

January 1982

Sat 2

*Headline – **Land Promise** - Zimbabwe 's Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, yesterday promised to step up the redistribution of of white owned farmland among the black population. In a New Year Address he said that the countries 5, 000 commercial farmers still hold more than their fair share.*

Mr Mugabe 's government promised resettlement programmes to move blacks onto land previously owned by whites. So far only 6, 000 families have been resettled out of the estimated one million people who qualified for the scheme. - Reuters -

Tues 5

*Headline – **Mugabe arrests railway strikers** – of who, the majority; 240 are deemed to be firemen and shunter 's who have bee in dispute with their employers for the past five days. From this time the strikers begin to face the courts charged under legislation dating back to the UDI era of the Smith regime. Their alleged crime; disrupting the nations essential services and putting the economy of the state in danger. If convicted the guilty face up to five years in jail. Opinion is that rather than jail time judge will suspend their detention in the hope that the strikers will return to work.*

It would seem that the state employees went on strike, over demands for an increase in wages before the labour minister, Kumbira' Kangai, and the union leadership made their cases before an industrial tribunal was to hear the employees case within the next four weeks. In essence the strikers 'jumped the gun' by withdrawing their labour before the tribunal sat. Union officials are believed to be seeking a pay rise, for the railway workers above the level stipulated by the government in the recent past.

The home affairs minister, Richard Hove, rather than acting to lessen the impact of the dispute noted that within the next 24 hours the number of strikers; who he deemed saboteurs, detained may rise to 300. - The Guardian -

Fri 8

Mention of our infinitely adaptable aristocracy reminds me of the Marquis of Salisbury, whose family 90 years ago gave their name to the capital of Rhodesia. Soon the city of Salisbury is to return to its old African name. I gather that the members of the family, still one of the most powerful in the land, are trying to persuade the old parent families to change his mane to the Marquis of Harare – so far without success.

Incidentally journalists and broadcasters in Zimbabwe are under strict instructions, when writing about meetings held by the the President; the Reverend Canaan Banana, never to describe them as 'fruitful' talks.

One quite seriously told me, however, that Mr Mugabe had chosen Banana as President because he knew he would 'he 'll never be part of a split'. extract On the House Simon Hoggard Punch Magazine 6. 1. 82 page 12 -

Wed 13

*Headline – **Zimbabwe likely to renew SA trade link** – as a way of preventing its economy from*

suffering a damaging downward spiral. Such a link has been in place since 1965; the time of the United Declaration of Independence announced by Ian Smith and his government. From that date all international trade with the illegal regime was banned by the international community. However with the help of the apartheid regime, and sanction busters among the international community, the conflict with the black nationalist forces was financed. Once that battle was lost, in the eyes of the apartheid regime, Pretoria was prepared to pull the plug on the trade initiatives with the Mugabe government.

Previously the apartheid regime has demanded the return of 25 South African Railway locomotives loaned to Zimbabwe Railways since before Mugabe became prime minister. Thus the movement of import/export goods became more difficult because of the poor state of the countries railway system after years of military warfare. Ones sent south the movement of goods for export was severely hampered and thus the nations economy suffered greatly. However with their recent return there is hope for the nations recovery.

As to the change of heart by the Pretoria regime some may say that the Salisbury government is being rewarded because of its refusal to allow the black nationalist movement; the African National Congress a political office in Salisbury.

It would seem that without this trade agreement between the two nations, according to Roger Riddell chief economist of the nations conference of Zimbabwe Industries that the nation would loose £35m in foreign currency in a year also 6, 500 people would be out of work.

Negotiations on the renewal begin before 23/3; the date of its ending. If discussions are not finalised by that date the EEC may have an input because previously the nation has signed up to the Lome Convention and the European Commission could raise objections to the granting of trade concessions to the apartheid state if they are more favourable than those available to EEC member states under the Lome Convention. - **The Guardian** -

Mon 18

Headline – *Mugabe to give blacks shares in white firms* – after the government purchases a controlling interest in white owned firms and then selling these self same shares to the black employees of the enterprise. The target businesses range from the nations mines, factories and manufacturing industries.

The prime minister was speaking to party loyalist at rallies in Kambuzuma and Mufakose townships outside the nations capital. Once sold the monies raised would be used to pay for free health care and schooling. - **The Guardian** -

Tues 19

Headline – *Nkomo denies talk of parties' merger* – as voiced by the prime minister in the recent past. Still of the belief that no party but Zanu PF could hold power in Zimbabwe merger talks, set to begin in 14 days time, were the only way forward. In moving forward to this ideal the two coalition parties must move towards unity. Such talks would be a precursor to this ultimate goal.

At the township rallies the prime minister made no direct criticism of Nkomo's party but asked why were they; the opposition so intent on destroying the country to advance their own interests should continue to exist. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 21

Headline – *Zimbabwe extends state of emergency* – for a further six months as Ian Smith, as now the leader of the Republican Front;' and in fact the countries leader who declared UDI in 1965 when the SOE was first introduced, argued in parliament that the measure was not needed because Zimbabwe was not at war with anyone.

Such comments, deemed to show that there was no threat from the white minority population to the nations stability, were rubbished by any number of black MP 's. Many on the government benches mentioned the case of Wally Stuttaford RF MP who had been jailed for the last six weeks; without charge while police investigate his activities.

Much derision, of the condemnation of the white protests were led by local government minister, Eddison Zvobgo, who heckled these protests with comments that during the illegal Smith era opponents, usually from the majority population, were detained under these very same regulations for as much as 10 years without trial. How dare they complain about one case of a 6 weeks. - **The Guardian** -

Sat 23

Headline – *Pretoria 'spying on troops'* – that have arrived from North Korea recently with the aim of training a Battalion of the Zimbabwe National Army comprised of former guerillas that showed their main loyalty to Robert Mugabe. These observations, about the activities of the apartheid states security services, came about as claims were made that members of the Fifth Brigade were responsible for a number of deaths of tourists close to their training camp close to the Mozambique border.

Reported incidents in recent times; a joint group, South Africans and British tourists, wandered into the Inyanga camp, telling of being encircled by 100 black troops chanting “Kill them kill them before the group were attacked with sticks and stones. They were rescued by a white offices after he showed concerns of finding binoculars, cameras and a cassette recorder in their vehicle.

The outlook for the economy, in the next 12 months, has been labelled 'gloomy' by Eddie Cross the general managed of the Dairy Marketing Board. The trained economist foresees a serious decline in living standards for the nations people. This decline will be heightened by a rise in commodity prices; their shortages therefore causing a,'alarming rise in the inflation rate'. This gloomy summary has been echoed by Standard Bank 's Quarterly Economic Review. - **Yorkshire Post** -

Sun 24

Headline – *Shaken Nkomo accuses Mugabe of left turn* – by stealth. The leader of Zapu, still with a minority role in government comments on the rush to appoint members of the prime ministers political party to positions of influence in the public services thus leaving a government where Zanu members have a greater role in government decisions than do members of his own wing of the government. Such a divided government, in terms of political input from each wing, goes against the spirit of the London 1979 settlement agreement.

To move away from the Lancaster House Accord rests on two issues, the fixed number of white members of the house of Assembly, 20, is fixed is fixed for 7 years. That is until 1987. Also stacked against the, so often Mugabe stated wish, of a one party state is the Bill of Rights which keeps the rights for the formation of political parties for the 10 years after independence; until 1990. This can only be changes if all the members of the nations legislative give 100% approval. - **The Observer** -

Tues 26

Headline – *Farmer fined for 'black adultery* – the sum of £350 before a village residential crowd of 2, 000 onlookers; who were observing the trial, moved from a the Norton village courthouse, into the local football stadium.

Before the court, was a William Munson a 64 year old white employer, who was judged under traditional tribal standards; a trial method that was only brought into the legal system within the last 12 months, gave notice that he would appeal the ruling at a higher tribal court. The farmer will claim to the higher court that the village court elders were coerced into handing down their sentence as they felt intimidated by the large number of observers that oversaw the trials proceedings.

While the farmer agreed to the sexual act it was the woman 's husband that brought the action for compensation before the court. Offers of settlement were banded about; a first demand, of £2, 400, was deemed to high by the court elders. The thoughts of the officials was a settlement of £700 would be fairer which was whittled down to the final settlement much to the anger of the crowd but acceptance of the husband. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 28

Headline – *Zimbabwe police hunt second MP* – who represents a constituency in the nations second city Bulawayo as a member of the Republican Party. Sources indicate that Dennis Walker is a person of interest as the police continue their investigation into, the now detained, RF MP Walter Stuttaford who is continuing to be questioned about an alleged plot to overthrow the government.

It would seem that the Bulawayo MP, having recently returned from a holiday in South Africa; at the time of the arrest of the now detained RF MP, took his place in the house of assembly on 22/1 and then again days later. He was, however, a no show in the legislative on 27/1.

With his wife and children still across Zimbabwe 's southern border members of the central intelligence organisation; the nations secret police controlled from the prime ministers office, were waiting to arrest him before he entered the parliament building. They are keen to question the MP over alleged links with members of Nkomo's black opposition party.

The states case against the jailed Wally Stuttaford also involves alleged contacts with opposition black nationalist forces; the military wing of the minority government coalition member. Still remaining in the high security prison on the outskirts of the capital his lawyer claims that his client has been tortured and mistreated during interrogation. Such actions have led to a complaint to the police commissioner and court action, and financial damages from the government 's minister of state security Emmerson Munangagwa.

No sooner has the state of emergency been extended by six months than the authorities rounded up 12 members of the small white community. A Bulawayo dentist, detained on 17/11, and already been on two separate hunger strikes; with no details of the charges against him will soon appear in court.

Fri 29

Headline – *Black outlook for the whites* – tales of the difficulties the the small white, and ever decreasing population, face daily either because there is no person trained up to repair phone

damage; a loss of 1, 500 post office technicians in the last 20 months or the black constable not able to attend the scene of a break in – no one available – seems to be the rule of the day.

As of this date because of the poor condition of the nation railway infrastructure it is estimated that the amount of foreign exchange Zimbabwe is losing amounts to US\$7. 5m per week. Such a sum would go a great distance to to repair or reconstruct the countries war ravaged infrastructure. White emigration over the last six years leaves 170, 000 white residents. This number could tumble again as there are 18, 000 applications made from national to the South African authorities for residency within the apartheid state. - **Yorkshire Post** -

Sun 31

Headline – *Is Mugabe becoming a dictator?* - when the Marxist guerilla leader Robert Mugabe became Zimbabwe 's first prime minister two years ago the world was surprised by his moderation. However, the detention of whites without trial, threats of workers control and Mugabe 's support for a one party state has renewed fears that the country will go the other way of so many in Africa – and become a black dictatorship. How justified are these fears? - **S Fay; Sunday Times Page 17 C 1** -

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Tues 3

Headline – *2 whites held on arms charges* – named as Boetie and Alan York. Their crime, according to a friend of the farmers, was one of concealing weapons on their farm at Figtree in the south of the country. None of this was verified by members of the York family.

Sources now indicate that there are 13 members of the white community who have been detained since 11/81, as alleged subversives following accusations from the prime minister that there are any number of plots to overthrow his government. Also another member of the house of assembly, Rodney Walker is being sought by the police as a detention order waits to be served. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 4

Headline – *Zimbabwe white asked to resign*- over the decision to prosecute two high ranking military officers who, for no legal reason, attacked a number of white sportsmen outside a military base in Salisbury.

The attorney general, Brendan Treacy, the highest legal officer within the Mugabe legal administration was appointed to the role in 1975 and as such was seen by the prime minister as a bridge between the old style of legal administration and the present regime. The official reason for his leaving his post was one of ill health and the governments desire to Africanise the post.

From within the legal profession there were comments that there had been no mention of a health issue linked to the attorney general nor had he shown any wish to leave his post. There was only a recognition that pressure had been put on him to prosecute the two officers when he himself thought to do so was an “ill considered prosecution.”

Also in conflict with the countries top legal officer is Rex Nhongo the commander of the Zimbabwe National Army. His crime; trying to prevent custom officers from searching a military plane that landed at Salisbury airport.. There were accusations of a weapon being drawn when the airport

officials tried to gain access to the plane.

By all accounts, the Lancaster House Agreement of 1979, an attempt to arbitrarily sack the attorney general on the decision of one man would be breaking the constitutional law. Such a dismissal could only be achieved by a multi member judicial tribunal and then only on the grounds of professional misconduct or incompetence. - **The Guardian** -

Sat 6

*Headline - **Right of Way** – Army escorts of Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe fired bursts from automatic weapons yesterday at a white motorist who failed to pull over to the side of the road in central Salisbury when the Prime Ministers motorcade overtook him. The motorist was not hurt. - AP -*

Mon 8

Headline – **Hidden arms find shakes coalition** – as the caches were located on two farms, owned by Zapu, on the outskirts of Bulawayo. The police and military personnel are now continuing their searches on the two properties. One of the locations, Ascot farm, has given up Soviet Sam 7 missiles, 300 limpet mines, machine guns rocket launchers, mortars and thousands of automatic rifles. A recent visit by government minister Emmerson Munangagwa was of the opinion that such a find has destroyed the element of trust between the two political elements of the coalition government.

Such remarks, from a minister holding such a position, minister of state, in the coalition does not fare well for the future of Joshua Nkomo or the political party led by him, as part of the government. This comes as a second warning, following stiff words between the prime minister and himself on 5/2, about the way the future will turn out for Zapu in government if more weapons are located and linked to his party.

