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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

FOUO No. 756



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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

CENTRAL AFRICAN ECONOMIC, MONETARY STATUS REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 pp 2951-52

[Article: "The Economic and Monetary Situation of the Central African States at the End of June 1981"]

[Text] The Bank of the Central African States (BEAC) recently published its periodic analysis of the national economies under its purview as of the end of the first half of 1981.

While the drop in cacao production continues in Gabon and Cameroon, it is improving in the Congo after a rather long period of decline. The same is true for coffee in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and the Congo, while Gabon is experiencing some weakening. As for cotton, the harvest is down in the Central African Republic [CAR], but it is satisfactory in Cameroon and Chad. Lumbering remains unsatisfactory. The decline in mining production is continuing in Gabon; the Congo is benefiting from greater stability.

Generally speaking, commercial and industrial activity has grown, except in the CAR, where there has been a slight downturn.

Main Export Products Market Activity

Cacao: In Cameroon, the harvest reached 114,891 metric tons (down 4.4 percent from the previous harvest) as of 31 July 1981. The productive zone in the Center-South region was invaded by defoliating caterpillars, and the 120,000-123,000 metric tons forecast will probably not be had. In Gabon, production is down 18.5 percent for the first 8 months of the season and reaches only 2,693 metric tons. After the prescribed production improvements, production showed a 29.3 percent increase of 2,444 metric tons as of the end of June.

Coffee: In Cameroon, the Robusta harvest had exceeded the forecast 75,000 metric tons with 81,450 metric tons (up 31.9 percent over the previous season). The Arabica harvest is also under way. From July 1980 to July 1981, the total production of coffee in Cameroon has risen 29.9 percent with 101,705 metric tons. In the Congo, the harvest as of the end of June totaled 2,211 metric tons (up 19.6 percent). In Gabon, the results at the end of May, after 11 months of the season, are down 11.9 percent with 423 metric tons. In the CAR, production continues to increase; exports totaled 8,653 metric tons (up 16.2 percent) as of 30 June 1981.

Cotton: In Cameroon, the seed cotton harvest at the end of May came to 83,344 metric tons (up 5 percent). As of 31 May in the CAR, 22,590 metric tons of seed cotton had supplied the mills with 8,297 metric tons of cotton fiber; the harvest is lower than

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the preceding one. In Chad, with 85,716 metric tons of seed cotton as of 30 June 1981, the improvement comes to 4.4 percent.

Bananas: In Cameroon, the production marketed by the end of May came to 20,490 metric tons (down 12.86 percent); season forecasts were for 63,700 metric tons.

Palm oil and palmettoes: In Cameroon, the Cameroon Development Corporation (CDC) and Pamol showed a rather sharp drop in their production, which came to a total of 19,582 metric tons of palm oil and 1,988 metric tons of palmettoes (CDC) by the end of May.

Rubber: In Cameroon, CDC production came to 4,770 metric tons by the end of May 1981 (up 949 metric tons). For Pamol, the drop at the end of April was down 5.4 percent.

Tea and pepper: In Cameroon, tea production came to 556 metric tons (down 13.7 percent) by the end of May 1981. Pepper counted for 125 metric tons, a large increase of 74 metric tons.

Lumbering: In Gabon, okoume production, with 363,694 cubic meters at the end of May 1981 showed a drop of 24.8 percent; the slump affects exports while local sales are increasing noticeably. Ozigo production by the end of May came to 18,109 cubic meters (down 14 percent).

In the Congo, okoume production continues to decline. At the end of April, purchases totaled 10,926 cubic meters (down 30.9 percent). Exports were down 29.3 percent while local sales increased. Other items are also down: production is down 18.5 percent and exports down 32.6 percent at the end of April 1981.

In Cameroon at the end of May, rough timber exports totaled 142,453 metric tons (down 26.9 percent); this drop is partly attributable to the difficulties in transporting timber from the cutting sites to the Douala stockyard. Sawing shipments of 57,804 metric tons were up 14.3 percent.

In the CAR, the first 4 months of 1981 confirmed the difficulties in lumbering, as production came to only 50 percent of that in the first 4 months of 1980, or 16,970 cubic meters of rough timber.

Oil and Mining Activity

Petroleum and natural gas: In Gabon, with 3 million metric tons [mt] at the end of May 1981, the decline came to 21.2 percent. On the other hand, the production of natural gas increased 11 percent.

In the Congo, the production of crude came to 2 million mt (up 34.3 percent) as of 30 June 1981. Natural gas production is still suspended because of plant remodeling.

In Cameroon, the first months' statistics for 1981 are not out yet; exports of crude in 1980 totaled 1.3 million mt, down 16.5 percent from 1979.

Mining production: In Gabon, the situation of the world steel industry caused a large drop in manganese production with 632,000 mt by 30 June 1981 (down 483,000 mt) and 553,000 mt in exports (down 510,000 mt). It is unlikely that 1981 production forecasts of 1.5 million mt will be met. Also in Gabon, a slight increase was noted in uranium production; by the end of May, the production of uranium metal concentrates came to 439 mt (up 1.4 percent); exports were also up 3 percent.

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In the CAR, diamond production in the first half of 1981 was down 17.3 percent with 154,900 carats; exports were 149,500 carats (down 18.4 percent). The production of cut stones slowed from the first half of 1980. CAR gold production in the first half of 1981 came to only 43 kilograms (as opposed to 245 kg) at a value of 79.9 million francs CFA [African Financial Community] (down 355 million francs CFA).

In Cameroon, 1981 statistics for aluminum production were unavailable; by 30 November 1980, production had fallen by 50 percent, and exports were down 63.4 percent.

In the Congo, lead production was 2,424 mt as of 30 April 1981, for an increase of 42.7 percent.

Industrial and Commercial Activity

In Gabon, the first third of 1981 had a slight increase, up 5.5 percent, over the preceding 4-month period. While the food industry (flour and sugar) and the textile industry (printing and garment manufacturing) markedly improved their business volume (from 13.2 to 45.1 percent), lumber, brewing and tobacco showed a decline (from 4.9 to 60.1 percent).

In Cameroon, the total business volume of the member enterprises of the Cameroon Industrial Union (Syndustricam) came to 210.3 billion francs CFA for 1980 (up 19.4 percent); considering an inflation rate of 15 percent, the real increase came to 4.4 percent. Export volume was stationary (up 1 percent). Chemicals and metallurgy increased about 20 percent. Salaries grew 31 percent, and industrial employment increased 18 percent.

In the Congo, industrial activity improved noticeably, up 23.5 percent between May 1980 and April 1981. The chemical industry was up 57.7 percent in production and 65.5 percent in business volume. Manufacturing increased business volume 13.5 percent, and the food industry was up 33.4 percent. On the other hand, Hydrocongo was down 8.1 percent in volume over the same period.

In the CAR, industry improved its business volume 14 percent in the period from April 1980 to March 1981, while commercial firms had a drop of 11.8 percent in sales.

Prices, Foreign Trade, Finance

Price index: In Cameroon, the price index for African style consumption was up 8 percent between June 1980 and the end of May 1981. In the CAR, the wholesale price index rose 15.8 percent from July 1980 to the end of June 1981. In the Congo, the retail price index rose 6.5 percent in 1980. In Gabon, from May 1980 to the end of April 1981, the retail price increase for African type products was limited to 4.7 percent.

Foreign trade: Only the figures for January 1981 are available for Cameroon; foreign trade in that month shows a deficit of 14.6 billion francs CFA, as opposed to a surplus of 16.8 billion francs CFA in January 1980.

Monetary situation: The monetary situation in the issuance zone of the Central African States Bank (Chad excluded because of the current situation) as of 31 May 1981 featured a new increase in the money supply, a marked expansion of credit in the economy, a consolidation of public treasuries' credit positions with respect to the banking system, and strengthening of official foreign holdings.

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The general monetary situation in the currency zone at the end of May 1979, 1980, and 1981 is given in the following table, in millions of francs CFA.

	1979	1980	1981
Avoirs extérieurs (nets) (1)	- 12 347	+ 63 460	+ 96 578
Crédit intérieur (2)	472 441	545 680	643 550
Crédit à l'État (net) (3)	(5 821)	(- 13 070)	(- 73 914)
Crédit à l'économie (4)	(466 620)	(558 750)	(717 464)
Monnaie et quasi-monnaie (5)	390 528	515 938	619 394
Autres ressources (nettes) (6)	69 666	93 202	120 734
dont :			
Emprunts extérieurs (7)	11 529	30 443	49 356
Fonds propres (nets) (8)	55 849	61 191	84 596
Divers (9)	+ 2 188	+ 1 568	- 13 218

Key: (1) Foreign holdings (net) (6) Other assets (net), including:
 (2) Domestic credit (7) Foreign borrowing
 (3) Government credit (net) (8) Own capital (net)
 (4) Credit to economy (9) Miscellaneous
 (5) Currency and semi-currency

All the states except Chad were net creditors on their foreign holdings as of 31 March 1980. Gabon had the exchange value of 34.3 billion francs CFA, followed by the Congo, the CAR, and Cameroon. The improved position of the Congo and Gabon can be attributed to receipts from their oil exports. The improvement in the CAR's position is attributable to the continued low level of domestic demand and to investment demand. The slump in Cameroon is due to increasing bank indebtedness to foreign lenders.

