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**SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL-MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS
IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

*A Report Prepared under an Interagency Agreement
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Library of Congress*

October 1984-September 1986

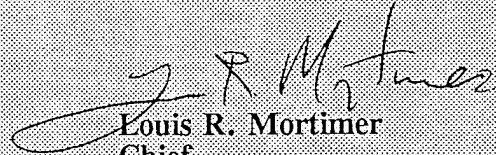
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PREFACE

This chronology is organized by region, country, and date of event. The date of events is sometimes difficult to determine because it varies from source to source. Some sources cite the actual date of the incident whereas others appear to use the official news release dateline. When possible, the actual date of the occurrence is listed.

SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL-MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS
IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

October 1984

HORN OF AFRICA

Ethiopia

- October Estimates of the scale of the famine in Ethiopia grow dramatically during the month. Western relief agencies double to 10 million their estimates of the number of people close to starvation. The famine now appears to be as serious as the one of a decade ago which precipitated the downfall of Emperor Haile Selassie. It may affect the guerrilla war in Tigray and Eritrea.
- 19 October The town of Lalibela in Welo Province is captured by insurgents of the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement (EPDM) and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). The insurgents capture 10 foreign tourists when they take the town, which is one of Ethiopia's major tourist attractions. Lalibela's seizure is a particular embarrassment to the regime at a time when it is trying to promote tourism.
- 30 October The Soviet Union announces it will provide 300 trucks, 12 transport planes and 24 helicopters to help Ethiopia's famine relief effort. Prior to this, Soviet aid had been negligible and contrasted sharply with Western assistance. The Soviets' response is likely the result of the heavy criticism they have come under for being willing to send massive military aid to Ethiopia and but no food or disaster assistance.

Sudan

- 29 September The state of emergency imposed in April 1984 by Sudanese President Jafa'r Numeiri is lifted and the special Islamic courts created to adjudicate cases under the Shari'a, traditional Islamic law, are suspended. These proclamations are delivered during President Numeiri's speech to the Sudanese Socialist Union, marking the first anniversary of the decision to introduce Islamic law as the basic constitutional law in the Sudan. These conciliatory measures are designed to appease American and European criticism of the recent state of Sudanese internal affairs. They represent an attempt to temper the radical wave of Islamization prevalent in the Sudan and portend a more pragmatic attitude towards the non-Muslim population of the south currently rebelling against the actions of the Khartoum government.
- 4 October Sudanese guerrillas, members of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), ambush a government troop convoy between Duk and Ayod in the Jonglei province. An armored troop carrier is

destroyed and 64 government soldiers are killed. The convoy ambush ends the 5-week lull in SPLA activity. It was designed to disrupt the construction of an oil pipeline from the Unity field, developed by Chevron, to Port Sudan on the Red Sea coast and to serve as a demonstrable reminder of discontent with President Numeiri's arbitrary, militaristic style of leadership.

SAHEL

Chad

- 17 September France and Libya sign an accord to remove all their troops from Chad by 15 November. Chad protests that the French decision will leave it vulnerable to a new Libyan backed attack. There are approximately 5,000 Libyan troops and 3,200 French ones in Chad. The accord signifies the desire of both sides to end the year-long stalemate by mutual withdrawal.
- 5 October President Hissene Habre meets in Paris with President Francois Mitterrand and African leaders Bongo of Gabon, Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast, and Mobutu of Zaire to discuss the troop withdrawal. Habre's government, fearing the Libyans will violate the accord, seeks assurances from France. By organizing a "mini-summit" with African leaders supportive of their policy, the French indicate they intend to adhere to the pact.
- 8 October The first contingent of French troops leaves Chad. Withdrawals continue throughout the month on a schedule apparently designed to meet the 15 November deadline. Although the mutual withdrawals are not as carefully monitored as originally planned, France announces that Libya is also removing its troops, a sign that the French are determined to leave Chad unless they are forced to remain by Libyan activities.
- 12 October Zaire announces officially that it will withdraw all of its troops now present in Chad. Up to 2,000 Zairean troops have been stationed in Chad since June 1983 in support of the Habre regime. Their withdrawal will follow that of French and Libyan troops from the country in which a civil war has continued for 2 decades. Some 500 to 1000 Zaireans are to remain in Chad to train Chadian soldiers, an indication of Zaire's continued support of the Habre government.
- 20-27 October Chad's various political factions meet in Brazzaville on 20 October for preparatory talks in an attempt at ending the civil war. The talks fail and are adjourned on 27 October with no date set for them to resume, an indication that neither the Habre government nor the Libyan-backed opposition GUNT is ready to compromise. The breakdown may also signify that the GUNT hopes to launch an offensive with Libyan aid when the French troop withdrawal is complete.

Senegal

- 3 October Four persons are killed and several injured in two regional capitals in clashes between rival factions of the ruling Parti Socialiste. The clashes, which occur as the party is nominating its candidates for municipal and regional elections to be held in November, are an indication of internal problems in the party and may portend a weakening of President Abdou Diouf's position.
- 8 October A demonstration organized by seven opposition parties to protest recent price increases is banned by the government at the last minute. No incidents are reported as the crowd which had gathered is dispersed. The event illustrates the growing unrest in Senegal due to poor economic conditions which the opposition blames on the ruling party's policies.
- 9 October The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Moustapha Niasse, is removed from his post by President Diouf. Niasse is a long time Parti Socialiste leader and a powerful figure in Senegalese politics. His removal reflects the tensions and splits within the ruling party and may result in a loss of support for Diouf. It could also mean that Diouf is building an independent power base of younger men loyal to him.

EAST/CENTRAL AFRICA

Zaire

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WEST AFRICA

Gabon

- 3-6 October President Omar Bongo makes a state visit to France, an unusual event since African heads of state generally make working visits which call for less protocol. The high level of this visit illustrates the French desire to remain on good terms with Bongo both for economic reasons (Gabon's oil wealth) and political ones (support for France's Chad policy).

Liberia

- 12 October Head of State Samuel K. Doe releases several persons detained since August on charges of plotting to overthrow the government. Among those released are Dr. Amos Sawyer, dean of the humanities faculty at the University of Liberia, and Major General Nicholas

Podier, speaker of the interim national assembly at the time of his arrest. US pressure is believed to have influenced Doe's decision, an indication of US interest in Liberia's progress toward civilian rule.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Angola

- 6 October Official sources in Benguela claim that a total of 200 "bandits" are killed and a large quantity of war materiel seized during roundup operations in Lobito, Bocoio and Balombo. The materiel captured includes shells, antitank and antivehicle mines, grenades, ammunition, and military uniforms "of South African origin."
- 8 October More than 1,500 armed rebels, former supporters of the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA/COMIRA), plus 20,000 of their civilian supporters, have given themselves up to government forces, according to government reports. The former rebels surrendered with all their arms. Among those who gave themselves up were FNLA commanders who described their ranks as very senior, including Tonto Afonso Castro, "Chief of Staff."
- 11 October SWAPO is using Soviet-made tanks to defend its bases in Angola, according to a report issued by the International Institute for Strategic Studies, detailing for the first time the strength of guerrilla movements in Southern Africa. The report lists SWAPO's manpower at 8,000 and says its equipment includes Russian T34 and T54 tanks, armored personnel carriers, surface-to-air missiles, and antitank guided weapons.

Lesotho

- 2 October Following negotiations in September between South Africa and Lesotho, South Africa has begun delivering military equipment to Lesotho after it was held up at ports of entry in the Republic for the past few months. The equipment includes supplies from Britain as well as an Italian helicopter which will be used in Lesotho's drought relief program. The equipment holdup was caused by South African insistence that Lesotho sign a security pact to curb alleged African National Congress activity in its territory and by Pretoria's use of economic sanctions--including withdrawal from a water project.

Mozambique

- 3 October A ceasefire between the Mozambican Government and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) is announced in Pretoria following mediation between the two sides by South African Foreign Affairs and Information Minister Roelof "Pik" Botha. RENAMO has been waging a guerrilla movement to destabilize the Machel regime since 1978, receiving support first from Rhodesia

and then from South Africa. South Africa's role in subduing the organization's activities follows the signing of the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique in March 1984, but many observers question whether South Africa has actually ceased support of RENAMO.

- 3 October Two Swazi soldiers are wounded when they are caught in a cross-fire during a border skirmish between Mozambican Security Forces and RENAMO rebel forces. The fighting spilled over into Swaziland when one of the parties crossed the border in hot pursuit of the other.
- 9, 12 October The bodies of 2 Italian technicians who had been kidnaped in September are found 50 kilometers north of the capital. The government also confirms the killings of two Portuguese advisers in September. RENAMO, which has been responsible for similar terrorist acts in the past, denies involvement in the killing of the Italian technicians. If RENAMO is responsible for any of the murders, it would be part of the organization's campaign to terrorize foreigners and thus discourage them from coming to Mozambique to help with development projects.

Namibia

- 1 October South African-led troops have shot and killed 17 black nationalist guerrillas in the last 2 weeks, the senior military officer in Namibia reports. Major General George Meiring says six of the guerrillas were killed in Kavango in the north of the territory.
- 4 October A bomb explosion badly damages the main water supply pipeline to northern Namibia. Reports say the bomb damaged the pipeline to Oshigambo in Ovambo, cutting off water to about 350 farms in the central Ovambo region. SWAPO has asserted it will step up the armed struggle in Namibia, and this attack may portend further activity in the territory.
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- 17 October South African-led security forces in Namibia capture a high ranking guerrilla leader of SWAPO and eliminate a key "mobile headquarters" in the war-torn Kavango area, the head of the South West Africa Territorial Force reports. The destroyed headquarters is described as the "nerve center" from which all SWAPO's armed activity in the northern region of Kavango had been planned.

South Africa

- 2 October In renewed violence 4 people are killed, several people injured, and more than 50 arrested in various parts of the country. Three teenagers are killed at KwaThema on the east Rand when a van, which had been stoned, ploughs into a group of about 300 people. In Soweto, a man is battered to death during an attack on a private home in Jabulani by about 100 people, in continuing protest of a rent hike in government-owned houses.
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- 16 October Bishop Desmond Tutu, a leading voice in South Africa for nonviolent efforts to end that country's policy of apartheid, is named as the 1984 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. The selection committee said the 53-year-old General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches was being recognized because the means by which the campaign to end apartheid "is conducted is of vital importance for the whole of the continent of Africa and for the cause of peace in the world." The choice of Bishop Tutu is expected to be seen by the South African Government as an unwelcome political gesture intended to increase international pressures for change.
- 23 October A combined force of 7,000 police and soldiers is sent into three black townships south of Johannesburg in the biggest crackdown on political dissent ever mounted in South Africa. The heavily armed men, backed by armored vehicles, throw cordons around the townships, which have been the scene of racial unrest for nearly 2 months, then move from house to house, searching an estimated 225,000 inhabitants and arresting 363. The operation--Code named Palmiet (Bullrush)--marks the first time South African authorities have used mass searches to round up black dissidents. It is also the first time the army has been employed so openly to quell racial unrest.

Swaziland

3 October

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**SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL-MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS
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November 1984

HORN OF AFRICA

Ethiopia

November

Drought victims continue to pour into relief centers. British, American, Italian, Soviet, and East and West German aircraft are able to transport inland food shipments which had piled up at the port of Assab. Fighting between government troops and insurgent groups in Tigre and Eritrea continues to hamper food distribution. Ethiopia announces its intention to resettle several million refugees from the drought-stricken northern highlands to more fertile land in the south and southwest. The first group of drought victims is moved on 16 November. Western aid donors are asked to assist in the resettlement scheme but they question the feasibility of the plan and fear that people will be resettled against their will on state-run collective farms. Spokesmen for the Tigre People's Liberation Front charge that the plan is designed to depopulate areas where rebels enjoy support.

mid to late
November

Fighting between Somali National Movement (SNM) guerrillas and government forces in northwest Somalia is reported. The SNM reports having overrun a government base 15 km north of Hargeisa in an attack launched on 13 November. It also claims to control mountainous areas around Shaykh and Gabile and to have inflicted heavy losses on government reinforcements brought to the area. In a 27 November broadcast the SNM claims to have cut roads in the northwest and to have launched a joint offensive with the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS). While these reports are probably exaggerated, they indicate that armed SNM guerrillas have been able to infiltrate the region.

24-28 November

A Somali Airlines Boeing 707 carrying 130 people is hijacked by three Somalis believed to be an army captain and two soldiers. After being refused landing in Aden, PDRY, the plane lands in Addis Ababa. The hijackers demand the release of political prisoners, including seven high school students who they claim are scheduled for execution. They threaten to blow up the plane and passengers if their demands are not met. After 4 days the hijacking ends. All passengers are released, Somalia says it will not execute the high school students, the hijackers are granted political asylum in Ethiopia, and they are allowed to hold a press conference. This incident gives international publicity to the Somali opposition, provides Ethiopia an opportunity to criticize the Somali regime in the

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Chad

6 November 300 soldiers, constituting the first contingent of the Zairean Detachment in Chad, return to Kinshasa from N'Djamena in accordance with the withdrawal decision announced in October. Some 2,500 Zairean troops had been sent to Chad in June 1983 to guard key points in the capital until the arrival months later of the French contingent. Their withdrawal is part of the French/Libyan agreement to withdraw foreign troops from Chad. However, Zairean training of Chadian commandos continues in Zaire. In early November, 500 Chadian commandos complete training and are replaced by another 500 who arrive at the Commando Training Center in Kotakoli.

11 November In a joint statement Libya and France announce the completion of their troop withdrawals from Chad. The withdrawal of some 5,000 Libyan and 3,200 French troops began in October.

15 November French President Mitterrand meets with Libya's Qadhafi in Greece amidst charges from Chad and the United States that Libyan troops remain in Chad. Mitterrand acknowledges that 1,000 to 1,500 Libyans are still in Chad, while the United States puts the number at some 3,000 troops. On 23 November a French report confirms the 3,000 troop figure. Although the French declare that their troops will return to Chad if the Libyans act against the Habre government, Habre is increasingly concerned with the Libyan presence.

16 November Amnesty International accuses the Chadian Government of brutally suppressing opposition in the southern part of the

country. The organization claims that hundreds of people have been executed by government troops since August and appeals to the government to stop this practice. Hissene Habre has been trying to control the south since he took power in 1982. Recent reports appear to confirm the Amnesty charges, which reflect Chad's basic problem, the division between north and south.

Senegal

- 19 October Senegal, which has provided troops for the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) since 1978, decides not to renew its contract and to withdraw its troops from UNIFIL. The government denies that discontent in the army is a factor in the decision.
- 25 November Municipal and rural elections are held and the governing Socialist Party, which was represented in all 37 municipalities and 318 rural districts, wins nearly all seats. Of 15 opposition parties, only 2 field candidates and only in certain areas. These elections clearly show the weaknesses of all the opposition parties.

EAST/CENTRAL AFRICA

Tanzania

- 12 November President Julius Nyerere is elected chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for the coming year at the OAU's summit meeting. Nyerere replaces Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam as chairman.

Uganda

- 13 November According to diplomatic sources in Kampala, 200 North Korean soldiers arrive in Uganda on 13 November and are taken to camps in Luwero district. These soldiers are to help the Ugandan army fight insurgents. The first group of North Korean soldiers arrived in 1982 to provide training assistance to the Ugandan army. The number of North Korean military personnel in Uganda, including the latest contingent, is estimated to be between 500 and 700.

Zaire

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continues in Zaire. In early November, 500 Chadian commandos complete training and are replaced by another 500 who arrive at the Commando Training Center in Kotakoli.

12-16 November Tanzanian-based rebels capture Moba, a town on Lake Tanganyika in Shaba Province. More than 100 rebels and a dozen civilians are killed when 300 Zairean paratroopers and ground forces drive the rebels out a few days later. The objective of the incursion appears to be to disturb public order before the swearing-in of Mobutu as President of the Republic and before the official visit to Zaire of French President Francois Mitterrand in December. It is also speculated that the fighting in Moba was the result of a mutiny in the Zairean army or may have been staged by elements loyal to Mobutu in a ploy to draw Western attention to the activities of opposition elements. The Zaire Committee in Belgium suggests that the mutiny may have been launched by the Parti de la Revolution Populaire which claims to have liberated certain zones in eastern Zaire.

WEST AFRICA

Gambia

9 November A Gambian National Army has been created for the first time. It consists of 2 platoons trained by a British Army team and the remains of the Field Force, Gambia's militia decimated in a 1981 coup attempt, for a total of 100 men. There are plans to enlarge the army. Formation of a National Army is due in part to Gambia's desire to avoid being totally dependent on Senegal for military protection in the Senegambian Confederation.

Guinea

1 November Trials of leading members of the Sekou Toure regime begin in secret in Conakry and are expected to last several weeks. Although Guinea's military government reportedly has been under pressure from Saudi Arabia and Morocco [supporters of Sekou Toure] to release some officials, they are all expected to stand trial. The trials, which demonstrate the military government's determination to remove all traces of the old regime, have met with popular support.

Liberia

9 November The Liberian Government announces a foiled coup attempt by "foreign terrorists." Unofficial sources say only that a shoot-out occurred between soldiers and two civilians, one an American. Head of State Doe is increasingly worried about his personal security as well as his growing unpopularity. The government charges may be designed to bolster Doe's international and domestic position.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Angola

- 1 November Angola agrees in principle to a phased withdrawal of Cuban troops in return for completion of the South African withdrawal from southern Angola and Namibian independence. The Angolan proposals offer to reduce the Cuban presence from about 30,000 troops to 10,000 and to redeploy the remaining Cubans to the Luanda and Cabinda areas.
- 10 November UNITA invites a party of South African and foreign journalists to attend the final parade-ground ceremony of a 7-day extraordinary congress of 400 senior commanders at Jamba in south-eastern Angola. The congress reviewed two major offensives launched against UNITA by the Angolan government and studied implications of the recent negotiations involving South Africa, the United States and the MPLA on a withdrawal of some 30,000 Cubans from Angola. Jonas Savimbi, UNITA's leader, warns South Africa and the United States that he does not intend to be left out of the Namibia settlement talks.

Botswana

- 31 October The Botswana Defense Force (BDF) reports that a BDF vehicle is fired on by South African Defense Force (SADF) soldiers near Ngoma, northern Botswana, about 60 kms west of Kasane, site of an incident earlier in October. According to General Mompoti S. Merafle, the BDF soldiers are fired upon by two gun emplacements as they return to their base near Kasane while crossing the Ngoma bridge. No one is injured and the BDF does not return the fire.

Malawi

- 19-23 October Mozambican President Machel visits Malawi and signs a general cooperation agreement creating a joint commission on security, trade, transportation and communications, agricultural, and natural resources. Talks with Malawian authorities center around border security following attempts by RENAMO to create difficulties in relations between the two countries. Although Malawi's President Banda has expressed concern in the past over RENAMO activities which have disrupted trade from Mozambican ports to Malawi, it is the first time that the presidents of the two countries have met to try to find a solution to their mutual security problems.

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2 November RENAMO rebels, charging that South African Foreign Minister R. F. Botha was a biased mediator, announce that they are abandoning peace negotiations in Pretoria with the Mozambican Government. This announcement dampens hope for a rapid cessation of RENAMO terrorist activities which are disrupting the already weak Mozambican economy.

6 November It is announced by a RENAMO spokesman that a Sri Lankan captured earlier in the year was released on 4 November in the Malawi border village of Penca. The Sri Lankan had been working in Mozambique as an agricultural adviser in northern Zambezia Province. His kidnaping was another attempt by RENAMO to discourage foreign nationals from aiding in Mozambican development projects.

7 November It is announced that RENAMO terrorists murdered 12 people and seriously injured 3 others during an attack on a village in Zambezia Province. It is the second massacre in the same area in 2 months. In the previous attack, 22 people were killed on a plantation. The continuing attacks are indicative of the failure of the ceasefire talks between RENAMO and Mozambican Government officials in Pretoria, South Africa, during October.

Namibia

1 November The SWA Territorial Force begins the first phase of military registration of all men in Namibia between the ages of 17 and 54. The registration could involve between 250,000 and 300,000 Namibians and is compulsory--anyone refusing to register could face prosecution. News of the move evokes widespread condemnation from black nationalists and church leaders in the territory, who accuse the South African Government of trying to use Namibians for cannon-fodder in maintaining its control over the territory.

South Africa

5-6 November An estimated 500,000 black workers refuse to go to work in the economically vital Transvaal Province over political and economic grievances. This massive work "stayaway" occurs in the area where two-thirds of South Africa's industry is located. The Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce estimates that at least 50 percent of the black work force in the Johannesburg industrial region, stretching from Pretoria in

the north to Vereeniging in the south, did not show up for work in one of the most successful general strikes ever waged by black workers.

- 13 November The South African Government detains at least 7 union leaders connected with the work stayaway on 5-6 November. Among those in detention are Chris Dlamini, President of the Federation of South African Trade Unions (FOSATU), and Pirshaw Camay, General Secretary of the Council of Unions of South Africa (CUSA). The government action against the black unions is rapidly souring black labor relations, where major reforms have taken place since blacks were granted the right to have registered unions in 1979. FOSATU is calling for a "black Christmas" to protest the government's detentions and the firing of 6,000 black workers by SASOL, the parastatal synthetic fuels corporation. The Detainee's Parents Support Committee says more than 220 people are now being detained without trial.
- 13 November Bishop Desmond Tutu, winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize, is elected the first black Anglican bishop of the city of Johannesburg. The position gives Bishop Tutu the spiritual leadership of hundreds of thousands of Anglicans in Johannesburg.
- 14 November South African security police detain white political activists today for the first time since the country's latest spate of unrest began in September. The detained include Kate Philip, President of the National Union of South African Students, and Guy Berger, a journalist said to have worked with the United Democratic Front, an alliance of groups opposed to the limited reforms that exclude the black majority from a qualified extension of political rights to people of Indian and mixed racial descent.
- 16 November South African police round up 2,300 black workers in raids on the township of Sebokeng, south of Johannesburg, in the biggest mass arrest in years. Most of those seized for non-payment of rent and minor civil offenses pay fines and are released. In Pretoria, police confirm that an investigation is beginning to determine whether comments by Reverend Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, contravened legislation prohibiting criticism of the police.

Zimbabwe

- 9 November Senator Moven Ndlovu, a senior member of ZANU, Zimbabwe's ruling party, is assassinated sparking riots that leave 200 persons injured and several dead. The opposition ZAPU office in the town of Beitbridge is burned down by demonstrators and several ZAPU members are thrown into the fire. Prime Minister Robert Mugabe criticizes ZAPU, although its leader, Joshua Nkomo, disclaims responsibility for or knowledge of the shooting.

12-13 November Prime Minister Mugabe ousts the two remaining supporters of Joshua Nkomo in his cabinet, virtually ending cooperation in the government between the parties which had once formed the Patriotic Front, the governing ZANU and the opposition ZAPU. Minister of Home Affairs Simbi Mubako announces that he has intelligence linking ZAPU with dissidents supported by South Africa.

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East/Central Africa

Burundi/Zaire

13/12/84 Official Burundi radio launches a verbal attack on Zaire's regime in response to a similar broadcast in Kinshasa about Burundi. Tension between the two countries intensified with the failure of Colonel Bagaza to attend President Mobutu's swearing-in ceremony. Initially tension was probably caused by Burundi's reporting of an attack in November on the Zairian town of Moba which hinted at a threatened regime in Zaire.

Zaire

03/12/84 Field Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko is sworn in for his third 7-year term of office as president. Mobutu has been successful in ruling over the numerous peoples who inhabit Zaire and has survived several threats to his regime.

East/Central
Africa/Southern
Africa

Zaire/Zambia

04/12/84 A Zambian official reports that some 400 Zaireans have fled into Zambia in the aftermath of fighting in Zaire between government forces and rebels involved in the cross border attack on Moba on 12 November. The refugees allege that they were mistreated by Zairean troops demanding food and money. Such allegations are typical of complaints by the Zairean population about the behavior of army troops who are irregularly paid.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

24/11/84 The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) reports that it thwarted attempts by government forces to recapture bases near Halhal in Eritrea between 24-28 November. The EPLF also reports it successfully countered a government forces attack on an EPLF garrison in southeast Eritrea on 25 November.

00/12/84

Reports surface that Israel is selling Soviet-made ammunition and military spare parts to Ethiopia and has been doing so for more than a year. Much of the military equipment apparently comes from stocks the Israelis captured in Lebanon in 1982. The equipment includes spares for small arms, tanks, trucks, and aircraft.

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13/12/84 Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam pays an official visit to Cuba from 13 to 15 December and meets with Fidel Castro. He then travels to Moscow and meets with Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko on 17 December. The purpose of the visit to Moscow presumably is to win increased Soviet assistance.

17/12/84 On 8 December the EPLF reports killing 1,170 government soldiers when government forces try to recapture two posts in southwestern Eritrea. EPLF fighters attack the town of Decamere on 17 December and report killing 70 government troops and capturing large quantities of weapons. Although casualty figures may be exaggerated, they indicate that major conflicts are occurring in this part of Eritrea.

Ethiopia/Sudan

00/12/84 The Ethiopian Government proclaims its most important priority to be resettlement of famine victims from Tigray and Welo Provinces to the southwest. By the end of December approximately 120,000 people had been removed to the southwestern lowlands. The government's goal is to resettle 1.5 million people by the end of 1985 and 3 million by 1990. Little foreign food aid is reaching the guerrilla-held areas of the north. As the famine worsens in these areas the number of Ethiopians fleeing to Sudan is increasing markedly, exacerbating the refugee problem there.

Kenya

12/12/84 President Moi pardons former Constitutional Affairs Minister Charles Njonjo, who had been under investigation for allegedly conspiring to overthrow Moi with foreign assistance in 1982. The formerly powerful politician will not be reinstated in the national party, precluding him from becoming active in Kenyan politics for the present. This puts an end to the "Njonjo affair" which had dominated much of Kenyan politics since June 1983. Two politicians and two university lecturers who had been detained without trial since 1982 are also released on 12 December.

Somalia

28/11/84 The Somali National Movement (SNM) reports launching three surprise attacks on government forces based in or near Burao, capital of Togdheer region, between 28 November and 9 December. The SNM also ambushes government vehicles on roads in the region several times during December. In late December, the SNM reports that the Somali government killed

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41 people in Burao to avenge SNM attacks on government troops earlier in the month. It also claims 16 Somali officers were executed for failing to halt SNM attacks in the northwest region during November. These claims are difficult to verify.

03/12/84 The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS) reports attacking government troops in Mudug region on 3 December and destroying a government military base south of Dusa Mareb in Galguduud region on 25 December.

Sudan

18/12/84 The government releases former prime minister and former Umma Party leader Sadiq el-Mahdi who had been detained without trial since September 1983. The move comes as a surprise since President Nimairi had recently stated that if party leaders were released from prison, they would work against the regime. There are an estimated 350 political prisoners in Sudan.

Indian Ocean Islands

Madagascar

06/12/84 Bloody clashes break out between rival youth gangs, leaving 50 people dead in Antananarivo. The rioting is the result of hostility between the gangs, one of which is housed in a camp for school dropouts which was originally set up by the government to try to reintegrate these youth into society.

Sahel

Chad

16/12/84 President Francois Mitterrand of France announces that his country will not go to war for northern Chad but rather will use "constant pressure" on Libyan ruler Muammar Qadhafi to get him to withdraw his remaining troops from Chad. Mitterrand adds that France will act if Libya attempts to enter southern Chad. Given this French position, it appears unlikely that Libyan troops will leave Chad in the near future.

Mauritania

12/12/84 A new regime under LTC Mohamed Marouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, 41 years old, assumes power in a coup d'etat. The former head of state, LTC Mohamed Khouna Ould Haidalla, was returning to Mauritania from the Franco-African summit in Burundi when the coup occurred. The coup d'etat could have

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been provoked by differences between the military leaders over the conflict in the Western Sahara; if so, the regime's new strongman could lead the country toward a more neutral position in the conflict. The new government reaffirms Mauritanian recognition of the SDAR and adherence to the trilateral treaty of friendship and accord with Algeria and Tunisia. This reinforces the view that no foreign policy changes appear in the offing, although it is too early to draw any conclusions about the direction of the new regime. Algeria, Morocco and Senegal adopt a wait-and-see attitude while Libya immediately recognizes the regime. The ramifications of this rapid recognition are unclear. The new authorities say nothing about the fate of the former president who was arrested on his return to Nouakchott and taken to a military camp.

Southern Africa

Angola

21/12/84

The Angolan defense and security forces annihilate 38 UNITA guerrillas in operations carried out between 5 and 10 December. The guerrillas were active in several areas of Huambo, Bie, and Cunene Provinces. During the operations 3 UNITA members, as well as an assortment of war materiel, are captured, and 76 civilians are released. Most of the operations occur in Huambo Province, where 34 UNITA members are killed in 3 days of combat.

Mozambique

03/12/84

The Mozambican Army reports that it has discovered the body of the second of two Italian technicians abducted by RENAMO in Maputo Province on 12 September. The two Italian technicians had been working on the construction of the Corumano Dam. The abduction and murder of the technicians has caused concern to foreign countries which are providing Mozambique with developmental aid.

04/12/84

The electric power supply from the South African station of Komatipoort to Maputo, disrupted 5 days before by RENAMO sabotage, is still not repaired and large areas of the Mozambican capital remain without electricity. Maputo's water supply is also cut because it depends on electric pumping stations. This latest sabotage is evidence of RENAMO's continuing ability to inflict major damage and its continuing viability despite the signing of the Nkomati Accord in March 1984.

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04/12/84 It is reported that RENAMO rebels have renewed ambushes on heavy transport convoys on the Mozambican stretch of the road between Malawi and Zimbabwe. The sophistication of the attacks after a lull of 4 months is an indication that RENAMO has been resupplied, but the Mozambican Government is uncertain about the identity of the suppliers.

06/12/84 RENAMO rebels kill seven East German agricultural experts and wound two in Niassa Province. Eleven people, including a Swede and a Portuguese, are killed in a rebel attack against four civilian vehicles near the Swaziland border. The attacks are part of a renewed effort by RENAMO to discourage foreign developmental experts from aiding the Mozambique Government.

South Africa

07/12/84 The Catholic Church in Southern Africa issues a 38-page report which denounces police conduct in countering the unrest which has swept black townships around Johannesburg since August. The report, which declares that police behavior "resembled that of an occupying foreign army controlling enemy territory," is released at a press conference in Pretoria by the Reverend Denis Hurley, Archbishop of Durban and President of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference. It alleges indiscriminate use of firearms, including rubber bullets, birdshot and conventional bullets, and estimates that 150 people were killed in the unrest, nearly all by the police.

13/12/84 United Democratic Front President Archie Gumede and Natal Indian Congress official Paul David walk out of the British consulate in Durban after spending 3 months there and are immediately arrested by security police. Charged with high treason under the Internal Security Act, they are to be held in custody until 21 December when six other people facing similar charges will appear in court. The six include three others who were originally part of the Durban consulate sit-in: Mewa Ramogobin, M.J. Naidoo, and George Sewpersadh, as well as Curtis Nkondo, Aubrey Mokoena, and Essop Jassat. The third dissident who left the consulate on 13 December, Billy Nair, is allowed to go free.

24/12/84 Police headquarters in Pretoria announce that counterinsurgency units engaged in several skirmishes with ANC guerrillas during the past 3 weeks. A temporary ANC base was attacked and a cache of guns, mines, and ammunition was

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captured in the Ingwavuna region of Natal Province. The appearance of ANC guerrillas in that region suggests that infiltration across the border has occurred since Mozambique and Swaziland signed nonaggression treaties with Pretoria early this year.

25/12/84 On Christmas day, about 1,000 young blacks clash with police as they return from visiting the graves of people killed during the unrest in Sharpeville township, south of Johannesburg. The crowd sets fire to a warehouse as police guards fire at them. When the police run out of ammunition, members of the crowd chase them and set fire to the house of one guard. At least six youths are wounded by police bullets.

27/12/84 Imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela rejects an indirect government offer to release him under restrictive conditions. The offer, the second this year that Mandela has refused, follows speculation that after 4 months of racial unrest South Africa is preparing to hold discussions with the ANC. Mandela, 66, who has served 21 years of a life sentence for plotting the overthrow of white minority rule, was offered asylum by Kaizer Matanzima of Transkei. Mandela rejected the offer in a "sharply worded" letter that the government suppressed under its censorship laws. In March, Mandela refused an earlier offer of conditional release from Mantanzima. A statement by Mandela said he would never accept a conditional offer of release nor have any dealings with blacks such as Matanzima whom he regards as collaborators.

Swaziland

11/12/84 A big cache of arms is discovered at Ngwane Park in Manzini. Included in the cache are a rocket and a rocket launcher capable of downing aircraft, six AK47 rifles, limpet mines, hand grenades, several rounds of ammunition, pistols and other arms which were wrapped in plastic papers. Swaziland's chief of security comments that the cache is suspected of belonging to the ANC.

28/12/84 Police begin rounding up the last 23 ANC guerrillas in Swaziland. The crackdown follows a warning by the Swazi police a week ago that the men, who fled to Swaziland from neighboring Mozambique this year, had to surrender or be deported to South Africa. The announcement came a day after South Africa and Swaziland announced an agreement to

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exchange trade representatives, the first exchange of permanent envoys by the two nations.

West Africa

Guinea
18/12/84

President Lansana Conte announces the abolition of the position of prime minister and a reduction in the membership of the ruling Comite Militaire de Redressement National from 25 to 20. Former Prime Minister Colonel Diara Traore is demoted to minister of state for national education as Conte combines the posts of head of state and head of government in his position of President. Conte claims the purpose of the reshuffle is to increase efficiency, but it also signals that he is firmly in charge of Guinea's military government.

Ivory Coast
23/11/84

To mark the 22nd anniversary of the Franco-Ivorian defense accord, 2,000 French and 3,000 Ivorian soldiers participate in a joint 1-week military exercise code-named Comoe 84. The scale of this exercise illustrates the close military ties which still exist between Ivory Coast and its former colonial power. There are over 100 French officers serving as advisers to the Ivorian Armed Forces.

Nigeria
08/12/84

A 5-man delegation led by Chief of Air Staff Vice-Marshal Ibrahim Alfa leaves on a 10-day working visit to Italy, West Germany, the Netherlands, and France. The delegation will visit military installations and will hold discussions with representatives from the four host governments. This visit is indicative of Nigeria's continuing military relations with the West.

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East/Central Africa

Uganda

24/12/84

The Ugandan Army offensive against National Resistance Army (NRA) rebels in the Luwero triangle continues. Government sources claim they have surrounded the "bandits" in their Luwero stronghold; the NRA denies this.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

00/01/85

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) report continued fighting against Ethiopian government forces in Eritrea, Tigray, and Gonder. In a report dated 2 January, the EPLF claims to have seized 6 Ethiopian Army camps near Asmara and to have shelled the Asmara airport to prevent the Ethiopian Air Force from bombing attacking EPLF forces. The TPLF claims that TPLF and Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement (EPDM) forces attacked the town of Dabat in Gonder on 8 January, occupied it for 5 days, and captured more than 500 weapons, vehicles, and other military materiel. Other smaller-scale operations are reported. The accuracy of these reports cannot be verified, but they indicate continuing clashes.

Ethiopia/Somalia

20/12/84

Somali officials report that government troops repulsed sea and air attacks by Ethiopian forces at Awdal in the Togdheer region and at several points along the border. Clandestine Radio Halgan reports that Somali National Movement (SNM) and Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS) forces successfully attacked Somali government troops at these locations. Similarly, the Somali Government reports its forces repulsed an Ethiopian attack on Balembale on 1 January; the DFSS reports that it defeated Somali forces attacking a DFSS base at Balembale on this date. The DFSS claims several other attacks on Somali government forces in January; these incidents cannot be verified.

Ethiopia/Sudan

00/01/85

In early January tension mounts between Ethiopia and Sudan as a result of media reports that Ethiopian Jews (Falashas) are being airlifted to Israel from Sudan. Sudan halts the airlift and claims it had not been aware of the operation because the Falashas had been boarding flights to Europe. Ethiopia accuses Sudan of gross interference in its internal affairs. Sudan counters that Ethiopia is using the Falashas in bargaining with Israel for arms and money. About 7,000 Ethiopian Jews were brought to Israel between November and

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January. Another 5,000 are in Sudanese refugee camps and 7,000 remain in Ethiopia. Their fate remains uncertain.

00/01/85 Fighting in northern Ethiopia continues to hamper famine relief efforts. Both Ethiopian government and dissident forces have attacked trucks carrying famine relief supplies and there are reports that refugees fleeing to Sudan have been strafed. In early January Ethiopian refugees are arriving in Sudan at a rate of 3,000 a day. Resettlement of people from drought stricken areas continues.

Sudan

00/01/85 Tens of thousands of refugees from Ethiopia's famine-stricken provinces and Chad continue to cross into Sudan. The massive influx of African refugees is straining Sudan's relief capabilities. Domestic opposition to the internal refugee situation is increasing as Sudanese feel that their basic food requirements are not being satisfied as a result of the acute needs of the newcomers.

18/01/85 Mahmoud Mohammad Taha, the founder and head of the Republican Brothers, a non-violent movement strongly opposed to the recent imposition of Islamic law in Sudan, is hanged at Kober Prison in Khartoum. The execution represents President Numeiri's apparent dissatisfaction with moderate policies to resolve a difficult internal situation characterized by a growing southern insurgency and a steady influx of Ethiopian refugees. It is intended to serve as a harsh reminder to the Sudanese opposition forces that extreme measures will be adopted to preserve the current government. The Sudanese People's Liberation Movement views the hanging as another example of Numeiri's arbitrary, undemocratic style of leadership.

