Tanzanian affairs
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TANZANIA'S GOLD RUSH
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TANZANIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA
BUSINESS NEWS
TANZANIA’S GOLD RUSH

On November 21 history was made in Nzega District when the first modern gold mine in the country to quarry gold extracted a 6kg piece worth $600,000 after 5 years of exploration and prospecting. This was at the Golden Pride Project at Lusu, 124 miles south of Mwanza, the site of a $50 million joint venture between Australian Resolute Mining and Canadian Samax Resources, the latter recently taken over (for a price of $135 million) by Ghana’s Ashanti Goldfields.

The Golden Pride Mine, which might become one of the biggest in Africa, sits on an estimated 2.7 million troy ounce gold deposit. It is an open-pit mine 1.67 miles long, 160 metres deep and 400 metres wide. A kilometre away from this open pit is the mine’s processing plant, which includes seven carbon-in-leach tanks, a five-tonne gold extraction circuit and a crusher. Annual production is expected to rise to as much as 150,000 ounces at a production cost of $210 per ounce – far below the world price of about $290 per ounce.

Things are looking up in the dusty city of Mwanza and its neighbouring districts. From early discovery up to 1965 Tanzania produced about 3 tonnes of gold per annum but virtually all production stopped following the imposition of widespread nationalisation under the Arusha Declaration. It is difficult to exaggerate however the potential for development of the country arising from this new gold rush. If all present investment plans come to fruition, Tanzania could be producing about 26 tons (855,000 ounces) of gold by 2001 representing some 10% of GDP compared with the present production of about 7 tons a year (2% of GDP) by small scale artisanal diggers.

Total reserves are estimated at some 20 million ounces.
Mining has started at several other new big mines:

The Kahama Mining Company at Buzwagi is being developed by Anglogold of South Africa (the world’s largest gold producer – some 200 tons per annum) and Pangea Goldfields of Canada. There are estimated to be about a million ounces of gold to be mined. Anglogold has vast resources of capital (some $20 million was available for investment in the second half of 1998) and is prospecting for gold at other sites in Tanzania. Also in Kahama District, at Bulyanhulu, Sutton Resources of Canada through the Kahama Mining Corporation Ltd., is prospecting deposits which might eventually total 7.2 million ounces.

All this activity is bringing about major infrastructural improvements including the upgrading of 80 kms of road from Kahama to the mine site and the laying of a water pipeline from Lake Victoria.

Ashanti Goldfields, the 12th largest gold producer in the world, is investing $130 million in Geita District at Nyamulila Hill where there is estimated to be up to 2 million ounces. Ghana, whose gold production increased from 12 tons in 1988 to 56 tons in 1997 shows how rapidly gold production can be increased. An airport is being built at Geita, schools and dispensaries are being rehabilitated and there are plans to revive Nungwe Bay Port on Lake Victoria. Ashanti Goldfields is hoping to benefit from economies of scale through its newly acquired share of Golden Pride.

Also a new joint project involving the Tanzanian Defence Forces is expected to increase the benefit to the country by curbing smuggling and better organising the marketing.

Tanzania will obtain many benefits from this new gold rush. The country will get royalties and, after the initial concessions to investors have been allowed for, considerable sums in income and corporation taxes. The recent imposition of VAT at 20% however
has proved very unpopular amongst the investment community. There will also be employment opportunities and training in new skills for Tanzanians. Unfortunately, as the latest technology is being used, TA has been told that each mine will employ only about 200 people.

Tanzania is widely regarded as Africa's best prospective exploration after Ghana for its geological potential and political stability. KPMG Peat Marwick Consultant Salim Bashir said that in the long-term mining would be the mainstay of Tanzania's economy. Tanzania attracted more exploration expenditure in 1998 than any other African country - $57.70 million.

Anticipating this surge in mining the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre has installed the first verification facility in Tanzania. It will assist buyers of gold and gemstones to determine the true value of what they wish to purchase. And the 1,500-strong Institute of Engineers (IET) is intending to launch a division of mining and metallurgy to promote engineering technology for the fast growing mining sector.

Although during the last 18 months the Ministry of Energy and Minerals has issued more than 200 licenses for mineral exploration to local and foreign companies, the smaller gold exploration companies in Mwanza are finding it hard going because of the low gold price. In August last year it touched its lowest for 18 years at $270 an ounce but the price as this issue of TA goes to press is $295 per ounce. South African mines produce 400 tons a year but it is expensive to extract and the industry there is relatively stagnant as far as growth is concerned. Goldfield's, South Africa's second biggest gold company, has operating costs of $280 per ounce. It is anticipated that companies like Ashanti and especially Anglogold with their massive capital reserves and the latest cost-cutting technology will, before long, dominate the Tanzanian gold industry.
CABINET RESHUFFLE

President Mkapa had a major reshuffle of his cabinet on September 9 but few new faces were brought in (previous post in brackets):

Minister of Industries and Commerce – Iddi Simba (leading businessman and former head of the East African Development Bank)
Minister of Regional Administration and Local Government – Kingunge Ngombale-Mwiru (Minister of State in the Prime Minister’s Office - Information and Policy)
Minister of Communications and Transport – Ernest Nyanda
Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives – William Kusila (Minister of Communications and Transport)
Minister of Labour and Youth Development – Paul Kimiti (formerly in the Ministry of Agriculture)
Minister for Water – Mussa Nkhangaa (Minister of State in the Prime Minister’s Office)
Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education - Pius N’gwandu (Minister for Water)

There are no changes in the other nine ministries.

Minister of State, President’s Office (Cabinet) – Mateo Qaresi (Minister of State, President’s Office – Civil Service)
Minister of State, President’s Office (Civil Service) – Jackson Makwetta (Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education)
Minister of State, President’s Office – Wilson Masilingi
Minister of State, Vice-President’s Office – Edward Lowassa
Minister of State, Prime Minister’s Office – Bakari Mbonde (Minister of State in the Vice-President’s Office)
Deputy Minister, Finance – Prof. Crispin Hauli
Deputy Minister, Health – Ms Tatu Ntimizi
Deputy Minister, Regional Administration – Dr. Deogratius Mwita
Deputy Minister, Home Affairs – John Mgeja (CCM Publicity Secretary)
Deputy Minister, Agriculture and Co-operatives – Ismail Iwvata (Deputy Minister, Water)
Deputy Minister, Water – Major Sigela Mswima (Deputy Minister, Home Affairs)
Ms Gladness Mziray, Deputy Minister of Health, has retired on medical grounds.

The re-introduction of a Ministry of Regional Affairs has been widely criticised as many had hoped that the President would reduce rather than increase by one the number of ministers.

The reshuffle was made necessary by the recent loss of two ministers through election petitions.

However, former Minister for Industries and Commerce, Dr William Shija, who lost his seat and his ministerial appointment following alleged violation of electoral procedures in the 1995 elections (some 17,000 voters had been unable to cast their votes) regained his Sengerema (Mwanza) seat on October 5 defeating Dr Fortunatus Masha of the United Democratic Party (UDP) by 29,345 to 21,549. The CUF candidate scored 789. In the previous election Shija got 19,917 votes against Masha’s 13,080. The by-election was unusual in having only three candidates. There were none from the main opposition party the NCCR; it is not known whether this was because the party could not agree on a candidate or whether it had finally realised that there could be advantages in cooperating with other opposition parties rather than always competing against them. There was a very heavy turnout. The Dar es Salaam Guardian quoted UDP leader John Cheyo as complaining about the high cost of by-elections - he estimated the cost of this one at Shs 350 million and recommended the adoption of some alternative approach in future for the filling of constituency vacancies.

Former NCCR MP for Bunda, Musoma, who lost his seat following a petition alleging irregularities in his campaign at the last elections and who was hoping to regain it in a by-election, had his hopes dashed on September 29 when the Court of Appeal rejected his second appeal against the original judgement. Judge Samatta said he believed that the defeated candidate, former Prime Minister Joseph Warioba, had not been served with a copy of the notice of appeal by Mr Wassira within the stipulated time. Wassira
COME AND EXPERIENCE THE UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE...
had claimed that he left the notice with a hotel receptionist in Mwanza. Wassira has now appealed again – for the third time.

CHADEMA has selected Mrs Aripa Geoffrey Marealle as its new ‘Special Seat’ MP to succeed Mrs Mary Kabigi who died in April.