Looking to the future the prime minister is almost ready to bring forward his governments three year national development plan. Its main aims; to speed up the transfer of economic power from the minority to the black community. His plan outlined, when attending a meeting of the Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Commission in the central city of Gwelo, noted that the plan would “remove, destroy the negative aspects of our social system.” - **The Guardian** -

Tues 9

Headline – **White MP kept in gaol by UDI law** – after already being detained for eight weeks. Wally Stuttford had his Smith era detention renewed by the courts which enables the law to hold him indefinitely; much as were many of the black nationalists who were brought before the courts during the period of civil unrest in illegal Rhodesia / Zimbabwe Rhodesia prior to 1980.

The MP 's legal team will now prepare for an appeal before a judicial tribunal despite the fact that even a successful appeal could be vetoed by the justice minister. - **The Guardian** -

Sun 14?

Headline – **Arms raids put 'old man' Nkomo under pressure** – as the number of 'seek and collect' weapons searches have been carried out on seven locations in the Matebeleland province; the heartland of the support for the ageing Zapu leader can be found. It is disclosed that the weapons, so far located, could equip a military force of 5, 000 which is seen as being Brigade strength.

Thoughts abound, within political Zapu, that the ageing party leader is 'going soft' as he denies any knowledge of the weapons; which brings to the fore a media thought that he is losing his credibility among the 'young guns' among his party's supporters. Could the arms finds be as a result of these young guns acting alone.? - **The Sunday Times** -

Tues 16

Headline ***Papers call for Nkomo treason trial*** – as a further cache of military equipment, that facilitates the electronic jamming of radio communications at a motel owned by a company in which the Zapu leader is a director. Minister of state, E Munangagwa, let it be known that the equipment was hidden in a wall cavity and was powerful enough to silence the whole of the Zimbabwe radio network.

The main written media calling for the prosecution of the leader of the government's minority coalition party; the Herald, used harsh words to call for the prosecution of Joshua Nkomo. The editorial called into question his political integrity. Even with the papers known following of all actions by the prime minister it is not thought that Mugabe is not willing, at this time, to prosecute him at this moment in time. **The Guardian** -

Leader Comment, **The heat is on Mr Nkomo** and the discovery of the cache's of weapons et al located in Bulawayo and its surrounds will do nothing to lesson it. No one; Mugabe or the Zapu leader “has anything to gain from these tensions which is why it seems unlikely that either is directly responsible for them.”

The recent words of the prime minister; 'no other party than Zanu PF could govern Zimbabwe would have been seen by the majority of Nkomo's supporters would have seemed as the death knell for any political input from the minority ethnic group; Ndbele when the Mugabe ethnicity; Shona is the dominant ethnic group in the nation's politics.

Outside Zimbabwe the world watches current events, uproar in the white community; arrests and detentions of white MP's and others whites who are said to be formulating unrest in the nation. These happenings are nothing less than had been forecast ever since peace was signed at Lancaster House. So what of the future? The agreement of 1979 will be superseded, eventually,

“Mr Mugabe may be thinking about what it will be but he is not forcing the pace. His followers would like him to. Mr Nkomo's followers may unwittingly be helping him.” - **ditto page 12** -

Wed 17

Headline – ***Nkomo's companies seized by Mugabe*** – along with the businesses that other top officials of Zapu political party have an interest in. The order, signed by the home affairs minister by Richard Howe, covers 11 establishments were deemed unlawful organisations. The companies would be wound up. Any compensation would be paid at the discretion of the Zimbabwe president. However the government will at some time introduce laws to prevent political party funds being used by private commercial ventures.

The raided farms and other Bulawayo establishments were under control of a holding company; Nitram, where the party leader was a co director. The company secretary, Dr I Nyathi, has been detained by the police under the SOE regulations and questioned about Nitram's activities. Three of the closed down businesses have the Zapu leader as a director and the party secretary, Josiah Chinamano, and other political aids, are company directors of other closed down firms. - **The Guardian** -

News item? During the last few days arms and ammunition have been found on a property to the the Patriotic Front, led by Joshua Nkomo. Such finds provoked the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, sacking three members of Cabinet of the government of national unity which had been set up approximately two years ago.

Patriotic Front leader J Nkomo claimed that the weapons could have been planted by the coalition 's partners to hasten their plan for a one party state.

Thurs 18

Headline – ***Nkomo is ousted in purge by Mugabe*** – a consequence; his removal from the cabinet along with three other Zapu politicians; J Chinamano minister of transport J Msika natural resources J Ntuta deputy minister mines, after the findings of weapons and other military hard wear on land in Bulawayo.

These consequences were announced in a state wide TV broadcast by the prime minister. There were further accusations; the party leader had held two meetings, close to the time of the nations independence, with members of the apartheid state 's military to determine what help would be given if ever the then cabinet minister thought a coup to oust Zanu was possible.

As a wider action all aspects of the involvement of members of the now disgracer party; in the eyes of the government, will be examined/ questioned about where their loyalties lie. This will entail questions for former Nkomo supporting guerillas drafted into the national army, ZNLA commanders and low level politicians including to two cabinet ministers who still retain their seats in cabinet from Zapu.

A reaction from the minister without portfolio; a denial of an approach to the South African military criticism of not being warned of his sacking. An assurance that the two party members at the cabinet table would resign their posts. - **The Guardian page 1?** -

Fri 19

Headline – ***Demonstrators parade with a coffin for Nkomo*** – outside the office of the main coalition partner government led by prime minister Mugabe. As party supporters those demonstrating were calling for the prosecution and imprisonment of the Zapu leader after the recent revelations of weapons finds in Bulawayo. This loyalist crowds march seemed the most severe reaction of the nations people other than a tightening of security on the roads around the capital were more visible than usual.

Away from the public arena, and the recent disclosures of the sackings from the cabinet, the political presence on the Zanu party has been heightened in the cabinet and with this move the prime minister has consolidated his own control within he party structure.

Leader Comment, **Zimbabwe 's nasty options** from an outside observer; “make another attempt to merge the interests of the Shona and Ndbele people into a national government or prepare for another civil war..... recognise that the old feud cannot yet be mended .. try and remove it from immediate politics” to give partition; a de facto arrangement before the idea of British expansion on the continent began

But there again such a decision would be “so alien to everything that the leaders of both sides have worked for that it would be almost the option of despair.”

While it has always been on the horizon that a suitable government for the country could emerge when one ethnic element held sway over another, because of the numbers involved, would eventually break down “because of the numbers involved.” It can be said that Mr Nkomo, in the early days of the struggle, did more to set in motion the success of 1980 while remaining in the country; Mugabe was in exile for much of the black nationalist struggle. For then for him to be offered a ceremonial role, as president, would seem as little reward. Even his cabinet roll as minister of home affairs had some of its powers withheld and grafted on to a Zanu supporting ministers responsibility.

So in his wisdom the prime minister opts for a one party state style of government. His theory / role of administration for Zimbabwe may come through “Marxism or from a more pragmatic contemplation of the alternative does not matter. If Zimbabwe is to remain one country it has to have one focus of loyalty, which at present it does not possess.”

This focus has come to the fore in times past; before the time of the 1965 UDI era when the white regime banned the early incarnations of the black nationalist political parties that are seen today. “They were not tribal institutions. Even when they started to split the divisions were not clear cut, and the party executives were made up of people from Mashonaland and Matebeleland ... the splits became more and more tribal... not merely between the two major factions but in the Shona case among the minor factions within that large group.”

History cannot be turned back; the only way is forward. One option for the prime minister is follow the 1979 settlement path and call an all party constitutional conference of his own. The question then that Mugabe must ask is “which of the very limited range of choices they prefer; civil war' .. a real possibility. If that happens it should not happen by default. The one party state is not a panacea and it has a lot of ugly potential for corruption. The best that can be said is that it is preferable to a renewal of war.” - **The Guardian** -

Sat 20

Headline - ***Ministers resign in support of Nkomo*** – who himself lost his place in the Mugabe cabinet over the arms finds at locations in and around the countries second city on properties owned by members of Zapu. Named as the minister of works Clement Muchachi so there are only three Nkomo loyalists still in the government. They will decide their future during the parties central committee meeting in Bulawayo.

Growing political tensions, between black politicians, have made members of the white community feel uneasy. To lessen their fears the prime minister met with a representative group from the small ethnic population which was organised by RF MP Christopher Anderson. - **The Guardian** -

News item?, Joshua Nkomo 's supporters, mainly women, demonstrated their support for their leader after the dismissal of three of party members from the Cabinet. The Patriotic Front still hold six posts at junior minister level in the coalition government. Meanwhile Prime Minister Mugabe has held talks with leaders of the white community to try and reassure them of their future in the country. - BBC news 17. 30 -

Sun 21

Headline - ***Sacking could halt Mugabe one party state*** – as this longed for style of government, by the prime minister; who himself noted would only work if both coalition elements were merged into one cohesive party will never happen as a result of the Zapu dismissals. - **The Observer** -

Headline - *'Farther Zimbabwe' comes under new fire for capitalist links* – as the extent of party and personal property seized in the aftermath of the military seizures on farm and commercial land with links to Joshua Nkomo are said to be worth £4.5m.

A new element in, what now seems a long time feud between the two party leaders, goes back to 1963 when the emerging black nationalist movement was in its infancy. Prior that time there was only one movement opposed to colonial rule. Feelings, among certain black leaders, that Nkomo was a coward and more 'that he was willing to make deals with anyone' even if the result benefited himself by disregarding the ethos of black majority rule. Other 'not for forgiveness actions' by the guerilla leader was his willingness to negotiate/ talk to the likes of the leaders of the illegal regime or even the apartheid state 's military in search of a settlement. All actions deemed unforgivable by the prime minister.

The amounts of wealth accrued by Zapu include a gift of £3m from the Libyan leader which was used to purchase the Bulawayo Chronicle. This failed when Smith regime outbid the black nationalist. There was never a trace of the cash after this time. A half share; with Zanu, of £5m from the Organisation of African Union grant prior to the 1980 election was little used by Zapu. No trace of any balance left has been shown in its accounts.

If any mistakes have been made then, according to a Zimbabwe journalist, Nkomo's was not to denying knowledge of weapons hidden to the prime minister; at their meeting of 6/2 which was sold to the media concerning as being concerned with the one party state problem. - **The Sunday Times** -

Headline – *Ian Smith says; It's the cows that keep me sane* – as he now spends more time on his Selukwe farm than among the political smog of the capital. He will remain out of the limelight as London 's foreign secretary Lord Carrington arrives on 25/2. During the 2 day visit the two men will not meet. - **Sunday Express page 2 C 1** -

Tues 23

Headline – *Nkomo gives fire warning* – after his sacking from the government. While not stating that the prime ministers actions would herald the start of a black on black civil war he noted that “I have never seen such irresponsibility in a leader.” He was speaking in Bulawayo, where; within the next 24 hours the 152 strong central committee of Zapu will decide its response to the prime ministers actions, which is the city that he can claim to be at the main base of his support throughout Matebeleland province.

The security minister Emmerson Munangagwa has let it be known that three agents from the apartheid regime have crossed into Zimbabwe and were arrested. Non of those detained were identified by the minister although he said they were accused of “doing silly things” as well as reconnaissance. - **The Guardian** -

Wed 24

Headline – *Carrington begins African tour* – with the chief aim of restarting the stalled negotiations on the United Nations plan for the future of Namibia. His short time in Zimbabwe, 48 hours, will be spent at the Wedza mission station far out in the countries rural lands. Here the foreign secretary and Mugabe government officials will observe the progress of the land resettlement programme financed by London.

Much of the finance for the long term project draws on the £30m of credit extended by Britain; and is part of the total package of £41m in aid offered over a three year period. - **The Guardian** -

Fri 26

Headline – *Fresh arms cache found on Nkomo property* – centred of farmland thirty five miles south west of the central city of Gwelo. In this case the find 's were 8 Sam surface to surface missiles 240 Soviet army issue assault rifles, 20 land mines, 5, 000 blocks of TNT explosive, 300, 000 rounds of ammunition, 10 rocket propelled grenades. The authorities note that this latest location was the 34th where illegally held military hard wear have been found. There was no knowing how long the weapons had been hidden.

It would seem that white businessman Colin Bickie, from the Bulawayo region, was responsible for flying in he South African agents noted on 23/2. He has no been detained, under SOE regulations, for sixty days. - **The Guardian** -

Lord Carrington made a visit to Why Valley Farm which the purchased from the white owner and then resettled by ethnic black farmers.

Sat 27

Headline – *Mugabe to train youth on firearms* – with an age range of 12 to 30 years. Drawn from within his Zanu party. Their duties will be to report on the activities of those the government / party describe as dissidents. Other duties performed, according to a youth ministry spokesperson, Tich aona Jokonya, would be community work such as road building and bridge construction. In essence they would be a the equivalent of Soviet Youth Brigades marshalled to do good works as well as bringing the country “out of the rubble of capitalism.”

Sacked cabinet minister, Josiah Chinamano responsible for the nations transport, has decided not to follow his leader and other Zapu cabinet members and resign. Instead he will resign in his post and support the prime minister in his wish to implement a one party rule in Zimbabwe. - **The Guardian** -

Headline – *Mugabe power move legal Carrington* – as, in the foreign secretaries thinking this would not occur outside the steps agreed, and written into the constitution, at the time of the Lancaster House Accord of 1979. As of the present situation in the country he was of the opinion that it was calm and stable 22 months after independence. - **Yorkshire Post** -

Sun 28

Headline – *Ian Smith faces call to quit* – in the face of the possibility of seven Republican Front MP 's defecting to stand as Independent members of the house of assembly. A final decision, of the 17 white legislators will be made at a special caucus meeting on 5/3. Observers note that defections may be greater than expected depending on the mood of the caucus.

