

NO 48

MAY 1994



Bulletin of Tanzanian affairs

Issued by the
Britain - Tanzania
Society

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MINI-BUDGET SHOCK

Finance Minister Professor Kighoma Malima shocked Tanzanians on January 2nd 1994 when he announced a series of drastic measures in a mini-budget designed to balance government income and expenditure and deal with a serious shortfall in revenue. He proposed to cut expenditure by no less than 40%.

In the following article Roger Carter explains the background to the financial crisis and the measures the government is taking.

LONG TERM INTERESTS AND SHORT TERM NECESSITIES

In common with other countries at a similar stage in development, Tanzania is faced by a continuing conflict between important long term interests and urgent short term necessities. There can be little doubt that the expansion and enrichment of primary education and the extension of primary health care are among the prerequisites of rapid economic growth. The road and rail systems need radical improvement, the telephone network to be more reliable and responsive. Much capital investment of this kind, for example on schools, health centres, or roads, brings in its train new charges on the recurrent budget for the purposes of operation and maintenance. But it is these costly services that are being starved of resources on account of the pressing need to balance the budget and to bring down inflation.

CONTROLLING INFLATION

Inflation has immensely damaging consequences. As wage increases lag behind price rises, inflation impoverishes the wage earning section of the population and may well cause social unrest. As an indicator of the government's inability to fund its expenditure out of revenue, inflation undermines investor confidence both at home and abroad. Inflation introduces uncertainties into all forward planning and complicates the task of exporters. As inflation means that the value of the currency is falling, bank balances and contracts denominated in local currency lose some of their value and saving is discouraged.

The importance of controlling inflation has been acknowledged in successive budgets. One major cause of inflation has been the willingness of the government and the National Bank of Commerce to finance the deficits of loss-making parastatals, notwithstanding warnings by the government that the practice must end. Having no idle surpluses, the government and the Bank have been obliged to rely on inflationary measures involving the creation of new money to meet this need. There are of course circumstances in which a

parastatal is providing an essential service and cannot be replaced in the short run. In the case of some crop parastatals the first step has been to remove their monopoly powers and to expose them to competition. Survival then depends on the ability of these parastatals so to reorganise themselves as to operate efficiently without government subventions. The government has set up a Parastatal Sector Reform Commission to advise on the future of parastatals generally, whether by reorganisation as joint venture companies, outright sale to the private sector, or in some cases liquidation. In this matter the government is guided by the intention in the medium term to divest itself of direct responsibility from all productive enterprises.

THE SHORTFALL IN REVENUE

The immediate goal, then, is to end support for loss-making concerns and to balance the budget without resort to borrowing from the Bank, or other inflationary devices. Unhappily, this aim has received a setback with the discovery for the second year running of a serious shortfall in revenue, notwithstanding measures announced in the budget speech to enhance collection and improve motivation among collectors. It was estimated that income by the end of the financial year on 30th June would be some 12% short of the budget figure of Shs. 235.6 billion. Expenditure was also running ahead of estimates. A major cause of the shortfall in revenue is believed to have been inadequate collection of customs duties and steps have been taken to ensure strict adherence to the customs tariff and to put an end to illegal import practices. Increases in customs duties on commodities otherwise produced locally were announced and a 10% duty on industrial raw material, lifted in the budget, was reimposed. On the expenditure side, a decision to undertake the phased closure of 12 embassies and to begin the process by a reduction of home-based and local staff was announced. Foreign visits by government officers funded by government and all transfers of civil servants were suspended. Departmental accounting officers were to see that budget provision was not exceeded; cheques and warrants not covered by balances into the Paymaster General's account would not be honoured.

The government hopes that these measures will restore revenue collection to the level foreshadowed in the budget without significant damage to current economic reforms. Understandably the reaction of the trading community was one of shock. Some of the increases in duties, such as those on drugs from 10% to 40%, were seen as favouring the rich, while the proposed 10% duty on industrial raw materials was a setback for the domestic economy. Representatives of the Confederation of Tanzanian Industries and of the opposition party CHADEMA led by Mr. Edwin Mtei, the former Governor of the Bank of Tanzania, took the view that the budgeted revenue target would be reached if adequate steps were taken to deal with tax evasion and corruption. The government's proposals met with a hostile reception in Parliament. Summing up for the

SUNDAY MINI - BUDGET

Shock waves hit business community

Govt. asked to withdraw mini-budget

Collect taxes, or no aid — Chalker

MINI-BUDGET FRACAS

Tanzania in great peril

Desperate measures

'Gabacholi' economy

GOVERNMENT PROFLIGACY

Take Malima to task, MPs advised

16bn/- budget deficit

THE MINI-BUDGET:

Farmers, fishermen hit hardest

Malima, quit

Mini-budget big burden to the poor, MPs charge

government the Minister for Finance announced reductions in the rates of duty previously announced. Imported drugs were now to face an import duty of 15%, while duties on raw materials used for the local manufacture of medical and veterinary drugs were to be limited to 5%.

Any substantial increase in rates of duty must have two adverse consequences for the economy. First, it is likely to create difficulties for industrial concerns already experiencing cash flow problems, with a risk of insolvency in some cases. Secondly and more importantly, by increasing costs it will tend to put up the rate of inflation and in this way to frustrate a primary object of government policy.

The government is aware that morale in the public service is just as important as fiscal changes. Rewards in the public service are now much too low as a result of the decline in the value of the currency and the result has been a tendency towards poor performance, absenteeism, and unpunctuality in an environment offering temptations for corruption, while over-staffing has created a financial burden well beyond the government's means. It is planned to reduce the size of the service during the current financial year by 20,000 civil servants, taking advantage of the progressive reduction of government responsibilities in the productive sector. It is expected that it will be possible to create a more adequate salary structure when the public service has been reduced to a more sustainable size.

NOT ALL GLOOM

In spite of these problems Tanzania has been able to record some notable achievements. The administration of foreign exchange under the supervision of the Bank of Tanzania is going well. The rehabilitation of the road network is proceeding with energy. As a recent World Bank report shows, agricultural production has been increasing at an average annual growth rate of 5.3% between the years 1987 and 1991. Associated with this rate of growth has been an 8.3% real increase in producer prices between 1981-83 and 1989-91, followed by further increases in subsequent years. The ending of the marketing monopoly of the National Milling Corporation has given farmers direct or indirect access to local markets and cash on the nail instead of the long, discouraging delays in payment that previously often prevailed. An important consequence of the rise in rewards for agricultural producers has been a wider dispersal of the proceeds of production among the population in general.

So in spite of immediate problems all is not gloom. But the revenue crisis has once again illustrated the immense difficulties faced by a country at Tanzania's stage of development in undertaking the capital and recurrent financing of vital infrastructure and services in the face of immediate demands on resources. Such crises can arise in a variety of ways. In the previous financial year, the government was obliged to resort to inflationary borrowing, as drought had undermined the electricity supply at Kidatu dam, bringing industry repeatedly to a standstill over a period of several months and seriously interfering with tax revenues. Before that, serious floods in the Lushoto and Korogwe areas forced the government to make provision for emergency relief. Over all of these unexpected demands on resources hang the increasing needs of a population estimated to be growing at about 3% per annum.

As successive finance ministers have shown, balancing the budget comes high in their lists of priorities. Some of the measures needed to be taken, such as the reduction in the size of the civil service, are inevitably unpopular. But it is clear from the budget speech and its endorsement by Parliament that the nettle has been grasped and that a fall in inflation, bringing with it important benefits both to the economy and the population in general, could now be a realistic expectation.

J Roger Carter

DAMAGE TO SCHOOLS

As a reflection of the financial situation some schoolchildren have been protesting violently about the 'bad food' being provided in schools - *Ugali* and beans every day. Ifakara secondary school students have set fire to school buildings and have caused Shs 6 million damage. Kwiru school had to be closed after serious vandalism and 46 students at Arusha school were suspended after unrest in the school.

MASSIVE REFUGEE INFLUX

As this issue of the Bulletin went to press reports from Ngara indicated that this district in Kagera Region had suddenly received over 200,000 refugees fleeing from Rwanda. The exodus was described as the largest and fastest the United Nations had ever seen in Africa. Every hour 10,000 refugees were said to be squeezing across the two-lane border bridge at Rusumo. The exodus followed the deaths of Presidents Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda and Cyprien Ntaryamira of Burundi on April 6th when their plane was attacked by gunfire at Kigali airport. This was immediately after they had attended a meeting in Dar es Salaam with President Mwinyi who had been acting as Rwanda peacemaker for many months. They had chosen to travel together in the same plane because the Rwanda president's plane was faster.

The Times later reported (May 9th) that the world's largest refugee camp had been established at Benako, Ngara District, and had soon become 'a broad colourful canvas of humanity, testament to the tolerance and dignity that Africans, faced with wretched injustice, somehow muster. This seething mass of humanity passes relentlessly up and down the two roads that pass the camp, concentrated around convoys of 20-ton lorries, Toyotas and Landrovers, dispensing what the international community has to offer. Tanzanian Red Cross workers, screaming through megaphones, order the Wakanbizi-refugees-into rows 100 ft deep. In the sun the scenes are jovial but in the rain Benako's mud oozes beneath the leaden skies and a hellish medieval misery descends'.

The paper reported that ten planes crowded with journalists had arrived at the tiny Ngara airstrip in one morning. The manager of an Italian engineering company helping at the airport watched in dismay as a huge CNN charter plane shuddered across the mud and dust strip. "This cannot go on" he said. "With all the termites, this airstrip will soon look like a gryere cheese".