Meanwhile, ‘The African’ reported in October that CHADEMA chairman Bob Makani had renewed his appeal for opposition candidates to field common candidates in the October 2000 elections so as to give the opposition a chance to beat the CCM.

On November 8 the Sunday Observer reported the first signs of a melting of the icy relationship between Mrema and his arch rival in the same party, Secretary General Mabere Marando, when both were attacking the CCM for owing the defunct National Social Security Fund more than Shs 500,000 in loans.

Further melting of the political atmosphere was reported in the Daily Mail on October 13. Mrema was said to have caused surprise when he turned up at the send-off party given by CCM Vice-Chairman John Malecela for his daughter Mwendwa prior to her marriage. Mr Malecela gave special thanks at the party at his residence (attended by 400 people including President Mkapa) to Mr Mrema. “This shows” he said “that our differences in politics do not affect our social relations”.

THE BOMB

The police, together with the US FBI, have been very active in recent weeks in trying to find those responsible for the blowing up of the American embassy in Dar es Salaam. Two suspects, one with a Tanzanian/Congolese passport and the other a Tanzanian were arrested on September 21 accused of murdering 11 Tanzanians in the bombing on August 7 but were later released. Some 30 people have been arrested and then later released in this case.
On October 16 police released pictures of the vehicles used in the attack – a 1987 Nissan Atlas Refrigeration truck (thought to have carried the bomb) and a Suzuki Samurai 1989 used by the suspects.

Two further suspects, an Egyptian and a Zanzibari, were put on trial for murder in October at the Kisitu magistrates Court.

THE ANTI-CORRUPTION FIGHT

Transparency International’s 1998 ‘Corruption Perception Index’ (CPI), quoted in the East African, placed Tanzania 81st out of 85 countries – on a par with Nigeria. While Denmark scored 10 out of 10 Tanzania scored only 1.9. The writer of the article found this hard to believe and pointed out that the index was a measure of perception, not actual levels, of corruption. There was said to be a joke in Dar es Salaam to the effect that you paid bribes in Tanzania ‘at your own risk’ since the system was so complex that nobody could guarantee that a bribe would be effective.

President Mkapa, who has been widely criticised for his failure to deal more vigorously with rampant corruption, has been stepping up his attack. On November 4 he halted an address to the National Assembly, after he had said that he had directed all Cabinet ministers to present to him lists of corrupt officials, when opposition MP’s began to murmur. He waited two minutes and then pointed out that MP’s had parliamentary immunity and could give him the names of corrupt people right away. When John Cheyo MP (UDP) stood up there were cheers from the floor but he failed to give any names. The President said that 13 corruption cases were in court and added that, in future, he would sack Civil servants and not grant them their normal benefits - only to be told by his Attorney General that there were certain laws involved in this matter. The President then said that if he was presented with circumstantial evidence – even if it could not withstand the scrutiny of the law – he would sack the persons concerned.
The CCM party has instructed senior officials to declare their assets and they have begun to do so. Prime Minister Frederick Sumaye declared that he had two houses, five plots, three vehicles, two tractors and a 40-acre farm with 115 domestic animals. He was criticised in the press when he revealed that he had also secured a $74,000 loan from the Parastatal Pension Fund. Minister for Works Anna Abdullah has three houses, 60 h. of farmland and Shs 1 million ($1,480) in bank accounts. Tourism Minister Zakia Meghji has two houses, an undeveloped plot, three vehicles and Shs 500,000 and $400 in cash.

After the President had again demanded that officials should report to him the names of corrupt persons in their ministries, the Dar es Salaam Daily Mail reacted sceptically - in a leading article on October 8. 'Who among the administrators ordered to report on corruption is clean enough to cast the first stone?' it asked. 'It is more important to analyse and curb the causes of corruption'.

However, another government minister resigned on August 10. Minister of State in the President's Office Dr Hassy Kitine resigned following allegations concerning misappropriation of public funds and, in particular, allegations concerning medical expenses for his wife in the United States. On October 27 it was reported in the Guardian that the President had retired five senior officials in the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and two education officials. And The African then reported that the Police had been instructed to apprehend all government and parastatal vehicles found on the road after 6pm without special authorisation.

MREMA IN MORE TROUBLE

Two cases are under way involving opposition NCCR Chairman Augustine Mrema. He had made a name for himself some years ago as an anti-corruption fighter when he was Deputy Prime Minister in President Mwinyi's government.

But on August 10 he was grilled for seven hours by the Parliamentary Privileges Standing Committee over allegations of
breaching privileges at public rallies following his suspension for 40 days by Parliament. He had accused the government of threatening to kill him (details in TA No.61) and faced 8 charges. On November 13 the committee presented a 33-page report recommending that further action should be taken against him if he did not apologise. Forty MP’s stated that they wanted to take part in the debate, but, according to the New African, after Mrema had refused to apologise (in a long speech which eventually ran out of time) the Deputy Speaker adjourned the debate until January 1999. Mrema was alleged to have accused his fellow MP’s of being vibaka (rapists).

Mrema is rarely out of the news and was featured in a full page article in ‘New African’ in October. All kinds of different views about him were quoted. Some CCM MP’s said he had taken...
leave of his senses when he said that there was a plot to kill him (TA No. 61). Others were said to have alleged that he was ‘mad’ and should be examined by psychiatrists. Mrema said he was fine, though he was radical “like some of the honourable members of parliament who are gay though nobody bothers to send them to psychiatrists”. Another MP was quoted as saying that “in Zambia, MP’s committing Mrema’s offence (presumably false accusation – Ed.) are jailed”. The New African article went on: ‘But in all this controversy, Mrema maintains an unlikely friendship with father figure Julius Nyerere. He recently thanked Nyerere for protecting him. “I sleep at home because of him. Otherwise they would have jailed me” Mrema was quoted as saying.

THE MBILINYI CASE

In a very long-running court case, also involving Mrema, which is attracting great public interest, he and Dr Masumbuko Lamwai, a fellow NCCR MP with whom he has since fallen out, were jointly accused for claiming, in October 1996, that government and CCM officials (including former Finance Minister Prof. Mbilinyi) had received Shs 900 million in bribes to give a tax rebate to crude oil importers.

Amongst the many witnesses has been former Tourism Minister Juma Ngasongwa who denied in court having received a bribe from the Mwanza Fish Industries to help them with tax remissions. Ngasongwa, who had been alleged in the Warioba report on corruption (see earlier issues of TA) to have been bribed by some United Arab Emirates leaders to issue them with presidential licenses to hunt, said that he had a right to do so as it was a reward after they had already been issued with a hunting permit. This was covered by the law on wildlife. Ngasongwa stated that he had already been cleared of bribery allegations by the parliamentary select committee and by the Presidential Commission against Corruption. The Mbilinyi case continues.
In an article in the Sunday Observer, Peter Msungu wondered whether corruption was always a bad thing. He wrote: 'some people argue that it can have beneficial effects such as non-violent access to government administration when political channels are blocked, or, as a means of lessening the potentially crippling tension between civil servants and politicians by linking them in an easily discerned network of self-interest.

TANZANIA AND THE CONGO

As soon as troops from Zimbabwe and Angola joined in the war in the Congo on August 24 and 25, Tanzania withdrew its 600-strong military training mission. Tanzania made it clear that it did not want to be involved in widening the conflict. The soldiers were evacuated by South African planes. Rebel forces had been planning to attack them according to a report in the Dar es Salaam Guardian.

Large numbers of refugees from the Congo civil war have been arriving in Kigoma.

The head of the rebel movement, officially Chairman of the political wing of the Rassemblement Congolais pour la Democratie, is Ernest Wamba Dia Wamba who, until a few months ago, was a history professor at Dar es Salaam University. He went into exile during the Mobuto years.

ZANZIBAR – COMMONWEALTH INITIATIVE ADJOURNED

The high hopes of the Commonwealth Secretariat, which has been trying for two years to bring about a settlement between government and opposition in Zanzibar (see TA No 61), seem to have been dashed once again. According to an article in the East African on November 16 by Salim Salim, (a former Press
Secretary to the present leader of the opposition Civic United Front (CUF) Seif Sharrif Hamad, Zanzibar President Salmin Amour has ‘demonstrated once again that he is not prepared to come to terms with the opposition party’. The President was quoted as saying that no foreigner, be he an individual or an organisation, could bring harmony to the islands. The President was also said to have brushed aside an appeal by Tanzanian Vice-President, Dr Omar Ali Juna (himself a Zanzibari) made on the same platform two days earlier, for Zanzibar’s leaders to give full support to the Commonwealth peace initiative. Dr Juna was quoted in the Guardian as saying that the efforts of Commonwealth Secretary General Chief Emeka Anyaoku were never directed towards uniting CCM and CUF and by no means aimed at establishing a coalition government. The Chief had felt that an opening had to be made somewhere to start engaging them in dialogue.

