

JANUARY 1989

Sat 20

Headline – *Zimbabwe Scarcities* – Nearly 200, 000 Zimbabwean 's need emergency food supplies as a result of the failure of the summer rains welfare officials told the Weekly Financial Gazette yesterday. - *Reuters*-

Tues 24

Headline – *Terrorism Charges* – A former British mercenary, alleged to have lead an abortive mission to rescue saboteurs held in a Zimbabwe jail, went on trial in Harare High Court yesterday. The state advocate said Denis Beaham [41] would be charged with attempting to commit an act of terrorism. - *Reuters* -

Thurs 27

The State of Emergency, now in its 23rd year, has been reimposed *for another 12 months*. Figures have been released for incidents involving the MNR; murders of Mozambique citizens, abductions, troop deployment along with calls for political rather than military moves against the rebels.

Tues 31

President Mugabe has been awarded the African Prize for Leadership. During his acceptance speech he made a plea to western nations to transform the continents burdens; debt, hunger, and the effects of South Africa to destabilise its neighbours as it fights to preserve white supremacy.

The guerilla leader, turned statesman, called on Britain to deliver the promised financial aid; agreed at the 1980 Lancaster House peace settlement of £6m, to help purchase, and compensate, white owned farmland throughout the country. As of this time only 42, 000 farmers, out of a total of 162, 000, have been approached.

MARCH 1989

Thurs 2

Headline – *Rhino Defender Cleared* – A murder charge against a senior Zimbabwe National Parks officer and two colleagues, for killing a rhino poacher was withdrawn yesterday, a state prosecutor announced. Police had been accused of undermining the states fight to stop rhino poaching – *Reuters* -

Sat 11

Inquiring into the selling of scarce cars and trucks, from Willoovale Assembly Plant [luxury sedans £8, 200; resale £25, 000] *deemed an illegal act*. *These revelations* forces an offered resignation of Defence Minister E Nkala. GDN page 8 C1 -

Sun 19

Resignation of E Nkala (qv 11/3) , defence minister, has been accepted by president Mugabe on 15/3. *Such an act* opens up to the public the corruption of the Zanu PF party, who are awaiting the recommendations of a Commission of Inquiry, set up by J P W Sandura into the Willovale corruption. President Mugabe acknowledges that the inquiry was instigated by G Nyarota; the editor of the Bulawayo Chronicle. **OBS page 27 C 1 -**

Sun 26

President Mugabe prepares for prime minister Margaret Thatcher 's visit from 28 – 30/3 where there will be a border meeting with president Chissano of Mozambique. Also to be discussed is the sale of a radar missile system and Harrier Jump Jets.

Pigeon racing has been hit by the Glenegles Agreement as there now can be no long range races, to test the birds homing instincts, usually from the South African city of Johannesburg as this would be a breach of the Agreement made at a Scottish golf course hotel.

Tues 28

Preparations for the visit of the British Prime Minister flags up the difficulties of dealing with apartheid South Africa. The Willovale scandal claims a second resignation. There are more to come.

Fri 31

At the end of the M Thatcher visit, which saw the politician receive a warm welcome wherever she went, the leaders of Zimbabwe and Mozambique and their overseas visitor 'agreed to differ' in their vies of the effectiveness of imposing sanctions on apartheid South Africa.

During her 48 hour visit Mrs Thatcher inaugurated a new gold mine near the town of Burundi and increased British aid to the newly independent country to Z\$13.5m. - **GDN page 6 C8 -**

APRIL 1989

Tues 11

Headline – *African Acronyms* – Due to the dominance and importance of the ruling Zanu PF party in Zimbabwe most organisations try at least to copy them by beginning their acronyms with the letter Z. Until now, this tendency has been the preserve of respectable organisations such as the farmers union [ZFU] or the football organisation [Ziafa] but it has now been picked up by the underworld.

The largest gang that prays on the townships goes under the nom de guerre ZATO which stands for the Zimbabwe African Thieves Organisation. There is however a rival group in the townships which refuses to copy the others and is defiantly known as the PPL which stands for the Pick Pocketing Industries. **B Palling; The Independent page 11 C 6 -**

Thurs 13

Headline ***Minister Resigns*** – Zimbabwe 's Political Affairs Minister, Mr M Nyagumbo, resigned yesterday after being named by anti corruption investigators as making huge profits from illegal car deals.

