiefs, their councils of elders and so on. Education was his other priority. He concentrated on teaching an elite fitted to take over an eventual Western-type democratic government. But when a hand-picked African elite did emerge, its members turned on their chiefs and elders and indirect rule passed into history'.

"TEA FORESTS RATHER THAN TEA BUSHES"

The problems involved in rehabilitating tea at the Eastern Usambara Tea Company's Kwamkoro and Bulwa Estates described by Judith Gerrardon in the CDC MAGAZINE No 2 1992. 'During the 20 years prior to the Commonwealth Development Corporation's arrival in 1988 the estates had been allowed to deteriorate. According to Estate Manager Chris Mselemu, during the period of parastatal management they had tea forests rather than tea bushes. The mountain road was impassable and factories were run down. The workers were erratically. Now, four years later, it is hard to believe that so much has been achieved. Virtually all the fields have been weeded and production has quadrupled....the road has been rebuilt...a satellite dish provides television for the first time in the workers recreation hall....a government primary school is being built and a college for 400 was due to be opened in late 1992.....'but renovation is a slow process can sometimes be more expensive than starting again....there were serious labour problems at the beginning, as, after 20 years of state ownership, the people in the area did not believe the new management would be any different from the old.....now 40% of the labour force is from surrounding area....'

'THIS MADDEST OF PURSUITS'

Martin Cropper, reviewing a book called 'Hearts of Darkness' by Frank McLynn in the SUNDAY TIMES had much to say. Extracts:- '...the pious and cyclothermic Livingstone; the brilliant melanothobe Burton; the height-challenged Stanley; the unspeakable John Hanning Speke who could hardly face

dinner without first laying waste to the embryos of pregnant females he had slaughtered....What were these men doing in Africa? Suppressing the slave trade? But they inadvertently opened up new routes for the Arabs.; even the Royal Navy antislavery warships in the Zanzibar roads were supplied by slave labour. Spreading Christianity? But "Saint David" Livingstone himself never made a single permanent conversion. Spreading civilisation? Well, yes - civilisation as understood by the purveyors of firearms....The sheer captiousness of the great explorers, exacerbated by paranoia-fomenting malaria, beggars belief....(the book) concentrates on the pre-colonial actualities of this maddest of pursuits....'

PRIVATE INITIATIVE, PUBLIC APATHY

Under this heading AFRICA EVENTS (March 1993) wrote about the 'accelerated pulse of private activity in Tanzania pounding the economic arteries of the countryon a scale unheard of six years ago'. 'A mushroom carpet of new up-market houses is sweeping across empty lots of land around Dar es Salaam. Two-legged mobile stalls, in the shape of teenage boys, parade the streets, their outstretched arms each carrying half a dozen shirts of so on steel wire hangers, looking like walking urban scarecrows....3,500 vehicles are imported every month, the bulk turning into taxis, minibuses and light goods transporters;in the outskirts of the town, drive-in roadside market gardens vie with developers for vacant niches of land;the unemployed and the underpaid and the budding entrepreneurs are all jostling for release and fulfilment. It is no easy task. It would have been a damn sight easier if government played its part...but...poor roads, telephones not good enough. erratic power supply, suicidal Bank credit (30% interest)and the most damaging aspect of official lethargy is the heightened intensity of bureaucracy and behind it the corruption....'.

TURNED INTO SEMI-DESERTS

Efforts over many years to curb environmental degradation in the Bariadi district of Tanzania have failed and some areas have turned into semi-deserts according to an article in DOWN TO EARTH (December 1992). They failed because they ignored the traditional knowledge of the people. The authors of praised what they described as former sophisticated system of governance in the villages; institution was the dagashida - a men-only community assembly that meets once or twice a year to formulate customary laws and to settle issues. The colonial state and later, the independent government, brought about a diminution in the authority of the dagashida but it survived because it retained power in two areas the state did not control - regulating the occult and organising defence against cattle raiding. recently revived meetings of the dagashida the authorities were called on to stop issuing permits for charcoal makers to cut trees, ensure that the people

collaborated in the digging and maintaining of wells, restricting bush fires and so on. However, the authors noted that village leaders and petty politicians were beginning to show resentment. The author of the article concluded that we do not know where all this will lead to'.