However, President Mkapa has again praised Dr. Amour for his firm stand against ‘opposition manoeuvres aimed at causing mistrust among the people’.

According to the Daily News, Seif Shariff Hamad announced to the CUF General Council at a meeting in Dar es Salaam on August 9, that CUF would recognise the government of Dr Amour and was ending its boycott of the Zanzibar Assembly ‘for the benefit of all Zanzibaris’. The CUF National Congress agreed unanimously to sign compromise protocols proposed by the Commonwealth. Seif Shariff claimed that, under the proposed agreement, the Electoral Commission would be disbanded and a new one formed including neutral members; new voters lists would be drawn up; the Zanzibar constitution could be reviewed; some special seats in the House of Assembly would be made available to CUF; President Amour would submit a list of person whose houses had been destroyed; sacked students and civil servants would be reinstated; treason suspects would be set free. He asked his members to be patient and to avoid confrontation.

But President Amour clearly sees that he is winning the battle. He told a large crowd on August 22 that CUF was
politically finished and was now at the mercy of the rank and file of the CCM. He accused CUF of being engaged in all sorts of political trickery and deceit in Pemba by telling the people there that the time had come for the Isles to have a President from Pemba. Referring to the negotiations under Commonwealth auspices he said that CUF had rejected Dr Anyaoku’s recommendations three times. There would not be a government of national unity.

Chief Anyaoku announced in a message from Kuala Lumpur, where he was attending the Commonwealth Games, that he was adjourning talks on the package of proposals he had made in March 1998 for a solution of the problem (which had been accepted by unanimously by CUF) ‘to allow CCM to complete its deliberations on them’. The CCM was due to respond by not later than its Central Committee meeting on October 10. CCM had set

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up a special seven-member committee to study the proposals but on October 11 the Guardian reported that the said meeting did not take place.

The latest session of the Zanzibar House of Assembly (in October) was held in Pemba – the first time it has been held in the island since the 1995 elections in which CUF won all the seats

TREASON TRIAL

The treason trial of 18 CUF leaders on charges of treason has now been going on for more than a year and the preliminary enquiry has been adjourned 25 times to enable the police to finalise their investigations.

On August 4 there was a legal wrangle on procedures and efforts were made to persuade the Attorney General to brief the court on the evidence he had so far collected. The Prosecutor, Police Superintendent Patric Biatao, said that the Attorney General was reluctant to send an affidavit or a state attorney to shed light on the evidence because the court had not informed him in writing. The defence regarded this as a flimsy excuse. A ruling on what to do next was postponed because the magistrate fell ill.

On August 18 the Magistrate gave the Attorney General 10 days to present an affidavit to explain how far he had got with the evidence and why four parliamentarians had been arrested among the 18 accused without following procedures. On September 1 affidavits were produced which said that in the case of the four MP’s the Attorney General had given his consent within a day of each arrest, in accordance with the law. One had been charged with organising an illegal demonstration, two were charged with inciting the public and Juma Duni MP with importing army uniforms. The defence team questioned every aspect of the affidavits and, after taking a one hour leave to consult legal books, Senior Superintendent of Police John Kimario asked for more time to consult the Attorney General. On September 29 the defence continued to challenge the AG’s affidavit saying that his consent to
the arrest of the four seemed to have been given after they were arrested.

On October 13 the court ordered the AG to state within a week whether he had given consent to the arrest of the four. The court also ordered the prosecution to show cause why the hearings of the trial proper should not begin in the absence of additional suspects and to state how much more time it needed to complete investigations.

**Kisa wa Kisasa**

(Dar es Salaam University has been modernising Swahili for many years. Readers may wish to update their knowledge of the language and Ben Rawlence therefore has agreed to contribute to this process. His first article follows – Editor).


The position of the Masai may be similar to that of the visitor not schooled in current colloquial Swahili. The Masai became angry and began hitting his fellow passenger because he thought he had been called a goat (*mbuzi*). His response “Hello, no me joke with you, you see me I eat grass?”

For urban Tanzanians this is the pinnacle of *ushamba* (backwardness); since for them *buzi* (lit. Billy goat) has taken on
another meaning altogether. *Buzi* in fact means sugar daddy and this is what the *njemba* (bloke) was suggesting when he said “Sister today you’ve got a buzzi”.

It seems as though the proverb is true that: *Jogoo la shamba haliwiki mf ini* (the cockerel from the country doesn’t crow in the town).

Swahili is changing faster than even Tanzanians can keep up with sometimes. *Kisa wa Kisasa* (a modern story) introduces a few words currently in use that you may not find in the *Kamusi* (dictionary):

- *kuja juu* (to become angry); *kuachwa hoi* (to die... of laughing); *daladala* (minibus); *kujichubua* (to bleach oneself); *mkorogo* (bleaching mixture); *kucharuka* (to explode); *mtasha* (*mzungu* – white guy); *kitu kidogo chai* (a bribe); *wamachinga* (street sellers).

**TANZANIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA**

**ADVERTISING TECHNIQUES**

The Commonwealth Development Corporation’s THE MAGAZINE (September 1998) wrote about the ‘outstanding success of its Tanzania Venture Capital Fund in supporting, with its financial muscle, Tanzania Tea Packers during the last three years’. Tanzania Tea Packers blends and packs tea under its brand name *Chai Bora* and sells three blends – *Nguvu* Blend, Supreme Blend and Blue Label, and its success has been in breaking the modern rules of advertising and going back to 30-year old techniques – promotional discounts, 20% extra tea free in the pack - a first for Tanzania; wall signs; bill boards; radio jingles; simple phrasing like ‘Good Tea’ plus some exciting modern visual designs and the most modern packaging available. *Kahawa Bora*
was due to be introduced in September 1998, then *Soda Bora* and then lots of other little boras, ‘all of whose aim is to provide the consumer with a simple product, at a reasonable price, a standard quality obeying environmental and food norms and, making money’.

THE FISHING ROD

An anecdote from the autobiography of former British Prime Minister Edward Heath was quoted in the EAST AFRICAN (November 2). Apparently President Reagan was lecturing Mwalimu Nyerere on the need for his country to become self-supporting. “In other words” he said “I will help you to buy the fishing rod, but after that the rest lies with you. You must fish in your own pond to support yourselves” “That is fine” said Mwalimu “but what happens if you haven’t got a pond with any fish?”

UNIQUE FILM FESTIVAL

The VSO publication ORBIT published in its third quarter 1998

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issue an account of the Zanzibar International Film Festival held there recently. It wrote: ‘It was a unique film festival which questioned the overwhelming presence of Hollywood and Indian Bollywood films in Africa by screening nearly 100 films from the ‘dhow’ countries, most of them African in origin.....these were films with social realism, depth and diversity.....one was ‘Bongo Beat’, a Tanzanian-made film featuring local musical hero Ronny Ongala and another ‘Flame’ about two female teenagers who sign up to fight in Zimbabwe’s war. By the end of the week over 1,000 people a night were cramming into the open-air fort beneath a clear sky, straining their ears above the noise of the insects to enjoy the films....but local cinema owner Firoz complained that he lost money by showing festival films’. After the festival he was happy to go back to his regular and highly popular rota of Indian films, Titanic and James Bond. The article quoted a UNESCO estimate that film attendance in Tanzania totals five million a year – a major leisure pursuit. But Michael Booth, writing in the INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY (October 25) went out to one of the 25 ‘Village Panorama’s designed to bring African-made films to African audiences. At Bambi, two hours drive from Stone Town, he found 500 people waiting for the performance. The main film was Black Ninja Group, a Dar es Salaam-made feature – ‘it was probably the worst film I had ever seen’ he wrote. ‘It was a non-sensical tale of mainly kung fu bouts between baddies in balaclavas and policemen, and was edited with an axe. But it went down well with the audience who made off into the night around midnight still shouting and laughing..... Meanwhile, he EAST AFRICAN reported that Tanzania was the only country in East Africa to submit a film to M-Net’s 4th All Africa Film Awards in Pretoria in November. The film, Maangamizi – The Ancient One, did not win an award.
SOUTH AFRICAN VIEWS

The South African press continues to take a close interest in Tanzania. The SUNDAY INDEPENDENT (October 25) wrote about the estimated 15,000 prostitutes in the country. 'Recently, eight pupils at Songea’s Girls Secondary School were expelled for running a brothel using a building near the school. The girls were found naked in the house when a team of teachers invaded it. Six customers ran away. The pupils said they were forced to make money that way because their parents could not give them any.

