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TANZANIA IN THE MEDIA
Tanzania's constitutional dilemma continues and Father of the Nation Julius Nyerere has expressed his views very forcefully and with some success. As explained in previous issues of this Bulletin Tanzania faces three alternatives:

- Continuation of the present constitutional system (with some necessary amendments) under which there is a central government for the whole of the United Republic in which Zanzibar is represented far more strongly than is justified by its size or importance and in which there is a separate government for Zanzibar with considerable devolved powers; this system of government has been widely accepted for many years by the majority of the people on the mainland (although with some grumbling about the extent of the favouritism shown to Zanzibar) and probably by a majority in the Isles although a move to break away from the Union has attracted increasing support during recent years;

- The establishment of a strong central government for the two parts of the country with no separate government for Zanzibar; this solution has a number of advocates on the mainland but is assumed to be totally unacceptable in Zanzibar.

- The establishment of an additional government - a Government of Tanganyika; this is the proposal that is at the centre of the intense current debate as can be seen from the selection of recent media headlines shown opposite.

In early 1993 Zanzibar's decision to join the 'Organisation of Islamic Conference' (OIC) roused hostility in the Union Parliament and a Commission of Enquiry was set up which strongly condemned the action. In August 1993, under strong pressure from the mainland, Zanzibar withdrew from the OIC. But the gesture was too late. Opposition to what was considered Zanzibar's privileged position in the Union had grown. 55 Members of Parliament, in a decision described in 'New African' as 'the first rebellion in 16 years of the rubber-stamp CCM Parliament', signed a motion demanding the setting up of a separate government for Tanganyika. Several senior members of government including the Speaker of the House expressed their agreement and the motion was eventually accepted unanimously by Parliament. The Government was required to 'make provision for the establishment of a separate government for Tanganyika by 1995'. It was agreed that the government would facilitate country-wide consultations. Mwalimu Nyerere made clear his opposition to this move and indicated that he thought it would lead to the break-up of the Union and encourage division amongst different elements in the country.
The constitutionalities of our Constitutions

'Tanganyika will kill Union'

Mwalimu warns of civil war over Tanganyika

Planned CCM talks on Utanganyika 'unconstitutional'

Three Governments: Procedures were not followed, — delegates

Union falling apart?

Government move to wreck 'Utanganyika'

CCM moves to salvage Union

Farewell to the United Republic?

'CCM can go to hell'

Trampling Parliament underfoot?

Resign, orders Nyerere

'Malecela worried... Kolimba calm...'

Let Mwalimu live in peace

WHAT IS NYERERE UP TO?

'DEBATE ON 'TANGANYIKA'

Opposition hits at Mwalimu

Nyerere must discipline CCM leaders

Nyerere's fears unfounded
ONE-MAN SHOW

On October 14, 1993 the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) Party met in Dodoma.

Mwalimu Nyerere apparently requested that he be invited to the meeting, and, according to 'Africa Events' virtually turned it into a one-man show. 'He dressed down the senior leadership of the Government and Party and reduced them to a mere gang of greenhorns and blunderers. He accused them of bad faith and for being too weak in defending the age-long CCM policy of the two-government Union and for allowing anti-Union forces to commandeer the Tanganyika issue and raise it in Parliament before even the Party policy making organs had discussed it and reached a decision. "I am ready to resign from this Party or from any other party that introduces a Tanganyika Government" Nyerere threatened the assembled delegates amid intermittent applause from the Zanzibar delegates'.

The 'Africa Events' article went on: 'Nyerere said that the nation's present ills, such as embezzlement, thefts of public funds and high level corruption, could not be eradicated in a Tanganyika Government and the Union was now on the rocks because "some of you have committed blunders and refuse to be answerable".

Nyerere's outburst was said to have had an instant effect on an attentive President Mwinyi, who, in response, stunned pro-Tanganyika delegates by confessing that a mistake had indeed been made.

President Mwinyi was quoted in 'Uhuru' as expressing surprise that some CCM leaders had decided to propose policy changes without following correct procedures. He said that old age can be like a medicine and represent a treasury of experience. It was wise to accept criticism. If one was told one's mistakes the best thing to do was to go back and follow the proper procedures. His speech was punctuated by applause. In finally adjourning the meeting he directed that the debate should be taken further and follow the correct procedures. There were loud cries from the hall "CCM....CCM...CCM..."

COORDINATING THE PEOPLE'S VIEWS

In its official press release at the end of the meeting the NEC stated that:

WHILE IT IS CCM POLICY TO HAVE A UNION WITH TWO GOVERNMENTS, THE NEC, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE REQUIREMENTS OF BROADER DEMOCRACY, HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC SHOULD APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO REGISTER AND COORDINATE THE PEOPLE'S VIEWS. SINCE THE PARLIAMENTARY RESOLUTION AFFECTS THE LIFE OF OUR UNION, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE EXERCISE TO AIR VIEWS IS GIVEN AMPLE TIME AND SHOULD NOT BE DONE HURRIEDLY. THE NEC DIRECTS THAT THE PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND 1995 BE UTILISED BY THE WANANCHI TO AIR THEIR VIEWS AND FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE TO SCRUTINISE THE
PEOPLE’S VIEWS AND SUBMIT ITS REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT...THE FINAL DECISION ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNION WILL BE MADE BY THE PARLIAMENT AND GOVERNMENT.

The whole issue was raised again at a joint NEC-Member of Parliament ‘consultative’ meeting in Dodoma which began on November 12th and was designed to facilitate consensus and a common stand. The 400 delegates agreed that all the organs of the Party would be consulted on the issue.

It appears that Mwalimu Nyerere became even more outspoken this time. According to the ‘Business Times’ he made an unprecedented attack on his successors whom he described as ‘wolves in sheeps clothing’. His attack was said to have been partially in the form of a 200-verse Swahili poem called ‘Tanzania, Tanzania’ and also in a two-hour address to the meeting. He was said to have accused those supporting a Tanganyika Government of either being driven by ignorance or outright malice. The poem castigated government leaders for not accepting the idea of a referendum on the constitution as had been proposed by some MP’s.

Opposition parties were highly critical of Mwalimu and the Government and pointed out that in view of the trend of events the formation of a Tanganyika Government was inevitable. The leader of one party said that the government was confused and was not respecting the decision of Parliament. CHADEMA asked why CCM should consider itself the sole player in every matter happening in the country. Another party leader said that the resolution to form a Tanganyika Government within the Union was legal and had been in compliance with all the laid down procedures.

At the end of the meeting President Mwinyi called for vision, cooperation and solidarity. Emotions, haste, suspicion and witch-hunting should be avoided.

THE NEXT LEADER?

Meanwhile, the Swahili press has been indulging in speculation as to who might be the next leader of Tanzania. ‘Kiongozi’ reported that all sorts of names were being floated including that of the Vice-Chancellor of the Open University, Professor Geoffrey Mmari; ‘Heko’ said that its poll had favoured the Rev. Christopher Mtikila as the future leader.

INNOVATION IN TANZANIA

Tanzania is active in using new technology as a result of the activities of the University of Dar es Salaam’s INSTITUTE OF PRODUCTION INNOVATION (IPI).

Tanzania’s sugar production from four large factories is not enough to satisfy local demand (current production is about a quarter of demand) and the factories need a large supply of sugar cane from near at hand to operate efficiently. But sugar-cane can be grown all over the country. IPI has therefore designed, manufactured and put into operation a couple of dozen small-scale crystalline sugar producing plants
which are simple, easy to operate, affordable and can handle up to 15 tonnes of sugar-cane per day and produce up to about a ton of CRYSTALLINE SUGAR of good quality. This highly successful innovation won a national award (Tanzania Award for Scientific and Technological Achievement - TASTA) in 1991 and an international award (EEC-ACP Award for the Best innovation in 1989.

Sparked by the acute shortage of EDIBLE OIL in Tanzania during the late 1970's, IPI developed and has successfully disseminated over a hundred sets of equipment for processing the oil on village level. A few of these have even penetrated the market in some other countries in the region. The original work was aimed at developing manually operated equipment for extracting edible oil from sunflower seeds to satisfy the needs of a typical Tanzanian village. This resulted in a set of equipment comprising a sunflower seed decorticator, winnower, roller/crusher, scorcher, manual scissor-jack type press and a boiling stand. The equipment is capable of producing 40kg of sunflower oil from 210kg, of sunflower seed during one shift. Subsequently, due to enquiries for similar equipment to process other oil seed crops like coconut, palm oil, groundnuts and simsim, development work was extended to include additional processing equipment like palm kernel nut cracker, palm kernel nut shredder, a palm fruit digester, palm oil clarification tank, copra chopper and copra shredder. Equipment designs in earlier years emphasized manual operation, but requests for power drivers equipment led to adaptations to run with electric motors and diesel engines, particularly for sunflower decorticators and winnowers and palm kernel nut crackers.