Credits to the economy, 717.5 billion francs CFA, increased by 28.4 percent in a year (as opposed to 19.7 percent for the preceding period). As of 31 May 1981, short, middle and long-term credit per country in billions of francs CFA were as follows: Cameroon, 470.6; Gabon, 149.8; Congo, 76.4; the CAR, 20.7; total 717.5.

The expansion of credit in Cameroon is due mainly to financing linked to oil production and to the financing needs of the cooperatives and mutual service organizations in agriculture. In Gabon, the main users of credit are in oil production, manganese mining and lumbering. In the Congo, credit demand comes from the oil industry, food industry, and transportation. As for the CAR, cotton marketing traditionally needs credit when the season begins.

Between May 1980 and May 1981, the general position of the national treasuries with regard to the banking system has been remarkably consolidated, the credit balance rising from 13.1 to 73.9 billion francs CFA. Cameroon has a large positive balance (85.9 billion francs CFA), as does Gabon to a lesser extent (9.9 billion), while the treasuries of the CAR and Congo have a debit balance of 16.8 and 10 billion francs CFA, respectively. Gabon and the Congo have repaid the issuing institute the credit advanced to them. The CAR, on the other hand, increased its loan from the Central Bank by using the International Monetary Fund.

Bill and coins in circulation came to 173.7 billion francs CFA as of 31 May 1981. The amount increased 26.8 percent in 12 months, more than the rate in the previous period (15.8 percent). By country, paper money in circulation at the end of May 1981 was: Cameroon, 84.3 billion francs CFA (up 27.3 percent); the CAR, 30.5 billion (up 40.1 percent); the Congo, 25.6 billion (up 35.3 percent); Gabon, 33.3 billion (up 10.7 percent).

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The amount of demand deposits reached 256.7 billion francs CFA on 31 May 1981 for individuals and corporations in the banking system and in postal checks. In one year it increased 15.8 percent. By state, it breaks down as follows: Cameroon, 138.2 billion francs CFA (up 2.8 percent); the CAR, 10.9 billion (up 30.9 percent); the Congo, 40.1 billion (up 50.2 percent); Gabon, 67.4 billion (up 29.2 percent).

As for semi-currency (time deposits, bonds, and savings accounts), its value came to 189.1 billion francs CFA on 31 May 1981 with a 20 percent increase in 12 months. Breakdown: Cameroon, 121.2 billion (up 26.4 percent); the CAR, 1.7 billion (up 7.6 percent); the Congo, 8.8 billion (up 25.9 percent); Gabon, 57.3 billion (up 8.3 percent).

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ANGOLA

BRIEFS

ITALIAN FISHING BOATS ORDERED--The Italian shipyards Societa Esercizio Cantieri (SEC) received an order of 14 30 m fishing boats that will be delivered to Angola within the Italian program of aid to Africa. Hardly anyone needs to be reminded that, 20 years ago, Angola disposed of one of the largest fishing industries of the African continent. In 1960, fishing yields amounted to over 250,000 tons. Ten years later they reached 400,000 tons and in 1972 they crested at 600,000 tons. A collapse of production occurred in 1975, due in part to the civil war and the conflict with South Africa but also the destruction of canneries and the loss of boats used by refugees to leave the country. These last years, fishing yielded from 2,500 to 3,000 tons of fish per month, that is an annual production of between 30,000 and 36,000 tons, more than half of which was consumed fresh and 25 percent as frozen fish, the rest being either dried (15 percent) or canned (5 percent). The Luanda authorities are trying to revitalize the fishing sector. Hence, particularly, the contract signed at Viareggio between Mr Henrique Primo, director of Angolan fisheries, and Mr Renzo Pozzo, the administrator delegated by SEC, for the supply by the Italian company of 14 boats equipped for shrimp fishing as well as for trawling. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2903] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 8696

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CAMEROON

PRESIDENT SUBMITS FIFTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 pp 2889-2891

[Text] On 4 November 1981, President Ahidjo, as is his habit, made a lengthy presentation of the Fifth Development Plan for Cameroon to the deputies. One cannot say that there was any particular delay in finalizing the plan, since the Fourth Plan was promulgated in September 1976, after study by the Assembly.*

The chief of state began by confirming his commitment to planning, which makes it possible to coordinate the contribution of everyone and which thus presumes that all administrations, collectives and groups expected to implement it will also be invited to participate in the drafting of it.

Early in his address, the president of the republic assessed the two decades which have elapsed rather than the Fourth Plan alone, and then in a later portion, he set forth the guidelines for the new plan and the orientation for the 20 years to come.

Assessment of the 2 Decades Between 1960-1980

Why this assessment of 2 decades? On the one hand, because they were a period of testing for the young Cameroonian nation, internally first of all, with the assertion of the unity and the dignity of the country, and externally, because of the need for the Cameroon to deal with an economic crisis during the second decade. Although much remains for it to accomplish, the Cameroon has indeed passed these tests and is thus prepared to undertake a new 20-year period which will take it to the year 2000.

Moreover, during the first 20 years, planning in the Cameroon set the doubling of the real income per inhabitant as its goal. This goal has been more than achieved. In fact, the per capita income increased from 21,500 CFA francs in 1960 to 187,000 in 1980-1981, representing 46,500 1961-1962 francs. This represents an increase of 2.2 times in constant francs. This goal reflected, among other things, the human concerns in this planning based on planned liberalism, self-centered development, social justice and a policy of balanced development.

During this period, the "socioeconomic face of the Cameroon has been profoundly altered." First of all, there were changes pertaining to the population:

*Where the Fourth Plan for the Cameroon is concerned, see the 31 October 1980 issue of MARCHES TROPICAUX, p 2680, "The Implementation of the Fourth Plan--A Lag Difficult to Overcome," and in our special issue entitled "The Cameroonian Market in 1980" (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 7 October 1980, section on Cameroon, p 1968), "Drafting of the Fifth Development Plan."

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	At the Beginning of the Period	At the End of the Period
Total population (in millions)	4	8.6
Mortality rate (percentage)	2.5 (1964)	2.09 (1976)
Life expectancy (in years)	37	44
Daily calories consumed per capita	2,000	2,600
Health units	309	1,200
Beds available in these units	9,960	25,000
Primary education (students)	340,000	1,300,000
School enrollment rate (%)	--	65
General secondary education	8,500	180,000
Technical secondary education	4,400	57,000
Higher education	470 (1961)	10,000

The success of Cameroonian young people in athletic performance, both within and outside the country, reflects their dynamism and the promise they show. The chief of state recalled that these social advances were possible thanks to the development of the economy and the infrastructures.

First of all, he discussed agriculture, which maintained its contribution to the gross domestic product at about 30 percent. Two goals were sought: an increase in production and a better standard of living for the rural masses. If the authorities stressed export crops above all prior to independence, since the initiation of the Green Revolution, the development of food crops has also been a goal.

In his assessment, the speaker discussed only livestock breeding, fishing and forestry. Livestock breeding has on the whole retained its traditional nature, while the poultry and swine-breeding sectors have been modernized to a greater extent.

Fishing evidenced growth until 1976-1977, and then declined because of "the defection of certain shipowners." Work is already underway to reach the previous level again. "Forestry production increased from 475,000 cubic meters to 1,350,000 cubic meters, a half of which is processed locally." The Fourth Plan calls for 2.5 million cubic meters, but that production was affected by the world recession. An effort was also undertaken to protect the forest assets.

Next, industry: After the phase of replacing industries, the Cameroon undertook a process of secondary integration. The growth has been strong during these 20 years: production has increased by 12 percent per year, the turnover total by 15 percent and investments by 19 percent.

The state sustained this effort through the activities of the National Investment Company (SNI), which has now contributed capital to 80 enterprises and manages a portfolio totaling more than 19 billion CFA francs for the state (1978 figures)--in 1975-1976, the SNI contributed to 58 enterprises and its portfolio totaled 11.9 billion CFA francs.

The chief of state spoke in particular detail about the energy sector. With an installed capacity of 337 megawatts (including 263 for Edea), the Cameroon produces

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about 1.4 billion kwh. This figure has changed little since 1974-1975, but is expected to increase with the commissioning of the Song-Loulou Dam, which has already begun production.

The president stressed that oil production is still modest (3.8 million tons in 1980-1981), but it "covers our needs in the sector and earns appreciable financial resources for us."

The infrastructures have developed greatly. Port traffic has tripled. In fact, the figure for Douala, which handles 90 percent of this traffic, increased from 767,000 tons in 1960 to 2.5 million tons in 1977. This port now has a capacity of 7 million tons, which could be increased to 15 million tons. Studies are under way with a view to deep-water ports in Victoria and Kribi (probably Rocher du Loup).

For a number of years, the Cameroon has evidenced a desire for mastery in the transportation facilities sector, with the creation of the Cameroon Shipping Lines, which has purchased six ships and handles traffic of about 400,000 tons, and the extension and modernization of the railroad network. While the current traffic handled comes to 1.5 million tons per year, its capacity is expected to reach 8-10 million tons per year. The highway network (in terms of km) has also developed.

