

JANUARY 1988

Thurs 21

Fourteen people have been arrested in one of the biggest security round ups directed against mainly whites since Zimbabwe 's independence. Lawyers in Bulawayo said that 13 whites, including three women and one black, have been detained. - AP -

Mon 25

Headline – *Nkomo Rebel Plea* – Mr J Nkomo one of the 3 senior ministers in the new Zimbabwe cabinet, appealed to the rebels - officially said to be supporters of his PF Zapu in SW Matebeleland province – to lay down their arms. Mr Nkomo was addressing a political meeting in Bulawayo; the provincial capital of Matebeleland. - *Reuters* -

FEBRUARY 1988

Tues 2

Headline – *Fans clash* – Zimbabwe police fired tear gas into a crowd of 40, 000 fans of Gregory Isacs, who waited more than 12 hours, for the Jamaican singer to perform. The Herald newspaper reported in Harare yesterday. Police later clashed with fans at the Rufaro Football Stadium as Isacs sang for less than one hour. - AP -

Sat 27

The 56 year old chief game warden in Zimbabwe 's National Parks was jailed in Harare yesterday for an effective 5 years for fraud worth about £32, 000 and for taking bribes from hunters. - AP -

MARCH 1988

Sun 13

Rhinoceros poachers operating in Zimbabwe are using witch doctors medicine which they believe makes them invisible and invincible to bullets. Game rangers dismiss the beliefs as Zambezi valley,

Captured poache the great African stronghold of the Black Rhinors have told wild life officer of their new secret weapons. The barefoot poachers, mainly from neighbouring Zambia, obtain the medicine from traditional healers living along the banks of the Zambezi river. The medicine contains a strong dose of Mbanje, marijuana which induces a strong sense of euphoria. *Caroline Allen S Times page A18* -

Wed 30

Headline – *Lectures boycotted* – Some 8, 000 students boycotted lectures at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare yesterday in protest against a shortage of rooms on the campus university staff said. - AP -

APRIL 1988

Mon 18

Headline – *Job for Nkomo* – President Robert Mugabe, moving cautiously to implement a unity agreement with the country's chief opposition party, has named the veteran opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo as interim second vice President. - *Reuters* -

Wed 20

Headline – *April Amnesty for Harare Rebels* – President Robert Mugabe yesterday issued an amnesty to all dissident rebels in an attempt to strengthen the merger of the opposition Zapu into its ruling Zanu party.. A Meldrum Harare GDN page 9 C 6 -

Thurs 21

Headline – *Zimbabwe Remands* – Two Britons, a Canadian, an Irishman and two white Zimbabweans were detained as alleged South African spies appeared in court in Harare and were remanded in custody till May 19. The six face charges under Zimbabwe's Official Secrets Act which carries a maximum penalty of 25 years *in jail*. - AP -

Sat 23

Headline - *Cecil Square Renamed* – Harare authorities voted unanimously to change the name of Cecil Square to African Unity Square to rid it of colonial connotations press reports said yesterday. The Square marks the site where white settlers hoisted their flag in 1890. - AP -

MAY 1988

Wed 18

Headline – *Rebel Surrenders* – A Zimbabwe rebel leader, accused of killing 16 white missionaries last year, has surrendered under a government amnesty. - *Reuters* -

Fri 20

Headline – *Britons Remanded* - Two Britons, a Canadian, an Irishman and two white Zimbabweans, detained as alleged South African spies, appeared in court in Harare yesterday and were remanded till 20/6. Prosecutor Tadws Karwi said that the state needed time for investigation. - A Meldrum -

Tues 31

Headline – *Armed Rebels Surrender*- More than 50 armed Zimbabwean rebels surrendered yesterday in an apparent response to President Robert Mugabe's amnesty offer. Police said that forty one rebels gave themselves up at Nkayi in northern Matebeleland and 16 more surrendered at Plumtree near the Botswana border. - *Reuters* -

JUNE 1988

Mon 6

Headline – *Mugabe Chides Whites* – President Robert Mugabe has criticised Zimbabwe 's prosperous white minority and accused it of displaying British arrogance towards blacks. His remarks were to a black American journalist in New York on Friday *and* were broadcast in main news bulletins and splashed on the front page of the Sunday Mail, Zimbabwe 's biggest selling newspaper.