Horn of
Africa/Southern
Africa

Kenya/Somalia/South
Africa

31/12/84 South African national radio reports that a new air service between Saudi Arabia and South Africa, with a stop at Mogadishu, Somalia, is to start soon. This announcement tends to confirm reports that South Africa's Foreign Affairs Minister "Pik" Botha made a secret visit to Somalia and Kenya in December to discuss overflight and landing rights for airlines serving South Africa. Somali dissidents claim

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that Somalia has also signed a military agreement with South Africa.

Sahel/West Africa

Benin/Burkina

Faso/Ghana

09/01/85

A meeting between Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Libya ends in disarray after foreign ministers from the three sub-Saharan nations fault Libya's foreign policy and its "insufficient economic aid." The leaders of these nations, in particular Ghana's Jerry Rawlings and Burkina's Thomas Sankara, are reputed to enjoy close ties with Libya's Qadhafi, but these relations may be deteriorating as a result of Qadhafi's policies.

Southern Africa

Angola

06/01/85

Two thousand Brazilian workers are to build Angola's largest hydroelectric dam on the Cuanza River under the terms of a \$500 million contract signed in Luanda. The dam contract highlights a surge in commercial and cultural exchanges between Brazil and Angola under which trade has jumped from \$4 million in 1973 to \$230 million in 1984. Angola's civil war is expected to delay ground breaking for the 500-megawatt dam, whose first turbine is to be imported from the Soviet Union.

18/01/85

The Angolan Government announces that UNITA rebels killed 200 civilians and captured 3 Portuguese workers in an attack on the Kafunfo diamond mine in northeastern Angola on 29 December. UNITA acknowledges the attack, claiming that it is holding 17 Filipinos, 3 Britons, and 2 Americans taken in the raid. UNITA also claims to have shot down a cargo plane which was arriving at the mine at the time of the attack and to have captured the pilot and two crewmen.

Malawi

09/01/85

President Banda reappoints all members of the Cabinet he dismissed on 3 January. The only major change is the return of Dalton Katopola to head the reinstated Health Ministry. However, Banda fails to name John Tembo, the former governor of the Reserve Bank, as secretary general of the Malawi Congress Party. This appointment would have confirmed Tembo's probable succession to the presidency following Banda's death. At the moment, the position remains vacant and the question of succession remains unanswered.

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Southern Africa

Mozambique

- 13/01/85 Two British nationals are killed by RENAMO rebels near the border with South Africa. This action is indicative of RENAMO's ruthless attitude toward foreign nationals who rarely survive kidnappings or attacks.
- 14/01/85 The United States agrees to supply \$1 million in military aid and \$150,000 for military training to Mozambique. The aid would consist of non-lethal items such as boots and uniforms. Although this new aid commitment is described by US officials as the result of a major improvement in bilateral relations over the past 2 years, many observers believe that the aid is designed to help quash the RENAMO insurgency.
- 22/01/85 RENAMO rebels sabotage the power line running from South Africa to Maputo. This is the latest of a series of attacks on this power line, and it reflects RENAMO's tactics which include disruption of basic services to the Mozambican population.
- 23/01/85 RENAMO rebels blow up a bridge in the south of the country, severing rail links between Maputo and South Africa. Thousands of tons of goods, ready for shipment to Maputo, are held up. This sabotage is part of the latest RENAMO offensive in southern Mozambique.

South Africa

- 05/01/85 Senator Edward M. Kennedy travels to South Africa for an 8-day visit during which he meets with South African business leaders, two Cabinet members, Zulu Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, and Winnie Mandela, wife of Nelson Mandela. Kennedy also travels to Windhoek, Namibia, to meet with SWAPO leaders before flying to Zambia for talks with President Kenneth Kaunda and ANC leader Oliver Tambo. The purpose of Kennedy's trip was to point out the failures of the Reagan administration's policy of constructive engagement. On his return to the United States, Kennedy announced that he would introduce and support legislation in Congress to cut US trade and other ties with South Africa.
- 23/01/85 All South African Defence Force (SADF) personnel seconded to the Ciskei Defence Force are withdrawn. The decision follows the suspension of the Commander of the Ciskei Defence Force, Brigadier A. A. Nell--a seconded SADF

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officer--and two of his colleagues. The number of seconded SADF officers in the small, battalion-strength Ciskei Defence Force was less than 50, but their commanding positions made them vital to Ciskei, one of South Africa's nominally independent homelands.

26/01/85 Nelson Mandela, South Africa's most prominent jailed nationalist, is quoted in a rare interview as saying his armed followers would call a truce in their war against white rule if the authorities would "legalize us, treat us like a political party and negotiate with us. Until they do, we will have to live with the armed struggle." Mandela, 67 years old, is serving a life sentence, imposed in 1964, for sabotage and for plotting a violent revolution.

Swaziland
04/01/85 ANC guerrillas make a series of armed raids on police stations in Swaziland to free comrades arrested there. In one raid the guerrillas force guards to open the cells of the main police station in the capital and free six ANC members held there. Police manage to fight off attacks on three other police stations and prisons. The Swazi Government announces that a nationwide search for the guerrillas is being mounted.

Zambia
00/01/85 Mushala rebels, who again begin attacking uranium workers in North-Western Province, force the closure of the AGIP Attivita Minerarie, an Italian prospecting company. The group was originally created by Adamson Mushala who was killed by the Zambian Army 2 years ago. The rebels, working in league with some Angola UNITA rebels, are highly trained and use sophisticated military equipment. Their goal appears to be to disrupt developmental work in the province as well as to terrorize its population.

Zimbabwe
18/01/85 Zimbabwe's Parliament extends the country's state of emergency for a further 6 months after the government argues that it needs the sweeping powers to deal with violence in Matabeleland.

24/01/85 Prime Minister Robert Mugabe sets March as the target date for the country's first national election since independence. The actual date has not been determined, but

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Mugabe wants the election to be held before the fifth anniversary of Zimbabwean independence on 18 April. Of an estimated 3.2 million people who are eligible to vote, some 2.5 million have already registered.

West Africa

Ghana

11/01/85 Ghana announces layoffs over 4 years of 19,000 employees of the Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board as a cost-cutting measure. While the layoffs reflect sound economic policy, dismissals in such large numbers could lead to labor unrest in a country where unemployment is already extremely high.

Ivory Coast

11/01/85 Ivory Coast is expected to announce sharp cutbacks--amounting to 90 percent by 1986--in the number of privately hired foreign experts working in the country. There are currently 650 such experts, mostly French, costing the government over \$100 million per year. Ivory Coast is also expected to reduce the number of French teachers in secondary schools. Ivory Coast has relied heavily on foreigners to achieve its relatively rapid and high rates of economic growth since independence in 1960. These reductions reflect local concerns with Ivory Coast's foreign debt and with significant levels of unemployment among young, educated, articulate Ivoirians.

Liberia

16/01/85 Liberia's only independent newspaper, The Daily Observer, is closed down by the government for an unspecified length of time and for unspecified reasons. The paper has been closed down several times since it began publishing in 1981 for being critical of the government.

Sierra Leone

15/01/85 The central committee of the ruling All People's Congress (APC) announces that presidential elections will be held in June 1985. An APC national convention will be held in April to choose the presidential candidate. At the last general election in 1982, President Siaka Stevens said he would be stepping down from the presidency, but he has not indicated if he will run in June.

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East/Central
Africa/Southern
Africa

Zaire/Angola

06/02/85 Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos arrives in Kinshasa on his first official visit to Zaire. Presidents dos Santos and Mobutu hold discussions on bilateral, African, and world issues. Relations between Zaire and Angola have been cool, due in part to Mobutu's suspected support of UNITA guerrillas fighting against the Angolan regime. Dos Santos hopes to eliminate or at least reduce this support by improving relations with Zaire.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

00/02/85 The population of Hararge Province in southern Ethiopia is reportedly threatened by famine. The drought problem in this province, which is predominantly inhabited by ethnic Somalis, has not received the same media coverage as have problems in the more populous northern and western provinces. Hararge is described as being in a stage of "pre-disaster." The region has not had rain for 22 months and if it does not rain in the next 6 months, livestock will die and there will be mass starvation. Famine victims are beginning to pour into towns in search of food. There may be mass refugee movements across the Somali-Ethiopian border, depending on where food is available.

00/03/85 The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) reports that Ethiopian fighter jets attack three TPLF-held towns in central and western Tigray during February. The TPLF celebrates its tenth anniversary.

Kenya

13/02/85 Nairobi University is closed following a week of student unrest in which 1 student is killed and 65 injured. The students were protesting the expulsion of 3 students and the withdrawal of scholarships of 5 others without explanation on 6 February. They also demanded the release of 4 students who are imprisoned for having supported the August 1982 coup attempt. The government's heavy-handed actions to suppress student political activity will likely only increase student hostility.

Somalia

07/02/85 President Siad Barre states he is willing to normalize relations with the Soviet Union providing it is willing to

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reciprocate. The Soviet Union's embassy in Mogadishu has had only a skeleton staff since relations broke down during the 1977-78 Ogaden war with Ethiopia. Barre's overture to the Soviets apparently signals his dissatisfaction with the continued low level of US military assistance. He describes relations with the US as "limping."

00/03/85 Dissident Radio Halgan reports four minor attacks on Somali government troops by the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS) during February. These reports cannot be verified.

Sudan

04/02/85 Sudan is suffering from widespread bread and fuel shortages due to a delay in the shipment of wheat and flour under the US PL480 food aid program and a lack of foreign exchange to pay for petroleum imports. The scarcity of necessities is more acute in the southern areas, where virtually all agricultural activity has ceased. In response to these shortages, student riots break out and the Sudanese government orders all universities in Khartoum to close. President Numeiri's inability to supply basic necessities illustrates the country's depressed domestic conditions and Sudanese discontent with the inefficient economic policies of the current government.

19/02/85 The United States suspends nearly \$200 million in economic assistance to Sudan. The decision is a result of American disappointment over the deterioration of the Sudanese economy and the enduring conflict in southern Sudan between government troops and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army. It represents the reconsideration of American policy toward Sudan, particularly in view of President Numeiri's Islamization policies. Although Numeiri expressed his disapproval of the American measure, he has recently instituted a devaluation of the Sudanese pound in an attempt to provide the United States and other international donors, such as the IMF and Saudi Arabia, with tangible evidence of his willingness to follow external advice to redress domestic economic problems.

22/02/85 The famine in West Sudan, particularly Dafur Province, is becoming more acute. The lack of adequate rainfall is destroying the annual grain crop, creating further difficulties for the livestock industry. The worsening situation in West Sudan is another serious problem for the

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Numeiri government. A severe refugee crisis along the Ethiopian-Sudanese border and the southern insurgency compound Sudan's internal problems.

Indian Ocean Islands

Madagascar

31/01/85 An Italian priest living in Madagascar is robbed, tortured, and decapitated. He is the second foreign missionary to be killed in Madagascar in a year. It is thought that those who killed him want to intimidate the influential Christian churches in the country which are critical of the regime's Socialist option and relations with the Soviet Union.

Sahel

Chad

09/02/85 Two American employees of Exxon Corporation are kidnapped in southern Chad only 2 days after the company announced it was resuming oil exploration there. The hostages are released 4 days later following negotiations conducted by Exxon. Diplomats in Ndjamena say it is not clear whether the incident was the work of those opposed to the government of President Hissene Habre, but rebel forces have recently been active in both southern and northern Chad.

Southern Africa

Angola

22/02/85 The UNITA rebel movement appears to be overreaching its military capacity and is showing signs of internal dissent. Rebel leader Jonas Savimbi's determination to achieve impressive military successes has met with opposition from field commanders who fear he is pushing the guerrilla offensive ahead too far and too fast. Recent tensions within UNITA are reflected in the rebels' acknowledgment of a setback in plans to advance toward Luanda, open disenchantment over closer US ties with the Angolan Government and uncertainty about the status of top guerrilla leaders. UNITA has not achieved its declared aim of inserting 20,000 guerrillas into Luanda Province by the end of 1984; so far only about 7,000 men are in the province.

Mozambique

05/02/85 A French delegation led by Minister of Cooperation Christian Nucci arrives in Maputo to discuss possibilities for Mozambican and French economic cooperation, including accords related to food aid and economic development. This

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is another in a series of continuing contacts with the West on the part of the FRELIMO regime.

Mozambique/South
Africa

08/02/85 South African and Mozambican representatives meet for talks on the Nkomati Accord signed on 16 March 1984 between Maputo and Pretoria. Mozambican Minister of National Security Sergio Veira accuses South Africa of violating the accord by continuing to support the rebel group. Although South Africa denies the charge, RENAMO'S continuing attacks are an indication that the organization is receiving significant support from one or more sources.

Mozambique/Zimbabwe

06/02/85 A Mozambican defense delegation headed by Minister of National Security Sergio Veira holds talks in Harare with Zimbabwean security officials. Zimbabwe has troops stationed in Mozambique to help guard the oil pipeline from Zimbabwe to the Mozambican port of Beira and the highway linking Zimbabwe through Mozambique's Tete Province. Both the pipeline and the road have been targets for attacks by RENAMO guerrillas.

South Africa

01/02/85 Joe Slovo, Chief of Staff of the ANC's military wing, says in his first interview with a Western news organization that the ANC is not ready to lay down its arms in return for talks with the South African Government and plans to intensify its sabotage campaign inside South Africa. Slovo strongly denied recent reports that the ANC is planning to attack white civilian targets, but he said the movement would step up assaults against South African police and soldiers. Slovo, a Communist who left South Africa 22 years ago, is portrayed by South African authorities as the white master terrorist who has manipulated the largely black ANC toward Marxist ends.

03/02/85 Speaking at his installation as the first black Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, Nobel laureate Desmond M. Tutu offers to act as a mediator between the South African government and the ANC. Bishop Tutu added that he favors increased foreign investment in South Africa under stringent conditions but that if apartheid is not being "actively dismantled" within 18 months to 2 years, he will join the growing call for divestiture.

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South Africa

11/02/85 Imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela rejects the offer made by President P.W. Botha on 31 January to release him if he renounces violence as a political instrument. Mr. Mandela responded to the conditional offer in a statement which called on Botha to lift the ban on the ANC, liberate political prisoners, and allow free political expression. The statement was read by Mandela's daughter, Zinzi Mandela.

18/02/85 South Africa drops its case against a leading Roman Catholic prelate, Archbishop Denis Hurley of Natal, who had been charged with falsely accusing the special police unit "Koevoet" of committing atrocities in Namibia. Many observers believe the case was dropped because Hurley had evidence to substantiate his charges.

19/02/85 Security police arrest nearly the entire top leadership of the United Democratic Front (UDF) in predawn raids in the main cities of South Africa. Of 13 UDF leaders taken from their homes, 6 are charged with treason and the others are detained for interrogation. The six leaders charged with treason include a president of the UDF, Albertina Sisulu, wife of Walter Sisulu, imprisoned former general secretary of the ANC. The others are Sam Kikine and Isaac Ngcobo of the South African Allied Workers Union; Ismael Mohamed of the Transvaal branch of the UDF; Frank Chikane, a vice president of the UDF; and Cassim Saloojee of the Transvaal Indian Congress. These six will join eight other UDF leaders charged with high treason in December, setting the scene for a major trial that is due to start in Durban on 29 March.

22/02/85 South Africa's only nuclear power station is closed because of flaws in water-carrying stainless steel pipes. The Koeberg Plant, which supplies about one-tenth of South Africa's electricity, may be closed several months.

Zimbabwe

20/02/85 Zimbabwe's first post-independence general election, due by next month, has been postponed until mid-year. Justice Minister Eddison Zvobogo cited difficulties in registering voters and drawing up constituency boundaries.

West Africa

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Equatorial Guinea

24/02/85 At least 500 laborers recruited from Nigeria and smuggled into Equatorial Guinea to work the cocoa plantations revolt to protest harsh working conditions. The protesting workers who sought refuge in the Nigerian Embassy after scuffling with local police were to be transported back to Nigeria in aircraft dispatched from Nigeria. The army of Equatorial Guinea harshly suppressed a similar disturbance in 1976 after which most of the Nigerians living in Equatorial Guinea fled.

Gambia

18/02/85 President Dawda Jawara lifts the 4-year state of emergency in time for the 20th anniversary of the nation's independence which was attended by Nigerian head of state General Muhammed Buhari. The state of emergency was declared following the attempted coup of 1981.

Ghana

02/02/85 Several plotters including retired Major Suleiman Abu Bakar and Alhaji Mohammad Abass attempt to assassinate Head of State Jerry Rawlings on 31 January during an Asante festival in Kumasi. The plot is foiled either by unexpectedly large crowds or the fact that Rawlings, perhaps forewarned, arrived later than anticipated. News of a subsequent meeting of the conspirators on 2 February 1985 in a Kumasi house is leaked to authorities who storm and later destroy the site.

15/02/85 Following a 5-day meeting of the Intergovernmental Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, the governments of Ghana and Cuba sign an agreement promoting greater cooperation between the two countries. By the terms of the agreement, Cuba will provide technical assistance for Ghana's fishing and sugar industries, provide basic medical care for some rural areas, offer scholarships to Ghanaian students, and train Ghanaian coaches. Other areas of cooperation include banking, transport, communications, and trade.

Ivory Coast

12/02/85 The five presidents of the Entente Council states (Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin, Niger, and Burkina Faso) meet in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, for their annual summit conference. This summit was the first attended by President Thomas Sankara of Burkina Fasso, and it was the first time

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that the Burkinabe chief of state visited Ivory Coast since coming to power in a coup in August 1983. The informal agenda included discussions on regional economic problems resulting, in part, from the protracted drought. As is usual with Entente Council summits, there was little overt controversy.

12/02/85 A bomb exploded in the quarters reserved for President Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso 3 days prior to his arrival in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, for the annual meeting of the Entente Council states. It is not known who planted the bomb, however rumors circulating in Abidjan suggest that Sankara himself was responsible. Presumably he sought to embarrass President Houphouet-Boigny by revealing the inadequacy of local security on the occasion of an international summit conference.

Sao Tome and
Principe
14/02/85

Presidents of all five Lusophone African countries (Sao Tome and Principe, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Angola, and Mozambique) hold their fifth summit conference in Sao Tome. The purpose of the summit was, according to its chairman, President Joao Bernardo Vieira of Guinea Bissau, to promote cooperation among the five states whose similar colonial heritage fostered common problems.

Togo
22/02/85

President Gnassingbe Eyadema announces that parliamentary elections will be held on 24 March; they will be the first since 1979. In line with his new "democratization" policy, several candidates will be allowed in each constituency although the ruling Rassemblement du Peuple Togolais (RPT) is still the only legal party.

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East/Central Africa

Tanzania
09/03/85

Tanzania decides to join the Preferential Trade Area (PTA), an economic community of eastern and southern African countries. The PTA's goal is to restructure the trade of member countries away from rich industrial nations by increasing regional trade.

Uganda
08/03/85

The National Resistance Army (NRA) issues a statement claiming to have killed 400 government troops and captured huge quantities of arms in operations between last Christmas and mid-February. The NRA claims that on New Year's Day, 600 NRA guerrillas, led by Yoweri Museveni, attacked the Kabamba Infantry School and barracks in Mubende district. Government troops fled and the NRA looted the barracks and armory, seizing over 460 rifles, ammunition, grenades, and mortars. According to the statement, the "Luwero Triangle," where NRA guerrillas are active, has become a rectangle, now extending west into Kyaka district and north of Kampala as far as Ngoma and into the East Mengo district. The accuracy of these reports cannot be verified.

16/03/85

Reports of large-scale political murders surface again. Ugandan newspapers report that the bodies of 61 people, murdered by unknown assailants, have been found at 3 sites near Kampala. The newspaper of the opposition Democratic Party says that 20 people, believed to have been detainees, were taken in an army truck to a site north of Kampala and shot to death.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia
00/03/85

The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) reports inflicting heavy casualties on government forces in several clashes during March. The fighting occurred in Tigray and Gonder Provinces and in an area along the border between Tigray and Gonder. One battle reportedly lasted 6 days. These reports cannot be verified. American aid workers report a 7-hour battle at Lalibela on 2-3 March, in which the government retained the upper hand. Diplomats believe the heavy fighting is the result of a government offensive to dislodge guerrillas from bases near the main north-south highway.

17/03/85

The secretaries general of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and the Somali Abo Liberation Front (SALF) meet

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to discuss cooperation between the two fronts in fighting the Ethiopian Government.

01/04/85 An "Eritrean official," quoted by Qatar News Agency, claims that high-level EPLF and Ethiopian government delegations are meeting in Aden to discuss resolving the Eritrean conflict. He maintains that the EPLF is meeting with the Ethiopians in order to undermine the newly formed Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) which unites all the other Eritrean factions. This report cannot be verified and may only be an attempt by the ELF to discredit the EPLF.

Somalia

00/03/85 Clandestine Radio Halgan reports attacks by the Democratic Front for Somali Salvation (DFSS) on five government bases and several ambushes on military vehicles during March. The attacks took place in Galguduud, Mudug, and Nugaal regions. These reports cannot be verified. The radio station does not report any military operations by the Somali National Movement (SNM) during the month.

Sudan

00/03/85 Riots over increases in the price of bread, gasoline, and basic commodities erupt in Khartoum. The inadequate supply of these goods, the partial withdrawal of government subsidies, and the suspension of American assistance are the underlying causes of the disturbances. The demonstrations are confined to the capital city, and Sudanese security forces effectively control the situation.

04/03/85 US Vice President George Bush arrives in Sudan to commence a 4-day visit with President Jafa'ar Numeiri. Discussions focus particularly on the war in southern Sudan, the state of the domestic economy, the reforms needed to obtain economic assistance from the United States and the International Monetary Fund, and the evacuation of the remaining Falashas detained in the Sudan. The visit is relatively successful in terms of confirming American support for a beleaguered Sudanese state and persuading Numeiri of the need for concessions and moderation in the implementation of his policies.

12/03/85 President Numeiri expels from his government and imprisons several members of the Muslim Brotherhood, notably Dr. Hassan al Turabi, the President's advisor on foreign policy,

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and Yassin Omar al Imam, chairman of the Sudanese Socialist Union. These Muslim Brotherhood figures, who had assumed key positions in the inner government last year, were the primary catalysts for the drive towards the implementation of Islamic law. The move by the Sudanese leader was taken shortly after the visit of Vice President Bush in an attempt to mollify the United States and lay the groundwork for Numeiri's upcoming visit to Washington. It also typifies Numeiri's policy of balancing power among disparate coalitions.

24/03/85 US aircraft evacuate the remaining Ethiopian Jews detained in the Gadaref refugee camps near the Ethiopian-Sudanese border. The final leg of "Operation Moses" is negotiated and approved during the recent visit of Vice President Bush to Sudan. Numeiri's agreement to permit the airlift, despite Arab opposition to measures which indirectly aid Israel, contributed to the resumption of American economic assistance which had been suspended in February.

Indian Ocean Islands

Comoros
14/03/85

The Comoran Government announces that a coup attempt has been foiled. According to government sources, soldiers of the presidential guard and some civilians tried to carry out a coup while President Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane was in France on a private visit. All the plotters have been imprisoned and the situation has normalized. The Abdallah regime has been in power since 1978.

Madagascar
26/02/85

The Soviet Union sends Madagascar a consignment of spare parts to maintain the 2 Yak-40 planes of the Malagasy Naval Air Force, as well as a credit to maintain the 6 heavy helicopters and the 12 MiG-21 fighter planes which are part of the Malagasy Air Force. Following the training last year in the Soviet Union of 74 Malagasy specialists, no more than 6 Soviet experts are working at the naval air base of Ivato, near Antananarivo. Soviet military aid to Madagascar, while not as great as the amounts given to Mozambique or Angola, continues to be significant to Madagascar's Armed Forces.

Sahel

Chad
10/03/85

President Hissen Habre accuses Libya of reinforcing its position in the north and vows to see all Libyan troops

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removed from Chad. Habre also makes an unprecedented tour through southern Chad where he holds talks with several local canton chiefs in an attempt to show his commitment to national unification and reconciliation. The trip is seen as successful, based on large turnouts and claims of increasing numbers of rebels rallying to the side of the Habre government.

Southern Africa

Angola

05/03/85 UNITA soldiers claim credit for the death of 16 Cuban and 69 Angolan troops as a result of guerrilla actions staged in the region of Locala in northern Angola. According to rebel sources, two battalions of government troops and one composed of Cuban soldiers were engaged in the combat. Later in the month, UNITA announces that its guerrillas have shot down a MiG-21 aircraft, killing its Cuban pilot.

19/03/85 According to government sources, 17 UNITA rebels are killed by FAPLA (Peoples Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola) forces during offensive operations launched on 4 and 5 March in Bie and Lunda Norte Provinces. During the clashes, the FAPLA combatants seized large quantities of war materiel and documents, according to the communique.

Mozambique

09/03/85 Following accusations that Portuguese businessmen based in Portugal are providing economic and material aid to RENAMO, the Portuguese Prime Minister assures Mozambican Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano that Lisbon will end such interference.

Mozambique/South
Africa

14/03/85 Two senior South African Cabinet members, Foreign Minister Roelof F. Botha and Defense Minister Magnus Malan, fly to Mozambique to meet with Mozambican officials and reaffirm their support for the Nkomati Accord. The collapse of the accord would be viewed as a diplomatic failure for South Africa, since it is a cornerstone of South Africa's efforts to assert its position as the dominant regional power and to undermine its exiled foes.

16/03/85 On the first anniversary of the Nkomati Accord, RENAMO sabotages power lines and causes a widespread power outage

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in Mozambique's capital, Maputo. South Africa, after having established that individuals in Johannesburg have been printing counterfeit currency to pay for smuggled goods from Mozambique, sets up radar along the Mozambique-South African border to monitor unscheduled flights. The continuing activity by RENAMO has caused tension between the Mozambican and South African Governments and could be a serious threat to the success of the Nkomati Accord.

South Africa

- 28/02/85 Dennis Goldberg, South Africa's senior white political prisoner, is released from prison after serving 21 years of a life sentence for his activities with the African National Congress. Goldberg, 55, who is released on the condition that he leave South Africa, flies to Israel to join his daughter. Goldberg was arrested in 1962 and convicted and sentenced in 1964 on charges of making bombs for the anti-apartheid underground.
- 14/03/85 Organizations representing the employers of 80 percent of the workers in South Africa's commerce, industry and mining sectors urge President P. W. Botha to give "visible expression" to the promises of reform he made 6 weeks ago. The joint statement by six business associations is the second move by South African business leaders in a week pressing the government to implement reforms to counter the growing campaign in the US for divestiture. Earlier, several leading businessmen called for reform in speeches at a meeting of the South Africa Foundation.
- 19/03/85 The South African Defence Force project to erect an electrified fence and wall along South Africa's border with Zimbabwe between Beit Bridge and Sand River will be completed by the end of March, according to Deputy Minister of Defence Adrian Vlok. The project is part of an experiment with the use of barriers to facilitate border control. The cost of the project is 2.5 million rand.
- 20/03/85 Reverend Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, is reinstated as pastor of his local congregation after church elders dismiss reports that he had been embroiled in an adulterous relationship. The case arose in January when a newspaper reported that the security police had tried to discredit Reverend Boesak by disseminating tape recordings purporting to provide evidence of adultery.

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Southern Africa

South Africa

- 21/03/85 Police open fire on a crowd of some 4,000 blacks near the southeast coastal town of Uitenhage, killing at least 19. The incident came on the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre of 1960. The crowd was headed from the black township of Langa to Kwanobuhle, Uitenhage's other black township, to attend a service for 3 people killed in a clash with police 10 days earlier. Witnesses said policemen in an armored vehicle opened fire after the crowd refused to disperse. The police use of automatic rifles and shotguns instead of less lethal riot control equipment is being investigated. The killing, which brought the death toll from 13 months of unrest to 242, coincided with demonstrations in Sharpeville itself, where black youths boycotted classes and stoned cars and buses.
- 21/03/85 Some 40,000 black gold miners undertake a day-long illegal strike at the Vaal Reefs mine near Klerksdorp, 120 miles west of Johannesburg, to demand higher wages. A spokesman for the Anglo-American Corporation, which owns the mine, states that the stoppage is the biggest recorded at a single mine. Vaal Reefs is the largest gold mine in the world.
- 26/03/85 South African police arrest 239 civil rights demonstrators, including 3 prominent churchmen, during a march on Parliament protesting the killing by police of 19 blacks in eastern Cape Province. Among those arrested are Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches; C.F. Beyers Naude, the country's leading Afrikaner dissident and General Secretary of the Council of Churches; Archbishop Denis Hurley, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in southern Africa; and Sheena Duncan, President of the Black Sash. All had attended a memorial service for the people killed at Uitenhage in a Methodist church in Cape Town.
- 30/03/85 The South African Government bans the country's largest multi-racial political movement, the United Democratic Front (UDF), and 28 allied organizations from holding meetings for the next 3 months. A proclamation issued by Minister of Law and Order Louis le Grange makes it a crime for anyone to encourage protest strikes or school boycotts. At the same time, 24 members of the UDF are detained by security police in the Ciskei homeland.

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Zimbabwe

01/03/85

Security forces hold 1,282 people for questioning during a major operation in Bulawayo from 1-3 March. Some 7,000-8,000 troops and police are used in the operation, which involved cordoning off the townships where some 400,000 people live. The operation's stated aim was to curb politically motivated violence after the recent killing of two members of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) party in clashes with supporters of the opposition Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU). However, ZAPU leader Joshua Nkomo said on 3 March that the security operation was meant to demoralize his supporters and reduce his vote in the general election scheduled for June.

West Africa

Guinea

18/03/85

The Guinean Government decides to dissolve the militia, one of the main props of the former regime of President Sekou Toure. The 9,000-man militia, which was controlled directly by the ruling party under Toure, will be split between different sections of the army. The armed forces are also to be reorganized by such measures as the modernization of military camps and the introduction of a military identity card.

Guinea-Bissau

12/03/85

A delegation from Guinea-Bissau headed by Iafai Camara arrived in Teheran for talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati. The focus of this meeting, the first since the revolution in Iran, is related to the expansion of mutual relations and cooperation in the Nonaligned Movement and in international organizations.

Ivory Coast

28/02/85

Maintenance staff--including drivers, gardeners, and messengers--at the national university strike to protest actual and anticipated salary cuts. The job action represents one more manifestation of dissatisfaction on the part of workers in parastatal corporations (including the university) whose earnings are being brought into line with the substantially lower wages of government workers.

00/03/85

A scandal involving Emmanuel Diolou, mayor of Abidjan and a possible successor to Houphouet-Boigny, unfolds when Cogexim, the corporation which Dioulou heads, refuses to repay as much as \$32 million which a local bank claims to

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have loaned him. Following a preliminary investigation, the two top officers of the bank are sacked for permitting irregularities in the loans to COGEXIM. Dioulou himself then flees--some suggest is allowed to flee--to Belgium when further investigation turns up evidence of fraud on an atypically large scale.

08/03/85 Defense Minister Konan Banny emphasizes to a large and often protesting crowd of parastatal workers that the government can no longer treat them differently from government civil servants. Government measures to reduce salaries--in cases by as much as 75 percent--will affect as many as 30,000 workers in 59 parastatal corporations. Some 16,000 parastatal employees without civil servant rank will be reclassified as temporary government workers without job security.

Liberia

05/03/85 A former US Marine, recuperating in a Monrovia hospital, is formally charged with "mercenarism" in connection with an alleged coup plot against Head of State Samuel K. Doe in November 1984. The American, William Woodhouse, was shot by security forces while allegedly planning the coup.

Nigeria

11/03/85 After spending almost a year in jail, Nigerian journalists Tunde Thompson and Nduka Irabor are released some 30 hours before the official time of release, presumably to pre-empt planned demonstrations of support. The two had been jailed for violating a controversial decree interdicting news accounts which authorities consider "embarrassing." During the detention both the International Press Institute and Amnesty International actively adopted the journalists' cause.

Sao Tome

27/02/85 Reflecting an ongoing discontent within the Sao Tome Government, President Pinto da Costa dismisses Foreign Minister Maria do Nascimento da Garcia Amorim and Planning Minister Agapito Mendes Dias. Sources do not provide specific reasons for the dismissals; however, Madame Amorim is thought to be a particularly outspoken critic of US foreign policy. The President, already Prime Minister, has taken on the two portfolios himself. Former Ambassador to Portugal Francisco Fortunato Pires has been named Minister of Justice, and Guilherme Posser da Costa has been

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appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to complete the shake-up.

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East/Central Africa

- Uganda
26/03/85 A four-man delegation from East Germany's Socialist Unity Party (SED) visits Uganda and signs a cooperation agreement with Uganda's ruling party, the Uganda People's Congress (UPC).
- Zambia
20/04/85 Zambia's ruling party, the United National Independence Party (UNIP), announces it will establish permanent vigilante committees from section to ward level to fight crime in the country. The committees will consist of police officers and members of the party youth league. They will be answerable to the Inspector General of the Police, and will have powers to arrest on minor offenses. These vigilante committees seem to be part of President Kenneth Kaunda's effort to rid the country of corruption.
- 24/04/85 President Kaunda announces that he is replacing Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia with former Minister of Education Kebby Musokotwane. He will also replace the UNIP leader and four other Cabinet ministers. This reshuffle is apparently the result of the discovery that the replaced officials were involved in corruption.

East/Central
Africa/Sahel

- Zaire/Chad
26/04/85 According to African diplomatic sources, Zaire has resumed the training of Chadian commandos. A third contingent of about 500 Chadian soldiers arrived at Kota-Koli camp in northern Zaire several weeks ago. Zaire has been hesitant to resume this training because of financial difficulties.

Horn of Africa

- Ethiopia
00/04/85 The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) in radio broadcasts during April reports repulsing or attacking Ethiopian forces near Tekombia, Nakfa, and Halhal in Eritrea. In a joint action with the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), it reports capturing an Ethiopian base 57 kilometers south of Humera, Gonder Region. The TPLF reports two other major engagements during April. It claims to have attacked 2 Ethiopian battalions, killing 660 government troops and destroying 3 tanks, during a 17-hour battle on 14 April in Welo Region. The TPLF also reports killing 34 Ethiopian troops in a clash on 27 April north of

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Lake Tana. Other TPLF units ambush Ethiopian reinforcements sent from Gonder town, forcing them to retreat. These EPLF and TPLF reports cannot be verified.

04/04/85 The Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) reports attacking Ethiopian troops about 15 kilometers from Dolo. It also claims to have killed 10 Ethiopian soldiers and destroyed the vehicle they were travelling in during another engagement.

Kenya

22/04/85 The University of Nairobi reopens for the first time since its closure in February following student disturbances. Students are being readmitted on condition that they refrain from organizing or participating in any unauthorized gatherings on campus.

Somalia

25/03/85 The Democratic Front for Somali Salvation (DFSS), an insurgent group that has been waging guerrilla warfare against the Somali regime from Ethiopian territory, claims that a Somali military delegation, headed by President Siad Barre's son-in-law, Brigadier General Abdurahman Abdi Hussein, secretly visited Israel for 2 weeks in February. The DFSS alleges that cooperation agreements were signed between the two countries. This report has not been confirmed by other sources.

25/03/85 The DFSS reports attacking Somali troops 6 times and ambushing 2 military convoys between 25 March and 19 April in Nugaal, Mudug, and Galguduud Regions. These reports cannot be verified.

08/04/85 Somalia and Libya agree to reestablish diplomatic ties at the ambassadorial level. Somalia broke off relations in 1981 when Libya's Qadhafi pledged \$600 million to the DFSS. Somalia issues a statement that relations are being restored for the sake of Arab unity. Morocco mediated the agreement between the two countries.

Sudan

02/04/85 The United States releases \$67 million in previously suspended economic assistance to the Numeiri regime. The resumption of monetary aid is meant to provide the Sudanese

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Government with the necessary funds to satisfy the consumer demand for food and electricity in the short run and preserve the alliance that had been developed between the United States and the Sudan.

- 06/04/85 General Abdul Rahman Swareddahab leads a military coup that ousts former Sudanese President Jafaar Numeiri. Sudanese opposition groups, professionals, and the general public welcome with relief and satisfaction the culmination of Numeiri's 16-year rule. General Swareddahab will lead a transitional military council that will retain control until a viable government, either military, democratic, or an alternative, can be implemented in Khartoum. The new Sudanese Government will face many obstacles, including the famine in Darfur and Kordofan, the consistent flow of Ethiopian refugees into the Sudan, and the lingering southern Sudanese guerrilla war.
- 09/04/85 In the aftermath of the military coup, General Sewarddahab releases 1,000 political prisoners who had been detained by President Numeiri. This initial act by the new Sudanese leader reflects his strong disapproval of the arbitrary repression that was associated with the former government and his willingness to create a more democratic state in Sudan.
- 10/04/85 Colonel John Garang, the leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), announces that his coalition will refrain from antigovernment tactics for one week to allow the transitional Sudanese Government to consolidate its control over the nation. He rejects General Swareddahab's invitation to commence negotiations in Khartoum regarding the resolution of the southern Sudanese conflict. The SPLA's unyielding position is an attempt to employ military force as a bargaining tool to extract and maximize political and economic concessions from the new military government.

Sahel

- Chad
02/04/85 President Hissen Habre returns to N'Djamena from a trip to Bamako, Mali, refusing to say if he had met with his ousted predecessor and rival rebel leader, Goukouni Oueddei. Oueddei also leaves Bamako at approximately the same time, returning to northern Chad via Tripoli, Libya. Plans for the meeting deteriorated despite the mediation of Mali's President Moussa Traore, who had succeeded in bringing the

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two together in 1980. Officials from Oueddei's Gouvernement d'Union Nationale de Transition (GUNT) also deny that a meeting had taken place.