	1960	1080	Growth
Asphalted roads	500	2,500	x5
Major roads	6,000	18,000	x3
Tracks	--	44,500	
Total	--	65,000	

In the large cities, the SOTUC, established in 1973, is currently transporting 50 million passengers. Its fleet is being modernized and its installations are being expanded.

Air transport has multiplied tenfold, increasing from 100,000 passengers in 1960 to more than a million now. The infrastructures and auxiliary equipment were the focus of major investments during the fourth plan. As is known, Cameroon Airlines has made a large transport purchase--a Boeing 747--and is working to improve administration. This company has just celebrated the 10th anniversary of its founding.

Progress has been made in the postal and telecommunications sector, at least in the extension of facilities.

Hotel capacity has increased from few than 900 beds in 1960 to more than 8,000 in 1980-1981. Let us note that this growth has to do more with the large cities than with the tourist routes within the country. Finally, the chief of state acknowledged that domestic trade requires an organizational effort. He completed his assessment by stressing that this growth gives the lie "to the defeatists and prophets of doom and nostalgic detractors," and he acknowledged that this progress is due to the efforts of the whole people and that the Cameroon has achieved a self-sustaining state of growth.

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Presentation of the Fifth Plan and the Next 20 Years

a. Mastery of the future and development from within. President Ahidjo began by sketching a picture of the international situation, which is characterized by a decrease in international aid, an increase in protectionism, deterioration of the terms of trade and many other inconvenient aspects and dangers, which threaten not only the developing countries, but all of mankind as well.

Put in another way, it is necessary to rely less and less on the generosity of others and more and more on oneself, in a word "On our capacity to master the future." This is the basis for the slogan of "mastery" promulgated in connection with the congress of the Cameroonian National Union (UNC) held in Bafoussam in February 1980.

This same concept is taken further with the term "development from within," which seems to us to imply more than the term "self-centered development." In fact, development from within seems narrower--this is our comment--and better founded on the best of the people's resources. Moreover, it is explained a little farther on that this endogenous development must be based on greater popular participation. This then is the perspective orienting the long-term (20 years) and medium-term (present 5-year period) economic and social projects.

Among the factors which must be taken into account, demographic development ranks first. In the year 2000, the population will reach 13 or 14 million, and the cities will account for 56 percent of this population instead of the present 28 percent.

As a function of this population growth, President Ahidjo had already, in Bafoussam, urged a policy based on the following five principles: balance between the urban and rural sectors, improvement of the standard of living in both sectors, attention focused on the problems in employment and training for that purpose, redistribution of income and finally, avoidance of any threat to the food supply of the population, in the cities in particular, due to the exodus from the countryside.

These principles, for example the balance between the cities and the countryside, food supply for the population, and the income and standard of living of the rural sector, which are dependent on the development of agriculture, are taken up again in the Fifth Plan.

Prior to listing the main activities to be undertaken in agriculture and the other sectors, the president set forth the goals for the two decades to come. Just as the focus was on doubling real income during the first 2 decades, the focus in the coming period will be upon (we have grouped goals together here):

--An increase in food production of 3 percent per year, still thanks to the Green Revolution.

--"Health for all by the year 2000" (There should by then be one doctor for every 1,000 inhabitants).

--The training of the new Cameroonian citizen on various educational levels. By the year 2,000, all children between 6 and 14 years of age should be receiving education

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enabling them to adapt to reality. Technical education will be given priority and intensified. The decentralization and reorganization of higher education will be continued.

--Reduction in the disparity between the cities and the rural sector through the development of infrastructures, and in particular the fuller extension of water and electrical facilities.

Naturally, the president appealed for the support of all so that these goals can be achieved.

b. Proceeding then to the activities to be undertaken, the president of the republic discussed first of all the problem of income. "It will be a priority to guarantee agricultural operators fair and remunerative prices, without however compromising the effort made to improve the standard of living of urban consumers." This is the dilemma involving the rural sector and the cities which is comparable to squaring the circle. In our view, it is possible to act in both directions in such a way as to reconcile the two concerns--intensification of agricultural production, and rationalization and improvement of marketing circuits.

For nonagricultural income, a number of steps are planned. "The levels of wages in the public and private sectors, on the one hand, and among the various wage sectors on the other, must be brought closer together." In this connection, it seems that for the lower wage levels, the private sector is lagging, relatively speaking, whereas for the higher wage levels, it is in the lead. Let us recall that the elimination of the third sector has been contemplated for several years. In addition, within the framework of development from within, it is quite obvious that the government wants to further staffing by natives of the Cameroon. Finally, an employment and manpower office will be established.

Secondly, there is a national food plan within the Fifth Plan. In order to guarantee self-sufficiency in food, the Fifth Plan is based on the following goals:

--Creation of a new type of relationship between the administration and the peasants, and in order to achieve this, increasing the responsibility of each agricultural zone by means of integrated structures, and developing the basic and advanced training of rural development agents.

--And then, improvement of living conditions in the rural sector, but how? Through increased productivity, a farm price policy (see above), while further on the president discussed the organization of village communities, a subject with which he had already dealt at the First Agricultural Show in Buea.

--Finally, the last goal is "the mastery of production, marketing and processing of our farm products." This goal also involves the secondary and tertiary sectors.

Livestock breeding and fishing were dealt with separately. "The goal is to achieve consumption of proteins of animal origin equivalent to 36 kg of beef per capita per year." The average can be estimated at 25 kg for the preceding 5-year period. The steps planned are classic and general. Let us mention, however, the development of

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fish breeding in the villages. No major innovation is planned in the forestry sector either.

Thus industry has the task of processing local raw materials, creating jobs and giving impetus to the economy. Consistent with the preceding plan, the new one stresses the two following points above all: use and processing of the country's resources, whether in the energy, natural resources or raw materials sector, and giving impetus to the small and medium-sized businesses and craftsmen.

One can note that this orientation favors a certain industrial dualism, because the extraction and processing of raw materials and natural resources generally requires recourse to heavy capital sums.

How will this industrial growth be oriented?

The concern will be for integration (which does not moreover exclude subcontracting and thus dualism), and for the reorganization and improvement of the industrial picture. It will probably involve limiting the near-monopoly Douala has on industry. Along these same lines, there must also be technological research adapted to the needs of the country, and finally, investments which create jobs must be given priority. This plan places less stress on productivity.

The service sector will have two main concerns:

- Externally, the promotion of the products of the Cameroon; and
- Domestically, greater mobility for people and goods.

President Ahidjo's speech stressed this second point: the hotel capacity must be increased (an additional 3,000 rooms), the infrastructures linking various regions must be developed, new port installations must be provided, and the realignment of the Douala-Yaounde Railroad must be continued. Finally, "2,000 km of new roads will be provided with heavy-duty surfacing."

On the problem of territorial integration (linking the various regions), which goes hand in hand with the problem of territorial development, the speaker mentioned two other points, without going into detail: environmental protection, and dynamic and functional urban development (MARCHES TROPICAUX has already reported on the urban development in Yaounde and Douala under this Fifth Plan).

This increase in the national assets on various levels will make it possible to provide greater satisfaction of the basic human needs. On this point, the president further discussed some of the seven goals listed above:

--"Health for all by the year 2000," achieved through a health network covering the entire country, the reorganization of public health services, and the priority to be given preventive medicine. "Stress will also be placed on aid to the handicapped and the needy."

--Each level of education should reflect progress and have an underlying ethic, and the chief of state referred to certain basic reasons in this connection: there is a

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need not only to train competent cadres and workers, but also to wage a battle against certain scourges--unemployment, the exodus from the rural sector and juvenile delinquency in the cities.

In the cultural realm, the Fifth Plan seeks to encourage greater activity, production and creativity. Curiously, no mention was made of television, for which plans were already included in the Fourth Plan. Perhaps the text of the new plan is more explicit on this point, but it is a fact that there are technical obstacles to this project. If the automatic telephone system is overloaded and unreliable, this works against the development of television.

c. After setting forth the guidelines and the projects, the speaker discussed financing, which we compare below with that for the Fourth Plan (estimates).

Financing Sources

	Fourth Plan	Fifth Plan
Total investments (in billions of CFA francs)	685	2,300
including:		
Public sector	73%	60%
Local public sector	(21.2%)	(49.5%)
Foreign public sector	(47.7%)	(16.5%)
Subsidies	(4.1%)	
Private sector	27%	40%

A little further on, the president thanked the countries and the international organizations which have aided the Cameroon and are continuing to aid it. The following table clearly shows the declining percentage of foreign public aid. The role of the private sector seems to have been underestimated in the preceding plan.

Assignment of Investments

	Fourth Plan %	Fifth Plan %	billions of CFA francs
Primary sector	15.3	23.7	545.1
Secondary sector	31.5	16.4	377.2
Tertiary sector	6.5	7.7	176.6
Communications infrastructures	22.8	21.1	486.4
Social sector (education, health, culture)	11.5	15.8	363.4
Equipment, urban development, research	12.2	15.3	351.9
Total	100	100	2,300

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The president stressed the increased efforts being focused on rural development.