CURBING THE PRESS

NEW AFRICAN (April 1993) quoted President Mwinyi as stating that "All the newspapers are against us. They have been calling us names until they have exhausted their bad vocabulary. We won't tolerate further invective". Shortly thereafter the Swahili newspapers MICHAPO (Palaver) and CHEKA (Laughter) were banned.

"CLIMBING A MOUNTAIN IS THE BEST THING YOU CAN DO"

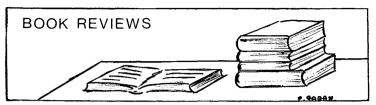
The son of the mountaineer Chris Bonnington was recently found not guilty of a f10,000 burglary (DAILY TELEGRAPH January 12). Speaking of his vast relief Mr Bonnington (Sen.) said that he had taken his son, on bail awaiting trial, to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. "It is technically an easy mountain...but it was a rich and very good experience. Having something like this hanging over you is not pleasant ...climbing a mountain is the best thing you can do. It focuses your mind on getting to the top". The son is a musician with the pop group 'Puro Sesso' (Italian for 'Pure Sex').

DOCTOR OF LAW FOR AN ALUMNI OF MAKERERE

President Museveni of Uganda awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) on Mwalimu Nyerere at Makerere University on January 29 1993. He gave five reasons for the award - Nyerere's support for the liberation struggles in Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, the welding of Tanzania into one united people, his clean leadership, his crusade for human development in the Third World and, of course, as most Ugandans remember, his being instrumental in the removal of Idi Amin Dada in 1979. But, as AFRICA EVENTS (March 1993) pointed out, it was ironical that, of the two previous similar awardees, one was none other than Idi Amin himself!

TANZANIA WITHDRAWS FROM THE WORLD CUP

Tanzania has withdrawn from the World Soccer Cup because of financial problems. NEW AFRICA (March 1993) stated that the team had no hope of qualifying after its 3-1 defeat by Zambia. Most of the players in the Zambia team perished in an air crash off Gabon at the end of April on their way to play Senegal.



CAN THE POOR AFFORD 'FREE' HEALTH SERVICES? A CASE STUDY OF TANZANIA. B Abel-Smith and P Rawal. (London Shool of Economics and Political Science). Health Policy and Planning. Vol 7 No4. 1992. 12 pages.

This study, based on interviews of nearly 900 outpatients and over 1,800 households, points out that, because of inadequate supplies of drugs and of food at hospitals, many patients have to incur substantial costs to use the 'free' services. Information was collected on travel time, travel cost (84% of rural patients had to walk; only 7% used a bicycle)) and waiting time (an average of about one and a half hours); which health facilities were chosen (18% of the poorest people used mission services; 42% used government services) and why; the cost of using them (average total cost of admission to hospital varied from Shs 500 to Shs 5,000) and difficulty in finding the money to pay and willingness to pay user charges.

Other useful statistics: there are 6 referral hospitals; 17 regional hospitals; 129 district hospitals; 266 health centres; 2,205 dispensaries; and, 1800 village health centres. (3% of the population is within 10 kms of a health facility). However, the level of government financing is not sufficient to provide for this substantially expanded service and even the poor often have to resort to the private sector and pay.

Is there a case for charges in government hospitals?: The following represents a much abbreviated summary of the authors'conclusions:

- To stop frivolous use? No, as government service are far from free and waiting time discourages unnecessary use.
- Because the mission health services make a charge? No. The government and non-government services are perceived as serving separate markets. Those using government services do so primarily because they are cheap. Those using mission services primarily because drugs are available.
- To improve services for all users? Yes, if the money can be used to improve the services, especially the provision of drugs.
- To lighten the burden on the poor? Yes. As the poorer section of the population are the main users of the government services they would be better off if drugs were always available, free only for the poor and at modest charge for other users.