Mali

00/04/85 Brigadier Bougari Sangare, former Defense Counsellor, is named Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Mali. This appointment coincides with the first visit by French Defense Minister Charles Hernu to Mali and the reactivation of the 1977 Franco-Malian military agreement. This military appointment and discussion of new forms of foreign military cooperation are indicative of an increasingly important military role in Mali.

Mauritania

00/04/85 Two important economic portfolios, Finance and Trade and Mines and Industry, are given to military men. Simultaneously, the French military presence, estimated at 80-strong, has been increasing since the December coup. The government appears to be seeking a larger French military presence and increased support among influential officers.

Sahel/West Africa

Chad/Central African
Republic

00/04/85 Central African Republican army troops join with Chadian troops loyal to President Hissen Habre in launching a joint operation against anti-Habre rebels in southern Chad. The operation calls for the Chadian army to chase the rebels, known as Codos, to the border where the CAR army was to intercept them. The operation may not have been successful due to personnel and material weaknesses in the CAR army and because the southern Chadian rebels have many sympathisers in the border areas.

09/04/85 Chadian refugees fleeing into the Central African Republic accuse Chadian Government forces of having committed atrocities against civilians in the south of the country. Reports say that undisciplined troops are massacring villagers and summarily executing local leaders as part of President Hissen Habre's fight against rebels in the south. In some provinces, the rebels have capitulated and have been incorporated into the national army. Efforts to defeat the Codos are marked by severe repression of suspected civilian sympathisers, which have sent large numbers of refugees fleeing across Chad's southern borders.

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Southern Africa

Angola

07/04/85 The provinces of Kwanza Norte and Malanje are without electricity due to sabotage carried out by UNITA guerrillas. A pylon was destroyed in the area of Caxica, 39 kilometers from Dondo, on the 220-kilowatt line transporting energy from Cambambe to N'dalantondo.

Angola/South Africa

17/04/85 South Africa withdraws its last combat troops from Angola following a 2-year occupation. The withdrawal completes a disengagement begun in February 1984 following a major operation in which 2,000 South African troops invaded 100 miles into Angola. General Constand L. Viljoen, Chief of the South African Defense Forces, comments that only 2 platoons, numbering about 60 men, remain in Angola at the joint Angolan-Namibian hydroelectric project in Calueque, about 60 miles north of the border. This presence is in keeping with the terms of an informal security arrangement.

Mozambique

17/04/85 Two MiG-17 jet fighters of the Mozambican Air Force are damaged on the runway of the Maganja da Costa Airfield in Zambezia Province. One pilot was killed and another injured in the incident for which RENAMO claims responsibility. Mozambican authorities deny RENAMO was involved.

Namibia/South Africa

18/04/85 The South African Government announces that it is moving unilaterally to support the establishment of an internal administration for Namibia. The new administration will be empowered to set up a council to draft a proposed independence constitution for the territory. South Africa is to maintain control over defense and foreign affairs under the new arrangement.

South Africa

02/04/85 In downtown Johannesburg, approximately 40 protesters representing the United Democratic Front (UDF) and labor union affiliates demonstrate outside Citibank offices to protest the indifference of the American banking giant and other multinational companies to the plight of South Africa's blacks. The Citibank demonstration is the first of a series intended to pressure American, British, and other foreign companies operating in South Africa to take a more critical stand against apartheid.

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South Africa

- 03/04/85 Bishop Desmond Tutu leads a procession of 30 clergymen through downtown Johannesburg to police headquarters to protest South Africa's detention without trial of opponents of apartheid and to seek the release of an Anglican priest, Reverend Geoff Moselane, who has been held for over 6 months. Tutu and the other clergymen sing hymns in front of the building while riot police watch and government security agents photograph, videotape, and note the names of the protesters and accompanying newsmen. The clergymen are eventually received by Brigadier Dries van den Heever, the acting Divisional Commander for Johannesburg, who says he will refer their petition to the Minister for Law and Order. Nearly 200 persons are currently detained under security laws that permit them to be held indefinitely in solitary confinement without trial and without being charged with a crime.
- 07/04/85 The Atomic Energy Corporation bans Escom (Electricity Supply Commission) from restoring the Koeberg nuclear power station, closed down in January after faulty piping was discovered, until it is satisfied of the power station's safety. The estimated loss of revenue from the extended shutdown of the power station is likely to exceed 90 million rand before Koeberg is recommissioned.
- 16/04/85 The South African Government announces the repeal of the Mixed Marriages Act which prevents whites from marrying nonwhites, and a section of the Immorality Act which outlaws sex across the color line. The extreme rightwing Herstigte National Party and the Conservative Party are preparing a campaign to oppose the government's decision.
- 23/04/85 South African police detain 3 more leaders of the UDF, bringing the number arrested in recent months to 19. Those arrested under a law that permits indefinite detention without trial include UDF General Secretary Popo Molefe, Publicity Secretary Patrick Lekota, and former Transvaal Provincial Secretary Moses Chikane. Police state that these leaders were arrested in connection with unrest in black townships last August and September. Fifteen other UDF members are in custody on allegations of high treason relating to this unrest.
- 30/04/85 Due to financial problems, the Rand Daily Mail, an English language newspaper which had become one of the harshest

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critics of white minority rule in South Africa, publishes its last edition. South African officials are undoubtedly relieved by the demise of the newspaper, a thorn in the flesh of the ruling National Party and its apartheid policies.

West Africa

Ghana

02/04/85 A delegation headed by Mr. Ebo Tawiah of the Provisional National Defense Council visits the Soviet Union for 2 weeks to discuss issues relating to the World Peace Council meeting to be held in Ghana next month and the International Youth Festival scheduled for Moscow in July 1985.

Ghana/Burkina Faso

01/04/85 Following a 3-day meeting, a joint Ghanaian-Burkinabe commission on bilateral cooperation announces the projected political integration of the two countries. The commission does not specify how the two governments intend to accomplish this beyond suggesting that the union is the natural culmination of a process which began with the coup that brought Burkinabe Head of State Thomas Sankara to power in August 1983, and which has continued with the growing cooperation between the two states.

Ivory Coast

30/04/85 Emmanuel Dioulo, the mayor of Abidjan and possible successor to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, announces through his lawyer that he will return to Abidjan from Brussels where he had fled. Dioulo allegedly owes an Ivoirian bank \$35 million obtained through his corporation, Cogexim. In the announcement, Dioulo admits owing money to the bank although he disputes the amount. Claiming that the entire affair has been blown out of proportion by his political foes, Dioulo threatens to publish a white paper on 10 May implicating other high-ranking government officials in this and other illegal schemes.

Liberia

01/04/85 Head of State General Samuel K. Doe escapes an assassination attempt in Monrovia when his jeep is met with machine gun fire upon his return to the Executive Mansion shortly after midnight. Doe is unharmed, but two of his bodyguards are seriously injured. Colonel Moses Flanzamaton, Deputy Commander of the Presidential Guard, is arrested, convicted

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and executed for leading the assassination attempt. This latest attempt is the sixth since Doe came to power in 1980.

Nigeria

- 02/04/85 Nigeria officially requests the extradition of former Transportation Minister Umaru Dikko, a move certain to have repercussions on Nigeria's diplomatic relations with Great Britain. Mr. Dikko is currently living in London where he is seeking political asylum. He was the subject of a major diplomatic standoff between the two Commonwealth nations following a failed attempt last July to abduct and return him to Nigeria to stand trial for corruption.
- 26/04/85 Fighting breaks out between members of the banned Maitatsine Islamic sect and Nigerian police who try to arrest Yusufu Adamu, the group's local leader in Gombe, Bauchi State. During the two days of fighting, there are over 100 deaths. The Bauchi governor imposes a dawn-to-dusk curfew on Gombe, promising that violators will be shot.
- 28/04/85 Nigeria's borders, closed for the past year, are opened so that 700,000 undocumented immigrants may comply with a government order to leave the country if they are unable to legalize their status. The borders have been closed to prevent currency smuggling following the currency changeover a year ago. Approximately 300,000 of the immigrants are thought to be Ghanaian, while another 100,000 are thought to be from drought-stricken Niger.

Nigeria/Equatorial
Guinea

- 02/04/85 Following the recent confrontation between Equatorial Guinea and Nigeria over labor unrest and the shooting of a Nigerian laborer on the island of Bioko, a five-man Nigerian delegation visits Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, to assess relations between the two countries. The visit, under the leadership of Mr. S.O. Ogundele of the African Affairs Ministry, follows the visit of an Equatorial Guinean delegation to Lagos last month.

Togo

- 03/04/85 Almost 79 percent of Togo's 1.3 million registered voters elect a new Parliament with 57 out of the 77 seats going to newcomers. The poll marks the first time voters are able to choose between several candidates in each constituency. In

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previous elections only a single candidate from the ruling Party of the Togolese People (RPT) appeared on the ballot.

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East Africa

- Sudan
16/05/85 The Sudanese Trade Union sponsors a rally in Khartoum in which approximately 1,000 people participate to protest the delay in the return to civilian rule. The participants call for the abrogation of laws passed under the Numeiri regime and the lifting of the state of emergency. The demonstration, reminiscent of the riots that sparked the downfall of former President Numeiri, is a strong sign of opposition to the continuing rule of the Transitional Military Council.
- 19/05/85 Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi arrives in Sudan for talks with Sudan's Transitional Military Council on developments in the Horn of Africa and on improving bilateral relations. Qadhafi's visit reflects Sudan's new foreign policy aimed at improving ties with neighboring countries. Sudanese military officials hope to persuade Libya to withdraw support for the Sudanese People's Liberation Army so that the Sudanese leadership will be able to concentrate on resolving its internal conflict.

East/Central Africa

- Uganda
20/05/85 Ugandan Government sources claim that National Resistance Movement (NRM) guerrillas have been routed from their Luwero bases and have fled westward. The NRM, contradicting government reports, claims to have expanded its front 200 miles west to the Rwenzori mountains.

- Zaire
11/05/85 President Mobutu arrives in Israel for his first official visit since diplomatic relations were reestablished between Zaire and Israel in 1982. This visit confirms the impetus the two countries have given to their relations, the most significant example of which is the financial commitment of the Israeli Timman group, the largest investment Israel has made in Zaire since the latter's independence.

Horn of Africa

- Ethiopia
00/05/85 A 2-month government offensive against the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), that included large-scale ground and air operations, ends in mid-May. Government troops are reported to have returned to the fortified town of Enda Selassi. The TPLF claims it killed 2,200 government troops, downed a Mig-23, and captured several tanks during the

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offensive. Reporting on the fighting in Tigray cannot be verified.

00/05/85 There is little fighting in Eritrea during May. The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) reports only one ambush in which guerrillas killed two Ethiopian soldiers on the Nakfa front.

22/05/85 The Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) expands its operations in Welega Province, in western Ethiopia, after having launched at least a dozen small-scale attacks since March.

31/05/85 Ethiopia indicates that it is willing to cooperate with US relief groups interested in distributing food to rebel-held areas in the north where there are an estimated 2.3 million famine victims. This cooperation, a major policy shift, would reduce or eliminate attempts by relief groups to send food from Sudan to the contested areas.

Somalia

08/05/85 The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS) alleges that South Africans are transporting military hardware to Somalia, using Somali airports, modernizing Kismayu port, and building housing and offices for South African officers and workers near Kismayu.

14/05/85 The Somali National Movement (SNM) claims that it attacked Somali Government troops at a village in Luuq District in southern Somalia. Previous SNM attacks have been restricted to northern Somalia.

28/05/85 The DFSS reports expelling eight members, including three Executive Committee members, an indication that the insurgent group's leadership problems continue.

Indian Ocean Islands

Comoros

18/04/85 It is announced in Paris by the political secretary of the French representation of the Democratic Front, a Comoran opposition party, that between 400 and 600 Democratic Front activists had been arrested following the coup attempt by part of the Presidential Guard in March. The political secretary claims that Comoran President Abdallah had used

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the coup attempt as an opportunity to discredit the Democratic Front.

Southern Africa

Angola

11/05/85

UNITA claims that it occupied the Luo Diamond Mine and captured a British technician. The Luo Diamond Mine is located 100 kilometers from the border between Angola and Zaire and southeast of Lucapa, one of the most important diamond centers in Luanda Province.

Botswana

15/05/85

A powerful car bomb kills a black South African political refugee in Gaborone. Police identify the victim, Vernon Nkadimeng, as the son of the General Secretary of the banned South African Congress of Trade Unions. The blast, near a primary school for children of expatriates, is the second one in Gaborone in 3 months.

Mozambique

27/04/85

A government spokesman announces that 40 people were killed and 7 wounded when RENAMO guerrillas attacked a remote settlement west of the capital the previous week. The dead included two part-time militiamen and a soldier who had been guarding the settlement. The guerrillas used mortars, bazookas, heavy machineguns, and knives in the attack.

03/05/85

During military negotiations between Portugal and Mozambique, Portugal agrees to send military instructors to Mozambique and is expected to supply Mozambique's army with uniforms. Military cooperation between Portugal and Mozambique began in 1982 with the signing of a military agreement. In 1983, Portugal helped set up an antiguerrilla training center in Manica, 80 kilometers north of Maputo. Portugal is also giving technical assistance to Mozambique's navy.

Mozambique/Malawi

03/05/85

Eduardo Arao, governor of Mozambique's Tete Province, claims that RENAMO guerrillas operating in his province flee into Malawi during attacks by Mozambican army troops despite the good intentions expressed by Malawi's President Banda to deny them shelter. Arao also claims that unidentified aircraft are supplying and arming the RENAMO guerrillas.

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Southern Africa

Mozambique/South
Africa

24/04/85 South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha announces that South Africa and Mozambique will establish a joint operation center on their border in an attempt to fully implement the Nkomati Accord. The Nkomati Operational Center will straddle the border near the site of the signing of the Nkomati Accord. Mozambican leaders have accused Pretoria of being unable or unwilling to restrain RENAMO activities which have been responsible for the near collapse of the Accord.

South Africa

01/05/85 Fourteen black South Africans are arrested for demonstrating in support of a campaign to pressure American businesses to withdraw investments in South Africa. The arrests are made during a day of continuing unrest and demonstrations.

13/05/85 More than 800 miners quit their jobs at the President Brand Gold mine near Welkom following fierce factional fighting between tribal groups that left 19 dead and 47 injured.

16/05/85 The first contingent of 120 black peace officers graduate at a passing out parade in Soweto. More than 80 of the peace officers will join the forces of law and order and wear distinctive uniforms, carry firearms while on duty, and have the authority to make arrests. The peace officers will come directly under the authority of black town councils whose counsellors have been a favorite target for black protesters.

20/05/85 The trial of 16 members of the United Democratic Front begins in the Natal Supreme Court. The accused face charges of treason, terrorism, furthering the aims of the outlawed African National Congress, and advocating communism.

25/05/85 The South African Government announces the decision to abolish the 17-year-old Prohibition of Political Interference Act, which forbids multiracial political parties. With its abolishment, political groups whose membership was hitherto restricted to one race may now recruit supporters from other races.

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30/05/85 It is announced that South Africa's Defence Force Chief, General Constand Viljoen, will take an early retirement at the end of October. He will be replaced by the present Chief of the Army, General Jannie Geldenhuys.

South Africa/Angola

23/05/85 South Africa admits that it has troops stationed secretly in northern Angola. The admission by Defense Force Chief General Constand Viljoen follows Angola's announcement that its armed forces had killed two South Africans and captured a third who were trying to sabotage an oil refinery in the enclave of Cabinda. The refinery, near Malongo, belongs to the American company, Cabinda Gulf Oil.

West Africa

Benin/Burkina
Faso/Ghana

04/15/85 Beninois President Mathieu Kerekou, Burkinabe President Thomas Sankara, and Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings hold a secret 2-day summit with a representative of Colonel Qadhafi in Burkina Faso. The summit, organized by Qadhafi, focuses on complaints from the three leaders about the conditions attached to Libyan foreign aid.

Ghana

00/05/85 Lieutenant Colonel J.Y. Asssasie, Political Counsellor for the economic development of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDRs), visits Cuba for a month-long study of the political and economic integration of Cuba's analogous CDRs. Ghana's CDRs share responsibility for using locally available resources in national development projects.

Ghana/Nigeria/Benin

13/05/85 Clashes between Nigerian security forces and illegal aliens, stranded when Nigeria reclosed its borders, result in 40 deaths, according to the commanding officer of Benin's police post at the Benin-Nigeria border. The clashes occur when several truckloads of immigrants try to pull down barriers preventing their departure into Benin. Meanwhile, the Ghanaian High Commission in Lagos confirms that about 25 Ghanaians died in shooting incidents at the Seme border post.

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Ivory Coast/Burkina

Faso

00/04/85 Diplomatic relations between the Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso, thought to be on the mend following recent meetings between Presidents Houphouet-Boigny and Thomas Sankara, sour following the assassination in Abidjan of Burkinabe entrepreneur Valentin Kinda. Burkinabe officials subsequently accuse the Ivory Coast Government of routinely harassing Burkinabe nationals living in the Ivory Coast. Spokesmen for the Ivory Coast claim that the assassination was a political crime provoked by Kinda's assistance to anti-Sankara Burkinabe exiles currently living in the Ivory Coast.

Nigeria/Equatorial

Guinea/Ghana

00/05/85 Nigeria completes its second expulsion of illegal aliens with the departure by boat of 717 Ghanaians. Earlier, Equatorial Guinean agricultural workers had been expelled from the country. Nigeria's borders, closed for 14 months to combat smuggling operations, reopened in the beginning of May for 8 days to permit an estimated 200,000 aliens to leave. Delays left thousands stranded when the borders were closed again on 10 May. Meanwhile, Nigerian officials discount reports of violence during the operation and accuse Western journalists of resorting to inaccurate journalism in order to divide and discredit Africa.

Sao Tome and

Principe/Gabon

16/05/85 Following a 2-day summit in Libreville, Gabon, Sao Tomean President Pinto da Costa and Gabonese President Albert-Bernard Bongo emphasize their commitment to dialogue to resolve any misunderstandings between their two countries. Until recently, President Bongo has regarded his Sao Tomean counterpart with suspicion. Besides reflecting an emerging detente between Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe, the meeting provides further evidence of Sao Tome's shift from a Soviet to a Western orientation.

Togo

29/03/85 Colonel Koffi Kongo, a southerner in the Togolese army as well as a possible rival to President Gnassingbe Eyadema, dies from alleged sudden respiratory difficulties and cardiac arrest. Several other possible rivals to Eyadema have also met untimely deaths since the President came to power in a coup in 1967. Colonel Kongo had earlier been

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placed under military restriction following disagreements with Eyadema during recent training maneuvers with French troops.

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East/Central Africa

Zaire

- 12/06/85 Former Prime Minister Nguza Karl I Bond, who has been living in exile in Belgium since his resignation in April 1981, issues a reconciliation statement to the Mobutu regime. He also resigns his functions as the president of the Congolese Front for the Restoration of Democracy, a Zairean opposition movement based in Brussels. Mobutu responds that Zaire's doors are open to all wayward sons.
- 14/06/85 Two members of a group of alleged terrorists arrested recently claim that more than 300 Zaireans have been trained in Libya to carry out acts of sabotage in Zaire. They claim also to have been given an intensive 11-month training course after having been recruited in Tanzania by Nathanael Mbumba, a former rebel leader from Shaba Province. The Zairean Socialist Party, an opposition party in exile, had claimed earlier that the two alleged terrorists, along with several others arrested by Zairean authorities, were falsely accused of participating in Shaba incidents.
- 17/06/85 Two Zairean army officers are killed when government troops repel a rebel attack in the southeastern town of Moba in Shaba Province. The Information Ministry reports that 12 boats carrying the rebels were sunk after 5 hours of fighting. The reported attack on Moba is the second in 8 months and the third invasion attempt in 7 years in Shaba Province.
- 22/06/85 Three ordinances are signed by President Mobutu creating a Military Intelligence and Action Agency, a Chief of Staff for the agency, and a Chief of the Head of State's Military Cabinet. These ordinances are part of Mobutu's campaign to tighten state security.
- 23/06/85 Seven former Zairean parliamentarians, who had been under house arrest since 1982 for attempting to form a second political party, are pardoned by President Mobutu. The 7 men were part of a group of 13 deputies who formed the Union for Democracy and Social Progress in 1982. The six others had been freed earlier.
- 25/06/85 The Supreme Defense Council, during a meeting chaired by Zairean President and Supreme Commander of the Zairean Armed Forces (FAZ) Mobutu Sese Seko, decides to increase the number of FAZ personnel from 70,000 to 100,000 between now

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and January 1986. The first step will be the recruitment of 20,000 men and women for the capital, Kinshasa, and 2,000 for each of the eight remaining regions of the country. According to reliable sources, 18,000 of the 20,000 recruits will comprise 6 brigades of 3,000 soldiers each, while the remaining 2,000 will go to strengthen the First Armored Brigade based in Mbanza Ngungu. In addition, after January 1986, 5,000 men and women will be recruited to strengthen the gendarmerie. The decision to increase FAZ personnel is the result of Mobutu's decision to guarantee better defense of Zaire and to ensure the security of persons and goods.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

00/05/85 The Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) reports launching three hit-and-run attacks on Ethiopian Government troops in Gode region during May. These reports cannot be verified.

23/05/85 The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) reports on 23 May that its forces seized two Ethiopian military camps and the Asmara-Mandafar road in southern Eritrea.

31/05/85 The Workers' Party of Ethiopia (WPE) announces that college students and professors will be mobilized in June to take part in the government's resettlement program for drought victims. Although the WPE claims the program is voluntary, it is unlikely that the students and professors will have any choice about the matter.

03/06/85 The Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) claims to have killed 300 Ethiopian troops in 2 days of fighting in western Eritrea.

Somalia

00/05/85 The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS) and the Somali National Movement (SNM) claim that more than 300 Somali Government troops defected to their side in a 3-week period from mid-May to early June as a result of mutinies in several battalions.

28/05/85 The DFSS claims to have attacked an army patrol on 28 May and to have successfully attacked government troops in Galguduud region on 8 and 19 June.

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Horn of Africa

Somalia

12/06/85 The DFSS alleges that Israel has sent \$30 million worth of military equipment to Somalia and that it has agreed to provide special forces training.

25/06/85 The SNM reports it launched two attacks against government forces in Bakool region on 25 June.

Sudan

07/06/85 Sudan's Transitional Military Government abolishes the Sudan National Oil Company, a joint partnership established last year between President Numeiri and Saudi businessman Adnan Khashoggi. The revocation of the allegedly corrupt petroleum company is another major step in the current reform process of internal Sudanese politics.

08/06/85 Sudanese Defense Minister Brigadier General Osman Abdallah Mohammad announces that Sudan will diversify its external arms suppliers. The declaration reflects Sudan's intent to adopt a policy of nonalignment and avoid the exclusive dependence on the United States characteristic of former President Numeiri's regime.

17/06/85 An Egyptian delegation led by President Hosni Mubarak arrives in Khartoum for bilateral talks with Sudanese leader General Siwar el-Dahab and other military officials. Negotiations focus on the joint Egyptian-Sudanese defense pact and the Nile Integration Committee. The visit, the first by the Egyptian President since the April military coup in Sudan, takes place against the background of Sudanese discontent with the inequitable balance in foreign relations between the two countries.

Sahel

Chad

18/06/85 Chadian President Hissein Habre arrives in Morocco for 3 days of bilateral discussions. In view of the Moroccan-Libyan union, he expects that Morocco's King Hassan will play a role in persuading Libyan President Qadhafi to lessen his support for Goukouni Oueddei's forces in northern Chad. Habre's visit is the first leg of a diplomatic journey that will include stops in Gabon and Zaire in an effort to gain African support for his position and leadership before the upcoming Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit.

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Sahel

Mali

13/06/86 The Soviet Defense of Peace Committee arrives in Bamako for talks with the Political Secretary of the Democratic Union of Malian People (UDPM). The Malian and Soviet peace delegations discuss the major guidelines of the UDPM's domestic and external policies. The visit reflects Mali's improving relations with the Soviet Union and the latter's continuing interest in the Sahel.

Mauritania

01/06/85 Mauritania and Libya normalize their previously frozen diplomatic relations. A Libyan ambassador is named to Mauritania for the first time since March 1984 following Libyan efforts to destabilize the former government. This move reflects President Taya's new foreign policy aimed at increasing Mauritania's neutrality in the region and improving ties with all countries. President Taya is pursuing a neutral foreign policy in order to concentrate on his mounting internal problems.

18/06/85 President Taya supports Libyan President Qadhafi's Arab Unity Charter and states publicly that Mauritania is responsive to Arab unity and efforts to confront imperialism and Zionism. The Mauritanian President's receptiveness reflects his policy of good neighborliness and gives impetus to Qadhafi's unity drive in the Sahara. Mutual efforts to resume relations between the two countries began after the overthrow last December of Mauritania's Haidalla government.

Niger

15/06/85 Niger's Foreign Minister meets with his Libyan counterpart to transfer a message from President Kountche to Libyan President Qadhafi confirming Niger's full support for the Palestinian cause. This visit lends credence to rumors that President Kountche is seeking to consolidate relations between Niger and the Jamahiriya. The Nigerian initiative is evidence of a major policy shift towards Libya that is taking place in several countries in the Sahel.

Senegal

01/06/85 Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid makes an official visit to Senegal for the first time. Until Senegalese President Diouf's recent visit to Algiers, relations between the two countries were almost nonexistent. The rapprochement between Algeria and Senegal is the result of a mutual commitment to ensure the success of the forthcoming

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Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit in July, and to resolve the Western Saharan conflict according to the OAU resolution.

Southern Africa

Angola

06/06/85 The Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), led by Jonas Savimbi, joins an alliance with three non-African, anti-Soviet, insurgent movements under the auspices of the conservative Citizens for America led by Republican Lewis E. Lehrman. The new alliance, which includes insurgent groups in Nicaragua, Afghanistan, and Laos, is formally established in Jamba, Angola, and is called Democratic International.

Angola/Namibia

03/06/85 Cuban representatives in the United Nations Security Council threaten that Cuba will provide massive assistance to the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) to reignite the armed struggle in Namibia if the United States continues to insist on the withdrawal of an estimated 30,000 Cuban troops from Angola as part of a package deal leading to Namibia's independence.

Botswana/South
Africa

14/06/85 At least 15 people die in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, when South African soldiers launch a pre-dawn strike on 10 African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa targets, described as the nerve centers of the banned organization. Documents and weapons seized during the attack include an RPG rocket launcher and a silencer for an AK-47 rifle.

Mozambique

27/05/85 A Mozambican military source reveals that Mozambican troops stationed in northern Tete Province have been intensifying military operations against Mozambican National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrillas operating in the region.

15/06/85 RENAMO guerrillas attack and destroy a bridge in the border region of Komatipoort, 3 kilometers from the South African border and 50 kilometers from Maputo. The attack interrupts railroad communications between Mozambique and South Africa.

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- 15/06/85 Local officials in northwestern Tete Province announce that they believe RENAMO guerrillas, who kidnapped 5 Portuguese nuns on 3 June from a secondary school 13 kilometers from the border with Malawi, have taken refuge in Malawi. The Mozambican Government believes that although Malawi has expressed its intention of withholding support for RENAMO guerrillas, some Malawian citizens continue to aid them.
- 26/06/85 Catholic Church sources in the capital, Maputo, confirm that RENAMO guerrillas kidnapped two Portuguese priests in the northwestern province of Tete. The 2 men were kidnapped less than 5 kilometers from the border with Malawi and about 15 kilometers from the place where 5 nuns were kidnapped earlier in the month.
- Mozambique/Angola
- 04/06/85 Mozambican President Machel receives Angolan Planning Minister Lopo do Nascimento who is in Maputo for 2 days to take part in a meeting of the Angolan-Mozambican Joint Cooperation Commission. Progress is made in several fields of cooperation, including banking, finance, commerce, and transportation.
- Namibia
- 17/06/85 Namibia's transitional government is sworn in and its eight-man cabinet elected at the first session of the National Assembly in Windhoek. South African President P.W. Botha signs the proclamation giving the 62-member Multi-Party Conference Government executive and legislative powers. South Africa still retains ultimate control of the territory.
- South Africa
- 12/06/85 A group calling itself the Western Cape Suicide Squad claims responsibility for grenade attacks on the houses of two Labour Party members. One hand grenade explodes at the Mitchell's Plain home of Luewellyn Landers, injuring him, and a second attack takes place at the home of Labour Party National Secretary Fred Peters.
- 26/06/85 Explosions in Transkei, the first homeland to receive nominal independence, set a huge fuel depot ablaze, destroy a power station, and cut off the capital's water supply. The explosions in Umtata, the capital of Transkei, are blamed on the ANC.

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Southern Africa

South Africa

28/06/85 The ANC calls for a full-scale uprising against white rule in South Africa, urging black police and soldiers to turn their guns against their "masters." The ANC also charges that South African police, posing as guerrillas, set a trap responsible for the hand grenade and bomb explosions in townships east of Johannesburg on June 26.

Zambia/Angola

07/06/85 Zambian President Kaunda arrives in Angola at the invitation of Angolan President dos Santos. The goal of the meeting is to examine progress in cooperation discussed in previous meetings, and to take more adequate measures for deepening economic, defense, and security cooperation. The Angolan leadership has opened communications with Zambia recently in an attempt to gain Zambia's cooperation in disbanding Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) guerrilla camps in Zambia.

Zambia/Namibia

18/06/85 Zambian Minister of Foreign Affairs Lameck Goma announces that Zambia does not recognize the new interim government installed in Namibia by South Africa. Goma labels the interim government a puppet regime which does not meet the requirements of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435.

Zimbabwe

02/06/85 The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace has linked some of the abductions of opposition party supporters during the first 4 months of this year to members of a secret unit under the control of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. Eleven kidnapping victims were discovered in a government jail where they had been held secretly by agents of the Central Intelligence Organization (CIO), a quasi-military unit responsible for investigating security and intelligence matters. Lawyers for the Commission, a church-supported human rights group, are seeking the whereabouts of 13 others also believed to be held by the CIO. Diplomatic sources believe at least 75 to 100 persons have disappeared.

27/06/85 Former white Prime Minister Ian Smith is reelected to Parliament by an overwhelming majority in a whites-only election. Mr. Smith and his party, the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe, took 15 of 20 seats reserved for whites in the 100-member Parliament. The country's 2.9

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million blacks will go to the polls on July 1 and 2 to choose the other 80 legislators.

Southern
Africa/East/Central
Africa

Mozambique/Zimbabwe/
Tanzania

12/06/85 Mozambican President Machel returns to Mozambique following an 8-hour visit to Harare, Zimbabwe, where he took part in a meeting with Tanzanian President Nyerere and Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mugabe. The three leaders discussed and exchanged views on the increase and strengthening of cooperation and mutual relations. Recently, Nyerere and Mugabe have repeatedly expressed their support for the Machel regime, which is threatened by the RENAMO insurgency. Zimbabwe has been supplying troops to reinforce military resistance to RENAMO attacks on road, rail, and oil pipeline targets.

Zambia/Zaire

09/06/85 Zambian Minister of Home Affairs Frederick Chomba announces that Zambia will soon open negotiations with Zaire over the release of a Zambian soldier abducted by Zairean troops near Mokambo in Mufulira on 18 May. The soldier is reportedly being held in Kipushi, Zaire.

West Africa

Benin

12/06/85 Following a nation-wide student protest, the People's Revolution Party of Benin (PRPB) dismisses Michael Alladaye, a member of the Political Bureau of the PRPB Central Committee and First Deputy Chairman of the Defense and Security Commission of the PRPB Central Committee, and Jean Didier Alavo, First Deputy Chairman of the External Relations Commission of the PRPB Central Committee, from all government and party functions. Also relieved of their civil service functions are the President and Vice-President of the National University of Benin. Students were protesting a recent government decision to end the policy of offering all university graduates a civil service position.

Burkina Faso

01/06/85 An explosion rips through an ammunition bunker at the Gounghin Military Barracks, killing three men and signaling an outbreak of political violence. While Head of State

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Thomas Sankara attributes the explosion to a plot among seditious officers and noncommissioned officers of the Burkinabe Army, he also uses the explosion as a pretext to crack down on political opponents.

Equatorial Guinea

03/06/85 President Teodoro Obiang Nguema arrives in France for a 3-day official visit, his first since Equatorial Guinea joined the franc zone on 1 January 1985. The visit underscores the growing French, and shrinking Spanish, influence in Equatorial Guinea that has taken place since May 1983 when several anti-government insurgents sought refuge in the Spanish Embassy. Currently there are 83 French and 200 Spanish advisers in the country. In 1984 France provided approximately 22 million francs, and Spain 100 million francs, worth of aid.

Gabon

23/05/85 President Omar Bongo issues a decree dissolving five religious groups which have been part of a proliferation of sects and other pseudo-religious movements in Gabon surrounded by secrecy.

Guinea

15/05/85 The Guinean Government releases 30 political prisoners who had served in the government of Sekou Toure and have been imprisoned for the past 13 months. Among them is Senainon Louis Behanzin, thought to be the architect of the party-state ideology, as well as several former members of the revolutionary tribunals, which were responsible for the torture and execution of many of Sekou Toure's opponents.

03/06/85 Roland Dumas, French Minister of External Relations, arrives in Guinea for discussions on French aid and bilateral cooperation. The visit marks a renewal of French-Guinean cooperation.

Nigeria

06/06/85 The British Government refuses to grant asylum to former Nigerian Transportation Minister Umaru Dikko, who took refuge in Britain after the December 1983 coup d'etat and was the victim of a bungled kidnapping attempt in London last July. Dikko can appeal the asylum decision and remain in Britain pending an outcome.

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Africa General

Africa General

21/07/85 The Organization of African Unity (OAU) ends its 21st meeting after adopting a declaration stating that most countries on the continent are near economic collapse, in part because of an unjust and inequitable economic system, and also because of natural calamities and domestic policy shortcomings. The resolution also thanks the international community for famine relief. Reflecting a more serious approach to economic problems than in the past, the OAU recommends increased investment in agriculture and a more remunerative pricing structure for farm produce. Additional resolutions from the meetings concern Israel, South Africa, and US intervention in Angola. In other actions, the 51-member organization elects Niger's Foreign Minister Ide Oumarou to replace Peter Onu of Nigeria as Secretary General.

East/Central Africa

Uganda

27/07/85 Ugandan President Milton Obote is overthrown in a coup led by Brigadier Basilio Olara Okello, Commander of the Army's Northern Brigade. The coup appears to have been sparked by conflicts in the ranks between the Acholi and Langi, two northern ethnic groups who are dominant in the Ugandan Army. Some fighting between troops loyal to Okello and those loyal to Obote takes place. Reports of looting in Kampala's business district and atrocities surface in the days following the coup. The new leaders appoint a predominantly military, nine-man council to rule the country until elections can be held. General Tito Okello is named Head of State; Paulo Muwango, Vice President and Defense Minister under Obote, is now Prime Minister; and Paul Ssemogerere, head of the former opposition Democratic Party, is appointed Internal Affairs Minister. The new leadership is calling for an end to tribalism and holding discussions with various political factions. Agreement to participate in the new government by the National Resistance Army (NRA), which controls parts of western Uganda and has about 4,000 well-trained troops, will be a key factor in determining whether the new government can consolidate its rule.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

00/07/85 No significant military engagements involving the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) are reported in July. According to Western diplomats, the TPLF and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) are involved in a ideological and political dispute. In the past, the two

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groups have cooperated in their struggle against the Ethiopian Government.

06/07/85 The EPLF captures the town of Berentu in southwestern Eritrea. Government forces suffer heavy casualties in the battle. There is heavy fighting in the area toward the end of the month as government forces unsuccessfully try to retake the town. Although the EPLF controls most of the Eritrean countryside, it controls few towns. The capture of Barentu, therefore, represents a major victory for the EPLF. The EPLF reports several other engagements during July.

Somalia

00/07/85 The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS) claims to have launched several attacks on government forces in Galguduud region, central Somalia, during early and mid-July. One attack was on a military base in Abudwaq district, and another was a reprisal for an alleged government attack on civilians. In what it described as a major offensive, the DFSS attacked a base at El Mudan, also in Galguduud region. According to the Somali Government, an Ethiopian Army battalion attacked this base.

24/07/85 There are renewed attacks by the Somali National Movement (SNM) in late June and July. The SNM reports three hit-and-run attacks on government troops in Bakool and Bay regions in southern Somalia and an attack on Hargeysa airport in late June. Reported SNM actions in July include two attacks on a base in Bakool region, an attack in Togdheer region, and attacks on two bases in Hargeysa district. These reports cannot be verified.

Sudan

00/07/85 Famine continues to affect western Sudan, especially in Darfur Province. International relief agencies are working to construct a new route from Omdurman to El Fasher to avert a national disaster that threatens 1.3 million Sudanese. This truck route will facilitate the distribution of food to the remote areas of Sudan.

07/07/85 Sudanese Defense Minister General Uthman Abdallah visits Libya for 8 days of negotiations with Colonel Qadhafi and other military figures. A military protocol calling for Libyan assistance to the Sudanese Armed Forces in the areas of transportation, equipment, and training is signed. The

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military agreement is in accordance with Sudan's new foreign policy of better relations with all neighboring states, and proceeds increased contact between Khartoum and Tripoli. It has generated consternation in Egypt and the United States, even though Minister Abdallah has declared on several occasions that Sudanese-Libyan relations will not interfere with the joint Egyptian-Sudanese defense treaty.

14/07/85 Sudanese Government troops clash with Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) guerrillas near the strategic southern town of Mongalia, situated 25 miles from Juba. The heavy fighting represents a government initiative to reassert authority over land under SPLA control, thwart the rebels' momentum, and exert pressure on John Garang to respond to overtures for the resolution of the conflict in southern Sudan.