The report, on the Willowgate scandal, accuses several ministers of lying and names others involved in the racket *such* as the Higher Education Minister, Industry Minister, former Defence Minister and former Political Affairs Minister. - **Reuters** -

Sat 15

Further resignations over the Willowgate scandal; Mr D Mutumba Minister of Education, Mr C Ndlovu, Minister of Industry and Governor of Matebeleland North, Senator J Mudenada joining the Minister of State Mr F Shaba et al see 19/3 and 13/4.

The Sandura Commission *has also been asked* to investigate car sales at the countries two other plants. Also the Zapu PF party would investigate its own Party 's holding company ZIDCO. A Meldrum GDN page 8 C 6

Wed 19

On the ninth Independence Day celebrations Mugabe opens the country to foreign investment and takes profits out of the country on the eve of a Confederation of British Industry three day meeting in London to promote investment in the country. The former guerilla leader wants to reactivate the £73.5m World Bank fund to promote trade which was suspended because of government policies and budget deficit of 10% of GDP. - **Independent page 12 C 3** -

Fri 21

Headline – ***Minister Takes Poison*** – The former Political Affairs Minister, Mr M Nyagumbo, who resigned last week over black market car deals was in a critical condition in hospital yesterday after taking poison in a suspected suicide attempt, hospital sources said. - **Reuters** -

MAY 1989

Mon 1

Bad boy Mr E Tekere launches, he said, widely supported, *the* Zimbabwe Unity Movement [Zum] but no evidence of open support at press conference. Claims he wants to take power back to tribal chiefs to gain rural support. - **GDN page 8 C 1** -

Fri 12

Special Report [1] Headline – ***Potholes on Mugabe 's Road to Socialism*** – M Nyagumbo dies after suicide attempt. At his funeral President Mugabe praises him; calling it an end to an era, when government stood aloof from the people. But now achieving a joint party with Nkomo as per Lancaster House Agreement everyone is now working together until corruption reared up; Willowgate, sparked off by student demonstrations which were suppressed challenged by E

Tekere 's movement. - **H Lewin** -

[2] **Headline – *Point of Contact; East and West*** – The country is a diplomatic centre for connecting to Mozambique and South Africa and any number of 'notables; from Oliver Tambo, the Soviet deputy foreign minister or his American counterpart, J Chissamo and S Nujama. Questions of the countries direction, where Mugabe 's persona has changed to the lead spokesman for the Front Line States organisation. Three year chairman of the WAM after 1982 – 1986 brutal repressive regime.

Role in central Mozambique; 10 – 12, 000 troops deployed to protect the Beira Limpopo Transport Corridor which costs Z\$1m / £300, 000 per day. Moves to Bring the rebel MNR and the government together with South Africa 's backing according to the Zimbabwe 's Foreign Minister N Shamuyariar. There has been calls from members of parliament for the withdrawal of the Zimbabwe National Army as MNR raids continue into eastern Zimbabwe. Military equipment is supplied by Canada and training of the ZNA comes from NCO 's of the British Army.

Prime Minister Thatcher 's plan envisages a central role for Mr Mugabe as talks continue to end apartheid in South Africa. However the countries president declines such a role as the Pretoria administration is not ready to end the State of Emergency regulations or the ongoing state sponsored violence. Mr Mugabe also refuses to speak on behalf of the Anti Apartheid Movement. - **Peter Murry** -

[3] **Headline – *Economy, Investment Code; opens doors for gradual liberalisation*** – The main aim is to open the country to outside investors hence the plan unveiled by the Finance Minister Mr B Chidzero; the lessening of government controls. The Confederation of Zimbabwe Industry [CZI] investments 1'88 – 2/'89 Z\$ 998m / £370m invested and creating 5, 500 new jobs; therefore each new job is valued at £30, 000. Unemployment stands at one million; 30% of the countries workforce.

Foreign companies can now buy into national companies to a value of 25% a rise of 10% as expatriates had, in 1988, a financial business interest in the country of £1.04bn. Imports rose 15% to £729m meaning a trade surplus of £295m in 1988 an increase of £69m on the previous 12 months. Foreign debt stands at 24% of GDP whereas in 1988 it was 29% and 37% in 1978.