Another highly successful innovation, from which over fifty projects/groups have directly benefited so far, EQUIPMENT FOR PROCESSING ANIMAL FEED was initiated in 1986 when chicken feed was very scarce especially in Dar es Salaam. The equipment consists of a hammer type mill and a central augur type vertical mixer. The mill has a capacity of 1.5 tonnes per hour and the mixer is available in two sizes capable of mixing 0.6 and 1.2 tonnes of feed per batch in half an hour.

Practically everyone in Tanzania needs to be able to mill maize and IPI’S locally manufactured hullers and hammer mills have proved very popular indeed. Hundreds of units have so far been produced and are operational all over the country. They are superior in their performance, strength, reliability and also versatility.

Other technologies which IPI has worked on and is presently in the process of developing include ethanol distillation equipment, use of ethanol as a fuel for engines, water pumps including hydraulic rams, wind water pumping, solar energy, including water heating and refrigeration, and domestic coal stoves, to mention a few. Also included in the present focus of IPI developments are processes and equipment for small-scale mining and mineral processing, in particular gold and equipment related to the construction industry such as vibrating block making machines.

Cuthbert Kimambo
SUMBAWANGA - BOOM TOWN

Three years ago I was engaged as a social anthropologist in field research into the Lungu ethnic group, a people who by an accident of history are divided between southwest Tanzania’s Rukwa Region and the Northern Province of Zambia. I had last visited Sumbawanga, the regional capital, in 1977 while working on the history and culture of another local people, the Fipa. Sumbawanga was then not much more than a large village with a population of about 3,000. Great was my astonishment to find in 1990 a thriving urban centre of some 60,000 inhabitants.

How to account for this extraordinary twentyfold increase in the size of this remote settlement in one of the poorest parts of Tanzania? One notable clue, it seemed to me, lay in the vast open market which had mushroomed in the area and which in the 60’s and 70’s had been fallow land dotted with the characteristic compost-mound plots of the Fipa. Most of this new market was taken up with stalls selling clothing of all kinds. I learned from local officials that most of these goods originated as shipments from charitable organisations in the United States and Germany and were intended for free distribution among the poor. These goods were said to have mysteriously found their way into the private sector. Whatever the truth of the matter, it was evident that business was flourishing.

During my eight months of field research among Lungu on both sides of the border I was to acquire further insights into the dynamics of the so called ‘second’ or ‘informal’ economy (now said to represent 30% of economic activity in Tanzania) and the transformation of the once sleepy settlement of Sumbawanga into the populous ‘boom town’ of southwest Tanzania. Near the border with Zambia I observed Tanzanian Lungu women heading across the frontier with Zambia with loads of beans and groundnuts. These were destined for sale to trading partners, usually relatives living in Zambia. That transaction concluded, these women then walked another 15 miles to Mbala, the local administrative and commercial centre. Here they bought sugar, which they carried back into Tanzania and sold.

But these were just the minor operators in the thriving cross-border trade, which is driven by price differentials between the two neighbouring countries. A few years ago, before the nationally imposed campaign for the growing of hybrid maize, this part of Tanzania produced a substantial surplus of finger millet (Eleusine corocana), much of which was traded across the Zambian border. In 1990, near the major Lake Tanganyika port of Mpuulungu in Zambia, I was able to observe the daily departure from Ngwena (Crocodile) Beach, known locally as ‘Smugglers’ Beach’, of boatloads of small traders carrying such items as sugar, petrol and kerosine to Tanzania. Much of this material certainly ended up in Sumbawanga market.

While in Zambia I was able to interview one of the bigger operators. This enterprising young woman told me that she ran
a weekly 'service' of contraband sugar (export of this scarce commodity is banned under Zambian law). Her practice was to buy it in bulk in Kasama and deliver it by boat to a kinswoman near the Tanzanian lakeside port of Kasanga, whence it was taken by lorry to Sumbawanga. Other sources told of lorryloads of illicit goods driven across the border along bush tracks which avoided the customs and immigration posts at Zombe and Katete.

I encountered the informal economy again while travelling to Dar es Salaam on the Tazara railway. One of our fellow-travellers was a personable young Tanzanian who told us he was shepherding a cargo of chicks acquired in Zambia. His intention was to sell them in Dar, where they were much in demand. From the proceeds he would buy a load of shirts, which he would take to sell in Lusaka. He told me he had been operating this profitable 'shuttle service', incidentally travelling first-class all the while, for many months.

Roy Willis

References:

OBITUARY

The Rev. Canon R G P Lamburn

Canon Roger George Patrick Lamburn, known as Robin, died at Kindwiti Leprosy Village in the Rufiji District of Southern Tanzania on 26 October 1993 at the age of 89. He spent 63 years of his long life as an Anglican missionary and died as he lived, in great simplicity and at peace.

Robin was born in England in 1904 and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge where he studied Natural Science. After a period as a curate in England he joined the Universities Mission to Central Africa and worked first in the Diocese of Masasi and then as Warden of St. Cyprian's Theological College, Tunduru. During this period he became Education Secretary responsible for the administration of schools in the Masasi Diocese, as well as Archdeacon. Through these many positions, he became very well known and greatly loved among church people throughout Tanzania.

At the age of 57 he moved to become probably the first Christian missionary to the unhealthy and solidly Muslim Rufiji Delta about 100 miles south of Dar es Salaam. He established himself in the leprosy village of Kindwiti, near Utete, and started to dispense high church Anglicanism, medicine (with which he had much skill as a result of his scientific training) and Christian joy. He made little progress in evangelisation which he stated was his first and foremost concern, his few converts being from other districts. The breakthrough came in a remarkable way. As he was greatly concerned to invigorate the leprosy village with a spirit of
self-help, people used to confide their problems in him. One
day a young man came who was greatly shamed because, as a
Muslim, he should have been circumcised at birth and, for some
reason, this had not been done. Robin assured him that he had
nothing to worry about and that he should go to the Sheikh in
Utete to ask for the operation to be carried out and he,
Robin, would bear the cost. The Moslem authorities were so
touched at this act of charity that the whole attitude to the
mission at Kindwiti changed from that time; a spirit of bitter
antagonism developed into one of at least acceptance, if not
of some measure of brotherliness.

Robin was awarded the MBE and the Albert Schweitzer Prize
for Humanities and also received a medal from Pope John Paul
II.

He possessed great personal charm and was an able
raconteur. Right until the end his letters were entertaining,
moving but frequently funny. His great sense of humour made
him a warm companion. His particular hope was that the scourge
of leprosy would be expunged from Rufiji by the end of the
20th century, a hope which science has made quite possible. He
would have been very appreciative of anyone wishing to honour
his memory with a donation to the Rufiji Leprosy Trust, set up
to support this work. The Treasurer’s address is: Horton
House, Horton, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 9RL.

David Gooday

(Geoff and Jenny O’Donoghue have written as follows:’On
Tuesday morning (October 26) at 7am the British High
Commissioner in Tanzania, Mr Roger Westbrook, who had arrived
in Kindwiti to visit Father Lamburn the previous day, called
on him. Later Father got up, had a little breakfast and then
sat in his armchair to read. Later in the morning he went back
to bed. At 2.30 he died quietly and peacefully while holding
the hand of Father Athumani, a one-time student of his. The
following day the men and youths of the village began to dig
Father’s grave beneath a large tree in the garden.... Local
people settled down to pray, sing and sleep beside the
grave....On the Thursday the mass was held in the simple chapel
next to Father Robin’s house, although the presence of over
750 people meant that the majority had to gather round
outside. Then the coffin, dressed with tissue-paper garlands,
bougainvillea blossoms and a simple wooden cross, was taken
and lowered into his grave).

SAIDI GETS MARRIED

I had not been living long in Nzega and as yet I had few
friends there. One friend however was an Arab called Saidi. He
was a younger member of an extremely wealthy and important
family; everyone knew his family and, subsequently, virtually
everyone knew Saidi. We shared two particular interests - my
motorcycle and my music collection.

This particular story begins one weekend after I had been
down to Tabora. By the time I returned Saidi had gotten himself married, been severely beaten by his father and subsequently divorced! All of this was completely out of the blue. Of course, this being Tanzania, the story was far more complicated than that. Not only had Saidi been desperate enough to have stolen the money for the required dowry from his father, but the woman Saidi had married had something of a reputation as a rather vicious social climber. She also had a reputation for witchcraft.

Saidi's ex-wife had in fact been married into the family before - to a direct uncle of Saidi, his father's true brother, who had also divorced her. Not only that. She had then subsequently been the mistress of another of Saidi's uncles before this uncle too had tired of her. This was her third attempt to break into this important Nzega family.