15/07/85 Demonstrations break out in Equatoria province against the imposition of the new Cabinet to administer southern Sudan. Equatorian resentment over the reunification of Sudan according to the 1972 Addis Ababa Accords creates additional problems for Siwar el-Dahab in his efforts to promote internal stability.

Sahel

Mali

16/07/85 Mohammed Alhousseini Toure, Secretary General of the Presidency, receives a visit from Ali Moussa Tabass, head of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah People's Bureau and Ambassador to Mali. The Libyan Ambassador was reportedly carrying a message from Colonel Qadhafi to President Moussa Traore. The fact that he was not able to deliver the message directly to the President indicates Mali's desire to keep diplomatic relations with Libya on a strictly formal basis.

Southern Africa

Angola

13/07/85 Angola announces that it is breaking off talks with the United States over a peace settlement in southern Africa in retaliation for a Congressional vote allowing American aid to antigovernment Angolan guerrillas. The Angolan Foreign Ministry announces that the repeal of the Clark Amendment, which has banned aid to rebel Angolan movements since 1976, is part of a joint effort by the United States and South Africa to destabilize the legitimate governments of southern Africa.

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Southern Africa

Mozambique

29/06/85 RENAMO guerrillas attack a convoy of 100 vehicles under military escort, traveling from Maputo along the main north-south highway toward Gaza Province. The attack, which takes place 50 kilometers north of Maputo, results in the deaths of 42 people.

22/07/85 With the intensification of economic difficulties and RENAMO activities throughout the country, Cabo Delgado, Niassa, and Nampula Provinces agree to coordinate their military, economic, and political affairs.

Mozambique/South
Africa

13/07/85 In a statement issued to reporters in Lisbon, Portugal, RENAMO Secretary General Evo Fernandes announces that he has learned that a force of 1,000 regular South African troops will be sent to Mozambique to protect strategic targets from RENAMO attacks. The targets to be guarded include electrical power lines which carry electricity from the Cabora Bassa dam to South Africa.

Mozambique/Zimbabwe

03/07/85 It is disclosed by Radio Mozambique that the British Government has decided to grant the Mozambican Army \$650,000 in aid. Britain will also organize training courses for Mozambican officers and noncommissioned officers in Zimbabwe to begin in January 1986. Six British officers will be sent to Zimbabwe to join a team of instructors, who are already training the Zimbabwean Army. In addition, Britain will provide aid for the purchase of communications equipment and uniforms.

South Africa

28/06/85 The African National Congress (ANC) calls for a full-scale uprising against white rule in South Africa, urging black police and soldiers to turn their guns against their masters. The ANC also charges that South African police, posing as guerrillas, set a trap responsible for the hand grenade and bomb explosions that killed eight blacks and wounded seven in townships east of Johannesburg.

08/07/85 The Human Sciences Research Council, which is funded by the government and controlled by government-appointed experts, releases the results of a 4-year study involving more than

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100 researchers from South African universities and senior officials of the government. The report calls the apartheid policy a disaster and warns the government that catastrophe looms unless there are fundamental changes. The Research Council's report focused its main attack on the central pillar of the apartheid policy, the carefully constructed labyrinth of laws designed to keep the various races apart economically, socially, and politically.

20/07/85 The government declares an indefinite state of emergency in three large areas of the country hit by major unrest in black townships. The declaration is the first of its kind in 25 years. The emergency measures affect the eastern Cape region, black townships in industrial areas east of Johannesburg, and Johannesburg itself. Many of the 36 magisterial districts are already subject to bans on political meetings. Under the state of emergency the police and army are able to impose curfews, detain people without trial, and search homes and buildings at will. South African security forces arrest 113 persons during the first 24 hours of the state of emergency.

24/07/85 France halts all new investment in South Africa and recalls its ambassador, becoming the first nation to impose economic sanctions as a protest against the white-ruled government's declaration of a state of emergency. The recall of the ambassador follows the announcement by the police that they had used emergency powers to arrest 224 more persons, bringing to 665 the number of people rounded up since the proclamation took effect.

South Africa/Namibia

01/07/85 South African troops kill 16 Namibian South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) guerrillas in Angola, bringing the rebel death toll to 61 in 2 days. South African troops invade six to nine miles into Angola, tracking SWAPO guerrillas, over the weekend.

Zambia/South Africa

01/07/85 A bomb explodes at ANC offices in Lusaka. An ANC official states that the bomb exploded late at night, injuring no one. Lusaka residents report gunfire around the offices after the blast. The Zambian Government blames South Africa for the bombing.

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Zimbabwe

06/07/85

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) party gains an overwhelming victory in the first general elections since independence, winning 63 of the 80 seats reserved for blacks in the 100-member Parliament. Mugabe indicates that the victory is a mandate to dismantle Zimbabwe's British-drafted Constitution (which was to have remained in place until 1990) in order to turn the multiparty democracy into a one-party state. He announces plans to scrap a provision of the charter that guarantees 20 seats to the white minority. Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) party wins resoundingly in Matabeleland, taking all 15 seats and dashing the Prime Minister's hopes of demonstrating that he had electoral support in all areas of Zimbabwe.

08/07/85

600 homes belonging to ZAPU supporters are ransacked by supporters of Mugabe. In some cases members of ZAPU are thrown out of their houses and their belongings piled in the streets. In other cases, ZANU supporters, most of them women, confiscate house keys and lock out residents.

10/07/85

ZAPU leader Joshua Nkomo claims that two officials of his party were slain in what he called a campaign of official killing by supporters of the ruling ZANU party. The two officials were opposition candidates in last week's general election.

Southern
Africa/East/Central
Africa

Mozambique/Zimbabwe/

Tanzania

00/07/85

An unknown source claims that during a secret summit in Harare, Tanzania and Zimbabwe both agreed to mount a major campaign against the Mozambique National Resistance Organization (RENAMO). Zimbabwe has previously confirmed that its forces have fought inside Mozambique, and Tanzania maintains military assistance groups within the territory of its southern neighbor. Other sources confirm recent deliveries of 700 tons of arms and ammunition from Czechoslovakia.

West Africa

Ghana

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12/07/85 The arrest of Agbotui Susudzi, a Ghanaian national, and Sharon Scranage, an American employee of the CIA, sets off a media barrage of protest and a spy hunt in Ghana. Most newspapers report that evidence of CIA activity in Ghana comes as no surprise, and then list other incidents in which the CIA was believed to have had a hand. Meanwhile, Ghanaian authorities arrest an unspecified number of Ghanaians on charges of spying, including Navy Commander Commodore J.D. Oppong, Accra lawyer Samuel Okudzeto, and Joseph Edusei, a secretary in the Foreign Ministry. While the incident raises fears that the revelations might jeopardize the recently improved relations between the Rawlings government and the United States, both sides reiterate their commitment to maintaining good relations, which includes increased aid from the United States.

Guinea

04/07/85 A coup attempt, led by former Prime Minister Colonel Diarra Traore, fails when forces loyal to Head of State Colonel Lansana Conte take control of the Conakry radio station from where the rebels had announced the abolishment of the governing Military Committee of National Recovery (CMRN). The rebels, who were counting on the support of the population and some army factions, received neither, and after a brief siege, the radio station is back in government hands and Diarra Traore is arrested. Two possible motives for the coup attempt are Traore's personal vendetta against Conte, who had demoted him from Prime Minister to Minister of Education in December 1984, and the discontent of Malinke army officers. Conte, who was in Togo for the ECOWAS summit when the coup attempt took place, returns to Conakry and is greeted with widespread acclaim. As his position within the CMRN is strengthened, he assumes the rank of Brigadier General.

Ivory Coast

11/07/85 Three months prior to the presidential elections, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny travels to the city of Gagnoa, the heart of the Bete ethnic group in eastcentral Ivory Coast. Relations between the Bete and the Baoule ethnic group, to which Houphouet belongs, never particularly cordial, have been especially contentious following a Bete uprising in 1970 and a student strike at the national university in 1982. The latter was led by Laurent Gbagbo, a native of Gagnoa. Houphouet's trip follows by several months a Bete fence-mending trip to Yamoussoukro during which the invitation for the Gagnoa trip was extended. Gbagbo, now in

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exile in Paris, has discretely requested permission from Houphouet to return to Ivory Coast.

Liberia
18/07/85

Liberia breaks diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union after an incident in which 14 Liberian students are arrested outside the Soviet Embassy. The students are accused of attempting to pass on documents dealing with Liberian defense capabilities. This event is widely interpreted as a warning to the "progressive" elements of the opposition parties who, according to President Doe, maintain links with the Soviet Union.

Nigeria
07/27/85

The government signs a protocol on economic, agricultural, and industrial cooperation with China, in keeping with its intention of expanding its commercial ties. The protocol provides for an increase in trade between the two countries, and Chinese assistance and investment in Nigerian agricultural and industrial projects. The two countries will also seek to strengthen cooperation in the fields of health, cultural exchange, and sports.

West Africa/Sahel

Ghana/Mali

08/07/85 President Moussa Traore of Mali ends a 2-day state visit to Accra, Ghana, during which a common strategy for the upcoming OAU and ECOWAS conferences is mapped out. Prior to his departure, Traore and Ghanaian Head of State Jerry Rawlings sign a communique touching on bilateral economic issues, as well as the need to strengthen ECOWAS. The two leaders also express the hope that out of the OAU summit meeting will come an economic strategy to meet Africa's pressing needs.

Ivory Coast/Senegal

21/06/85 In order to prepare a common front for the upcoming ECOWAS and OAU conferences, President Abdou Diouf of Senegal visits Ivoirian Head of State Felix Houphouet Boigny at Yamoussoukro. Their talks focus on the larger problems confronting Africa, particularly francophone Africa. Houphouet, now in the twilight of his political career, is interested in resuscitating in some form the ghost of unity linking France and francophone Africa.

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Africa General

Africa General

13/08/85 Under the joint sponsorship of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Regional Conference on Security, Disarmament, and Development opens in Lome, Togo. Participants include 40 delegates from nearly all African countries as well as representatives from a host of international organizations. Emphasizing the importance of the conference, speakers point out that the threat of nuclear war touches all countries, and that the funds spent on arms by developed as well as developing countries further retard development in the Third World.

East Africa

Sudan

05/08/85 Sudanese Defense Minister Brigadier General Osman Abdallah announces that the Sudanese Armed Forces will not participate in the US-sponsored Bright Star military operations this year. Sudan's refusal to engage in joint maneuvers is a significant reversal of former President Numeiri's past policy of military cooperation with Sudan's two most important strategic allies. The Sudanese decision is consistent with the Transitional Military Council's intention to reduce its dependence on the United States and adopt a more balanced position between the superpowers.

23/08/85 The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) battles government forces at Kadugli in central Sudan. This attack represents the furthest northern penetration of SPLA rebel activity and reaffirms the unwillingness of John Garang to accept the Siwardahab government.

East/Central Africa

Burundi

21/08/85 Thirteen of the 16 priests, arrested at the beginning of the month for celebrating mass in violation of legislation prohibiting religious activities, are released. Since February, 90 foreign missionaries have left Burundi because of the government's refusal to renew their visas. The Vatican indicates that departures of missionaries will continue.

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East/Central Africa

Tanzania
15/08/85

Zanzibar President Ali Hassan Mwinyi is nominated sole candidate to succeed Julius Nyerere as President of Tanzania in October 1985. Mwinyi emerged as a compromise candidate between the two main contenders, Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (CCM) stalwart Rashidi Kawawa and Salim Salim, who is considered a liberal reformer.

Uganda
00/08/85

The situation in Uganda remains unstable following July's coup d'etat. Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army (NRA) troops are reported to be near Kampala and to control much of the south and west of the country. Museveni objects to the fact that the military leaders who ousted Obote have set up a ruling Military Council and Cabinet without NRA participation. Museveni vows to continue his guerrilla war if the present government does not resign and allocate half the seats of a new Military Council to the NRA. Some negotiations with the military leaders have taken place and peace talks are scheduled to resume in Kenya on 4 August. Museveni is likely to agree to peace only if the NRA is given a significant role in the government.

Zaire
08/08/85

Five West German military instructors arrive in Kinshasa under the terms of a military cooperation agreement between Zaire and West Germany. The West German technical team will train Civil Guard soldiers for a 6-month period.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia
00/08/85

There is heavy fighting in several areas of Eritrea Province throughout the month. On 14 July, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) announces that its guerrillas forced government troops to abandon the left flank of the Nakfa front. According to unconfirmed reports in late August, government forces recaptured Tessenei and Barentu. The loss of Tessenei, which lies along an important EPLF supply route near the the Sudanese border, is a serious blow to the rebels. Barentu was captured by the EPLF in July 1985 and government forces fought during most of July and August to recapture the town.

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15/08/85 The Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) reports destroying several military vehicles and killing dozens of Ethiopian soldiers in four hit-and-run attacks during the second half of July.

Somalia

01/08/85 Somali and US troops conduct a week-long military exercise in Somalia, part of Bright Star 85, during the first week of August.

Indian Ocean Islands

Madagascar

01/08/85 The leader of an underground martial arts cell, Pierre Mizael Andrianarijaona, and 19 of his followers are killed during a clash with Malagasy soldiers backed by armored vehicles in Antananarivo. The heavily armed security forces stage the assault on the headquarters of the quasi-religious sect, based on the Chinese martial art of Kung Fu, following a series of conflicts between the Kung Fu practitioners and Madagascar's security forces. Blamed by authorities for much of Madagascar's street crime, the sect went underground in September 1984 and attacked a Youth Awareness encampment near the capital in December 1984, killing 50 militiamen.

Sahel

Burkina Faso

12/08/85 Head of State Thomas Sankara dissolves his government, placing 19 of 22 cabinet ministers in charge of collective farms in an area about 100 kilometers east of Ouagadougou. All functions previously handled by the dispatched ministers will be assumed by Sankara and the three remaining cabinet ministers, who are now designated "general coordinators." The three are Captain Blaise Compaore, former Minister of State in Charge of Justice, Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, former Minister of State in Charge of Defense, and Captain Henri Zongo, former Minister of State Enterprises. The dismissals are thought to be part of Sankara's drive against growing bourgeois tendencies among his cabinet officials.

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Senegal
22/08/85

Abdoulaye Wade, leader of the main opposition party, the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS), is arrested along with 20 other people, including one National Assembly member, following an unauthorized peaceful march in Dakar to protest apartheid in South Africa. The march and the arrests come at a time when relations between the government and opposition groups are especially tense. Although the march was held on an innocuous pretext, the government took action in order to prevent rumors that it is prepared to allow unfettered criticism or that it is too weak and indecisive to muzzle the opposition. Following 3 days of hearings by the Tribunal for Flagrant Misdemeanors, Wade and 14 other detainees are released.

Southern Africa

Mozambique

30/07/85 Two Italian missionaries are kidnapped during a Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrilla attack on the city of Luabo, 300 kilometers to the north of Maputo.

07/08/85 RENAMO says that it will negotiate directly with London and Dublin for the release of two British citizens, who were abducted by RENAMO guerrillas in Luabo, central Zambezia Province, the previous week. Both men are employed by the South African Techserve company and were carrying out rehabilitation work on a sugar mill.

08/08/85 RENAMO guerrillas attack 4 passenger buses on the main north-south highway, killing 15 people and wounding another 42. The attack takes place 50 kilometers north of Maputo, near the site of two June attacks.

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Mozambique/Zimbabwe

00/08/85 Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe informs Parliament that he is planning to increase significantly the Zimbabwean military presence in Mozambique in order to protect Zimbabwean interests from RENAMO attacks. Zimbabwe, which has had 3,000 troops stationed in Mozambique for the past several months, will send up to 30,000 troops from its 41,000-strong Army to defend the 250-mile corridor from the eastern Zimbabwean city of Mutare to the Mozambican port of Beira, through which runs a pipeline which carries Zimbabwe's entire gasoline and diesel oil supply. The corridor also contains a railway line linking Mutare to Beira which carries a high percentage of Zimbabwe's trade. Zimbabwean troops are also repairing the pipeline which was recently blown up by RENAMO rebels.

South Africa

24/08/85 South African authorities arrest 27 leading opposition figures, including Farouk Meer, Acting President of the United Democratic Front, in Durban and Cape Town. As the state of emergency in 36 magisterial districts around Johannesburg and the Eastern Cape enters its sixth week, violence continues in 20 black townships. Since the state of emergency was proclaimed on 21 July, about 140 people have died, the majority killed by police, and more than 2,000 have been detained for interrogation. Government authorities stated that 1,038 of those are still being held.

26/08/85 South African police arrest Trevor Tutu, the 29-year-old son of Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu, following a courtroom incident in which he criticized last week's police roundup of children in the black township of Soweto.

28/08/85 The police in Cape Town, using shotguns, whips, rubber bullets and tear gas, battle thousands of protesters from all of South Africa's racial groups. The cause of the violence was an official prohibition of a planned march by the protesters to Pollsmoor Prison to demand the release of

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jailed African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela. Anti-apartheid activist Reverend Allan Boesak, who was scheduled to lead the march, was arrested the day before the march. He is being detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act which allows detention for an indefinite period without trial or access to a lawyer. In a separate development, officials in Pretoria announce that the largest organization of black high school students, the Congress of South African Students, is now outlawed.

Zimbabwe
06/08/85

Police announce that a member of Parliament was among 31 people arrested during a government crackdown on the opposition Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) party. Sydney Malunga, the chief whip of Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party, was arrested in Harare while trying to leave for the southern city of Bulawayo.

West Africa

Cameroon
24/08/85

Under the guise of fostering national integration and promoting a "new society," President Paul Biya reorganizes his cabinet by replacing 10 ministers with younger men sharing the reformist views of the president. The changes include the replacement of the Ministry of the Armed Forces with a special presidential delegate responsible for defense, thus strengthening Biya's control over the military. Biya also hopes to prevent the sort of putsch, attempted by the military in 1984, that resulted in a significant number of casualties.

Gabon
09/08/85

The Movement for National Reconstruction (MORENA), a banned opposition group, announces that it has set up a government-in-exile, headed by Max Anicet-Mbabinga, which is based in Paris. A press conference, which was planned by MORENA last February to announce the government's formation, was banned by French authorities because it was feared that its existence could seriously jeopardize relations between France and Gabon.

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West Africa

Gabon

11/08/85 Air Force Captain Alexandre Mandja is executed by firing squad for plotting to overthrow the government last month. It is the first execution for treason since Bongo came to power in 1967. A total of six military men were accused of involvement in the plot. Two other men were accused of attempting to overthrow the government and received sentences of life imprisonment during their trial at the beginning of the month. A third was accused of complicity and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment. Two others were acquitted. Probably in an attempt to appease public criticism for the execution, the last six political prisoners in the country are released 5 days later. All six, arrested in November 1982, are members of MORENA.

Guinea

05/08/85 The State Secretary responsible for Guineans outside of the country, Jean-Claude Diallo, announces that those responsible for the 4 July coup attempt will be put on trial at a future date. This announcement contradicts Head of State Lansana Conte's earlier pronouncements which threatened the authors of the coup attempt, led by Colonel Diarra Traore, with immediate execution. Conte has obviously been swayed by world opinion, which has been strongly urging him to give the plotters due process.

West Africa

Ivory Coast

13/08/85 President Felix Houphouet-Boigny's recent political speech at Gagnoa, announcing that his successor will be "peace, unity, and teamwork," fuels speculation that he does not intend to name a candidate for vice president prior to the elections in October. He will probably again arrange that Ivory Coast's single party alter the constitution so as to allow a group of three individuals to run the country on an interim basis until a new president is elected should Houphouet-Boigny fail to complete the mandate he is expected to obtain in the October elections.

West Africa

Liberia

30/07/85 Liberia accords full diplomatic recognition to the Polisario Front's Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR). Liberia

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becomes the first African state to recognize the SDAR since it became a member of the Organization of African Unity in November 1984.

31/07/85 Former Finance Minister and current Liberian Action Party (LAP) Executive Committee member Ellen Sirleaf-Johnson is arrested for criticizing the government of President Samuel Doe during a July speech in Philadelphia. Two other key opposition leaders, Dusty Wolokollie and John Karaweaye of the Liberian Peoples' Party (LPP), have been in detention since July 18. Wolokollie had only just been released after being acquitted of sedition during a 10-month trial. These actions against some of the more popular opposition figures, together with the fact that only the relatively insignificant Unity Party (UP) has been allowed to propose candidates for the legislature and presidency, cast serious doubts on the fairness of the upcoming elections.

Nigeria

24/07/85 In an attempt to revitalize companies and corporations run by the state, Head of State General Buhari says that many parastatal corporations, particularly those under the authority of the Minister of Agriculture, will be sold outright to private investors. Other parastatals, such as the national airlines and shipping companies, are to be run as stringently as private, corporate enterprises. Managers of corporations that fail to perform will be replaced. These measures represent a significant attempt to restructure and thus improve Nigeria's faltering economy.

27/08/85 Army officers, under the leadership of Major General Ibrahim Babangida, overthrow the 20-month old military government of Major General Muhammad Buhari. Babangida also ousts Brigadier General Tunde Idiagbon, Buhari's right-hand man who occupied the number two position in the former government, but retains most members of the previous military government. While Babangida claims that the former government's unwillingness to deal with Nigeria's severe economic problems precipitated the coup, growing insularity

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and intransigence on the part of Buhari and Idiagbon also played a key role. One of Babangida's first acts as president is the repeal of "Decree 4," a measure promulgated by Buhari and Idiagbon which permitted the government to jail journalists for printing stories that embarrassed the government. Babangida also states that unlike Buhari, he will attempt to resolve the impasse that has denied Nigeria International Monetary Fund (IMF) assistance.

Sierra Leone

02/08/85 The Central Committee of the ruling All People's Congress (APC) unanimously endorses Army Major General Joseph Saidu Momoh, 48, as the sole candidate in the forthcoming presidential election. This indicates that retiring President Siaka Stevens has settled on Momoh as his chosen successor, thus by-passing Vice-President S. I. Koroma. Stevens is setting an unusual precedent by designating a military man to succeed a civilian as head of state.

Togo

28/08/85 Just prior to the Pope's visit, the government reinforces security forces at points of entry into the country following a series of bomb explosions in Lome which occurred on 8 through 10 August, the night of 16 August, and 24 August. The police also discovered an unexploded bomb at the airport on 24 August. Foes of the regime of General Gnassingbe Eyadema, who are living in exile in Ghana, are suspected of responsibility for the blasts. Although none of the explosions caused serious damage, they apparently signal a new level of political activism in a country that has remained peaceful and relatively stable for the past 18 years under the Eyadema administration.

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East/Central Africa

Uganda

00/09/85

The situation in Uganda remains unstable. Talks between the military government and the National Resistance Army (NRA) continue during September, but an informal cease-fire established on 27 July is broken. There are clashes between NRA and government troops at Jinja and Masaka, Uganda's second and third largest towns. The NRA also attacks a military base only 10 miles from Kampala. There are reports of government troops looting, killing, and raping civilians in several areas.

Horn of Africa

Somalia

07/09/85

The Somali National Movement (SNM) reports three attacks on government troops during September: an attack in Bakool region in southern Somalia on 7 September; a hit-and-run attack in Hiiraan region; and an attack on a military base in Hargeysa District in which the SNM claims to have burned the base and killed 130 government troops.

15/09/85

The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS) reports three successful attacks on government forces in mid-September. In one, on a military base at Dusa Marreb on 15 September, the DFSS claims to have killed 68 government troops. These reports cannot be verified.

Sudan

19/09/85

Thousands of Sudanese demonstrate in front of the Egyptian Embassy in Khartoum, demanding former President Numeiri's extradition and criticizing Hosni Mubarak as a Zionist agent. The protest reflects the depth of the public's resentment and its determination to continue pressuring the ruling Transitional Military Council to prosecute individuals guilty of committing various criminal acts under Numeiri. It also captures the sentiments of the current political mood in Sudan, which is advocating increased distance in Egyptian-Sudanese relations.

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22/09/85 Junior-level officers in the Sudanese Armed Forces attempt a military coup in Khartoum. Although the challenge to the government is unsuccessful, it signifies dissatisfaction with the ruling coalition's policies. The dissension within the ranks of the military increases the difficulties General Siwardahab faces in his attempt to stabilize the nation.

24/09/85 Violent confrontations break out in Khartoum between members of the Muslim Brotherhood, led by Hassan al-Turabi, and southern Sudanese, resulting in four deaths and numerous injuries. The fighting stems from the Muslim Brotherhood's disgust with the refusal of the Sudanese Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLA) to commence negotiations with the ruling Transitional Military Council. The clashes between these two dominant groups reflect another schism dividing Sudanese society.

Sahel

Burkina

01/09/85 Following a 3-week exile on state farms, all but 3 of the 22 Burkinabe cabinet ministers serving the Sankara government return to their previous posts. Included are the three army officers who acted as general coordinators following the mandated exile on 12 August 1985. The exile was intended to demystify the role of cabinet officer, to show that none was indispensable, and to expose the ministers to the problems of the country.

Chad

08/09/85 According to the Chadian Government, two French Jaguar fighters violate Chadian airspace by flying over positions of the National Liberation Army (ANL) commando units in Chicha and Birma Tara in the south before heading toward Fada in the north. Intervention by the fighter planes, which belong to French forces based in neighboring Central African Republic, is considered interference in Chad's internal affairs and has increased tension in the area.

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Sahel

Chad

13/09/85 Military leader Moussa Mohamat, Commander of the Third Grouping of the Occupied Areas, and 15 of his soldiers leave Fada to join the Chadian Armed Forces (FANT) in Oum Chalouba-Kalait. The defection of this group of soldiers to government forces is part of a larger exodus taking place in the occupied areas.

13/09/85 Tension is still high in the Lat-Kanem sector of western Chad following recent clashes between Northern Armed Forces (FAN) groups and units operating under the umbrella of the National Liberation Army (ANL). FAN reportedly lost 41 soldiers and suffered heavy equipment damage.

18/09/85 The Chadian ambassador to Paris claims that direct contact has been made with Libya which could lead to a meeting between Chadian President Hissein Habre and Libyan President Qadhafi. The ambassador also claimed that the Ouadi-Dum airport, 150 kilometers northeast of Faya-Largeau, has been completed and that large Libyan transport planes are already landing there.

Southern Africa

Angola

02/09/85 The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) claims that it has evidence that Soviet officers are intervening in an offensive against UNITA bases in eastern Angola, and Soviet officers are directing the operation of the 14th and 21st Brigades, operating in the Cazombo region, and the 8th and 13th Brigades, operating in Mavinga. According to UNITA, Soviet military elements, together with Portuguese and Cubans, are piloting MiG-17, MiG-21, and MiG-23 fighter planes as well as helicopters.

05/09/85 Soviet First Lieutenant K. Kirov Vioroshilov, instructor of the Angolan Army's 8th Motorized Brigade, is killed in

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Kunyamba, Cuando-Cubango Province in southeastern Angola, during an attack by UNITA guerrillas. The presence of Vioroshilov in Kunyamba may be indicative of a growing active military role by the Soviet Union in Angola.

16/09/85 South African forces launch a raid into southern Angola in a follow-up operation against SWAPO insurgents. The 500-man invasion force is being supported by the South African Air Force and is aimed primarily at SWAPO's Eighth Battalion.

Mozambique

07/09/85 RENAMO announces that it is releasing 10 missionaries, including two Britons, two Italians, and three Portuguese, who have been held hostage since an attack on Luabo Sugar Central in Zambezia Province last month. Two Soviet citizens are still being held hostage.

10/09/85 Major General Salvador Ntumugue, Maputo Provincial Military Commander, announces that the Mozambican Armed Forces are carrying out mopping-up operations against RENAMO in southern Mozambique as part of the offensive under way throughout the country. In Maputo Province, military action is directed in the districts of Magude and Manhica. An official military spokesman announces that the offensive in the Gorongosa Mountains is continuing against Gogogo camp, a RENAMO stronghold.

Mozambique/Zimbabwe

12/09/85 A clandestine radio station in Zimbabwe claims that the number of Zimbabwean troops now deployed in Mozambique has reached 12,000, confirming the use of Zimbabwean soldiers in direct battle with RENAMO.

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25/09/85 A series of explosions rocks a Mozambican Army ammunition depot in the suburbs of Maputo, killing 2 children and injuring 40 people. In Portugal, a RENAMO spokesman claims that a batallion of special RENAMO troops was responsible for sabotaging the depot, which is in Malhazine, six miles from downtown Maputo. The attack is the first since RENAMO threatened to intensify its urban guerrilla operations after its Gorongoza Mountain base, Banana House, was captured at the end of August by government troops with the help of Zimbabwean troops. Other bases in the region have also been captured, including Muchamba base, south of Chimoio, and Rungo base, south of Banana House. The capture of these RENAMO strongholds is a major achievement on the part of government troops, and the direct result of Zimbabwean military cooperation.

Namibia

05/09/85 Police uncover a 125 kilogram cache of high plastic explosives in 2 houses in Katutura Township on the outskirts of Windhoek, according to the Chief of the Security Police, Brigadier Sarel Strydom. This is the largest single amount of explosives found in the possession of South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) guerrillas. The Soviet-made explosives with 80 detonators were hidden in 2 spare wheels, a suitcase, and 2 plastic bags. The wheels, containing 35 kilograms of high explosives, were to be used as bombs in Windhoek's main Post Office and a hotel.

South Africa

03/09/85 South Africa's black National Union of Mineworkers announces the suspension of a strike against five gold and two coal mines after 48 hours. The suspension removes a threat to two of South Africa's principal exports, gold and coal, and reduces the possibility of violence spreading to the mining industry. The mines where the strike was called are operated by Gold Fields of South Africa, Gencor, and Anglovaal.

South Africa

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- 03/09/85 End Conscription Campaign Press Officer David Shandler announces in Cape Town that there has been a dramatic increase in the number of men failing to register for military service since the South African Defense Forces (SADF) entered the townships. In 1984, 1,596 men failed to register with the SADF, and by January 1985, 3 months after SADF troops entered the townships, 7,589 men had failed to register.
- 05/09/85 White residents respond with gunfire as crowds of mixed race youths hurl rocks and gasoline bombs at homes in a white suburb outside Cape Town. The incident is the first known racial violence in a white area during a year of unrest that has claimed over 670 lives.
- 14/09/85 According to a former Assistant Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, South Africa has the ability to build two atom bombs a year from nuclear material produced by its secret Valindaba uranium enrichment plant. The pilot plant, near Hartbeespoort Dam, has the capacity to make enough highly enriched uranium for such bombs in total secrecy. Valindaba is designed to manufacture 50 tons a year of lowly enriched fuel for the Koeberg nuclear power plant. By reprocessing such fuel, enrichment plants are capable of producing 90 percent enriched uranium.
- 24/09/85 The police announce the death in detention of United Democratic Front (UDF) black activist Mbuyiselo Mbotya, who had been imprisoned in King William's Town. Mbotya died in the hospital in East London after surgery for wounds to the head received during his 24-hour detention.
- 27/09/85 Three bombs explode in supermarkets in the port city of Durban, causing no casualties. The bombings are the first

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such attacks in South Africa in 3 months, and the first in a shopping complex. The supermarket attacks, thought to be the work of the African National Congress (ANC), reveal a measure of caution, with all the bombs exploding after closing time when the stores were empty. A fourth bomb is found in another supermarket and defused before it explodes.

South

Africa/Mozambique

20/09/85 South Africa acknowledges that its armed forces have violated the Nkomati Accord signed with Mozambique in March 1984. During a news conference, Foreign Minister Pik Botha admits that South Africa has maintained radio links with RENAMO rebels, prepared a landing strip for them, and has been making air force supply drops. He also admits that Deputy Foreign Minister Louis Nel had made three secret trips to RENAMO headquarters in Mozambique, and that RENAMO officers had been ferried in and out of the country, on at least one occasion by submarine. The South African admission comes after the capture last month of RENAMO headquarters, during which the revealing diary of a RENAMO official was seized. It also comes just before Machel's meeting with President Reagan in Washington.

Zimbabwe

29/08/85

Crack units of the Zimbabwean Army's Fourth Brigade are deployed in the south after an attack by Zimbabwe African People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA) guerrillas in Matabeleland in which 24 people were killed. The guerrillas attacked farms, schools, and targets in the business center of Mwenzi, 400 kilometers from the capital, Harare. This attack is the latest incident in the struggle for power between the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union, led by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, and the Zimbabwe African People's Union, led by Joshua Nkomo.

West Africa

10/09/85

Heads of State of the five Entente Council states--Ivory Coast, Benin, Togo, Niger, and Burkina Faso--meet in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, and issue an unusual communique pledging cooperation in preventing and combating sabotage.

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Captain Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso does not sign the communique, in protest of language that, while addressing recent incidents in Niger and Togo, omits those in Burkina Faso, and in protest of the absence of any sympathy and reciprocity from all other Council members, except Benin. In other business, the Council votes to spend most of its funds on projects to develop food crops and sources of potable water.

Ivory Coast/Ghana

02/09/85 Several incidents following a soccer match between teams from Ivory Coast and Ghana threaten relations between the two countries. After the match, which resulted in the elimination of the Ghanaian team, some Ghanaian fans supposedly maltreated some of the 5,000 Ivoirians attending the match. In response, attacks on Ghanaians occur throughout Ivory Coast, particularly in Abidjan where four Ghanaian women, including one who was pregnant, are missing after having been thrown into a lagoon. Subsequently, hundreds of Ghanaians seek refuge in police stations and the Ghanaian Embassy, while as many as 3,000 others are escorted to a military camp for their own protection. In an unprecedented move the Political Bureau of the Ivory Coast Democratic Party issues a statement minimizing the supposed mistreatment of Ivoirian fans in Kumasi, and appeals for a halt to the persecution of Ghanaians in Ivory Coast.

Liberia

02/09/85 The Liberian Unification Party (LUP) and the Liberian Action Party (LAP) pass the last legal hurdles towards full participation in the presidential elections scheduled for October. This brings the total number of registered parties to four, including the Unity Party (UP) and President Doe's own National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL). The last minute addition of the LAP and LUP gives some indication of Doe's desire to give the October elections a greater appearance of fairness, in deference mainly to pressure from the United States.

Nigeria

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- 31/08/85 Following the coup of 27 August 1985, Nigeria's new military rulers release from prison six former ministers, five former provincial governors, two journalists, and other officials. Meanwhile, former Head of State Major General Buhari is being held in the Bonny Military Camp near Lagos.
- 04/09/85 The new government of Major General Ibrahim Babangida is making several sharp breaks with the past, including the breaking up of the traditional monopoly of northern Hausa-Fulani. Also, a younger generation of officers, who share the political views of the Army's junior officers, now dominates the administration of 19 states. Finally, Babangida has given himself a freer hand in setting policy as the policy-making power of the AFRC has been diminished and the new Chief of Staff, unlike his predecessor Tunde Idiagbon, will have neither decision-making power nor military responsibilities.
- 10/09/85 Major General Tunde Idiagbon, number two man in the recently ousted Buhari government, returns to Nigeria and is placed under house arrest. Idiagbon had been in Saudi Arabia on a pilgrimage at the time of the coup.
- 10/09/85 President Babangida announces the formation of a new government which includes 11 civilian and 11 military ministers, 12 northern and 10 southern ministers, and new and previous office holders. The Buhari regime is represented by six ministers of the previous regime, while two military governors from the previous regime have been promoted to the rank of minister. At the same time the appointment of Nigerian Bar President Bola Ajibola to the Ministry of Justice signals a clear break with the repressive policies of the earlier government.

Nigeria

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31/09/85 In a speech marking Nigeria's 25th anniversary of independence, President Babangida paints a bleak picture of Nigeria since independence. He announces a 15-month state of emergency that includes, among other measures, an end to the practice of bartering oil for consumer goods. He also says that in January 1986, he will announce a plan for returning Nigeria to civilian rule within 3 years. Despite Babangida's prescriptions, Nigeria faces severe problems, including an exploding population, a 75 percent illiteracy rate, and a nearly bankrupt treasury.

Togo

01/09/85 A delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under Kim Chae-pong, member of the Central Committee and Deputy in the National Assembly, arrives in Togo for a 4-day visit at the invitation of Rally of the Togolese People (RPT). Talks between Koreans and Togolese focus on diplomatic cooperation between the two states and political organization.

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East/Central Africa

Tanzania
27/10/85

During elections for a president to succeed Julius Nyerere, Ali Hassan Mwinyi, the sole candidate, is chosen as the country's second leader since independence in 1961. Mwinyi, the former President of Zanzibar, was picked by Nyerere and the country's sole political party, the Revolutionary Party, to lead the country. Although he is stepping aside as president, Nyerere will remain chairman of the party for 2 more years, a position from which he will continue to wield great influence over government policies.

Uganda
23/09/85

A Libyan C-130 military transport plane lands in Entebbe loaded with military hardware. The arrival of the arms shipment coincides with the arrival in Nairobi, Kenya, of the Chairman of Uganda's Military Council, Tito Okello, for the beginning of peace talks between the Ugandan Government and the guerrilla National Resistance Movement (NRA). Libyan military support to Uganda exemplifies Libya's support of the Okello government in its armed struggle with the NRA.

21/10/85

The newspaper, Munno, which is linked to the Roman Catholic Church, reports that government and rebel troops both suffered heavy casualties in recent fighting around Mbarara, a major western town which has been under NRA control for the past 2 months.

29/10/85

NRA leader Yoweri Museveni announces that no cease-fire accord has been reached with the government despite the NRA's offer to stop fighting while peace talks are underway in Nairobi, Kenya. Three earlier sessions, during which NRA and government negotiators discussed a peaceful solution to the country's internal strife, produced no agreement.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

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23/09/85 The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) announces the suspension of secret negotiations that have been taking place with the Ethiopian regime since September 1982. Ten preliminary meetings have already been held between EPLF and government negotiators to pave the way for direct public peace negotiations. The EPLF claims that the government is resorting to diplomatic tricks to thwart any agreement for a peaceful settlement of the Eritrean question.