Tariffs will have to protect certain industries, eg the production of Aspirin, because of the need to replace ageing equipment. The Budget deficit expenditure 1988/9 stood at Z\$1bn /£1.7bn or 10% of the countries GDP. Liberalisation will be approved when the budget deficit is as low as 7%. To achieve this rather than cut expenditure on health or education spending or abandon Mozambique the budget will be held at the current level and the outlined changes will be allowed to spur the economy and therefore bringing down the budget deficit. - **A Meldrum and P M** -

[4] **Headline – *Culture; Carving out a place in the Arts*** – Early in days of an independent Zimbabwe all art was linked to the political mood of the times. However since that time the work of the artist Dambuzo Marechera, who died in 1987, and was seen as 'a voice in the wilderness' highlighted the shortcomings of the government party who were offering no way forward for up and coming novelists Chenjerai Hove and Charles Mugoshi who both wrote literature of merit without any political concerns. Stone sculptor artists John Takawarie and Bernard Matamera also ignored. Critical drama was suppressed and shown only to a small audience and the

performers were refused permission to travel abroad. - **Neville Wilson** -

[5] Headline ***Political Scene; Democratic Spirit alive and kicking*** – An open government seems now the order of the day. Outbreaks of corruption have been challenged. Edgar Tekere's formation of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement has acted as a spur to the Mugabe administration to embrace the democratic principal. All in contrast to the days of conflict with Nkomo's Zapu party in the early 1980's. Backbench members of parliament including Byron Hove is at the forefront of asking meaningful questions of the workings of government. There is to be a Unity Party Congress later this year with a general election in 1990. Can the existing level of political discussion be maintained as plans for a one party state unfold. - **A Meldrun** -

[6] Headline ***Tourism; "ways to wander on the wilder side of life"*** - Round Victoria Falls and game parks in Mutarae in the Eastern Highlands hotel rooms at Z\$100 – 150 a night abound, with others located near 'Greater Zimbabwe; near present day Masavinga; the site of the first people to settle the region. Vehicle hire is expensive; Z\$40 – Z60 per day.

However tourists should be aware of the risks to health when touring; Bilharzia, a water borne disease, is a risk outside the Eastern Highland region. Visitors are advised to have a Hepatitis injection. - **A Brennan, GDN pages 14 to 17** -

Sat 20

The Sabotage trial of D Bechan [41] must go ahead despite a plea to the Supreme Court to halt the trial while a Botswana witness is sought. Mr Bechan has been charged with assisting in a South African backed plot to free five Zimbabweans held on terrorist charges in Chikurubi jail in Harare. - GDN page 7 C 1 -

Tues 23

Headline – ***Black Hope in 'Two Boy'*** – The rise of E Tekere and his Zimbabwe Unity Movement party is loosing its bad image and teams up with Ian Smiths Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe; [CAZ]. The former loyal Mugabe supporter, known as 'Two Boy' in the shebeens speaks for those suffering schizophrenia. - **Independent-**

JUNE 1989

Sat 10

Headline – ***Pretoria's agents jailed for bombings*** – Forty year jail sentences, for 5/'86 help to the South African Defence Force bomb attacks on two African national Congress buildings in Harare have been handed down to K Woods [36] and B Bawden [31] and M Smith [35]. All three were former members of the Rhodesian Security forces.

Two British nationals P Brown [51] and J L Walker [56], suspected of espionage, have been on a hunger strike for the last three weeks. The reason; they are angry that the Zimbabwe government have ignored judicial recommendations for return of their passports. - **GDN page 10 C 1** -

Mon 12

Headline – ***Party Rally Cancelled*** – Zimbabwe 's new opposition party. The Zimbabwe Unity Movement, cancelled a public rally planned for yesterday when it was locked out of the stadium where the meeting was to take place. Local authorities said that the ZUM failed to pay a booking fee but party officials said officials refused to take the deposit. The Zimbabwe unity Movement formed in April by a former leading official of the ruling party Zanu PF, Mr E Tekere. **Reuters**

Thurs 15

Headline – ***Police arrest Striking Doctors*** – Police in Zimbabwe arrested at least 60 striking doctors at two hospitals yesterday, the first crackdown during a 3 day national stoppage. Police said they would detain all others who stopped away from their jobs.

Those arrested face the prospect of being held in cells overnight before appearing in court on charges carrying maximum prison sentences of ten years. Their lawyers said they faced charges under law and order legislation. - A P -

Contemplation the peculiarities of the British abroad during temporary exile. - Dana Winter GDN page 38 C 5 -

Fri 16

Further moves over striking doctors (qv 15/6); support from the Zimbabwe medical Association. Medical students boycott classes and refuse to work at hospitals till the dispute, a call for the raising of monthly pay to Z\$700 / £250 and an investigation into the administration inside the Health Ministry by the army medic Brigadier Felix Muchemwa, are instigated. A Meldrum GDN page 13 C 1 -

Sat 17

President Mugabe has stepped into the dispute that has seen junior doctors take strike action at two of the countries hospitals (qv 15/6). In an attempt to stop the spread of industrial action to other employees in the health service the leader of the Zanu government has promised to review the jailing of three of the strike leaders.