Such a mood of rebellion is brought about is because the MP 's perceive that the white community has not been willing to come to terms that Zimbabwe is now, and in the future, will be run by the majority black population. Fighting against it will only in the long run have an ever increasing detrimental effect on the dwindling 17, 000 whites remaining in the country. - **The Sunday Times** -

News item, at two rallies over the weekend Prime Minister Mugabe said that Joshua Nkomo would be put on trial for stockpiling weapons which could be used in a civil war. If found guilty he could be sent to jail.

The PM also told the crowds if white farmers did not take the compensation offered by the government to leave their land the land would be seized as the British government loans were

running out. - BBC Radio 4 18. 00 -

MARCH 1982

Mon 1

Headline - *Mugabe says Nkomo must stand trial* – is noted as a change of the prime ministers stance as large amounts of weapons continue to be found on farms and business premises of those who have close links to the Zapu leader.

Speaking to the party faithful at a rally in the town of Umtali the Zanu leader also announced that close political associates of the former clerical prime minister, Bishop Musorewa, had been detained by security officials for the possession of illegally held weapons. He also called his former military associate a coward for not admitting he knew of the weapons cache's hidden outside the city of Bulawayo.

At the end of the recent Zapu central committee meeting, in Zimbabwe 's second city, it was decided that despite the sackings from the cabinet party members others, with the same political affiliations would remain; two deputy ministers would remain in the “interests of peace.”

At the Umtali rally the land seizures of underused white owned farmland, by the government, and given to black farmers was still a possibility the prime minister noted. This would happen even if the whites refused to sell the land or the funding, agreed at the time of settlement, ran out. “Let me warn them if they want to stay in kaffir country then they must do as the kaffirs ' want.” - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 4

Headline - *Smith faces eclipse as Salisbury's leader* – as the former prime minister convenes an emergency parliamentary caucus meeting where it is known that seven Republican Front MP 's will request he stand down as party president. If he declines these 'rebels' indicate that they will resign the RF whip and stand as independent members of the house of assembly.

Those opposed to his leadership are of the opinion that his fervent beliefs in the better government under the rule of the whites holds little sway in a country where the numbers of ethnic whites are falling month on month. One of the dissidents, James Thrush, noted that with the ever increasing leaving of whites the future of Zimbabwe looks bleaker and bleaker. It's also known that the prime minister is horrified by the number of whites leaving the country. He recently noted that the government needs more white ministers in the government than the one at the present time.

The speculated meeting, between Joshua Nkomo and members of the South African military, was not set up by the former head of the Rhodesian then later the Zimbabwe National Army 's Lieutenant General Peter Wallis according to a statement issued by the now retired military careerist living in the apartheid state through his legal team. He described the accusation as “entirely” without foundation. - **The Guardian** -

Fri 5

Headline – *Smith 's party split as seven rebels go* – as had been foreseen and a four hour caucus meeting. Thus the number of white RF MP's manifested to defend the interests of the small white community, 12, is well below the 20 assured places in parliament at the time of the 1979 settlement. Added to these defections other losses to the white RF cause; D Walker, now resident in Britain

after fleeing an arrest warrant issued in Zimbabwe, detained Wally Stuttaford detained under SOE regulations and a forthcoming bye election after MP A Mosely resigned his seat.

Defector 's; former Smith era minister of justice Chris Anderson, Esmond Mickelam, R Cartwright, W Irvine, Paddy Shields, H Elsworth and James Thrush.

Speaking to the media, after the caucus meeting, the beleagured Ian Smith gave little away about his thoughts on those who had left the party although those who know the leader were of the impression that his true thoughts went deeper than those disclosed at this time.

A threat to the independent reporting, by foreign journalists, of internal events was issued by the information minister Nathan Shawmuyarira. The minister claimed that overseas journalists continued to "misinterpret events" that they report on. They were accused of reporting events through the eyes of South Africa. - - **The Guardian** -

Sun 7

Headline - ***Whites in coup plot says MP*** – says one who wishes to remain unidentified at this time. This revelation comes at the same time that Republican Front MP Dennis Devaris, seen as a representative of the 5, 000 strong Greek community, has followed the seven party defectors into the 'independent' wilderness. His plea to the whites, who he notes are in grim position, noted that the dwindling group needs a closer link with the black government and being a member of the Republican Front would not achieve this aim.

During a trip to Mozambique the prime minister notes his satisfactions of the political moves of the ethnic whites. There was a possibility that there could be more white places available round the cabinet table as a result. - **The Sunday Times** -

Tues 9

Headline – ***Whites 'plotted to oust Mugabe*** – and with the intention of setting up an independent state, backed by the government in Pretoria, within the Matebeleland province. Under the guise of 'Operation Assegai' four white Zimbabweans, dentist Dr F Bertrand 58, Bulawayo council gardener V Radmore 53, S Bertrand 24 and his friend A Cauvin 21 who now serve in the apartheid military appeared in court manacles. Their intentions were to destroy bridges, railway lines and other communication links.

The plot, outlined by the state prosecution council Ian Donovan, was to invoke the Matebele spirit medium 'Princess Khumalo' to ferment a mutiny, among those loyal to Joshua Nkomo, who the defence attorney, C Mercer, insisted it was the 'princess' that wished to speak to the dentist and not as the prosecution stated. What the spirits were saying was that they 'wanted a white king to rule an independent Matebeleland.

The prosecutions evidence is based on evidence gathered, through the infiltration by undercover police claiming to be former Zipra fighters, at the groups meetings and after searches that later uncovered amounts of weapons; rifles, grenades mines and military radios.

The charges the four face include acts of terrorism, sabotage and possession of offensive weapons. A conviction would lead to the death penalty under the countries law and order maintenance act; a relic of the Smith era legislation. - **The Guardian page 1?** -

Fri 12

Headline – *Nkomo 's military advisers arrested* – named as Lieutenant General Lookout Masuku; deputy Zana army commander to Rex Nhongo and Zipra intelligence commander Dumiso Debengwa. Prior to these high profile arrests there were urgent meetings among the nations unified army and the rank and file of the two elements of the guerilla armies moulded into the current unified military force. At the same time a township manager, Swazini Ndhlovu a Zapu official was also detained.

The intelligence, KGB trained Dumiso Debengwa was in at the beginning, in London in 1979 Lancaster House talks, and went on to be a member of the joint high command that management the internal military disputes / assembly point issues, during the run up to independence. With its work ended he resigned from the army then fell out with Joshua Nkomo over the Zapu leaders with that he took a seat in parliament.

Recent events, according to those unnamed; both men would have known about the hidden weapons, the inter faction fighting of 2/81 in Etumbani township and the seizure of wagon loads of weapons, in 10/80 from a Bulawayo railway siding. - **The Guardian page 1 C 5** -

Sun 14

Headline *Zimbabwe finds new Shona artists* – with Sylvester Mubayi being one of the nations new era of artists being a fine exponent of sculptured art. One of his most notable works, with a history going back 25 years or more, now stands outside the National Gallery of Zimbabwe, in Salisbury.

The artist, who works in the gallery as an attendant in the gallery, has been gaining a international reputation for his depictions of mythical beasts and other Shona traditional entities from a single block of the typical hard green or black stone found throughout the Shona region. The artist makes use of tribal traditions with his designs being soft and fluid lines which makes them highly appealing to the western eye because of their distinctive African flavour.

Mon 15

Headline - *Nkomo protest at arrests without trial* – as MP Atkin Ndlovu of Zapu was detained by the security police under the security legislation introduced by the last white Rhodesian leader Ian Smith. The detained MP was arrested on 10/3, along with three other party officials, after being accused of involvement in a coup to overthrow the Mugabe government.

On the evening of, 9/3, there were violent clashes between factions of the Zimbabwe National Army inside the Zaka district barracks in the south of the country. During the altercation; a drunken brawl, one Nkomo loyalist was fatally wounded. This is the first violent clash between the 20, 000 soldiers loyal to the Zapu leader and the 30, 000 Mugabe military men who form the ZNA the two factions ere integrated. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 18

Headline – *Mugabe orders legal changes* – to the all party agreed 1979 Lancaster House Accord at the end of the black nationalists liberation struggle which led to independence in 1980. Since that time, in the view of the recently appointed Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Eddison Zvobgo, this constitution had been 'imposed on us' by the former colonial power; Britain.

It was asked whether, in the new thinking, if the proposed changes would bring forward the oft

stated wish of the prime minister for the nation to become a one party state. The minister answered yes; but only with the agreement of the Zimbabwe legislative body.

Defending the need for a new constitution Zvobgo noted “You will be staggered at how much the British packed onto the constitution which was never placed on the agenda, which was never discussed, and which was never agreed to at Lancaster House.” The minister went on to explain the prime ministers favourable outcome; a two tier parliament, an executive National Assembly and rubber stamp senate 2 and an executive president rather than an executive prime minister. - **The Guardian**

Fri 19

*Headline – **Pact Extended** – The Preferential Trade Agreement between South Africa and Zimbabwe, due to expire on March 24, has been extended till further notice the Minister of Commerce Industry and Tourism Mr de Villiers said yesterday. - AP -*

*Headline – **Rivals Clash** – Supporters of Zimbabwe 's two political parties clashed yesterday in the first reported faction fighting since the PM Mr Mugabe dismissed the Zapu leader Mr Nkomo from the coalition government a year ago. Police said a number of people were injured in a clash in St Mary 's township south of Salisbury. - AP -*

Mon 29

*Headline **Zimbabwe Fight** – about 50 people were arrested in faction fighting in Zimbabwe belonging to the two main political parties in the town of Gatoma at the weekend. Youth members of the PM 's Zanu (PF) and Nkomo 's Zapu clashed in the streets police said.*

*Headline – **Spitfire Crash** – wreckage from a Second World War Spitfire was found near Gromози, Zimbabwe on Saturday piloted by Jack Mallock aged 61. - AP -*

Tues 31

*Headline **Fate of 560 Zipra Dead Unknown**, Bulawayo Chronicle : Country Life Punch Magazine*

APRIL 1982

Sat 3

*Headline – **Mugabe Threatens Farmers** – Zimbabwe Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, said yesterday that his government aimed to take over substantial areas of white owned farm land for resettlement of the black peasant population. He urged farmers to co operate in surrendering their land.*

But Mr Mugabe assured farmers that they held a favoured position in the country because adequate food supplies development in the country would fail. He have no details of the resettlement plan.

Two years after Independence 5, 000 white farmers still possess the bulk of the countries top quality land. - Reuters -

Mon 5

*Headline – **Nkomo says Mugabe out to overturn Constitution** – as the recently ousted cabinet minister spoke at a party rally in his home city of Bulawayo. The 30, 000 party faithful gathered in*

the cities White City stadium, heard the Zanu leader say that the prime ministers recent actions had “brought the country to the brink of civil war.” Nkomo asked of his supporters to remain calm and “not get depressed” about recent events.

As to claims, from the Zanu leader, that he had met with members of the South African military he told his people it was not who had met with the apartheid states high command; General Magus Malan, it was Robert Mugabe. The two men had met in Maputo at a time after the Rhodesian elections and before the results were known. Himself; he said he met with the then head of the Rhodesian military, lieutenant General Peter Wallis only once. - **The Guardian** -

Wed 7

Headline – ***Smith says he'll quit if Front loses the vote*** – to retain its hold of the Western constituency bye election. This three cornered fight; salesman Desmond Charmers 32 RF, 38 year old, Lawrence Bronson Independent and foot doctor Bill McLeod, 44 Democratic Party; which itself is a breakaway party from the RF. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 8

Headline Zimbabwe Full of Beans – Heinz, the food company and the Zimbabwe government are close to finalising a deal involving the joint takeover of a local farm and immediate investment in the country by Heinz of \$20m.

Diplomatic sources said that under the deal being negotiated Heinz would take 5% and the Zimbabwe government 47% of Olvine Industries, a family owned concern, which produces vegetable oils, margarine and related products. - Reuters -

Sat 10

Headline – ***Election turnout reflects disillusion*** – despite only 30% of the Western voters making their cross on the ballot paper the promise made by Ian Smith (qv 7/3) has been averted; Rhodesian Front candidate D Charmers won 330 votes of the available. Of the 1, 500 voters who were eligible only 450 did so in the Matebeleland constituency.

Of the other two contenders Bill McLeod, DP, gained 57 votes and the independent candidate Lawrence Bronson gained the support of 63 voters. - **The Guardian page 6 C 1** -

Sat 17

Headline - ***Rebel white MP given job by Mugabe*** – seen as a 'reward' as being among the nine Rhodesian Front parliamentarians who withdrew their support for the all white regime led by Ian Smith. Named as C Anderson a lawyer and a former minister of justice in the rebel regime. His new role will be as minister of state in the prime ministers office. The leader of the Zimbabwe Bar will take on some of the responsibility for public service appointments and training.

A second appointment, seen by the prime minister as involving the remaining white community in the political process, sees John Landau; one time chief whip for the RF, appointed deputy minister for trade and commerce. Thus there are now three ethnic whites round the cabinet table. The two join senator D Norman agriculture minister.

Other changes include the appointment to full minister Cephass Msipa in the Water Resources and Development. John Nkomo takes up a position; minister of state in the Mugabe office. The third

Zapu official, Dr C Ndhlovu becomes minister of construction. - GDN page 1 -

Headline – *Zimbabwe looks for a new identity* – which would seem a lifetime away from links with its colonial past and more to do with links to other socialist nations than with its own imperial past. Hence, in the run up to Zimbabwe's second birthday as an independent nation 'notables' president Banana with two cabinet ministers were visiting North Korea which celebrates 70 years as a nation rather than back in Salisbury preparing their own celebration events.

In reality as the nation becomes more sure of itself reporting of events of importance in the West are seldom given top billing, if reported at all. Even when Lord Carrington made a stopover in the country recently there was little reporting of the event by the local media.