He said some whites uses to years of having the whip hand over blacks were “still in a state of shock and cannot adjust.” He added “for all the respect I have for the British; wherever the British are it is just that they are superior to everybody in the world and perhaps our own whites have a bit of this British arrogance. - *Reuters* -

JULY 1988

Fri 1

Headline – *Harare Amnesty* – Zimbabwe is freeing 75 prisoners, many of them soldiers and intelligence officers, sentenced to death for the murder under a special amnesty granted by Robert Mugabe a government spokesman said yesterday. - *AP* -

Sat 9

Headline *Harare Death Sentence* – a senior Zimbabwe state intelligence officer convicted of murder was sentenced to death by the High Court in Harare. Paul Maura [43] s senior officer in the CIO was convicted of killing a motorist in Harare in 1/'87. The court found that he fired 14 shots at him after a roadside argument. - *AP* -

Thurs 14

Headline – *Two Killed* – A Zimbabwe cabinet minister minister 's wife and his farm manager was shot dead yesterday. The news agency Ziana said that Shelia Howe whose husband Mr R Howe, is a minister of mines died in a “nasty shooting incident.” *Reuters* -

Fri 15

Headline *White Jailed for links to SA Plot* – A white Zimbabwe garage owner was sentenced to seven years hard labour yesterday for aiding and failing to report South African agents responsible for bomb attacks.

Roby Maguire [37] pleaded guilty to the charges and said he will turn states evidence against five others arrested with him in January. They are expected to face charges carrying the death penalty for murder and sabotage. - *Reuters* -

SEPTEMBER 1988

Thurs 15

Headline – ***Deacon Jailed*** – A church deacon, Mr Tshabalala, head of the Nazareth Church of Zion, was jailed for 18 years in Bulawayo after raping a ten year old girl during exorcism sessions. - AP -

Fri 16

Headline – ***Mud Flies at Trial*** – A witness at the trial of a junior Zimbabwe government minister charged with arson has described her as a former prostitute Ziana reported. The Minister of State for Political Affairs. Mrs S Mahofa is alleged to have set fire to another woman's house. She said the charge is a plot to discredit her. - ***Reuters*** -

Wed 28

Headline – ***Ian Smith ban urged*** – The former Rhodesian PM Mr Ian Smith should be barred from Zimbabwe on his return from a visit to the United States because of his pro South African statements a government minister said yesterday. - ***Reuters*** -

OCTOBER 1988

Sun 2

Headline - ***Zimbabwe Aid-*** A British Aid package for Zimbabwe, worth £15m, was agreed yesterday during talks at Chequers; *the official residence of the British Prime Ministers* during talks between Margaret Thatcher and President Robert Mugabe. The aid will be targeted on priority areas of the Zimbabwe economy particularly agriculture and industry. - ***Times page 2 C 8*** -

Wed 12

Headline – ***Faculty Protest*** – The University of Zimbabwe Law Faculty yesterday protested against the deportation of a Kenyan colleague for alleged links to the recent student demonstrations (qv 30/3).

The eleven remaining law lecturers also said in a statement they has sought an urgent meeting to discuss the deportation with the President Robert Mugabe. The Kenyan, Shadrak Gutto, flew to London on 30/9. - AP -

Sat 15

Headline – ***Harare Appeal*** – A lawyer for three Zimbabweans, accused of a car bomb attack on the ANC *buildings in the capital*, asked for the trial to be halted to let them appeal to the Supreme Court. ***Reuters*** -

Sat 22

Headline – ***Charges Dropped*** – State prosecutors yesterday withdrew incitement charges against four lecturers and six students at Zimbabwe University. - AP -

Thurs 27

Headline – *Mugabe Attacked* – Mr Edgar Tekere dissident leader; expelled by the ruling Zanu PF party, made his first public attack yesterday on President Robert Mugabe but will not form an opposition party. - *Reuters* -

NOVEMBER 1988

Sat 5

Headline – *Pledge of Allegiance* – A white Zimbabwean, accused of bombing a house used by the ANC guerillas in Bulawayo declared allegiance to South Africa. M Smith and two others face murder and terrorism charges for the blast in 1/88. - *Reuters* -

Fri 18

Headline *Whipping Death* – A man who whipped his teenage son to death with a sjambok for stealing was fined Z\$200 /£75 in Bulawayo. The court found that Amos Ndova 's remorse for what he had done to his son, Benedict [14], was sufficient punishment. - *AP* -

Sat 19

Headline - *Beaten to Death* - A twelve year old girl was beaten to death by two aunts in Harare after she stole, and cooked rice intended for Christmas dinner police said yesterday. - *AP* -

DECEMBER 1988

Thurs 22

Headline – *Kidnap Victim Rescued* - Zimbabwean troops, backed by helicopter gunships, rescued an abducted farmer Mr E Hobb when they attacked a guerilla gang in Mozambique the Herald newspaper reported in Harare. - *AP* -

words written in *italics* added by diarist