04/10/85 A Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) spokesman announces in London that TPLF guerrillas killed or wounded 800 Ethiopian government troops and expanded the area under TPLF control following a government offensive in southeast Tigray Province. The fighting began 2 days before around Makale in southern Tigray Province, during which TPLF guerrillas took control of the garrison town of Chercher.

16/10/85 An EPLF military communique circulated in Kuwait claims that its guerrillas killed 450 Ethiopian government troops and shot down a MiG-23 fighter plane during fighting in Halhal, Nakfa, and the plains of the northern Eritrean coastline. Government troops launched a large-scale attack in Eritrea Province a few days earlier following the announcement by the EPLF about suspension of peace talks.

Somalia/Ethiopia

21/10/85 The Somali Defense Ministry claims that Somali troops killed 59 Ethiopian soldiers and captured tanks and ammunition during an attack by Ethiopian government troops at Khadar in the northwest the day before. Somalia also claims that in another Ethiopian attack at Anod, five Ethiopian soldiers were killed. These clashes are the latest in a series of incidents between the two countries, the result of a longstanding territorial dispute.

Sudan

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- 01/10/85 Sudanese leader Siwardahab announces the lifting of zakat, the Islamic form of taxation that had been implemented as part of former President Numeiri's islamization policy. The repeal and return to a western system of taxation is a concession to the demands of southern Sudanese who vehemently oppose the imposition of Sharia law. It will provide more regularity to the system of tax collection and generate additional revenue for the suffering national economy.
- 13/10/85 Following several days of talks between Sudanese Minister of Defense Abdallah and his Egyptian counterpart, Sudanese Prime Minister Dafallah arrives in Cairo for an official visit with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Discussions focus on Sudanese-Egyptian cooperation, the extradition of former Sudanese President Numeiri, and the status of the Sudanese-Libyan military pact signed earlier this year. The top level meetings between Egyptian and Sudanese officials reflect Sudan's intention of adhering to its newly adopted good neighborly foreign policy, while retaining special deference to its traditional ally.
- 17/10/85 The Ministerial Election Committee passes a bill legalizing the formation of political parties in Sudan. The legislative act will officially democratize the Sudanese political system which had previously been a one-party state under President Numeiri. The measure seems consistent with the professed intentions of the Siwardahab government to hold elections next April and relinquish control to a civilian head of state.
- 29/10/85 The Sudanese Armed Forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) agree to the imposition of a 2-week cease-fire. The cessation in fighting, which had escalated during September in the southern region between Bor and Juba, offers an opportunity for negotiation and a potential end to the southern insurgency. The repeal of Islamic law, the formation of a provisional national unity government, and

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the abrogation of treaties with Libya and Egypt are among SPLA leader John Garang's demands for the resolution of the conflict.

Sahel

Burkina/Mali

11/10/85 Burkinabe Minister of Internal Affairs Norbert Nongma Quedraogo announces that Burkina and Mali are following a two-pronged path towards settlement of their longstanding border dispute. The two nations have agreed to try and resolve their differences through bilateral negotiations and submission of their cases to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. This new desire to settle the Malian border question represents an effort by the Burkinabe Government to preempt the possibility of the establishment of opposition groups to the Sankara government in Mali.

Chad

05/10/85 Chadian President Hisssein Habre discloses that efforts are being made for the organization of a summit meeting between Chad and Libya. At the same time, he reveals the development of flights over N'Djamena by the Libyan Air Force and intensification of these flights over the southern part of Chad. In Habre's view, Qadhafi has not abandoned any of his ambitions toward Chad and has taken advantage of the recent military lull to establish an extensive intelligence system in the northern part of Chad.

16/10/85 A spokesman for Goukouni Oueddei denies a statement issued in Tripoli that Oueddei, the head of Chad's opposition Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT), had been deposed as leader of the Popular Armed Forces (FAP). The statement follows an unsuccessful bid in September by GUNT's Chief of General Staff Goukouni Mahamat Gued and Tactical Bureau Chief Moussa Togou to seize control from Oueddei. Both Gued and Togou have since been dismissed from their posts. The Deputy Chief of General Staff is functioning as Acting Chief until an incumbent is appointed.

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Sahel/West Africa

Burkina/Ghana

18/09/85 Burkinabe Head of State Sankara holds discussions with a Ghanaian delegation headed by Major Asakye Agyema, Deputy Director for National Security. The talks reaffirm the principle of close cooperation between the two nations in matters relating to national security. After the conference, Major Agyema states that a mutual defense pact is in effect. Relations between Ghana and Burkina continue to grow closer.

Southern Africa

Angola/South Africa

01/10/85 The Angolan Ministry of Defense confirms in a communique sent to Lisbon by the Angolan news agency, ANGOP, that a massive South African attack resulted in more than 50 deaths and dozens of injuries to Angolan Army regular soldiers. According to Luanda, South African fighter planes attacked on 30 September in the area of Mavinga, 250 kilometers from the southern border in Cuando Cubango Province, in support of National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) positions. Meanwhile, as the result of charges made by the Angolan Ministry of Defense that South African aircraft and soldiers are engaged in battle between Angolan and UNITA forces in Mavinga, South African President Botha admits for the first time, during the Cape Congress of the ruling National Party, that South African military forces are helping UNITA rebels fight Angolan government troops.

Lesotho

08/10/85 Lesotho Security Forces kill two Lesotho Liberation Army (LLA) terrorists at Khubetsona on the outskirts of the capital, Maseru. A large quantity of firearms and ammunition are confiscated.

Mozambique/South Africa

01/10/85 Mozambican Security Minister Sergio Vieira announces during a press conference in Maputo that Mozambique has evidence that the South African military never intended to honor the Nkomati nonaggression pact signed in March 1984 between the two countries, and deliberately resupplied the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) with large amounts of

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arms before the pact was signed. The evidence is contained in the diary of a RENAMO guerrilla which was left behind at RENAMO's captured headquarters in the Gorongozo mountains.

17/10/85 The work of the joint Mozambican-South African security committee, charged with monitoring violations of the Nkomati Accord, is suspended at the request of Mozambican President Machel. The suspension is a manifestation of Mozambique's growing disillusionment with South African intentions to honor the Nkomati Accord.

South Africa

12/10/85 White opposition politicians to the ruling National Party, anxious to solve the country's racial conflict, meet with top officials of the African National Congress (ANC) in Zambia. President Botha, who condemned a similar meeting last month by three prominent white businessmen, makes no comment on this session between the four legislators of the Progressive Federal Party and four ANC leaders.

17/10/85 A crowd of 300 blacks spills onto the streets of the partly white Cape Town suburb of Woodstock after a speech there by Bishop Desmond Tutu. Confrontations between protesters and the police continue for a third straight day in another Cape Town suburb, Athlone. At Stellenbosch University near Cape Town, officials withdraw the passports of eight white students who were to have traveled to Zambia later in the month to meet ANC representatives. The officials also interrupt a church meeting to seize the passports of two priests who were to have accompanied the students to Zambia. All of these incidents characterize the continuing unrest which is gripping the country and the government's repressive response to it.

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- 18/10/85 Despite international appeals for clemency, ANC militant Benjamin Moloise is hanged in Pretoria for his role in the 1982 murder of a security policeman. Following Moloise's execution, thousands of blacks rampage for the first time in 12 months of nationwide violence through central Johannesburg. Meanwhile, South African authorities order hundreds of armed troops into Cape Town's mixed-race suburb of Athlone after the police came under fire on six occasions. It is the first time in 14 months of unrest in the country that the police acknowledge sustained armed attacks against them.
- 22/10/85 An interracial group of South African clerics announces plans to travel to Zambia to meet with ANC leaders in the aftermath of the withdrawal of the passports of eight students the previous week. President Botha characterizes the planned visit, along with other attempts by South Africans to meet with his exiled adversaries, as a challenge to the state's authority. Some South African commentators interpret the flurry of planned visits to Zambia as a lack of confidence among some South Africans about the government's inability to resolve racial violence in black townships over the last 14 months.
- 28/10/85 The United Democratic Front (UDF) and more than 100 other organizations are banned from holding meetings in Cape Town and surrounding areas. The restriction, including civic, political, student, and religious groups most associated with the UDF, follows the declaration the week before of a state of emergency in Cape Town and of neighboring districts, and the detention of most UDF leaders in the Cape Town area.
- 29/10/85 Racial violence continues in many parts of the country. A conflict between the Zulu Inkatha movement and the more radical UDF results in the assassination of Inkatha leader Francis Dlamini outside his home in Kwamashu, a black township outside of Durban. The Dlamini murder follows the

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August gasoline bombing of the Umlazi home of a UDF supporter.

30/10/85 The extreme right party, the Herstigte Nasionale, wins a seat in special elections for five vacant seats in the white-controlled central Parliament, upsetting the ruling National Party. For the Herstigte Nasionale, which took 51 percent of the vote in the blue-collar industrial region south of Johannesburg, it is the first time in its 16 years of existence that it has captured a seat in Parliament. The election results reflect white discontent with the government's handling of racial unrest and the economy.

31/10/85 Continuing violent unrest in Cape Town's black townships results in a regulation allowing the Minister of Law and Order to extend, during the state of emergency, periods of arrest with neither notice nor hearing. Since the government extended the emergency decree on 25 October, more than 200 persons have been arrested in Cape Town, including 100 mixed-race students and teachers accused of joining in the unrest. The violence in Cape Town broke out 3 months ago after thousands gathered for a rally organized by the UDF where participants were urged to fight apartheid through boycotts of schools and white businesses. Since then, more than 60 people have died, and fire damage has been considerable.

Zimbabwe
06/10/85

A school headmaster is killed by Zimbabwe African People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA) guerrillas in western Zimbabwe, bringing to 50 the number of people reported killed in violence in the area since the elections in July. Most of those killed were supporters of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) party. This latest attack comes 4 days after talks began on uniting the deeply divided ZANU and Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) parties.

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06/10/85 Five senior army officers, all former ZIPRA guerrillas who had been arrested in the previous 2 weeks, continue to be detained by security police. The arrests were made with little regard for unity talks between ZANU and ZAPU, and eliminate the ZIPRA presence in the top ranks of the army.

West Africa

Central African Republic

21/09/85 Head of State Andre Kolingba dissolves the Military Committee of National Recovery (CMRN) and establishes a new government which includes a number of civilians. Kolingba remains both head of government and Minister of Defense. Six military ministers leave the government, including Colonel Alphonse Gombade, former Minister of State in charge of rural development, and Lieutenant Clement Michel N'Gai Voueto, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Voueto is replaced by Jean-Louis Psimhis, former ambassador to Belgium. Five other civilians join the government now composed of 18 ministers and 4 secretaries of state. Kolingba had announced on several occasions in the past the inclusion of civilians in the government. At present, a Parliament is being formed in the capital, Bangui.

Ghana

29/09/85 A dispute between the Kusasi and Mamprussi rival ethnic groups in the Upper East region of Ghana culminates in 7 days of armed clashes, leaving 13 dead and scores injured. The central government dispatches a combined army and police force to the area, resulting in over 167 arrests. The recent violence follows a lull of several months in the longstanding conflict between the two groups over land and rights to traditional leadership.

Guinea

17/09/85 The Defense Ministry announces the formation of a new security police unit which will check the identities of all persons found on the streets of the capital after midnight. This development is in response to the growing rate of violent crime in Conakry.

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Ivory Coast

- 12/10/85 President Houphouet-Boigny ends months of speculation on his successor by having the National Assembly alter the constitution and abolish the post of vice president, which was created 5 years ago but has never been filled. Prior to the presidential elections held in mid-October, Houphouet-Boigny was to designate a candidate for vice president and presumed political heir. Under the constitutional amendment now in effect, should the president leave office for any reason, the chair of the National Assembly--currently Henri Konan Bedie--will run the country for an interim period of 45 to 60 days during which he will call for new elections. The constitutional amendment came about as the result of Houphouet's displeasure with the constant bickering among officials bidding for the nomination.
- 15/10/85 During a lengthy press conference, President Houphouet-Boigny reveals details about ongoing contacts between Ivory Coast and Israel, and makes an overture for the renewal of diplomatic ties with the Jewish state. Although Ivory Coast broke diplomatic ties with Israel in 1973, Israeli firms and capital have been present in Ivory Coast. The move was not unexpected in view of earlier comments from the state-owned newspaper expressing deep disappointment with Arab diplomatic and economic initiatives toward Africa.
- 28/10/85 President Houphouet-Boigny is reelected in an undisputed campaign. More than 98 percent of the more than 3.5 million registered voters cast ballots, and close to 99 percent of the voters endorse the president for another 5-year term. Since Ivory Coast gained its independence in 1960, Houphouet-Boigny has run unopposed for the presidency in six elections.

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Liberia

25/09/85 President Doe orders the release of Liberian Action Party (LAP) Executive Board Member Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, along with the 14 students arrested in early August for allegedly passing military secrets to the Soviets. This move demonstrates Doe's desire to cultivate his image and improve relations with the United States which have been particularly strained as a result of Sirleaf's detention.

27/10/85. According to reliable unofficial sources, it appears that the opposition candidate for president, Jackson Doe of the Liberian Action Party (LAP), actually won the popular vote in the election of 15 October with 63 percent of the total vote. President Samuel Doe's National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) received less than 10 percent of the vote in some areas and reportedly did not even succeed in carrying President Doe's home area of Grand Gedeh where the majority of the members of his Krahn tribe voted against him. Nevertheless, President Doe is declared by the Chairman of the Special Elections Commission to be the winner of the elections. According to these official tallies, President Doe received 50.9 percent of the vote. Accusations that the LAP bribed certain election officials have been used to justify discounting much of the LAP vote. Given President Doe's extremely low popularity with everyone except the military, today's events are likely to increase the chances of some sort of coup attempt since that would appear to be the only method of dislodging Doe from office.

Sierra Leone

07/10/85 Major-General Joseph S. Momoh is declared President-Elect by Chief Justice Eben Livesy Luke following the 7 October elections in which Momoh was the only candidate. Momoh is not expected to retire from the Army, despite previous statements by President Siaka Stevens to the effect that he would have to resign his commission before taking office. Momoh will probably be sworn in as president in November. The stage finally seems set for the long-awaited transfer of power from Stevens to his chosen successor. The fact that Momoh may continue to function as Army Chief indicates his desire to maximize his control of the military during a period of instability.

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Togo

04/10/85

Akue Omer Adote, one of 30 persons arrested for "subversive" activities, dies while in government custody, supposedly as the result of arterial hypertension. Meanwhile, the Paris-based Togolese Democratic Movement (MTD) claims that the Togolese Government has arrested over 200 citizens. The MTD, which is supported by Amnesty International, is seeking to mobilize international opinion. The government has not publicly charged any of those arrested, but it is believed that charges will involve the distribution of material unfavorable to Head of State General Gnassingbe Eyadema.

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East/Central Africa

Tanzania
05/11/85

Zanzibar native Ali Hassan Mwinyi is sworn in for a 5-year term as President of Tanzania, succeeding Julius Nyerere. The appointment of Joseph Warioba, a mainlander, as Prime Minister preserves the regional balance in the top political offices. Nyerere, who is expected to continue to wield considerable power as Chairman of the ruling Revolutionary Party, becomes one of three elected heads of state to hand over power willingly in the 25 years since most of Africa gained independence from colonial rule.

Uganda
00/11/85

Peace talks between the Ugandan Government and the National Resistance Army (NRA) that began in August continue in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi. Both sides are optimistic that an agreement can be reached soon that will provide for NRA representation on the governing Military Council, and for merging the NRA's guerrilla force with Uganda's Army, thus ending the current state of insurgency in the country. A draft agreement is being drawn up that calls for an immediate cease-fire, a general disarmament overseen by four commonwealth nations, a new army composed of members from all ethnic groups and trained by British advisers, and a national conference to redraft the country's constitution. Unresolved issues include the exact role NRA leader Yoweri Museveni would play in the ruling Military Council and the exact number of seats that would be allotted to the NRA on the Council.

04/11/85

National Resistance Army (NRA) leader Yoweri Museveni announces the setting up of a formal administration in areas under NRA control in the southwestern part of the country, zones that the NRA describes as "liberated." This is intended as an interim measure to provide services, pending an agreement with the central government in the capital, Kampala.

08/11/85

A top Democratic Party (DP) official reports that Ugandan government troops, in collaboration with former President

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Obote's party supporters, have killed 50 DP officials and supporters in the last 2 weeks. According to the official, the deaths occurred in Kangulumira in Mukuno district. He also charges that former Uganda People's Congress functionaries framed DP officials and supporters so that they could be killed and their property looted.

10/11/85 A gunman hijacks a Uganda Airlines plane on a domestic flight to Arua, 350 miles northwest of the capital, Kampala, near the Zairean border. The airliner, which was carrying 49 passengers, was diverted from Entebbe Airport near Kampala to Kasese, a town held by the NRA in the west. Motives for the hijacking are unclear, but the gunman appeared to be a Ugandan Army defector or a prison escapee seeking asylum with the NRA. Other accounts hold that the plane was being used to ferry arms and military equipment in the government's war against the NRA.

Zaire

10/11/85 A Swiss newspaper, La Suisse, reports that 6 of 59 illegal Zairean immigrants who were expelled from Switzerland the week before died after beatings and torture inflicted on them when they arrived back in Zaire. The pilot of the Swissair plane specially chartered by Zairean authorities reported that he and the police had been worried about a possible hijack attempt by the deportees, who feared for their safety in Zaire. As a result, all 59 deportees, including women and children, were bound hand and foot for the first half hour of the flight following "incidents" during embarkation.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

21/10/85 A Paris-based spokesman for the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front (EPLF) reports that its forces killed 1,890 Ethiopian government soldiers and wounded 2,630 others during an 11-day military offensive in the regions of Nakfa, Halhal, and Northeast Sahel. The EPLF also claims that two T-55 tanks were captured, three tanks destroyed, and a MIG-23 fighter plane shot down.

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Horn of Africa

Ethiopia
31/10/85

Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) Chairman Mengistu departs for Moscow for what is termed a friendly working visit to the Soviet Union. Relations between Ethiopia and the Soviet Union, which were established in 1976 when Ethiopia broke off diplomatic relations with the United States, were strengthened by the formation of the ruling Workers' Party of Ethiopia (WPE) in September 1984.

Kenya
18/10/85

According to reports from diplomatic sources in Nairobi, the two leaders of the August 1982 attempted coup, Corporal Hezekiah Ochuga Rabala and Sergeant Pancras Oteyo, were secretly hanged in July. Ten others, also convicted of participating in the coup, were executed a few days later. The sources say that the executions are common knowledge in Nairobi, although the local press has been silent and the government has refused to confirm or deny the executions.

Sudan
00/11/85

The trial of Sudanese officials involved in the airlift of Ethiopia's Falasha Jews to Israel continues. The Sudanese State Security Tribunal hears further testimony regarding the prosecution of many Sudanese officials, including former President Numeiri and Omar Mohammad al-Tayyib, accused of complicity with the rescue operation. The legal proceedings, covered widely in the Sudanese press, are reviving anti-American sentiment among a mercurial public that still strongly associates the United States with the corrupt leadership of the Numeiri regime. They also provide an opportunity for the Transitional Military Council to rebut allegations from John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), that head of state Siwardahab is merely a reincarnation of former President Numeiri.

07/11/85

Sudan and Libya announce the formation of a Military Committee responsible for the coordination of defense strategy and the training of Sudanese pilots in Libya. Following the Sudanese-Libyan military pact signed shortly

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after the overthrow of the Numeiri regime, the joint Military Committee reflects the continuing evolution of bilateral relations between the two countries. It also suggests the possibility of increased Libyan influence in the junior officer ranks of the Sudanese Armed Forces, and an indirect threat to the Transitional Military Council.

16/11/85 The SPLA launches a new offensive against government troops in the area of Kapoeta in eastern Equatoria, breaking the 19 to 23 October declared cease-fire. The SPLA, which has confined its insurgent activities primarily to Upper Nile and Bahr el-Ghazal Provinces, is seeking to broaden its support base to affirm that the movement is not dominated by the Dinka tribe, and to negotiate from a position of strength in the upcoming December peace talks in Khartoum.

Indian Ocean Islands

Comoros

08/11/85 Seventeen people, including the Secretary General of the illegal Democratic Front Party, Moustaphy Said Cheikh, are sentenced to forced labor for life for plotting to overthrow the government in March. Several other accused coup plotters are sentenced to shorter prison terms, and only one person is acquitted.

Sahel

Chad

04/11/85 Goukouni Oueddei, President of the opposition Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), orders the release of Acheikh Ibn Ouman, Secretary General of the Revolutionary Democratic Council, who has been held in protective custody since the crisis that shook GUNT following its reshuffle in August 1984. His release marks the beginning of the implementation of the Cotonou agreement, ratified on 30 August 1985 by the major opposition movements, which calls for their unification, and which is part of Oueddei's efforts to mount a unified offensive against the regime of President Hisssein Habre.

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11/11/85 A reconciliation agreement is signed in Libreville, Gabon, between the Chadian Government and the Action Coordination Committee of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CAC-CDR), a government opposition faction hostile to Libya. The Libreville Accord, which calls for amnesty for all Chadian political exiles and refugees, reflects President Habre's efforts to establish a dialogue with all government opposition groups, and to counter Goukouni Oueddei's offensive against the government.

Mali

21/10/85 President Traore meets with the Libyan Ambassador to discuss ways of strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries. The meeting seems to be part of a general diplomatic offensive by Libya directed at ameliorating its relations with countries in the Sahel region.

Mauritania

14/11/85 Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih pays an official visit to Tripoli at the invitation of his Libyan counterpart, Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, Secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison. Their discussions center on Arab, African and international issues of joint interest. This visit is indicative of President Taya's policy, in contrast to former President Haidallah's more biased foreign policy position, of maintaining impartial relations with all neighbors, and a more neutral stance on regional problems, particularly vis-a-vis the Western Sahara.

Southern Africa

Angola

07/11/85 According to National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) reports, Angolan government forces are using toxic bombs, napalm, and other explosive devices against UNITA targets. UNITA claims that 73 civilians died during government bombing attacks in Cuanza Sul Province, which were deliberately aimed against the civilian population in revenge for military setbacks suffered by Russian, Cuban,

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and government troops in the village of Cassangue in October.

Botswana
16/11/85

Four people, including two children, are killed by a car bomb outside the Deborah Retief Memorial Hospital in Mochudi, 42 kilometers north of Gaborone. No one claims responsibility for the bomb. Since February, 17 people, including 9 black South African refugees, have died in similar attacks.

Lesotho/South Africa

31/10/85

Lesotho Liberation Army (LLA) guerrillas, crossing into Lesotho from South Africa, launch an attack in the southern district of Quthing, near the border with South Africa, killing three people and injuring three others. The guerrillas reportedly fled back into South African territory after the incident. The attack comes after several weeks of tension between the governments of Lesotho and South Africa, following an LLA attack earlier in the month in the Basotho capital, Maseru, in which seven people were killed.

Mozambique

03/11/85

Two Jesuit priests, a Portuguese and a Mozambican, who had been kidnaped at the end of October by the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO), are found dead in Lifidzi in Tete Province. The execution of the two priests is indicative of RENAMO's continuing campaign to disrupt the Machel government.

04/11/85

RENAMO guerrillas kidnap 10 people at Urban District Number Six, Zona Verde, in Maputo. According to government reports, the guerrillas stole food and cloths from residents before they were chased away by members of the people's militia.

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Southern Africa

Namibia

01/11/85 Major General George Meiring, the Commanding Officer of the South West African Territory Force, announces that the security forces in Namibia have captured 1,128 kilograms of explosives and 9,276 tons of ammunition from South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) insurgents so far this year. He also claims that the Kavango and Kaokoland regions are cleared of insurgents, with only a handful left in the Ovambo region.

13/11/85 SWAPO guerrillas attack Ruacana, near the border with Angola, with mortars, rockets, and small-arms fire. Six guerrillas are killed by government forces pursuing them into Angola following the attack, which may be the start of the Angolan-based organization's annual effort to infiltrate Namibia under cover of the rainy season.

20/11/85 Two bombs explode at a service station in Katimo Mulilo, Caprivi, in the northeast. The sabotage, probably the work of SWAPO guerrillas, is the first in Caprivi in several years.

South Africa

01/11/85 An explosion rips through the second story of a building in central Johannesburg, injuring no one seriously. The incident is attributed to the general unrest gripping the country. In another incident, reporters from the newspaper, Cape Times, are detained in Kraaifontein and held at the local police station where police confiscate four roles of film and a United Democratic Front (UDF) pamphlet after security forces moved into the area in an attempt to put an end to petrol bombings and stonings.

02/11/85 The government bans television coverage of unrest, defined as riots, strikes, and boycotts, in black townships in the

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38 magisterial districts where the state of emergency is in force, except with the permission of the Commissioner of Police. Curbs on newspaper reporters are imposed simultaneously, requiring them to report to police in emergency areas before going into black townships to cover unrest situations. Police are empowered under emergency regulations to prevent journalists from entering townships. The new restrictions on press coverage of unrest come after a series of attacks in the past 3 months on foreign correspondents by authorities, accusing them of unfair and partisan reporting on the rebellion in the townships.

06/11/85 South African police claim that 2 people were shot dead and 1 wounded in Guguletu near Cape Town when a police patrol was attacked by about 700 people with petrol bombs and stones. In Soweto, 4 days before, police arrested about 200 youths at an all-night funeral vigil for a schoolboy shot dead the week before at another funeral. Later, police opened fire on part of a crowd of about 15,000 at the burial, wounding at least 4 people.

08/11/85 The editor of the Cape Times, Tony Heard, is charged under the Internal Security Act with quoting a banned person, following the publication in the newspaper of a full-length interview with exiled African National Congress (ANC) President Oliver Tambo. Heard's arrest follows the prohibition, announced in the past few days, of travel abroad by any South African citizen to talk to ANC members.

14/11/85 President Botha announces his willingness to include blacks for the first time in the Advisory Council that is used to settle differences among the separate white, Asian, and mixed-race chambers of South Africa's Tricameral Parliament. Given the Council's limited powers, it is doubtful that the new reform will make much practical difference to blacks, although their inclusion in any political forum has symbolic value. However, black political organizations, including

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the moderate Inkatha movement, have indicated they will not accept appointments to the Council.

- 15/11/85 A clash between striking staff members and police at the country's largest hospital for blacks, Soweto's Baragwanath Hospital, results in more than 800 arrests. All reporters are ordered to leave the hospital grounds. More than 1,800 workers are dismissed and the Army is called in to run the facility.
- 18/11/85 Fifteen policemen armed with shotguns patrol examination rooms at a mixed-race school near Cape Town, arresting some students for allegedly faking examination papers to get around an order declaring illegal a boycott of the examinations. This action follows the killing in the past 2 days of 14 blacks and the wounding of 25 between the Ciskei and Transkei homelands in eastern Cape Province. Nine of the blacks were killed in clashes with police in Queenstown, a narrow corridor of white territory between the two homelands. Tension rose when police conducted a house-to-house search for suspected political agitators in Queenstown's adjoining black quarter. This major new area of unrest maintains the pattern which the country's political crisis has followed in the last 15 months of dying down in one region, only to flare up elsewhere.
- 21/11/85 Police kill 13 blacks during a protest march in Mamelodi township near Pretoria. During rioting the day before in Leandra in eastern Transvaal, police opened fire, killing four people. The rioting was the result of the serving the week before of 20 eviction notices, despite the reprieve 9 months before of forced removal of some of the town's black residents to the tribal homeland of Kwa Ndebele. A government spokesman claims that those served with eviction notices were illegal squatters who had moved in after the suspension of forced removals. Violence continues in the white corridor between Transkei and Ciskei.

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Southern Africa

South Africa

28/11/85 ANC guerrillas launch a rocket attack on two of South Africa's sophisticated oil-from-coal Sasol refineries in Secunda, south of Johannesburg. According to police, between four and six 122-mm rockets, which missed their targets, were fired by three black insurgents early in the morning. The three guerrillas were later killed in a shootout with security forces when their truck was spotted near the Swaziland border. This was the third ANC attack on the Sasol plants since 1980. In another incident, police clash with a group of suspected ANC insurgents in western Transvaal Province, killing four of them. Increased ANC insurgent activity appears to be evidence of an attempt by the banned organization to step up its guerrilla war in line with a decision made at a congress of exiled ANC members held in Zambia in June.

South Africa/Zimbabwe

28/11/85 A series of landmine explosions in South Africa near the Zimbabwean border in the past 3 days are blamed by South African authorities on ANC guerrillas. The South African Government claims the guerrillas crossed the border from Zimbabwe, and warns Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mugabe not to allow attacks to be launched from Zimbabwean territory. As a result, tension between Zimbabwe and South Africa is heightened once again.

Zimbabwe

01/11/85 Minister of State Security Emmerson Munangagwa announces that the government is recruiting and training paramilitary and people's militia to guard ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) party leaders and commercial farmers in Matabeleland. Since 1982, attacks by Zimbabwe African People's Liberation Army (ZIPRA) guerrillas in Matabeleland have resulted in the deaths of about 101 ZANU members and 11 commercial farmers.

West Africa

Ghana

29/11/85 Government officials order the expulsion of four US Embassy officials, including two alleged Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) officers, for activities "unacceptable and not

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conducive to good relations" between the two countries, according to Ghana's Foreign Affairs Secretary. The expulsion is linked to the collapse of an alleged CIA operation in Ghana that led to an exchange of captured agents 4 days before, and Ghana's wish to avoid a recurrence of the events that led to the detention of a Ghanaian national in the United States on espionage charges.

Ghana/Togo

28/11/85 Close to 9,000 residents of the Mamprussi region in the northeast flee to Togo following violent confrontations between the Moba and Konkomba rival ethnic groups. The clashes, which left 28 dead and several wounded, apparently grew out of a quarrel between chiefs of the two groups. This latest outbreak of ethnic violence follows a conflict a month ago between the Mamprussi and Kusassi during which 13 people died.

Guinea-Bissau

06/11/85 Vice President Paulo Correia is arrested following revelations of a plot to overthrow President Vieira. Others arrested for being involved in the plot are Tue Nambanga, Tank Brigade Commander, and Tagme Nawae, Military Police Commander. The Chief of the President's Private Cabinet is also detained for suspected complicity in the planned coup. Overall, about 20 military officers are arrested, most of whom belong to Correia's own Balante ethnic group. The revealed coup plot was a likely response to President Vieira's anticorruption drive that was launched in August.

Ivory Coast

10/11/85 In elections for the National Assembly, voters replace two thirds of the incumbents, continuing a tradition begun 5 years ago with the first contested elections for Assembly seats. Then, as now, Ivorian voters expressed their displeasure with the sitting Assembly by rejecting close to half of the incumbents. The voting is thought to reflect the voters' disapproval of official corruption in the face of continued austerity for the population at large and the slow pace of Ivorianization.

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West Africa

Liberia

15/11/85

Former Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) General Thomas Quiwonkpa is killed by troops loyal to President Doe, 3 days after he led a coup attempt. Quiwonkpa, who entered Liberian territory from Sierra Leone with a small band of followers, took control of the two radio stations in the capital from where he announced a change of government and his intention to hold elections. However, Quiwonkpa's forces were unable, either to take the heavily guarded Executive Mansion or to effectively mobilize support from AFL troops in the Monrovia area. Units loyal to President Doe, mainly the First Battalion, retook the radio stations on the same day. President Doe uses this occasion to arrest key opposition figures, principally Liberian Action Party (LAP) members Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and Jackson Doe, who will stand trial for complicity in the coup attempt. In the wake of the unenthusiastic response of many Army units, President Doe also is expected to make important changes in the AFL. Commanding General Maurice Zeze is dismissed and replaced by General Rudolph Kolaco, former Ambassador to India.

Nigeria

01/11/85

French Minister of External Affairs Roland Dumas begins a 2-day official visit to the capital, Lagos, that touches on relations between the two countries, between France and South Africa, and particularly on bilateral trade and French financing for Nigerian development projects. France has recently surpassed Britain to become Nigeria's largest trading partner and principal financier since most Western states have followed the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) lead in refusing to grant Nigeria investment credits unless it accepts IMF-imposed economic changes.

Sierra Leone

28/11/85

Major General Joseph S. Momoh formally assumes office as President, marking the long-anticipated transfer of power from departing President Siaka Stevens. Stevens' resignation occurred somewhat earlier than had been expected, indicating that his professed desire to retire as soon as possible was not just propaganda.

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West Africa/Sahel

Ivory Coast/Burkina

04/11/85 In a joint bid to diffuse tensions between Ivory Coast and Burkina, Burkinabe Minister of Economic Promotion Captain Henri Zongo visits Ivorian President Houphouet-Boigny. While the substance of the talks is not available, Burkinabe President Sankara later thanks Houphouet-Boigny for the warm reception accorded the Burkinabe envoy. Relations between the two countries have shifted considerably in recent months as a result of Sankara's heated, anti-imperialist, and often anti-Ivorian rhetoric.

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East/Central Africa

Congo

08/12/85 President Sassou Nguesso reshuffles his cabinet, reducing the number of ministers from 27 to 20, in a move aimed at both streamlining operations and consolidating his control. Antoine Ndinga-Oba remains Foreign Minister and Aime Emmanuel Yoka, although losing his cabinet rank, remains Chief of Staff.

Tanzania

28/12/85 Eight Army officers and one civilian are sentenced to life imprisonment for conspiring to overthrow the government of President Nyerere in December 1982. A British naval vessel and six Tanzanian jet fighters were to have been involved in the plot to kill Nyerere as he was leaving church. Nyerere stepped down as president last month after leading the country since independence in 1961.

Uganda

17/12/85 After nearly 4 months of fighting in Uganda and negotiations in Kenya, Uganda's ruling Military Council signs a peace agreement that gives the rebel National Resistance Army (NRA) equal power in running the country. Few details of the agreement are disclosed, but Yoweri Museveni, leader of the NRA, says he will be deputy chairman of the ruling Military Council and that a senior NRA official will take over the post of defense minister. The NRA's interim administration in the southwest will be dismantled, and there will be an immediate ceasefire and disarming of combatants, general elections, and a return to civilian rule. A new army, composed of both rebel and government troops, will be created. International observers are to be invited to Uganda to monitor the truce.

22/12/85 A contingent of 22 Kenyan Army officers and soldiers arrive to begin forming a 700-man monitoring force, established under a peace agreement signed on 17 December between Uganda's ruling Military Council and the NRA.

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31/12/85 Uganda imposes censorship on news about its security forces. Chief of Defense Forces Lieutenant General Bazilio Okello says there have been many recent inaccurate accounts about atrocities by government forces, and reports that a Press Security Committee is being formed to approve or disapprove all news items on security forces before they are printed or broadcast.

Zaire

24/11/85 The creation of the League of Negro-African States (LENA), President Mobutu's new foreign policy initiative that was to be unveiled on the 20th anniversary of Zaire's Second Republic, is delayed indefinitely following a series of diplomatic blunders that alienated leaders of many of the African states who were to participate in the League. Meanwhile, a Zairean commission is formed to redefine the objectives of the project that for the moment seems to be little more than a conservative alternative to the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

08/12/85 A Soviet-made plane transporting 44 armed and uniformed soldiers, including 40 Cubans, 3 Angolans, and 1 Cameroonian, from the Angolan city of Luena to Cabinda, makes an emergency landing in the Zairean city of Kinyasi, some 300 kilometers southeast of Kinshasa. The soldiers set the plane on fire, allegedly intending to destroy evidence of their nationality, and are intercepted by Zairean forces while making their way to Angola on foot. To avoid complicating Zaire's warming relations with Angola, Zairean authorities intend to repatriate the soldiers, but only after clarifying the affair.

Zambia/Zaire

27/11/85 Zambian and Zairean security forces exchange fire at the Kasumbalesa border post north of Chilianbonbwe. No casualties are reported. The direct cause of the shooting is unknown, but is probably related to a longstanding border dispute between the two countries.

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Indian Ocean Islands

Seychelles

29/11/85 Gerard Hoareau, the president of the Seychelles National Movement, a group of exiles opposed to the Rene government, is killed outside his London home. Hoareau was a member of the former government of James Mancham, which Rene overthrew in 1977. Mancham and several exiles accuse Rene of responsibility for the murder, a charge Rene denies. The incident is another in a series of killings or "disappearances" of suspected opponents of the Rene regime since 1977.

Sahel

Burkina/Mali

14/12/85 Burkinabe military forces raise tension in the disputed Agacher strip, the cause of a longstanding border dispute between Burkina and Mali, by accompanying census workers who had been given permission by Mali to conduct a survey of Burkinabe nationals in the disputed border region. Burkinabe officials claim that the presence of soldiers is necessary to protect the census workers from Malian interference.

31/12/85 The Malian and Burkinabe Governments accept diplomatic efforts by members of the Non-aggression and Defense Aid Agreement (ANAD) for a cease-fire in the armed conflict which erupted on 25 December when Malian troops moved to occupy four villages in the disputed Agacher strip region. Malian Mig-21s mounted attacks on the Burkinabe towns of Ouahigouya, Djibo, Dedougou, and Tougan on 25 and 26 December in which a number of civilians were killed, and Burkinabe airplanes staged a reprisal raid on the Malian town of Sikasso, also causing civilian deaths. On 29 December Burkinabe ground forces claimed to have halted a Malian armored column advance on the "western front" near the border not far from Sikasso, an area well to the southwest of the contested Agacher region. Diplomatic efforts to bring about a halt to the fighting had centered around two principal initiatives--one led by Libya and the accepted ANAD one. The cease-fire calls for an observer group composed of two officers from each of the ANAD states plus Benin to oversee the cessation of hostilities.