The Salisbury leadership may, at this time, be of the opinion that much of the West is in favour of the South African rather than the black Zimbabwean Mugabe will remain links with the likes of Britain and the United States. Once the Mugabe regime has obtained its fullest financial assistance from Washington or London et al then the Mugabe's government; his dream of a one party state fulfilled, his true international political soul mates will emerge. - ditto page 9 -

Mon 19

Headline – *Zimbabweans mark two years of independence* – with a promise, from the nation's president, that the capital will be renamed Harare, when he spoke before a crowd of 50,000 people inside Rufaro stadium. The crowd was also 'introduced', at their first public appearance of the North Korean trained 5th brigade made up of troops loyal to prime minister who began life as Zipra guerilla fighters. For 2 hours they entertained the crowd with a show of hard physical exercise and fighting skills.

Named, in the Shona language Gukurahundi; sorting the wheat from the chaff seems a suitable incentive name for its forthcoming role. In the eyes of some observers a show of loyalty; banner carrying "lets lay down our lives for comrade R G Mugabe" seems a bit strong.

Away from the celebrations it has been learned that in total seven deputy ministers had been appointed. A plan, comes from the prime minister, to end private enterprise within three years; details of which will be released in 6/'82 to "increase the socialist sector and lay the basis on which we can proceed to socialise the entirety of our socio economic system."

At a second anniversary celebration, in the Queens Ground in Bulawayo, only 15,000 residents were remembering the last 2 years as a free nation. Fourteen days ago 40,000 were at the same location listening to Joshua Nkomo's defiant speech against a one party state.

Violence, in the north and west of the country, has seen police and army units searching for dissident Nkomo supporters /former guerillas who are responsible for violent incidents over the last 2 months. The most recent, on 16/4, saw the death of one soldier and 3 wounded during a contact with deserters who returned to camp because they were hungry. - **The Guardian** -

Tues 20

Headline – *Salisbury is Now Harare* – The name of Zimbabwe's capital has been changed from Salisbury to Harare a government spokesman said yesterday. In the regional language of Shona the name means a man who never sleeps.

The Africanisation is in line with the black majority government policy of erasing certain relics of

the white dominated colonial past of the former Rhodesia. More place names will be altered in due course said the spokesman..

*The capital was named Fort Salisbury by the first British settlers after the British prime minister, Lord Salisbury, but its sight has long been known as Harare by the Africans in the region. **Reuters***

Fri 23

Headline – ***Victoria 's name may not fall*** – out of favour by those wishing to, and already have given, Africanised names to towns to their 'given colonial name by the Rhodesian founders in the early 19th century. This border towns saving grace is that located close by is the imposing waterfall, named in honour of Queen Victoria are a must see for the tourist when on their travels in the continent.

Officials note that since independence 32 Zimbabwe towns and cities have 'lost their given colonial era names'. It would seem that the name changes, such as the town of Fort Victoria being now referred to as Nyanda, is to correct the settlers misinterpretation of local vernacular placements. The new name for Victoria Falls is 'Mosi oa Tunya' /The Smoke that Thunders – **The Guardian** -

MAY 1982

Sat 1

Headline – ***Zimbabwe whites disband*** – the Democratic Party; itself a breakaway political entity formed by the dissident Republican Front MP Andre Holland 12 months ago. His intention was to form a better understanding/ working relationship between the small ethnic white population and the black led government. It would seem, after the DP renegade failed to gain support at 3 bye elections, that apathy ruled among the white community. - **The Guardian** -

Wed 5

Headline – ***Harare 's Rail Link Blown Up*** – Zimbabwe 's main railway link to South Africa has been cut and electrical installations and water tanks damaged by five explosions near the southern border town of Beit Bridge, police and local sources in Harare said..

Police gave no indication of who might have been responsible but security sources in the area blamed dissidents for the blasts, late on Saturday night, which they say caused slight damage and no casualties.

*Security forces yesterday engaged a group of dissidents near Bulawayo the capital of the Southern province of Matebeleland. Two dissidents were wounded and three captured. No security force casualties were reported. - **Reuters** -*

Thurs 6

Headline – ***Unparliamentary*** – Mr Nolan Makonbe, President of the Zimbabwe Senate, called for the scrapping of the countries British style of parliamentary system, it has become irrelevant and should be brought into line with Zimbabwean aspirations. - **Reuters** -

Fri 7

Headline – **Brother 's Held** – Two white Zimbabwean brothers, acquitted of subversion charges, were detained yesterday police said. Alan York 23 and his brother Noel 33, were believed to be held under emergency powers which permitted detention for an indefinite period without trial. **Reuters**

Sun 9

Headline – **Nkomo; why its got to be guns** – that is again becoming the choice of adornment for anyone travelling on rural roads in Matebeleland, two years after the end of the civil war were weapons were supposedly tidied away as being necessary.

Speaking to the media the former cabinet minister blames the violence, and the growing number of deaths among the white farming community spread across the mainly Zanu supporting province, on those who follow the ideals of the prime minister in wishing for a one party state. So, in effect, highlighting the criminality of the 'finds' of weapons at locations where the Nkomo writ runs large will in Mugabe 's thinking discredit as a political leader.

More and more unrest will occur, it has already surfaced within barracks of the Zimbabwe National Army, where the two elements of the former guerilla army, supposedly integrated, have walked away from military life and returned to the bush with their weapons. - **The Sunday Times page 11 C 8** -

Fri 14

Headline – **Zimbabwe in a grass roots tangle** – as academic studies, by the author, note that only 17% of the entire land area; 6.6m hectares, is suitable for specialised and intensive farming and 65% of the land is not suited to the production of agricultural products. Even this 'good land' is privately owned.

This good land, 16m hectares, is owned by less than 6, 000 white farmers on similar plots of land 800, 000 black peasant farmers eke out a living. The challenge for the government is have the African farmer bring his thinking into the world of the commercial white producer, where before he would only be growing crops for his family; to be used locally.

Another challenge; where to settle the black farmers and on how much land, 8m hectares of 'good land' is not enough. Which would have an adverse effect on the nations income as of now 20% of the nations GDP comes from the agricultural sector which employs 32% of the waged labour force; over 100, 000 people. Foreign based ownership accounts for 90% of the farming enterprises.

At the best estimate 220, 000 land less families would need almost all of the 'best land' which would give each family would need 36 hectares to produce food to produce enough to fulfil an income of £300 per year. Such an idea is unthinkable as the whole of the white land owning class would be wiped out. - **Dr T V Sathyamurthy chair Dept. Politics University of York; GDN Third World** -

Sun 16

Headline – **Mugabe seeks help to buy land** – as he begins a seven nation tour of European nations with his arrival in London. He will be visiting also West Germany, Italy, France Greece, Holland and Belgium, his chief aim is to raise more funding for the purchase of white owned farm land that is underused by present owners. - **The Observer** -

Headline – **Mugabe dilemma comes to No 10** – Downing Street as, prior to his London visit, the

foreign secretary and his prime minister Margaret Thatcher, will over lunch on 19/5 reviewing Britain's 'special relationship' with Zimbabwe. - **The Sunday Times page 1?** -

Tues 18

News item, Mr Mugabe begins a tour of five Western countries; with his first stop being London. Whilst in Britain he will be asking the government for increased financial aid and general talks on the situation in South Africa. - World Service, Radio 4 05. 30 -

Wed 19

Headline – ***Mugabe tries to interest City-*** business community of Zimbabwe's former colonial masters as an investment possibility as he meets with bankers and industrialists over dinner; his first official engagement on his three day visit to London. The occasion will be hosted by Lord Soames.

It would seem that the London based business community have taken little opportunity, in the last two years, to invest their monies into the Mugabe regime business plan. In the time since independence only US\$40m has come from London based financiers. This amount is only 45% of the cash needed to fulfil the 1982 to 1985 development goals outlined at independence.

Headline – ***Four whites goaled in Zimbabwe treason trial*** – for periods ranging from four to ten years. Those convicted, all being from the city of Bulawayo, were behind a plot that would have seen the province of Matebeleland become a whites self rule province.

Commenting on the sentences the presiding judge Justice Gubbay noted that the actions of the four principals, dentist Dr Bertrand a dentist and his son and a friend; whose actions involved the destruction of road and rail infrastructure along with other strategic structures, were no real threat to the state. However their goal was clearly to create an independent state based on the present Nkomo loyal province. The Bulawayo dentist was jailed for 10 years, son and friend 4 years. The last, named as a city employee Victor Radmoor received 7 years. Their legal team that there would be an appeal to a higher court. - **The Guardian** -

Fri 21

Headline – ***Mugabe hits out at S Africa*** – as he comes to the end of his three day visit to London. The Zimbabwean prime minister accused the apartheid states government of fermenting instability, with its acts of aggression, over vast areas at the tip of the continent.

These concerns, over Pretoria's actions in Namibia and its clandestine support for the rebels opposed to the government in Mozambique were topics of discussion that he had while meeting prime minister Thatcher over lunch.

In the case of Namibia, with both nations being opposed to South Africa's use of a two nations voting roll; which was also backed by the United Nations. He favoured the system of proportional representation with other methods to be adopted later.

As for its clandestine interventions against the Marxist government, on its eastern border, Mugabe deemed the guerilla MNR movement an extension of the military forces of the apartheid state. They were either acting with the authority of the Pretoria authorities or on the orders of elements of the SADF's high command who were acting upon their own initiative. - **The Guardian** -

Sun 23

Headline – *Settling down with the yeoman farmers* – is taking longer than anticipated as the prime minister learned after his recent talks with prime minister Thatcher in London. It would seem that each project, which will draw on the £30m promised by London to resettle the 162, 000 Zimbabwe farming families, has to be scrutinised by London based officials. As of this time only the allocation of £2.6m has been approved. Such a slow rate scrutiny /approval will now be speeded up Mugabe was told. Since independence 10, 000 black peasant farmers and their families have been relocated.

The land that will be offered to the black peasant families will be, at maximum 450 acres of poor land; 45 acres of good land. This land will be expected to produce a cash income above the subsistence level of £200 per year.

Again the sceptics denounce the time table, envisaged by the president, as too short. There is much need for the building of an infrastructure; the roads, the electricity and the water supply. - **The Sunday Times** -

JUNE 1982

Thurs 3

Headline - *Terrorists kill four in Zimbabwe* – in Matebeleland; the most recent deaths, now standing in excess of 20, since the 2/'82 cabinet changes. All the most recent killings occurred close to the provincial capital of Bulawayo which includes white farm manager; Tom Sutton who was shot dead in the farms kitchen.

The police and the authorities blame the ongoing killings on dissident members, Zanu supporters, who have deserted from the countries supposedly integrated army. Other regional deaths, close to Bulawayo, include a second white farmer a teacher, a village headman and a policeman who did on 20/7, after confronting three dissident. In the same incident a second policeman was seriously injured. - **The Guardian** -

Mon 14

Headline – *Military thrust on guerillas* – as members of the loyal Zimbabwe National Army deploy into southern Matebeleland in an effort to combat the dissident actions that has seen a number of deaths of civilians in the recent past.

Reports, from those travelling in the Matopos mountain region, on arriving in Bulawayo have tales to tell of concentrated actions in a search and destroy dissidents. First arrived were paratroops who dropped into the mountainous region followed by long bursts of automatic rifle fire It would seem that 2, 000 ZNA members, loyal to Nkomo, have left their barracks for the bush since 2/'82.

Other areas of unrest, recently reported, in the north west region of Tjolutjo, against bandits north west of Bulawayo have seen loyal troops deployed to the region. - **The Guardian** -

Wed 16

Headline – *Zimbabwe forms militia to combat rebel bands* – this being the lead item as President Banana addressed the Harare parliament on its third official opening ceremony. It was noted that all able bodied citizens, male and female, would be expected to undergo military style training. This new body would then be deployed to support the military and to maintain peace. The president, noting that the security situation, and the ongoing deaths of innocent people

throughout the land, made it necessary that the state of emergency regulations must be renewed for a further six months.

The Republican Front MP, Wally Stuttaford went before the high court to challenge the security forces on their legal right to torture him. The government used its emergency powers to hear the case in camera, and thus cleared the court of the plaintiffs relatives along with the press, before any evidence was heard.

Outside the court the MP 's legal team told that there would be charges, of assault, laid against four members of the Central Intelligence Organisation. Compensation of £13, 800 in damages would be sought. - **The Guardian** -

Sat 19

*Headline – **Zambia visit** – The Zimbabwe Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, will pay a one day visit to Zambia to sign a Preferential Trade Area (PTA) treaty for Eastern and Southern African States, a government spokesman said yesterday. **Reuters** -*

Fri 25

*Headline – **Mugabe safe after shooting** – at his Harare home by a number of members of the military who earlier had raided, and seized rifles, rocket launchers, and a vehicle from a nearby military barracks. The eight men involved then travelled the mile to the home of the prime minister and raked the building with gunfire before being driven off by gate guards. They then failed in an assault on the home of the minister of supplies Senator Enos Nkala.*

The eventful day continued; after his speech to parliament Ian Smith MP was taken to hospital after collapsing in the chamber. A heart attack was suspected. - **The Guardian** -

Sat 26

*Headlines – **Nkomo plea to rebels to halt violence** – and calls for an all party inquiry into the reasons why more than 30 people have lost their lives since,he, and other Zapu members have been removed from the coalition cabinet.*

His plea to end the violence, that has occurred mainly in Matebeleland province; the centre of his political power, was he said “a queer kind of sympathy for the people .. Whoever you are stop it, and stop it now. This plea to end the violence was urged on the ex cabinet member by senior members of Zanu PF who were wanting to establish his sincerity of any political challenge to the government.