But the administrative problems of collecting the charges, exempting the poor and ensuring that charges are used in improving services points to the need for any change in policy to be very carefully planned - DRB.

AID TO AFRICAN AGRICULTURE: LESSONS FROM TWO DECADES OF DONORS' EXPERIENCE. Uma Lele (Ed). Johns Hopkins University Press. 627 pp. \$52.95.

This book is a result of a study launched by the World Bank in 1984 under the title, "Managing Agricultural Development in Africa" (MADIA), in a collaborative project between the Bank and seven other donors and six African governments - Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Cameroon, Nigeria and Senegal.

Between 1970 and 1987 Tanzania received the highest level of official development assistance; this peaked at US\$ 684 million in 1987. During this period donors contributed a total of US\$ 8.1 billion; Sweden was the largest contributor. A substantial amount of the aid was directed to agriculture, which is responsible for 58% of the GDP and 86% of the employment, but it grew at only 1.45% per annum, while population grew at 3.1%.

Several authors from the major donor countries describe the successes and failures of their aid programmes in Tanzania, including valuable comments on the lessons learned. The Danish aid programme devoted about 30% of its resources to agriculture in which livestock and co-operatives were the major recipients. An interesting lesson from this programme was that poverty-oriented projects, focused on marginal producers, were neither replicable nor sustainable.

African socialism, as defined by President Julius Nyerere, had great appeal to the Swedish aid constituency. Initially a substantial part of this aid was concentrated on agriculture and rural development; the latter had a very large component of rural water supplies. By 1984 nearly 40% of the rural population had received supplies but only about half were functional because of lack of attention to operation and maintenance. The review concludes that it is essential to quantify the recurrent costs when designing an aid project and it emphasises that Sweden must improve its understanding of the macro-economic issues if it is to be a more effective donor.

Unlike Sweden, the UK was not strongly in favour of the political system and consequently its aid programme had not the same long term commitment. After a period of project aid with substantial investment in agriculture, it decided that these resources could be more efficiently used in programme aid, directed to agricultural inputs and policy reform. The review notes that agricultural research, which was strongly supported in the colonial era, had deteriorated, but concluded that long term support like that given to cotton research had left the most useful legacy.

The descriptions of the German, EEC, US and World Bank aid projects show that they too have had mixed success in their attempts to help Tanzania.

This book provides an excellent review of several important lessons that must be incorporated into future development programmes if they are to fulfil both the country and the donors' expectations.

John K. Coulter

DONKEY'S GRATITUDE. THE PENTLAND PRESS. Tim Harris. 1992. 478 pages. £21.95 (hardback).

When Tim Harris arrived in Bukoba, as D.C., I was then a standard VII pupil at Ihungo Secondary School some three miles north of the district headquarters. My status then could allow only a glance of him from a distance during rare occasions such as Empire Day celebration. When I joined the Tanzanian Civil Service in Dar es Salaam in 1963, Harris had already terminated his term of office though his memories in the capital were still fresh. In more recent years when visiting my daughter at the University of Bristol, I was reminded that Bristol was his birth place. All this background enabled me to read with exceptional enthusiasm and pleasure Donkey's Gratitude.

The book narrates a lifetime from the cradle to the grave and presents, in a palatable prose full of humour, the experience of an unusual colonial administrator. It provides a deep insight into the emotional, physical and intellectual elements of which a colonial career is made as well as the circumstances which might influence the choice of colonial service as a calling.

Harris' journey from Cornwall to Tanganyika and his arrival in Dar es Salaam was marked by traumatic experiences which might have discouraged anyone with a weaker will power. It is, however, the details of the daily chores in Korogwe, Singida, Iringa and other places, which provide captivating scenes. Overall, the book reveals a rare Cornish character undaunted by the debilitating climate, hostile environment and unsympathetic hierarchy in Dar es Salaam.