These investments and these efforts should lead to an annual rate of growth of 7 percent in real terms, which would make it possible to achieve a gross domestic product of 2 trillion in 1986. In other words, the gross domestic product for 1981 comes to about 1.4 trillion to 1.5 trillion.

Speaking again of 1986, exports should total 645 billion and the coverage rate should exceed 100 percent, thanks in particular to oil. In 1979-1980, exports came to 300.2 billion, with a coverage rate of 96.2 percent. The gross available household income should increase by 5.7 percent per year, as compared to the 6.5 percent for which the Fourth Plan called.

The president concluded his remarks by appealing to all for self-discipline, which is necessary to counteract the evil effects of external disturbances. In this connection, he announced "that a reform of our structures is required, with a view to fixing responsibility on those pursuing development and eliminating the main bottlenecks on all levels." This was doubtless a reference to the delays in decisions on the administrative level and in certain services.

After providing these figures and technical details, the president discussed a more philosophic view of matters, quoting Alvin Toffler ("Futureshock"). Thus he responded to those who might reproach the Cameroon for a certain laxity in its rejection of more rigid and technocratic planning. Preparations for the future must evidence a certain flexibility, because it is necessary to take into account both the potential of the country and the general consensus.

Put in another way, the president was thereby announcing new requirements and a development in the drafting of plans for the future. In this connection, both a future and a situational approach will be developed, consistent always with the desire to seek mastery in development.

And because preparations for the future also depend on a general consensus, it is necessary to mobilize the people further through the country's institutions, in particular the state and the party. The speaker was not thereby indicating any democratization of political life.

The president ended his remarks with an expression of faith in a better future. Throughout this address, he reported, in his own fashion, the inadequacies requiring correction and the progress made.

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CAPE VERDE

BRIEFS

DROUGHT DAMAGES--Millet and beans production, the staple food of the people in Cape Verde, will be practically zero in this country due to drought, declared Mr Miguel Lima, general director of production, on 7 November. Cape Verde, added Mr Lima, had again a poor agricultural year, comparable to 1977, the most catastrophic year the country experienced in the last decade. Only the island of Fogo presents a slightly better picture with harvest prospects likely to guarantee the seed supplies of the country for the next year, he said. In the island of Santiago, which possesses 60 percent of the agricultural potential of the country, the expected harvest will not even reach half of the island's production, according to Mr Lima. Faced with this situation, he added, Cape Verde will be forced to import a large quantity of staple foodstuffs and to appeal for aid to the international community. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2879] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 8696

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

KOLINGBA ON POLITICAL PARTIES--General Kolingba, the Central African head of state, said at a press conference held in Paris on 5 November, shortly after he met President Mitterrand at the Elysee, that "the Central African Army has no intention of seizing power or staying forever in power." He explained that a return to political life would take place "gradually and subject to order and peace being restored." General Kolingba mentioned that he intended to meet "in the near future" with representatives of political parties and with "national community leaders" to determine with them how to solve the problems facing the country. He did not rule out that "in time, the creation of a National Front could be envisaged." The president went on to repeat his call for help directed to "all the friends" of his country to save the Central African Republic from the "economic chaos" in which it finds itself. "Our dream," he added, "is to turn the country into a vast building site." On the subject of his talks with President Mitterrand, President Kolingba noted that "the catastrophic situation" which his country is facing was the main topic of conversation. "France," he said, "continues to be prepared to help us." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879 13 Nov 81 p 2893] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981] 8796

UBAC REPORT--In fiscal 1979, the Banking Union in Central Africa [UBAC] was severely disrupted by the events which resulted in a change of political regime. The balance sheet on 31 December 1979 totaled 7.2 billion CFA francs. The total figure for customers' assets (checking accounts, demand deposits and time deposits) was 2.9 billion CFA francs, registering a slight increase of 3.4 percent compared to the end of 1978. Meanwhile, the volume of liabilities (commercial portfolios and advances) showed a slight increase with a current total of 6.1 billion CFA francs. Not included in the balance sheet are liabilities from endorsements and securities and guaranteed credits for customers totaling 1.1 billion CFA francs. After amortization, deposits and taxes, the fiscal year ended with a net worth of 96.6 million CFA francs which is 54.8 million down from the previous fiscal year. A general Meeting held in 24 April 1980 decided to distribute a dividend of 15 percent on a capital of 500 million CFA francs with 49 million in reserves. The Board of Directors has nine members appointed by the Central African state. Jules Marc Laguerema is the president of the bank. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879 13 Nov 81 p 2893] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981] 8796

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GUINEA BISSAU

BRIEFS

SWEDISH AID--SIDA (Swedish agency for international development) has given Guinea Bissau a nonrepayable grant of 110 million crowns (about 110 million French francs) for the period of 1982-1983, it was learned in Bissau on 7 November. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French no 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2879] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 8696

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GUINEA

BRIEFS

IRON ORE CONTRACT DETAILED--MARCHES TROPICAUX (see MTM of 6 Nov 81 p 2819) announced an agreement, signed in Paris on 16 November, between the Guinean company of mixed economy Mifergui-Nimba and United States Steel Corporation. It is to be noted that the definitive contract with U.S. Steel is to be signed before 1 February 1982 and that work will start right away next year so that Mifergui-Nimba can produce the first ore deliveries for its backers at the end of 1984 or the beginning of 1985 according to projections. The project of Mifergui-Nimba which envisages a production of 15 million tons of fine hematites annually for 20 years with shipment of the ore across Liberia through the port of Lower Buchanan represents an investment of \$1 billion, well below the investment projected for Carajas in Brazil, with respect to total volume as well as to tonnage of ore produced. Owing to its iron content and its physical and chemical properties, this ore is of the highest quality, equal to the best ores from Australia or Brazil. Since this is a so-called bonded mine where each shareholder has to take his share of ore in proportion to twice his share in the company's capital, Mifergui-Nimba forms for the African partner countries an ideal source of supply and for all other partners a supply, close at hand, of an ore of excellent quality and an essential diversification. We may add that the World Bank constantly showed its interest for the project and specially delegated two representatives to the meetings held in Paris which resulted in the agreement with U.S. Steel mentioned in the communique. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2879] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 8696

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IVORY COAST

BIDI'S 1980 FISCAL YEAR REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1979,13 Nov 81 p 2881

[Text] In fiscal 1979-1980, the Ivorian Bank for Industrial Development (BIDI) provided 11.2 billion CFA francs worth of new short-term and long-term loans, a figure representing an increase of 95 percent compared to the previous fiscal year.

The BIDI's policy trend was to concentrate its help on a limited number of enterprises of good standing. Thus, 10 or so companies borrowed 78 percent of all the loans and these companies are in the following lines of business: food industry (25 percent), real estate companies (25 percent), chemical industry and fats and oils (23 percent), transportation and distribution of goods (13 percent).

In fiscal 1979-1980, BIDI's main financing operations involved the following enterprises:

--SODESUCRE [Company for the Development of Sugar Cane Plantations and the Industrialization and Marketing of Sugar]: a participation of 8.33 percent in a long-term credit of 12 billion CFA francs given by a consortium.

--PALMINDUSTRIE: a participation of 5 percent in a funding program of 17 billion CFA francs of which 10 billion will be provided by local banks.

--SICOGI [expansion unknown]: a loan of 2.2 billion CFA francs to finance two new housing development programs.

--Ivorian Refining Company: loans totaling 1.4 billion CFA francs to increase its refining capacity to 4 million tons of crude. This project involves a total investment of 100 billion CFA francs.

--Ivorian Company for the Grinding of Oil Seeds and the Refining of Vegetable Oils (TRITURAF): participation of 600 million CFA francs in a loan of 2.1 billion CFA francs to build a soap factory.

--Abidjan Transport Company (SOTRA): a loan of 700 million CFA francs representing 8.33 percent of an investment project for depots, repair shops and for the purchase of passenger boats servicing the lagoons.

Other loans were given to various production enterprises besides carrying on with the policy of helping small and medium-size national businesses.

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Since the BIDI was created in 1965, it has given the Ivorian economy help amounting to a total of 51.1 billion CFA francs, involving 434 operations.

In terms of percentages, the total figure for these loans is distributed as follows: textile industry (10.7 percent), food industry (15 percent), timber industry (8.5 percent), transportation and distribution (10.6 percent); electrical engineering and metalworks (7 percent), hotel and tourist industry (4 percent), chemical industry and fats and oils (11.7 percent), fishing and refrigeration (4.6 percent), services (9.1 percent), energy and water (3 percent), construction and public works (8.7 percent), building materials (2 percent), plastics (1.2 percent), cash crops (0.4 percent) and miscellaneous (3.6 percent).

In the geographic distribution of the BIDI's aid, the Abidjan region accounts for 81 percent and is followed by the central region (8 percent), the south (5.1 percent), the west (3 percent), the north (2.5 percent) and the east (0.4 percent).

In the balance sheet drawn up on 30 September 1980, the outstanding commitments from customers totaled 20.5 billion CFA francs and the chapter of bonds and shares amounted to 1.2 billion CFA francs. In addition to this, unpaid and disputed accounts amounted to 1.6 billion CFA francs, with 32 percent of this sum being covered.