At the same time measures will be taken to review the provision of facilities and the supply of medical equipment. Measures will also be put in place to prevent qualified staff leaving the medical service. The future of Health Minister Muchemwai will also looked into. A M GDN page 6 C 7 -

JULY 1989

Sat 1

Headline – ***Mercenary Jailed*** – A British mercenary, Denis Charles Bechan [41], was sentenced to life imprisonment for plotting to free four white Zimbabweans from jail in 1988 (qv 21/4). The plot failed and Bechan was arrested in Botswana and extradited to stand trial on terrorism charges. - Andrew Meldrum GDN page 6 C 9 -

Mon 3

Headline – ***Test for Mugabe*** – The Zimbabwe Unity Movement, a new opposition party, formed after a corruption scandal *that* rocked the government, tomorrow contests a Harare bye election.
Reuters

Wed 5

Two days of bye election campaigning in the Dzwaresekwa constituency, last held by M Ngumbo who was forced to resign after being named in the Willogate Scandal, claims acts of intimidation by 50 women supporters of the Zanu party which has banned all media coverage of ZUM 's activities. The government have also imprisoned all the top officials for the last 10 days.

A show of popular support, for the emerging new political force, would be seen as a warning over government policies, and a threat to the position of President Mugabe and Zanu 's plan to instigate a one party state if they win the promised 1990 general election. - **GDN page 12 C 7 -**

Fri 7

Dzwaresekwa bye election result; E Masawi Zanu PF 7, 000 : 3, 000 F Mutikori ZUM on a low turn out. At the same time the president pardons former minister F Showa, who was involved in the Willogate Scandal, after nine months in jail.- **GDN page 15 C 1 -**

Sat 8

The result of the recent bye election (qv 7/7) was rigged claims the Zimbabwe Unity Movement leader E Tekere. In a constituency of 64, 000 only 16% or 10, 300 voters actually placed their cross on the ballot paper. Thus the new political party achieved approximately one third of the votes cast. - **A Meldrum page 8 C 7 -**

Fri 21

The first public meeting of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare was closed down by riot police and members of the security forces as discontent grows over President Mugabe 's ongoing policy of granting clemency to those named in the Willowgate Scandal.

The latest name to surface, and profit to the tune of £8, 000 over the sale of a moderately priced vehicle, is Air Force chief V Tungamival. **GDN page 11 C 1 -**

Thurs 27

Headline – ***Emergency Extended*** – Parliament, told that South Africa is building an air bases and other military installations on its southern border has voted to extend, for another six months, the State of Emergency which has been in force for 24 years.

An industrial sized incinerator used by the Rhodesian authorities, between 1976 – 1980, to cremate executed black nationalist guerillas; thought to be 390 1976 – 1977 located at Chikaribi Prison in Harare is to be turned into a national monument. The plan was revealed, by the Minister of Political Affairs Mr E Zvobo. - **A Meldrum GDN page 9 C 2 -**

AUGUST 1989

Fri 4

Headline – *Harare official Fined* – The former Higher Education Minister, Mr Dzingai Mutamboka and his wife Katherine, were fined the equivalent of £30, 500 yesterday for selling a car at an illegal price. Mr Mutamboka was one of five ministers who resigned after an inquiry into illegally profiteering in cars. - *Reuters* -

People who have made advance bookings for graves in Gweru cemetery have been given 30 days to claim their ploy or risk giving them up. - *Reuters* -

Sat 5

The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace has criticised the countries needs for abuse of peoples human rights and urges that the draconian measures need not be renewed. Citing two cases; the 6/89 detention of a University of Zimbabwe lecturer Mr K Makamurie for seven days without access to a lawyer.

The Commission also noted the harassment metered out to members of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement who were detained, on flimsy evidence, at recent a meeting at the capitals University of Zimbabwe. - *A Meldrum page 9 C 5* -

Sat 26

Headline *Spy Suspects Freed* – Four whites, held without trial in Zimbabwe for up to two years, on suspicion of spying for South Africa; including two Britons Patricia Brown [53] and Jack Walker [56] have been freed from detention. - *Reuters* -

SEPTEMBER 1989

Sat 2

The newish political grouping the Zimbabwe Unity Movement and the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe are preparing to take cooperation (qv 23/5) to the next level. There is the possibility of a merger between the two bodies if a joint manifesto, that is not too socialist in content, can be agreed.