Refugees at the camp reacted angrily when one of the journalists closed in on a semi-conscious woman who was slumped at the front of one of the long food queues. The Tanzania authorities had begun setting up hundreds of tents to accommodate extra police.

Engineers from 'Medecins sans Frontieres' were said to be working round the clock on a pipeline to the Benako camp in an attempt to stop refugees tramping through the quagmire to get at the only source of water, a murky lake nearby. It was estimated that up to half a million gallons of water were needed per day for the refugees.

Speaking to some of those Rwandans who had escaped to Ngara, Charles Kizhiga, in the Dar es Salaam Daily News, quoted them as saying 'We have lost faith in any form of government ..our country should be governed by a strong foreign army, not Belgians or French, and they should stay until two generations pass'.

ANGER IN MWANZA

On April 27th it was reported that 70 Rwanda and Burundi nationals in Mwanza region, who had celebrated the deaths of the two presidents at a party at the New Mwanza Hotel, had been arrested on the orders of Prime Minister Malecela. The celebrations had angered Tanzanian residents in Mwanza where flags were flying at half mast. Tanzanian Director of Public Prosecutions Kulwa Masamba later stated that it was not a crime in law for someone to celebrate another persons death.

CCM WINS TWO BY-ELECTIONS

Since multi-partyism was introduced in Tanzania there have been three parliamentary by-elections. The first, at Kwahani in Zanzibar, on April 19th 1993 (Bulletin No 45) was an easy victory for the CCM. The party took 89% of the vote. The second at Ileje on January 30, 1994, following the death of the late Minister Stephen Kibona, was slightly more difficult although the opposition reduced its chances by entering no less than six candidates; but again it was an overwhelming victory for the CCM which gained 78.5% of the votes cast. But when the Kigoma Urban seat fell vacant things were different. CCM had chosen a wealthy Asian businessman as its candidate; the leading opposition party CHADEMA had nominated a university lecturer, regarded as a very strong candidate. The CCM knew that it had a fight on its hands.

BY-ELECTION RESULTS

ILEJE:

Gideon Cheyo, Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM)	14,160
Olufingo Gwalusako, Civic United Front (CUF)	1,000
Mmanyi Malan'gombe, National Convention for Constitution and Reform (NCCR - Mageuzi)	908
Stewart Mmwenisongole, Tanzania Democratic Alliance (TADEA)	510
Chawinga Mulambo, Popular National Alliance (PONA)	508
Anangisye Pilika (NLD)	275
John Tweve, Tanzania People's Party (TPP)	119

KIGOMA:

Azim Premji, CCM	9,453
Dr. Aman Kabourou, Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (CHADEMA)	5,325
PONA	165
TADEA	114
TPP	45
NRA	36

REACTIONS

Reactions to the two latest results varied from the euphoria of the CCM to disappointment and frustration on the part of the opposition. CCM MP's meeting in Dodoma were jubilant on hearing the Ileje result. A few days later when the victor arrived in Dodoma he was garlanded with a scarf and then mobbed and hugged by fellow MP's and youth wingers. But the Kigoma Urban by election campaign had by then reached what was described as 'fever pitch' and CCM was pulling out all the stops. It threw in most of the top leadership including President Mwinyi himself. The CHADEMA team was lead by Party leader Edwin Mtei.

OPPOSITION CRITICISM

Opposition supporters were critical of the election procedures especially at Kigoma where CHADEMA decided to petition the High Court, appealing against the result. There has been particularly strong criticism of Radio Tanzania for its alleged biased reporting - criticism shared apparently by the Electoral Commission.

The CCM's very high profile campaign at Kigoma was alleged to have used government funds, offices and officials. There were complaints about the use of the government jet for President Mwinyi's visit; the use of substantial funds to resurface Kigoma roads; donations by the CCM candidate to the local people; the temporary arrest of the firebrand government opponent the Rev. Mtikila as he was heading to Dar es Salaam airport on his way to Kigoma.

Professor M Baregu, writing in the 'Family Mirror' pointed out that the Nyalali Report (Bulletin No 42) had identified 40 pieces of legislation which should have been repealed or revised if an environment conducive to multi-party politics were to be created but that they remained on the statue book. He wondered whether the low voter registration (23,000 registered out of an eligible 80,000 in Ileje) might be linked to this. The Nyalali Commission had recommended the setting up of three bodies - a body to oversee the transition to multi-partyism by May 1992, a Constitutional Commission by July 1992, and an electoral Commission. The government had set up only the latter.

CHADEMA and CUF, the strongest opposition parties in the mainland and in Zanzibar respectively seem to have taken to heart the clear lesson that the opposition parties must unite if they are to compete effectively with the well-entrenched CCM. They had a joint meeting on January 25th and the CUF did not put up a candidate at Kigoma. Another fairly strong party - the NCCR - Mageuzi party - withdrew from the Kigoma race. The weekly Swahili newspaper, 'Wakati ni Huu' reported that representatives of UMD, NCCR - Mageuzi, PONA, CUF, CHADEMA, and TADEA had met in late April to try and work out a joint political strategy but many observers regarded the possibility with scepticism.

CCM pointed out that American and Canadian observers had

declared both by-elections free and fair. Some CCM officials accused the opposition of racism - the CCM candidate being an Asian - and there were allegations that the opposition had used violence during the campaign and had distributed fake voting cards.

CHADEMA - WHAT IS ITS POLICY?

CHADEMA has clearly made an impression on the voters in Kigoma and has thereby probably established itself as the leading opposition party. Its Chairman, Edwin Mtei, in an interview in the Daily News made the following points:

'CHADEMA is not afraid of saying that the best way of running our economy is to adopt an approach that follows market forces. CCM tends to be hesitant and ambivalent. Socialism will not work in this country. We have to privatise because it is not possible to run anything efficiently with bureaucracy. Parastatals have collapsed and they are no longer of any use as they are not producing anything. The Arusha Declaration prescribed that only people within certain salary levels could invest in the private sector. Even people who got senior positions as a result of Africanisation were unable to acquire any wealth. Africans have been marginalised. We want to ensure that the indigenous people are involved in the mainstream of the economy so that we cease to be marginalised. CHADEMA's founders are not out to make money; they are not people who are wanting to advance their careers or search for jobs; they are self-employed people in the professions or in business....'

TWO MORE BY-ELECTIONS

The recent deaths of the former Minister of Education and Culture, Charles Kabeho and the MP for Tabora North, Mr H Makololo, mean that there will soon be two more by-elections. The first, at Igunga is to be held on June 19th and the campaign is underway. The United Democratic Party (UDP) has appealed to other opposition parties to give a chance to their candidate - 70-year old veteran politician Joseph Kasella Bantu - and not to split the opposition vote. CHADEMA Chairman Edwin Mtei has threatened to boycott the by-election.

TAZARA MAKES 50% MORE PROFIT

The Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) realised a revenue of Shs 22 billion in 1992/93 compared with Shs 13.2 billion in the previous year. Shs 20.7 billion came from goods and Shs 1.05 billion from passenger services. The net profit of Shs 7 billion compared with a figure of Shs 3.1 billion in 1991/92. Total freight loaded was 1,238,962 tons, an increase of 18% over the previous year.



The following extracts are from the 'Tanganyika Standard' in the early part of 1944.

EXERCISE ETIQUETTE

A rather angry farmer wrote to the Editor on February 26, 1944: 'I think some of the officers in the Moshi area need a refresher course in good manners. A few don'ts:

1) If a farmer has given half his farm to the military authorities free, don't behave like a boor; at least send your Adjutant to find out what will and what will not constitute a nuisance on the remainder of the farm;

2) When route marching through private property, maintain march discipline and don't let men fall out and help themselves to grapefruits and pawpaws;

3) If you wish to train your men in bush fighting don't do so in a coffee plantation as coffee branches are easily broken!

RAILWAY AND PORT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WAR

The Chief Mechanical Engineer was quoted on May 27 1944 as having described some of the work done by the Marine, Civil and Mechanical Departments of the Tanganyika Railway and Port Services since the beginning of the war in 1940. 'The first order' he said, 'was for stars and crowns for the locally recruited officers of the armed forces. This caused considerable difficulties and the task almost had to be given up, until it was learnt that an expert coiner had just been released from prison. He was sufficiently good at his illicit trade to have earned a ten-year stretch but he was soon put to work to produce hundreds of stars and crowns. The Works had also been engaged in conversion of heavy passenger-carrying planes into fighting machines....Tanganyika Railways also collected, treated and supplied 100 old Krupp railway axles for trench mortars. Several thousand machined parts were made for land mines and 50 river pontoons complete with decking and hinged connectors were also made.....Other items included 500 five-ton lifting jacks, 80,000 pairs of head and toe plates for army boots and 60 sets of mine and depth charge launching gear....We have made an active contribution to the war' the Chief Mechanical Engineer said.

NYERERE RESISTS RENAMING OF STREET

Steps taken by the Dar es Salaam City Council to rename a number of streets in the capital have been widely criticised.

New names include Nyerere Road (formerly Pugu Road) and Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road (formerly Bagamoyo Road). Adding to the criticism was the action of the Coca Cola Company in donating the new Mwinyi Road sign and attaching their trade mark to it. Senior government officials have complained about 'prostituting' the honour of the presidency.