While the words of the disgraced ex cabinet member may not be heeded by the dissidents the very action of highlighting the links between the two elements of the government. Mugabe may feel that the way forward towards a lasting peace must include Zapu.

The recent attack, by eight military dissidents on the home of the prime minister, was condemned by Joshua Nkomo and brought forward calls for tighter security laws from the Herald newspaper;

“Since the very foundation of our society it has been undermined, it is necessary to introduce harsh anti subversion measures and set up military tribunals to try people charged with such offences.”

The Guardian

Sun 27

Headline – *Mugabe may be forced to woo Nkomo* – as the events of the last seven days highlight the need that the prime minister has for someone who can reach into the minds of those dissidents that have been roaming the rural lands causing death and destruction. Such a man is Joshua Nkomo. The only who can reach into the mind of his supporters. - **The Observer page 12 C 1** -

JULY 1982

Thurs 1

Headline – *Harare attack 'linked to Zapu'* – therefore the possibility that Joshua Nkomo, if found to be linked to the attack on the homes of the prime minister and cabinet member Enos Nkala, could face criminal charges. Already eight soldiers and three officers have been arrested in connection with the attack.

Any move, against the former cabinet minister must be weighed against the possibility of further military conflict with civilians resident in rural Matabeleland. It is known to the authorities that there about 1, 000 dissident soldiers, loyal to Nkomo, who have deserted the national army. - **The Guardian** -

Fri 2

Headline – *Arms Find* – Police and army units, in a joint operation in Bulawayo to flush out dissidents have recovered a quantity of arms abandoned on the streets, informed sources in the Southern Zimbabwe city said yesterday. - **Reuters** -

Mon 5

Headline – *Nkomo stays away from Harare rally* – after pleading he was suffering from a cold; he stayed at his Bulawayo home on doctors orders. Such information was passed to the unusually small 3, 000 strong audience that expected to hear their leader speak by a party official,

Later enquiries, established by the media, were informed by aide Douglas Ngwenya that his leader out of his house attending a meeting. As to Nkomo's health; "he's fine. Quite well. Definitely." The aide knew of no reason why the Zapu leader stayed away from the long scheduled rally; where he was to make an appeal to his supporters for peace and reconciliation. - **The Guardian page 4 C 1** -

Tues 6

Headline – *Bulawayo put under curfew* – an area on the western edges of the second city of Zimbabwe where the major black townships are located. Unreported for the last 10 days the police have thrown a security cordon round the conflict area. They, and members of the military, patrol the area and see out known dissidents along with illegally held weapons.

The 9pm to 4am restrictions on movement within the cordoned off area do not allow residents to move more than 50 yards from their homes. Vehicle movements may not be restricted other than being fired upon if the driver fails to stop when ordered to do so.

According to assistant police commissioner E T Svaruku about 4, 000 members of the police and military have been deployed to search. It is said that a large amount of illegally held weapons ; automatic rifles, grenades and explosives have been found. - **The Guardian** -

Fri 9

Headline – *Findings in torture case kept secret* – after the findings of the high court, relating to allegation of RF MP Wally Stuttaford; seeking £14, 000 damages in a civil action against the CSO, were kept secret. An 'in camera' judgement was made recently which, under the renewed emergency powers, cannot be reported. Questions will be asked in parliament.

In the Senate, the upper chamber, Garfield Todd, no stranger to the wrath of the authorities; years of house arrest during the UDI era, was of the opinion that the MP had won the case. In his opinion for the state to keep the decision secret could seriously damage Zimbabwe 's reputation. A second Senator, M Partridge noted that with the state not releasing the courts decision it seemed that the state was supporting the mistreatment of prisoners. - **The Guardian** -

Sat 10

Headline *Zimbabwe wards of questions about torture case* – as the minister of justice, Simbi Mubaco, said that to reveal the high court details of the case brought by the Republican Front MP was not in the public interest. As 'security was paramount.'

A confrontation between a government minister, Eddison Zvobgo, and a white middle aged female motorist, was brought to the attention of parliament by Donald Goddard MP. He accused the minister of legal and parliamentary affairs of attacking and verbally abusing her as he dragged her from vehicle. On her behalf the MP asked that appropriate action be taken against the minister for his actions. However in the end, according to the minister of home affairs, Herbert Ushewokunze, there would be no further action her companion was not her husband. - **The Guardian** -

Tues 13

Headline – *Farmer Shot* – Gunmen killed a 32 year old businessman in the Southern Zimbabwe province of Matebeleland friends of the family said yesterday. Mr Davis Stirling was shot on a farm 30 miles north west of Bulawayo where at least 30 people have been killed in the last 4 months. - **Reuters** -

Wed 14

Headline – *House Rule* – Four members of Zimbabwe 's parliament could lose their seats under parliamentary rules unless they appear in the House of Assembly within a week. Two of them; a white and a black are in prison in connection with security matters while the others said by security sources to be wanted for questioning are reported to be abroad. - **Reuters** -

Mon 26

Headline – *Sabotage mission destroys Mugabe 's planes* – based at Thornhill military airbase outside the city of Gweru in central Zimbabwe. Those carrying out the raid managed to destroy, or damage a total of 13 aircraft; 4 Hawk fighters /trainer purchased for £20m from the British and the previous regimes purchased Hunter Hawk fighters were targeted.

There were no details forthcoming from the authorities as to how the raid was carried out; or who was responsible. The most likely to be accused are either the South African military or dissident members of the Nkomo led Zapu party.

At the same time the authorities are confronted with a recent case of the abduction of a number of foreign tourists who were visiting Victoria Falls on 23/7. Dissidents detained 6 outside the city of

Bulawayo, including two from Britain and sent the remaining four back from whence they came with a demand that Zapu official detained by the authorities must be released or the four hostages would be killed.

In total it is thought that in the recent past in excess of 100 Nkomo supporters, among whom are an member of parliament and an ex deputy commander of the army, General Lookout Masuku, are now detained as part of Mugabe 's policy of cracking down on his main black opposition party. However a response; many thousands of troops have moved into Tjolutjo region 60 miles north of Zimbabwe's second city. - **The Guardian page 1** -

Tues 27

Headline – ***Troops close in on gang*** – who kidnapped a number of foreign tourists, who intended to visit Victoria Falls, to a location about 30 miles from where they were abducted. The two British members of the touring party were named as James Greenwall aged 19 and M Hodgson 45 and it is thought that they were quite capable of managing the tough terrain through which they are forced marched.

Their, and the cases of the others that were abducted, were discussed when London 's high commissioner, Robin Byatt, met with prime minister Mugabe. Rescue details were not disclosed but there was concern that the rebels may kill any tourist that impedes the groups forced march progress.

Details of the Gweru airbase attack; the saboteurs entered the base after cutting a hole in the perimeter fence then placing explosive charges on the six Hunter Hawk jets standing in the open. They then moved into the base 's hanger and laid more explosive charges.

It is now thought that the complexity of the attack, and destruction / damage of 13 aircraft rules out the black political link. More likely it was carried out by former Smith era soldiers or agents of the apartheid state. - **The Guardian** -

Wed 28

Headline – ***Zimbabwe army widens hunt for terrorist kidnap gang*** – as more troops are drafted into Matebeleland to counter the inefficient aerial hunt for those responsible for the forced abductions. According to the officer in charge Colonel Lionel Dyke the nature of the land, being mainly scrub land, makes it easy for those being sought to hide when search aircraft approach. In addition to the influx of extra troops more than 2, 000 square miles of the province have been place under curfew.

It has become known that the high court ruled that Republican Front MP Wally Stuttaford was detained unlawfully when charged with plotting a coup. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 29

Headline – ***11 arrests after airbase sabotage*** – with six being from the small white community. Of all those detained, all but one, are or have recently been serving members of the Zimbabwe air force who had close links to the Gwero base located 200 miles from Salisbury. The actual pacing of the explosive was carried out by only the 3 men who had the intimate knowledge of knowing where precisely where to place the explosive and do the most damage. The five black held were known to have links with Zapu.

Still managing to hide from the searching members of the National Army those who have abducted

the tourists will face the might of the British SAS. Within a short time four members of the elite squad will arrive to 'observe the manhunt at the request of government. - **The Guardian page 6 C 1** -

Leader Comment, **Harare and a whirlwind** of those who would mutter, after the recent military actions; raid on an air force base and the kidnap of tourists, "I told you so" as the government calls in outside agencies, Britain 's SAS, to search out / observe the hunt for alleged dissidents.

The greatest fear to the nations future security is the ever increasing dominance of the Shona peoples of the Ndebele ethnic group. Then there is influences of the apartheid states prime minister P W Botha may exert on the thinking of Nkomo with only 30% of the populations support against the 70% for the prime minister. Pushing harder and harder, against the sacked cabinet member, may bring the two together.

"An all out war against the dissidents could easily become a war against the Ndebele... only give comfort to Pretoria. Zimbabwe 's friends must hope that Mr Mugabe will find the strength to arrest the drift towards the one party, one tribe state so many of his supporters manifestly desire." - **ditto page 12** -

Fri 30

Headline – ***Mugabe warns of extra legal measures*** – as he publicly claims that those loyal to Zapu were responsible for the abduction of 6 foreign tourists seized recently as they travelled close to Victoria Falls. During the prime ministers statement, to parliament, there was no mention of the recent attack on the main base of the nations air force where a large number of aircraft were destroyed after explosive devices were planted by a small group of saboteurs.

During the parliamentary session the nations chief justice, John Fielding, noted the recent ruling of the high court, after RF MP Wally Stuttaford won his claim of illegal detention after allegations of torture there was a need to take more care when ordering detentions for those not yet brought to trial. Thus two white farmers, who have been detained since 5/'82 on charges concerning being in possession of of war were ordered to be release from custody.

The minister of justice will now have to make the case for the continued detentions of as many as 100 Zapu members as well as a number of others; Dumiso Dabengwa a Soviet trained intelligence officer a close colleague Joshua Nkomo and a number of Zapu MP 's.

Following these issues the 1982 budget statement, from finance minister Bernard Chidzero, was revealed to the nation. High earners will be hit by higher taxes while those that consume beer, smoke, drive a petrol vehicle and import items from overseas will face increased prices in an effort to raise an extra £150m in tax to finance a 50% rise in government spending; to £1.8bn in this financial year. Personal taxes would rise to a maximum of 60% on incomes over £12,000 per year. **The Guardian**

August 1982

Tues 3

Headline – ***Mugabe tries to avert crisis*** – triggered by the recent announcement, by chief justice Fielding, concerning the growing number of detentions, deemed illegal by the judiciary recently. The case is highlighted by the jailing of two white farmers, Noel and Alan York, who are still detained 24 hours after their jailing was ruled illegal. It is the view of the minister of home affairs, Herbert Ushewokunze, that their release would predjudice state security. - **The Guardian** -
The clash between the legal and political system, brought upon clashes over the farmers non

release, stems from the belief that in the original Lancaster House agreement on the make up of the legal system in a free Zimbabwe was based not on the colour of a persons skin only the legal facts. In these times it is said that the legal system is still biased against the majority when judged by the white judges. Such was the anger that a number of judges threatened to resign over the issue until the chief justice met with the prime minister who 'slapped down' the comments of his minister of justice. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 5

Headline – ***One party rule to be Zimbabwe poll issue*** – in the anticipated 1985 elections to parliament. This is the wish of the prime minister which he reveals in a published interview that hit the media 24 hours ago in the monthly magazine Moto.

“We will not have a one party state in the life of this parliament. But would want to see it established during the next term of our parliamentary life.” The Zanu campaigners will be open with the voters, and right from the beginning, will inform voters that after the nations second free election “if they elect us we are going to establish a one party state.” The reason; for this it would unite the people because as a one party state we are one nation one party and one leader, “that 's the type of political concept we cherish.”

The justice minister, Simbo Mubako has commented on the continued detention of the farming York brothers noting that there is no conflict between the government and the judiciary over their imprisonment despite the recent high court order that they should be released. What happened is that there was a misunderstanding of the procedure to be followed in effecting arrests and detentions.

In the security forces hunt for the abducted tourists, who went missing while travelling to Victoria Falls, authorities accuse local residents of slowing down the search and rescue teams by giving false information to the military forces seeking them out. - **The Guardian** -

Sat 7

Headline – ***Envoy steps up hunt for hostages*** – as, along with Joshua Nkomo the representatives of three western governments fly from Salisbury to Bulawayo to assist those searching for the abducted foreign tourists who were travelling to the tourist hot spot of Victoria Falls.

Al three men, British high commissioner R Byatt, J Herder, Australian HC and the American ambassador R Keeley met with the minority party leader at his home in the second cities suburb of Pelendaba. Previously the three diplomats had met with the prime minister and his deputy Mr Muzenda in the capital. - **The Guardian** -

Sun 8

Headline – ***Farmer Killed*** – Police have discovered the bullet riddled body of a prominent commercial farmer in western Zimbabwe near the region being combed for dissidents who seized six hostages two weeks ago.

Mr Phillip Elman Brown, brother of a former Rhodesian cabinet minister, was driving home with his wife from Bulawayo to his farm near Inyathai on Thursday evening when a group of armed men forced the car to a halt. They dragged the middle aged farmer out and ordered his wife to drive on. A search party found Mr Elman Browns body next morning.

