

JANUARY 1994

Sun 9

Headline - **Pay Increases** – President Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe cabinet ministers and MP 's have been awarded salary increases ranging from 30 to 64% backdated to last July, a special government Gazette said yesterday. Mr Mugabe *gained* the highest increase, pushing his annual salary to the equivalent of £11, 785. - **Reuters** -

Wed 16

Programme notes, “We should be making love with food, sucking lychees from peoples belly buttons.” Thus speaks Ghana born Dorinda Hafa – no graduate, she of the Delia Smith School of Cookery, but an exuberant seeker after sensual experiences. This six parter follows here culinary tour of Africa, starting with Zimbabwe where her chicken with peanut butter sauce, maize porridge, and fried caterpillars.

Featuring, Harare market traders. D Chenga Shona cook. Veronica Lake Kariba fish cook. - **Taste of Africa Channel 4 20 30 to 21 00** -

MARCH 1994

Sun 13

Headline – **Killing Cure** – Every country, I suppose, has its loony left and right. But the latest manifestation of chiefly un wisdom from Zimbabwe makes our lot seem sane. Speaking in parliament in Harare last week Chief Nathaniel Mutoko insisted that the only way to halt the spread of Aids was to execute all pregnant women who were HIV positive. **M Fathers; Flat Earth Independent on Sunday** -

Sat 26

Headline – **Rhodies Still Sup Milk and Honey from the Tap** - the colonial twilight lingers on. After fourteen years of independence. The minimum wage; Z\$193/ £371 plus free housing and electricity. One hundred and fifty workers on a 26, 000 acre farm belonging to E S Micklem who was a former Rhodesian member of parliament.

Foe every ten whites in the country in 1977 there are only four now. - **B Laurence GDN page 25** -

APRIL 1994

Sat 30

Headline – **Mugabe Berated for Land Scandal** – Instead of resettling peasant farmers on white owned farm land high officials in politics, Zanu and the military have been leasing the land back to themselves, thus reneging on party ideology. **A Meldrum GDN page 16 C 6** -

MAY 1994

Thurs 5

Headline ***Harare Backs Down*** - Zimbabwe 's government, responding to great public pressure, has cancelled 72 farm leases under which senior officials occupied state land forcibly acquired from white farmers for the resettlement of landless peasants. - ***Reuters*** -

Thurs 19

Special Report Gains since independence and lessons the free South Africa would 'do well to follow.' Mugabe adjusts policies to suite the countries needs. Themed hotels court the backpacking tourist and Safari crowd. With the prospect of a reconciliation between Mozambique in the offing a cross border initiative to expand the tourist trail is seen as good for the region and draw much needed foreign exchange in.

Business is booming as turn towards a rose growing culture. The mining of diamonds is taking over the extraction of gold from the land, and is seen as one of Zimbabwe 's glittering prizes.

Thorns in the side, that prevent foreign investment are discussed with the head of the Zimbabwe Investment Centre N Ncube. - **GDN page 17 to 22** -

Sat 20

Headline – ***Mugabe Plays the Race Card*** – Speaking to the Congress of the Youth wing of Zanu the president says that the white opposition must be stopped from turning back the clock to a time before Rhodesia gained its independence. **GDN** -

JUNE 1994

Wed 8

Headline - ***Celebration of Ox Wagon Trek Stirs Resentment*** – Aged 65 E Rosen who 's plan to trek thirty miles to re enact his forebears arrival in Zimbabwe in 8/1894 has angered Zanu PF who called it a “declaration of war.” - **Jan Rather The Times page 11** -

Tues 14

Headline – ***Farms Confiscated*** – Zimbabwe 's government has told 17 farmers it is to take over their farms but it has not told them how much it will pay for them, farming sources said yesterday. - ***Reuters*** -

JULY 1994

Sun 3

Headline – ***Whites Becoming Whipping Boys of Mugabe*** – The former owner of Ruia Farm in the north of the country, N Saunders aged 34, lost his farmland under the governments plan to resettle displaced blacks. It in fact came under the ownership of Marshal P Shiri, the man in

charge of the Zimbabwe Air Force and one time head of the notorious 5th Brigade. To many whites and others opposed to land nationalisation it seems that the president is favouring those who could be in a position to challenge his power. - K Maler M Tepatepa; IOS page 12 C 1 -

Wed 27

Headline – ***Bankers Fight On*** – Thousands of Bank workers, who walked out of their jobs last Friday to press for higher pay defied a “last ultimatum” from their employers to return to work yesterday or be dismissed. - ***Reuters*** -

AUGUST 1994

Sat 13

Headline ***Security Guards Riot*** – Hundreds of guards, working for a Zimbabwe private security firm, smashed up part of the companies offices and damaged its cars in support of a demand for higher wages the independent newspaper *the Daily Gazette* said yesterday.