Mwalimu Nyerere has reportedly asked the Mayor to rescind the decision because as long as he lived he wanted to live as an ordinary citizen and rejected all schemes designed to erect monuments or relics in his honour. He complained that he had not been consulted before the change was made - Family Mirror.

AND WHO IS GOING TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

Franklin Mziray in the Daily News has been raising a few questions:

- who from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will go to Brazzaville and Rabat to explain why we have removed these countries' names from our streets?

- who will be making a courtesy call on former CCM Vice-Chairman Rashidi Kawawa to explain why such a narrow unworthy street as Kigoma Road has been named after him?

- who is going to alter all the hundreds of house plot names that will have to be changed?

- how many of us use the earlier list of new names? Sokoine Drive instead of City Drive? Samora Machel for Independence Avenue?

MREMA TOLD TO STOP IT

Anti-corruption crusader Augustine Mrema, Deputy Prime Minister and Home Affairs Minister, has been told by the Senior Resident Magistrate in Dar es Salaam, Ms Natalia Kimaro, to stop condemning before journalists people facing court charges. The Magistrate pointed out that an accused person is innocent until proved guilty by a court. The case in question has aroused immense interest in Tanzania as it involves six defendants charged with an alleged fraud of Shs 250 million of Open General Licence Funds.

- AND THEN TOLD TO CARRY ON HIS FIGHT

But Sweden's Ambassador to Tanzania, Thomas Palme, is reported to have given Mr Mrema a 'diplomatic push' in his efforts to fight the theft of public funds. He hinted that Nordic countries might raise their levels of assistance if an end could be put to misappropriation of funds and the culture under which cuts were demanded when tender awards were being made to foreign companies - Express.

KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIA HELP ROADS PROJECT

Tanzania is to get loans totalling US\$34 million from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund in support of the Dar es Salaam - Somanga road project. This is part of the multi-billion dollar Integrated Roads Programme (IRP). The project will include the repair and resurfacing of the Dar es Salaam - Kibiti section linking it with the recently completed Kibiti- Ikwiriri section financed by the Saudi Fund for Development. The project also includes the construction of a new road traversing the Rufiji River flood plains and incorporates a 250 metre long reinforced concrete bridge across the river.

FACTS ON ILLITERACY

The Dar es Salaam 'Express' has been having a very close look at the 1988 census report - particularly at the figures indicating the rates of literacy. It has found that 34% of all male employees and 56% of all female employees were illiterate in the year 1988. The figures are also said to reveal that out of every 100 employees, assuming that 60% of them are men and 40% women, the men would be characterised educationally as follows: 20% would have received no education, 10% would have had four years of primary education, 26% eight years of primary education and only in four would have 'O'Level certificates. The newspaper asks 'why do we boast about our high rate of literacy?'

A SHINING EXAMPLE

'A Shining Example', 'Remarkable' 'Exemplary Road Building' - such are the comments being made by Dar es Salaam's 2.3 million people as they witness the first phase of the city's road rehabilitation programme. The Japanese company 'Konoike' is the recipient of the praise - it has now completed the reconstruction of some 21 kms of city centre roads - Daily News.

TROOPS IN LIBERIA

Tanzania has sent 800 troops to Liberia to join the OAU peacekeeping force. During a short ceremony held at Dar es Salaam airport, the Tanzania Peoples' Defence Force Chief of Operations and Training, Brigadier Msuya, urged the group to portray a good image of Tanzania during the entire peacekeeping mission. The troops received a joyous welcome when they arrived at Monrovia's Springs Payne airport on a plane of Air Gambia - Sunday News.

BUSINESS NEWS BUSINESS NEWS BUSIN

Exchange Rates (April 14, 1994):

US\$ = Shs 502 - 513
f Sterling = Shs 745 -764

EAST AFRICAN BANK GOVERNORS REACH AGREEMENT. Governors of the central banks of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania have reached agreement on a series of measures on inter-state trade and the removal of currency restrictions. It is not known how long it will take to implement the governors' recommendations.

LESS RED TAPE NEEDED. Speaking at a dinner meeting of the Tanzania-UK Business Group in London, Mr Patrick Mc Laughlin, the Minister with Special Responsibility for Africa in Britain's Department of Trade and Industry, said that Tanzania's economy could reap big benefits if the authorities dispensed with current bureaucratic practices when doing business with foreign investors. If it did not, "UK Investors would continue to find the pursuit of many opportunities a wearisome task" he said.

PACE OF PRIVATISATION. Among recent investments in Tanzania are the five-star hotel under construction on the golf course in Dar es Salaam (financed by the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development and Britain's CDC), provision of a local and international mobile telephone service (Tanzania Posts and Telecommunications and a Malaysian firm, Technology Resources Industries) and a restructuring of the Ministry of Agriculture (Islamic Development Bank). But, Arab and Asian investors have expressed the view that the pace of privatisation has been slow in Tanzania because there are not enough black African entrepreneurs involved to satisfy old-guard socialists who fear a return to market control by 'outsiders' - African Business, March 1994.

BUSINESS SERVICES CENTRE. A USAID sponsored Business Services Centre will be opening in Dar es Salaam shortly. It is designed to help the local private sector through a combination of training, advisory and information services - Business News, March 4.

STOCK EXCHANGE. Dr. Charles Kimei, Director, Economics and Statistics at the Bank of Tanzania, has stated that Tanzania has embarked on a law to enable the licensing of securities and capital market dealers. "We are looking towards forming a stock exchange in about two years time" he said and added that a public training programme to this end had already begun - Lloyd's List February 21.

PRETENDING. Business Times columnist Joe Dotto has been writing about the recent strikes amongst teachers, medical staff and other workers. 'Everybody knows' he wrote 'that

public employees in Tanzania have been on strike for twenty years. The strike began with the famous Clause 15 of the then TANU Party guidelines which threw out of the window the rules of office discipline and overthrew the office boss in favour of the liberation of the workers.....on its part, the government then decided to pay back in kind'. It had started to pay its workers monkey wages - peanuts. A government employee summed up the situation - " the government pretends to pay us and we pretend to work for it".

AMERICAN MULTI-NATIONAL COMES TO TANZANIA. A new multi-billion shilling company by the name of Colgate-Palmolive (Tanzania) Ltd has been established. It is a partnership between the well-known American consumer products company that operates in 170 countries and IPP in Tanzania - Family Mirror

STOWAWAYS. According to the South African-based Managing Director of P and I Associates (Marine Surveyors) the initial reason why they opened an office in Tanzania before Kenya was the high level of stowaways coming from Tanzania. Once we managed to deal with that problem we found that our services were more in demand from shippers dealing with trade with South Africa - Lloyd's List February 21.

INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF INFORMAL SECTOR. Dar es Salaam University economist Nathanael Luvunga has stated that informal sector employment in Tanzania now covers 22% of total employment. There are 1,402,000 informal sector enterprises employing more than 2.5 million people he said. The sector's contribution to GDP increased from 10.3% in 1985 to 32% in 1991

CHARGES RAISED. Air Tanzania Corporation (ATC) raised fares and cargo charges for domestic routes by 30% with effect from April 1st because of what the managing director described as the continued depreciation of the Tanzanian shilling against the US dollar and f sterling.

WITHHOLDING TAX. The Dar es Salaam Merchants Chamber has complained bitterly about the government's introduction of a 2% withholding tax on the private sector because it involves a lot of extra paper work. But the Commissioner of Income Tax has pointed out that parastatal companies have been paying this tax for some time and and that the protests probably reflect a lack of a 'tax compliance culture'. Honest businessmen would be helped because tax would be payable in instalments rather than in a lump sum at the end of the year. The latest development, as the Bulletin goes to press, is an apparent admission by the Attorney-General, after a request for clarification from the Confederation of Tanzania Industries, that applying the tax to private business would be contrary to the provisions of the income Tax Act (1973).

The Government is also said to be considering the introduction of a Value Added Tax to replace sales taxes for industrial and other firms - Business Times.

PRE-SHIPMENT INSPECTION. The government has appointed Cotena Inspection SA on a three-year contract to carry out pre-shipment inspection, tax-collection and monitoring of the tax-collection services. The aim is to protect Tanzania's foreign exchange resources and to increase the amount of customs duties collected.

NEW BANK. A private indigenous bank - the First Adili Bank - which is to emphasise initially merchant and investment banking is hoping to start operations within the next few months.

EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE. Officials of the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA) and the Zanzibar Free Economic Zone Authority (ZAFREZA) report that some 208 projects designed to generate up to 6,000 jobs have been approved. But most of the projects have not gone beyond the feasibility stage. Consultants have expressed reservations about the idea of turning Zanzibar into a free port because of the lack of a core of local investors, managerial ability and a developed labour force. There was also the possibility of processing zones being established around Dar es Salaam where the environment would be more suitable - Business Times, March 4.

OBITUARIES

Fatma Abdullah

A few weeks before her death on January 14th, the very popular and acceptable face of Tanzanian culture in London, Fatma Abdullah (55), Minister Counsellor at the Tanzania High Commission, had been promoted to a new position of ambassadorial rank as chief of the Zanzibar Wing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As an artist she used colour in a rich flamboyant way; in music, her first job in London had been to introduce a Zanzibar taarab group to Europe; she had been a teacher of art and visual aids and had herself trained art teachers; she was a knowledgeable guide for visitors to the Isles. She will be much missed.