Sun 10

Headline – *Fine for Killing Wife* – A man who beat his wife to death, when she refused to prepare a meal, has been fined Z\$250 /£73. The magistrate said she had been asking for trouble.

A court in the capital heard that Laimon Chapusa [56] and his wife were drinking in a beer hall when he ordered her to go home and go make food for their three children. When she refused he beat her with a stick. She died shortly after wards. - *AFP* -

Sat 23

Headline – ***Defy Ivory Ban*** – Along with Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and Mozambique Zimbabwe will form the Ivory Selling Cartel thus defying a proposed western ban on the sale of elephant tusks. These governments argue that the ivory would be sourced from 'farmed elephants' and not from those that lived in the wild. The money raised would then be used benefit each countries rural population.

Former Prime Minister Ian Smith is to be charged in connection with the illegal export of a leopard skin after American agents found his name on a tag attached to the dead animals skin.
GDN page 7 C 4

OCTOBER 1989

Thurs 5

Headline – ***Harare Campus Shut after Riot*** – President Robert Mugabe closed the University of Zimbabwe indefensibly and ordered all 10, 000 students to leave the campus by the evening. The presidents move comes following angry demonstrations in which students stoned police and set alight the Mercedes sedan owned by the Vice Chancellor Mr W Kamboi.

Students said police entered the campus around 3am and arrested two student leaders and tear gassing demonstrators. The students were protesting against the governments use of emergency powers to ban an anti corruption meeting they planned to hold on 30/9. A Meldrum GDN page 9 C 1

Sat 7

Headline ***Union leader held after Harare Clash-*** Mr Tsvangaria, secretary of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions [ZCTU] has been arrested for publicly supporting the student revolt at the University of Zimbabwe on 5/10 when the president of the Students Representative Council Mr A Mutambara and its Secretary general were arrested.

After the police closed the University down, on the presidents orders, fifty students will face criminal charges. Pleas for the reopening of the Harare campus have come from the nations Bishops and the leader of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement E Tekere. - A M GDN page 10 C 7 -

Sun 8

Headline - ***Last Chance for the Tuskers*** – Ephrmi Chafesuka, chairman of the Gupuve District Council in the Zambezi Valley, a member of the nations delegation to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species conference in the Swiss town of Lausanne along with Victoria Chitepo; Minister of National Resources tells the international gathering that other countries are in no position to tell Zimbabwe how they should manage their elephant population.

It was noted that the sales of Ivory accounts for only 15% of the revenue from the sale of animal products. Other nations, Botswana, South Africa, Namibia and Malawi back the stance made by the Harare administration. This is despite a threat from the United States to end regional aid unless their ban on sales of ivory is maintained. The value of smuggled tusk into shops was £625m but the '36 Elephant Nations' only received £6m of this.

If the Swiss meeting does vote to ban the sale of elephant tusks Zimbabwe has said that it will

join, along with Mozambique, Swaziland, Angola, Malawi, Lesotho and Zambia alternative ivory trading system by early 1990. - G Lean R Mc Kai J Raath OBS page 17 -

Fri 20

Headline – ***Harare Union Leader Held*** – Mr M Tsvangaria, Secretary General of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions was re arrested yesterday immediately after the High Court ordered his release from prison.

Mr Tsvangaria was initially arrested after he made a statement earlier this month criticising the closure of the University of Zimbabwe and the governments use of Emergency Powers. A Meldrum GDN page 13 C 1 -

Thurs 26

A second detention for Mr Tsvangaria is causing worry to the judiciary and is discussed between his defence lawyer Mr Chinyinze and the countries Chief Justice E Dumbutshena; who was 'not amused by the detention , and the Attorney General Patrick Chinamasa. The court also orders 15 University of Zimbabwe students to be bailed @ Z\$150 /£15. However there will be no release for the others detained by the police on 7/10. A Meldrum GDN page 9 C 4 -

Fri 27

Headline – ***Bye Election Results*** – Strong support for ruling party these elections even after the revelations of the Sandura Judicial Inquiry into the corruption at the Willovale Vehicle Assembly Plant