At least six commercial farmers have been killed by anti government dissidents, who are also

thought to be responsible for the abduction of two Britons, two Australians and two Americans. last line lost in transcript – Stephen Taylor OBS -

Mon 16

*Headline **Nkomo Calls for Talks** – Zimbabwe 's opposition Zapu party, recently a target of fierce government attacks, called for a meeting with the ruling Zanu PF to diffuse tension in the country.*

*The call was issued by the parties central committee in Harare yesterday to consider discussions two weeks ago between Zapu 's leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo and Prime Minister Mugabe. The government has repeatedly accused Zapu of fomenting violence which as claimed 30 lives including those of three British tourists during the past five months. The party has denied responsibility. **GDN***

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Wed 18

*Headline – **Tourist Funeral** – The bodies of three British tourists, murdered in eastern Zimbabwe last month, were cremated in Harare yesterday. Richard Prankard 31 and his sister Nicola 24 and here friend Alison Jones 24 were found dead on a road from the Zimbabwe capital to Inyanga a resort area near the Mozambique border. The ashes will be taken to Britain today by Henry Prankard brother of two of the victims, for burial. - **Reuters** -*

Thurs 19

*Headline – **MP 's Expelled** – Two Opposition MPs were expelled from the Zimbabwe parliament yesterday after failing to attend the required 21 consecutive sittings. Mr Dennis Walker of the RF and Zapu Party member Mr Akin Ndlovu, left for Britain and Zambia respectively earlier this year – **Reuters** -*

Sun 22

*Headline – **The spirit is kidnapped in new nation** – as first contact, between those who abducted the six Victoria Falls bound foreign tourists, and the authorities has been made. Sources indicate that a vehicle carrying two district administrators was stopped 40 miles from the point where the tourists were taken. A group of allegedly renegade Nkomo supporters thrust a ransom note into the government officials and ordered it taken to their bosses. Their vehicle was then destroyed by fire. The note, once again, demanded that jailed Zapu officials should be released in exchange for the lives of the detained tourists.*

*However hopes are not high that a rescue will be made and all lives saved after the death of alleged kidnappers as they came into contact, and tried to flee, a security cordon where one was shot dead. Those who control the lives of the abducted may now decide that to keep them alive will not benefit their cause and therefore put them to death. - **The Sunday Times** -*

Mon 23

Programme notes, School children are building their own schools, which were denied by the Smith government in Kitungwise widow, relative shot herself detained given government pension 4x 's the previous one.

*The ending of the colour bar is not bringing about integration. 2, 000 whites leaving every month. **Davis Stony** White resident and his wife groups need time to get to know each other. Hater total*

apathy – not unity of white politicians; approve of one party state if tribalism can be overcome. Whites are surprised at the magnanimity of the blacks and Mugabe's pragmatic government.

Joshua Nkomo says crisis should not have taken place if the president had handled the arms finds differently. The disruption was not expected. Let's do things in the government for a country of unity.

On the largest vegetable farm in Zimbabwe, a farm owned by the Zapu political party, where illegal weapons were found. As a result the enterprise was closed down with the loss of 400 jobs.

Robert Mugabe says he has not overreacted or gone against the spirit of the Lancaster House constitutional agreement. It is clear that the arms finds are clearly linked to Joshua Nkomo's Zapu and their wish to overthrow democracy and replace it with a Zapu led dictatorship.

National Army; Zipra desertions increase, 3/82 and 8/82 50 deaths by dissidents airport raid and 25% of the Zimbabwe Air Force destroyed. The detention of Nkomo would not achieve anything.

Eddison Zvobgo; a former Mugabe government cabinet minister, joined the government voluntarily. The land issue is central to the liberation struggle where 20,000 people died. Seven and a half million people are sharing 40m hectares; 10.5 hectares per person. White farmers, some 5,000 in number, own the same land hectares as 6m black farmers.

Jim Sinclair president Commercial Farmers Union, the dispossession of white farmers leaves thousands of white farmers unemployed. White farmers produce more than cooperative farming methods. It is unreasonable for everyone not to own land. Also the land minister notes that in the first two years of independence there were only 20 changes of land ownership from a white farmer to his black counterpart. During these same 24 months 12,000 black farmers were resettled.

Mrs Rex Ngongo women's affairs minister, the squatting of land is a major problem. Cooperatives started with £400 rent former Nkomo loyalists on one farm; which is one of forty such farms. All are located along the nation's border close to Mozambique; a socialist state. Also a school, for the children of the farm employees has been set up. - **Panorama; Searching for a new Zimbabwe, BBC1** -

Tues 24

Headline – ***Killing puts pressure on Mugabe to curb dissidents*** – as it is noted that during the six month 'unrest period' in Matebeleland has risen to 60 and 8/82 was the worst four week period in all that time. Those who died in the latest clashes were a university lecturer a police sergeant; his teenage niece and an elderly villager. The deaths centred on the provincial capital, Bulawayo and the district of Kezi some miles south of the nation's second city.

Desertions from the Zimbabwe National Army, since 2/82; the time of the sacking of Joshua Nkomo, have risen to 4,000 with 1,500 of the disappeared being former Zapu guerilla fighters.

There has been a call, from **Constand Viljoen** the head of the South African Defence Force for prime minister Mugabe to provide the evidence that three whites, detained by Harare's security forces were in fact from across the Limpopo river border. This request comes at the same time as the **Zambian** president **Kaunda** offers to meet with president **Botha** to avert the possibility of a military clash between the white and black military. It would be a second meeting between the two presidents. - **The Guardian** ? -

Headline – ***Flying Home*** – *An Argentinian businessman charged with the attempted murder in Zimbabwe of two British soldiers, after an argument over the Falklands War, was yesterday allowed to return to Argentina pending trial. A magistrate in Harare increased Mr Orlando*

Mencley 's bail from £600 to £3, 800 but relaxed his bail conditions so that he could go home on business. - Reuters -

Wed 25

Headline – ***Dead soldiers 'were former Rhodesians*** – and not members of the SADF as alleged by prime minister Mugabe. This revelation was released by The Star newspaper which is published in Johannesburg. Two of the men served in the Rhodesian Light Infantry while the third was a member of the elite SAS a part of airborne defence force.

It is now known that the authorities in Pretoria are taking the allegations, made recently that the three men were inside Zimbabwe on the orders from military authorities of the apartheid state, seriously and the department of foreign affairs has no knowledge of their deployment across the border up north. - **The Guardian** -

Headline – ***Citizenship Bill*** – *The Zimbabwe Parliament yesterday approved, by 70 votes to 8, a bill that paves the way for the government to ban dual citizenship, which is held by the majority of white Zimbabwean citizens. - Reuters -*

Fri 27

Headline – ***Hostage tourists 'may be alive'*** – notes one of the two government officials who were stopped recently and ordered to take a demand message to the authorities to release a number of Zapu officials held in jail. Speaking in the capital Harare he also told of a demand for money to purchase food for the tourists 'who are refusing to eat local food.'

At the same time the disgraced former cabinet minister, Joshua Nkomo speaking in the town of Nkayi north west of Bulawayo, made an impassioned plea to those who are holding the 2 British, 2 American and two Australian nationals to release them. He also called on those living in rural Matebeleland not to hinder the work of the searching military or offer food to those who have the tourists.

Figures from the central statistics office show that for 1 – 6/ '82 9, 103 left the country while 3, 879 entered' a net loss of 5, 224. Such numbers indicate a 17% drop in exit numbers from the same period in 1981 which was 6, 605 emigrants.

Breaking down, the number of leavers by class show that these last six months 872 members in the professional and technical field of employment crossed the border out of Zimbabwe while only 775 entered the country. Such is the worry of the government of loosing these skills that a campaign of recruitment, among those who fled the nation during the civil war, will be run in Europe, India and Australia. - **The Guardian page 4 C 1** -

Sat 28

Headline – ***Mugabe released newsmen*** – from the Herald newspaper after being detained in Harare's Chickurubi maximum security prison. The two journalists, both who had come from Scotland; senior assistant editor A McDowell aged 51 and senior crime reporter B Hipson 37 had been detained since 29/7 under the SOE regulations.

Those detained emergency security rules must be given the reason why they are being denied a trial. In this case it seems that the two men were not given any reasons for their jailing nor were they brought before a tribunal within the 30 day period. - **The Guardian** -

Sun 29

Headline – *Threat to food Mugabe needs* – as white farmers threaten to leave the country as they feel that the prime minister, and his government, do not show them enough respect. Almost 200 came to a protest meeting with the agricultural minister, Dennis Norman, at which the made four demands.

End the governments belief that they are not loyal to the black led government. Allow them weapons to defend their workers and lands against the 'dissidents'. Sort out the national army. Adhere to the courts ruling and free the two white farming brothers still detained in jail.

The protest was sparked by a recent order from Herbert Ushewokunze that all weapons should be handed into the authorities. This was later amended to indicate that those farmers who 'show questionable loyalty to the government' must relinquish their weapons. - **The Sunday Times** -

September 1982

Wed 1

Headline – *Zanu PF to field white candidates* – during the countries second general election in 1985. At the same time, the prime minister has confirmed, the prime minister has confirmed that if he still holds the office of prime minister there will be discussions about changes mad to the constitution that will allow for the introduction of a one party state. Also both ethnic groups will appear on the same electoral roll for the first time since the independence vote. His predictions were that the opposition Zapu would loose 10 of its seats in the next parliament.

The York brothers, Noel and Alan, detained without explanation by the authorities, have been released from jail; again without an explanation Once 'out on the streets again' they made a short visit to an agricultural show in the capital and then returned to their farm outside the town of Figtree in Matabeleland.

Also the courts have released the two journalists, from the Herald newspaper, detained under the state of emergency regulations, after high level interventions to the home affairs minister Herbert Ushewokunze. The president of the Commercial Farmers Union, Jim Sinclair, has let it be known that 30 members of the white farming community have died after violent contact with dissidents since independence. He calls on the government to take actions to end such deaths. - **The Guardian** -

Fri 3

Headline – *Word power* – as used by the women of Zimbabwe who survived the civil war; many having fought through the conflict in either of the guerilla groups. In an effort to give these former combatants a future numbers of them have been taken, including former fighter Gloria Sibanda and 19 others, in by Ranche House a secretarial college in Harare.

As part of the post war reconstruction these former female guerillas have been tasked with writing about their war time experiences. Ms Sibanda 's war began as a 13 year old who was, with others of her family, trying to walk from Shabani to the Gwanda district then onto Zambia. Their attempt, after three days of walking, was to obtain food from a rural shop owner. Eating the given food they were disturbed by the Rhodesian military authorities, called by the shopkeeper, who proceeded to give the group 'a right kicking' and beatings with their rifles. The would be guerillas did in fact reach their destination and faced combat for a period of six years. The collective writings of these

twenty female former guerillas will be published by 31/12 by Zimbabwe Publishing Co. On the backs of such writings the government is to launch a mass literary campaign which will be built around 110 ex combatant organisations.

It is hoped such campaigns will encourage those among the adult population; about 50% of whom cannot read, to learn to do so. Such a need is essential if Zimbabwe is to move into the developed world at a quick rate. **The Guardian page 7 C 8 -**

Sun 5

Headline – *Arrests split Mugabe team* – but freedom for the two Harare based journalists along with the farming York brothers has pleased the governments of the western nations. In their minds eye the acceptance of western standards of justice is the right course of action. However there are those in the ruling party who are not pleased by the prime ministers adherence to the legal niceties. One such is the minister of home affairs Herbert Ushewokunze.

The act of the release of the York brothers was initiated by the prime minister who met with the men 's father, Peter, after a top minister had met with Matabeleland farmers several days ago. The following morning the 2 Chikurubi inmates were driven, in the prime ministers official vehicle to his office ; reunited with their family and sent home.

As of this date the majority of the 100 people, jailed under the state of emergency rules about 100 blacks remain in jail with only 60 of them being charged with any offence. - **The Observer page 1?** -

Fri 10

Untitled An inevitable event, even if the slide into a Marxist state took longer than expected, has begun. The inevitability of such an event started as far back as the continuation of the civil war by the then prime minister Ian Smith who was determined that the black majority should have no chance of political power. His actions ruled out compromise, from either faction, or an reconciliation. However the right black politician leads the nation; Joshua Nkomo's Zapu would have had the Zimbabwe republic a socialist state much earlier in its history.

There were no horror events in the early days of the independence, despite all that was said at the Lancaster House talks in London. Words that were dripped into the ears of those who would listen; journalists, by the foreign office diplomats in London.

It was the journalists, who took the line of thinking put about by those 'in the know' or thought they were, that the wrong leader had won the election. There were accurate predictions of who would serve in the first cabinet and how the country would be administered. All of which have proved correct.

“Mugabe 's moderation has merely ensured that the transition is taking place a little less dramatically, painfully, bloodily than in most other places. And this is as much as they can expect after all that has gone before.” - **Daily Express -**

Tues 14

Headline – *Press Curbs* – Zimbabwe 's government Information Department confirmed yesterday that foreign journalists would be required to inform the government of any trips beyond 25 miles from the capital and the second largest city Bulawayo. - **AP -**

Fri 17

Headline – *Moving spirit* – a research organisation; Zimbabwe Institute of Development Studies [Zids], while academic in nature, is not under the wing of the University of Zimbabwe. Rather it is an organisation that was born out of the a decision, made in 7/79, and approved by guerilla leader Mugabe to the formation of the Zimbabwe Research Unit [Ziru] which would form the 'information base of the liberation struggle' along with its sister organisation the Zimbabwe Information and Research Unit [Ziru]. This unit was staffed by Zanu cadres and academics who had fled the Smith regime. - T V Sathyamurthy, Fellow Christian Michelsen Institute Bergen , The Guardian -

Mon 20

Headline – *Mugabe tours rebel province* – of Matabeleland where, after meeting white farmers, businessmen and black miners he promises to flood the region with extra military resources in the search for the missing foreign tourists and searching out 'dissidents' who continue the plague the province with unrest.