Mrs Sophie Kawawa

The Chairperson of the Umoja wa Wanawake wa Tanzania (UWT) died in Moshi on February 11 1994. She was described by Prime Minister Malecela as not only a leader of women in Tanzania but also a fighter for womens' rights in the whole continent of Africa. At the funeral in Dar es Salaam, as Mr Rashidi Kawawa spoke of their 43 years of married life together, he broke into tears and was consoled by Mwalimu Julius Nyerere.

TELEVISION ARRIVES

The first television service in mainland Tanzania began

operating at the beginning of February. It is called 'Coastal Television Network (CTN)' and will cover an area including Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Zanzibar. CTN is the only license holder of the American CNN and will be able to air local events free of charge. A second TV station owned by IPP has been given a licence by the Broadcasting Commission and is expected to start transmission shortly.

WHAT DID JOHN OKELLO ACTUALLY DO?

The first person heard on Zanzibar radio after the bloody revolution of January 12th 1964 was virtually unknown. His name was John Okello. He soon became very well known indeed in Zanzibar and around the world. But, after a short period in the limelight, he disappeared back into obscurity.

The Dar es Salaam 'Express's Samwillu Mwaffisi has been asking whether John Okello was the hero of the Zanzibar revolution or the villain. According to his article this is what happened.

John Okello was born in Uganda and travelled via Mombasa to Pemba to look for work on June 22, 1959. He worked first as a bricklayer and, later, in Zanzibar, as a carpenter. He joined the Afro-Shirazi Party and became an activist in opposing the government still headed at that time by an Arab sultan. The extent to which Okello planned the revolution is still not clear. He claimed that, 14 days before the revolution, he had picked 450 freedom fighters and had taken them in groups of 150 at a time to a forest where he trained them to shoot.

The Zanzibar authorities have always maintained that he took no part in the planning of the revolution and that this was done by a 14-man revolutionary committee of the Afro-Shirazi party under the chairmanship of the late Sheikh Abeid Karume who subsequently became President of Zanzibar.

It was decided that for security reasons the Sheikh should be outside Zanzibar when the revolution took place and he went to Dar es Salaam. So it was Okello who announced on Zanzibar radio that the revolution had taken place. Okello also took part in the storming of the Ziwani armoury which provided the arms used in the revolution.

According to this account the Afro-Shirazi party had faced a problem. If Sheikh Karume was to be outside the country, who would announce the revolution? The revolutionary committee decided that, for the people to believe that a revolution had taken place, it was necessary to have someone with a deep, authoritative voice to announce it. A voice with a Zanzibar accent should be avoided as people would not believe it. Thus Okello became the spokesman of the revolution.

The revolutionary committee assumed that, after the announcement had been made and Sheikh Karume had returned, Okello would step aside. But he did not want to do so and made it clear that he himself was the leader of the revolution in several more radio broadcasts.

After his return Sheikh Karume summoned Okello and, among other things, discussed the possibility of some 'bakhshish' for his assistance. Okello is reported to have said that his

lifelong ambition had been to build a house for his mother in Uganda. The Sheikh gave him Shs 80,000 and he went back to Uganda. The revolutionary authorities then declared him a prohibited immigrant and Sheikh Karume asked President Nyerere to talk to his friend President Obote of Uganda to make sure that Okello never returned to the isles. But Okello did return. When his plane landed in Zanzibar he found most of the senior members of the new revolutionary government at the airport and was told to return back to Dar es Salaam immediately. He was not allowed to speak to anyone else in Zanzibar and never returned again.

The writer of the article concludes that Okello must have played some part in the planning of the revolution. Had he stopped after doing what he was asked to do - announcing the revolution - he would most probably have been allowed to stay in the island and might have become one of its heroes. As it was, he became the villain.

500 TONS OF COFFEE

The Tanzania Coffee Board has announced that between 1983/84 and 1992/93 Tanzania exported 503,223 metric tonnes of coffee worth US\$1,077,350,000 or an average of US\$107 million per annum. Seventy one per cent of sales were to EC countries followed by Finland (11.7%) Japan (9.3%) and the USA (1-2%).

JOAN WICKEN LEAVES

The Daily News revealed on its front page on April 28th that one of Mwalimu Nyerere's closest and longest serving assistants and advisers, 69-year old Ndugu Joan Wicken, had left Tanzania for Britain after a 34-year stay. She said that she was leaving because of poor health. She added "I came to Tanzania as a socialist and I am leaving as a socialist". She explained that she had always been paid a local salary and never paid as an expatriate. While in Britain she will continue to help Mwalimu in his duties as head of the South Centre which has offices in Geneva and Dar es Salaam. She denied that she intended to write a book.

NYAKYI RECALLED

Tanzania's Ambassador to the UN in New York and former High Commissioner in London, Mr Anthony Nyakyi, has been recalled to Tanzania at short notice a few months before he was due to retire. A new ambassador, Mr Daudi Mwakawago, was formally appointed to the post apparently before Mr Nyakyi left.

BEAUTY CONTESTS

The White Sands Hotel and several beauty parlours in Dar es Salaam are hoping to revive beauty contests so that Tanzania can be represented in international beauty competitions. Tanzania was said to be the only country in the region that did not have such contests.



(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 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 WATCHWORD IS 'CAUTION'

In a comprehensive 15-page series of articles on Tanzania the European Community publication THE COURIER (No 142) explained that transforming a 'socialist' one-party state into a free market multiparty democracy was proving an extremely complex undertaking. 'In Dar es Salaam the watchword is 'caution' it wrote 'and the pace of reform is accordingly slow - too slow for some of the country's international backers. Fortunately for the government, Tanzanians are a patient if not docile people, a characteristic that may have been induced by nearly three decades of one-party rule, peace and stability...the real pressure for change came from outside'.

President Mwinyi was interviewed. He was asked to explain why the opposition parties were complaining about having no access to the radio. The President replied: "The opposition parties are given the opportunity, twice a week, to explain on the radio what their policies are. If they want to monopolise the media that is not possible, because, after all, CCM is the ruling party...we promised our people to do certain things and we must use the radio to explain to them what we are doing...the opposition operate some 20 newspapers against two for the government...."

NYERERE AND THE UNION

NEW AFRICAN (February 1994) gave further details on the fight Mwalimu Nyerere is conducting to preserve the United Republic of Tanzania (Bulletin No 47). "I watched when you scrapped the Arusha Declaration (his socialist blueprint for Tanzania) and I remained quiet" he was quoted as having said to CCM party delegates. "I wish you the best in building the country under capitalism since all the aid comes from the capitalist nations. But I won't tolerate a break-up of the Union". Nyerere said that he had lost confidence in the CCM and had stopped paying membership fees. "The CCM is not my mother. My mother is in Butiama" he said.

BITTER MEMORIES OF UHURU

The South African daily SOWETAN (April 21) published the Sapa-Reuter story of the several hundred Tanzania-born Afrikaners who were expelled or emigrated when Tanganyika became independent. They were said to have bitter memories of the country after many of them had had their farms and homes confiscated without compensation. 'They packed their trucks and headed south thus reversing the trek of their forefathers who had travelled half the length of Africa to escape British domination after losing the Boer War'. They hold regular reunions in South Africa. At one recent gathering just before the South African elections, they were in a sombre mood. "They'll force us to marry blacks. That's their (the African National Congress) plan; to get rid of us by creating a race of bastards. Black government means chaos. Look what happened to Tanganyika" said Wynand Malan. The Boers watched a video made in Tanzania by a recently returned traveller. It included shots of Katrina Odendaal, a Boer woman who had married a black Tanzanian and had remained behind. The audience gasped in shock as Odendaal appeared on the screen, squatting on her haunches outside a mud hut, a brightly coloured cloth wrapped African-style round her waste. "Appalling" muttered a woman in the audience. But one of her daughters, who had been five months old when she left Tanzania was more optimistic. "I don't think blacks and whites are so different. Once you get past the surface we are all the same underneath" she said.

THE 'MYTH' OF 'THE AIDS MYTH'

NEW AFRICAN (March 1994) attracted the wrath of one of its Zimbabwean readers for giving publicity to the controversial views about AIDS arising from the experience of two French charity workers in Tanzania (the full story was given in Bulletin No 47). 'Will New African' the reader asked 'be printing the next, more balanced, stage of the saga a year or two hence when the myth of the AIDS myth has itself been exploded? Why, even at this sage, is such unbalanced, unchallenged coverage given to the views of a tiny handful of AIDS workers flying in the face of so many well-established competent organisations, governments, researchers, doctors, community members etc. who would give a different picture?'

'THE MYTH THAT IS KILLING A CONTINENT'

The INDEPENDENT (January 2, 1994) in a two-page feature also took those publishing these controversial views about AIDS to task and quoted a report from Bukoba town where 24% of the adults were said to be HIV positive. 'Seen from here, claims that HIV is not lethal seem at best bizarre and at worst dangerous....on a rainy afternoon Bukoba bar girls besiege a foreigner. They have heard that there is a female condom and they want it. Men, they say, are pig-headed about protection. Especially rich men'.