The BIDI's assets consist of its stock (2.1 billion CFA francs), medium and long-term loans contracted in various foreign currencies (18.9 billion) and rediscount facilities in the Central Bank of the West African States (4.7 billion at the end of September 1980).

The BIDI's stock is divided among the Ivorian state (21.1 percent), the Central Bank of the West African States (12.4 percent), the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation (10.7 percent), the International Finance Corporation (7.1 percent), the French Bank of Foreign Commerce (5.4 percent), various international financing institutions and commercial banks operating in the Ivory Coast and Ivorian private shareholders.

Jean-Baptiste Amethier holds the post of governor of the bank and Alphonse Diby is its director general.

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IVORY COAST

STUDY FORECASTS PETROLEUM SELF-SUFFICIENCY BY 1983

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2881

[Article: "Oil: Towards Self-Sufficiency in 1983"]

[Excerpts] Starting in 1983, the Ivory Coast will produce enough petroleum to satisfy its needs and, eventually, it will become an exporting country, according to a study on the economy of the Ivory Coast sponsored by the Ministry of Information and conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Plan.

Right now, Abidjan has the largest refinery in French-speaking Africa and its initial production of 700,000 tons has now reached 4 million tons. The SIR [Ivorian Refining Company] exports to neighboring countries (Mali, Upper Volta and Niger and Benin).

As for petroleum exploration in the Ivory Coast, it started some 10 years ago but it was only in 1977 that the existence of important oil fields was firmly established.

At that time, President Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast officially announced that the ESSO and SHELL companies had discovered an oil field called Belier, 15 km off Grand Bassam (about 40 km east of Abidjan toward the border with Ghana). This oil field went into operation last year and will have an initial production of 400,000 tons.

Other offshore explorations have been conducted between Jacquville and Grand Lahou (east of Abidjan) and they seem to be particularly promising. Initial tests indicated yields ranging between 2,000 and 4,900 barrels a day and point to the presence of large reserves of natural gas (between 40,000 and 60,000 cubic meters a day).

Additional drilling to confirm these findings show that it may be possible to pump as much as 20,000 barrels a day, representing an annual production of 1 million tons of petrol per well.

This oil field, called Espoir, is operated by a consortium led by Phillips Petroleum and including AGIP [Italian Petroleum Enterprise], SEDCO [expansion unknown] and PETROCI [Ivorian Petroleum Company]

Pumping this oil from a depth of more than 400 meters will be a difficult and costly operation since an offshore drilling platform requires investments ranging from 2.4 to 4 billion CFA francs.

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IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

PINEAPPLE INDUSTRY AID--France has granted a major credit aid to buoy the sagging pineapple industry which for the past 3 years has had to contend with "dumping" on the European market by Thailand. Ivory Coast has traditionally been the main supplier for this market. [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French No 1091, 2 Dec 81 p 62]

RUBBER PRODUCTION--The coming decade will be a period of fast growth in the cultivation of rubber trees in the Ivory Coast since production will increase from 23,000 tons in 1981 to 40,000 tons in 1985 and to 80,000 tons in 1980 [sic]. These figures were released in connection with the meeting of a technical committee to study rubber tree cultivation at the village level which was held in Bimbresso and was presided over by Ivorian Minister of Scientific Research Balla Keita. Production of natural rubber in Ivory Coast is still modest but seems destined to have a bright future as the country is expected to produce 150,000 tons by the year 2,000. The introduction of rubber trees in the Ivory Coast is a fairly recent development since it was not until the 1950's that they were planted in the southeast of the country. But large areas are to be found offering favorable conditions to successfully grow these trees. One of the main advantages of rubber tree cultivation in the Ivory Coast is the very fact that it only started recently which made it possible to utilize the latest modern methods. As a result, the average yields of these plantations are the highest in the world--1.6 tons per hectare. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2881] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981] 8796

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LIBERIA

BRIEFS

ALBERT TOLBERT 'PROBABLY DEAD'--Monrovia, 23 Dec (REUTER)--Master Sgt Samuel K. Doe announced on Wednesday in Monrovia that Albert Tolbert, the son of former President William Tolbert, has mysteriously disappeared from the prison where he had been detained and that he is probably dead. In a nationwide Christmas message, the Liberian head of state explained that Albert Tolbert, whose father was killed during the successful "coup of the corporals" 20 months ago, had been transferred early this year to another prison whose location has not been indicated. Ever since then, Albert Tolbert has been reported to have disappeared. The transfer order was signed by the former vice president, Thomas Weh Syen, who was executed last August for plotting against the regime. On the other hand, the head of state announced a general amnesty for all political prisoners and all exiled opposition members. Liberian prisons now contain only 19 persons suspected of political crimes, he explained. [Text] [AB231605 London REUTER in French 1536 GMT 23 Dec 81]

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MADAGASCAR

BRIEFS

MILITARY TRAINING--Before beginning university studies Malagasy students completing the baccalaureate will undergo 3 months military training. The compulsory 18 months of national service has been abolished since the state can no longer afford to maintain such a veritable little army. [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French No 1091, 2 Dec 81 p 63]

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MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

FRG FISH PROCESSING PLANT--The construction and installation of a fish processing plant in Beira which had been opened for bids by EDF in 1980 were awarded to the West German firm Stal-Astra Kaelteanlage, of Glinde, for 3,764,286 escudos (approximately 4.14 million dollars). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2903] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 8696

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NIGERIA

BRIEFS

OIL INSTALLATIONS--President Shehu Shagari attended a ceremony at the Murtala Muhammed Airport in Lagos on 21 November within the framework of the activities scheduled for Air Force Day. He stressed the fragility of the oil installations which represent the most important source of income for the country, and he appealed to aviation authorities to work with the Navy to ensure stricter surveillance of Nigeria's territorial waters. The majority of the Nigerian oil installations are in fact offshore facilities. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1881, 27 Nov 81 p 3182] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981] 5157

ENERGY CONSUMPTION--According to the Central Bank of Nigeria, the country's energy consumption showed an increase of 12.2 percent over 1979 in 1980, with consumption reported at 15.4 million tec [equivalent coal tons] as compared to 13.7 million, distributed as follows by products (the 1979 figures are in parentheses): oil products--11.9 million tec (10.1 million); gas--1.9 million (1.8 million); hydroelectricity--1.4 million (1.5 million); and coal--128,000 (148,000). As can be seen, the most substantial advance was for oil products (+17.2 percent), which accounted moreover for 77.4 percent of the total energy consumed. Fuel consumption was up 24.6 percent (with 2.12 million tec as compared to a little over a million in 1979). Fuel also showed an increase (+7.3 percent), with a total of 700,000 tec. Consumption of gas, electricity and coal, on the other hand, dropped off somewhat. Gas accounted for 12.4 percent of the total energy consumed last year as compared to 13.5 percent in 1979, whereas electricity accounted for 9.4 instead of 11.5 percent. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2950] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

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SENEGAL

CSCE ORGANIZES FOUR TRADE MISSIONS ABROAD

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2944

[Excerpt] After Guinea-Bissau and the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, the CSCE (Senegalese Foreign Trade Center) is organizing four other trade missions to Ivory Coast (30 November--5 December 1981), Nigeria (6-12 December), Saudi Arabia (21-26 November), and India (22 November--1 December). The first three missions (Abidjan, Lagos, Jiddah) were made possible with the help of financing from the European Development Fund which, as part of its trade promotion program, in this way grants by no means negligible financial assistance to economic operators.

The Ivorian mission is a very special one for Senegal because Ivory Coast is Senegal's second ranking trade partner after France.

As for the mission to Saudi Arabia, it must be noted that a preparatory mission went to Riyadh already in June for the purpose of identifying the possibilities offered on the Saudi market for certain Senegalese products, determining the potential demand and the way in which it could be met, and checking on competition prices and the very specific requirements of the market.

The trade mission to Nigeria is essentially concerned with agricultural equipment and fishing products.

The Senegalese economic operator mission to India is a part of the effort to step up trade and industrial cooperation between these two countries on the basis of the steps taken by the two parties to promote such relations.

The CSCE in particular includes representatives from the free industrial zone of Dakar, from SOMICOA [Maritime and Industrial Company of the West Coast of Africa], of SUPER, and of SOTIBA-SIMPAFRIC [African Dyeing, Bleaching, Finishing, and Printing Company].

The mission is to identify enterprises capable of providing Senegal with financial and technical aid. Some of the areas identified include machine-tools, food products, agricultural equipment, chemical products and dyes, and electronic equipment, transportation equipment, etc. SOFISEDIT [Senegalese Finance Company for the Development of Industry and Tourism] is also developing relations with the Indian Industrial Development Bank. India is a big buyer of phosphate rock from Senegal and is currently Senegal's partner in the big industrial project involved ICS (Chemical Industries of Senegal).

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SENEGAL

AGRICULTURAL PLANTING, HARVESTING CAMPAIGN 'FAIRLY GOOD'

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879 13 Nov 81 p 2877

[Text] A Fairly Good Farming Year

If one were to describe in a few words the main features of the 1981 rainy season in Senegal, one could say" quite an early good start, a slight lag in the Senegal River Valley, a premature end, insufficient rainfall in general, although it was above the average for the 2 previous years.