Peggy Mengoli, a writer to the editor of the MAIL AND GUARDIAN (October 10) referred to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki’s call for an ‘African Renaissance’. He associated it with Julius Nyerere’s ‘African Socialism’ and wrote that, ‘when he (Nyerere) got into his stride he took control of the media, banned opposition parties, controlled the trade unions, denied members the right to strike, jailed people without trial for merely protesting and nationalised industries which had previously been doing well...leaving Tanzania one of the poorest countries on earth’. The writer concluded that ‘if Mbeki follows in the footsteps of Nyerere, it won’t be to oversee an African renaissance but an African mass funeral’. Another article on the same day in the same paper under the heading ‘Tanzania feels the pain of indifference’ quoted Christopher Mwakasese, Director of Tanzania’s ‘Social and Economic Trust’ (an NGO) as being angry about the way in which Africa’s needs for debt relief were being handled by the World Bank and IMF. He said that out of 25 World Bank agricultural projects in Tanzania 13 had negative rates of return.

The South African BUSINESS DAY (November 18) reported that the South African company Murray and Roberts is going to build, starting in 1999 a large shopping complex in Dar es Salaam to be know as the Mali Msasani in which other South African firms are expected to open shops – Thank you David Leishman for sending these items from South Africa – Editor).
LIBERALISED TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A supplement on Tanzania produced by PM Communications for the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH (November 15) included statements by government officials and others (covering all sectors) and pointed out the rapid development of telecommunications since the sector was liberalised in 1993. Tritel, one of the main operators of cellular telephones said that it has gained 10,000 subscribers in two and a half years, and with Mobitel, the other main operator, there would be around 40,000 mobile phone users by the end of 1999. Tritel is a joint venture with a Malaysian company which has invested almost $40 million. Mobitel, which has the greater share of the market, is a joint venture with Millicom International Cellular and is busy extending its operations to Mbeya, Shinyanga and Tanga – Thank you Donald Wright for sending this item - Editor.

THE COAST

A new glossy international travel magazine called SWAHILI COAST, which is designed to promote coastal eco-tourism, published its first issue in July. The first article advertised the Zanzibar Film Festival and the second article, supported by beautiful reproductions, featured Tingatinga art. Professor Sherrif wrote about the sad life of Princess Salme, the daughter of Seyyid Said, the nineteenth century ruler of Oman and Zanzibar, who fell in love with a young German trader, Rudolph Heinrich Ruete, who lived only three years after their marriage. The princess resided in Germany for most of the rest of her life. The concluding article was a short history of Mafia by Peter Byrne.

COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY

Another volunteer, Patrick Wilson (from ‘Health Projects Abroad - HPA’) has been describing life in a Tanzanian village. His story
filled a page in the SUNDAY TIMES MAGAZINE (May 17). "......people have a strong sense of communal responsibility. Recently, when a man was hit on the head and couldn’t work for months, every family in the village gave his family rice or vegetables. The villagers are amused at our attitude to work; when they learnt that an HPA engineer had been working a 12-hour day in England, they were flabbergasted. “Was your family starving?” they asked ......a visit to the movies is like nothing I’ve ever experienced. One day we heard we could see a film in a certain village. After riding on our Chinese bicycles for two hours, we arrived to find a man with a video. We watched it outside on a TV run from half an old car which was so noisy that we could hardly hear what was going on. The video turned out to be a terrible Chinese martial arts film dubbed into American Irish. Every time there was a fight scene the audience leapt to its feet and an imitation fight ensued. Then the car engine cut out because it had run out of petrol. Some men cycled off furiously to find petrol. An hour later petrol was found and the video resumed. But it soon cut out again. The whole thing took all day.” —Thank you Cath Rowlett for sending us this story — Editor.

CONVERTING FEAR INTO HOPE

‘What previous chief executives of the National Bank of Commerce (NBC 1997 Ltd) could not achieve in several years, Dr. Francis Mlozi and his team have accomplished in 10 months. Mlozi has turned the crumbling, debt laden bank from a dying loser to a profitable winner’ – so wrote BUSINESS IN AFRICA in its October-November 1998 issue. The article was full of praise for the newly restructured bank. The author wrote that Mlozi’s first task had been that of converting fear into hope for his 1,000 staff and ultimately for his customers. Thousands of customers had left. Just three months into his ‘change for the better programme’, NBC 1997 hit profits. These totalled Shs 2.5 billion in the last quarter of 1997 but by June 1998 had reached the ‘incredible’ figure of Shs...
10.5 billion. Mlozi considers Tanzania ‘over-banked’ – there are now 23 commercial banks in the country – but this competitiveness was not negative in the short term he said.

CO-OPERATIVES AND LIBERALISATION

The March 1998 issue of REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION contained an article by John Launder analysing the causes of the virtual collapse of certain cooperatives in Eastern and Southern Africa (with particular reference to Tanzania) and how this has affected agricultural industries. He concludes that the effect of liberalisation of marketing has been positive for consumers and larger traders but has been a negative experience for many farmers and may have harmed agricultural development. The lack of support services for small traders, particularly for finance, has delayed the establishment of an efficient marketing system. Liberalisation was poorly managed and was introduced too quickly after structural adjustment started. He concludes that a key issue is the integration of cooperatives and other marketers to produce an effective market base for agricultural development – Thank you Peter Yeo for sending this item – Editor.

THE PAIN OF INDIFFERENCE

The GUARDIAN WEEKLY (October 18) pointed out that when Asian currencies collapsed last year the IMF came to the rescue with multi-billion dollar bail-outs. However, since 1985 when Tanzania started its IMF structural adjustment programme, the Shilling had been devalued by 1,500% yet the country did not qualify for debt relief until 2002. The article quoted Christopher Mwakasese of the Tanzania Social and Economic Trust as complaining about this and also about the World Bank demanding repayment of loans for its own badly designed projects. Out of 25
agricultural projects had had a negative rate of return, he said. Thank you John Pearce for sending this item from Australia — Editor.

CONTROVERSIAL TOURISM PROPOSAL

DEVELOPMENTS, the journal of Britain's Department of International Development, had a page on the proposed new £2.5 billion tourist project in the Nungwi peninsular in northern Zanzibar in its Issue 3 of 1998. The 'East African Development Company' has leased 57 sq. kms. to create a resort which is intended to include 14-16 luxury hotels, timeshare villas, a world trade centre, three golf courses and Olympic-size swimming pools. But 'Tourism Concern' is expressing alarm about the 20,000 local people who may have to be uprooted and what it terms the massive environmental damage which would be caused. The developers deny the charges. They said that the government would have 26% of the shares in the joint company and that the people would receive water, electricity, sewerage and new roads under the project.

Criticism of the project was much stronger in the London OBSERVER (August 30) which had an item on the front page and a full page inside under the heading 'On the Crooked Road to Zanzibar' in which it claimed that two British businessmen with criminal records were masterminding the project to turn the 'paradise' island of Zanzibar into a playground for rich tourists. The Observer's reporters, having tracked down the businessmen in addresses in Hampshire, the Isle of Man and Cyprus were left feeling that the necessary funds would never be raised. Villagers at Nungwi were found either not to know anything about the project or too afraid to speak about it except a certain dhow maker (who had been making dhows since he was 15) and was very concerned about losing his living.
THE BLUE BICYCLE

In its series ‘About Us’ the BBC’s FOCUS ON AFRICA (October-December) featured its man in Zanzibar, Ally Saleh and his blue bicycle – a bike which he claimed was more famous in Zanzibar than President Amour’s Mercedes 280. ‘I take my job very seriously’ he wrote ‘and have even managed to shake the government a few times. And the government has shaken me...I’ve been visited by plain-clothes policemen on more than one occasion and I’m not exactly a stranger to the inside of a prison cell. I spent a 30-day vacation in Zanzibar’s central jail in May 1998 after I was accused of taking part in an illegal demonstration....’ Saleh, who is disabled following polio at the age of four, concluded: ‘Everyone tells me to get rid of my trusty bicycle and get a car. A car? What for?