Throughout his provincial tour the prime ministers entourage was always surrounded by a heavy military presence as he travelled to his various meetings in an around the nations second city of Bulawayo. - The Guardian -

Tues 21

Headline – *Zimbabwe Air Force officers 'tortured'* – have been named by their lawyers as Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and fellow officer Wing Commander Peter Brisco. Members of their legal team made this claims in order that the two offices signed confessions as to their involvement in the raid on the Gweru air force base that saw many of the nations combat planes destroyed. The two men, along with Air Commodore Philip Pile;who makes no claim of torture have been charged with conspiracy to sabotage.

Speaking within the last 24 hours members of the legal team, who only were granted access to their clients before the case was brought before the courts, within the seven days, told of how their concerns for the health of Brisco and Slatter that they demanded that the two were examined by medics. Unnamed sources indicated that the two had suffered torture through the use of electric shocks to the body over a period of several days.

Speaking to the press in the nations capital one member of the defence legal team, Rhett Gardener, indicated that the teams next legal move would be to have the 'confession' to their involvement in the dissidents raid deemed inadmissible as evidence because it was gained by illegal methods.

Other members of the air force are under lock and key for their alleged involvement in the Gweru raid. However their legal teams have been serverd with legal notices, signed by the minister of justice, preventing them disclosing any information about the proceedings. - The Guardian -

Sun 26

Headline – *Test for Mugabe* – Zimbabwe 's human rights record will be under scrutiny in the coming weeks as Whitehall considers two top level reports on British military aid to Robert Mugabe 's government.

Defence Secretary John Nott met Mugabe yesterday and was expected to discuss the role of British advisers against a background of dissident strife in the west of the country and investigations into

the sabotage operation which crippled the Air Force two months ago.

With a compliment of about 80 it is still Britain 's biggest and most costly military presence in Africa. Some officers are concerned that the British effort should not be linked to the conduct of some National Army troops who have been accused of beating and intimidating civilians. S Taylor OBS

OCTOBER 1982

Sat 2

*Headline **Deserters Hanged** – Two army deserters, convicted of murder, rape and robbery were hanged in Zimbabwe on Thursday – the first executions allowed by PM Mugabe since Independence on 18 April 1980. The two were among 2, 000 deserters blamed for a wave of lawlessness. They were executed at Harare Central Prison. - AP -*

Fri 8

Headline – *'Nightmare replay' of repression in Zimbabwe* – seems to be on the rise again even as the two old nation has unhappy memories of the strict security controls that were imposed on the black and white opponents of the Smith era government. History seems to be repeating itself and fulfilling the worst fears of the many who foretold such happenings even at the time of the civil wars ending.

While the government, in Harare; with a majority of the ruling cabinet chosen by the prime minister and the Zanu party would concentrate on the actions of the dissidents; loyal to Zanu's Joshua Nkomo, concerns grow, among the white liberal fraternity that the number of those who oppose such tyrannical rule continue to be detained in jail without access to lawyers or a fair trial.

The rule of law and the continues denial of a persons human rights seems to be on the rise; just as happened when those opposed to the rule of the whites regime came under threat from these self same people who now rule this new country.

The minister of state, S Srkeramayi, who is also minister in overall charge of the military notes that as many as 425 dissidents may be detained in Matabeleland. It is also thought that jailed within the Harare region there are about 150 detained over alleged anti government activity. The Smith regime detention number was anything between 2, 000 to 3, 000. - **The Guardian** -

Sun 10

Headline – ***Drought caused ivory boom*** – as traders gathered at the annual sale of the tusk of the elephant; of an animal that would have normally been culled for a number of reasons by the nations game rangers employed by the national parks department as part of the care for this endangered species.

Buyers were willing to spend £8, 000 on a pair of tusks; for use of an artist specialising in animal carvings for the European market. £80 per pound weight is more understandable. Without such excesses of tusks available, because of numbers of dead elephants ivory would normally sell at £30 per pound weight.

The sale is expected to raise £300, 000 for the government of which £30, 000 will finance Operation Windfall; a local government initiative to promote and finance an understanding of

conservation of endangered species by the rural dwelling peoples of Zimbabwe. In addition all the finance gains, by the sale of the ivory and animal skins will be returned to the local villagers.

Another benefit, if the crime of animal poaching can be discouraged, is the tourist and safari industry. There are many big game hunters who are known to pay high prices for 'the trophy killing' of an animal all of which can then be ploughed back into the nations economy. - **The Sunday Tims** -

Fri 15

Headline – ***Confusion and tears as Zimbabwe MP is freed*** – after 10 months in a cell. Then to add further insult Wally Stuttaford was detained by police and then almost instantly released again as he walked from the court after being cleared by the Harare high court of forming an organisation to coerce the state to which the former member of the Republican Front had once been a member was found not guilty.

His rearrest order under the terms of the SOE regulations, signed by the home affairs minister Herbert Ushewokuse, was served on the free man by a police superintendent. It was only later that Doctor H indicated that his second arrest was only an administrative error.

Evidence given at the trial, which only began on 11/10, indicated that there was no real evidence against the accused. A second RF MP, D Walker, who fled at the time of his co accused's arrest fled to London has now been deprived of his seat in parliament. An election for a new MP will be held within the next seven days. - **The Guardian** -

Sat 16

Headline - ***Harare seizes fugitive's property*** - after he; businessman Colin Bickie who was found not guilty of espionage fled the country after being released after the case was heard in the Bulawayo court in 5/82. The home affairs minister, before signing a confiscation order also initialled a fresh detention order under the SOE regulations.

The courts decision, for the freeing of Wally Stuttaford on 14/10 was based on the retraction of evidence from Anthony Madlela, his brother Nephath along with Stanley Malumisa. Since that time these three have been detained by the police. It was claimed that the evidence that the police used to charged the former MP was obtained through torture. - **The Guardian page 7 C 8** -

Wed 20

Headline – ***Kidnap Reward*** – The Zimbabwe government offered a £7, 000 reward for information leading to the safe recovery of 6 tourists; two Britons, Australian's and Americans kidnapped in Matebeleland province on July 23. **AP** -

Mon 25

Headline - ***Jumbo Addicts*** – Elephants addicted to oranges, in the Mana Pools National Park in Zimbabwe, after being fed them by tourists may now attack and trample tourists to get the fruit, wardens warn. Elephants have uprooted tents in the park in search of the fruit after drought cut the moisture content of their vegetarian diet. - **Reuters** -

Wed 27

Headline – ***Mugabe in colliery deal*** – which will see the government take a 40% share in the jointly owned South African; Anglo American [33%] and Union Mines [5.5%] Wankie Colliery complex. The price; Z\$14.13m. The new owners will have 40 percent of the voting capital.

With this shift in ownership the share holding capacity of the apartheid state companies will be reduced to 20.2% and 3.3% respectively. The new company will still be managed by managers who are employed by the Anglo American Corporation of Zimbabwe which itself is part of An Am South Africa. - **The Guardian** -

Headline – ***Mine Deal*** – The Zimbabwe government said acquired 40% of the countries largest coal mining enterprise, Wankie Colliery, owned by the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa. **Reuters**

November 1982

Sat 13

Headline – ***Harare 's torture accusers arrested*** – after their 20/10 claims that two senior air force officers, accused of complicity in the 'dissident' raid on a military base in Gweru, were arrested after police claims that the information that their clients made at the time were made 'under extreme duress.'

The two, M Hartman, 38 son of a British army officer cum writer of adventure novels and R Gardener, 37, who holds dual British and Zimbabwe citizenship were bailed by the magistrate on a bond of £3, 750 each. The two now face a charges of making seditious statements; under the Law and Order [Maintenance] Act before members of the AFP news agency at its offices in the capital after their clients made their first appearance before the courts. They also face a charge of contempt of court.

As to the air force officers, now known to total six officers, all detained since 8/'82, continue to protest their innocence and want it noted that their statements allegedly made to the police were all made without the benefit of legal advice; which in itself is a breach of the detention orders under which they were arrested. The way this evidence was gathered will now be subject to a high court hearing to have it dismissed as evidence as it was extracted by forcefully. Their case will be heard on 25/11. On 26/11 Hartman and Gardener will appear at a remand hearing in the Harare magistrates court.

The London published Sunday Telegraph has angered the Zimbabwe legal eagles after a 10/'82 article that detailed the medical examination of torture victims Slatter and Brisco which noted that both air force officers had been subject to high voltage electric shocks to various parts of their bodies. - **The Guardian page 4 C 1 0**

Tues 16

Headline – ***Negative image blamed on West*** – to give his country, a less than fair chance in the international field of expectations for the future, is being masterminded by the apartheid regime across its southern border. So says Eddison Zvobgo.

To back up his belief the minister of legal and constitutional affairs has set out his defence of his beliefs in writings that attempt to give a real picture of Zimbabwe as a part of the international community.

His beliefs are founded on knowledge that there are people, both within his nation and that ruled

from Pretoria, that the ethnic white people have the inherent right to govern over the black Africans, “They are racists who will undermine any black run state regardless of its human rights record, economic performance, ideology or performance.”

Still, deep down in the white persons ethos, is the belief that it was a mortal sin the day that the likes of Ian Smith and his Rhodesian Front /Republican Party lost power to the black majority. This attitude still persists to this day with the white opposition 'propagate doom and despondency inside Zimbabwe.'

As to other politicians Joshua Nkomo suffers from “power denial” after loosing heavily in the 1980 election. This followed by his fall from grace; removal from the cabinet his inability to control the dissidents from within his own Zapu party. Meanwhile Ian Smith continues to suffer 'withdrawal from power syndrome.'

Other problems that his government face can be traced back to the the all party settlement talks at Lancaster House and subsequently the peace accord. This settlement, with the writing of the new constitution, did much to bring about the concerns of this time.

In the latter days of 1979 the two guerilla/ political entities combined at the talks through the Patriotic Front Alliance. This united body argued forcefully for an executive presidency, a single voters roll, non racial representation in parliament, one chamber legislative, a a bill of rights; which would have allowed the government to move swiftly to acquire and redistribute land. Finally the formation of a national army comprising of former Zanu and Zapu guerillas.

These hopes were dashed when the rebel government of Bishop Musorewa / Ian Smith along with the London government 's negotiators rejected such a plan. This left Robert Mugabe and his co negotiator Joshua Nkomo “left only with the choice of breaking up the conference or going it alone. We went along in the interests of independence and a cessation of the civil war.” **The Guardian page 7 C 8 -**

*Headline – **Spy Trial** - Two white members of the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) went on trial in the High Court Zimbabwe yesterday charged with spying for South Africa. Philip Hartenburg and Colin Evans denied breaking the Official Secrets Act and illegally passing arms. UPI*

Thurs 25

Headline – **Zimbabwe police interrogate Smith** – after he spoke at an alleged illegal political meeting on 23/11. When speaking to the media, at his home, it was revealed that he was among twenty six whites who attending ans art exhibition in a dress shop in the capital.

To his mind the police invasion was like an action of the Gestapo in pre WW 2 Germany. Along with his wife and the others they were sent to the main police station in Harare and questioned in the buildings basement. They were finally released around midnight. - **The Guardian -**

Fri 26

*Headline - **Gaol Smith Demand** – Harare; government owned radio and television have called on the government to jail the former PM, Ian Smith, after a report that he had denounced Zimbabwe.*

The Herald newspaper reported Mr Smith as urging the international community to withhold aid to Mugabe 's government to prevent what he termed a Marxist dictatorship. “Is this not treason? To ... urge the international community not to support Zimbabwe is tantamount to organising the

downfall of the popularly elected government of Zimbabwe” a broadcast commentary said last night. - agency GDN -

Tues 30

Headline – ***Zimbabwe growth plan*** – which over the next three years, with a budget of Z\$6.1bn / £5bn will make repairs or rebuild the nations war torn economy. Thus, it is hoped that the countries average net economic growth will be 8% until 1985. The announcement was made by Dr Bernard Chidzero the finance and development minister.

Chief among the ministers current concerns is the welfare of the nations expected population growth. As of now the population stands at 7. 5m however during the three years of development and reconstruction the yearly population numbers will rise by three per cent. Thus over this time span the economy must grow 3% or people will go hungry.

Where the money will come from; companies earnings and its savings will reach Z\$3. 8Bn / £3.1bn. Which equates to 62% of the financial needs. As for the rest of the finances Z\$ 2.3bn / £1. 8bn will be sought from the international community through inward investment and loans.

More than half of the spending, 59, would be distributed in the public sector. Private businesses are acknowledged to have played a big part in the countries economic growth therefore there would be no devaluation of the dollar as a quick way of raising the funds needed.

Employment, over the next 3 years will rise by 3% a year and 100, 000 new jobs will be needed as real incomes rise by 4.8% every 12 months. However a forecast of Z\$760m / £600m balance of payments deficit is expected each year till 1985. - **The Guardian** -

December 1982

Thurs 2

Headline – ***Zimbabwe decides not to prosecute Ian Smith*** – broadcast by the written media in America that criticised the workings of the Harare government. There were also concerns, by government ministers, made known their displeasure over reports on the Britain 's radio of the attorney generals intention to bring the former prime minister before the courts.

The gist of the Smith comments, in the Washington Post of 15/11 while on a visit to Washington, was the politician was calling on the western international nations not to fund the economic plans recently announced by the finance minister. In the paper he was of the opinion that any 'free world nation' that gave backing to Mugabe's plans were abetting the Marxist take over of Zimbabwe.

Other questions answered deemed that Smith was opposed to one man one vote; it heralds the end of democracy. Destroys freedom. The Zanu leader was praised, by his main critic, for his efforts to steer the country during its first two years but only because his government was able to benefit from 'the fat of the land' that had accrued during the years of white rule. However as time has progressed the needs of the government ministers, 57 in total; more than in any other nation, have made demands – the flash car, the expensive house and employment for ministers chosen ones government cash has been spent unwisely.