By now it was mid-week. Saidi had been divorced for two or three days when I began to hear some strange rumours. He had apparently lost the use of his legs and everyone swore that it was not due to the beating that his father had given him.

I went to see him at his house - a typical Arab dwelling hidden off the dusty main road by a small twisting alley way. It had open courtyards where the household chores would be performed and the various rooms of the house surrounded these.

When I found Saidi, sure enough he was incapable of using his legs. There was no obvious damage but he simply could not bear to put any weight on them and could not walk. His family took him to the local district hospital but the doctors there could not find anything wrong. They took him to the nearest Swedish mission hospital (of spotless reputation) but they too could find nothing wrong.

By now the general consensus was that he was under the spell of a curse, obviously perpetrated by his ex-wife as an act of revenge. The family therefore took the best course of action available - they went to Bagamoyo on the coast and brought back a couple of powerful Muslim holy men.

Soon after that I went again to visit Saidi. His room was dark and dingy with various members of the family and friends squatting around his bed with the holy men. Saidi sat with his legs hanging over the side of the bed and complained to me about his situation. As my eyes gradually became accustomed to the dark I realized that there was something unusual about those two limbs. I peered closer and, to my surprise, I found that they were entirely encircled and inscribed from toe to upper thigh with extremely fine Islamic script drawn in black ink. The inking was perfect in all respects.

I turned to stare at one of the Muslim Imams, who returned my stare with shy interest, seemingly completely oblivious to the alien feelings that I was then experiencing. By now I had expressed my condolences to Saidi and his mother and since I was feeling so out of place I felt that I should leave.

A few days later I was hailed in the street. I turned and saw Saidi and his usual gang all striding confidently towards me. "So you're better" says I. "Of course" replies he and he stamped around and around in the dust of the road by way of demonstration.

Michael Ball
Import and export licences no longer needed. The Government has revoked the system which required licences for the import of all goods except for a few related to health and safety and also eight luxury items. Importers will now have to fill in forms available at banks and foreign currency shops but these will be needed only for statistical purposes and will not involve permits. The Customs Department will not in future be able to delay or halt the transport of goods outside the country - Radio Tanzania.

Travelling allowance increased. Citizens travelling to neighbouring countries will in future be able to take up to US$5,000 instead of US$500. Those travelling longer distances will be entitled to have up to US$10,000 compared with US$3,000 - Radio Tanzania.

Licensing removed. All licences for the export of goods have been removed. Reporting to the National Assembly on the Government's intention to raise the country's tourism potential the Minister, Mr Juma Hamad Omar, said that 43 out of the 63 applications for tourist development received by the Investment Promotion Centre in 1992/93 had been accepted. Some 23 international airlines had applied for commercial service. There had been an increase in the number of tourists from 186,800 in 1991/92 to 201,744 in 1992/93 and this had earned the nation US$120 million compared with US$94 million in the previous year - Daily News.

Tanzania aligns currency. The Bank of Tanzania has announced a harmonisation of its exchange rates. The 'official' rate, previously used for a range of government imports, western aid and items such as oil will in future conform with market rates used by the private sector since last year - Financial Times.

Securities market. The Governor of the Bank of Tanzania has announced that capital and securities markets, designed ultimately to lead to the establishment of a Stock Exchange in Tanzania, will be established early in 1994 - Business Times.

Cotton market liberalised. The Government has waived price control on cotton; authorised marketing agents and other buyers are being encouraged to offer competitive prices to cotton producers - Sunday News.

All imports subject to prior inspection. All imports, not just those of more than US$5,000 in value, as previously, will be subject to pre-shipment inspection in future, the Governor of the Bank of Tanzania has stated. The move is aimed at curbing tax evasion and foul play, he said - Daily News.
FROM QUITE GOOD TO VERY BAD. In a report on World Bank projects in Tanzania, which have cost US$ 1.5 billion between 1961 and 1987, the Bank's Operations Evaluation Department has summarised the variable success rate which has been achieved. Major problems causing difficulties have included bad project design and preparation, lack of skills and deficient staffing in the Bank and on the Tanzanian side, inadequate government support, undue haste in launching follow-up projects, Tanzania's inadequate absorptive capacity, and powerful pressures within the Bank to lend more - The Express.

SANCTIONS LIFTED. Tanzania lifted sanctions on trade with South Africa on November 11, 1993. They had been in force since 1963 - Daily News.

A VENTURE CAPITAL FUND LAUNCHED. At the launching of a new Tanzania Capital Venture Fund (TVCF) the Chairman of the Parastatal Sector Reform announced that multilateral firms operating in Tanzania would, in future, be exempted from the requirement to pay uniform taxation. The new Fund will participate in equity and quasi-equity joint venture investments in local companies with high potential. Most of the TVCF investments will be in existing businesses seeking second-stage expansion capital. Maximum investment will be US$500,000 - Business Times.

179 UNDER INVESTIGATION. The Minister of Home Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister, Augustine Mrema, has stated that 179 companies and individuals are under investigation for alleged misuse of donor funds. He said that his ministry had received numerous complaints from members of the public and Parliamentarians over rampant embezzlement and swindling of donor funds. He cited the funds as being the Open General Licence (OGL), Commodity Investment Support (CIS) and the Debt Conversion Programme (DCP). Dubious means had been employed to obtain precious foreign exchange. He listed the names of the individuals and firms involved - Daily News.

DE BEERS IN CONTROL. The South African firm Willcroft Ltd, a subsidiary of the De Beers Corporation, now holds 75% of the ordinary shares of the Shinyanga-based Williamson Diamonds Limited. Its previous shareholding had been 50%. For the last twelve years Williamson Diamonds has been making losses on its annual production of 70,000 carats of diamonds. Willcroft will pump in about US$3.5 million to rehabilitate the mine - Business Times.

PRICE CHANGES. The price of cement was reduced by 150 shillings per 50-kilo bag and the price of petrol and diesel increased by from 12 to 23 per cent at the beginning of October - Daily News.

FERTILISER SUBSIDY ASSURED. Prime Minister Malecela announced at the end of November that the government would import 185,000 tons of fertiliser for the forthcoming farming season - 12 -
and it would continue to be subsidised at 25%. He said that the national annual demand was 260,000 tons and that 60,000 tons had already arrived. He said that importation of fertiliser remained a headache to the Government because of fluctuating prices – Daily News.

MOBILE PHONES. Tanzania Posts and Telecommunications Corporation and Millcom International have formed a joint venture company to implement and operate a cellular mobile telephone network in Tanzania – Business Times.

NEW INVESTMENT AREAS. The Government has released a new list of 82 areas for investment by local and foreign investors in a revised edition of the Investment and Promotion Act. A detailed list was published in the Business Times indicating that 16 areas were reserved for local investors, 12 were under the 'controlled and reserved' category and 54 were in the general investment category – Business Times.

AVOID THE WORD ‘NDUGU’ IN OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Public servants should avoid addressing people with political pomposity like 'Ndugu' or 'Comrade' in official correspondence because this was against Standing Orders, declared Mr Robert Kisususu, an official in the Office of the Prime Minister and First Vice-President. Officially the style should be 'Mr' or 'Bwana'.

A Member of Parliament should be addressed as 'The Honourable' and not 'the Honourable Mr', a judge of the High Court should be addressed as 'The Honourable Mr Justice X'. Mr Kisusu said that terms like 'capitalist' and 'imperialist' had no room in official public service correspondence and should be reserved for political platforms.

STRONG WORDS FROM CATHOLIC BISHOPS

According to a news agency report at the end of November Catholic Bishops in Tanzania have issued an unprecedentedly critical letter under the title 'Sincere Intention, the Compassion of Our Nation' expressing concern about government accountability. They spoke of a nation bankrupt and squandering the public's assets. This had been caused, the Prelates said, by the greed of a few people seeking to benefit themselves at the expense of others.

The bishops said that the government had ignored the public's views on the squandering of public assets including land, minerals and wildlife. They called for legal action against those involved.

'The nation has no orientation because the perception of socialism and self-reliance, which had the intention of guiding the nation towards cooperation, love, mutual respect, and mutual assistance in elevating development, has now been usurped by a community of people who have responsibility and ability with which they are biting off the assets of the nation between themselves'.

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TANZANIA IN THE MEDIA

(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. If you do not wish your name to be mentioned please say so. We cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive but if your item gives a new or original view about Tanzania we certainly will - Editor)

THE FIRST OF THEIR KIND

AFRICAN BUSINESS featured a photograph in its October 1993 issue of one of two GT10 gas turbine engines being provided by SIDA and NORAD for delivery to the Tanzania Electricity Supply Company for its US$28 million power-plant project. The two turbines, each of 10 megawatts, will be the first of their kind to be installed outside Europe or the USA. They are to be sited at the Ubungo Power Station in Dar es Salaam and should be operational by February 1994.