Equally revealing is the account of the district administrator who became a scapegoat of the higher echelons of the bureaucracy on the one hand, and the disenchanted natives, on the other. The fact that on many occasions he had to defend the interests of the subjects against the demands of the colonial structure, elevates his status to that of a good philanthropist.

The painstaking details of the places, individuals and communities tend to enhance the wide application of the book. The episodes relating to roads, ravines, streams, animal trails, and so on, appear to breathe life into what would otherwise have been spots on a map. Narratives on goats, trout, gazelles, elephants confirm the author's love for nature and demonstrate his highly observant and analytical mind.

His interactions with domestic servants, the sick, litigants and social groups reveal a rich, humane heart committed to the advancement of the African.

Inadvertently or otherwise, the author has provided an interesting insight into the culture of a number of communities including the Barbaig, the Kwavi, the Hehe and the Haya. His analysis covers tribal idiosyncrasies with respect to such traits as honesty, discipline and work attitude.

There are a few shortcomings however. Foremost, the narrative has not ben able to identify specific themes so as

to highlight how certain targets were formulated and pursued. While the reader can appreciate the coherence generated by adherence to chronology, one encounters unnecessary repetitiveness.

Secondly, the dating of some events and the identification of the actors is regrettably subdued, most likely in order to minimize controversy. However, the overall effect of this, which involves the use of pseudonyms, is to reduce the value of the account as an historical reference.

Lastly, the chapter on specific philosophical themes such as religion, Nilohamitic Bantu conflict, witchcraft, etc., should be presented in the annex because they do not fit into the flow of the narrative. They constitute significant digressions which are amateurishly presented.

However, this book is a rare narrative on colonial and contrasts with the experiences accounts produced by historians, anthropologists, and other categories of theorists. As an account of personal experience unexcelled and should be a good reference for any student on Tanzania.

The language considerably enhances the value of the book. The softness of the style that is seasoned by cynical humour makes the book an ideal accompaniment in a good English course for Tanzanians. The local setting of the narrative enhances the readability of the book which is a must for anyone aspiring to the civil service of Tanzania as well as jurists.

One cannot doubt the disappointment experienced by the author on the day of Independence following the action of an angry and mocking mob. One ought to remember, however, that ingratitude being one of the earliest sins of man is bound to be encountered by those who inherited the reins of government and who, after some three decades of leadership, ought to have discovered already that a donkey's gratitude is a kick in the stomach.

Dr. C.M. Tibazarwa

(Sadly, Tim Harris died before completing the book and the final chapter was written by Geoffrey Bullock - Ed)

BEING MAASAI. ETHNICITY AND IDENTITY IN EAST AFRICA. Eds: T Spear and R Waller. James Currey. Cloth £35. Paper £12.95.

This book is about the several peoples who speak Maa, the Maasai language, and not only about the proud and photogenic, red-caped and red-ochred pastoralists who tourists travel to East Africa to gawk at. It includes the camel herding Ariaal of northern Kenya, the Okiet of the forests, the cultivating Arusha, the Parakuyo and others who are often not thought of as 'proper Maasai'. 'Maasai society is seen as encompassing a triangle of economic forces - pastoralism, hunting-gathering and agriculture - within which the complex cultural structures were both highly differentiated and complimentary'. The myths which have come to surround, and partially obscure, Maasai ethnic identity are questioned in order to understand:

firstly, the cultural mixes which compose that identity; secondly, how that identity has endured, so remarkably and so persistently, despite all the gloomy prognostications that it was doomed. Hinde published a book in 1901 entitled 'The Last of the Masai' about the Kenyan Maasai, and Merker, their first serious ethnographer, forecast in 1910 that in Tanganyika they would soon cease to be Masaai. Both authors, of course, were quite wrong. Reasonably enough, neither had realised how resistant to cultural swamping so many African cultures were to prove themselves to be.

book is divided into five titled sections: 'Introduction' which is a prospectus; 'Becoming Maasai' which has one linguistic and five historical essays; 'Being Maasai' four essays on contemporary negotiations identity; 'Constraints & Redifinitions' which has three essays on changing perceptions of identity in response to modern developments such as market forces, emergent social class and politics; and a brief 'Conclusion'. Including the editors there are fourteen contributors but nevertheless the book is a triumphant unity. Prehistory, linguistics, history and social anthropology are used to complement each other and produce rarity, a real interdisciplinary study written accessible prose. The book is both a major contribution to Maasai studies and to African studies as a whole. There is hardly a redundant word, so summary in a brief review would only be misleading. I can only point to those essays which may be of most interest to the general reader.