Results;	Constituency*	Party	Votes
	Masvingo N	Zanu PF	17, 420
		ZUM	1, 927
	Chiramunanzu	Zanu PF	12, 386
		ZUM	921
		Independent	1, 737
	Gwanda	Zanu PF	9, 878
		ZUM	624
	Kariba*		

^ delayed as nomination papers late in arriving – A Meldrum GDN page 13 C 1 -

Tues 31

Headline ***Accused of Torture*** – A report from Africa Watch a pro human rights group notes an increase of torture in detentions in the Zimbabwe province of Maciniland which borders Mozambique. This is put down to an increase in both the action of the Zimbabwe Unity Movement and the rebel MNR military activities across the border. Support has been given for

political settlement with its political rivals in Matebeleland between 1982 and 1988. During these six years it is said that 1,500 rural citizens were detained, deprived of their liberty or tortured.

The organisation recommends an ending of the State of Emergency, detentions without trial, an investigation into Human Rights abuses, more independent judiciary, enhanced basic freedoms and more rights for refugees. - A Meldrum GDN page 9 C 1 -

NOVEMBER 1989

Sun 5

Headline – ***Police Raid Reunion*** – Anger at remarks by Ian Smith, at a reunion dinner in South Africa at the 100th anniversary of the formation of the South African Police, on international sanctions imposed on the apartheid state premeditates a police raid at a Harare hotel where a similar dinner was taking place.

During the two and a half hour raid, in which 60 police officers took part, medals worn by the dinner guests were confiscated. - P Thornycroft Sunday Times page 22 C 7 -

Fri 10

Headline – ***Smith Order Spurned*** – A Zimbabwe court case, brought by Mr Ian Smith, prompted a legal crisis yesterday as the Supreme Court attacked the Speaker of the House of Assembly for stating that he would not obey the courts order to pay damages to the former Rhodesian Prime Minister. - A Meldrum GDN page 14 C 7 -

Mon 27

Headline – ***Bishops Protest*** – Seven Roman Catholic bishops yesterday expressed opposition to President Robert Mugabe 's aim to transform the western style democracy, into a one party state. The prelates said that the nine million people of Zimbabwe must be allowed to decide their own political destiny. - AP -

DECEMBER 1989

Wed 5

Headline – ***Oil Rights*** – Mobil Corporation yesterday won the right to drill for oil in Zimbabwe on 7.5m acres on the southern shore of the Zambezi river. - Reuters -

Thurs 7

Book Rhodesian Front War by H Ellert; published by Mamba Press Zimbabwe.

Fri 8

Headline – ***Mugabe Allays Fears*** – The Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe yesterday reiterated earlier pledges to settle hundreds of thousands of black families but allayed white farmers fears that their land would be seized with minimal compensation to mark the 10th independence

Anniversary. - AP -

Sun 10

Headline - ***Zimbabwe Move***- Delegates at a meeting between Robert Mugabe 's ruling Zimbabwe African National Union and Nkomo 's African Peoples Union demanded an end to socialism and the abandonment of plans to introduce a one party state. **Worldwatch OBS page 9 C 9 -**

Wed 20

Delegate conference Zanu PF hear a call from Mugabe for a Marxist Leninist state ending two years merger talks with J Nkomo 's Zapu. This move was earlier criticised by Mr Mandaza the chair of the governments Parasatals Commission where he likened the authority to those in Eastern Europe; a contradiction of a one party state and democracy.

After a two day debate, behind closed doors, the change in style of government is expected to be passed by the 5, 000 party attendees. Those who are opposed were left out of the discussions despite high ranking Ministers were supportive . There will be a general election in 3/90 with implementation of the political changes soon afterwards.. - **A Meldrum GDN page 9 C 1 -**

Tues 26

Leader Comment - ***Ten Years of Mugabe*** – In the ten years since the Lancaster House Agreement president Mugabe has kept to the letter of the Agreement yet it is still his intention to instil a one party state from 18. 4. 1990. An amendment to the constitution will allow only a two thirds majority [not 100%] to amend the Bill of Rights, appropriate property without compensation and abolish freedom of association. But will he use these powers?

Land ownership, post independence, ten years on, 4, 000 whites own one third of the land 42% of the land supports 750, 000 commercial farmers in traditional black areas of the country. Since 1980 7% of these have been resettled on white owned land. Small scale black farmers; some 3.5% of this land is now in the hands of small scale black commercial farmers.

Land reclaiming could be an election gambit at the coming 1990 general election. - **Second Leader; The Times -**