Traditional healers prevaricate when asked if they can cure

AIDS. "It may be necessary to send people to hospital to seek higher medical advice" admits Bassaija Balaba. "I can only give symptomatic treatment". His father said "Curing AIDS is like sweeping back the ocean using a broom. Once I had 25 children. Now I have five. I have to sit and watch them die until I die..." AIDS is changing even death. In Mwanza a nurse was quoted as saying "Funerals used to go on for seven days. Now its three...." (*Thank you Stephen Williams for this item - Ed.*)

XENOPERDIX UDUNGWENSIS

A new species of bird which looks rather like a small partridge has been found in Tanzania, reported Nigel Hawkes in THE TIMES (January 29). It was discovered in the evergreen forests more than 4,000 ft up in the Udzungwa mountains by five scientists from the zoological museum at Copenhagen University. It was also said that, not only is it a new species but that it does not belong to any existing genus of birds. It has been given the name *Xenoperdix Udzungwaensis* - strange partridge from Udzungwa. The discoverers think that the birds they saw are the sole survivors of a bird that was common all the way up the African coast at one time. (*Thank you Rev. B Baker and Mr John Sankey for this item - Editor.*)

'THE EEC HAS NOT YET ACHIEVED AS MUCH'

'To this day the European Community has not achieved what the East African Community (EAC) had achieved by 1969. The EAC then had a common currency, common posts and telecommunications, harbours, an airline, railways; there was an East African parliament' So wrote Abdul Rahman Babu in the first of a series of articles in AFRICA EVENTS (February 1994) following the meeting in Arusha on November 30, 1993 of the 'three M's (Presidents Moi, Museveni and Mwinyi) which began the re-creation of an East African Community (Bulletin No 47). In 1977 the whole EAC structure had 'crumbled like a house of cards'. Babu considers that the reasons for the failure were the lack of a solid economic foundation - the EAC was only a trading arrangement with some basic infrastructure to facilitate foreign trade - and of political trust; there was a disregard of peoples' real needs.

HOPELESS LEADERS

Following the alleged sale of game reserves and islands to Arabs, Tanzanians have become very sensitive on land issues according to NEW AFRICAN (February). 'When the Swahili newspaper 'Mwananchi' reported that Dar es Salaam City Council had sold a plot of communal land to an Arab there was uproar. The Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development said that the sale was illegal and ordered the City Council to cancel it. The Council said that the Minister had no authority to do this. Fearing that nothing would be done, the people took the law into their own hands and started to demolish the

building'. Mwalimu Nyerere backed the people. "This is what happens when you have hopeless leaders" he was quoted as saying.

THE PRIME MOVER HAS BEEN PRESIDENT MWINYI

In the second article in this issue of AFRICA EVENTS Rasna Warah stated that although the three heads of state had shown enormous enthusiasm and maturity in making the dream of a renewed East African Community a reality, the prime mover had been President Mwinyi of Tanzania who, in recent months, had been consistently calling for enhanced cooperation.

Reviewing reactions in the three countries to the news from Arusha, Hilal Sued reported varied responses in Tanzania. Sceptics had spoken about a 'coalition of dictatorial forces' and referred to the growing enthusiasm for a Tanganyika government in Tanzania, the recreation of monarchies in Uganda and the dedication of Kenyans to 'eating each others' livers'.

In the same issue AFRICA EVENTS republished Julius Nyerere's historic paper, written in June 1960, appealing to the East African countries, before any of them had become independent, to set up a federation. But, when, in 1964 after independence the presidents of Uganda and Tanzania had requested Kenya's Jomo Kenyatta to become the first federal President he had refused. That had been the end of any serious East African unity.

THE LIFE OF SPICE

Under this heading Alexander Frater (THE OBSERVER LIFE January 9) 'soaked up Zanzibar's spicy past and fragrant present'. Extracts:

'In the morning I headed for the old English Club, now a sleazy hotel which I had visited in 1988. Then the manager, selecting a large black key, had opened up the Club Library and allowed me into a dark room lined by glass-fronted bookcases containing hundreds of volumes dating back to the mid-19th century. There were first editions of Dickens and Kipling, books about Queen Victoria, the Boer War, pig sticking in the Punjab, memoirs of dead missionaries, biographies of forgotten politicians...a rare trawl of remarkable period material. Today, though, the manager could not be found. I peered through the keyhole and saw the bookcases standing empty. A sallow Pole, one of the Hotel's long-term residents, said the books had probably been used for fuel during some routine power cut'. *(Thank you Stephen Williams for this and the next item - Ed).*

CHILD LABOUR

'Nine-year old Rajab Hamisi balances a tin of sand on his left shoulder. He shifts it to the right shoulder as he gazes at cars speeding along the busy accident-prone Nelson Mandela Express Way in Dar es Salaam before he crosses to the other side to sell it to builders. "My son is a great help" says his

mother "I cannot feed my children without his help". The International Labour Organisation Office in Dar es Salaam is said to be concerned about the alarming increase of child labour cases in Tanzania. According to SOCIETY in its October 1993 issue, nearly 3 million Tanzanian children between 10 and 14 years are working in various sectors including factories where they are exposed to machinery injuries and chemical poisoning. The Government has established a Shs 500 million (US\$1.0 million) fund to help young people but this was described in the article as very minimal.

POISONED ARROWS USED IN ATTACK ON TOURISTS

Poachers were probably behind an attack on a group of tourists in Tanzania in which one of the tourists, a Mr Collier from Vancouver (30), died one hour after being hit by a poisoned arrow, according to the TIMES (February 23). The attack occurred at a remote camp site on the edge of the Serengeti National Park near Lake Victoria. 'Only two tribes in the region still understand the art of poison preparation. The power of the paste on the arrow which killed Mr Collier indicates that it had been prepared to kill a large animal...' After the attack local people held a memorial service for Mr Collier. They had been shocked and revolted by what had occurred....' (Thank you Christine Lawrence for this item - Ed)

"WHY SHOULD THE ANIMALS LIVE?"

An article in the JOHANNESBURG STAR (February 1994) expressing concern about the future of the Kruger National Park in South Africa began with these words: 'When Julius Nyerere, first President of Tanzania, was asked what would become of the Serengeti Game Reserve after Tanganyika gained independence in 1961 he reportedly replied "Why should the animals live if my people are dying of hunger?". It was not an unreasonable response. Serengeti had been an important source of food for centuries. Its proclamation as a game sanctuary came only after the advent of the white man who, with his rifle, wrought considerably more damage to the vast herds than any poacher's trap....conservationists waited in alarm to see what would become of the park. Would it become a source of cheap meat for the masses? ... Yet, in spite of the fears, Serengeti has survived as one of the world's most spectacular tourist attractions...Lovers of the Kruger National Park are reacting with much the same alarm.....'

CHANGES IN SHIPPING AND BANKING

Although the greater part of the text of a 7-page supplement in LLOYDS LIST (February 21) was devoted to Kenya, Tanzania dominated the supporting advertising with half of the 18 advertisements coming from such organisations as the Chinese-Tanzanian Joint Shipping Company ('The Largest Shipping Company in East Africa') TAZARA ('A Big Name In

Freight Traffic'), Tanzania Harbours Authority ('Profit From Our \$300 Million Face-lift') and Tanzania Railways Corporation ('Save Time and Money, Use TRC').

The first article expressed some optimism about all three countries in the region following the recent 'Treaty for Enhanced East African Cooperation'. This was described as a serious, if tentative and fragile move, which could herald the beginning of regional cooperation at levels totally unprecedented since the collapse of the East African Community. *(The relatively modest objectives are to create a free trade area and gradually build on joint institutions which are still functioning rather than to recreate the East African Community which collapsed in 1977 - Editor)*

The Tanzanian Harbours Authority was said to be launching a study aimed at investigating which areas of the port could be privatised successfully in view of the competition now being offered by South Africa in supplying the landlocked hinterland countries. The container yard was likely to be the first part. Although the trend was towards containerisation, Dar es Salaam Port still received a substantial amount of bulk cargo particularly grain and fertilisers for Malawi and Zambia.

Under the heading 'Untapped Potential Lies at the Heart of the Tanzanian Economy' a rosy picture was painted of the potential for development although it was admitted that there was not a single good big business in Tanzania at present. The continuing liberalisation of Tanzania's banking and financial institutions was seen as the linchpin to the country's recovery *(Thank you Brian Hodgson for these items - Ed)*.

'TANZANIE - L'APPEL DE LA BROUSSE'

Under this heading the French journal GRANDS REPORTAGE (January) presented 16 pages of beautiful illustrations of Tanzania's wildlife. The text was minimal but included an abundance of glowing adjectives - 'lacs roses de flamants', 'baobabs elephantiques', 'Masaai éblouissants', 'les gracieuses gazelles de Thomson', 'cette Afrique serene'.....

JUMPING PLANT LICE

Tanzania, according to SOCIETY (October 4 1993) cuts down about 400,000 hectares of forest each year and only reafforests 20,000. Now it is facing a new threat to its forestry resource. Jumping Plant Lice (*Leucaena psyllid*) have been spotted along the coast and are threatening the *Leucaena* tree which has been promoted to fertilise and conserve the soil and can also be used for timber, firewood, charcoal, fodder and as a hedge. The psyllids attack leaves and shoots and can cause wilting, defoliation and later plant starvation leading to death. They originated in South America and spread from there to Madagascar and Mauritius before reaching the East African coast. Insecticides can be used against the pest but are expensive. Research is now being concentrated on finding resistant varieties and parasitic wasps - *(Thank you Stephen Williams for this story - Ed)*.