Until July, conditions were generally good but in August and September there was less rain than usual. Crops of tall plants (millet, sorghum and corn), which require more rainfall than the peanut crops, suffered when they were in the stage of pollination and formation of grains. When the rains started again in mid-September, many stands came down because the dried stems were brittle. The premature end of the rains somewhat reduced the harvest prospects. However, heavy rains in the country's central and southern regions replenished the ground water and made it possible to adequately reduce the salt content in the mangrove swamps of Casamance, offering good prospects for the planting of rice seedlings.

Harvest Prospects

Seeds and fertilizers were distributed on time although in amounts and of a quality which were not always satisfactory.

It is paradoxal that this timely distribution had negative effects on some of the peanut crops. Many farmers received a selected variety of seeds, the 55,437 variety, which has many advantages: a short cycle of 90 days which means that it will not be affected if the rains stop early; resistance to drought and to some pests; good oil content (49 percent) and good productivity if planted observing the right density. But this variety does not have a dormant period and the seeds could germinate if they are not harvested in time and properly stored. Farmers planted the 55,437 seeds too early and may harvest them too late. This is why the Company for Agricultural Development and Popularization (SEVEDA) has launched an education campaign with illustrated pamphlets to teach farmers how to accelerate the harvesting particularly on wet soils and how to store the peanuts after they are harvested, arranging them on trays or piling them up in well ventilated ricks and, also, how to dry the peanuts if they get caught by late rains.

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Right now, it is difficult to give exact estimated figures for the peanut harvest. There is reason to hope that it will reach the 800,000-ton figure and with 120,000 tons needed for seeds and between 150,000 and 200,000 tons for national consumption, this means that about 500,000 tons will be left for the oilmills in the best of the cases.

The acreage planted with millet was larger than the one devoted to peanut crops. Since millet has a lower yield, this crop is expected to product 650,000 tons which will be enough to meet the demand. The same applies to corn where the harvest is expected to yield 45,000 tons of corn.

As for rice, it is hard to give any estimates at this stage. The Company for the Development and Exploitation of the Delta Region and River Valley (SEAD) is counting on about 32,000 tons being produced in the Senegal River Valley. The Casamance region could produce about 80,000 tons. This represents an estimated total of just over 100,000 tons of rice, barely one-fourth of the amount needed. In order to cut back on rice imports, which are a heavy burden on the country's budget, an inter-ministerial meeting held on 11 September decided that those merchants who get a quota of rice must also sell equivalent amounts of millet.

Successful Marketing

Successful marketing operations are just as necessary as the right amount of rain to achieve a satisfactory farming year. The three subjects discussed by the inter-ministerial meeting of 11 September were financing, regrouping of pickup locations and actions to fight parallel marketing operations and, therefore, to protect the preferential status given to SONOCOS [National Company for the Marketing of Oleaginous Plants in Senegal], SONAR [National Company for the Supply of Oil Mills] and SEIB [Boal Electrical and Industrial Company].

The 1,829 cooperatives which form the National Union of Senegalese Agricultural Cooperatives are in charge of the first operation, which is to increase production. The operation started on 1 October for grains and on 2 November for peanuts. The National Company for the Marketing of Oleaginous Plants in Senegal (SONACOS) provides these cooperatives with advance credits amounting to 35 percent of the estimated harvest in areas of the interior and to 50 percent in the peripheral areas (Sine Saloum, Eastern Senegal and Casamance).

The issue of regrouping pickup points so that the scale of charges does not go beyond 15 CFA francs per kilo was discussed but the government postponed any adoption of measures regarding this matter to include it in the general reorganization of the cooperatives. Undoubtedly, transportation costs are likely to increase significantly since a number of cooperatives have a very low production and their crops will have to be transported over a long distance.

The authorities have decided to act against illegal marketing operations and against products being taken out of the country. The presence of Senegalese troops in Gambia could help to establish a more effective control until such a time when a Senegalese-Gambian customs union and even a monetary union is set up, this being the only satisfactory solution to the annoying problem of smuggling.

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The government has decided to build up stocks of seeds for next season with the help of an EEC loan and this will have the effect of lowering financial costs.

Truck farming production is quite good thanks to satisfactory amounts of rain. The authorities expect the country to be self-sufficient in potatoes and onions (priority has been given to varieties which keep longer). This will represent savings of 1.5 billion CFA francs. The government seems to be moving towards a certain amount of protectionism in this sector. Senegal should be able to meet its basic needs regarding truck farming produce and should substantially cut back on costly imports. Exports, particularly out of the season, should increase with the encouragement brought to truck farming of cash crops and with the prompt start of a project to settle young truck farmers in the Niayes region between Dakar and Saint-Louis.

In the stockraising sector, the situation is satisfactory and there was no problem in bridging the gap. Stockbreeders have been encouraged to take advantage of a situation in which there is plenty of grass growing and to step up their harvesting of hay to create stocks of fodder for their cattle.

Summing up, the relatively good agricultural year should help improve Senegal's economic situation.

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SENEGAL

GOVERNMENT-SOCOCIM AGREEMENT CONCERNING CEMENT INCREASE

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2944

[Text] The Senegalese JOURNAL OFFICIEL on 5 September published the text of the agreement between the Republic of Senegal and SOCOCIM [West African Cement Company]-Industries (a corporation with a capital of 195.03 million CFA [African Financial Community] at Rufisque) involving the project to expand its cement production capacities, a program for which the European Investment Bank has granted the company a loan of 3 billion CFA (see MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 6 November 1981, p 2817).

SOCOCIM-Industries, established on 7 August 1978, with the majority participation of nationals of Senegal, is to increase its output capacity from 465,000 tons to 825,000 tons of cement per year to supply the Senegalese market until 1990 and to work toward a resumption of its exports.

Under the terms of the agreement, the company provides priority guarantee for the supply of the domestic market to the detriment, if necessary, of the export market. The Senegalese government in turn guarantees exclusive rights to the satisfaction of the needs of the domestic market up to the amount of 825,000 tons. The company will completely remodel its installations to do this job.

According to the draft submitted by the company, the cost, after inclusion of consolidation commissions, has been estimated at 15.21 billion francs CFA (firm price, not revisable for a turnkey contract; to be signed with the contractor, Creusot-Loire enterprise on 25 April 1981 at the latest).

The price established for the actual contract will have to be submitted to the government which is represented by the minister of economy and finances who will give his approval after coordinating with money lenders.

After the inclusion of an amount for unexpected contingencies and intermediate interest payments in the operating fund, the total financing requirements have been estimated at 18.6 billion francs CFA. The work will be completed within 30 months, starting from the entry into force of the loans necessary for the completion of the investment. At the end of that time, the plant is to be started up.

The company's in-house funds should be on the order of 25% of the investment cost by the time the plant is started up on an industrial basis, in other words, 4.12 billion CFA. This figure includes the company's current in-house funds, all of the net operating earnings until the date of industrial commissioning, as well as the repayment of the PBE bills and the PBE bill exemptions which will be granted the enterprise in the context of the investment program and a new stockholder contribution in the amount of 2.08 billion CFA.

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The company currently employs 350 persons to meet the needs of its industrial operations, including 340 Senegalese supervisory personnel, clerical employees, and workers. It will expand without changing its employment picture.

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SENEGAL

BRIEFS

FRG LOAN AGREEMENT SIGNED--Messrs Ousmane Seck and Udo Horstman, respectively, Senegalese minister of economy and finances and FRG ambassador in Dakar, on 10 November signed an agreement involving a loan of 5.1 billion CFA [African Financial Community]. This amount will be used to import commodities and services necessary for Senegal economic and social growth and is part of the implementation of commitments undertaken by the Mixed German-Senegalese Commission last July in Bonn. The two countries on this occasion worked out a program for the year 1981-1982 under whose terms the FRG in particular pledged to make 9.3 billion CFA available to Senegal, half of that amount in the form of subsidies and loans on flexible terms. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2943] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5058

JAPANESE DONATE FOOD AID--Japan has made Senegal a gift of about 450 million CFA francs, earmarked for the purchase and partial transportation of 2,500 tons of Japanese rice, under the terms of an agreement signed on 10 November at Dakar between Mr Ousmane Seck, Senegalese economy and finance minister, and Mr Chiyuki Hiraoka, Japanese ambassador in Dakar. Mr Ousmane Seck recalled the main points in Japanese cooperation in his country. In 1976, Japan granted a loan of 3.35 billion CFA to Senegal in the form of a subsidy. In 1979, Japan gave Senegal 1.09 million dollars for the purchase of 5,000 tons of rice and in December 1980 it gave 240 million yen for the purchase of 4,000 tons of wheat. The minister finally emphasized that the actions of the Japanese Government are essentially aimed at the fields of agriculture and fishing but also touch the transportation sector where Japan in particular contributed to the construction of the Louga-Dahra road through the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2943] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5058