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Chad

00/12/85 A major shift in alliances appears to be underway in the wake of the Libreville Accord, signed on 11 November 1985 in the Gabonese capital. According to the agreement, Habre's government and the Action Coordination Committee of the Revolutionary Democratic Council, a coalition of Chadian opposition factions, decided to close ranks. Since the signing of the agreement, Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) leader Goukouni Oueddei appears to have broken with Libyan leader Qadhafi and to have formed a new coalition with Colonel Wadal Kamougue, Habre's major southern opponent. There is now talk that Goukouni, Kamougue, and ex-President Felix Malloum might form a national government with Habre, leaving Qadhafi out in the cold.

Sahel/West Africa

Burkina/Ghana/Mali/Senegal

00/12/85 Libyan leader Qadhafi undertakes an official state tour of four countries in West Africa. His first stop is in Senegal where he holds talks on the Chadian situation with current Organization of African Unity (OAU) Chairman Abdou Diouf. Qadhafi then visits with Malian President Traore, Ghanaian President Rawlings, and Burkinabe President Sankara. Of the four countries, only Senegal has not traditionally had good relations with Libya; the two countries broke off diplomatic relations in 1980. Prior to Qadhafi's visit to Dakar, there had been talk that the two countries would reestablish embassies in each others' capitals. While this may still happen, all that immediately came out of the visit was a new trade and development pact. Qadhafi's visits to Mali, Ghana, and Burkina were marked by a greater degree of ideological posturing as the leaders of each of those countries turned up the rhetoric to express solidarity with the Libyan leader, who responded with more pledges of aid. Of particular note is his offer to train Ghanaian Air Force personnel in Libya. Overall, Qadhafi's trip seems designed to make up for the bad feelings caused by the expulsion of foreign workers from Libya, many of whom were West African. He also seems anxious to resolve the Chadian question.

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Southern Africa

Angola

30/11/85 According to National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) sources, a massive Soviet airlift of helicopters, missiles, armored vehicles, and infantry weapons into Angola is underway, preparing government forces for a new offensive against UNITA. The Soviet injection of military aid is on an unprecedented scale in the country, leading UNITA leaders to expect an offensive against Jamba, their stronghold in southeastern Angola, in the following weeks.

Angola/South Africa

15/12/85 The Angolan Military Command reports that South African forces are operating deep inside Angolan territory, and have advanced to a point just seven kilometers south of Ongiva, the capital of Cunene Province. The Military Command also claims that a force of mercenaries from South Africa's Buffalo Battalion is now in the village of Chiede, to the southeast of Ongiva. It is believed that these latest South African moves could herald the beginning of another major invasion, especially with the concentration on the Namibian side of the border of a large South African force supported by tanks and artillery.

19/12/85 South African television reports that the South African military mounted a raid into Angola from Namibia the week before, allegedly in pursuit of South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) guerrillas. The raid is the third since South Africa formally ended a 5-month occupation of southern Angola on 17 April. Four thousand South African soldiers remain massed on a southern strip of Angolan territory. The current raid, according to Angola, is designed to divert pressure from the continuing Angolan offensive against UNITA guerrillas, about 480 kilometers to the east.

Lesotho/South Africa

20/12/85 South African troops attack two homes in Lesotho's capital, Maseru, killing nine South African refugees. In Cape Town,

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the State Security Council warns South Africa's neighbors that they will all pay a heavy price if they permit African National Congress (ANC) insurgents to use their territory for attacks on South Africa. South Africa has sent troops into neighboring countries on several occasions in the past to attack what it claims are ANC bases.

Mozambique

16/12/85 Parliament announces that general elections will be held next year, despite continued terrorist activity throughout the country by the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO). General elections, originally scheduled for 1982, have been postponed three times for military reasons.

Mozambique/South Africa

07/12/85 The Mozambican Government accuses the South African Government of masterminding the destruction of a bridge on the rail line linking the Mozambican capital, Maputo, to South Africa's Transvaal Province, putting the line out of operation. According to Mozambican officials, the bridge, 80 kilometers northwest of Maputo and 8 kilometers from the South African border, was attacked by specialized saboteurs who infiltrated from South Africa and were accompanied by RENAMO guerrillas. After the attack on the bridge, the group attacked the nearby railway station at Nkomati. The line carries South African and Zimbabwean goods to the Mozambican port of Maputo.

Namibia

02/12/85 The former commanding officer of Sector 10, Major General Joep Joubert, claims that the security forces are aware of South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) plans to infiltrate Ovambo and the farming area in the north. Just a few days earlier, one person was killed and another wounded in a landmine explosion near Onayena, about 20 kilometers southeast of Ondangwa in central Ovambo. The explosion was probably the work of SWAPO.

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South Africa

01/12/85 A federation of black trade unions, the largest ever formed by blacks in South Africa, is formally inaugurated in Durban. The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), whose newly-elected president, Elijah Barayi, was vice president of the National Union of Mineworkers and a stalwart of the African National Congress (ANC) before it was banned, is the result of the federation of a number of black trade unions. The new president of COSATU, during the rally in Durban, called on the government to dismantle apartheid and declared the organization's support for withdrawal of investments in South Africa by foreign firms. COSATU could represent the most serious political challenge by black workers to white rule in the country's history.

03/12/85 President Botha lifts the state of emergency in 8 of the 38 magisterial districts where it had applied for the past 4 months. The emergency, first introduced on 21 July, still applies in 30 magisterial districts.

05/12/85 The government announces that all black South Africans will be able to buy freehold property in the black townships without having to qualify legally as township residents. At present, blacks have to meet rigid conditions before qualifying to own property in urban townships. The announcement comes after a goodwill visit to Soweto by Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis, during which rioters hurled a handgrenade at police. The police claim that the grenade attack, which caused no injuries or damage, was not related to Heunis' visit.

06/12/85 Actions against black policemen in the townships by other blacks, who deplore their role in riot control, intensify as the number of policemen killed rises to at least 29 following a grenade attack in Soweto which also injured 3 other policemen. This attack, coupled with the earlier one during Heunis' visit, suggests that an arms cache has been

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established in Soweto. In another incident, two black constables were found murdered in Kwazakhele near Port Elizabeth.

09/12/85 During the trial of 16 United Democratic Front (UDF) activists accused of high treason, state prosecutors withdraw the charges against 12 of the 16 activists. The arrests of UDF activists began a year ago when the government claimed that although the UDF itself was not part of a conspiracy to incite revolution in South Africa, there did exist underground structures inside the UDF that had unlawful aims against the state. The dropping of the charges against 12 of the accused lends support to those who claimed that the government's purpose in the trial was to crush the UDF.

14/12/85 A freelance cameraman, who was filming a peaceful funeral procession in the black township of Mamelodi near Pretoria for Dutch television, is shot in the leg by police in an apparently unprovoked attack. Other cameramen and soundmen working for foreign news organizations are also manhandled by the police and taken to a police station at gunpoint and briefly detained. Mamelodi is not covered under the state of emergency and the press restrictions imposed last month.

15/12/85 Six people are killed and five seriously wounded when a light truck sets off a landmine at the Chatsworth game farm, about 30 kilometers from the border town of Messina. The incident brings to 7 the number of landmine explosions in less than 3 weeks near Messina. The ANC claims responsibility for placing the bombs.

17/12/85 Two television cameramen working for a British agency are arrested on charges of inciting violence in Moutse, where

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residents are protesting an order making them part of a tribal homeland. It is the most serious charge yet against foreign journalists in South Africa.

25/12/85 At least 53 people are reported to have been killed when 2,000 Zulus clash with 3,000 members of the Pondo tribe in Umbumbulu, 32 kilometers south of Durban. The fighting appears to have been caused by the rivalry between the two groups which dates back to the 19th century.

27/12/85 The police report that a new outbreak of political violence, which began 2 days before, has erupted in at least nine locations around the country. In one incident, in a township near Paarl, a winegrowing center in the Cape, a clash between black political groups that oppose each others' strategies of combating white rule resulted in three deaths. Unrest in black townships in the past few days and a spate of attacks that killed 11 whites in December have left the impression of a country in continued and deepening racial crisis.

28/12/85 Blacks set fires and hurl stones at police in five black townships. No injuries are reported. The day before, security forces fired on a large crowd of black antiapartheid demonstrators throwing stones at police vehicles in Steynsburg in northern Cape Province, killing three men and wounding one. Since 23 December, 24 persons have died in political violence, including 5 whites killed in a bomb attack on Christmas shoppers in a seaside resort south of Durban blamed on the ANC. The total number of persons who died during Christmas week in political violence, township murders, and tribal feuding rose to at least 103.

South Africa

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30/12/85 Winnie Mandela, wife of imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela, is arrested for the second time in a week for returning illegally to her home in Johannesburg. Mandela has become a symbol of resistance to the apartheid system in the eyes of many blacks, especially since South African authorities have seemed reluctant in the past to act against her in the face of increasing internal and international pressures for them to begin negotiations with the ANC. This was especially evident when the authorities served Mandela with a new restriction order on 21 December which removed many of the old restrictions against her, including her banishment to Brandfort.

Swaziland/South Africa

27/12/85 Swazi villagers claim that South African troops crossed into the southeastern Lavumisa region during the week and threatened to attack them if they gave shelter to African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas. Lavumisa residents also claim that a South African patrol fired at but missed a man who was trying to cross the border fence illegally. Earlier in the year, police and troops in Swaziland mounted a campaign to round up ANC members who had entered the country illegally from Mozambique. Swaziland secretly signed a nonaggression treaty with South Africa in 1982 and has the closest ties with South Africa of all its black neighbors.

Zambia

03/12/85 Police fire tear gas into crowds of university students as they gather for a protest march in Lusaka over the reintroduction of boarding school fees, part of the government's attempt to reduce public spending. No one is reported injured. A police spokesman says that police also used batons and tear gas the previous day to force students back onto the University of Zambia's main campus.

Zambia/Zaire

27/11/85 Zambian and Zairean security forces exchange fire at the Kasumbalesa border post north of Chilianbonbwe. No casualties are reported. The direct cause of the shooting is unknown, but is probably related to a longstanding border dispute between the two countries.

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Zimbabwe

04/12/85

Prime Minister Mugabe visits the Soviet Union and announces that he and Soviet leaders, including Premier Gorbachev and Head of State Gromyko, are discussing the possibility of Soviet military aid to buttress the country against threats from South Africa. He also indicates that Soviet officials will visit Zimbabwe early next year. This development comes just days after South Africa warned that it might send troops into Zimbabwe in search of suspected African National Congress (ANC) insurgents after landmine explosions in a South African military area near the Zimbabwean border, a threat which is likely to sharpen tensions between the two countries and heighten the international aspect of the conflict. Mugabe's visit to the Soviet Union is his first since becoming leader of Zimbabwe in 1980, and is viewed by observers as a reconciliation with the Soviet leadership which had supported Mugabe's rival, Joshua Nkomo, during the struggle for independence.

Zimbabwe/South Africa

17/12/85

The Zimbabwean Government repeats its pledge not to allow guerrilla attacks by the African National Congress (ANC) to be mounted from its territory. The statement comes 2 days after a landmine near the border in South Africa killed six South African whites, and 3 weeks after the South African Government claimed that ANC guerrillas slipped into South Africa from Zimbabwe and planted landmines in northern South Africa which also killed one person and injured seven others. Two days earlier, in Durban, police clashed with thousands of blacks after a rally organized by the UDF to demand the release of ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

West Africa

Ghana

08/12/85

Three Ghanaian nationals are arrested by US Federal Customs agents near Newark (New Jersey) International Airport on charges that they conspired to buy missiles, anti-aircraft guns, and other weapons on behalf of a guerrilla group in Ghana. The three, Joseph H. Mensah, John A. Boateng, and Kwassi J. Baidoo, have been linked through documents carried

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by Mensah to the Ghana Democratic Movement, for which they were purchasing the weapons.

Guinea

22/12/85 President Conte announces a major shakeup in the ruling Military Committee for National Recovery (CMRN) government. In the newly constituted CMRN, the number of civilian members is increased to 19 from 9, and 4 regional ministries are created to represent the 4 main ethnic groups in the country. Conte will retain strong control over the Defense, Security, Decentralization, Information, Planning and Cooperation Ministries whose directors are all members of his presidential staff. Finally, two of the regime's strong men, Facine Toure and Mamadou Balde, have lost their posts as Foreign Affairs and Administrative Reform Ministers. They are now to become "Ministers in Residence" for, respectively, the regions of Forest Guinea and Upper Guinea. By moving these two influential men away from the capital, Conte may be trying to clear the field of potential rivals for power.

Ivory Coast

18/12/85 After years of quiet diplomacy, Israel and Ivory Coast announce the resumption of diplomatic ties. Ivory Coast had severed official ties with Israel following the 1973 war, while at the same time encouraging Israel to continue participating in the Ivorian economy. Israeli spokesmen speculate that the Ivorian move will encourage Togo, Cameroon, and Ghana to follow suit. Ivory Coast joins Liberia, Zaire, Malawi, Lesotho, and Swaziland, all of which maintain full relations with Israel.

Nigeria

27/12/85 The Nigerian Government names 14 officers allegedly responsible for an unsuccessful plot to overthrow the government of President Ibrahim Babangida, who came to power after a coup in late August 1985. Among the 14 are General Mamman Vatsa, a member of the Armed Forces Ruling Council, and Brigadier M.M. Nasarawa, Commandant of the Nigerian Army's infantry school in Jaji. The government's announcement did not reveal who led the failed coup. The

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plotters, primarily northerners and Muslims, allegedly oppose the growing influence of non-northerners, as well as the government's more liberal position on human rights. They also oppose Babangida's plan to reject an International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan of \$2.5 billion while cutting military salaries.

Sierra Leone

30/11/85 President Momoh names his first cabinet, which is heavily staffed with members of former President Stevens' cabinet. Overall, 10 out of 20 members in the new cabinet also served under Stevens. Momoh, who resigned from his position as Armed Forces Commander and filled the position with Brigadier Mohamed Tarawalli, decides to personally head the Defense and Public Enterprise Ministeries. This list of appointments is likely to cause some displeasure in that it creates an appearance of continuity with the Stevens era. In particular, the reappointment of Stevens' second vice-president, Francis Minah, as the new first vice-president is likely to be an unpopular decision.

Togo

04/12/85 After a 3 month respite, two new explosions rock the capital, Lome, killing one person and wounding two others. A series of three explosions in August and September 1985 caused no casualties. The Eyadema government blames Togolese political exiles living in Ghana for the explosions, particularly Christ and Bonito Olympio, the sons of former Togolese president Sylvanus Olympio. Others, pointing to the fact that the explosives in the December blast were of French origin, suggest that the government itself is responsible for all the incidents as a way of mobilizing popular support and sacrifices during a period of economic decline.

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East/Central Africa

Angola/Zaire

30/12/86 Two Angolan aircraft, including an Antonov-26 belonging to the Angolan Armed Forces and a Lockheed 382, make emergency landings at N'Djili Airport, Kinshasa, on the evening of 30 December. The crews of the two aircraft maintain that bad weather forced the landings. The Lockheed, with one passenger aboard, is permitted to leave the following day; the 16 soldiers on the Antonov are detained for questioning. These incidents follow by less than a month the forced landing of another Angolan military aircraft carrying 44 Cuban soldiers at an airstrip some 300 kilometers southeast of Kinshasa. The Cubans, who destroyed the aircraft, were later questioned in Kinshasa before being returned to Angola on 23 December.

Uganda

25/01/86

After 2 days of artillery bombardment and heavy street fighting, the National Resistance Army (NRA), led by Yoweri Museveni, takes control of the Ugandan capital, Kampala. The fall of Kampala comes less than 5 weeks after Museveni signed a peace agreement with the former military government headed by General Tito Okello. Museveni never made any attempt to implement the peace agreement, claiming that it was unworkable because of continued atrocities against civilians on the part of government soldiers. The fighting in Kampala is the latest round in nearly 2 decades of violence in Uganda, during which an estimated half million Ugandans have been killed. Much of the violence has grown out of animosity between northern and southern ethnic groups.

28/01/86

The Kenya Times reports that a National Government Council is being established which will comprise about 40 percent military and 60 percent civilian representatives. A report on the formation of the council is contained in a special message to Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi from Ugandan President Museveni. Museveni also reports that his forces are moving towards Jinja and that 5,000 Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA) soldiers had surrendered.

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29/01/86 Museveni is sworn in as the new President of Uganda. The installation comes 5 years after Museveni took his followers into the bush in his quest to overthrow the government of former President Milton Obote, and 3 days after he dissolved the country's ruling Military Council headed by General Okello. Museveni calls for a broad-based government after consultation with all parties and declares that in the meantime, the interim administration that has been running the rebel-controlled area of southwestern Uganda will administer the Kampala area. He promises a return to parliamentary democracy but gives no timetable for elections.

30/01/86 President Museveni names Samson Kisekka, a 73-year-old physician, as his prime minister. He asks soldiers of the deposed government to surrender, promising that they will not be harmed. Museveni also acknowledges that the NRA received arms and other assistance from Libya, but denies that he is in any way a "tool" of Libyan leader Qadhafi. Museveni's forces control about two-thirds of Uganda, soldiers of the ousted government having fled to their homelands in the north of the country. General Okello is reported to have escaped to the southern Sudanese city of Juba along with several of his ministers.

31/01/86 President Museveni declares that the country's constitution must be revised and the army rebuilt before elections can be held, a process that may take 3 to 5 years. In the meantime, he foresees a coalition government in which the NRA will remain dominant.

Zaire

18/01/86 Tshisekedi Wa Mulumba and Kanana Tsongo, two leaders of Zaire's banned opposition Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS) party, are sentenced to 18 months imprisonment and fined by the State Security Court for "offenses against the head of state." Tshisekedi was

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arrested in October 1985 for having made statements to a French reporter, accusing Zairian soldiers of molesting UDPS partisans. Kanana was charged with calling President Mobutu a cannibal. Other leading activists of the UDPS are free, having received pardons from President Mobutu.

Horn of Africa

Djibouti/Somalia/Ethiopia

12/01/86 A bomb explodes in a ward building of the country's sole party, the People's Rally for Progress (RPP). This attack is the first to occur in the country since that at Khor-Anghar in 1979. The bombing occurs on the eve of the first summit of the six heads of the member states of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Drought Control and Development in East Africa (GADD). Sources in the capital believe that this attack may have been committed by an unnamed Somali opposition movement to protest secret mediation attempts currently underway in Djibouti between Ethiopian and Somali authorities.

Ethiopia

16/01/86 The Soviet Union signs an agreement with Ethiopia, extending for 1 year two earlier agreements on the provision of Soviet transportation and medical equipment, as well as experts in support of the aid and resettlement program. In the transportation sector, the agreement covers the continued use of 12 aircraft, 4 helicopters, and 300 trucks, including fuel and drivers.

15/12/86

An Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) spokesman announces that special commando units carried out a 30-minute sabotage operation in Asmara, during which they destroyed 30 trucks. It is the second attack in nearly 10 months inside Asmara; last March the guerrillas penetrated

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the air force base there and claim to have destroyed 33 planes.

Ethiopia/Somalia/Djibouti

17/01/86 Ethiopian President Mengistu and Somali President Barre meet for the first time in 10 years to discuss the disputed Ogaden region, over which they fought a border war from 1977 to 1978. The meeting takes place in Djibouti and is mediated by Djibouti President Hassan Gouled. The leaders of both countries have recently expressed a willingness to improve relations, today's meeting being the first step in this process.

Sudan

06/01/86 US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker arrives in Khartoum for a 1-day official visit with General Siwardahab and members of the ruling Transitional Military Council. He conveys to Sudanese officials US concern over the growing Libyan presence in Khartoum and the likelihood of terrorist acts in Sudan. The American envoy also stresses that Sudan's increased contact with the Libyan regime in the context of its good neighborly foreign policy would have negative repercussions on US-Sudanese relations, especially on military and economic assistance packages for the upcoming fiscal year.

11/01/86 Based on recent unsuccessful exploratory drilling, the American-owned Chevron Corporation suspends further petroleum-related activity in western Sudan. Since offensives in Upper Nile and Bahr Ghazal Provinces by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in 1983, Chevron has concentrated its efforts in the western part of the country. The absence of petroleum discoveries is a significant setback for the Sudanese economy, which is in urgent need of energy sources to lower the country's import fuel costs and revitalize production.

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19/01/86 Thousands of Sudanese sign up at voter registration centers across the country. The national elections, expected to take place in April 1986 despite the weak position of the Siwardahab government and the instability in the south, will be the first to take place since 1968. Sudan is attaching major importance to this exercise of democratic principles, particularly in the wake of the dictatorial rule of former President Numeiri.

Indian Ocean Islands

Mauritius

13/01/86 A new cabinet is formed by Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth following the resignation of four ministers. The government has been recently shaken by the arrest of four Mauritian parliamentarians near the end of December in Amsterdam for drug trafficking, the resignation of the four ministers, and the resignation of one of the principal leaders of the majority Mauritian Socialist Party (PSM), Harish Boodhoo, from the party's management body. The formation of the new cabinet seems to have relaxed the political situation.

15/12/86 According to an official announcement, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, governor general of Mauritius and prime minister for most of the country's years of independence, died today at the age of 85. Three days of national mourning are declared.

Sahel

Burkina/Mali

09/01/86 Seventeen Burkinabe prisoners-of-war are exchanged in Bamako for three Malian soldiers taken in the Christmas border conflict. The exchange is supervised by the International Red Cross. Of the 17 repatriated Burkinabe, 3 are members of Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDRs) and the rest are regular army personnel. The three Malians released by the Burkinabe are an armored squadron lieutenant, a soldier and a secretary. This exchange, together with the Agreement on Non-Aggression and Defense Aid (ANAD), signals a definitive end to the recent hostilities between Mali and Burkina.

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18/01/86 The ANAD heads of state end their summit meeting in the Ivory Coast with an agreement that calls for the withdrawal of all troops from the disputed region on the border between Mali and Burkina. Malian President Traore and Burkinabe President Sankara exchange warm embraces prior to leaving the Ivory Coast. The agreement represents a diplomatic setback for Mali, since its troops had succeeded in occupying almost all of the disputed Agacher region and will be the only ones to withdraw.

Chad/Niger

27/12/85 Chad and Niger strengthen relations during a meeting held in Nguigmi, Niger. Chadian President Habre is seeking to consolidate relations with countries that share common borders with Chad in an attempt to foster peaceful coexistence in the region as a bulwark against further Libyan intervention. The recent reinforcement of Libyan troops and materiel in northern Chad could be the prelude to renewed military activity in the area.

Mali

00/12/85 Tensions rise in Malian scholastic circles as discontentment with the government over unpaid salaries causes the teachers' union, the National Union for Education and Culture (SNEC), to become increasingly militant. President Traore accuses the SNEC leaders of acting in concert with Burkina on the eve of the Agacher border conflict to destabilize his regime. Traore's problems with the teachers and dissatisfaction among functionaries in general, together with the Burkinabe border flare-up, leave him in a potentially vulnerable position.

Southern Africa

Angola

29/01/86 National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) leader Jonas Savimbi begins a 10-day visit to the United States to seek military aid for UNITA's struggle against the

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Marxist dos Santos regime. The debate in the US Congress centers around the fact that UNITA relies heavily on military aid from South Africa, causing concern that US involvement as an arms supplier to UNITA may hinder negotiations for a diplomatic solution between Angola and South Africa for Namibia's independence, and the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia and of Cuban troops from Angola.

Angola/South Africa

09/01/86 Angolan Army sources claim that South African troops have moved 150 kilometers inside Angolan territory and kidnapped two Angolan militia members. According to these sources, South African forces have been advancing throughout the week and have now reached Cunene Province.

Angola/Zaire

30/12/86 Two Angolan aircraft, including an Antonov-26 belonging to the Angolan Armed Forces and a Lockheed 382, make emergency landings at N'Djili Airport, Kinshasa, on the evening of 30 December. The crews of the two aircraft maintain that bad weather forced the landings. The Lockheed, with one passenger aboard, is permitted to leave the following day; the 16 soldiers on the Antonov are detained for questioning. These incidents follow by less than a month the forced landing of another Angolan military aircraft carrying 44 Cuban soldiers at an airstrip some 300 kilometers southeast of Kinshasa. The Cubans, who destroyed the aircraft, were later questioned in Kinshasa before being returned to Angola on 23 December.

Lesotho/South Africa

20/01/86 Officers led by General Justin Lekhanya overthrow the government of Chief Leabua Jonathan, who had ruled for almost 2 decades in an increasingly autocratic manner. The coup comes during the third week of an economic blockade imposed by South Africa because of Chief Jonathan's resistance to South African demands for curbs on the presence of African National Congress (ANC) members in Lesotho and Soviet bloc embassies in the capital, Maseru. The coup is also the result of the military's opposition to

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Chief Jonathan's ties to the Soviet bloc nations and a variety of internal conflicts which were heightened by the South African blockade. The new military government announces that it will eject South African political fugitives out of the country, but will not hand them over to Pretoria. Relations with South Africa are crucial since the country's economic reliance on South Africa is nearly total.

Malawi

02/01/86

President Banda dissolves his 13-member cabinet for no stated reason. As a result, all ministerial portfolios revert to Banda. The cabinet was last dissolved in June 1985 and reconstituted 2 weeks later with minor changes. It is likely that the cabinet changes are an attempt by Banda to prevent too great a consolidation of power in the hands of any one minister, especially in view of succession speculation.

Mozambique

08/01/86

Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrillas sabotage the railroad linking the capital, Maputo, to Swaziland, halting service on the line. RENAMO has frequently targeted the country's transportation networks as part of the organization's general strategy of disruption in the countryside.

28/01/86

A RENAMO spokesman claims that guerrillas killed 53 Zimbabwean soldiers out of a force of 2,000 which attacked the RENAMO-held coastal town of Marromeu on 26 January. It is not clear, however, whether the Zimbabwean forces, which have been assisting the Mozambican Army in its fight against RENAMO, had driven the guerrillas from the town or if they had left of their own accord. Marromeu, located north of the strategic port of Beira, is the site of a major army base and the country's largest sugar refinery.

Namibia

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26/01/86 Police arrest 58 people in Katutura township near Windhoek during a festival to mark the United Nations year of peace. Police claim the arrests were made after a number of political speeches, constituting an illegal gathering. Among those arrested under charges of violation of the Riotous Assemblies Act is SWAPO member Anton Lubowski.

Namibia/Botswana

13/01/86 According to the commanding officer of the South-West Africa Territory Force, Major-General George Meiring, Namibian security forces are investigating reports that South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) guerrillas had assembled inside Botswana, close to the border with Namibia, in preparation for their annual seasonal strike. Botswana has followed a policy of neutrality and to date has not allowed SWAPO to establish bases inside the country. But if these reports are verified, a SWAPO presence in Botswana will indicate a marked shift in Botswana's policy on southern African liberation movements.

South Africa

01/01/86 At least 10 blacks are killed in tribal fighting in Moutsie, where officials have been trying to redesignate the area as part of the KwaNdebele homeland. The fighting started when Ndebele people, who sought to move into the Moutsie district to enforce the official edict, faced resistance by the local Pedi tribe. The killings reflect the tensions inspired by apartheid policies which divide the nation's black majority of 23 million into 10 homelands based on tribal affiliation.

05/01/86 Police throw tear gas bombs into buses during the funerals of 4 riot victims in Soweto; 50 black mourners are hurt while struggling to escape. Police report that at least six persons died in violence elsewhere, including two armed men killed by security forces who seized an arms cache in Bophuthatswana, and three blacks who were burned to death by other blacks. Also, a black is shot to death after a police patrol was attacked with a gasoline bomb in the tribal area of Moutse, 100 miles northeast of Johannesburg.

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Southern Africa

South Africa

06/01/86 The country's second largest mining company, Gencor, dismisses 20,000 nonwhite workers after they refused to call off a strike. The mass dismissal, which amounts to two-thirds of the platinum company's work force, is one of the biggest in recent years. Gencor officials threaten to dismiss the remaining 10,000 workers if they do not return to their jobs. Most of the miners, unrepresented by a labor union, work in the nominally independent homeland of Bophuthatswana which does not recognize South Africa's powerful National Union of Mineworkers. The dismissals fit a pattern in labor relations in South African mines in which the law has allowed employers to dismiss strikers engaged in wildcat and some other stoppages. The work stoppage at Gencor had been called over wages and working conditions on 1 January.

06/01/86 Residents of Moutse Reserve north of Pretoria claim that 89 villagers were arrested and that armed police have been laying siege for 6 days to hundreds of others who fled into surrounding bush country after the killing of 2 policemen. They also claim that about 257 residents of the reserve were locked in a hall on New Year's Day and tortured by members of a tribal militia with the participation of the chief minister and a cabinet member of the KwaNdebele homeland. The atmosphere in Moutse Reserve has been tense since Pretoria's decision to force the annexation of the reserve, with its 120,000 inhabitants, into the neighboring KwaNdebele homeland. Violence linked to the forced incorporation has led to 21 deaths, including those of the 2 policemen.

13/01/86 The body of United Democratic Front (UDF) leader Ampie Mayisa is found in Leandra in eastern Transvaal days before he was to have met with US Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker. Mayisa had been stabbed and burned. Anglican Bishop Simeon Nkoane, who had arranged the meeting, blames the Zulu-based Inkatha movement for the murder.

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21/01/86 Two white policemen are stabbed and beaten to death by a crowd of blacks near Bekkersdaal township, 25 miles southwest of Johannesburg, when they investigate reports of an illegal meeting. The slaying of the two officers represents the first deaths of white policemen in over 16 months of political violence in South Africa which has claimed more than 1,050 lives, the bulk of them black.

23/01/86 Renewed tribal fighting between Zulus and Pondos in the Umbogintwini area south of Durban results in the deaths of of least 30 people and the burning of hundreds of shanty homes. The battle, fought with homemade shotguns, spears, clubs, and knives, appears to be a continuation of similar clashes between the two tribes last month that left about 60 dead. These clashes are thought to be caused by competition for land, water, and jobs between the Pondos, who under South African law are supposed to live in the nominally independent Transkei homeland, and the Zulus, who regard the Umbogintwini area as their fiefdom.

28/01/86 Many of the country's black high school students, who have been boycotting classes for almost 2 years, return to school under the surveillance of army and police patrols. The boycott had been instigated by the Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee and endorsed by the African National Congress (ANC) to demand the release of detained student activists, the ending of the ban on the Congress of South African Students, the removal of troops from black townships, and the lifting of South Africa's partial state of emergency imposed last 21 July. The students state that they will resume their boycott at the end of March if the demands are not met. It is believed by South African commentators that the return of the students to their classes signifies the assignment of responsibility for a more durable settlement of the country's black educational crisis by black negotiators.

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South Africa/Botswana

04/01/86 Two people are killed and two injured when their pickup truck hits a landmine in the Ellisras area of northwestern Transvaal near the border with Botswana. South African troops seal off the remote farming area. Foreign Affairs Pik Botha warns Botswana that appropriate measures will be taken if it allows its territory to be used for crossborder attacks by ANC guerrillas.

Zimbabwe

20/01/86

The visiting President of Iran, Ali Khamenei, refuses to attend a state banquet in his honor because women are seated at the head table and wine is served--actions which contradict his view of Islamic propriety. The Mugabe government, commenting on the incident, insists that women are entitled to equal standing with men, a principle on which the government will not compromise.

23/01/86

The House of Assembly votes in favor of a 6-month extension of the state of emergency. Speaking during the debate, Assemblyman Nkala notes that 103 people have been killed by Zimbabwe African People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA) guerrillas during the last 6 months, and during the same period the guerrillas committed 57 rapes and more than 260 armed robberies. Just in the past few days guerrillas killed two farmers in Matabeleland, bringing to four the number of farmers killed by ZIPRA in the past 3 months.

West Africa

Guinea Bissau

30/01/86

Seven members of the ruling African Party for the Independence of Guinea Bissau (PAIGC) Central Committee are dismissed and placed in detention for being implicated in the failed coup attempt of 7 November 1985. Among those detained are Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Buota nan Batcha, Major Benghate na Beate, Lieutenant Colonel Fore na Bitna, Border Gaurd Commander Colonel Lamine Cisse, and Air Forces Commander Colonel Pedro Ramos. This latest move by President Vieira is meant to purge the Central Committee

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of all supporters of former Vice President Correia who was the main instigator of the November coup attempt.

Ivory Coast

03/01/86 Henri Konan Bedie, often named as a possible successor to current President Houphouet-Boigny, is reelected President of the National Assembly, receiving 156 of 173 ballots cast. Eight votes are cast in favor of Denis Gnassou Ossey of Agboville. According to recently enacted constitutional reforms, the President of the National Assembly will serve as interim president for a period of 45 to 60 days should the presidency become vacant for whatever reason. While Bedie's election does not guarantee that he will succeed Houphouet-Boigny, it does give him a substantial advantage. At the same time, Bedie becomes an obvious political target, which sustains the ambitions of other rival candidates.

Liberia

02/01/86 The Chief of the Israeli Border Police, Major General Ganaz Shaad, ends a 5-day visit to Liberia during which he held numerous meetings with Liberian defense and security officials. Shaad expressed hope that the Israeli Government will assist in providing additional facilities for the National Police Training Academy. Liberian Immigration Commissioner Sharwin Teh and Police Director Wilfred Clark each said that they were expecting increased assistance from the Israeli Government. With Liberian-US relations at their present tender state, President Doe prefers to look toward the Israelis to help him shore up the deficiencies in the Liberian security apparatus that were exposed by the November 1985 coup attempt.

06/01/86 Eighteen politicians and journalists, who were arrested after the November 1985 coup attempt, are released from detention as General Samuel K. Doe is sworn into office to begin his term as Liberia's first popularly elected president. Members of the principal opposition party, the Liberian Action Party (LAP), have refused to take their seats in the new legislative assembly, charging that the October election results were falsified. The inclusion of

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LAP Secretary General Byron Tarr in the list of those released represents an attempt by Doe to appease the LAP into taking its seats. However, this is not likely as long as LAP presidential candidate Jackson Doe and party leader Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf remain in jail.

24/01/86 LAP Executive Council member Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf is formally charged with treason after being held in prison since the failed November 1985 coup attempt. Charges are also expected to be brought against Jackson Doe, the LAP presidential candidate in the October 1985 election, who was also arrested in the aftermath of the November coup attempt. The fact that the government is prepared to put Johnson-Sirleaf and Jackson Doe on trial quiets fears that they have already been killed.

Nigeria

31/12/85 Either seven or eight of the military officers accused of recently plotting to overthrow the Babangida government die in an airplane crash from Lagos to Makurdi, where most of the plotters were stationed. The victims were passengers in a Hawker-Siddeley HS-125 which was one of several aircraft in the presidential fleet. The circumstances surrounding the crash are yet unknown. Last month the Babangida government uncovered a plot involving 14 military officers who were planning to sabotage Babangida's personal airplane.

13/01/86 Nigerian leader Babangida sets 1 October 1990 as the target date for his government to hand over power to a civilian regime. He declares that he will allow his fellow Nigerians to decide the form of government they want. Babangida's announcement is made in Abuja during ceremonies inaugurating a 17-man panel charged with conducting a national debate on the form of the successor regime and how that succession should take place in a country that has seen 5 successful military coups in the past 20 years.

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14/01/86 Nigeria is admitted as a full member of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) during an ICO ministerial conference in Morocco. The announcement has exacerbated tensions between Nigeria's Muslim and Christian populations, and may have been partly responsible for the cancellation of a speech in Nigeria by American Muslim leader Louis Farrakahn. President Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria has vowed not to allow the emergence of a theocratic state, notwithstanding growing pressure from Nigeria's Muslim population.

Togo

27/12/85

Security personnel defuse a bomb found at the University of Benin in Lome, where a series of explosions have taken place in recent weeks. The discovery of the device, allegedly by a maintenance woman at the university, follows an extensive campaign aimed at increasing public awareness of the danger of bombs to personal and state security. The most recent explosion on 4 December 1985 killed two people.

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East/Central Africa

Tanzania/Uganda

31/01/86 Tanzania joins Kenya, Rwanda, and Zaire in their resolve to cooperate fully with the new Ugandan Government to restore peace and stability in that country. The Tanzanian statement, issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is especially significant, given Tanzania's leading role in the overthrow of Idi Amin Dada in 1979 and the close relationship between the Tanzanian leadership and Yoweri Museveni, the new Ugandan leader.

Uganda

01/02/86 Members of the new cabinet and the National Resistance Council are sworn in during a ceremony presided over by the new Ugandan head of state, Yoweri Museveni. Eleven cabinet members take the oath of office in addition to Museveni, who functions as both head of state and minister of defense. Included in the new cabinet are Prime Minister Samson Kisekka and Secretary of State for Defense Ronald Bata.

09/02/86

President Museveni announces that about 9,000 troops, who had been fighting for the ousted Okello government, have surrendered to the now ruling National Resistance Army (NRA), and that steps are being taken to reorganize the surrendering soldiers into new military units. Museveni also announces that the war in the north is going well, the NRA controls all important national institutions, and all the major international routes, including the key road to Kenya, are secure and open. He also reveals that he has sent two emissaries to Sudan to urge Ugandans who had fled there to end their resistance to the new government.

17/02/86

A large recruitment drive to strengthen the ranks of the NRA is reportedly underway in western Uganda. This step probably signals a final push against the defeated troops of the ousted government who have regrouped in the north of the country. The object of such an attack is thought to be Gulu, the home of former President Okello. NRA forces are reported to be only 40 kilometers from Lira, the last major town before Gulu, after having captured all major towns in

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southern and eastern Uganda. The number of NRA members, which has never been disclosed, is estimated to be about 8,000, including hundreds of war orphans.