ARMS TRADE

NEW AFRICAN (December) shared the surprise of many on learning that the Tanzanian Government had suddenly decided to liberalise its arms trade at a time when shootings and killings by gangsters are frequently hitting the headlines. This was a radical change of policy, the article wrote, and followed the bankruptcy of the government owned company which had previously controlled the arms trade. But Home Affairs Minister Ali Ameir Mohamed denied the dangers. “Guns are not going to be sold like tomatoes in the market” he said. “Only experienced former army officers will be arms importers and only light weapons will be traded”.
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Tanzania is poised to be Africa’s next ECONOMIC GIANT after South Africa, should the flow of investments, trade and stability be sustained. It had all the potential and natural resources to surge ahead in social and economic development – Rev. Charles Stith, US Ambassador to Tanzania, quoted in the Daily News.

The TRUST BANK was closed on September 19 and the passports of its senior foreign officials were seized. This followed the takeover by the Central Bank of Kenya of the operations of the Trust Bank HQ in Nairobi due to insolvency. There had been a run on the bank by panicking depositors on September 18 when Shs 200 million had been withdrawn in a morning. By the end of November the bank was asking depositors to help rescue the bank. Under its plan there would be no curbs on withdrawals up to Shs 1.5 million but sums greater than this would be released over two years – Daily News.

A 25 year concession agreement has been signed under which the KILIMANJARO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT has been taken over by a local company – Kilimanjaro Airport Development Company (KADCO) a subsidiary of Mott MacDonald of the UK.

Greenland Bank Ltd. in collaboration with Thomas Cook International has launched a ‘MONEYGRAM SERVICE’ which it claims will provide transferred money from anywhere in the world ‘in ten minutes’. The launching ceremony of this service was held at the Sea Cliff Hotel in Dar es Salaam – The Sunday Observer.
The government has washed its hands of the eight-months long conflict between TANESCO and the Malaysian-sponsored Independent Power Tanzania Ltd (IPTL) electricity project (see earlier issues of Tanzanian Affairs). TANESCO has presented its case to the Washington-based International Centre for the Settlement of Disputes (ICSID) – East African.

Zanzibar has passed a bill to introduce 15% VAT early in 1999. Tanzania’s mainland VAT rate is 20% - Business in Africa.

Mwanza Regional Commissioner James Luhanga has announced that, in spite of a temporary ban on importation of LAKE VICTORIA FISH into the EU (because of alleged cholera), new markets had been developed in the Middle East, Australia and the Far East. Tanzania had exported Shs 28 billion worth of fish last year, the highest ever and twice the receipts of 1996. Major General Luhanga said that Nile Perch was in high demand because experts say it is free from cholesterol – Daily News.

The foundation stone has been laid by President Mkapa of the long-awaited, $25 million, kilometre-long BRIDGE over the Rufiji River at Ndundu. The bridge is expected to be completed in 2000. The project is part of a 508km tarmac road project from Dar es Salaam to Lindi. Finance is being provided by the OPEC Fund, the Kuwait Fund and the Saudi Arabian Government – East African.

Tanzania’s COFFEE INDUSTRY (240,000 hectares) has an uncertain future according to ‘Business in Africa’ (October-November). It wrote: ‘For the last ten years production has stagnated at an average of 50,000 tonnes annually and current output at about 250kgs per hectare is among the lowest in sub-Saharan Africa (Zimbabwe – 700-1,000 kgs per hectare)’ .... Causes include fluctuating coffee prices, high taxation, high cost of fertilisers and pesticides, low quality seedlings, under-funding of research...but the main cause is ageing coffee trees – many are over
70 years old and beyond their economic viability. However, some 17 new hybrid varieties of coffee with promising pest resistance have been developed, the EU is launching a $14 million rehabilitation scheme (six million seedlings) and experts say that Tanzania is capable of producing 145,000 tonnes per annum’.

Suzie Teete, Human Resources Manager of the TANZANIA CIGARETTE COMPANY, is advertising for Tanzanians living abroad to take up a variety of posts in the company. Starting salaries - about Shs 500,000.

South Africa’s ‘Trans-Africa RAILWAY Corporation’ has been given a 20-year concession to operate on the Tanzania Railways Corporation network. If it receives tax incentive clearance, it will run three locomotives and 200 wagons (shipped from Durban). They will be adjusted to fit Tanzania’s narrow 1,000mm gauge after conversion from the 1,067 mm South African gauge – East African.

The government has sold its 34% share of Tanzania Portland CEMENT Company to companies in Norway and Sweden for $8.45 million – Daily News.

AID

CANADA - Shs 45 million for aid to bomb victims in Dar es Salaam. IRELAND - a multi-million shilling 12-year development programme (Shs 165 million in the first year) to support various sectors, to be identified, in Muheza, Tanga District. OIL PRODUCING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OPEC) and the AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND - $6 million (Shs 4 billion) for the Mtukula-Kigoma Road. USA - $125,000 for medical supplies at Muhimbili Hospital following the bomb blast. UNDP - $454,000 for prevention and control of AIDS. NORWAY - $3
million to boost the multilateral debt fund. BRITAIN (during a four-day visit by International Development Minister Clare Short (from August 25) – Shs 66 billion for debt relief and the Civil Service Retrenchment Programme for the period 1998-2001. BRITAIN has also granted $110,000 to the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation to facilitate the peace efforts in Burundi. FINLAND – Shs 1.7 billion for the third phase activities of the East Usambara Catchment Forestry Project and for Management of the Amani Nature Reserve. The EU – Shs 1.6 billion to strengthen the capacity of the East African Cooperation Secretariat in Arusha. USA - $50 million for people and infrastructure affected by the August 7 bombing of the US Embassy. NIGERIA - $100,000 also for aid to bomb victims. The AGA KHAN FUND - Shs 45 million to facilitate relocation of an army site to make way for a new Serena beach hotel in Zanzibar.

MISCELLANY

The new Catholic University – the St Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT) - was inaugurated on August 25. The university arises from the various institutions originally established at Nyegezi near Mwanza and will offer a bachelor’s degree course in mass communication, and will also offer diploma and certificate courses in journalism, accountancy, business management and hospital administration.

Photographer Muhidin Michuzi related in the Daily News of October 3 (when he was assigned to cover a three-day visit by Princess Anne to Tanzania to visit donor-supported projects) how he had not only been briefed by the High Commission’s Ian Gleeson to the effect that the Princess did not like to ‘be crowded’ but had also read that the Princess was ‘anti-press photographers’. But when he went to the President’s residence the President asked the Princess to come outside for a photo shoot. “These guys never seem to have enough” he joked. And instead of the customary posed line, popularly known as ‘the firing squad’ in media houses, the VIP’s stood in a way ‘which a film director would have cherished’. For five whole minutes the royal couple and their hosts stood facing the dull noon sun and admired and discussed the magnificent architectural structure of Ikulu. "1
found myself putting the Princess Royal at the top of my list of favourite dignitaries, after Nelson Mandela, Mwalimu Nyerere, President Mkapa and ministers Jakaya Kikwete and Edward Lowassa’ all of whom show great concern for press photographers’ he wrote.

Minister of Local Government and Regional Administration Kingunge Ngombale-Mwiru has announced that he is moving the HQ of his ministry to the long-designated capital, Dodoma, in the near future – Daily Mail.

Minister for the Civil Service Jackson Makwetta was reported in the October 19 issue of the East African to have ordered all men in his ministry to be clean-shaven and to ‘look sharp’ from now on. Tanzanian men were said to have been infected by ‘Mandela fever’ and to be wearing flowery shirts. The paper recommends a competition to design a new national dress for Tanzania – entries to be judged by women as ‘everyone knows who wears the trousers in the house these days’.

A new foundation – the Mkawawa Foundation - has been inaugurated. Its aim is to erect historical monuments in Iringa as part of the celebrations marking the death of Chief Mkawawa of the Hehe a century ago – Guardian.

There has been a serious leak of the November Form 4 ‘O’ level examination papers and the exams are to be repeated in January 1999. Two police officers will be assigned to each of the 750 secondary schools when the examinations are repeated. It is estimated that the financial loss might exceed $1.2 million. Education Minister Professor Kapuya, who was recalled from Paris when the crisis broke, has refused demands that he should resign – East African.

The Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) and other international agencies have launched the ‘Fedha Fund Ltd’, a new private equity fund capitalised at $13 million which has begun to make loans to Tanzanian companies wishing to expand or to have management buy-outs and buy-ins - Guardian.

The US Census Bureau believes that Tanzania’s population will reach about 40 million by 2010 but this is lower than was anticipated because of the AIDS epidemic affecting the country. Life expectancy is predicted to be 46.1 years in 2010 compared with 60.7 years without the sharp rise in deaths due to AIDS – East African.
According to Michael Okema, writing in the East African, a new word is being used to describe government policies these days. In President Mwinyi's time it was 'ruksa' (free for all); nowadays it is 'ukapa' - the shortage of money caused by the President's stringent monetary policies.

Tanzania's Joseph Marwa (34) a Prisons Inspector won the Africa professional middleweight boxing title in Dar es Salaam on August 9. He beat Lolengo 'Saddam Hussein' Mock from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Prime Minister Frederick Sumaye expressed his anger on August 22 on hearing that 16 young Tanzanians in the Tanzanian delegation to the World Youth Festival in Lisbon had absconded and not returned to Tanzania with the others – they had besmirched the good image of the country he said. Portuguese police were hunting for them.

At the meeting of the Heads of all secondary schools in Tanzania, Ilboru Secondary School in Arusha was selected as the school with the best overall performance. Second came St Mary Mazinde (Tanga), third was Mzumbe (Morogoro), fourth was Kifungilo (Lushoto) and fifth Mzizima (Dar es Salaam).

The firm 'Cargill' announced on August 13 that it would not be operating its two cotton ginneries (built in 1993 and 1997) during the rest of the 1998 cotton season because, after seven weeks of the season, it had bought only 900 tons compared with 18,000 tons at the same time the year before. Flooding in December 1997 had reduced the acreage planted and the world price was said to be insufficient to support price expectations of farmers and the cost of full taxes and levies. Cargill hoped to resume operations in the 1999 season.

The Amani Nature Reserve in the Eastern Usambara mountains was officially launched on September 29 by President Mkapa. He was told that the reserve was one of the 25 top bio-diversity sites in the world. Some 25% of the 2,800 fauna species there could not be found anywhere else – Daily News.

The Dar es Salaam 'Daily Mail' has been giving considerable publicity to what it describes as the 'grisly Shinyanga witch hunts'. Some 20 people,
especially older women, were being killed each month and, on one day in August, twelve people were said to have been killed. The Shinyanga Regional Police Office was quoted as reporting that the killings were worst after the harvest when people could afford (about five cows per killing) to pay contract killers. The police could not offer any immediate solution 'as witchcraft was so much entrenched in the region'.

President Mkapa spoke at the consecration ceremony on October 11 of the Reverend Donald Mtetemela as the fourth Anglican Archbishop in Tanzania. A capacity crowd filled the church in Iringa – Daily News.

A Japanese medical technician at Muhimbili, Rieko Anaoku, was killed by armed bandits at Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam on September 17 when she struggled with them. Foreign Minister Jakaya Kikwete delivered a condolence message at the funeral in Dar es Salaam. On October 5 seven main suspects in the case appeared in court on various charges including the theft of many other vehicles. – Daily News.

The Regional Commissioner in Iringa has instructed agricultural extension staff in his region to sign village registers and jot down remarks on the agricultural expertise they had offered to farmers. This would maintain a duty performance record he said.

A resident of Pawaga in Iringa District has been sentenced to 24 years in prison for killing a giraffe in the Ruaha National Park on December 14 1994. The giraffe was said to be worth Shs 420,000 and the magistrate said that he was giving a severe punishment because of the 'alarming rate of poaching' – Daily Mail.

The government was forced to withdraw a Bill it presented to parliament which would have raised the retirement age in the public service from 55 to 60. MP’s said that many educated people were waiting for jobs in the civil service – The African.

Vice-President Dr Omar Ali Juma opened the renovated Olduvai Gorge Museum near Ngorongoro crater on October 15. Financial and technical support came from the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles. A recent survey of government-sponsored students studying abroad indicated that there were 147 in the Commonwealth of Independent States (former Soviet Union), 98 in India, 73 in the USA, 62 in Britain, 39 in Poland, 26 in
Bulgaria, 25 in China, 21 in Cuba, 11 in Hungary and 10 in Canada with smaller numbers in 9 other countries.

Tanzania’s 30-strong team at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in September came back with three medals. Tanzania took the silver (Simon Mrashani) and bronze (Andrea Suja) medals in the marathon and the gold medal (Michael Yombayomba) took the gold in boxing – the first gold medal Tanzania has won at the Commonwealth Games. All three work in the Police service and were promoted on their return. Tanzania came 16th out of the 70 countries which took part.

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OBITUARIES

Veteran journalist AIDAN CHECHE (64) died at Muheza on August 10 after a long illness. He was News Editor of Radio Tanzania at the time of independence and later worked for the BBC, Reuters and Radio Deutschewelle. In his final months he participated in translating the Bible into modern Swahili.

In January 1964 there was a mutiny among troops of the Tanganyika Defence Force at Colito Barracks, Dar es Salaam and the government called for help. Britain’s 45 Commando embarked in haste in the carrier *Centour* and 2 Troop, led by MAJOR DAVID SCOTT LANGLEY, who has died at the age of 74, flew ashore in Wessex helicopters. Using a loud-hailer, Langley called on the mutineers to surrender. When they refused a 3.5 inch rocket was fired over the closed gates to the guardroom. It hit an overhead wire and rebounded, narrowly missing Langley. The mutiny was quelled in less than two hours. Langley accepted surrender from a Tanzanian Lieutenant Colonel who had been one of his cadets at Aldershot. Langley received a C-in-C’s commendation The commander of the operation, COLONEL PATRICK STEVENS, (76) also died in August 1998 — from the Times Obituaries.

MICHAEL WISE who died recently has been Reviews Editor of ‘Tanzanian Affairs’ (ably assisted by John Budge) for the last two years. His wife, Angela, has kindly sent us the following words: ‘Michael first went to Africa in 1957, to a post in the library of the Royal Technical College in Nairobi, later to become the University of Nairobi. He moved in January 1962 to a similar post at the new University of Dar es Salaam. This started off in a building in Lumumba Street and Michael was closely involved with the Chief Librarian in the planning and development of the new university library on Observation Hill. Seven happy and productive years
followed, the later ones as Deputy Librarian. He made the most of every opportunity to see more of the country and its people, climbed to the crater of Kilimanjaro and formed enduring friendships. Links with Africa and Tanzania were not broken when he moved to a post in Wales in 1969. Many Tanzanian students were entertained at his home near Aberystwyth; he drew on Tanzanian contacts for contributions to the books and journals he edited on international librarianship; and this year it gave him great pleasure to meet again many old Tanzanian friends on a return visit to Dar es Salaam.

GUY YEOMAN (78), described in the Times as 'veterinary surgeon and explorer', died on August 3, having developed a lifelong passion for the sources of the Nile and the people of the Rwenzori mountain ranges. He had become fluent in Swahili while recruiting troops for the war in Burma in 1942 and was devastated when the troopship Khedive Ismail was sunk while on passage from Mombasa to Ceylon on February 12, 1944 with the loss of 1,511 lives, almost all African troops of his own regiment. His work on the cattle disease East Coast Fever in Tanzania was the basis of the thesis which won him his fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. His book *The Ixod Ticks of Tanzania* (jointly written with Jane Walker) was published in 1967 and his successful disease control schemes are still largely in place in Tanzania.

Nigel Durdant Hollamby has informed us of the recent deaths of DENIS THORNE MABEY BENNETT (73) who was DC Kilwa when he retired in 1961, ARTHUR PHILIP HUGH LOUSADA (81), who was DC in Kwimba and Bagamoyo and ERIC LOVELOCK (81) who achieved a reputation as a rainmaker in Tanganyika and retired from the Colonial Service to begin a teaching career in Britain.
REVIEWS

Readers will be shocked to hear that Michael Wise, our Reviews Editor, died suddenly and unexpectedly on November 11. He brought his considerable experience plus great enthusiasm to his task and his own reviews were always a delight to read. He was in the process of preparing this section of TA when he died but has left his files in good order and it has not been too difficult to complete the work for this issue. Reviewers whose work is not included in this issue can contact me although Michael had intended to hold over some reviews to a later date because of shortage of space. For this reason it has been necessary to abbreviate some of the material he did receive. I am sure that readers will support me in sending our deepest sympathy to his wife on her terrible loss – a loss which we also share – David Brewin.