Students of Tanzania will particularly enjoy Spear's essay Maasai' but not 'People of the Cattle; Arusha in the Nineteenth Century'; but they agricultural Maasai should certainly not restrict themselves just to that. The short essay by Sommer and Vossen on dialects is original and, unlike so much linguistics, reasonably comprehensible to the non-specialist. 'The World of Telelia' is the mature and touching reflections of a woman who is the senior of seven wives, the mother of two daughters and four sons and the grandmother of thirteen grandchildren. Her words (accompanied by an unobtrusive commentary) were recorded by Paul Spencer, whose knowledge of Maasai is unmatched, as his own essay on maturing into becoming a proper man demonstrates. 'Aspects of "Becoming Turkana"' by John Lamphear demonstrates how, the Turkana were able to displace and/or assimilate their Maaspeaking neighbours in the nineteenth century, by a rather subtle territorial drift, but punctuated by interactions, borrowings, adjustments, conflicts and assimilations (p87). The essay is a salutary corrective to the myth that the Maasai were so terrifying that they overcame wherever they went. It also complements Sobania's fine essay on the defeat and dispersal of the Laikipiak. Both those last two essays add to the current revaluation of the "permanence" of East African tribal and clan names which has been initiated by Gunther Schee and David Turton.

Finally, the essay by Donna Klump and Corrine Kratz on Okiek and Maasai perspectives on bodily ornamentations is itself a gem. The data are new. So are the insights into the

ways in which girls and women construct individual ethnic identities and reinterpret, through appropriation and modulation, the symbolic content and patterns of the beadwork adornments they make for themselves and their friends.

P T W Baxter

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

STATE AND INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO PARASTATAL GROWTH IN TANZANIA. J Wagona Makuba. Scandinavian Journal of Development Alternatives. Vol. 11. Nos 3 and 4. Sept-Dec 1992. 21 pages.

TRAINING MICROENTREPRENEURS: DOES IT PAY? Irmgard Nubler. Small Enterprise Development. December 1992. 10pp. This paper describes an ILO evaluation methodology.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT IN TANZANIA: THE POLICY AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS OF THE COOPERATIVE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK. Anacleti K Kashuliza. Savings and Development. 1992. Vol. 16. No 4. 25 pages

ZUR DISKUSSION: IMPORTHILFE STATT EXPERTEN EINE BETRACHTUNG AMFALL TANZANIA. In German. ('For Discussion: Import Aid Instead of Experts; Reflections Using the Example of Tanzania'). Helmut Zell. Vierteljahresberichte. December 1992. This short paper argues that growth arises from development aid is often hindered by shortage of foreign exchange. The solution is to use savings in project aid for the importation of the means of production.

SOUTH ASIANS IN EAST AFRICA. An Economic and Social History, 1890-1980. Robert G Gregory. 402pp. 1992. Westview Press.\$65. Chapter headings include 'The Primary Occupations' - Commerce Transport, Clerical etc.; 'The Secondary Occupations' - Law, Medicine, Teaching etc. and 'The Exportation of Savings and Profits'.

SOUTH-SOUTH TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT: MANUFACTURERS IN THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOUR. S Folke and others. MacMillan. 1992. 267 pages. Case studies from seven countries including Tanzania.

LIBERALIZING TANZANIA'S FOOD TRADE. Deborah Fahy Bryceson. James Currey. 1993. £35 (Cloth) £ 12.95 (Paper). The author shows why and how Tanzania liberalized trade in staple rice and maize and how the process has affected 197 grain traders and 188 houseolds in five Tanzanian towns.