GIVE DEMOCRACY A CHANCE

A Danish reader of NEW AFRICAN complained in its December issue about what he described as the superficial coverage being given to the introduction of democracy in Tanzania. 'It takes time, peace and stability to build a proper multi-party environment...time to transform property ownership, trade regulations, the fora for open debate etc. Both the government and the opposition need to learn and adapt to the new rules of the game. A transitional period of four or five years is needed...What we are seeing in Tanzania is a collective learning process where new relations, ideas and policies will be formulated and put into practice. Some complain that the process is too slow, that the old guard (the CCM) is manoeuvring into positions in preparation for the elections. But how does anyone think a new political and democratic order can emerge if not based on tribe, religion or region. This is what the Tanzanian government is trying to avoid...this is not 'sceptical'; I call it wise'.

'THE WHISKY ROUTE'

'To avoid the crowds trudging up the tourist track and to bring an element of adventure into the ascent we settled for taking seven days and a route on the map that looked blissfully simple. After the Horombo hut we would contour
around in a north westerly direction, then stroll up the Credner Glacier on to the northern icefields with a final traverse south to the actual summit'. So wrote Richard Else describing his struggle to climb Kilimanjaro in the GUARDIAN WEEKEND (September 25). The guide, a former Park Ranger summed up the trip - "Others do the Coke trail; you are doing the Whisky route!"

"A TRAGEDY"

The fossil footprint trail that Mary Leakey and a group of archaeologists uncovered at Laetoli in Northern Tanzania in 1978-79 had been made by three individuals who walked across a patch of wet volcanic ash over 3.6 million years ago. "Those footprints are more precious than the pyramids" according to California University Professor Clark Howell quoted in THE GUARDIAN (December 2). But, between 30 and 50 per cent of the trail has been destroyed by neglect since it was discovered - just 14 years ago. "It is a tragedy" he said. The lengthy article went on to list a series of misunderstandings, personality clashes, budgetary and other problems which have brought this situation about. (Thank you Elsbeth Court for this contribution - Ed)

"A GIANT MISTAKE"

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) was quoted in AFRICA EVENTS (October) as stating that the massive CIDA-assisted Tanzanian Wheat Project started two decades ago on Tanzania's northern Savannah was a giant mistake. The much criticised project, which, nevertheless resulted in massive production of wheat, was said to have failed because CIDA tried to develop high-tech. farms on areas unsuited for such advanced agricultural practices. After spending $200 million Canada is now calling it a day. It is leaving behind huge social problems - a complicated land-tenure system and cases of human rights violations, including sexual abuse of Barabaig women and the burning down of Barabaig houses by staff of the National Agricultural and Food Corporation (NAFCO). The article quotes reliable sources as stating that the the wheat farms are to be recast for privatisation.

THE LIVINGSTONE TREK

One of the most surprising findings of the marathon three-month trek retracing David Livingstone's last journey in Africa 120 years ago, which has just been completed (Bulletin No 46) was the potency of the Livingstone name reported THE TIMES on December 6th. Dr. David Livingstone Wilson, great grandson of the Scottish missionary was mobbed everywhere he went in Tanzania. "People rushed to shake his hand. Even the memorials were found to be still intact" the team leader said.
RADIO TUMAINI

The Italian monthly NIGRIZIA reported in its October issue that the Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam was intending to inaugurate a new Radio station in November 1993 to be known as 'Radio Tumaini'. Members of the diocese were requested to help with the operating costs of the station.

NO FEAR OF BECOMING AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

Although the traditional 'dhobie' (washer-man) is seeing his market gradually disappear with the spread of modern electric washing machines, in the narrow streets of Zanzibar, according to AFRICA EVENTS (September) they have little to fear. "Electricity goes off every other hour" says one "so my charcoal battleship (iron) still comes in handy". Until they invent a dhobie that can do the ironing as well as the washing their job looks secure.

WALKING ON WATER

The BANGKOK POST (October 28, 1993) published a story from Dar es Salaam which stated that nine Tanzanian pupils and a Seventh Day Adventist priest who had tried to walk on water, like Jesus Christ, had drowned in Lake Victoria. They were said to have been travelling in a flotilla of canoes headed for a religious festival when they decided to make the watery walk as a test of faith.

THE SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO ARE MELTING

Only five per cent of Mount Kilimanjaro's permanent ice cap is now left according to an article in the SUNDAY TIMES (October 10) and scientists now fear that changes in climate, triggered by pollution or by clouds of dust thrown up by cattle and the burning of forests, are removing the glaciers that have awed visitors for centuries. If Kilimanjaro’s snow and ice continue to melt at the current rate the ice will disappear within forty years, according to John Temple, a mountaineer. "Since 1972 I have seen entire glaciers disappear" he said.

THE SWAHILIS

Reviewing the book Swahili Origins by James de Vere Allen, the FINANCIAL TIMES (August 21) stated that there is a long-running argument about the Swahilis. 'There have never been more than half a million of them but they had - have - a remarkably sophisticated culture (magnificent architecture, a beautiful and poetic language, complex folk traditions). So who are they? The argument lies in the mix, the tension between their African and Arabian roots....Allen believed that the Swahilis can be traced back, well before the Battle of Hastings, to the imperial town of Shungwayo - one of the great enigmas of East African historiography. The snag is that
Shungwayo has never been found. Until the archaeologists dig it up it will remain merely a legend and the critics will continue to scoff.

Allen believed in an African essence to the Swahili identity but this is disputed by other academics. 'The book contains all sorts of incidental details. We shall not easily forget, for example, the Shungwayo ruler who fell from grace not because he deflowered the Coast virgins (which was his imperial right) but because he did so with his big toe.....'

**THE LOST TRIBE**

Under this heading AFRICA EVENTS (July) presented the extraordinary story of a group of mainly Makua people being held in Zanzibar in 1873, waiting to be shipped off to slavery, who were rescued by the anti-slavery ship HMS Britain and taken as indentured labourers to Durban in South Africa. They were later joined by some 500 Zanzibaris. After the period of indenture in 1899 they bought, under a 'Mohammedan Trust', some 43 acres of land and became self-sufficient. They built their own mosque and prayed together. The coming of apartheid created problems of classification. First they were classified as Africans, then as Coloureds, then as Indians and finally as 'Other Asians'. They became known as the 'Lost Tribe' and now number some 10,000. They have lost control of their land, have become widely dispersed and the article expresses the fear that 'this rich cultural heritage which has survived more than a century may die out altogether'.

**SOUTH AFRICA GETS A TASTE FOR TANZANIAN BEER**

It was under this heading that AFRICA ANALYSIS (November 26) reported the purchase by South African Breweries of a 50% stake in the state-owned Tanzanian Breweries which is being privatised. The US$28 million purchase was said to be only the latest in a stream of investments by South African in black-ruled countries. The cash will help pay for the construction of a new brewery in Mwanza and the upgrading of plants in Dar es Salaam and Arusha.

**TANZANIAN COUTURIER**

32-year old Tanzanian costume designer Kassim Mikki was quoted in an illustrated article in THE TIMES MAGAZINE (September 4, 1993) as planning to 'paint the Paris catwalk every African tone under the sun, from saffron to boa blue when the sultry, spicy tones of Zanzibar come alive at his debut collections for spring-summer 1994'. Mikki is based in a studio in Dar es Salaam and considers that he has at least one advantage over other designers. He does not have to spend weeks agonising over which weight of silk organza to use. He has only one fabric - cotton. "We use a high quality raw material which we then dye and weave to get different textures". His clothes 'flatter and cocoon a woman's body,'
just as effortlessly as Azzedine Alaia or Gianni Versace, but at a realistic price’.

GLOOMY JOURNEY

'There is not much left of Bagamoyo these days. It has become what it was in the beginning, a somnolent backwater lost on a low coast at the end of a bad road. Campaign charts of a lost battle, maps of mould and lichen grow large on the walls of imperial buildings in ruin. Wooden stick ribs protrude form the sides of crumbling mud huts. Green bush and tropical lethargy encroach everywhere. Even chickens peck languidly in Bagamoyo'. So began a gloomy account by The FINANCIAL TIMES’s Nicholas Woodsworth (September 1) of a journey to the 'Heart of an ‘Anguished Continent’. The train from Morogoro to Tabora was no better - 'carriages overcrowded, conductors bullying, toilets smelly, dining car less than epicurean...' Tabora itself was 'foundering' - 'mud-brown water and wriggling insect larvae dribbled out of the tap in the dilapidated Railway Hotel.....' (Thank you Barbara Halliburton for this item - Ed).