ASSEMBLY PASSES FIVE BILLS--On 12 November, the Senegalese National Assembly passed five bills at the end of the full session presided over by Dr Amadou Cisse Dia. They include the bill for the election of the president of the republic and the deputies. The deputies also approved the creation of TELESENEGAL (National Telecommunications Company of Senegal) and the project opening up certain career fields to women in the police. Two other bills were also passed; the first one extends the term of office of city council members of the communities of Dakar, St. Louis, Dagana, Podor, and Matam, the regions of Diourbel, Louga, Thies, Sine-Daloum, and Eastern Senegal, as well as those of the rural councils of the regions of Dioubel, Louga, Thies, and Sine-Saloum. The second subjects the exercise of industrial, crafts, or commercial professions to a declaration and prior authorization. All of these bills were passed unanimously. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2944] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5058

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BIAO-SENEGAL REPORT--Under the country's current conditions of economic and financial crisis, the BIAO [International Bank of West Africa]-Senegal, which since January 1980 has rejoined the banking network of the BIAO, tried during its first fiscal year to continue improving the nature of its ventures. On 30 September, its balance sheet totaled 51.1 billion CFA francs. Customers' assets (demand and time deposits) totaled 24.5 billion CFA francs. Liabilities (commercial portfolios, credits and advances) amounted to 42.7 billion CFA francs; the bank had to turn to external funds to finance its operations. The recovery of debts was proceeding at a satisfactory rate. Not included in the balance sheet were liabilities from endorsements and securities and the opening of guaranteed credits to customers which amounted to 5.2 billion CFA francs. The category of operating expenses included the cost of repayment of external loans and higher general expenses. After amortization, deposits and taxes, the net worth stood at 3.3 billion CFA francs at the end of the fiscal year and the Board of Directors decided to carry it forward again. After the fiscal year had ended, in December 1980, the capital stock was increased from 2 to 3.7 billion CFA francs by a note issue reserved to the Senegalese state which now holds 35 percent of the stock. The International Bank of West Africa (BIAO) is a member of the Board of Directors of BIAO-Senegal; Amadou Karim Gaye is the president of this bank and Xavier Althuser its director general. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879 13 Nov 81 p 2878] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981] 8796

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TOGO

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH GDR--Togo and the German Democratic Republic signed a trade agreement in Lome on 12 November. The agreement, the first of its kind between the two countries, will enable Togo and the GDR to exchange the products they trade directly from now on. These include phosphates, iron, cacao and oil from Togo, and machine tools and manufactured goods from the GDR. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2949] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

FUEL CONSUMPTION--As previously reported, the largest increase in Nigerian energy consumption in 1980 was seen for oil products, up 17.2 percent over 1979. This consumption was distributed by products as follows (in millions of tons, with the 1979 figures in parentheses): gasoline--3,014 (2,515); kerosene--1,062 (1,020); gas-oil--2,126 (1,707); fuel oil--704 (656); and miscellaneous--678 (574). These come to a total of 7,586,000 tons as compared to 6,474,000 in 1979. Since prices remained stable in 1980, the distribution companies therefore saw substantial increase in their turnover totals thanks to the volume of sales. For the five companies quoted on the Lagos stock exchange, the turnover totals for the fiscal period ending on 31 December were as follows (in millions of naira, with the 1979 figures in parentheses): AGIP [Italian Petroleum Enterprise]--101.9 (85.3); total--244.1 (185.9); African Petroleum--168 (143.3); Mobil--261.4 (233); and Texaco--138.3 (108.8). As can be seen, the increases for these five companies ranged between 27 percent for Texaco and 12 percent for Mobil, with the increases for total and African Petroleum being 19.20 percent and 17 percent respectively. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2950] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

OIL PRODUCTION--The oil production of the various companies operating in Nigeria, for which we gave the figures for the first half of the year in our 18 September issue (p 2384), was reported as follows for the first 9 months of the year (monthly average, in thousands of barrels per day): Ashland, 9.6; ELF [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France], 71.3; Gulf, 287.3; Mobil-Tenn-Sun, 5.7; Mobil, 159.2; AGIP [Italian Petroleum Enterprise], 139.6; Pan Ocean, 7.3; Phillips, 1.1; Shell, 655.3; and Texaco, 36.7. As can be seen, because of the drop which occurred in August (708,000 barrels per day), the average for the first 9 months, 1,473,500,000 barrels per day, fell below the average for the first 6 months, which was 1,707,300,000 barrels per day. Thus production by Shell increased from 899,300 barrels per day during the first half of the year to 755,300 barrels per day during the first 9 months. It should be noted that its production dropped to only 277,000 barrels per day in August. It was already up to 513,000 barrels per day again by September, and in October the level reached was 612,000 barrels per day. This company remains the largest operator in the country, with its production alone accounting for half of the total. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2950] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

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COOPERATION WITH PRC--Minister of Water Resources Alhaji Ndagi Mahmudu signed a cooperation agreement with People's China on behalf of the federal government during the month of October. The agreement pertains to the development of water resources in the states of Banchi and Anambra. The work to be done will include the building of small and average-sized dams, the drilling of wells and the development of units for the manufacture of pumps and other equipment. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1880, 20 Nov 81 p 2950] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

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UGANDA

PARTIAL RESCHEDULING OF FOREIGN DEBTS EFFECTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1881, 27 Nov 81 p 3190

[Text] Uganda arranged on 18 November for the rescheduling of a part of its debt to six major industrial nations over a 10-year period. This information was included in a statement published following a meeting organized in Paris by France, in which the participating countries included, in addition to France, the United States, the FRG, Italy, Japan and Great Britain. Switzerland, the IMF, the UNCTAD, the EEC and the OECD sent observers (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 20 Nov, p 2957).

The statement explained that along with the 10-year repayment period, there will be a 5-year period of grace. Where back debts are concerned, repayment will be made over 8 years, with a grace period of 4 years.

The statement noted that the representatives of the participating countries "were aware of the reconstruction efforts undertaken by the government of Uganda, and they were pleased by the implementation of an economic and financial program" which won the support of a confirmation agreement on the part of the International Monetary Fund on 5 June 1981 (providing a credit line of 112,500,000 SDR [Special Drawing Rights] for the period between June 1981 and July 1982).

The special representative of President Milton Obote, Ephraim Kamuntu, explained to the participants at the meeting that Uganda's foreign debt totaled 850 million dollars. Now the rescheduling his country sought involved only 72 million dollars, covering the payments to be made between June 1982 and June 1983 on debts contracted with the industrial countries or international and multilateral organizations, and also Arab countries (38 million dollars, including 13 million for Libya) and Eastern European nations.

"We need 500 million dollars and a mini-Marshall Plan for our short-term reconstruction program," Mr Kamuntu further said, adding that "the balance of payments deficit for 1.5 years was about 150 million dollars."

A meeting of representatives of the lending countries including those participating in the Paris meeting, as well as Arab countries including Iraq and Algeria, and other industrial nations, was scheduled for the 19th at the IMF headquarters. Mr. Kamuntu said that it was not a formal meeting but rather "a gathering of countries friendly to Uganda to enable us to appeal to them for urgent aid in order to sustain our balance of payments."

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UGANDA

BRIEFS

GOODS AT MOMBASA PORT--The managing director of the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), Jonathan Mturi, assured the high commissioner of Uganda in Nairobi, Mr David Mwaka, last month, that steps had been taken to speed up the removal of Ugandan goods totaling some 20 million shillings in value which had been held in the Kilindini Port in Mombasa for 3 years. These goods were ordered in the Idi Amin Dada era and since the former president was ousted, no one has claimed them. They include in particular substantial quantities of replacement parts for vehicles of various types. Removal of the goods has been delayed by the multiple talks which have been necessary between the governments of the two countries.

Mr Mturi advised the Ugandan government to make more use of containers in the future for goods in transit in the port, and he suggested that a container storage facility be built in Uganda itself. The Ugandan diplomat expressed satisfaction with the good-will shown by the Kenyan port body, and he congratulated the workers at the port on the speed with which they have handled the shipment of Ugandan coffee in all cases. He expressed the view that sales of this product will exceed the initial estimates of 2.7 million sacks this year. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2958] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

REFUGEES IN KENYA--According to reports coming from Nairobi and London, a number of Ugandan political exiles who have found refuge in Kenya fear that they will be forced back to their native country. The authorities in Kampala are reported in fact to have asked the government in Nairobi to return to them the refugees affiliated with movements opposing President Milton Obote. The reports from the Kenyan capital are based on statements by seven Ugandan individuals who say that they have already received expulsion orders. The reports are also based on the recent hasty departure of former President Godfrey Binaisa for London. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2957] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

FOREIGN DEBT DISCUSSED--Minister of Finance Ephraim Kamuntu and four other high officials in his department arrived in Paris on 15 November to participate in negotiations on the rescheduling of the Ugandan foreign debt. Because of the chaotic borrowing policy pursued under the regime of Idi Amin Dada, neither the total amount of the foreign debt nor the percentage of the gross domestic product of the country spent on the debt service annually are accurately known. The FRG, Great Britain, Denmark and Sweden canceled the official debts contracted by Kampala with them at the beginning of the year. It is believed that the Ugandan government officials hope to obtain agreement from the governments represented in Paris on a rescheduling

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and postponement of the official debts and the loans guaranteed by the government. The participants in the Paris meeting are also said to be hopeful of being able to establish the total amount of the foreign debt exactly, as well as the percentage of its gross domestic product which Kampala must allocate annually for repayment of it. Let us recall that the International Monetary Fund, whose deputy director for Africa, Mr Louis Goreaux, visited Kampala at the beginning of November, made the decision to schedule a conference of all those who have provided aid to Uganda. It is to be held in April 1982 at a locality yet to be determined. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2957] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

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ZAIRE

TRADE WITH FRANCE IN 1980 REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2895

[Text] In the course of 1980, French imports from Zaire totaled 734,600,000 French francs (as compared to 703,100,000 in 1979), accounting for 0.13 percent of all French imports. Zaire remains the main supplier of raw copper to France, with a total of 11,313 tons for 1980, although this figure reflects a rather substantial decline (-31 percent) in comparison to 1979 (16,431 tons). It should however be noted that the total tonnage of raw copper purchased throughout the world by France in 1980 was down 16 percent from the figure for the preceding year (17,896 tons as compared to 21,258 tons). In addition to copper, Zaire's main exports to France include cacao, coffee, rubber and palm oil.