ADUI MBELE (Enemy in Front). John Pitt. 95 pages. £5.00. Obtainable from the author, Flat 20, Parklands, Eynsham Rd., Farmoor, Oxford OX2 9NL. The book contains the recollections of a young Tanganyika Forest Officer on Kilimanjaro who joined the Tanganyika Battalion of the King's African Rifles in 1940

and subsequently served in Somaliland, Abyssinia and Madagascar.

SAFE MOTHERHOOD IN TANZANIA. K Kanda and R Landy. World Health. May-June 1992. 2 pages.

TRYING ANIMAL TRACTION. G Mwakitenge and W Beijer. ILEIA Newsletter. Vol. 8. No 3. 1992. 2 pages. The authors describe how the animal traction component of an integrated agricultural project in Mbozi district in Mbeya Region was developed in collaboration with local services.

IS DIABETES MELLITUS RELATED TO UNDERNUTRITION IN RURAL TANZANIA? A B Swai and others. British Medical Journal. Vol. 305. October 1992. 6 pages. This paper is based on a study in eight villages in four regions. The short answer to the question posed in the title is no. Diabetes is not more common in the most undernourished members of the population and is much less common in Tanzania than in well nourished Western populations.

A CULTURAL ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMY OF AFFECTION AND THE UNCAPTURED PEASANTRY IN TANZANIA. T Waters. Journal of Modern African Studies. Cambridge Univ Press. Vol. 30. No 1. 1992.

UNESCO GENERAL HISTORY OF AFRICA. Vol. III. AFRICA FROM THE SEVENTH TO THE ELEVENTH CENTURY. Editor: I Hrbek (from Czechoslovakia). James Currey. 1992. f5.95. The latest volume of this excellent (and remarkably reasonably priced) series contains, unfortunately, very little about Tanzania and what it does contain is, necessarily, tentative e.g.: 'some of the Southern Cushites appear to have known of iron as early as the period of Bantu settlement'...'among the proto-Chaga there arose a new kind of chiefly position in which the chief was not tied to a single clan..this development appears to coincide with the emergence of mature highland planting agriculture'....'trade appears not at all to have penetrated the East African interior...'

PASTORALISM, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE GREATER SERENGETI REGION. International Institute for Environment and Development Issues Paper No 26. M S Parkipuny. 1991. 31 pages. Indicates how wildlife conservation affects rural development in the Serengeti.

STRATEGIE DE DEVELOPPEMENT ET AJUSTEMENTS STRUCTURELS, UNE ALTERNATIVE A LA POLITIQUE DU FMI: APPLICATION A MADAGASCAR ET A LA TANZANIE. G Blardone. Canadian Journal of Development Studies. Vol 13. No 1. 9 pages. 1992. Analyses the impact of IMF structural adjustment programmes.

LOCAL AGRO-PROCESSING WITH SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY: SUNFLOWER SEED OIL IN TANZANIA. E L Hyman. International Institute for Environment and Development Gatekeeper Series No 33. 1992. 15 pages.

CROSS-CONDITIONALITY, BANKING REGULATION AND THIRD WORLD DEBT. E Rodriguez and S Griffith-Jones. McMillan. 1992. 347 pages. Contains case studies from six countries including Tanzania.

REVENUE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE TAX SYSTEM IN TANZANIA, 1979-1989. N E Osoro, Univ of Dar es Salaam. Journal of African Economies. Vol 1. No 3. 21 pages. This paper mentions some of the tax reforms which have occurred in Tanzania and points out, with mathematical formulae, how an elastic tax structure is appropriate in a developing country since it implies that tax collections will grow automatically with growing income without the need for resort to politically sensitive tax rate increases.

ZANZIBAR - OLD BUILDINGS AND OLD AND NEW SKILLS. S Holmes and M Wingate. Appropriate Technology. Vol 19 No 3. 1992. 3 pages. An analysis of small-scale lime production is followed by recommendations on surveying buildings in Stone Town so as to arrest the decay and protect the lives of the inhabitants.