Uganda/Sudan

15/02/86 Sudanese sources report that former Ugandan leader Okello, currently in Juba in southern Sudan, will soon request political asylum in Sudan. Sudanese authorities have reportedly given assurances to Uganda that they will not permit Okello or his supporters to use Sudanese territory for attacks on Uganda, and Ugandan authorities have reciprocated by agreeing to prevent attacks on Sudan from Ugandan territory.

Zaire

26/01/86 In response to a hand-written request from Belgian King Baudouin I, President Mobutu releases Van den Bogaert, a Belgian national who had been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for allegedly plotting and conducting subversive propaganda against the state. Den Bogaert was arrested upon his arrival at Kinshasa airport in October 1985 when he was found in possession of cassette recordings and printed materials for the banned Zairian opposition Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS).

Horn of Africa

Djibouti/Somalia

21/01/86 Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre and Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Apidon open official talks in Djibouti on diplomatic relations, cooperation, and collaboration between the two countries.

Ethiopia

14/01/86 The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) claims to have destroyed 40 airplanes of the Ethiopian Air Force in a rocket and grenade attack on Ethiopia's second largest airbase at Asmara. If the EPLF claim is true, they have destroyed one-third of Ethiopia's Air Force in a single stroke.

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- 03/02/86 An Eritrean Liberation Front-Unified Organization spokesman reports a coup attempt against Chairman Mengistu while the latter was attending a conference on drought the week before in Djibouti. The spokesman claims that following the abortive coup attempt, four senior officers were executed, and authorities launched a wide campaign of arrests that extended to the ruling Workers' Party of Ethiopia and the Army's Third Division stationed in the Harar area. The spokesman attributes part of the cause of the discontent to opposition to the country's plans for a new draft constitution. The spokesman also reports that the Ethiopian military campaign in Eritrea over the last 2 months has failed to defeat the Eritrean resistance. Ethiopian losses include 1,200 dead, 800 wounded, and 500 captured as well as 40 aircraft destroyed at the Asmara airbase in January.
- 14/02/86 The Military Council issues a decree to establish a commission to draft a constitution by which a people's democratic republic of Ethiopia will be established and administered. The commission, which will present the draft to the public for discussion and improve it in accordance with opinions derived from the discussions, is answerable to the Workers' Party of Ethiopia.
- Somalia
02/02/86 Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre leaves for France at the head of a delegation to attend a meeting of leaders from Europe and Africa. Issues to be discussed include the environment and climatic effects on the environment. At the end of the meeting Siad Barre will remain in France for talks with President Mitterrand on ways to improve bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.

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14/02/86 Radio Halgan, broadcasting from Ethiopia, reports a continuing series of attacks by the Somali National Movement (SMN) in northern Somalia. Areas attacked include the districts of Burao, Gabiley, and Hargeisa, and the areas around Borama and Awdal. The guerrillas claim to have killed 8 soldiers and wounded 23 in the Gabiley area, the largest number of casualties in any of their raids.

Sudan

06/02/86

The Sudanese defense minister states that in light of the 1 October 1985 military strike by Israeli forces against Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) headquarters in Tunis, Tunisia, and the statements of Israeli officials on Sudan, the next Israeli strike against Palestinian positions could be in Sudan, particularly in the Red Sea region. The certainty of future Israeli aggression against Sudan was given as the reason for raising the level of the state of alert in the capital, Khartoum.

Indian Ocean Islands

Mauritius

06/03/86

Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo is officially named governor general of Mauritius, succeeding Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam who died last 15 December. Ringadoo was minister of finance from 1968 to 1982, and actively campaigned in the 1983 election with Ramgoolam and current Prime Minister Aneerod Jugnauth.

Sahel

Burkina

06/02/86

President Sankara arrives in Paris to attend a conference on deforestation in Africa. This visit by Sankara to a seemingly unimportant conference is probably only a pretext for him to underscore his new desire to foster closer relations with France. The need for this was vividly portrayed to Sankara during the Christmas 1985 Burkina-Mali border war, which demonstrated the costs of isolating Burkina from the moderate states in the region, all of which maintain good relations with France.

Chad

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- 10/02/86 Fighting resumes along the 16th parallel at Oum Chalouba-Kalait, Koro Toro, and Zigey. Zigey, somewhat south of the 16th parallel, is the southernmost limit set by the French for the advance of Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) forces. In response to the GUNT attack, the Habre government requests French military assistance.
- 15/02/86 News reports indicate that French military equipment has begun to arrive in N'Djamena, including heavy guns, armored vehicles, and machineguns. French Defense Minister Paul Quiles arrives in N'Djamena to supervise the arrival of the military equipment. French forces in Central African Republic, Gabon, and Ivory Coast have been placed on full alert.
- 16/02/86 In retaliation for Libyan attacks, French military aircraft attack the civilian airfield at Ouadi Doum in northern Chad which is under the control of Goukouni Oueddei's GUNT forces. Libyan forces used bases at Ouadi Doum and Fada for launching their attacks on government posts. French intervention at Ouadi Doum is proof of the determination of the French Government to honor its political and moral commitments toward Chad.
- 17/02/86 The airport in N'Djamena is bombed by a Soviet-built Tupolev 22 airplane, under the escort of fighter planes, resulting in serious damage to the runway. The raid is presumed to be in reprisal for the strike by French Jaguar aircraft on the airstrip at Ouadi Doum which was staged at the request of Chadian President Habre. French Defense Ministry sources clearly imply that the TU-22 bomber belongs to the Libyan Air Force, which has seven of the type.

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25/02/86 After months of revolt against the Habre government, most of the southern "Codos" rebels surrender. One of the most important groups, led by Colonel Alphonse Kotiga, surrendered in early February. One of Kotiga's lieutenant defected recently to the capital, N'Djamena, with almost 1,000 men.

Southern Africa

Angola
18/02/86 The Reagan administration announces to Congress that it has decided to provide covert military aid to UNITA, including anti-aircraft and antitank missiles. The approximately \$15 million in aid will be provided out of Central Intelligence Agency funds.

Botswana
04/02/86 The commander of the Botswana Defense Force (BDF) confirms that a small group of British Army personnel is engaged in joint training exercise with members of the BDF in Botswana. He indicates that the training exercise is a natural continuation of a longstanding training relationship between the British Army and the BDF.

Lesotho
02/02/86 A group of 19 North Koreans are expelled by the Military Council of Lesotho. It is believed that the group, which consists of agricultural and construction technicians, has been engaged in the military training of members of the Youth League of ousted Chief Leabua Jonathan. The Youth League was closely linked with a rival faction in the Lesotho Armed Forces which allegedly planned to overthrow Chairman of the Military Council of Lesotho Lekhanya.

06/02/86 King Moshoeshoe II, acting in accordance with the advice to the Military Council of Lesotho, grants a general amnesty to all citizens of Lesotho, both inside and outside the country, who have been convicted and sentenced or have gone into exile due to offences of a political nature. Chairman

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of the Military Council of Lesotho Major General Lekhanya also states that the country will accept genuine refugees from South Africa with the help of the international community. Lekhanya overthrew the government of Chief Leabua Jonathan in January 1986.

Mozambique

03/02/86 The Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) claims responsibility for the death of 539 Zimbabwean and 393 Mozambican soldiers as a result of guerrilla actions recently carried out against the Maputo regime. RENAMO states that the attacks took place in the second half of January in seven provinces in central and southern Mozambique, including that of Maputo, the capital of the country. RENAMO also claims that it destroyed an Alouette II helicopter of the Zimbabwean Armed Forces, which support the Mozambican Army in the protection of the Beira region.

Mozambique/Swaziland

05/02/86 A train carrying goods from Swaziland to the port of Maputo is attacked, presumably by Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrillas, as it crosses the Swazi border into Mozambique. Maputo port is vital for Swazi imports and exports. The day before, powerlines carrying electricity to Maputo from South Africa were sabotaged close to the South African border by RENAMO guerrillas. It is surmised that the guerrillas crossed into Mozambique from South Africa.

South Africa

05/02/85 During a meeting of community organizers in East London, it is decided to resume the boycott of white shops beginning on 3 March. Last year, a highly effective consumer boycott began in August and lasted 4 months, causing the closure of several shops. Although the end of the boycott was proceeded by negotiations between the consumer boycott committee and local civic and business leaders, the demands of the boycott committee were not met, resulting in the decision to resume the boycott.

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- 05/02/86 Transkei Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information Mtutuzeli Lujabe announces that amicable terms to stop the faction fighting between Zulus and Pondos had been reached between KwaZulu and South African Government delegations in Durban. A commission, composed of Transkei KwaZulu and South African officials, is to be established to inquire into the cause of the fighting as soon as possible. Elsewhere, Chief Minister Simon Sikosana announces in the KwaNdebele Legislative Assembly that the national state of KwaNdebele will become independent on 4 December 1986. KwaNdebele will become the fifth national state to accept independence.
- 05/02/86 Trouble breaks out at two Transvaal gold mines. A spokesman for the Western Deep Levels Mine near Randfontein announces that fighting between a Xhosa/Pondo faction and Basothos at the mine's number three hostel the night before had resulted in the death of 2 miners and the wounding of 20 others. The immediate cause of the fighting is unknown. At the Consolidated Modderfontein gold mine in Brakpan, workers are sent home after a strike the night before in sympathy with the dismissal of two active National Union of Mineworkers members.
- 07/02/86 Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the opposition Federal Progressive Party, resigns from the House of Assembly following a motion of no confidence in the cabinet.
- 13/02/86 Police using helicopters and cars raid the Wilgespruit Ecumenical Center in Leandra, detaining more than 50 young blacks who had fled township violence. The raid is in sharp contrast to the promises of the white authorities of racial policy changes. In the township of Atteridgeville, 2,000 young blacks gather in a church and 30,000 others around the capital boycott classes in segregated black schools to commemorate the death 2 years ago of a young girl run over

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by a police truck during a student riot. Her death is considered by some as being the first in the nation's bloodletting and political protest that has so far claimed 1,100 lives.

18/02/86 Mobs of black youths open fire on police and rampage through the township of Alexandra. The main targets of the youth appear to be black police and township officials. The white owners of a factory in the township of Alexandra outside of Johannesburg open fire on blacks throwing rocks and gasoline bombs over a high brick wall protecting the factory, wounding at least one black. The rioting in Alexandra, which results in the deaths of at least five people, coincides with an upsurge of rioting in segregated townships all around the country. Violence in Alexandra is more visible to whites than much of the earlier unrest since it is close to white residential areas.

24/02/86 Police armed with riot sticks break into a general meeting in the black township of Kagiso, killing 1 black student and wounding 30 other people. In an incident at the country's second largest gold mine at Vaal Reefs, 12,000 black miners go on strike to protest the arrest of 8 miners after 4 black supervisors were killed in a fight the week before.

Zimbabwe
24/02/86

Talks aimed at unifying the political parties of Prime Minister Mugabe and his rival, Joshua Nkomo, and ending 4 years of civil unrest become stalled amid longstanding suspicions and animosities. The impasse has come amid the systematic and sometimes brutal persecution of government opponents in Nkomo's tribal fiefdom of Matabeleland in an effort to crush the opposition leader's Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU). The talks began last September at Nkomo's urging with both sides agreeing that Nkomo would be named vice president of a merged party. One of the disagreements is over the name of the united party.

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Southern Africa

Zimbabwe/Mozambique

31/01/86 Following the funeral of Colonel Flint Magama, one of two members of the Zimbabwe National Army who died in a helicopter crash in Mozambique, Prime Minister Mugabe defends the deployment of Zimbabwean forces in Mozambique, stating that it is the only way to stop South African destabilization policies in southern Africa. Zimbabwean forces have been assisting Mozambican forces in protecting rail and road supply lines from Mozambican ports to Zimbabwe from attacks by the South African-supported Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO).

West Africa

Gambia

22/02/86

Three former members of the ruling People's Progressive Party (PPP) announce the formation of a new opposition party, the Gambian People's Party (GPP), to protest the subservience of the PPP to President Dawda Jawara. The three founding members of the GPP are headed by Assan Musa Camara, who at one time served as Jawara's vice president. This now brings the number of opposition parties in Gambia to two, as the GPP joins the older Convention People's Party (CPP). The defection of three members of the PPP indicates that Jawara is not entirely without opposition within the party.

Guinea Bissau

04/02/86

President Vieira leaves the country to attend the Third Congress of the Cuban Communist Party in Havana. He is accompanied on the trip by the permanent secretary of the Central Committee of the ruling African Party for the Independence of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC), who doubles as the minister in charge of economic affairs, and the foreign affairs minister. This trip, along with two of his key ministers, provides one further indication that Vieira is not prepared to sever relations with his traditional Soviet bloc friends despite the strengthening of Guinea Bissau's economic and political relations with the West.

Ivory Coast

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- 05/02/86 The rehabilitation of former Abidjan Mayor and political figure Emmanuel Dioulo, who had been accused of various financial malpractices, begins when the Ivorian Ministry of Justice orders the withdrawal of the warrant for his arrest. Ouattara Drissa, the examining magistrate, takes the decision after the Ivorian Attorney General withdraws his case against Dioulo. Dioulo, as president of the cocoa and coffee exporting firm, Cogexim, allegedly embezzled between \$16 and \$35 million from a local bank and his firm's coffers. He subsequently fled to Belgium to avoid what he labeled a politically motivated prosecution. Prior to the affair, Dioulo had been considered a possible successor to President Houphouet-Boigny.
- 13/02/86 Phillipe Yace is elected president of the Economic and Social Council, a 120-member consultative body charged with analysing problems and recommending policies for economic development and social change. While the presidency of the Council is of less importance than the presidency of the National Assembly, the office to which Konan Bedie was recently elected, Yace's unanimous election will nonetheless strengthen his position as Bedie's principal political opponent to succeed current President Houphouet-Boigny.
- 20/02/86 In what amounts to a major diplomatic demarche, President Houphouet-Boigny announces the establishment of diplomatic relations with Cuba and the resumption of diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union. Ivory Coast severed its relations with the Soviet Union in 1963 following accusations of Soviet meddling in Ivorian politics. Coming just 2 months after the reestablishment of ties with Israel and 1 month after Houphouet's diplomatic success in resolving the Malian-Burkinabe conflict, these latest announcements further enhance the international stature of Ivory Coast in Africa.
- Liberia
05/02/86 The government announces that it is suspending payments for public works projects and other activities in order to make

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payments on accumulated salary arrears to civil servants. This emergency measure is made necessary by the worsening economic situation in which Liberia finds itself, and by the desire of the Doe government to head off unrest among Liberia's public workers. This drastic step indicates a potentially destabilizing level of economic mismanagement and will only reinforce the Doe government's image of helpless incompetency.

13/02/86 Liberia Action Party (LAP) presidential candidate Jackson Doe is finally released from prison as the treason charge under which he was indicted is thrown out by the magisterial court. This leaves Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, also of the LAP, as the only remaining major opposition figure still being held by the government after the 12 November 1985 coup attempt. The fact that the government's treason charges did not stand up in court may give some indication that the judiciary branch feels that it can exercise at least some independence under the new civilian constitution. Jackson Doe's release, however, is still not likely to convince the opposition party members to take their seats in the new congress.

22/02/86 French authorities seize a West African-bound Panamanian vessel loaded with arms after the ship was forced into the port of Brest by a storm. The Liberian Government is investigating the possibility that the ship may have been delivering weapons for use in a possible coup attempt. The cache of weapons confiscated includes bazookas, machine-guns, and other arms.

Nigeria
12/02/86 Nigeria and Britain restore full diplomatic relations, repairing a rupture of nearly 2 years duration. The two nations had downgraded their diplomatic links and withdrew their respective High Commissioners in July 1984 following a bungled attempt to kidnap Umaru Dikko, a former Nigerian Transport Minister, and smuggle him in an aircraft crate from his home in exile in London to Lagos.

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25/02/86 A Nigerian military tribunal sentences 13 officers to death for their role in an abortive coup uncovered last December.

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East/Central Africa

Uganda
17/03/86

The government bans all political parties from issuing statements to or through the press. The ban follows by 1 week a prohibition on all political party activity in the country and results from an open letter in the local press questioning the detention of some members of the former ruling Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) without charges.

18/03/86

The National Resistance Army (NRA) captures the northern town of Kitgum, meeting little resistance from the remnants of the army of the ousted military government of Tito Okello. With the capture of Kitgum, the NRA now has only one northern provincial capital, Arua in West Nile Region, yet to capture. Once the NRA is in control of West Nile Region, it will have completed its sweep of the whole of Uganda. The capture of Kitgum follows the fall on 8 March of Gulu, Okello's home and the stronghold of the Acholi tribe which dominated the former army.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia
08/03/86

The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) launches the first of a series of attacks in renewed fighting in northern Ethiopia, during which guerrillas attack the compound of the American World Vision relief agency, killing two Ethiopian employees and wounding several others. The incident is the first direct attack against famine relief workers in Ethiopia. The TPLF warns that it does not want Western relief workers or agencies in its area and that it will continue to attack them as long as they remain there.

11/03/86

After 2 days of fighting, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) repulses yet another attempt by the government's armed forces to capture more territory in Eritrea. During fighting in the area of Lailai Baraka, the EPLF reports that it killed four, wounded two, and captured seven government soldiers in addition to capturing seven guns. The EPLF also claims that four government soldiers were executed as a result of the failed attack, part of a continuing series of government campaigns against the EPLF.

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Horn of Africa

Sudan

04/03/86 The government announces that security authorities recently uncovered a new plot by supporters of former President Numeiri to seize power. The plotters tried to recruit army officers to assassinate government officials who ousted Numeiri in a coup last April. Contacts between Numeiri, who now resides in Cairo, and agents in Khartoum were intercepted by security agents.

Horn of Africa

Sudan

04/03/86 Sudanese Prime Minister Al'Jazuli Daf'allah renews Sudan's absolute support to the Libyan Arab Jamahairyah in defending Libyan sovereignty in the Gulf of Sidra against American aggression. This statement of support reflects the Transitional Military Council's renewed ties with Libya and is in marked contrast to Sudanese-Libyan relations under former President Numeiri.

05/03/86 An alliance between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and the Socialist Organization of Darfur (SONIA) is announced in Khartoum. SONIA and the SPLA are calling for political and military struggle to achieve equality and justice by overthrowing the ruling Transitional Military Council. The alliance is urging all forces in Sudan to join the effort to achieve independence for the whole country.

Sahel

Burkina/Mali

26/02/86 Mali and Burkina exchange civilian prisoners taken during the Christmas 1985 border conflict. Fifteen Malians are exchanged for eight Burkinabe during a ceremony in Bamako witnessed by Jean Gomis, Secretary General of the Agreement on Non-Aggression and Defense Aid (ANAD). This exchange marks the end of the most important continuing source of friction between the two countries resulting from the December conflict. Mali had earlier threatened not to participate in the upcoming Economic Community of West

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Africa (CEAO) summit unless its civilians were released by Burkina. This exchange should pave the way for full Malian participation in this meeting, which is scheduled for late March.

Chad

28/03/86

It is reported that the Organization of African Unity (OAU) attempt to arrange a meeting between Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) leader Oueddei and President Habre to reach a negotiated settlement to the protracted war in Chad failed last week. The meeting was to take place within the framework of the reconciliation mission assigned to the Congolese head of state by the OAU. A GUNT delegation announced at the last minute that Oueddei would not participate in the peace talks. The present state of affairs is such that neither side appears able to impose a military solution.

Southern Africa

Angola

13/03/86

Four hostages who had been kidnaped by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) during several attacks are released. Two of the hostages, Brazilian Protestant missionaries, were ambushed by UNITA guerrillas on 30 December 1985 while they were traveling in a hospital bus near Caluquewambe in Huambo Province. The other two, Angolan nationals, were captured in Benguela Province on two separate occasions, one on 8 September 1985 and the other on 29 May 1985.

16/03/86

UNITA releases 197 foreign hostages into Zaire. The hostages were kidnaped from the diamond-mining town of Andrada in northeastern Angola on 1 March and include citizens of Portugal, Philippines, Britain, West Germany, and Canada. UNITA had originally said that the hostages would be marched 2,000 kilometers south to Jamba headquarters, but the march would have entailed serious logistic problems in the face of difficult terrain and possible attacks by government forces.

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Southern Africa

Mozambique

02/03/86 The government announces that its forces captured the RENAMO base of Manianje in southern Inhambane Province on 20 February. Inhambane Provincial Military Commander Major General Domingos Fondo announces to journalists that the base had been supplied by South African aircraft, and there was also evidence of oil drilling nearby, leading observers to suggest that one of the main tasks of RENAMO guerrillas in the area was to prevent any attempts by the government to restart oil exploration. The capture of Manianje was preceded by operations against RENAMO at Bairrade in Massinga District on 16 February and Alfeio on 10 February. The capture of Manianje base is a boost to army morale, which had fallen with the 14 February recapture by RENAMO guerrillas of Casa Banana, RENAMO's principal military headquarters.

12/03/86 RENAMO claims to have attacked and taken over Canda military base near Vila Priva de Andrade, about 800 kilometers north of Maputo. The organization also claims to have attacked a column of Zimbabwean soldiers at the Punge River bridge in the same region. In all, RENAMO claims, 233 soldiers of the Mozambican and Zimbabwean Armies were killed in the 2 attacks.

Mozambique/Zimbabwe

01/03/86 It is reported that Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrillas have recaptured their former headquarters at Casa Banana camp in Gorongoza in central Mozambique. The camp was captured by government troops in September 1985 and was considered a significant government victory against the insurgency. The camp's recapture by RENAMO is a serious blow to both Mozambican forces and the 10,000 to 15,000-strong Zimbabwean special task force operating in Mozambique, increasing tension between Mozambican and Zimbabwean troops. Zimbabwean troops are also demoralized by a RENAMO attack on Cavalo, a military headquarters northwest of Beira. RENAMO claims to have killed 91 Zimbabwean soldiers in that attack.

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South Africa

- 03/03/86 It is reported that two new naval commands have been established in the Cape and Natal. The Cape command, Naval Command West, will be headed by Rear Admiral Chris Bennet and will cover the area extending from Knysna to Walvis Bay. More ships, mainly strike craft, will be placed under its jurisdiction. The Natal command, Naval Command East, will stretch from Knysna to Natal. The new commands were necessitated by an urgent requirement for a more streamlined command structure.
- 04/03/86 A bomb explosion in a toilet rips through Johannesburg's John Vorster Square police station, injuring two policemen. In another incident, two limpet mines exploded within hours of each other at a power substation at Key Ridge, halfway between Durban and Pietermaritzburg, the day before. All three bombings are probably the work of African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas and demonstrate the extent to which the ANC has succeeded in attacking heavily guarded targets.
- 04/03/86 During a gun battle at Guguletu township near Cape Town, police kill seven ANC members. According to police accounts, the ANC unit was preparing to launch an attack on a van carrying black policemen to work. The unit was heavily armed with AK47 assault rifles, grenades, and pistols. It is believed to be the biggest single armed clash between the South African security forces and ANC insurgents since the early 1960s. The presence of ANC guerrillas as far south as Cape Town is the first confirmation of the extent to which the ANC has been building up its strike capability deep within the country.
- 05/03/86 South African Communist Party General Secretary Moses Mabhida dies at the age of 63. Mabhida was also a member of the national executive committee of the ANC and vice president of the South African Congress of Trade Unions.

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- 06/03/86 The headquarters of the Release Mandela Committee in Johannesburg is gutted by fire after its strongroom had apparently been forced open and its offices ransacked. The secretary of the committee, Aubrey Mokoena, accuses the security police of the attack and is later arrested. The committee, which has been pressing for the release of Nelson Mandela, last month initiated a campaign against the harassment of Winnie Mandela.
- 07/03/86 The state of emergency, which has been in effect since 21 July 1985, is lifted, resulting in the release of all but a handful of the 330 people interned under the emergency regulations. Although revocation of the emergency powers supposedly lifts the ban on television and photographic coverage of violence in the townships, the government orders the expulsion of three American CBS newsmen following the airing in the United States of a video of the mass funeral of 17 blacks who were killed in Alexandra the previous month. Although the expulsion order is later rescinded, it appears that revocation of the emergency marks a switch in strategy rather than a change of heart of South African authorities. The government's reaction to news coverage of the funeral may also have been sparked by the attendance at the funeral of at least 25,000 people, including diplomats from the United States and six other Western countries.
- 07/03/86 Exiled ANC leaders indicate that while the ANC is maintaining its hard-line public stance against negotiating with the government, behind the scenes they are trying to form a broad-based alliance that can pressure the government into negotiating with blacks about a new constitution. Thabo Mbeki, ANC publicity director, discloses in an interview in Lusaka, Zambia, that in view of this goal, the ANC is making contact inside South Africa with a wide range of groups, from worried businessmen and white Afrikaner intellectuals to disillusioned blacks holding office in the homelands.

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South Africa

- 10/03/86 Political unrest spills into the tribal homeland of Lebowa, where the police claim to have shot and killed seven black demonstrators over the weekend. Six people are killed when police open fire on a crowd of about 2,000 blacks who had marched on a police station at Motatema, and another person is killed when a crowd stones a police vehicle. The killings bring to 22 the number of people slain in political and tribal fighting since President Botha lifted the state of emergency decree on 7 March.
- 18/03/86 A weekend of tribal battles, rioting, bombings, and arson leaves more than 20 blacks dead and hundreds injured. In a battle between workers from rival tribes at a gold mine 95 miles southwest of Johannesburg, 9 people are killed and more than 60 are injured. At another gold mine 45 miles west of Johannesburg, 7 miners are killed and 176 wounded in factional fighting and security police gunfire. In other incidents, the police report that rioting in 13 black townships and a bomb explosion had left 2 people dead and 6 wounded.
- 20/03/86 Thousands of workers from Mamelodi return to work following a 3-day work boycott. The boycott was sparked by the disruption by the police of a meeting to launch the Mamelodi Civic Association.
- 29/03/86 At least 2 blacks are reported killed and about 20 wounded in factional violence that mars the start of a meeting of the National Education Crisis Committee at which black teachers, parents, and students are to decide whether to resume the school boycott which has been suspended for 3 months to give the South African Government time to meet political and educational demands. In the violence, members of the Zulu Inkatha movement attack delegates preparing for the meeting in Durban. About 1,500 people are expected to attend the 2-day meeting.

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Southern Africa

Zimbabwe
10/03/86

Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), announces during an appearance in front of 30,000 supporters in Bulawayo that his party and that of Prime Minister Mugabe, the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), had agreed that the two parties are committed to unity and will form a one-party state based on Socialist principles. This announcement comes after months of talks on the merger, which have been stalled over the issue of leadership. The Mugabe government issues no response to Nkomo's speech, but Mugabe has often said that he welcomes a merger between the two parties as a step toward achieving his goal of a one-party state in Zimbabwe.

West Africa

Benin/Mali
28/02/86

Malian President Traore arrives in Cotonou for a 2-day state visit. The purpose of the visit is to foster cooperation between the two ideologically similar states. At the same time, the visit affords President Traore the chance to thank Benin's President Kerekou for his role in the ANAD-backed truce ending the December 1985 Mali-Burkina war.

Ghana
05/03/86

The trial of 8 of 13 suspects accused of plotting the overthrow of the Rawlings government begins at the National Public Tribunal in Accra. Among the remaining five suspects, all of whom are believed to be in exile in Lome, are Frank, Eric, and Christian Goka, said to be the ringleaders of the plot. The abortive coup allegedly involved the brother of Major Boakye Djan and two soldiers whose responsibilities included procuring arms and ammunition.

18/03/86

A Panamanian-registered ship, illegally flying a Ghanaian flag and carrying an estimated six tons of military equipment destined for Ghanaian opposition groups, is seized off the coast of Brazil as the crew is transferring the arms to a second vessel. The crew includes 10 Argentinians and 8 American Vietnam veterans thought to be mercenaries. A group of American-based Ghanaian dissidents led by Godfrey

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Osei is said to be responsible for the plot. Osei was arrested in 1983 for participating in an earlier attempt to overthrow the Rawlings government, and escaped from prison during a subsequent coup attempt.

Ivory Coast

03/03/86 Emmanuel Dioulo, former mayor of Abidjan and director general of the coffee and cocoa exporting firm, Cogexim, returns after a 1-year exile. Dioulo secretly fled Abidjan following revelations of a financial scandal involving Cogexim. He returns in the company of President Houphouet-Boigny, who had been in France since mid-February. Although no longer spoken of as a possible successor to Houphouet, observers suggest that Dioulo will continue to wield political influence in national politics.

Liberia

18/03/86 Students in Monrovia stage a riot to press demands that their teachers be paid for accumulated salary arrears. Teachers are already on strike over the issue. The demonstration is the largest open protest seen in the capital in over 2 years. The rioting students exhibited anti-Doe sentiment by chanting slogans against President Doe and by attacking the private school attended by Doe's children. The worsening economic situation, as shown by the government's inability to meet its commitments, bodes ill for Doe's already unpopular regime.

Liberia/Ivory Coast

04/03/86 Webster Urey, a former Liberian security officer, is arrested in Abidjan after making anonymous telephone calls from the Liberian Embassy to the Ivory Coast in which he claimed "about 1,500 well-trained and armed men are planning to stage a coup in Liberia by early March." Whether this report is true or not, the fact that the Ivorian authorities collaborated with the Liberians to arrest Urey indicates that the Doe government is not considered to be a complete pariah in Abidjan.

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Nigeria
05/03/86

Ten army officers are executed for their part in a December 1985 coup attempt after an Armed Forces Ruling Council reviewed the sentences pronounced by a military tribunal on 25 February. Those executed include Major General Mamman Vatsa, a former federal capital territory minister under both current President Babangida and ousted president Buhari. Three other officers had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment, and two convicted of failing to report the plot had their sentences reduced to 5 and 10 years, respectively.

Sao Tome and Principe
19/03/86

Two Lisbon-based Sao Tomean opposition groups announce that they are joining forces against the regime of Pinto da Costa. Spokespersons for the coalition insist that their principal objective will be to establish a democratic system by waging an armed struggle if necessary. In the past, conservative opposition groups based in Portugal have had little impact on Sao Tomean politics.

Sierra Leone

04/03/86

President Momoh returns from a 6-day visit to China after negotiating an interest-free loan to help his country cover the deficits of projects currently under way under the cooperation agreement signed between the two countries in 1984. Momoh's trip and this agreement mark a new level of cooperation between the two countries. Sierra Leone, which has developed a reputation for improvidence with Western donors, seems to be turning increasingly to China for economic help.

Sierra Leone/Liberia

12/03/86

President Momoh announces that the Panamanian-registered vessel which was seized by French authorities in the port of Brest on 22 February was found to be part of an arms trafficking deal arranged by Sierra Leonean nationals. The Liberian Government had earlier indicated that it was investigating the possibility that the arms were being delivered to support a coup attempt in that country.

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Momoh's declaration would seem to show that the arms, which amounted to one million pound sterling's worth, were instead meant to supply an attempted coup in Sierra Leone. Momoh, in fact, mentioned that he was included on a list of 20 names of persons to be assassinated if the ship had succeeded in making its delivery. He went on to attribute the whole episode to the machinations of Sierra Leonean exiles living in Europe.

Togo
13/03/86

The French Government places the exiled leader of the Togolese Movement for Democracy (MTD), Togo's principal opposition group, under house arrest while French authorities attempt to find a host country willing to accept him. Paulin Lossou, who has lived as a refugee in France since 1972, was served with an expulsion order in mid-January, alleging that his activities were a threat to public order. That order came only several months after Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema completed an official visit to France.

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East/Central Africa

Sudan/Uganda

27/04/86 Remnants of the defeated Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA) attack 17 refugee camps along the eastern flank of the Nile in Sudan. Minister of State for Defense Ronald Bata states that women were raped, huts burned, and people killed.

Tanzania/South Africa

29/04/86 President Mwinyi holds talks in the capital, Dar es Salaam, with the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa. President Oliver Tambo. The ANC leader briefs Mwinyi on the efforts of the South African people to hasten the liberation of their country from the white minority regime's occupation.

Zaire

05/04/86 The government closes its Belgian offices and withdraws landing rights from Sabena, the Belgian national airline, in retaliation for the court-ordered seizure in Brussels of an Air Zaire cargo plane. Belgian authorities in Ostende impounded the aircraft as a result of a dispute between Air Zaire and a group of Belgian pilots recently fired by the airline. A private company, Scibe-Airlift, is continuing to fly between Brussels and Kinshasa.

05/04/86 A split appears in the Union for Democracy and Social Progress, Zaire's banned opposition party. Dikonda wa Lumanysha, the party's leader, says he is prepared to return to Zaire, but would continue to lead the party. He was responding to an earlier communique issued in the name of the party stating that he had been relieved of his responsibilities as the party's representative abroad. Since Nguza Karl-i-Bond accepted amnesty and returned to Zaire last year, Professor Dikonda has been considered the chief spokesman for opposition to the Mobutu regime.

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Zaire

15/04/86 An official of Zaire's ruling political party announces that Zaire will again take its seat in the Organization of African Unity (OAU), but only after the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR) vacates its seat on the OAU Bureau in 2 years. Zaire withdrew from the OAU 2 years ago to protest the admission of the SDAR.

18/04/86 President Mobutu reshuffles his cabinet for the third time since January 1985. This latest move abolishes 5 ministries, drops 15 ministers, and restores the foreign affairs portfolio to Mandungu Bula Nyati, who served in the post 10 years ago and is known to be a harsh critic of US policy in southern Africa. Mobutu retains the defense and internal security portfolios.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

10/04/86 Ethiopian leader Mengistu reveals that more than 2.8 million people have been moved to new villages since the government launched the relocation program in February 1985. The aim of the program, which was introduced during the worst of the famine to move peasants from arid northern regions to the more fertile lands of central and southern regions, is to relocate 30 million Ethiopians by 1995.

14/04/86 The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) claims that up to 5,000 extra Soviet technicians and pilots have arrived in the Eritrean capital of Asmara to help with preparations for a new large-scale government offensive against the EPLF, bringing the total number of Soviet military advisers in Eritrea to about 8,000. The EPLF also claims that the government conscripted about 50,000 to 60,000 people into the army in connection with the offensive.

Kenya

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18/04/86 Following a cabinet reshuffle, Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi states that the government machinery is on full alert and is arresting members of the clandestine group, Mwakenya. Those involved in the group are regarded as the remnants of those involved in the disturbances of August 1982.

Seychelles/Somalia

13/04/86 Seychellois Minister for Youth and Defense Ogilvie Berlouis leaves Somalia after a series of talks with the Somali Government. In a communique issued at the end of the visit, the two governments state that they have agreed to establish diplomatic relations.

Somalia

18/04/86 Somali National Movement (SNM) guerrillas attack the Third Brigade based in Odweina district in Togdher region, killing 10 and wounding 20 soldiers. In addition to the destruction of several large vehicles, 24 Grenov machineguns, 7 bazookas, and 8 AK rifles are captured along with several light arms and secret documents.

23/04/86 SNM guerrillas attack government forces based between Magala Aad and Gedbalad, killing four soldiers. Government forces lose two tractors belonging to the Tog Wajaale project in the Jibile District of the northwestern region.

Sudan

02/04/86 A government Buffalo plane is reportedly shot down at Bor, Upper Nile Province, by the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The plane, coming from Juba and taking reinforcements to the government soldiers in Bor, is downed by SPLA missiles which have been installed around the town. This account contradicts the statement made by Defense Minister Uthman Abdullah that the plane crashed in Bor due to technical mistakes.

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Horn of Africa

Sudan

05/04/86 An Egyptian plane carrying the first consignment of military material which Egypt is sending to Sudan lands at Khartoum Airport. It is expected that there will be 5 additional air deliveries of military supplies, including 20 Egyptian-made "Walid" armored vehicles as part of the military assistance program aimed at strengthening the Sudanese Armed Forces. The Egyptian Ambassador to Sudan says the aid constitutes a grant from Egypt to Sudan and is not linked to military operations in southern Sudan.

10/04/86 Transitional Military Council Chairman Siwar al-Dhahab expresses his solidarity with and support for the unity proposal put forward by Libyan leader Qadhafi. The Libyan-Sudanese unity plan reflects the intensification of contacts between the two Arab nations since the ousting of the Numeiri regime in April 1985. It is purportedly not linked to ending Sudanese-Egyptian integration.

17/04/86 The Al-Ummah Party, led by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, wins an impressive victory over the Democratic Unionist Party in the April elections. General Secretary Nur al-Da'im, the second man in the party, says that the Al-Ummah Party will form a national unity government. He also states that all the interim government's decisions will be subject to revision.

Sudan/Ethiopia

01/04/86 According to a military source, two Ethiopian planes violated Sudan's airspace by flying over Malakal, the Upper Nile District capital. Although no further details are given on this incident, the Sudanese authorities also accuse Ethiopia of sending five airplanes carrying food supplied to the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The coolness of relations between the two countries is accentuated by further evidence of continuing aid to their respective insurgent forces.

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Sudan/Uganda

27/04/86 Remnants of the defeated Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA) attack 17 refugee camps along the eastern flank of the Nile in Sudan. Minister of State for Defense Ronald Bata states that women were raped, huts burned, and people killed.

Uganda

21/04/86 Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni declares the end of the country's war of liberation and announces a campaign to unite the citizens and install a representative government. Earlier in the month, 27 government soldiers were arrested in Kampala in connection with a series of blasts that rocked the city on Easter weekend.