It was the subtitle which grabbed my attention, but the first sections didn't keep it – a stodgy literature review discussing concepts of the unequal power relationships between aid donors and recipients.

However, when the author starts writing about Tanzania in Chapter three, it's much better. There's an excellent historical survey, and a lot of very helpful economic statistics, not merely about foreign aid, but also about the whole economy. The author has also found a 1968 quote from Nyerere about foreign debt: "To burden the people with big loans, the repayment of which will be beyond their means, is not to help them but to make them suffer".

He analyses the giving and receiving of aid- the interests of the donor state and those of the ruling class receiving it tend to
outweigh "development". In the longer term, aid has fostered
dependence which "forces its victims to lose faith and confidence
in their own abilities and paralyses their initiatives", and has made
a mockery of the old slogan of "Self-reliance".

Tanzania did not have a policy framework for absorbing aid.
Also, it was very difficult for Tanzanian civil servants to dispute
aid-givers conclusions, however misinformed, or funds would
disappear, so projects which any local could tell were misguided
went ahead.

To illustrate his more general conclusions, he has three case studies -
a Norwegian fishing project "a classic example of a poorly conceived,
designed and executed project", Danish aid at Sokoine University (lecturers
obtained higher degrees in Denmark and studied Danish veterinary issues)
and Swedish aid at the bureau of statistics (successful in meeting its
objectives, but also responsible for "notorious aid-dependence mentality").
He shows how inherent in much of the project design was the interests of the
donors, while Tanzanian interests had to be fitted in as best as possible.
Tanzanian institutional weakness also meant that they were often not even
able to negotiate well.

In the last few pages the author suggests the solutions of better
governance, so that the state acts in the interests of the whole country, and of
genuine self-reliance- selective delinking from the world economy. But that
would be another book.

It is easy to complain that the book minimises the successful impact of
aid. Donors have done a lot of good with Tanzania's roads and railways, for
example, but his conclusion that much aid has not helped is incontrovertible,
and his analysis as to why is very thought-provoking. It would have been
interesting to compare how NGO aid fares compared with government aid –
this could perhaps have painted a slightly more encouraging picture.

Tim Idle

TANZANIA POLITICAL ECONOMY SERIES, 1 TRANSITIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY AND POLICY OPTIONS IN TANZANIA. Eds:
Samuel Wangwe, Haji Semboja and Paula Tibendage of the Economic and
Social Research Foundation. Mkuki wa Nyota. Distributed by African Books
Collective, The Jam factory, 27 Park End St. Oxford OXI 1HU. 130 pages.$18.00.
Many friends of Tanzania, anxious to see its people prosper, have viewed with sadness the failure of many economic experiments of past decades and look forward eagerly to the success of the new policies of President Mkapa. To us this little book will be an encouragement; and to the powers that be it should be a valuable guide.

The book puts forward a set of economic policy options. They reflect current thinking on the role of the state as liberator of market forces, stimulator of private investment, creator of a competitive commercial environment and provider of efficient health, education and social services.

The book was published early last year yet most of the text appears to have been written 2 ½ years ago; no statistic is given after the Spring of 1966 and frequently the writers indicate that they are putting forward their ideas at the outset of the ‘Third Phase Government’ whose remit runs from 1995 to 2000. I have just one other complaint. The book loses impact by being just a little too academic. The generalisations leave the reader uncertain at times what the authors really want their government to do in a given situation. Just a few comparisons are made with other developing countries; far more would have been helpful. Practical examples of theoretical arguments are rare. We learn of the beneficial privatisation of the Morogoro Shoe Company and the valuable effect on productivity of the Sasakawa Global 2000 Project, but that is about all. Some figures are quoted but the analysis lacks any graphs or charts to clarify movements in the country’s economy during the period under study.

The editors have been very ambitious. They had five objectives: to assess the tentative economic reforms initiated by the ‘Second Phase’ Government of President Mwinyi between 1985 and 1995; to draw lessons from the past; to set out the challenges facing the ‘Third Phase’ Government; to put forward policy options for it to consider when developing its plans; and, to set benchmarks from which future evaluations could be made.

Twenty senior academics and civil servants contributed to the text and the job of the editors cannot have been easy. They provided a good short introduction and a concise summary of the author’s views. In between, one by one, just about all relevant areas of public policy are discussed – financial, industrial, agricultural, service, the environment, education, women, children, civil service reforms, water, health and so on as well as some ‘cross-cutting’ issues. Each one is reviewed under the headings: ‘current status’, ‘problems and challenges’, ‘short term’ and ‘long term’ policy options’. This rigorous demarcation does not always prevent
duplication of ideas but it does help the reader through some fairly complex arguments.

The dryness of some of the text can be an advantage. It has enabled the authors to report the tragic deterioration of conditions in the country in the 70's and 80's without comment and without offence. The authors recognise the beginnings of a shift from state control to a more market-oriented economy after 1985, but see reform as far from complete. Their list of policy changes necessary to set Tanzania on the road to prosperity is very, very long.

All the authors are agreed that, the role of the government should be to provide public goods; improve the infrastructure; correct for ‘externalities’; increase the intensity of competition; create an environment suitable for private investment; and, tackle poverty by helping the poor to increase their productivity and incomes. The principle challenge facing the present government is to enhance its ability to manage development through a much stronger legal and institutional framework.

Looking at foreign aid, the authors record that the foreign debt due for repayment in 1995/96 was about 60% of Tanzania’s national debt and 50% of the recurrent budget. We are given three powerful reasons why it must be reduced by attracting private investment and using internal resources. It must come down, not merely to lesson the massive diversion of hard-won taxes, but also to enable the country to stand firmly on its own two feet and to continue development from its own efforts when eventual ‘donor fatigue’ leads to the withdrawal of aid.

In sum, if the E&SR Foundation has not succeeded in all it undertook, at least the authors have made an important contribution to the national debate. The Foundation should pursue this exercise. Let them update the economic statistics with graphs to illuminate recent trends, accompany the up-date with a concise list of the policy options and conclude with a set of specific and quantified benchmarks, not merely of GDP, inflation and the like but also of production, productivity, literacy, health, educational attainment and so on. This would surely be helpful as a means of measuring the nation’s progress towards the stated objectives.

Dick Eberlie
This book provides an absorbing and detailed account of the part played by women activists in the Tanganyika African National Union (TANU). Their role in the nationalist movement which set out to secure independence for Tanganyika has previously gone mostly unacknowledged. Whilst Susan Geiger carried out her research from written sources both in the UK and Tanzania, much of her book is based on dictated and recorded accounts, the oral life histories, that the women themselves provided in the 1980s. These, whilst given individually, when combined emerge as a collective biography of a larger whole. Paramount place and space is given to Bibi Titi Mohammed, the most prominent women leader in the nationalist phase (1955-65), whose story provides the thread throughout the narrative.

The author sets the scene and describes the social and political conditions that prevailed in the '50s and motivated the women to get involved and play an active part. What stands out is that there was the tendency, at least in the early days, for these women to be drawn from the urban Muslim, Swahili coastal community with little formal or western education; often divorced with few or no children. (It was common practice for girls to marry young and divorce early). In contrast in Moshi the women were usually younger than their Dar es Salaam counterparts with more schooling, more children, fewer divorces and with greater religious diversity. It is their influence which has continued to a greater extent into the post-colonial period.

Regardless of the ethnic backgrounds from which they came, common to all these women was an over-riding belief not only in the right of Tanzanians to rule themselves but also in the equality of the sexes ie that their daughters should have the right to education and employment denied or still not widely open to themselves. Women's then lack of standing in society and considered inferiority was a strong force and motivating factor in their call for change which they felt would only come with independence and its aftermath. This book therefore does not confine itself purely to the struggle for independence but also looks at the continuation of women's political culture of nationalism in the post-colonial years and with it the disappointments and setbacks that have since been encountered.

Notwithstanding the fact that TANU Women is both a scholarly and methodically researched book aimed primarily at an academic audience it is also of broader appeal to those with a more general interest in Tanzania.

Pru Watts-Russell


The recent past, the present and, to some extent, the future of political development in Tanzania are covered competently in these two books.