THE TANZANIAN PEASANTRY. P G Forster and S Maghimbi (Eds). Avebury. 1992. 287 pages. A dozen contributors write on such subjects as anthropological research, cooperative policy, peasant production, marketing, the environmental crisis.



THE MUSIC CONSERVATOIRE OF TANZANIA LTD.

Thank you very much for your letter of 15. 1. 93. and for the copy of the Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs. We are delighted with the review of our book on Traditional Music Instruments of Tanzania. Please thank John Brearley most warmly on our behalf. We have plenty of copies and will be pleased to send them to anyone interested for \$5 or £3 plus postage. Our grateful thanks for your help.

Mrs. L.E. Crole-Rees

NANGOMA CAVES

A friend recently showed me the article by Mr. Trevor Shaw on Nangoma Caves in Bulletin no.38, 1991. I would like to correspond with him over the details of the early German visits. Unfortunately, he does not give his address; would you please pass my letter on to him, explaining my interest.

I am a zoologist who has lived in Tanzania since 1968, with broad interests, including speleology, bats, amphibians, reptiles, and birds. I do know that in 1924, a German biologist named Ahl described a species of frog endemic to

Tanzania from Nangoma cave: the reference is Zool. Anz. 61, p.99. Perhaps this specimen was collected on an earlier visit.

I am told that local people are reluctant to allow biologists to collect anything from the cave, but would certainly be willing to try to organise a visit involving biologists from the University of Dar es Salaam. I was unaware of the larger caves mentioned in Shaw's article.

Thank you for any help you may be able to offer in putting me in touch with Mr. Shaw.

Professor Kim M. Howell

(Regret have not been able to trace Mr Shaw's address - Ed)

SURVEY OF BIRD FAUNA

I hope to be taking part, with five other Oxford zoologists and two Tanzanian students plus Dr. P Lack, a world renowned ornithologist on East African birds and Dr. Neil Baker, in an expedition to Tanzania to study the bird fauna in the Mkomazi Game Reserve from June 26 to September 7 1993. The bird life in the reserve has never been studied and since birds are good indicators of habitat conditions, Mkomazi provides a baseline against which one may measure change elsewhere. The survey will monitor the ecological conditions and pressures inside and outside the reserve and provide the basis for a future programme of monitoring biodiversity in an African ecosystem.

The project has the full support of the Royal Geographical

The project has the full support of the Royal Geographical Society, Oxford University and the Schlumberger Corporation but we still need further funds. If any persons or firms reached by the Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs would be willing to sponsor us we would be most grateful.

Ben Underwood, 12 Priory Road, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE18 6PE

UGANDA USES DAR AGAIN

Uganda has resumed using Dar es Salaam Port for its imports and exports after a six-month lapse. Uganda is now routing about 80% of its oil imports thorugh the port - Daily News.

COOPERATIVE UNION CLOSED DOWN

The Government revoked the registration of the Union of Cooperatives (Washirika) on March 26 1993 effectively making its continued existence illegal. The Secretary General had been resisting handing over the office to a task firce of 27 mainland cooperative unions for a month and there had been a tug of war between the Registrar of Cooperatives and mainland unions on the one hand and Washirika management and the five Zanzibar unions on the other. The Registrar has agreed to the formation of an interim apex organisation for the mainland cooperatives to be known as the Tanzania Cooperative Alliance, pending the constituion of a federation - Daily News.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Dr. RAY ABRAHAMS is a Lecturer in Social Anthropology and a Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge. He has published several books and papers on society and culture in the Nyamwezi area of Tanzania, based on research conducted there at different periods between 1957 and 1992.

Mr MICHAEL BALL, an Ecologist, recently spent 26 months as an Agricultural Extension Officer in Nzega, Tabora Region.

Dr. P T W BAXTER has retired from the post of Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social Anthropology at Manchester University.

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BULLETIN OF TANZANIAN AFFAIRS

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