PAN-AFRICAN CONGRESS SUSPENDS THE ARMED STRUGGLE

According to the JOHANNESBURG STAR INTERNATIONAL (March 13-19) South Africa's Pan-Africanist Congress has announced the suspension of its armed struggle. There had been an escalation of attacks on whites at the beginning of the year by alleged operatives of the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA). The GUARDIAN and the TIMES had stated earlier that there had been a crisis meeting of the PAC Senior leadership on January 15th. The most critical issue facing them had been the declaration from Tanzania's foreign ministry barring the PAC and APLA, which had their headquarters in Dar es Salaam, from using the country to plot hostile action against South Africa. For decades Tanzania had been the PAC's staunchest supporter. But PAC President Clarence Makweta was later said to have denied that the Tanzanian (and similar Zimbabwean) action had had any influence on the decision. *(Thank you Christine Lawrence for part of this story - Ed).*

PRINCESS GRACE OF MONACO

THE TIMES (March 11) presented extracts from 117 letters written by the late Princess Grace of Monaco which were auctioned recently. They were said to reveal her as a practical, thoroughly modern good-time girl who manipulated men in the film industry as much as they had manipulated her. One extract, written when she was in East Africa for six months shooting the 1963 film 'Mogambo' was as follows: 'Yesterday we had a day off. Clark Gable and I rode in a jeep for three hours to get to Bukoba - the nearest town on Lake Victoria. We had a horrible lunch at the hotel there and then a delicious swim in the lake. We had to go in in our underwear - it was a riot as you can well imagine'. Later she 'can't resist' stealing some headed notepaper from government House in Uganda.....*(Thank you Simon Hardwick for this extract - Ed).*

ONLY 18 YEARS SUPPLY LEFT

Mike Read of the UK's 'Flora Preservation Society' said on RADIO 3 (January 8) in the programme 'Music Matters' that Tanzania is the main supplier of African Blackwood for the making of musical instruments. However, he went on, 'Tanzania has only 18 years supply of this timber left in its forests'. *(Thank you Jane Carroll for this item - Ed).*

LONG-TERM DISCRIMINATION

The ANNUAL REPORT (1992-93) OF THE REFUGEE STUDIES PROGRAMME of Oxford University contained an intriguing story arising from a chance meeting following research in Somalia. Two hundred years ago a group of Zigua people from the Tanzanian coast were sold into slavery in Somalia. Through an uprising they gained their freedom. Unable to make the long journey back to their homeland they settled along the Juba

river. They suffered many privations - attempts to recapture them, subsequent compulsory labour for British and Italian colonisers, discrimination when some of them adopted Christianity. The efforts of some to assimilate through language and religion did not seem to have improved their position. Some 20,000 however retained their language. In recent years they had to flee Somalia but they reject the notion that they are refugees. Unaware of their history, the Tanzanian government is said to have insisted that they be treated like other Somalis in refugee camps. 'Not surprisingly, former slaves and former masters do not make peaceful bedfellows'.....(Thank you Alex Vines for this item - Ed)

FATHER ROBIN'S 'AROBAINI'

'Our last major event before Christmas was to hold Father Robin Lamburn's 'Arobaini' (forty in Swahili). This is a Muslim custom which has been adopted locally. Forty days after a person's burial people gather together to mark the end of the official mourning period. Villagers kept vigil by the grave on the night before as they had done the night before his burial. The day of the 'Arobaini' began with a celebratory mass, which was followed by a meal (for more than 500 people!) and speeches in honour of Father Lamburn' - Jenny and Geoff O'Donoghue in the RUFUJI LEPROSTY TRUST NEWSLETTER NO. 16.

TANZANIA COMES THIRD IN THE WORLD AND FIRST IN AFRICA

The ANNUAL REVIEW OF BRITISH AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES for 1993 has revealed that Tanzania came third in the world in terms of bilateral aid granted. It received £62 million following India (£115 million) and Bangladesh (£66 million). The next largest recipients in order of magnitude were Zambia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Kenya, China, Uganda and Pakistan.

NEW HEIR TO THE CHIEFDOM

Mr Andrew Fraser (42), one of the sons of Brigadier Lord Lovet (one of the first to land in Normandy on D-Day in 1994), the Master of Lovat, one of Britain's oldest peerages and also Chief of Clan Fraser of Lovat, was killed by a charging buffalo while on a hunting trip in Tanzania. Two weeks later his elder brother, Mr Simon Fraser, collapsed and died during a drag hunt at the family seat, Beaufort Castle in Inverness-shire. The new heir Simon Fraser (17) is described by a friend as being keen on riding, shooting and other country sports (DAILY TELEGRAPH, March 23).

'GHOSTS' IN DAR ES SALAAM

Late night revellers in Dar es Salaam, according to NEW AFRICAN (February), are claiming that 'ghosts' are haunting the bars and dark streets of the city. One man, who was said to be too frightened to reveal his name, described

how a ghost walked into a bar in Kinondoni - the ghost was entirely shrouded from head to toe in soiled white bandages. He said the ghost approached him and, in a hoarse voice, demanded beer, claiming that "even the dead need a drink". Then the gaunt figure summoned other 'ghosts' who emerged from a nearby banana grove. They all wore shrouds...and walked very slowly, dragging their feet. The temperature in the bar fell to such an extent that the customers started shivering. After drinks for all, the chief ghost told his followers it was time to return to the underworld. But before they went they made a round of the bar collecting money, watches and gold chains from the terrified clients. The ghosts threatened that anyone trying to flee would be struck dead.....

ONCHOCERCIASIS MORE IMPORTANT THAN WAS THOUGHT IN KILOSA

CHARIOT, the Newsletter of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, reported (April 1994) that Tanzanian student Abraham Muro had successfully defended his thesis in what was described as an extremely ambitious programme on the epidemiology of Onchocerciasis. This disease is most prevalent in West Africa and better known as River Blindness. His work has indicated that the disease is more important in Kilosa than hitherto thought. (*Thank you John Sankey for this item - Editor*).

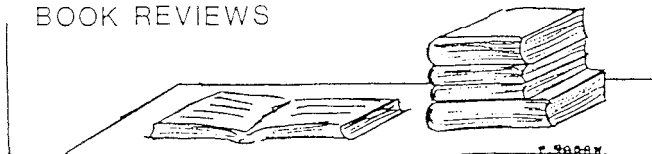
TANZANIA COMES CLOSE TO WINNING

Tanzania's soccer team has long been in the doldrums. President Mwinyi has described them as like 'heads of madmen on which barbers learn to shave' (NEW AFRICAN, February). But when the Dar es Salaam Simba club reached the finals of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) 1993 Club Championships by holding Stella Abidjan of Cote d'Ivoire to a draw, the entire nation was said to have gone wild. Businessman Azim Dewji promised to give each player a Toyota car. Unfortunately, in the final in Dar es Salaam the crowd were bitterly disappointed when Simba were beaten 2-0 by Stella.

SONGS WITH MEANING

No one in Tanzania is more popular than the Zairean singer Remmy Ongala wrote NEW AFRICAN in its May issue. 'He has stirred up a furor with his latest hit *Kilio cha samaki* - the cry of the fish. He says that the fish is oppressed because the people hunt it for food. People do not hear its cries'. But Tanzania's rulers were said to be convinced that Ongala's songs are mocking them. The story of the fish is really an allegory with the fish representing the oppressed masses and the cruel fisherman the ruling party CCM.

BOOK REVIEWS



ADJUSTMENT IN AFRICA: REFORMS, RESULTS AND THE ROAD AHEAD. Part of a Series of World Bank Research Reports. Oxford University Press. 1994

This recently published report has put Tanzania among the best performing adjusting economies in sub-Saharan Africa. Of the 26 countries which the study ranked by macroeconomic policy performance, Tanzania was among the six which had shown a significant improvement in policies. The others are Ghana, the Gambia, Burkina Faso, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. These countries also had the largest improvement in per capita GDP growth. The study points out that countries which suffered a deterioration in macroeconomic policies also had the poorest growth record.

The report, which is designed to lead to a better understanding of the relationship between policies and growth in Africa, found that the extent of policy reform varied widely. On the whole, countries did better in improving macroeconomic than financial sector reform or the reform of public enterprises. Almost two-thirds of countries managed to improve their macroeconomic policies between the beginning and end of the 1980's. The economies that have liberalised their pricing and marketing of agriculture and, in general reduced taxation and discrimination against agriculture (Tanzania is one of these) have experienced a resurgence in domestic production of both food and export crops. The adoption of more realistic exchange rates has also helped to provide incentives for domestic activities and discouraged excessive dependence on imported goods. The study also demonstrates that devaluation does not necessarily result in higher rates of inflation where correct measures accompany such devaluation. The countries which followed devaluation with complementing policies of wage, fiscal and monetary restraint did not experience inflationary pressures. Tanzania, for example, has managed to reduce its inflation from over 40% in the mid-1980's to just over 20% currently. This is a significant achievement but is still far below what is expected of those economies which are performing well.

The study shows that where policies have improved, renewed economic growth has taken place. In particular, improvements in exchange rate policies were strongly associated with faster growth. It points out that 14 countries have shown improvement in macroeconomic policies and a positive change in per capita income growth rates. The six countries that improved their policies the most (Tanzania included) had the biggest improvements in the rate of GDP growth per capita - an increase of about two percentage points per annum in the period 1981-86 and 1987-91. During the same period, countries

which did not improve their policies experienced falls in per capita growth rates of over two percentage points per annum.

One of the main conclusions of the study is the responsiveness of exports to policy reform; despite declining terms of trade, the study indicates that there has been a substantial increase in export volumes in most adjusting economies that have combined exchange rate and agriculture price and marketing liberalisation policies.