CHEAP FOOD AND DRINKS

As part of its regular series comparing Costs of Living around the world BUSINESS TRAVELLER (October 1993) reported that buying an alcoholic drink remains much cheaper in Tanzania than in most countries. Out of 36 countries listed, Tanzania, with an average cost per drink of US$2.87 comes 28th. The price of the same drink in Japan would be US$16 and in Britain US$4.82. In another survey (November 1993) the journal noted that the cost of a business dinner at US$31.25 in Tanzania compares well with average prices of $69.98 in the UK and $142.22 in Russia.

THE ELEPHANT SHREW

The work of one of the 92 research teams sponsored by the Royal Geographical Society in 1992 - a team which went to the Ruvu South Forest Reserve - was mentioned in the GEOGRAPHICAL MAGAZINE (July 1993). It reported that the Black and Rufous Elephant Shrew (Rhyncocochocyon petersi) had never been photographed before the Oxford University Njule expedition unearthed it from its den in the forest and that this was the first occasion in which one had been captured. The shrew is a diurnal, insectivorous creature which can grow to 50 centimetres in length and is concentrated in primary, undisturbed forest. ‘The data collected will be invaluable to the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania in furthering its efforts to protect the coastal forests from further destruction.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

In an article full of nostalgia about air travel in Africa
in the 'good old days', BUSINESS TRAVELLER (November 1993) recalled a journey by flying boat in the 1930's which included a collision with a fishing smack off Italy, descent into the swamps south of Khartoum followed by a a canoe trip to the Nile and a forced landing in Tanganyika where 'a fleet of Model T's ferried the passengers to the nearest airfield to continue their journey'. By 1937 British-built Empire flying boats, capable of 200 mph, had cut the flying time from London to Capetown to only four days and passengers were treated to an excursion via Mombasa, Dar es Salaam, Lourenco Marques and Durban. Nowadays it takes 11 hours 35 minutes.

NOT AS FORBIDDING AS INDIA'S BUREAUCRACY

TRADING POST (Issue No 11) has been reporting on the trading experience of Traidcraft Exchange’s Overseas Business Development Services (OBDS) which has developed strong linkages with the Tabora Beekeepers Cooperative, the instant coffee factory in Bukoba, and Handico, which markets traditional crafts such as Maasai bookends. Manager Murdoch Gatward has said that Traidcraft is known in more senior levels of the state in Tanzania than anywhere else in the world 'due to the relatively easy access to the senior civil service, in comparison with something as forbidding as India’s bureaucracy'. "We are looking towards a promising future in Tanzania" he said. (Thank you Christine Lawrence for this item - Ed).

JAMBO TANZANIA!

This was the heading of a colourful page in a recent issue of THE YOUNG TELEGRAPH which mentioned the visit to Tanzania of the Duchess of Kent in her capacity as patron of UNICEF UK. Among UNICEF projects mentioned was the Kuleana (Swahili for helping each other) Street Kids’ Centre in Mwanza. Street kids can call into the centre at any time, take a shower, learn to read or just paint and make models from bits of garbage. Most importantly they can be safe, make friends and feel they are part of a family. (Thank you Paul Marchant for this item).

COMMUNITY RADIO

As part of its October 1993 cover story on the 'Media in Africa' AFRICA EVENTS' Ahmed Rajab referred to various efforts made in Tanzania over the years to provide community radio. He mentioned a number of 1970's campaigns such as Uchaguzi ni Wako (the Choice is Yours - on the general election), Wakati wa Furaha (Time for Rejoicing - about the tenth anniversary of independence) and the highly successful Mtu ni Afya (Man is Health education campaign of 1973). 'However', he wrote, 'the Tanzanian experiment was hampered by the constraint of control. The initiative had always come from the top. This went in tandem with the reluctance of those who directed the initiatives to give freedom to the consumers of radio messages to be able to originate their own messages.'
NYERERE AND NKRMAH

Analysing the issues facing the Pan-African movement prior to its recent 7th Conference in Uganda, AFRICA EVENTS compared the Nyerere and Nkrumah approaches to African unity. It stated that they were both right and they were both wrong. The more radical Nkrumah was right about the need for African unity but wrong in his proposal for an instant union government. Nyerere (‘perhaps the only living senior African leader who actively participated in the great and acrimonious debate between the two in Cairo in 1964’) and who believed in gradualism and regional cooperation, was correct in recognising the practical problematics of African unity but time was to prove him wrong in his conviction that nationalism could be relied on to build African unity. Nationalism and the residual pull of the metropolitan countries proved to be real obstacles.

THE F L K KARONGO

Reporting the recent death at 92 of the second Mrs (Frida) Leakey the GUARDIAN (October 14) reported that, while working with the famous Dr. Leakey at the Olduvai Gorge, she became an expert in the drawing of hand tools. Among her important finds was a fossil site in a side gully which was later named the FLK - Frida Leakey Karongo (meaning gully).

THE DOWNING STREET YEARS

Margaret Thatcher’s international best selling book THE DOWNING STREET YEARS includes at least two references to Tanzania. She first recalls how she had to rush back from her country residence at Chequers to deal with the crisis caused one Sunday in the early eighties when an aircraft was hijacked from Tanzania to Stanstead airport near London.

Lady Thatcher also mentions briefly a meeting with Mwalimu Nyerere at a summit gathering at Cancun in Mexico. "Julius Nyerere was, as ever, charmingly persuasive, but equally misguided and unrealistic about what was wrong with his own country and, by extension, much of black Africa. He told me how unfair the IMF conditions for extending credit to him were: they had told him to bring Tanzania’s public finances into order, cut protection and devalue his currency. Perhaps at this time the IMF’s demands were somewhat too rigorous: but he did not see that changes in this direction were necessary at all and in his own country’s long-term interests. He also complained of the effect of droughts and the collapse of his country’s agriculture - none of which he seemed to connect with the pursuit of misguided socialist policies, including collectivizing the farms".

WHY THE FOOTBALL VANISHED

It was a first division football match in Moshi between Pamba from Mwanza and Ushirika from Moshi. According to NEW AFRICAN (October) a few minutes before the final whistle, with
Ushirika in the lead, Pamba’s star player, Alphonse Modest, kicked the ball out of the ground. And then the ball ‘went missing’. After 20 minutes of searching the referee blew his whistle and the match was over. But some time later a passer-by found the deflated ball just where everybody had been looking for it. Even more mysterious was the fact that no-one in Moshi seemed to have a spare. ‘No satisfactory explanation has been forthcoming except the theory that juju once again played its part in African football. Ushirika players said that Pamba comes from a region famed for its juju - "old ladies have been killed simply because they have red eyes". Ushirika, on the other hand, came from a region which had lost most of its traditional arts including juju’. What about the lack of a spare ball? "That is because at the time everyone was hypnotised to forget about the spare ball" one of the Ushirika players said.

This note was accompanied by a cartoon by a well-known Tanzanian cartoonist in which a group of players were shown saying "I'm telling you, one of these days they are going to make the referee disappear..."!

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TANZANIA AND GOLDMAN SACHS?

The GUARDIAN asked this question on December 10th. The answer: 'One is an African country that makes $2.2 billion a year and shares it among 25 million people. Goldman Sachs is an investment bank that makes $2.6 billion and shares most of it between 161 people.....'

MASSIVE INFLUX OF REFUGEES

Tanzania is having to cope with another major crisis with the arrival in recent weeks of some 170,000 refugees escaping from the slaughter in Burundi following the recent coup. However, there is better news from the other end of the country. Plans are now well ahead for the repatriation of 18,000 Mozambique refugees from the Likuyu refugee camp in Ruvuma Region. Their return home is scheduled for 1994.

A NEW EAST AFRICAN PACT

The Heads of state of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania met in Arusha on November 30, 1993 and signed protocols for East African Cooperation. The proposed permanent Commission of Cooperation will emphasise initially joint projects in transport, communications, trade, agriculture, energy, industry, tourism, the environment and health - Daily News.

TANZANIAN TROOPS FOR LIBERIA

President Mwinyi has announced that Tanzania is to send troops to Liberia to participate in peace-keeping activities. Tanzania was one of the countries which had been requested by the Organisation of African Unity, the USA and the conflicting factions in Liberia to provide troops - Daily News.
In the late 1980's the Government of Tanzania, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World Bank undertook a 'TANZANIA - AIDS ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING STUDY' designed to assess the current status of AIDS in the country, likely future developments and prospective demographic, economic and other impacts of the epidemic and to examine the options available for doing something about it.