We might add that according to a document released by the French ambassador to Zaire, although the products Zaire exports are subject to major price variations, the total and the structure of its exports to France still showed great stability in 1980 in relation to the preceding year. Three important sectors did in fact remain stable: coffee (400,400,000 French francs in 1979 and 400,900,000 in 1980), rubber (26,400,000 in 1979 and 27,100,000 in 1980) and refined oil products (14,500,000 in 1979 and 14,100,000 in 1980). Only the metals sector shows a substantial increase (218,400,000 francs in 1979 and 254,100,000 in 1980).

The "vegetable oils and animal fats" category, on the other hand, showed the greatest decline (13,700,000 francs in 1979 and 2,100,000 in 1980). This drop was probably due to the reduction in Zaire's production of palm oil.

French exports to Zaire came to a total of 527,600,000 French francs in 1980 (as compared to 625,100,000 in 1979), representing 0.11 percent of the total of French sales throughout the world.

The trade balance between France and Zaire thus shows a surplus of 207 million French francs in favor of Zaire (as compared to 77 million in 1979). The "utility vehicles" category, with a total of 92,700,000 francs, became the leading export category in French exports in 1980 following the signing of the contract between Renault Industrial Vehicles and the SOTRAZ (80,800,000 francs in 1979). The vehicles (utility vehicles, private passenger cars, replacement parts) accounted for 28.5 percent of all French exports to Zaire in 1980.

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The "professional electrical and radioelectrical equipment" category, which has ranked first in recent years, saw a sharp decline in 1980 (91.2 million francs in 1979 and 43.6 million francs in 1980), following a decline in the deliveries by the French Thomson company to the land telecommunications stations which are now in operation.

On the other hand, a very definite increase in certain other categories was seen, including "nitrate fertilizers" (3.3 million francs in 1979 and 14.9 million francs in 1980), "public works equipment" (4.7 million francs in 1979 and 10.6 million in 1980), and "refined oil products" (18.8 million in 1979 and 30.7 million in 1970).

In conclusion, the document from the French embassy noted that in 1980, a reclassification and consolidation of French exports was seen because the implementation of the major contracts signed by the two countries in 1975 and 1976 came to an end and the principal new financing (financial protocol, participation of the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation) was not yet functional.

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ZAIRE

HOMES OWNED BY MOBUTU IN BELGIUM LISTED

Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French No 252, 9-22 Nov 81 pp 26-27

[Text] "Everything belongs to Mobutu here, Sir," you will be told if you should pass through the beautiful Walloon village of Rhode-Saint-Genese, en route to Brussels. The natives make no distinction between the dictator of Zaire and the members of his entourage who, taken together, are in fact the owners of the richest lands in this locality, which is famous for its luxurious vacation homes.

In Brussels you will be shown the Josephine House, another of Mobutu's properties, at 327 Tervuren Avenue, a three-story building with a facade some 20 meters wide. But if you want to admire the chateaus of the former sergeant in the Belgian Colonial Police in the Congo, you will have to go to Uccle, a commune in the Greater Brussels area, or to Namur. The first of these chateaus is located at 49-51 Prince d'Orange Avenue in Uccle, along with its grounds, stable and auxiliary building. Obviously, you could not gain entrance to it.

The Frocourt Chateau in Namur is protected from the curious by its vast grounds and a broad body of water. Sese Seko owns other properties in or around the Belgian capital as well, such as that for example at 51 Marshal Ney Avenue, or that at No 2 Avenue de la Ramee, although the latter, a sumptuous villa, is held in the name of his dear uncle, Litho.

In Greater Brussels there are 24 buildings which belong directly to Mobutu or to his relatives and front men. But if he seems to prefer Belgium, he does not limit himself to it. He also owns properties at 20 Avenue Foch in Paris, in Menton, on the shore of Lake Lemane, in Dakar, in Abidjan, etc.

Where was he able to find the sums required to purchase such chateaus, these buildings which represent a veritable fortune?

Billions of Dollars

Well, in fact, he had many sources from which to choose. He could have recourse to the funds of numerous companies over which he has sovereign control: the Zairian Company for the Marketing of Ores (SOZACOM); the Zairian Shipping Company (CMZ); the water and electricity distribution company (SNELREGIDESO); the Zairian National Railroad Company (SNCZ); the MIBA [Bakwanga Mining Company], the Diamond Exploitation and Marketing Company; the General Quarries and Mines Company (GECAMINES) (copper, cobalt, zinc, cadmium, manganese, gold and silver); and the General Ores Company.

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But, probably for reasons of convenience, he has formed the habit of taking funds direct from the Bank of Zaire. In this way, according to the reports of parliamentary commissions for the 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979 fiscal years, he personally made away with more than 50 billion gold francs in foreign exchange (Belgian, French and Swiss francs and U.S. dollars). His relatives needed no less than 10 billion during the same period.

The reports of the parliamentary commissions have never been challenged. Moreover, this represents only a small part of the misappropriations which Mobutu carried out. And when the financial people in Brussels or elsewhere, politicians, African or European diplomats estimate the fortune of the dictator of Zaire at billions of dollars, one can believe them, for they generally tend to understate the truth. They agree, moreover, on the fact that by himself he could pay off a large part of the Zairian public debt.

In this issue, AFRIQUE-ASIE is beginning a series on the components in Mobutu's fortune, one which he amassed by driving one of the richest countries in the world into ruin and a living people into intolerable poverty, with which the allies, supporters and accomplices of the dictator are willing to go along.

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ZAIRE

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH CUBA--A Cuban delegation headed by Ramon Soto, head of the Africa, Asia and Middle East Department of the State Commission for Economic Cooperation, visited Kinshasa at the end of October. Along with the Zairian authorities, the members of the delegation examined the possibilities for cooperation between the two countries, in the agricultural sector in particular. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1881, 27 Nov 81 p 3187] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981] 5157

MPR OFFICIALS--The economic-financial commission of the Central Committee of the Popular Movement of the Revolution (MPR)--the single Zairian party--has been made up as follows since the most recent session of the Central Committee in early October: Nyembo Mwana-Ngongo, president; Djona Mbitima, vice-president; and Ndaye Mukumbi, reporter. Four subcommissions under the economic-financial commission are composed as follows: subcommission on economy and finances--Munga wa Nyasa, president; Weregemere Bingwa, vice-president; and Giriki Safiri, reporter; subcommission on agriculture and rural development--Litho Moboti, president; Mwant Yav, vice-president; and Dzbo Kalogi, reporter; subcommission on industry and commerce--Lofo Idyande Bosengi, president; Kabaidi wa Kabaidi, vice-president; and Kanza Dolomingu, reporter; and subcommission on transportation and communications--Lengelo Muyangandu, president; Apindia Mongo Mapindia, vice-president; and Makinda Wata-Wata, reporter. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2895] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

DAM SITE STUDY--The SNEL [National Electricity Company] has ordered a feasibility study on the possibility of obtaining electrical energy from the three waterfalls on the Nepoko River in the Wamba region (Haut-Uele). According to this study, 6,000 kw could be obtained, for the purpose, among others, of supplying the industrial and agricultural companies in the region, as well as the town of Isiro, which would be linked with the electrical plant by a power transmission line 90 km long. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2895] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

GECAMINES NEGOTIATES FUNDS--According to Zairian State Commissioner for Finance and Budget Ma Nkoi Namwisi, the General Quarries and Mines Company (GECAMINES) needs 250 million dollars to carry out its plan for increasing its copper production. At the conclusion of a work session on 4 November at which First State Commissioner Udjuu Singa presided, Mr. Namwisi stated that negotiations were in progress with the World Bank to obtain the funds necessary to carry out this program. He explained that the goal of the expansion program, which will also require the modernization of the shipping routes from the Shaba region to the port of Matadi, is to increase copper production to 470,000 tons in the coming years. The current level is 430,000 tons (or more precisely 425,700 tons for 1980, according to the GECAMINES report for the last fiscal year--see MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 6 Nov, p 2833). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French No 1879, 13 Nov 81 p 2895] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981.] 5157

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