Although the study paints the picture that sub-Saharan Africa's economic decline may have been arrested, and in most cases modestly reversed, the performance of the many adjusting economies still poses cause for concern. Apart from the fragile social and political environment which is likely to adversely affect the sustainability of the adjustment process in the long term, current growth rates among the best performers are 'still too low to reduce poverty much in the next two to three decades'. Also, although inflation rates have generally declined, they are still by far too high compared with the best performing economies in other regions of the world. There is an urgent need to implement policies that consistently bear down on inflation and to bring it to single figures, if sustainable growth is to be maintained.

The report indicates that, with today's policies it will take 40 years before sub-Saharan Africa returns to its income per capita in the mid-1970's. This is a very bleak scenario indeed.

For Tanzania, which embarked on the adjustment process in 1986, after the failure of the socialist policies enshrined in the Arusha Declaration, the task which lies ahead is formidable. Many low-income earners have suffered from the escalating prices which have accompanied the price and exchange liberalisation. For long-term benefits to be derived, it will be necessary for the government to press ahead with the policy reforms and, in particular, keep on board the IMF and the World Bank. Recent slippage in policy reform and the criticisms that have been expressed by the IMF and some donors, is a matter of serious concern for the future sustainability of Tanzania's reform programme.

E J Kisanga

THE UKIMWI ROAD: FROM KENYA TO ZIMBABWE. Dervla Murphy. John Murray Publishers. 1993. 265 pages. £16.99.

Imagine pedalling 3,000 miles on a bicycle, alone up and down the hills and across the savannah from Kenya through Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Add that you are a sixty-year-old Irish woman who never visited the area before. Then enjoy the fresh, perceptive and sensitive impressions of travel writer Dervla Murphy, and her vivid descriptions of the countryside - lush, barren or drenched with torrential rains. Query her judgements.

Murphy intersperses her travel tales with vignettes of history and conversations with local residents at village

hotels and bars where she ends the day. In Bukoba, for example, the costly Tanzanian war with Uganda comes to life as the author ponders relationships between socialism, self-reliance, personal reserve and 'economic disaster'.

The narrative returns time and again to 'ukimwi' the slim disease - AIDS. The author faithfully reports a diversity of beliefs about its causes - Europeans, women, witchcraft? She admires people like Janet, whom she met in Mbeya, as the source of hope: 'Those exceptional African women whose response to AIDS is imaginative and courageous, who know that their feminist hour has come'.

Criticism is apportioned equitably. At one moment the blame for conditions of poverty is put on colonialists, at another on the independent government and yet another on the International Monetary Fund. 'Malfunctioning western imports' such as phones that don't work, banks that have no currency left, schools without textbooks and hospitals without medicines are despised, as are 'hundreds of vehicles carrying one or two expatriates' that 'zoom around rural areas' (197). She hears educated Tanzanians questioning the appropriateness of a current western import: multi-party democracy. African governments fail to put priority on food production over the cash crops grown by western consortia, she says, because they 'seem befuddled by the miasma rising from the swamp of IMF and World Bank calculations and arguments (175). Yet, 'parallel to this world of pretence, the ordinary people survive somehow (183).

Murphy's conclusion is devastating: that the west ought to 'quit Africa' (263). She partly explains that abrupt proposal by saying 'we still treat Africa as our forebears did in the 1890's, operating behind a different screen with the same (or worse) greed'. The donors' approach, she says, 'denies African civilisation its own dignity and integrity'.

In that scenario of abandonment by the West, Ms Murphy, what shall Africa do about an international debt that in 1992 equalled 93% of its GDP - a debt that was accrued by leaders, many now displaced or dead? Do you really think it possible - or desirable - today to insulate Africa and the West from one-another environmentally or economically? Might another scenario be envisioned, with justice and respect on both sides?

Margaret Snyder

GUIDE TO ZANZIBAR AND PEMBA. D Else. Bradt Publications. 1993
164 pages. f8.95.

The Daily Telegraph (February 19th 1994) wrote about this book 'The publication coincides with a more welcoming approach to visitors to this island off the coast of Tanzania'. It is, of course, more than one island - the book mentions the two largest, Unguja and Pemba and several smaller ones. The Telegraph goes on to write that 'the Pemba Channel offers perhaps the finest deep-sea fishing along the whole East African coast'. As in the case of the parallel book 'A Guide

to Tanzania' by the same publishers, which was reviewed in Bulletin No 47, this is an eminently practical, up-to-date, 'how-to' guide which is surely essential reading for visitors to what it describes as this 'unspoilt' place. Zanzibar is described as a good example of tourism as it should be - low-key, not too obtrusive and providing some benefits for the local people without destroying their culture or environment. Visitors are advised to see the island as a community and not as a theme park - DRB.

NEWS FROM MASASI. J Russell and N C Pollock. Veröffentlichungen der Institute für Afrikanistik und Ägyptologie der Universität, Vienna. 1993. 160 pages. A few copies are available from Joan Russell, 18 West Bank, York YO2 4ES at £10.20 (including p&p).

At first sight the proposition in the title of this book may appear to be misplaced but the reader soon realises that it has been chosen deliberately. The preface tells us that the motivation for writing it came from twenty-one letters written at the end of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth centuries by an African woman living near Masasi. 'They are one of the earliest surviving bodies of prose texts written in Swahili, in the roman script, by a woman'. Extracts from them (with English translations) are quoted extensively and illustrate how ordinary people in that part of Africa reacted to some of the outside influences affecting them at the turn of the century.

Ajanjeuli was born into a pagan family in 1883 and baptised Agnes in 1897. She was an intelligent and observant girl who came in contact with Anglican missionaries and through them with the congregation of St. Agnes' Church, Kensington Park. London, who were the recipients of her letters. The correspondence continued over several years: the earliest one quoted is dated October 1898 and the latest September 1912. Fortunately they have been preserved in the archives of the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and fortunately too they came to the notice of Russell and Pollock. Agnes grew up to be one of the first teachers in what would now be called a village primary school. She married another teacher, Francis Sapuli, who later became an Anglican priest and a highly respected canon of Masasi cathedral. Agnes died shortly before the end of World War I in 1918.

The book has not been written for specialists in any particular branch of learning, although the authors do express the hope that it will interest students of the Swahili language. They might remember that for Agnes too Swahili was a second language and they will gain encouragement from comparing the Swahili of her letter of February 1905, which appears as a frontispiece to 'News from Masasi' with that of her later letters and discerns a noticeable progress. Mention of some of the subjects discussed must include: life in East Africa under the German occupation; trading in slaves and ivory which was rampant in the second half of the nineteenth

century; witchcraft; frequent droughts and food shortages; the arrival and reception of the early missionaries; the first schools and the use of the Swahili language leading to its adoption as the national language of Tanzania in the 1960's; the Maji Maji rebellion of 1905. The last chapter is a bonus, being a careful record (with map) of World War I as regards its impact on Southern Tanzania and Mozambique.

The authors acknowledge their debt to earlier writers, with a list of more than fifty titles (German and English) to which they have referred. The great value of 'News from Masasi', as one person sees it, is its lucid and very instructive coverage of so much ground in 160 pages. It would be an ideal handbook for students and others who are hoping to work in the Mtwara/Lindi regions. Almost inevitably, they will find themselves impelled to pursue their studies in some of the books listed in the bibliography and former residents will find much to refresh and delight their memories. Copies would surely be useful and welcome gifts to the libraries of local secondary schools

George Briggs

TOWARDS A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF LITERACY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. K. Mundy. Comparative Education Review. November 1993. 22 pages.

This is a very valuable review of developments in the field of literacy in three countries of the region: Botswana, Zimbabwe and Tanzania. Mundy makes clear that the evaluation of literacy efforts in sub-Saharan Africa has relied mainly on 'an ideological belief in literacy as an absolute value (a basic human need and right) combined with the faith that literacy is a causal agent in economic expansion and political modernization.'

Mundy suggests, however, a very different framework for evaluation - 'one that situates literacy in the context of Africa's unequal and worsening position within the world system and that relates literacy policies and their outcomes to shifting patterns of resistance, reaction, compliance and accommodation...at the national, local and individual level'. His comments on Tanzania are especially instructive and well argued. He emphasizes, of course, that the Tanzanian programme was specially geared to adults, following Nyerere's highlighting of the importance of adult literacy in the First Five Year Development Plan. One consequence of this was that Tanzania did not try to make great strides in primary education that many other countries of the region attempted.

It is extremely interesting to discover that despite Tanzania's path of social development, 'learning continues to be viewed instrumentally by the majority of Tanzanians as preparation for success in a hierarchical and competitive market system'. Recent studies have shown fairly conclusively that in Tanzanian villages, literacy is achieved and maintained in those communities that are economically prosperous. People interviewed from the two most impoverished villages in which research was conducted, could quote the

government official line about the great importance of literacy, but when the discussion was opened up on what hopes they had and what problems they faced, it became very clear that their literacy skills were simply not put into practice. In short the people felt that literacy skills in general could do nothing to change their present circumstances.

Mundy concludes that 'the Tanzanian case in particular illustrates the fact that, when national literacy efforts are viewed in a historical and world system framework, few general rules of a positive linear nature about the impact of literacy or the most efficient ways of achieving it can be deduced. Illiteracy is a fundamental manifestation of the unequal relationships integral to capitalism, and no amount of social engineering can alter this'. I believe Mundy has argued well, has few blinkers on the subject, and his conclusions, though politically unpopular in some quarters, seem to me to be very sound.