More than twelve consultants took part and a series of desk and field studies were followed by a mission to Tanzania in April-May 1991. The results have been published as a book (161 pages) by the World Bank and represent one of the most comprehensive and fact-filled contributions yet produced on the menace which AIDS represents. We asked a doctor to review and summarise its main features:

ORIGIN

In 1983 the first suspected case of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was diagnosed in the Kagera Region. Extensive spread of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) was taking place in the late 1970's and early 1980's. By the end of 1990 a cumulative total of 21,175 AIDS cases had been reported in the country. However, it was believed that due to under reporting the true figure to end 1990 was 100,000.

In the 1980's malaria was the major cause of death - about 10,000 annually. Malaria, respiratory infections and diarrhoeal disease accounted for over half the diagnosed health problems, a pattern typical of Africa due to widespread poverty and lack of proper water supply and sanitation. Sexually transmitted diseases (STD's) were among the top ten causes of morbidity. Gonorrhoea was rated the sixth most frequently reported disease. 13-15% of children died before their fifth birthday. Adult life expectancy was about 48 years. Adult mortality rate prior to AIDS was 7 per thousand.
FACTS AND FIGURES FROM THE BOOK

- At the end of 1990 21,175 AIDS cases had been reported but the true figure was more likely to be about 100,000 because of under-reporting;

- life expectancy after AIDS diagnosis is about one year;

- about 800,000 Tanzanians are now HIV infected; the worst affected areas are Kagera, Mwanza and Mbeya regions and Dar es Salaam;

- by the year 2010 up to 1,500,000 people might be infected;

- population growth is likely to slow because of AIDS but the growth rate will remain positive;

- 20% of sexually active men and 15% of women in Tanzania have sexual partners other than their spouses; even greater proportions engage in commercial sex;

- 10% of Tanzania’s budget goes on health but this amounts to the equivalent of only US$2.00 per person.

When the AIDS epidemic was officially confirmed in 1985 an AIDS Task Force was set up by the Government with the help of the World Health Organisation (WHO). In 1988 a National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) was inaugurated with a budget of US$11 million. This focused on three major areas: a) monitoring and research; b) prevention of HIV and STD infections; and, c) coping with AIDS patients and their dependants.

MEN AND WOMEN EQUALLY INFECTED

Men and women in Sub-Saharan Africa are equally HIV infected. However, there are large disparities among sub­groups of the population. For example, in Kagera Region 17% of the urban population but only 5% of the rural population were HIV sero-positive. In half of mainland Tanzania 2.5% of the urban population and 1% of the rural population were sero-positive.

80% of all sub-Saharan HIV infections are believed to result from heterosexual contacts. 10% are due to blood transfusions and perinatal infection. Contaminated needles may be responsible for 1% of HIV infections.

NO SURVIVAL BEYOND TWO YEARS

The conversion from HIV sero-positivity to full-blown AIDS takes from several months to 20 years. Current belief is that all infected persons will eventually die of AIDS unless an effective cure is discovered. The disease progresses rapidly among infants. 25% of perinatally infected infants develop
AIDS before their first birthday and 80% by five years old, whereas only 15-20% of adults progress to AIDS in the first five years after infection. Once AIDS has developed, 80% of adults and 90% of children will be dead in one year. No AIDS victim is expected to survive more than two years. During the illness there are many episodes of painful and debilitating sickness - an average of 17 for adults and 6 for children.

CONTROLLING THE EPIDEMIC

The study recommends that the NACP should give the highest priority towards reducing heterosexual transmission of the virus - principally by prevention of STD's, encouraging the use of condoms and the promotion of safe and responsible sexual practices through improvements in the associated Information, Education and Communication Programme (IEC).

The importance of preventing and controlling STD's in the fight against AIDS has been recognised in Tanzania since 1984, yet by the end of 1990 no government or WHO money had been spent on an STD programme. Unfortunate indeed when one considers that genital ulcers, which enhance the spread of HIV, may well be the principal factor producing the heterosexual pattern of AIDS as seen in Africa. At the time of writing the report there were plans to establish STD clinics with funding from the EC, ODA and USAID. It was felt that these would not, however, represent a comprehensive national programme.

50 MILLION CONDOMS

A recent survey in Tanzania concluded that 20% of sexually active men and 15% of women had sexual partners other than their spouses. By the end of 1991 Tanzania had received 50 million condoms and had distributed 37 million.

KONYAGI AND CHARCOAL INSTEAD OF CONDOMS

Edna Ndejembi writing in the Dar es Salaam 'Family Mirror' brought a more down to earth approach to the problem after talking to long-distance lorry drivers and their lady friends in Dodoma. "Truck drivers are fantastic lovers, they offer good money and lovely presents, they are just the best" one lady was quoted as saying. To avoid AIDS she normally takes a solution of charcoal powder every morning. A truck driver also had his own remedy. "For my permanent lovers that I trust I do not bother about preventive measures. I do not like condoms because they reduce sexual sensitivity. But for hit and run partners I always use cognac (Konyagi)". He explained that he applied Konyagi to his organ before and after sex. Research conducted by the African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF) in 1992 indicated that in Dar es Salaam 31% of long-distance truck drivers and 55.7% of their partners are HIV positive.
97% AWARE OF AIDS

The report criticises the IEC Programme as being less effective than it should have been – partly due to underfunding. However, the preliminary report of a large survey showed that 97% of people were aware of AIDS and its most salient features. But only 39% knew that one could be infected with the virus but not have any symptoms. The report recommends that ‘the IEC programme should be given new life’.

FUTURE PROJECTIONS

The Chin-Sonnenberg projection model has estimated that there will be 125,000 AIDS cases by 1992 (80,000 adults and 45,000 children) with 10% HIV seroprevalence among urban adults and 6% among rural adults. A 10% seroprevalence implies doubling the death rate in the 15-49 age group. Longer term projections take into account the possible effect of preventive programmes. The Bulato models (15% and 45% sexual monogamy) anticipate results as follows (in millions):

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<th>15% Monogamy</th>
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<td>85% High Risk Behaviour</td>
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COSTS AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The treatment costs (1991) per AIDS case were US$290 for an adult and US$195 for a child. Each adult AIDS case required on average 280 days of care including home care. In the year 1991 estimated total AIDS health care costs were $27.26 million. In that year the government allocated $58.29 million (10.9% of the national recurrent budget) towards total health care. Clearly the full treatment of AIDS patients, would have had an alarming effect on other aspects of health care, that is on the 80-90% of the population not infected with HIV. Added to the cost of treating and caring for AIDS patients are the costs of caring for orphan survivors. The government will have hard budgetary decisions to make. The government recently reported that the estimated cost of the NAP programme for the period 1992 to 1997 would be $63 million of which external pledges for $43 million had been registered.

The AIDS epidemic, producing an alarming decline in the health of the population and a geometrically growing increase in the mortality of sexually active adults will undoubtedly have major effects on the economy – reduced labour productivity, increased health care expenditure and a reduction in human investment.

Now that AIDS has reached pandemic proportions in Africa there is need for a special WHO service in the region to co-
ordinate the AIDS prevention and control programme. As catering for surviving dependants could be considered a basic humanitarian act it would be appropriate for this to be financed by NGO's. Though care should be taken not to select out AIDS family survivors while neglecting other orphans - in the Kagera district more than 5,600 children are thought to have been orphaned by 1991 due to AIDS; yet for every AIDS orphan there were eight who had lost one or both parents due to other causes.

At a time of world recession African countries are facing a great crisis - and there is worse to come! African countries, International agencies and donor countries must make greater efforts to prevent a catastrophe.

Oliver Murphy

(More up-to date data has been given in 'World Bank News' dated November 24, 1993. 816 households in Kagera Region were sampled during a recent Bank research project. 16% reported having lost an adult member during the past year of whom more than half were thought to have died from AIDS. Economic effects included children less likely to be in school, affected families more likely to be headed by a woman with more 'dependants' or children per adult to take care of. On average, households spent US$60 on medical and funeral expenses for each death - roughly the average annual income in the area. Of 2,250 children under 15 in the sampled families, 130 had lost both parents, 185 had lost their mother and 368 had lost their father. The author pointed out that this Tanzanian study might overstate the effects of AIDS because the families sampled were generally at a higher risk of losing adult members to fatal illnesses - a point made in another view of AIDS in Tanzania which is described below - Editor)

BUT OTHERS DISSENT

Not everyone agrees with the widely accepted interpretation of the AIDS epidemic in Tanzania outlined above and during recent weeks massive international publicity has been given to an entirely different point of view. In March there was a British TV programme based on the situation in parts of Uganda and Tanzania and then, the Sunday Times (October 3, 1993) devoted part of its front page and two inside pages to articles by Neville Hodgkinson under the headings 'AFRICAN AIDS PLAGUE A MYTH' and 'THE PLAGUE THAT NEVER WAS'.