Another point of anger, from the Harare government, are the stopover talks that the Rhodesian Front leader had with British prime minister Thatcher as he progressed to the USA. Anger spewed

out from the editorial in the Herald newspaper in Harare. It noted, in its editorial?, that while it Thatcher 's right to speak to who ever she wanted to. What was wrong, it its mind, was to use the discontent shown by a discredited member of the house of assembly to back up a statement in the London parliament.

To the House of Commons she noted she noted her concerns of the numbers of detentions and allegations of torture carried out by the Mugabe regime. In fact more black nationalists, some of whom are now leading political figures, spent years in detention and suffered torture at the hands of the illegal Smith/ Musorewa regimes.

“It is obvious that what is being complained of is not human rights but white rights.” - **The Guardian page 7 C 6 -**

Fri 3

Headline – *Lost in the maize* – of land reform is the ambition / promise of the Mugabe government to resettle 162, 000 landless families over the next three years. Such a claim, seen by many of those fighting and dying in the liberation war, as what their aim was. Now the government plan is deemed unrealistic'

With Harare seemingly unable or unwilling to progress the ideals of the landless vast numbers are tackling the problem head on. There are estimated to be as many as 300, 000 black families squatting on underused white owned farmland; a number that far exceeds the governments original resettlement plan.

It is not as though there is not enough underused white owned farmland for the black farming families to settle on. It is the procedure, set out at the time of the Lancaster House, that seems to holding up/ preventing land distribution. During the London talks white farmland, that the ethic white was willing to sell would be acquired by the government. A failure, on the farmers intention to sell his land, as agreed, would lead to a court case. The compensation payment would then come from a fund of £250m which could be taken out of Zimbabwe; thus damaging the countries fragile economy still further.

Progressives see a future in introducing a land tax rigged to the growing potential of the land that the farmer is willing to sell. Such a tax would not have little effect on the earning power of the minority of efficient commercial farmers. However the farmers who were inefficient producers would be forced to sell to the government poor quality land.

Once the resettled black farmer too over his land there would be the possibility that he would farm the land in the same way that he, and his family members, did so while living in the rural hinterlands of the country. They may also continue their ways of farming; subsistence, that was followed previously. There is no way that this method of crop production is in any way relevant to the mass production of food that white farmers were tasked to perform. The short term cost to the nation, in lost food production, is put at £150m per year.

Hardest hit, in terms of the export market, is the production of the maize crop which at this time can be noted that there are 2 years of the crop bagged up in warehouses. This would imply that this is the time scale that the resettled farmers would have to learn how to move from the ability to produce crops for a small number of people to being able to produce maize and other foodstuffs in an industrial scale or home production or export to the rest of Africa.

“Nearly 5m acres have been purchase and 150, 000 families resettled as the programme moves

forward ... its future is hazy, as the government grapples with its inability to keep its ambitious promises.” - J Hanlon; *The Guardian* -

Sat 4

Headline – Death Verdict – Three British tourists, killed in Zimbabwe 's Eastern Highlands five months ago, were shot with 3 bullets from an AK 47 assault rifle according to an inquest yesterday at Harare. The court did not indicate who killed Mr Richard Prankard aged 31, his sister Nicola aged 24 and her friend Alison Jones aged 24, between the Harare and the Inyanganyan mountain resort. - Reuters -

Tues 7

Headline – *Smith in secret London meetings* - ; a revelation just outed where the former prime minister made representations to various politicians in order to safeguard his position in Zimbabwe. His greatest concern was the wish of prime minister Mugabe to rule as the lead politician of a 'one party state'. Thus within the last 24 hours the Rhodesian Front leader was detained by police and taken under escort to Salisbury while his house in the capital was searched.

The London meetings, around 16/11, were described as a short meeting with prime minister Thatcher then with members of the Conservative back bench foreign affairs committee. At both meetings Ian Smith was accompanied by former Rhodesian RF cabinet minister Peter van der Byl, who warned his former boss that his life might be in danger if details of these meetings were known back home.

During his various meetings the thought that Smith tried to put across, to the London based politicians, was his belief that the foreign office had let down the people of Zimbabwe; using similar language that he had used when in Washington recently; the governments continued support for Zimbabwe 's prime minister and not enough concern events inside the country. His chief concern was the denial of a persons human rights. The inaccurate reporting of London 's representative in Harare, high commissioner A C Byatt, who does not report back to the London accurately the situation inside Zimbabwe.

Headline – *Ex Premier 's home searched in Harare* – although, according to a government minister the former prime minister had not been arrested. The day long police operation began with the authorities arriving at the politicians farm south west of the capital. From there, now under the SOE regulations, was driven to his town house the nations capital.

After a 4 hour house search, finishing at 9pm, it would seem all that the police took away as evidence was a diary, personal papers and a number of letters. Other recent actions against the former leading Rhodesian MP; his Shurugwe farm 200 miles south west of the capital searched on 4/12 where papers and letters were seized. Later the same day at his Mwenezi farm was also searched by police. On 2/12 his passport was seized as the home affairs minister reacted to the press campaign against anti Zimbabwe statements made in the American press allegedly from the mouth of Smith. However these comments, which were supposed to have been broadcast on television were not because of they were deemed to have the ability to incite racial tension. - *The Guardian* page 1 -

Wed 8

Headline – *Hooliganism claim against Ian Smith* – was the reason that the former prime ministers travel document was seized by the authorities said Eddison Zvobgo. A more detailed reasoning, given by the minister of legal and parliamentary affairs, was because of 2his political bad manners”

as well as his hooliganism. The minister was speaking to the press after his arrival in London. He also noted that it was too early indicate what, if anything the security authorities had found of an incriminating nature, after their searches of various properties owned by the Rhodesian Front leader in the recent past.

The minister was of the opinion that the position of Smith was likened to all leaders of political opposition parties and wanted to make others believe that the nations leader was doing wrong for its people. His belief, that prime minister Mugabe was doing wrong made him “an oddity and an antique” who still clung to the belief that the countries name was still Rhodesia while his politics represent only one per cent of the nations people. He wanted to be arrested, then jailed, because as a self styled martyr and predict all sorts of chaos. He would then be, in his own eyes “suffering for a cause” which, as events continue to show is not happening. - **The Guardian** -

Leader Comment, **Hot water for Mr Smith** now that, and not as expected the “disappearance of Ian Douglas Smith from the world stage” has not happened even as the “former pariah state” that was Rhodesia, has turned into “the new hope for Africa ... unqualified triumph in foreign affairs of the present British government” that is Zimbabwe has almost reached its third anniversary.

He has not faded away from the world stage as “he would also fade away in importance in Mr Robert Mugabe 's Zimbabwe.” Now events conspire to once again to “poison relations between Britain and Zimbabwe” with his unwanted secret appeals to London to influence the black government 'not to betray Zimbabwe.'

An answer to the intervention plea should be strong “leave well alone. The British government and the Conservative Party should finally wash their hands of him; the Zimbabweans should avoid sinking to his level ... Mr Smith himself should stop moaning, recognise that he has had his day and stick to his cattle farming. He is not the stuff of which martyrs should be made. - ditto page 14 -

Fri 10

Headline – ***Zimbabwe devalues as economy goes into deep recession*** – and with the decision of a 20% drop in the value of the nations currency will encourage an economic boost in to the nations trade. Those opposed to the governments moves speculate that the devaluation will lead to a rise in inflation.

Detailing the governments thinking the finance minister, B Chdzero, that such a move would see the countries exports; tobacco, wheat, and minerals et al, attractive to overseas buyers. Critics of the devaluation claimed that the reason for such a move was to attract the International Monetary Fund to look favourably if and when Zimbabwe sought out a financial loan. With inflation standing at 17% the minister announced that controls on wages and prices would be introduced as soon as possible.

Two alleges South African nationals, accused of sabotage, have been paraded before members of the nations media. The two were each shackled to police officer. They were the only survivors of a contact with a group of seven after a fire fight with the security forces in the south on 1/12.

The announcement, from home affairs minister Emmerson Munangagwa, noted his belief that the group were trained by the forces from the apartheid state and were loyal to former prime minister Bishop Musorewa or the recently sacked Joshua Nkomo. Their aims were to destroy fuel dumps in Beit Bridge at the time when prime minister Mugabe was in the border town. - **The Guardian** -

Sun 12

Headline – ***Smith 's view in black and white*** – are backed by those that thought that the wrongs that had happened; the passport seizure, house searches, his trips to the USA and London for 'private meetings and black politicians who claim his actions amount to treason. However there were those who spoke the thought that the former; illegal prime minister was 'living in the past.

Given a chance the Mugabe administration will work for the best of the nation to come to the fore. It is only if the wild men take over and try and impose a Marxist state that the Zimbabwe nation, admittedly an experiment, would fail. That will be the time when whites would leave at a time before he transfer of monetary assets out of Zimbabwe was allowed.

Numbers of whites living here have dropped from 200, 000 in 1980. Of this date it is said that two thousand a month emigrate while the 600 who arrive go nowhere near to make up the skill loss that the nation can hardly loose even though the incomers are mainly white. - **The Sunday Times** -

Tues 14

Headline – ***Ranger Shot*** – *A White game Manager has been killed in an exchange of fire with troops who found illegal arms in a game park in Zimbabwe 's central Gorkwe area which has been the scene of dissident violence.* - **Reuters** -

Sun 19

Headline – ***Torture: Mugabe man talks to Mrs Thatcher*** – who happens to be from the white ethnic community as well as a member of the Zimbabwe government 's cabinet. Dennis Norman's concerns, over the treatment of the white officers in the air force, detained following the raid by dissident ex guerilla forces, were expressed to the Conservative leader after initial talks at the foreign office. Later this visit was deemed a courtesy visit by the agricultural minister.

During the talks, which had the approval of his boss back in Harare, the minister defended the moves by his boss to let the legal process take its course rather than, so some would wish, to allow the politicians to dictate the course of the legal moves against Air Vice Marshall H Stalter and his co accused Wing Commander P Briscoe. At the meetings conclusion the Oxford born minister was assured that London would not interfere in the justice system of its former colony. - **The Observer** page 1 -

Thurs 21

Headline – ***Zimbabwe imposes pay freeze*** – seen as a direct result of the currency devaluation, by twenty percent, in the very recent past. The authorities expect no increase on wages/salaries until 8/'83 at the earliest.

The minister of labour and social services, Kumbiria Kangi, highlighted that wages had, over the first two years of the Mugabe government, substantial increases of at least 60% during this time. A leading economist has said that the high inflation rate at this time will eventually cause problems for the prime minister with prices rising by 7% thus pushing the inflation up to 20%. - **The Guardian** -

Thurs 23

Headline – ***Zimbabwe couple shot dead*** – as their vehicle was caught in an ambush as they entered their drive of their home in the town of Mberengwa east of Bulawayo. The husband and wife, Ian and Isabel Michael, were a nursing sister and a miner who when mining jobs forced a move to search for employment the wife, would set up a medical clinic, at their own expense, for the local

children. Previously, they had told neighbours that when working in remote locations, they had never had any trouble with the guerilla forces during the civil war.

Headline – *Mugabe under pressure to act on fuel shortage* – as with the holiday period approaching more than half of the capitals 52 petrol stations have run out of fuel or are closed until 1/83. Thus there is increase in pressure, from vehicle owners wishing to fill petrol tanks for the visits made during holiday season.

In mitigation the authorities note the destruction of fuel holding tanks, damaged on 9/12 at the port of Beira on the Indian Ocean coast of Mozambique. At the same time the Lonhro fuel overland pipeline into Zimbabwe was also put out of action by the same blast. Even then the supply of petrol available inside the country was almost 50% of that available in 1981. This shortfall was blamed on the MNR guerilla fighters fighting a civil war against the Maputo government.

Those business organisations that monitor all aspects of the manufacturing; Chamber of Commerce, the Confederation of Zimbabwean Industry note that, at their best guess, there is only two weeks supply of fuel stocks in the country. “Unless the situation is rationalised in the very near future these problems will worsen and some organisations could face temporary closure.” - **The Guardian** -

Fri 24

Headline – *Change of front by Zimbabwe* – is, according to energy minister Simon Makoni, required as the fuel crisis hits hard throughout the nation. The lack of petrol for vehicles, blamed on the actions of the MNR rebels in Mozambique 14 days ago, has forced the Harare government to contemplate negotiating with the apartheid regime in Pretoria to purchase, in the short term, fuel supplies until such times that oil once again begins to flow overland from the port of Beira.

Responding the Pretoria government indicated nothing less than a long term contract for the supply of fuel would be considered by Pretoria. The government also calls for an official request at ministerial level for any such contract even though, on 19/12, the energy minister himself had dismissed the idea of calling on South Africa to alleviate the petrol crisis.

To combat the shortages new regulations have been imposed by the Harare authorities as more than half of the petrol stations in the capital will be closed till 1/83. After talks with representatives of companies that own fuelling points from the nations main cities; including Gweru, Bulawayo and Mutare, vehicle owners will have to register with a specific garage where they will be able to purchase petrol. Those that travel for business purposes and tourists are allowed to use any garage Those who are found to be hoarding fuel will face severe fines. - **The Guardian** -

Fri 31

Headline – *High Flyer* – Zimbabwe has appointed an army major, General Josiah Togamirai aged 34 as an Air vice Marshall, the first black to hold such a position. He will become chief of operations a post previously held by Commander Hugh Slater who has been in detention since August on sabotage charges. - **Reuters** -

words in *italics* added by this diarist