Police arrested 100 of the 500 odd Fawcett Security Guards. - ***Reuters*** -

Mon 22

Pass Notes this date **1972** Leader Comment, an indictment of the chairman of the International Olympic Committee to allow the Rhodesian team to compete in that years Olympic Games staged in Munich. - GDN G2 page 3 -

OCTOBER 1994

Fri 7

Headline – ***Muzorewa Returns*** – Bishop Able Muzorewa, who briefly ruled Zimbabwe before independence, and Edgar Tekere are to fight Robert Mugabe in the polls next year. - ***Reuters*** -

Sat 22

Headline – ***Blacks Insist On Share in “white farms”*** - A pressure group, Led by the Zaun PF 's party self styled strategist. He claims that there is such an in balance in the government policy that Rwanda style violence could break out. The Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries spokesman has urged members to ignore the threats of 'indigenisation.'

The deadline, set from 7/'94 is near and so far non of the seventy five companies have made any move towards a hand over of financial interests to the black business community

Critics and supporters of the press say this is not the way to proceed or to finance proper training and business skills for those of the majority who have not had the opportunity before. - **D Beresford GDN page 13 C 1 -**

Sun 23

Headline – *Food for Thought* – Students smashed windows and drove diners out of restaurants in Harare on 21/10 as they launched a campaign against alleged white racist Fransco Olivero, owner of Guido 's, an Italian restaurant popular with white Harare residents and expatriates over allegations of racism.

The students had earlier been driven away from the Alexandra Sports Club and Rambembo Lodge Restaurant – AFP IOS page 12 C 8 -

Mon 24

Headline – *Mugabe Backs Sown over 'Land Grab' Plan* – The much heralded plan of the government to seize land off the white farmers (qv 14/6) is likely to be a non starter after cooperation between the Commercial Farmers Union [CFU] and the government to identify 'suitable land' for the resettlement of the blacks

The governments change of heart is seen as an acknowledgement that much of the sought after land is leased to high government officials (qv 3/7). Much of the black owned land is farmed by a manager who takes his directions over the phone as he lives in the city. There is little support infrastructure; veterinary or government services provided by the authorities.

A former opposition leader, N Sitholie, has vowed civil war if he and his 1, 000 tenants are forcibly moved from his farm outside Harare as police and Zanu PF arrive outside his gates to do just that. GDN page 11 C 3 -

Tues 25

Headline *Old Dictator Who Wins Elections* - “There is in the Zimbabwe president a yearning for authoritarian values. His attachment to dictatorship is on record. He harbours delusions that he has usurped absolute power.”

Known for a good health service much of the countries wealth is now being channelled into the military budget; \$Z 1, 532m / £118m with health spending £2,873m – 1993 figures.

Contempt of some of its actions, from the international community,; providing a safe haven for the former leader of Ethiopian Colonel Mengistu who now lies in exile as he wanted for international crimes against the people of the country. The authorities in Harare are increasingly intolerant of international norms; ridicules ecological projects that take preference over human rights.

Although there is no taint of corruption linked to president Mugabe directly the government, in the guise of vice president Joshua Nkomo with the sale of 40 hunting licences worth Z\$ 652, 235 to an Australian Safari company to hunt 'big game'.

This breadth of investigative journalism is spoiled by a number on new newspapers; Daily Gazette, born out of the established Financial Gazette a known right wing publication. However the main Zimbabwe newspapers; Sunday Mail, Herald, Bulawayo Chronicle are still slavishly following the government line and are unlikely to become truly 'independent.' GDN page 11 C 1 -

NOVEMBER 1994

Thurs 3

Letter, **A B Mudandwira High Court Republic of Zimbabwe 420 Strand London WC 2**
reply to D Beresford 's missive of 25/10 stating that normally Dictators do not stand for election,
finance opposition parties at the general election or confer with international agencies. Allow of
which were inferred by the journalist. GDN page 25 C 5 -

DECEMBER 1994

Sat 17

Headline - *Condoms Racist* – A Zimbabwean MP, Ruth Chinamano, has declared that
campaigns urging the use of condoms and other forms of contraception were a plot by the
developed nations to wipe out Africans. - *Reuters* -

Sat 24

Zimbabwe's last remaining 'independent' newspaper, The Globe, is to close. With a falling
circulation of 50, 000 it could no longer stand the competition from the two government owned
outlets.

With a general election imminent advertisers were switching allegiances in an attempt to keep in
favour with the Zanu PF party – the expected winners. GDN

words written in *italics* added by diarist