The evidence was said to have come from two French charity workers - Philippe (50) a former pilot, and Evelyne (42) Krynen, a teacher working in what was described as the 'epicentre' of the disease - Kagera Region in Tanzania.

After a first visit to Bukoba and its surrounding area they prepared an illustrated report which was to prove a catalyst for French and Belgian interest in the social impact of AIDS in Africa. They wrote of children alone in houses emptied of adults, a football team destroyed by the disease, old people sitting alone with their dead, black crosses
painted at the entrances of AIDS-stricken homes.

The Krynen's then abandoned their previous careers to train as nurses specialising in tropical medicine and came back to Tanzania to head the first and largest AIDS organisation for children in Tanzania - 'Partage'. Today this charity has 230 full-time employees helping 7,000 children in 15 of Kagera's villages.

"THERE IS NO AIDS"

Among the startling conclusions the Krynen's have come to as a result of four years work in the area are the following:

- one positive test cannot be relied upon for HIV diagnosis; a wide variety of parasitical and other infections can trigger a false positive result;

- there is no connection between HIV-positivity and risk of illness; 54 villagers were ill with complaints such as pneumonia and fungal infections that might have contributed to an AIDS diagnosis but just as many of these were HIV-negative as positive; when they were given appropriate treatment, most recovered;

- there is not a trace of evidence of the disease being sexually transmitted;

- the HIV test has nothing to do with AIDS;

- there is no AIDS; it is something that has been invented;

WHERE HAVE ALL THE ORPHANS COME FROM?

The Sunday Times article then asked, if Kagera is not in the grip of 'HIV disease', where have the thousands of orphans come from? The answer say the Krynens, is that most of the children are not orphans at all. "The raising of children by their grandparents is a long standing feature of the culture of the region. Parents move away from the region, sending back a little money and returning occasionally or never; other children are born to prostitutes. When parents are absent it is fashionable to say that they have died of AIDS because this brings money and support. Everybody claims to be a victim of AIDS nowadays. Local people working for AIDS agencies have become rich...the children usually thrive once they are properly fed and cared for though some are so poorly from birth that they remain vulnerable to infections. In all the children we have lost there was a very good reason - heart failure, TB treated too late, cerebral malaria, acute hepatitis - you have no right to call any of these deaths AIDS....there are now some 17 organisations reportedly doing something about AIDS in Kagera...today as the ferry arrives from Mwanza the port seizes up with donor agency Landrovers and Toyotas...Africa is a 'good conscience' ground for many charities".
(In the light of the above we asked a specialist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to comment - Editor)

'NAIVE VIEWS'

When the science correspondent of a serious newspaper decides to write a two page article on AIDS in Africa, one would expect that he would interview a wide variety of experts in the field, and publish a balanced account of what they tell him. Neville Hodgkinson, has not adopted this approach.

It is true that he has interviewed a number of scientists and doctors working on AIDS in Africa, but he has chosen not to report their views, confining his article to the opinions of a former French army pilot and teacher. This couple went to work in Bukoba after receiving one year’s training in nursing, and tested about 800 local residents for HIV infection.

They told Mr. Hodgkinson that their tests had not proved reliable, apparently on the grounds that a number of those with positive tests were in good health, and a number of patients whom they saw with "pneumonia and fungal infections" had negative tests. They therefore decided "to put all they had been told about the disease (AIDS) in the garbage can, and tried to reconsider". They admitted that they had seen patients dying of an unusual wasting disease, but concluded that it could not be sexually transmitted, since the sexual partners of these patients did not have the disease. Mr. Hodgkinson reported that his lady informant had told him: "I will spend a night with an HIV positive person, if he’s handsome enough."

It is not surprising that there are people in Africa who hold the naive views expressed by this French couple. It is difficult for those without scientific training to grasp the concept of a disease with an incubation period which may extend to ten years or more. What is surprising is that the science correspondent of what was once a respected newspaper should report such nonsense when he knows it not to be true.

In June of this year Mr. Hodgkinson attended a press conference at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, at which results were presented from a community study in Masaka District of Uganda conducted by the Uganda Virus Research Institute and the British Medical Research Council. This study, in which some 10,000 people were followed up for several years, found that the risk of death was 87 times higher in HIV positive than in HIV negative individuals.

Mr. Hodgkinson’s reasons for failing to report these and many similar findings of which he must be aware can only be guessed at. I find his article an insult to the many dedicated health workers in Africa who are trying to care for an increasing number of AIDS patients and to the memory of the hundreds of thousands of people who have died of HIV related diseases in Africa in the past decade; an impediment to research into ways of controlling this devastating epidemic; and a dangerous source of misinformation which may lead those who read it to put themselves needlessly at risk of disease and death.

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David Mabey
This new guide is eminently practical. The first part tells how to deal with red tape, which airlines you can use, how to travel by road from all neighbouring countries, what to wear, how to avoid diarrhoea and also casual theft and so on. The constant reference to current costs (with the cheapest solution in each case) is particularly useful but the guide will need to be updated regularly. Tanzania's history is dealt with perhaps too concisely in 14 pages.

Part two goes into more detail by city, town or region (including 17 pages on Zanzibar) under such headings as 'Where to stay', 'Where to eat' and 'What to do'.

Invaluable to anyone visiting the country for the first time and wishing to keep expenses to the minimum - DRB

The appearance of a guidebook devoted exclusively to Zanzibar is an unusual event. The Director of National Archives (Mr Hamad Omar) and his colleagues of the Zanzibar Task Force are to be congratulated on their achievement. The Guide is attractively produced, with a striking cover photograph of a dhow seen through an Arab archway, and very reasonably priced for a booklet of 114 pages, eight in full colour.

There has never been any doubt about Zanzibar's potential as a tourist resort, with its pleasant beaches and fascinating history; but visitors have been deterred by difficulty of access, absence of good hotels and lack of practical information. The last official guide book was published as long ago as 1949. Long out of print, some of its useful historical facts have been incorporated in the new publication.

It is good to read once again the story of the gilded ring on the domed roof of the Law Courts, which is traditionally said to be there to enable the Archangel Gabriel to carry the building to heaven on the last day.

A visitor to Zanzibar in the 1990's will be interested in more mundane matters such as where to stay. Fourteen hotels are listed and some idea of the growth in facilities can be gauged from the fact that six of these opened in the last three years. The Zanzibar Tourist Board might consider the introduction of some form of grading system for the guidance of visitors, with an indication of facilities available e.g.
swimming pool or rooms with private bathrooms. It would also be interesting to know how many of the 23 'guest houses' listed are really up to international tourist standards.

The English text is excellent and includes amongst many other things a cheerful advertisement for Holiday Bungalows on the inside front cover; the reader is invited to 'Come and fall apart in our back yard' - as in the Jungle Book!

One particularly welcome feature of the Guide is the Index; this compensates for the fact that the order of the various sections is rather haphazard. However, the two maps, of Zanzibar Island and Stone Town, are a disaster. Although based on the excellent maps produced by the British Directorate of Overseas Surveys for the Zanzibar Tourist Bureau in 1983, they are illegible when printed in black and white in small type. Perhaps the publishers, who in other respects have done a good job, could work with DOS to produce better versions for the next addition - or even charge a little more for the Guide and include the DOS map in a pocket at the back.

John Sankey


This paper attempts some measurement of the achievement of adult literacy programmes in the Dodoma region. In the late 50's, with the aid of UNICEF, this was a core area for such programmes; and by 1961 the two regions of the then Central Province had more registered adult literacy learners than all the country's other nine provinces combined.

From 1967 the Government sought to make education a major component in transforming Tanzania economically, politically and socially. Literacy programmes were linked with political, community and agricultural education. Officially, illiteracy rates nationally are said to have fallen from 90% to 10% during 1961-86. But illiteracy rates may have been increasing again since 1986, as dropouts from primary schools have increased and government has lessened its attention to adult literacy.

In Dodoma, education officials indicate that adult education has deteriorated since 1985, when responsibility for it was transferred to regions and districts. Less money is available, and, at village level, leadership support is patchy. The enthusiasm, efficiency and performance of the 1970's has markedly declined. The author says that some of the statistics may have been constructed at lower level to 'look good'.

The conclusion is that if adult education is to act as a 'tool of transformation' it must be given higher priority again at national level. For women, in particular, it needs to be tied to their being given control of the income from cash-crop production.

David Somers

'It may well be unique in economic history that an already poor country, without suffering from prolonged drought, war or climatic deterioration, experiences such a dramatic reduction in living standards' write the authors in this graphic description of the recent economic history of Tanzania. They point out that between 1965 and 1985 Tanzania had an average annual decline in real GDP per capita of 0.5% and that analysis of household surveys suggests that real income might have fallen over the 15 year period to 1985 by as much as 50%.