Regular readers of TA will find little new in 'The Right to Choose a Leader' but to others, this is probably the most informative account of Tanzania's 1995 elections yet produced. Editor Omari proved his credentials by accurately forecasting the results ahead of the elections. Factors he describes in detail which influenced the results include the importance of personality rather than policy in voter choice; the religious factor (the efforts of Muslim fundamentalists in Dar es Salaam backfired); ethnicity (still very important) and NGO involvement. Chapter 5, written by the young Dr Festus Limbu, describes politics at the grass roots and how he tried but failed to win the Magu (Mwanza) seat for the NCCR party. The final chapter on Zanzibar explains concisely the complicated historical background to what happened but steers clear, perhaps wisely, of expressing an opinion on whether the results represented the true will of the electorate.

Senior Lecturer in Government and Politics at Dar es Salaam University, Dr Max Mmuya, in his profound and original book, brings us up to date on the way in which the effort to introduce multipartyism to Tanzania has been pervaded by 'crisis and cleavages' and is now, in the view of most observers, in eclipse.

In describing the five main parties, the author, who is a member of the committee set up to propose revisions to Tanzania's constitution, struggles hard to define CCM's present policy ('CCM - The Establishment United - From Ujamaa to Ruksa') but states that recent research indicates that most rural poor people still prefer ujamaa to capitalism, something CCM has to take into account as it becomes more and more capitalist in its orientation.

CUF (Utajirisho - Enrichment) which, according to the author, was the only other party which originally had a vision of the kind of society it wanted (what about John Cheyo's creation, the UDP, and its Margaret Thatcherism?) but, because its only real strength is now in Zanzibar, has had to 'form into the same rigid ideology as the CCM on the Isles'.

In the heart of the book Mmuya points out that conflict is a necessary aspect of any political party and reveals in detail the internal conflicts in the CCM (e.g.: between the elders and the youth; between the mainland and Zanzibar parties) and how it has (so far) successfully coped with them. Mmuya wisely rejects the conspiracy theory that the collapse of the other parties has been instigated by CCM. He prefers such causes as their flouting of their own constitutions, personal ambition and ethnic affiliations.

In a fascinating discussion on how the new multiparty parliaments operate, the book reveals that if Tanzania had had proportional representation rather than the ‘first-past-the-post’ system, CCM would now have 137 seats (rather than the actual 186) and NCCR would have 50 compared with its existing 16.

There is an intellectual discussion in Chapter 6 on relations between parties and civil society organisations. He writes: ‘Unfortunately, as though colonialism was not atrocious, post-independence regimes have either attempted to control the single party or, as in the case of the current reform movement, the colonial laws and regulations have been invoked to drive a wedge in the natural and logical process of parties being founded in civil society organisations’. Case studies in Bariadi, Shinyanga (not very successful), and Dar es Salaam showed civil society to be weak and undeveloped. By contrast, in Zanzibar before the revolution, there were 48 registered organisations – religious, social, recreational and charitable.

Mmuya’s rather brief conclusions make sad reading. He writes, with much support from his own research, that Tanzania is ‘lacking in the appropriate infrastructure upon which to build a liberal democratic system – a vision shared by all the parties...the country cannot afford to pay for countrywide elections for local, parliamentary and presidential elections and leave enough funds for other important allocations’. But, as he says correctly, democracy will eventually triumph.

He concludes the book with these questions: ‘Where are the liberals and where is the liberal infrastructure for them?’ I conclude that this well-researched and well-written book is essential reading for anyone seriously interested in Tanzanian political development.

David Brewin

This book is a comprehensive guide to mountain treks throughout the whole of East Africa, Malawi and Ethiopia. It includes the standard Lonely Planet advice about the countries covered, getting there and away, information about health and safety, including a section on mountain sickness and notes on tipping guides and porters.

Tanzania is covered in 69 pages and, as you would expect, Kilimanjaro is given a lot of space with good maps and six routes described. There are diagrams showing the steepness of ascent and there is a full list of trekking companies with appropriate warnings about rogue companies. There is a smaller but useful section on Mount Meru which, as the book says, is frequently overlooked by trekkers, but provides an excellent climb through varied landscapes, culminating in a scramble along an exposed crater rim to the summit. The book provides welcome sections on other mountain areas visited by few tourists which are the hidden jewels of the country. Tanzania’s Five Year Tourism Plan seeks to encourage tourists to spread out from the ‘Northern Circuit’ and Zanzibar and with the assistance of the Dutch aid project (SNV) villagers are being encouraged to provide tourist facilities in these areas.

The areas given good coverage in the book are the Crater Highlands, Mt Hanang and the Western Usambaras. I was particularly pleased to see Hanang included as this is a splendid 11,500 ft. isolated extinct volcano, providing an excellent two days trekking. Short sections devoted to the Monduli Mountains, the Pare Mountains, the Eastern Usambaras and the Southern Highlands centred on Mbeya do not do these areas justice and there is no mention at all of the Uluguru Mountains or of Udzungwa. The Southern Highlands in particular offer a vast range of attractions – high mountains, waterfalls, gorges, volcanic features, pleasant climate and excellent walking country.

This book is an essential guide to planning a trek in the region but Tanzania has enough natural treasures to justify a book for Tanzania alone. !

Tony Janes
A VET ABROAD. Stuart Wilson. The Book Guild, High St. Lewes, Sussex. BN7 2LU. Tel: 01723 472534. £15.95.

Books about travel; memoirs; animal stories; all may be of interest. But when you have a combination, you have a winner!

Stuart Wilson gave up a profitable vet practice in Lincolnshire to spend five years in Tanzania. Part of the time he was involved in research programmes and vet practice, but mostly he was training veterinary assistants to run the animal health control services. He has either used extensive notes made at the time, or has a remarkable memory for detail and moves from animal stories (wild as well as domestic), descriptions of the country as it was some 30 years ago, amusing characters and incidents, many of them at his own expense, with a skill reminiscent of the vet stories in Yorkshire which have been so popular in book and on TV in the UK.

This book would be fun for anyone to read, but for those who knew some of the characters and who experienced Tanzania at the time, it is fascinating. Stuart spent part of his time at Mpapwa but most at the Ministry of Agriculture Training Institute at Tengeru near Arusha. His obvious enjoyment of the work, his involvement with cattle, sheep, horses and dogs both in the area and as far away as West Kilimanjaro and far into Masailand, illustrate that he was much more than just a teacher. His students obviously recognised this when they said in a speech prior to his departure “your teaching has always been systematic, simple and thought-provoking”. I have visited Tengeru several times recently and it is sad to see that the facilities which Stuart struggled so hard to build up have deteriorated disastrously. Further, the Government has not employed veterinary assistants since 1992, and as there are no job prospects, there are hardly any students. As Stuart was about to leave, Tengeru was to be handed over to the East African Community for a few years. At least it is now back to its earlier function and there is a prospect of major renovation. A further
regret is that so many of the well established commercial farms to which the author refers have ceased to function.

There are some endearing features. Stuart starts off with a fairly colonial attitude, as one might expect so soon after the colonial era, but he visibly mellows over the five years and clearly gets on well with his students. He realises his own fiery nature (I should like to see if the door in which he hit a hole is still at Tengeru) and is able to joke about it. He jumps fully clothed into a pool when he sees his daughter apparently in trouble! He gets into trouble with lions, snakes, rabid animals, not to mention senior officers. A few minor criticisms should not detract from a warm recommendation. A Swahili speaking editor would have made many corrections to the spelling; in fact the editing in general leaves something to be desired. I wish he had put the full name of all his colleagues. But these are very small points in what is otherwise an entertaining, amusing and a fascinating story not to be missed.

David Goody


The paintings in this exhibition followed an expedition to Mkomazi, Southern Tanzania, in which the well-known naturalist and painter Jonathan Kingdon was involved in 1995/96. His oil paintings blend art, science and memories of a lifetime in East Africa (he was born and brought up in Tanzania). They have an immediacy which gives them vibrant life and his interpretation overlays these with topographical and historical knowledge. His intimate knowledge of the area enables him to paint locales invested with weather, temperature and a shifting light.

The wildlife is predominant in the pictures, the physical elements giving an impressionistic landscape but showing the paths and conditions along which the wildlife travels. Prey is watched by predators, the frail confront the elements, competition is played out. A few of the pictures can be seen as abstracts though the viewer can solve the patterns. They are not drawing room pictures; they need some explanation (which was provided in a booklet at the exhibition) but repay close attention.

Cherridah Coppard
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