Noel K. Thomas

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

THE POLITICS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL IN NORTH-EASTERN TANZANIA 1840-1940. J L Giblin. University of Pennsylvania Press. 1992. 209 pages. US\$24.95. £21 hardback. In a critical review in the Journal of the Royal African Society, Jan Kees Van Donge of Chancellor College, Malawi questions one of the main elements in this book which was based on recent oral evidence - a belief in a golden age in agriculture amongst the Wazigua of Handeni District which was subsequently destroyed by colonialism. He writes: 'This (golden age) is probably factually wrong and may also be harmful as it can lead to scapegoating and diverting attention from pressing contemporary problems like deforestation and soil exhaustion'.

LANDMINES IN MOZAMBIQUE. Human Rights Watch. 104 pages. £5.99 from 90 Borough High Street, London SE 1. This book contains only one paragraph on Tanzania but this paragraph is significant in view of the seriousness of the problem Mozambique is facing at present in clearing landmines left during the liberation war all over the country. The paragraph reads: 'A force of some 5 - 7,000 Tanzanian soldiers assisted the Mozambican government in the fight against Renamo. They laid defensive minefields around their bases in Zambezia Province.....no maps of these minefields were left behind when the Tanzanian forces returned home in December 1988'.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AS AN INSTRUMENT OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER; SOME EVIDENCE FROM TANZANIA. S Rugamamu. European Journal of Development Research. 4 (1) 1992. 15 pages.

PRIVATISATION IN AN AFRICAN CONTEXT: THE CASE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA. J S Henley and G B Assaf. Industry and Development 32 (1) January 1993. 16 pages.

THE CREATION OF IDENTITY: COLONIAL SOCIETY IN BOLIVIA AND TANZANIA. R H Jackson and G Maddox. Comparative Studies in Society and History 35 (2) April 1993. 21 pages.

FURTHER RESULTS ON THE MACRO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF AIDS; THE DUALISTIC, LABOUR SURPLUS ECONOMY. J T Cuddington. World Bank Economic Review, 7 (3). 14 pages. September 1993. Tanzanian data suggest that the macroeconomic consequences of the epidemic are about the same as those obtained using a single-sector, full-employment model; GDP is 15-25% smaller by 2010 than it would have been without AIDS and per capita GDP is 0-10% smaller.

AVANT LES PAYSANS: AGRICULTURE ET ECOLOGY DANS UNE SOCIETE AGRAIRE: L'EXEMPLE DES WALUGURU (TANZANIE). J-L Paul. Tiers Monde 34 (134) April-June 1993. 27 pages.

TANZANIA: THE LIMITS OF DEVELOPMENT FROM ABOVE. K J Havnevik. Scandinavian Institute of African Studies 1993.

DISABILITY, LIBERATION AND DEVELOPMENT. P Coleridge. 1993. 160 pages. £6.95. This book makes the case for regarding disabled people as partners in development. It is based on interviews with disabled people in five countries including Zanzibar.

THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ENVIRONMENT. PROFILES OF THE SADC COUNTRIES. P O'Keefe, M Sill and S Moyo. Earthscan. 416 pages. 1993. £35. This book is drafted by local environmental experts and includes an up-to-date description of Tanzania's geography, environmental problems, institutional structures and issues.

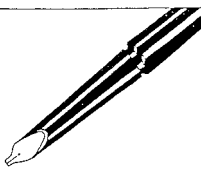
PROPOSAL ON FUTURE OF UNION

During an address to mark the 30th anniversary of the Union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar at the Amaan Stadium in Zanzibar on April 26th, President Mwinyi said that draft proposals aimed at ironing out shortcomings and administrative problems would soon be tabled before parliament for discussion. "It is true that the Union has vexatious issues but there is a need to sort them out to enable Tanzanians to move in line with the constitution regulations and procedures" he said - Daily News.

SIX DUTY FREE SHOPS CLOSED

The government has closed down six duty free shops, leaving only three still open, in a move to plug loop-holes of foreign exchange leakage. Customs Commissioner Masoud Mvuma said that duty free shops were originally intended to enable foreigners to buy items which were not available locally but, that in the wake of trade liberalisation, this was not so necessary as virtually everything was now available in shops - Daily News.

Letters



'I BEGAN TO WRITE A NOVEL....'

I would like to thank you for renewing my subscription to the Bulletin. In my opinion it is improving with each issue. I would hardly call it 'glossy'! (But then again, nor would I call it big-print).

I was especially impressed by the obituary of the Rev. Canon R G P Lamburn whom I met - like many others - on a brief trip to Kindwitwi in 1987. So impressed was I with the place, the people and the man, that upon my arrival in Spain in the summer of 1989, I began to write a novel set in Tanzania with Canon Lamburn and his two young British assistants as major characters! Upon reading of Robin's death, it was obvious to me that a great soul had passed away.

Paul Isbell Munch
Madrid, Spain.

THE NAME OF A MOUNTAIN

I am a staunch Tanzania-phile and I thought that you might be interested to hear about climbs I made last year of the Mguru Mountain which lies 10 miles North of Morogoro. During a first attempt at Easter three of us succeeded in climbing about two thirds of the way up the northern end. The terrain was harsh; many thorns, biting flies, inconspicuous rock faces and loose boulders. In August we tried again. We walked along the Southwestern ridge of the horseshoe to where (from the West at least) appears to be the highest point. At first a woodcutter's trail eased our path, nevertheless, towards the top there was very dense bush and a steep gradient.

We tried to uncover more information about the origin of the mountain's name - in KiUluguru 'the foot of the bird'. We learnt a number of intriguing hypotheses from our Uluguru friends. These revolve around three central themes. First, that the large rock faces resemble the digits or talons of a bird's foot. Second, according to legend, a very large bird sent by God is said to have landed on this mountain. Third, from behind this mountain the first aeroplane to be seen in Morogoro was said to have come. Could this plane, as was suggested to us, have been involved in the fierce fighting in the Morogoro region during the First World War? We wonder whether anybody can throw light upon the name of this mountain and we should be interested to hear tales of other people's adventures on her slopes.

Maxwell Cooper
Volcano Veterinary Centre
B.P. 105, Ruhengeri, Rwanda.

BLACKSMITHS AND BLACKSMITHING

I read with much interest the report - sent out to members of the Britain-Tanzania Society with the January Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs - of the seminar 'Down to Earth With Appropriate Technology'. I am sure that such technology is not only far more cost effective and less wasteful than large and grandiose projects, but is of more benefit to ordinary people. I would however like to question a point made in the discussion suggesting that during the German and British Colonial periods blacksmithing was made illegal in order to protect the market for imported factory-made tools.

I served as a district officer from 1950 to 1952 in several districts and never heard of any laws or restrictions on blacksmiths who, as I recall, operated in small numbers in many areas. Indeed district officers were keen to promote any economic activity which would increase people's wealth.

With the encouragement of the district administration an attempt was made in 1956 to revive the traditional skills of Wafipa iron-smelters and blacksmiths at Sumbawanga. The hoe produced was said to last at least twice as long as factory made hoes. I remember hearing that the whole process was so labour and time consuming that it could not be made at a price people could afford to pay, or in sufficient quantity.

If, at any time, there were restrictions on blacksmiths, I think it more likely that their intent was to prevent the repairing of weapons e.g. muzzle loaders. However, in the mid-1950's there were more than 3,000 muzzle loaders in Mpanda district.

Michael Dorey
Hexham, Northumberland

CHANGES IN THE WEATHER

The following is part of a letter from Dr. Esther Mwaikango dated April 25, 1994 which explains vividly the vagaries of the Tanzanian climate; earlier drought in many parts of the country has been followed by violent storms in Dar es Salaam:

'We are a bit tired of the torrential rains. We pray for rain, and then we pray for it to end. Saturday, on the bus, one man complained bitterly at getting wet from cold rain blowing in the window which couldn't be closed. A woman answered him smartly - "This rain is a blessing from God. Shame on you for fussing about a small thing. No lives have been lost. That would have been a disaster". Looking at the roadside, water pouring over the verge as if a cataract, one could wonder at this blessing. And yesterday, a small cyclone blew roofs off in Kariakoo (the centre of the town) and killed at least two people, one a small boy. Over a thousand people have no homes now. It seems like a very comfortable and homely trouble compared with what is going on in Rwanda and Burundi - and one which commonsense and kindness can take care of. Kindness for now and commonsense in city planning in the future.....'

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DR. MARGARET SNYDER, founding director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), is the co-author with Mary Tadesse of 'African Women and Development: a Thirty Year Experience' which will be published shortly by ZED Books, London.

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BULLETIN OF TANZANIAN AFFAIRS (ISSN 0952-2948)

Editor: David Brewin

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, CORRESPONDENCE, ADVERTISING should be sent to: Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs, 14B Westbourne Grove Terrace, London W2 5SD. Tel: 071 727 1755.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS (three issues per annum):

UK	£3.80
Europe outside UK	£7.50
Elsewhere	£10.00 or US\$20.00
Back Numbers	£2.00 each

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The views expressed by the Editor and writers in the Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs are their own and do not necessarily represent the view of the Britain-Tanzania Society.

The Bulletin of Tanzanian Affairs is regularly listed in the International Current Affairs Awareness Service.