The paper traces the long conflict between the World Bank and IMF on the one hand and Julius Nyerere on the other. Many missions were sent from Washington to press the case for adjustment of economic policies - adjustment of the exchange rate, adjustment of interest rates, adjustment of agricultural producer prices. But Nyerere resisted - he insisted that the conditions attached to IMF prescriptions were an infringement on Tanzania's national sovereignty, devaluation would mean political suicide, and that a major devaluation would lead to riots in the streets. The Government called upon academic advisors who were ready to take a position contrary to that of the IMF. The authors state that Reginald Green from Sussex University and Prof. Ajit Singh from Cambridge argued sternly for not giving in to the Fund's pressures for devaluation and the Scandinavian countries and ILO took Tanzania's side. For Nyerere, structural adjustment was entirely a question of policy and ideology.

As the debate continued the economic decline worsened and, as the authors point out, those people Nyerere wished to protect from a fall in living standards - the urban population - became the prime victims of his policies.

'Beginning in 1983 and following the ill-conceived campaign to lock up "economic saboteurs" - literally anybody with above average private capital - opposition to Nyerere emerged first in Zanzibar and later on the mainland'. The paper then goes on to describe how the Economic Recovery Programme began under President Mwinyi and how this brought encouraging results.

The main message of the paper is the importance of grounding structural reform on political reality - 'the policy context as an explicit and independent variable ... the notions of "ambiguity" and "conflict" in policy situations help us better to understand the opportunities and constraints for action on structural adjustment issues' - DRB.

SIGNAL ON THE MOUNTAIN. Elizabeth Knox. Obtainable from M E Punt, 11 Wolsey Court, London Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 3ST. £8.50. 276 pages.

In this book the author records the courage and devotion of missionaries and Tanzanians who first took Christianity to the Uplands of Central Tanzania. She covers in meticulous
detail the forty years from 1876 to the outbreak of the First World War, obtaining her material from careful research in England and Africa. She shows how the church took root in spite of limited missionary personnel and limited finance, situations which often meant that the early Christians themselves became evangelists. She has given us a valuable history of the roots of the church in central Tanzania and insight into the methods and people used by God to plant this church which even today continues to grow vigorously.

Mary E Punt

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

INNOVATION IN ADULT EDUCATION: THE CHANGING PERSPECTIVES OF POST-LITERACY CURRICULUM IN TANZANIA. Philemon A K Mushi. AALAE Vol 7 No 1. 1993. 4 pages. This paper describes the efforts made to develop a post-literacy curriculum designed to empower people and to create the conditions for life-long education. The author criticises the 'top-down' approach used.

A FANFARE OF TRUMPETS. John Lewis-Barned. Obtainable from The Rectory Farmhouse, Church Hanborough, Witney, Oxon OX8 8AB. 1993. 120 pages. This is another in the increasing flow of memoirs of administrative officers who served in Tanganyika in the 1950's and 60's. It has been described as 'full of people and all about people'.

A MEDIUM TERM FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSING THE REAL EXCHANGE RATE, WITH APPLICATIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES AND TANZANIA. Kathie L Krum. The World Bank Economic Review. Vol 7 No 2. 36 pages. May 1993. This presents a methodology for estimating the appropriate real rate and helps to work out the extent to which the prevailing rate is misaligned.

INTELLECTUALS AT THE HILL: ESSAYS AND TALKS 1969-1993. Issa Shivji. Dar es Salaam University Press. Professor Shivji describes his ideas during the 25 years from his early days as a student of law. The book covers such areas as economics, education, sociology, politics and history.

FUELLING CHANGE. Clive Sowden. Geographical. September 1993. 3 pages. In this review of energy resources in sub-Saharan Africa using Tanzania as an example the author states that the most striking feature of energy demand in Tanzania is that 90% of the demand is met from biomass – fuelwood and charcoal. This is above the average figure of 66% for the sub-Saharan Africa region as a whole. The country is fortunate in that 66% is covered by forest and woodland. The author indicates the unsustainability of consumption in the long term and mentions measures being taken to alleviate the problem.
REFLECTIONS ON DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA. Richard Dowden. African Affairs. Vol 92. No 369. October 1993. 4 pages. In pointing out that in Britain only the Financial Times and the Independent have full-time Africa correspondents for the 40 sub-Saharan countries excluding South Africa the author rightly suggests that academics could produce a much needed guide to the constitutional theory and practice of democracy in Africa. It should describe not what Marx or Lenin, who had never been to Africa, thought about the place but what such people as Mandela and Savimbi think about it. Writing about democracy in Tanzania the author refers to the rogues amongst the leaders of Africa – Shaka Zulu, Kabaka Mutesa, Kwame Nkrumah, Hastings Banda, Bokassa, Idi Amin, but notes that Nyerere, one of the serious leaders, argued that Africa could not afford multi-party democracy. It needed unity above all else. But his one-party model failed. The people did not ‘own’ the concept. ‘Nyerere could still summon thousands of cheering people to national day rallies but there is little evidence that the people ever understood Ujamaa or picked up the idea of self-help. The system was imposed from above....’


WATER USE BY THE CHAGGA ON KILIMANJARO. Alison Grove. African Affairs. Vol 92. No 368. July 1993. 17 pages. A lot has been written on what the author describes as one of the most
impressive systems of water management in Africa. This paper describes the original system and brings us up-to-date on the effects on it of population growth, the arrival of piped water supplies and the continued importance of the furrows especially in the lower regions.

ANGELS IN AFRICA. A MEMOIR OF NURSING WITH THE COLONIAL SERVICE. Bridget M Robertson. Radcliffe Press. £17.95. Describes the life and work of a nursing sister in Queen Elizabeth’s Overseas Nursing Service between 1947 and 1964. Part of the author’s service was in Zanzibar.

BEING MAASAI: ETHNICITY AND IDENTITY IN EAST AFRICA. James Currey. 336 pages. £35 (cloth) and £12.95.


PRIMARY TECHNICAL DICTIONARY - ENGLISH-SWAHILI. R Ohly. Institute of Production Innovation, University of Dar es Salaam and GTZ. 246 pages. This unique dictionary contains some 10,000 English technical terms and phrases which translate, because they are based on various technical publications, into some 30,000 Swahili technical terms. The book is particularly useful for scientists, technical personnel and students.

PARTNERS AND COMPETITORS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME: THE CASE OF SUNGUSUNGU, THE VIGILANTE GROUPS, AMONG THE SUKUMA AND NYAMWEZI OF TANZANIA. Sufian Bukururua. Paper presented at the Symposium on Youth and Authority, SOAS, December 11, 1993. Sungusungu groups came into existence in the early 1980's at the initiative of male elders and they rely on rituals and divination for the performance of most of their activities. The rural community gives them credit for the restoration of borderland security. The youths do the work - tracking stolen cattle, arresting cattle rustlers, transmitting messages - but they have recently expressed concern over the basis for election to leadership and the safety of the funds collected through fines.

HOME-GROWN SUCCESSES

Two brief comments on the Bulletin. It now reads fine in its new big print glossy-papered format. Was Mary Boyd’s protest in the last issue written tongue in cheek?

However, am I alone in my feeling that endless accounts of political strife and of projects charitably funded and operated by international bodies are overwhelming other items more likely to enhance the standing of Tanzanians on the world stage? I cannot believe that the many talented and highly qualified people of that country outside politics, are without home-grown successes worthy of record in the fields of business, research, invention and creativity.

Could you please consider redressing the balance.

P Hooper

(Fair point! As a first step in redressing the balance please see the article by Cuthbert Kimambo on page 5 - Editor)

THE ALL-TIME BEST

Your issue No 45 was as good as any I can remember, if not indeed the all-time best. I would like to mention a few points.

Firstly, I was taken aback by the coincidence of the obituaries of Dunstan Omari and Lucy Lameck, because when I arrived in Dar es Salaam in 1953, having travelled from London by sea with Dunstan, he lost no time in introducing me to Lucy Lameck. We all went to a dance together and I shouldn’t have been surprised to hear of their engagement!

The reference to War graves on page 22 reminds me that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (2 Marlow Rd., Maidenhead SL6 7DX Tel: 0628 34221) provides information about named individuals; it also has lists a) of those who died in World War I and are buried at the Dar es Salaam War Cemetery, Bagamoyo Road and b) for World War II, all cemeteries in Tanganyika. The lists are alphabetical. It occurs to me that you might wish to get someone in Dar es Salaam to report on the matter.

On ‘This Maddest of Pursuits’ on page 24, who on earth is Martin Cropper? What is ‘cyclothermic’ (Livingstone) and ‘melanothobe’ (Burton)? And what is meant by ‘Livingstone himself never made a single permanent conversion’? Or is it all a joke?

Paul Marchant
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