Indian Ocean Islands

Seychelles/Somalia

13/04/86 Seychellois Minister for Youth and Defense Ogilvie Berlouis leaves Somalia after a series of talks with the Somali Government. In a communique issued at the end of the visit, the two governments state that they have agreed to establish diplomatic relations.

Sahel

Chad

07/04/86 French Defense Minister Andre Giraud and Chief of Defense Staff General Saulnier visit Chad and are received by President Habre. This is the first official visit by the French Defense Minister since Jacques Chirac became head of government following the recent legislative elections in France. This visit reaffirms France's continuing commitment to Chad under the new government.

Mauritania

01/04/86 Major Mohamed Ould Dey, Secretary of the Military Committee of National Salvation, receives Muhammad Abd al-Aziz, Secretary of the Arab Libyan Brotherhood Bureau, to discuss the latest developments in the Gulf of Sidra, in addition to bilateal cooperation between Mauritania and Libya. Relations

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between the two countries have warmed considerably under the new Mauritanian regime which is actively pursuing a good neighbor policy in the region.

Southern Africa

Angola

06/04/86

The Angolan news agency, ANGOP, reports that Angolan government forces shot down a South African transport plane over Bie Province in the center of the country a few days earlier. According to ANGOP, the Hercules C-130 plane was one of three intercepted by government forces as they were parachuting equipment to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). The Angolan Government announced several days earlier that more than 10 South African battalions were massed near Cunene Province after South African troops occupied parts of Cuando Cubango Province.

06/04/86

In a government reshuffle, former Minister of Foreign Affairs Paulo Jorge is named governor of Cuanza-North Province. Also, six commissars--governors holding the rank of minister--are relieved of their functions and five others are named in addition to a vice minister of exterior commerce. These nominations follow a major revamping of the party and government which took place last January during the second party congress.

Lesotho

09/04/86

Members of the Lesotho Defense Force surround the offices of the country's Department of Youth Affairs and the Women's Bureau in the capital, Maseru, giving rise to rumors in the city about a coup attempt against the government of Major General Metsing Lekhanya. Although a top military source claims at first that the reports of an attempted coup are totally without foundation and the army remains loyal to the Lekhanya government, 26 army officers are later detained for plotting to overthrow the Military Council. Lekhanya, who came to power on 17 January, placed a ban on party political activity in Lesotho.

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Southern Africa

Lesotho/South Africa

17/04/86 Seven African National Congress (ANC) refugees are flown out of Lesotho for resettlement in Zambia. The seven include four ANC activists who had been in detention for more than a month for interrogation pending their departure from Lesotho. The expulsion of the ANC refugees comes in the wake of the coup d'etat which overthrew the government of Chief Leabua Jonathan and increased pressures by South Africa on the government to expel ANC members.

Mozambique

28/03/86 President Machel, in order to give top officials of the ruling party complete control in running the country, gives sweeping powers to three of his top aides. This change echoes the recommendations of the Politburo's emergency session, which met at the end of February to discuss the economy and military situation in the wake of the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) recapture of its Gorongosa base. Mario Machungo and Armando Guebuza are made new party economic chiefs, with the responsibility of 11 ministries and 3 state secretariats between them. The party's ideological secretary, Jorge Rebelo, is handed the social welfare ministries. The most significant change is the recall of former Defense Minister Alberto Chipande to take charge of the war against RENAMO.

02/04/86 President Machel returns home from the Soviet Union, where he was on a working and friendly visit. The visit was cut short due to an air accident in Pemba, northern Cabo Delgado Province, which killed 49 people, including a number of senior party members and prominent figures in the Cabo Delgado government. Despite the interruption of the visit, Machel achieved his major goal of direct contact between the Mozambican leadership and the new Soviet leadership under Mikhail Gorbachev. The visit is also indicative of Machel's decreasing faith in the future possible of more extensive US military aid.

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04/04/86 RENAMO announces in Lisbon that it will not sign a peace agreement with the Machel government as proposed recently by the United States and South Africa. The agreement supported by Washington and Pretoria reportedly advocates the creation of a coalition government and RENAMO's recognition of the authority of Machel as president of the country. Machel's FRELIMO party would initially have a 30 percent representation in the government and later on, efforts would be made to unite the two Mozambican political forces. According to RENAMO, a peace agreement must include the exclusion of "radical elements" from the ruling party, the holding of general elections, and the creation of a joint military commission to effectively implement the cease-fire.

21/04/86 Almost 40 people are injured, 3 seriously, when an explosion believed to have been caused by a car bomb takes place near the offices and workshops of the city bus company in the capital, Maputo. RENAMO claims responsibility for the blast, the first in Maputo, stating that it is part of RENAMO's latest strategy of mounting attacks in major cities, including the sabotage of electricity and water-pumping installations serving Maputo and the country's second largest city, Beira.

Mozambique/Zimbabwe

13/04/86 Zimbabwean soldiers storm and recapture Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) headquarters at Gorongosa in Central Mozambique. The base, commonly known as Casa Banana, was originally captured by Zimbabwean and Mozambican forces last August, but was retaken by RENAMO guerrillas in February.

South Africa

01/04/86 About 450 morning shift workers go on strike at the Rietspruit coal mine near Bethal. National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) shop stewards tell management that the reason for the strike is unhappiness with a fellow worker whom they want dismissed.

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Southern Africa

South Africa

- 02/04/86 Winnie Mandela is quoted in the South African press for the first time in 11 years. The Johannesburg Sunday Star, a leading South African newspaper, dismissed as no longer valid the government ban on quoting Mandela, the wife of jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, who has been under government banning orders for most of the past 23 years. In other developments, the police report that seven blacks were killed in overnight unrest, including three men who were killed when mobs set fire to a community development office, a beer hall, and a shopping center in Kenema township in western Transvaal Province.
- 09/04/86 The government admits that it has armed a large number of community councillors since 1984 for reasons of self-defense. Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis states that the arming of community councillors is an ongoing process with some 20 percent of the 1,277 councillors already armed.
- 14/04/86 The Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, Reverend Desmond Tutu, is elected Anglican archbishop of Cape Town in succession to Reverend Philip Russell, who will be retiring in the near future. Bishop Tutu will be the first black man to lead the church of the Province of South Africa, and his election will have far-reaching ramifications for the multiracial Anglican community in South Africa.
- 16/04/86 President Botha announces that the country's pass laws controlling where blacks can live and work will no longer be enforced. For blacks, the pass laws are among the most hated aspects of apartheid. Blacks who have been convicted of pass law violations, as well as those who are in detention awaiting trial on charges of violating them, are to be released immediately. The suspension of the pass laws, one of the most oppressive aspects of apartheid policy, represents a major reform, although many fear their replacement by a different, but equally oppressive, policy.

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- 17/04/86 A bomb blast, probably the work of ANC guerrillas, rocks the 12-story Botha Sigcau Administrative building in Umtat, seriously injuring a number of people. Elsewhere, the massive police and army raid in Durban of people wanted for murder and arson is extended to Chesterville, and the police and army return to Lamontville in full force for cleanup operations.
- 21/04/86 Residents of Alexandra township near Johannesburg launch consumer and rent boycotts in the area because of alleged harrassment by security forces. The demands of the residents include the withdrawal of troops and police from the township, the immediate recognition of students' demands, the recovery of missing bodies and people, affordable rent, proper electrification of the township, the release of all political prisoners, and the unbanning of all banned organizations. Elsewhere, three black men are injured in two land mine blasts in the Breyten area of the eastern Transvaal. It is believed that the mines were placed the ANC guerrillas as an action against civilian "soft" targets.
- 25/04/86 Minister of Law and Order Louis le Grange announces that there have been 371 deaths and 1,194 injuries as a result of police action during the state of emergency imposed from 21 July 1985 to 7 March 1986. A total of 416 deaths and 740 injuries in incidents not related to police action were recorded in the same period. In this 7-month period, 18,569 people were detained and 7,097 arrests were made by the police under state of emergency powers.
- 27/04/86 Renewed factional fighting in the Umbumbulu area south of Durban results in the deaths of three people. When police

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arrive, the more than 1,000 tribesmen thought to be members of the Emba and Makanya clans disperse. A spokesman for the Makanya clan denies that the Makanyas were involved in the fighting, claiming that the Embos split into two groups which are fighting each other.

Swaziland

15/04/86 The queen regent initiates changes in the cabinet structure, adding more responsibilities to the prime minister's office. She also authorizes the creation of the post of deputy prime minister who will be responsible for carrying out tasks assigned by the prime minister.

25/04/86 Crown Prince Makhosetive returns home from school in England to assume the crown. His coronation is seen as the formal end of 4 years of infighting and squabbles within the ruling royal Dlamini family following the death of King Sobhuza in 1982.

Swaziland/South Africa

10/04/86 Twenty South African students are arrested near Lubuli in Swaziland after crossing from South Africa to flee political unrest. Charged with illegal entry into the country, the students claim that they were fleeing South Africa to join the African National Congress (ANC) in Angola. The students are referred to immigration authorities, who allow them to leave the country for an undisclosed destination.

Tanzania/South Africa

29/04/86 President Mwinyi holds talks in the capital, Dar es Salaam, with the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa President Oliver Tambo. The ANC leader briefs Mwinyi on the efforts of the South African people to hasten the liberation of their country from the white minority regime's occupation.

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Southern Africa

Zambia
04/04/86

In a government reshuffle, President Kaunda almost entirely replaces the country's top financial and economic management. The changes follow Kaunda's travels around the country during which he was reportedly shaken by the extent of urban and rural poverty. In addition, Kaunda introduces new security measures aimed at combatting escalating crime. According to the Zambia Police Amendment Act, members of the public will now be directly involved in the new policing system rather than merely reporting crime, including the formation of vigilante groups at the grassroot level throughout the country.

Zimbabwe
11/04/86

The ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) removes Transport Minister Herbert Ushewokunze from the Politburo and Member of Parliament Byron Hove from his position of party secretary for the Midlands Province to defuse a political crisis that threatens to open old ethnic wounds. Ushewokunze claimed in Parliament that an ethnically organized group, identified by informed observers as the Karanga, was plotting to have him ousted from the Cabinet and killed.

12/04/86

During the funeral of Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) member and former Deputy Army Commander Lookout Masuku, who was recently released from detention and died shortly thereafter of a brain disease, ZAPU leader Joshua Nkomo accuses the government of discriminating against political and ethnic minority groups, detaining political opponents without trial, and torturing political prisoners. Nkomo's accusations constitute a setback in the plans of the ruling ZANU party to merge with ZAPU. Masuku was arrested almost 4 years ago together with former ZAPU military figure Dumiso Dabengwa in connection with the discovery of arms caches on ZAPU-owned farms. Dabengwa is still in detention.

Zimbabwe/Mozambique

16/04/86 Zimbabwean Minister of Labor, Manpower Planning, and Social Welfare Frederick Shava discloses that more than 22,000

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refugees are housed in 4 camps along Zimbabwe's eastern border. The refugees fled from RENAMO which is reportedly practicing a wide range of atrocities in the Mozambican countryside.

West Africa

West Africa

Central African Republic

Central African Republic

02/04/86 A bomb partially destroys a small bridge on the road from the capital, Bangui, to the airport. The blast follows demonstrations in the capital protesting the crash of a French Air Force fighter-bomber plane on a Bangui school in which 31 people were killed. Although government authorities blame "pro-Libyan elements seeking to destabilize the regime," there is no immediate indication of who is responsible. Some opposition groups oppose the use of CAR bases by French forces aiding the government of Hissein Habre in neighboring Chad in its fight against Libyan-backed rebels.

Guinea-Bissau

01/04/86 Commerce Minister and leading member of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC) Mario Cabral is arrested in the capital and his office is sealed. The government provides no explanation for the arrest of Cabral who is being held incommunicado, although sources link him to the alleged coup attempt by Paulo Correia in June 1985.

Ivory Coast

12/04/86 French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, accompanied by his Minister for Cooperation Michel Aurillac and his adviser for African Affairs Jacques Focart, arrives in Yamoussoukro on his first official visit outside France for talks with Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. Discussions focus on the Western Sahara, Chad, the escalating level of violence in South Africa, and fluctuating prices for Africa's raw materials.

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Liberia
29/03/86

The country's three main opposition parties--the Liberia Action Party (LAP), the Unity Party (UP), and the Liberian Unification Party (LUP)--form a Grand Coalition to oppose the government of Samuel Doe. LUP's Gabriel Kpolley is named president of the coalition.

02/04/86

A grand jury indicts Liberian Action Party (LAP) leader Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf on treason charges resulting from the abortive November 1985 coup attempt. The government's decision to carry through with the prosecution of Johnson-Sirleaf is surprising given the wide-spread mobilization of international opinion on her behalf. This development comes at a particularly crucial time, as the Doe government is faced with mounting internal opposition due to the worsening economic situation. This move will make it even more difficult for Doe to find the economic aid he so desperately needs.

08/04/86

Soldiers firing shotguns and wielding whips seriously injure about 100 students demonstrating for higher instructional salaries. While independent press reports claim that the demonstrations were peaceful, Liberian authorities insist that the students injured 25 soldiers and damaged thousands of dollars worth of property.

14/04/86

Police in Liberia arrest more than 200 members, including most of the leadership, of the opposition United People's Party (UPP). Government authorities accuse the UPP of embracing a "foreign ideology," and acting against the interests of the state. Among those arrested are UPP Deputy National Chairman Blamo Nelson, Secretary General Alphonso Kawah, and the chair for Montserrado County, Nathaniel Beh. All accuse government forces of exercising brutality during the arrests and subsequent detention.

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25/04/86 Brigadier General Jeffrey Gbartu, former speaker of the now-dissolved Military People's Redemption Council, is arrested for refusing to submit to a security search and assaulting an officer at the airport. Also, the news editor of the independent newspaper, the Sun Times, is arrested for printing a story on a demonstration by a group of women urging the United States to withhold all military assistance to Liberia.

29/04/86 Gabriel Kpolleh, chair of Liberia's Grand Coalition of opposition parties and head of the Liberian Unification Party, is arrested by authorities and charged with sedition. He allegedly accused the Doe government of planning a fake coup in order to discredit and arrest members of the Grand Coalition. Similar allegations have surfaced following earlier alleged coup attempts in Liberia. Two other officers of the four-party Coalition, Edward B. Kessely and Petter Bonner Jallah, are also arrested and charged with criminal mischief for allegedly damaging an automobile which was following the vehicle in which the two politicians were riding. Grand Coalition members have often complained of being followed by security agents in unmarked cars.

30/04/86 Approximately 200 university and high school students are arrested following a series of disturbances that began in Monrovia on 18 March. The students are demonstrating on behalf of their instructors, who are on strike because of non-payment of their salaries and transport allowances for the months of December and January.

Nigeria

17/04/86

In the face of demonstrations following the US bombing raid against Libya, the US Embassy in Lagos closes for one and one half days. Meanwhile Nigerian police increase security around the Embassy, although the student-led demonstrations have been nonviolent.

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20/04/86 Hungarian President Pal Losonczi arrives in Lagos at the start of an official 5-day visit. Talks between President Losonczi and Nigerian President Babangida focus on agricultural cooperation, trade, health, education, and cultural exchanges.

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East/Central Africa

Sao Tome and Principe

11/05/86 Carlos da Graca resigns as leader of the National Resistance Front, one of the two exiled opposition parties constituting the recently formed Democratic Opposition Coalition (DOC). Da Graca, a former Minister of Health, says his resignation is prompted by the government's increasingly liberal economic policies and its improved relations with its neighbors. He also added that he would like to play a part in Sao Tome's turn to the West, but will not return as long as the 1,000 to 1,500 Angolan troops remain on the island.

13/05/86 President Pinto da Costa begins a 3-day visit to Gabon as part of recent moves to improve ties with neighboring states. Bilateral relations have improved since the government has liberalized its economy and explored the possibility of joining both the CFA franc zone and the Central African Customs Union (UDEAC). These measures offer further evidence of the government's wish to strengthen its relations with the West at the expense of the Soviet Union.

Uganda

05/05/86 President Museveni holds peace discussions in Entebbe with a seven-man delegation representing former President Okello. The delegation members, who voluntarily gave up their arms to the National Resistance Army (NRA), are led by Lieutenant Colonel Abeid. Also present at the discussions is NRA Commander and National Resistance Council member Lieutenant Salim Saleh.

06/05/86 For the first time in recent history, the government sets up a commission of inquiry to investigate the pervasive corruption which has become endemic over the past 15 years. The commission will probe all government ministries and state corporations for financial mismanagement and corruption, and will investigate how government contracts and tenders were negotiated and then awarded, the criteria used in the selection and appointment of public officers at all levels, and how these officials used public property under their control.

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10/05/86 President Museveni states at a rally in Luwero that former President Milton Obote was plotting to assassinate members of the new government. The alleged plot is thought to have been organized by members of an antigovernment group known as Force Obote Back Again (FOBA). Sources say an attempt to assassinate Museveni was made in late April on the Kampala-Entebbe road.

Uganda/Tanzania

24/05/86 Ugandan President Museveni and Tanzanian President Mwinyi hold talks in the Tanzanian capital, Dar es Salaam, on bilateral issues, including the reactivation of the joint permanent commission which was established in 1983.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

25/04/86 US Congressional sources announce that the United States is contemplating a covert paramilitary training program for the insurgent Ethiopian People's Democratic Alliance (EPDA), a London-based group of former officials of ex-Emperor Haile Selassie. This step is being considered in light of the little success which the United States has had in trying to improve relations with the Mengistu government.

26/04/86 One thousand Ethiopian government soldiers, captured by Eritrean insurgents during the past year, are handed over to Ethiopian organizations opposed to the continuation of the war.

21/05/86 According to reports in the capital, Addis Ababa, the government has sent about 75,000 heavily armed soldiers into Eritrea, anticipating a new flareup in fighting with

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Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) guerrillas. It is believed that the EPLF may launch an offensive to coincide with the coming rainy season. In an attack on 12 May, EPLF guerrillas blew up a major kerosene depot owned by the Italian oil firm, AGIP, in the Red Sea port of Massawa. However, the government claims that the attack did not cause any fuel shortages in the region.

Somalia

20/05/86

Somali government forces attack the eastern base of the Somali National Movement (SNM). SNM fighters counterattack the advancing government soldiers, killing six and wounding many others.

23/05/86

President Siad Barre and other government officials accompanying him are involved in a car accident about 13 kilometers from Mogadishu on the Mogadishu-Afgoi road. The President was on his way back from a routine inspection tour of the lower Shabeelle region. The President and those accompanying him, including the Mayor of Mogadishu, Challe Hassan Abshir Farah, are first taken to Madina hospital and then flown to a military hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where the President's condition is stated to be satisfactory. According to reports, many people were killed at the scene of the accident when, after the President's car collided with a bus, his security officers, who are members of the Somali military police force, opened fire.

Somalia/Ethiopia

07/05/86

A 17-member Somali delegation, led by Foreign Affairs Minister Abdel-Rahman Jama Barre, arrives in Addis Ababa for the first meeting of the joint commission set up to attempt to resolve the longstanding conflict over the Ogaden region. The commission was formed after Somali President Siad Barre and Ethiopian Head of State Mengistu met for the first time in over 9 years at the Djibouti summit of the Inter-Governmental Authority.

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Sudan

02/05/86

In a press statement to the Sudan News Agency, the Islamic National Front (INF) says that it will not take part in the proposed national unity government if the charter of the government does not take into consideration the Islamic Sharia laws, the future of governing southern Sudan, and regionalism. INF Politburo member Ali Uthman Mohamed Taha said that the leaders of the political parties were busy in the distribution of ministerial portfolios without paying attention to the charter. Observers believe that the Umma Party of Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi and the Democratic Unionist Party will form the new government, while the INF will lead the opposition. The National Unity Charter, according to which the government will be formed, calls for issuing new laws based on the Quran, Sunna, and conventions to cope with new development and to guarantee the rights of non-Muslims and other minorities.

06/05/86

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) captures the strategic town of Adok in western Upper Nile. Adok, commonly referred to as Adok al-Bahr, is a river port along the Nile route between Malakal and Juba, and had been serving as an important fuel depot and base for the operations of Chevron oil company.

06/05/86

The five-member Supreme Council, which acts as collective head of state, is sworn in. The membership of Sudan's first democratically elected government in 17 years was formally announced to Parliament on 15 April by Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi, ending almost a month of bargaining over the composition of the new coalition. The strategic ministries of foreign affairs, interior, defense, and finance are divided equally between the Umma Party (UP), to which Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi belongs, and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), led by Mohammed Osman el-Mirghani. Although the composition of the new cabinet appears to signal the government's intention of tackling the fundamental issues facing the country, it will be some time before it becomes clear how far it will be able to translate that intention into action, in particular the formulation of acceptable

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national policies on resolving the conflict with the south and Sharia law.

18/05/86 A Buffalo military transport aircraft is shot down by the SPLA over Rumbek, killing the military commander of Rumbek and its commissioner, three officers, three noncommissioned officers, a bishop, and a relief official. The helicopter was attempting to fly into Rumbek with vitally needed supplies for besieged government troops in the isolated government garrison. The shooting down of the aircraft is further evidence of the government's increasingly threatened military position in the south.

Indian Ocean Islands

Seychelles

22/05/86 Moubarak al-Chamekh, Secretary of the Libyan People's Committee for Communications and Maritime Transports, leads a five-member delegation to the Seychelles as the special envoy of Libyan leader Qadhafi. Seychellois President Rene is given a message from Qadhafi relating to the US raid on Tripoli and Benghazi.

Sahel

Chad

04/05/86 Government sources claim that peace has returned to southern Chad after nearly 4 years of civil war. Sources in Sara, the south's largest city, said the only rebel militia not to have rallied to the Habre government is the Espoir group operating near the border with Central African Republic. But they added that the Espoir guerrillas, led by Lieutenant Laobe, had been inactive for the past several weeks. A former leader of one of the largest of a dozen rebel groups which have responded to government peace appeals, Colonel Alphonse Kotiga, is currently in the southern Moundou-Lai region, negotiating with Laobe on behalf of the Habre government. Kotiga signed a peace agreement with Habre in February which included an amnesty for his men and their incorporation into the national army.

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25/05/86 General Lucien Beal, head of the military mission of the French Ministry of Cooperation, arrives for a 4-day official visit. General Beal tells the press that the aim of his mission is to discuss military cooperation between France and Chad. France's military involvement in Chad since last February, referred to as Operation Epervier, was the result of renewed fighting between government forces and Libyan-backed Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) forces in the north. According to Beal, the French deterrent force will remain in Chad for as long as the N'Djamena government wishes.

Southern Africa

Angola

07/05/86

During the official visit by President dos Santos to the Soviet Union, Soviet leader Gorbachev repeats that his country will stand by its treaty of friendship with Angola. A new treaty is signed for the period from 1986 to 1988. The visit and reaffirmation of Soviet support follows recent claims by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) that the first US military assistance delivery to UNITA had arrived.

Lesotho

20/05/86

Five political parties, the Marematiuo Freedom Party, the United Democratic Party, the National Independent Party, the Basotholand Congress Party, and the Basotho Democratic Alliance, call on the ruling Military Council to form an all-party government of national reconciliation. Defying a ban on political activity of any sort, the five parties issue the statement in which it is claimed that the country is ready for a civilian government and that there is no justification for protracted military rule. All five parties were in opposition during the rule of Chief Leabua Jonathan, the former prime minister overthrown in a January 1986 coup.

Namibia

01/05/86

There is strong speculation that a South African Defense Force Dakota airplane was hit by a SWAPO-launched SAM-7

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surface-to-air missile, and forced to land in northern Namibia.

23/05/86 SWAPO guerrillas shoot down a South African C-160 aircraft in the area of Ukwaludhi in northern Namibia. This is the third time SWAPO guerrillas have shot down a South African aircraft in less than a month.

06/06/86 A spokesman for Namibian security forces announces that South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) guerrillas were responsible for a blast that badly damaged a state hospital in Tsandi in northern Namibia, causing no casualties. The spokesman said that the attack might have been timed to coincide with Cassinga Day, which commemorates a raid by South African forces on a SWAPO camp in Cassinga, Angola, on 4 May 1978.

South Africa

26/04/86 It is announced that a new territorial command of the South African Army is to be established to cover the northern Cape. It will include the South African-Namibian border and a part of the border with Botswana. The Namibian border has, until now, formed a rather distant part of Western Province Command, which is headquartered in Cape Town. The formation of this new command may be an indication that the Army is planning for the possibility of a less-than-friendly government in Namibia, but could also be the result of Botswana's demonstrated inability to prevent African National Congress (ANC) groups from passing through its territory. The existing Southern Cape Command is to be absorbed within a restructured Western Province Command. The South African Army has nine regional commands which are responsible for the security of their areas and also have certain administrative responsibilities toward the Army as a whole.

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- 01/05/86 About 1.5 million blacks stay away from work in what labor specialists call the biggest strike ever witnessed in South Africa. The stoppage was called to press demands for an official May Day public holiday, and seemed a reflection of the growing readiness of militant labor unions to become embroiled in political activism. Many black schools are also deserted as pupils boycott classes in support of the strike. In Port Elizabeth, the stoppage is nearly total, forcing whites to undertake menial tasks normally left to blacks. In Durban, divisions among the nation's black majority are reinforced when 70,000 Zulu supporters of Chief Buthelezi converge on a stadium to celebrate the launch of a new labor federation, the United Worker's Union of South Africa. The new group is designed to challenge the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), which opposes Chief Buthelezi.
- 02/05/86 The government signals its readiness to enter into talks about the possibility of legalizing the banned ANC and releasing Nelson Mandela, the ANC's most prominent leader. The signal is conveyed in London by an envoy of President Botha to a delegation of Commonwealth leaders. The seven Commonwealth leaders, known as the Eminent Persons Group, visited South Africa in March and were permitted to hold political talks with Mandela. The message, which carries no firm decision, is deemed to be sufficiently encouraging for the Commonwealth Group to schedule a return visit to South Africa by the middle of May in the hopes of becoming mediators.
- 11/05/86 The authorities announce that overnight violence in Johannesburg resulted in the killing of three black youths in Soweto by a policeman who opened fire on a crowd of blacks stoning a government car, and the burning of a bus driver in Guguletu Township near Cape Town by a gang of blacks. Meanwhile, policemen and soldiers continue to search houses and set up roadblocks in Alexandra Township following violence there.

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Southern Africa

South Africa

21/05/86 According to official reports, at least 22 people have been killed in recent violence around the country between black antiapartheid groups and more conservative blacks. The worst violence was in the Crossroads squatter camp near Cape Town, which has been gripped by factional strife since 18 May. Thousands have been left homeless, and at least 16 people have died in battles between radicals and conservatives, who have set fire to one another's homes and fought with sticks, clubs, knives, and firearms. In Durban's KwaMashu township, the police report finding six bodies, some of which had been incinerated with gasoline. Residents say that the dead were conservatives who had been trying to end a school boycott enforced by a radical group.

23/05/86 Foreign Minister Pik Botha is forced to cancel a rally by the governing National Party when hundreds of rightwing white militants, members of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, besiege the meeting hall. The clash takes place in Pietersburg, a trading center in the conservative Northern Transvaal region, where many whites have consistently opposed any shift away from apartheid policies. The incident, a humiliation for the government, is also bound to be depicted by the white authorities to outside critics as an illustration of the domestic political constraints slowing their program of limited racial liberalization.

25/05/86 Authorities are preparing tough new legislation that will enable them to crack down on opponents in areas of unrest and detain them without charge or trial for 6 months. Opposition legislators say that the new laws seem designed to give the authorities the same powers they had under the state of emergency lifted last March without formally declaring new emergency measures. The laws are amendments to existing, far-reaching security laws, and would prevent courts from scrutinizing actions by the security forces in areas of unrest. They would also make it possible for the government to declare total news censorship.

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26/05/86 Continuing violence in the Crossroads squatter camp near Cape Town results in more than 30 deaths during fighting between conservative and radical black groups. The fighting, in which the radicals were defeated, has devastated large tracts of the camp, causing the loss of homes to as many as 30,000 people. The conflict has not only highlighted territorial disputes between rival groups in the Crossroads, but also raises questions about the role of South Africa's security forces, which actively supported the conservative groups. In many of South Africa's segregated black townships, conservative black groups have banded together to form vigilante units opposed to the growing influence of youthful black radicals. Critics of the apartheid government claim that the vigilante groups have not been restrained because they suit the purpose of security forces in clamping down on black protest.

Southern Africa

19/05/86 South African forces attack the capitals of Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe as part of a continuing drive against African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas. The coordinated raids on what South African officials claim are facilities used by the ANC comprise the most extensive military action by South Africa in its 25-year-old war against the ANC, the most prominent of exiled and outlawed movements seeking the overthrow of South African white minority rule. The raids involve attacks by aircraft on the Zambian capital of Lusaka, and by helicopter-borne commandos in and around Botswana's capital, Gaborone, and Zimbabwe's capital, Harare. It is the first time that South Africa has struck directly at Zambia and Zimbabwe. Although few people appear to have been killed in any of the three attacks, there is extensive property damage at all three locations. The raids force the suspension of efforts by the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group to seek talks between South Africa and the ANC.

Swaziland

09/05/86 The trial of Prince Mfanasibili Dlamini, once one of Swaziland's most powerful politicians, begins. Dlamini is charged with defeating the ends of justice in connection with the year-long detention from late 1984 of former

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Finance Minister Sishayi Nxumalo and four ex-senior security men.

Zambia/Zimbabwe

28/05/86 Zambian security officials are reportedly holding two French nationals in connection with the raid by the South African Defense Force on an African National Congress (ANC) camp at Makeni outside Lusaka on 19 May. Zimbabwean police are holding five Britons for questioning in connection with the South African raid on two ANC targets in Harare on the same day. A spokesman for the British Commission in Harare says that three other Britons have since been released.

Zimbabwe/Mozambique

03/05/86 The first group of Mozambican army officers to be trained in Zimbabwe by the British Military Advisory and Training Team (BMATT) graduates. The training program is designed to upgrade Mozambique's armed forces for the war against Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrillas. It is reported that there are at least 48 officers in the first group, whose training in the 12-week course included basic troop command up to platoon and company level, map reading, communications, and fieldcraft. The training grounds are about 30 kilometers from the village of Nyanga and 100 kilometers north of Mutare. Zimbabwe, which has had up to 11,000 troops deployed in Mozambique, has been gravely concerned by the lack of discipline and organization shown by the Mozambican forces during the rainy season counteroffensive by RENAMO guerrillas.

West Africa

Ghana

16/05/86 An Accra court sentences nine plotters to death for their roles in an attempt to topple the Rawlings government in September 1985. The sentences must now be ratified by the Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC). According to testimony, Ghanaian dissidents in Togo hatched the plot and subsequently involved senior military personnel in Ghana. Meanwhile, eight US mercenaries and an Argentinian, allegedly linked to a March 1986 coup plot against Ghana and charged with arms smuggling, are appearing before a

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Brazilian court. They have been held since their ship was seized off the coast of Brazil in March.

30/05/86 A combined army and police force arrests a group of Ghanaian dissidents en route to an alleged hideout in the Accra suburb of Medina. The group, led by former Military Intelligence Officer Captain Edward Adjei Ampofo, had been among some 15 Ghanaian dissidents--including 11 former soldiers--expelled from Togo on 28 May. Captain Ampofo had earlier been condemned to death in absentia for participating in plots in June 1983 and December 1984.

Liberia

30/05/86 The Liberian Supreme Court bans a public meeting of the Grand Coalition, an organization composed of Liberia's four opposition parties. The court rules that the coalition, consisting of the Liberian Action Party, the Unity Party, the Liberian Unification Party, and the United People's Party, is "not a legal entity," and that a public meeting would therefore be a "calamity."

Nigeria

23/04/86 Military authorities arrest several politicians of previous governments accused of disobeying the current government's ban on political activities. Among those arrested is Tanko Yakassai, a northerner and former official of the National Assembly during the Shagari regime. The arrests follow by one week the announcement of the ban by Head of State Babangida.

22/05/86 At least four students die and Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria is closed for an indefinite period as a result of a violent confrontation between police and students on the university campus. The confrontation follows the expulsion of two graduating student leaders for their alleged participation in an earlier, peaceful demonstration. The

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objective of that demonstration is not clear, but it is believed linked to Nigeria's current economic problems. As news of the deaths spreads, violent clashes between students and police erupt on campuses across the country. In Lagos State, students burn one police station and force a second to close. Elsewhere students riot, burning automobiles and closing roads. In an attempt to reduce tensions, authorities close universities throughout Nigeria and order students to return to their homes.

Sierra Leone

30/05/86 The first general elections since President Joseph Momoh assumed power in November 1985 are held. Some 2 million voters are eligible to vote for the 335 candidates running for the 105 legislative seats. The elections are marked by irregularities. In Freetown, police intervene with tear gas to disperse groups protesting that unregistered voters were permitted to vote, and in some 15 additional constituencies in Moyamba, Kenema, and Kaulahun Provinces officials, pointing to many instances of fraud, arrange new elections for 5 June. Meanwhile, early returns show that many incumbents were soundly defeated. In Freetown, 7 of 12 constituencies had elected new representatives. Losing seats in stunning upsets are Interior Minister Kawusu Konteh, Information Minister Sembu Forna, and Junior Education Minister Emmanuel Grant, who lost a seat he had held for 11 years.

West Africa/Sahel

Nigeria/Gabon/Mali

02/05/86 Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir Arafat arrives in Lagos on a 1-day official visit. The PLO leader's visit is part of a four-nation African tour that includes stops in Algeria, Mali, and Gabon.

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East/Central Africa

Gabon

06/20/86

President Bongo grants clemency to all former members of the banned Movement for National Recovery (MORENA) who have been imprisoned since 1982. The presidential decree affects 27 people who had been condemned to prison terms ranging up to 20 years for sedition, and also ends the house arrest of a 28th convict sentenced at the same time.

Tanzania

18/06/86

The government of Zanzibar extends its territorial waters from 5 to 20 kilometers. Minister of State and Attorney General Abubakar Khamis Bakari states that the extension will place the government in a better position to exercise authority over its territorial waters. He points out that the law of the sea is a problem that has yet to be resolved by the international community.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

06/06/86

The deputy head of the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, Berhane Deressa, announces his defection in New York, citing political differences with his government. He alleges that interference by incompetent party ideologues has severely impaired the effectiveness of famine relief efforts in Ethiopia. Berhane's defection follows that last November of his former superior on the Commission, Dawit Wolde Georgis, who now lives in the United States.

07/06/86

The draft constitution of the "People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia" (PDRE) is presented to the public for discussion. It consists of 120 articles, the first of which declares the PDRE a working people's state whose territorial, maritime, and air spaces are integral and inviolable and which will consummate the national democratic revolution and lay the foundation for the building of socialism. Other articles provide for the direct, popular election of a National Assembly, which will establish a state council and elect a president.

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Ethiopia/Sudan

01/06/86 According to the Sudanese press, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) called on the Sudanese Government to take the initiative in settling the Eritrean issue by inviting representatives of the Ethiopian Government and the EPLF to start negotiations. EPLF spokesmen believe that the Sudanese Government is on good terms with both sides and therefore can serve as a mediator. The EPLF announces its readiness to reach an understanding with Sudan on the issue of beginning negotiations, and stresses the importance of solving problems through peaceful negotiations.

Somalia

12/06/86

President Barre asserts that Somalia has no intention of giving the United States access to Somali bases. He adds that facilities made available to the United States so far fall within reasonable limits. With respect to relations with the Soviet Union, Barre notes that Soviet support for Ethiopia does not encourage Somali overtures toward improving relations with the Soviets, which he describes as being less than normal. He hopes, however, for some movement in relations with Moscow. Barre also says that Somalia's only demand is peace and security for all peoples in the Horn, and warns that in the absence of solutions to problems in the region, more conflict and fighting are inevitable.

17/06/86

Radio Hagan reports on two recent clashes between the Somali National Movement (SNM) and government forces in the northwestern Hargeisa area. In the first encounter, SNM fighters killed 35 government soldiers and destroyed a jeep. In the second incident, the SNM killed three government soldiers and captured three others.

23/06/86

President Barre returns to Somalia from Saudi Arabia, where he has been convalescing since being badly injured in an automobile accident outside Mogadishu on 23 May. The true state of his health and recovery remains unclear, although

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he has received visitors and conducted interviews from his bed in Riyadh. In his absence, First Vice President and Minister of Defense Mohammed Ali Samantar was in charge of affairs of state.

Sudan
06/06/86

Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi reveals that he will tour several countries, including the Soviet Union, Egypt, Libya, and the Gulf countries, although the only scheduled tour is to the Soviet Union in July. His visit to Moscow will aim at a reduction of the sharp animosity created by the Numeiri government against the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries. It will also help restore balance in Sudan's foreign policy, which is based upon nonalignment.

09/06/86

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) reports that its forces successfully raided a government militia training center in Fafajok, Acholi area, in eastern Equatoria Province, on 30 May, killing six government militiamen and wounding many others. According to the SPLA, more than 400 militiamen were scheduled to graduate the next day at Farajok, but the attackers destroyed the training camp. The SPLA claims that this is the second time it has upset government efforts to train militia in Equatoria Province.

11/06/86

A Cairo newspaper reports that the Sudanese Government has officially asked the Egyptian Government to extradite former Sudanese President Numeiri so that he can stand trial on charges of high treason. As an additional complaint against Numeiri, the Sudanese also allege that the exiled leader carries out anti-Sudanese political activities from his residence in Cairo. Numeiri has lived in Egypt since his overthrow in April 1985, and so far the Egyptian Government has resisted all attempts to extradite him for purposes of standing trial.

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- 14/06/86 Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi says that his government wants to hold negotiations with insurgents in Sudan to find a peaceful solution to the country's problems. He stresses that the religious and political rights of the Muslims in the north and the non-Muslims in the south must be guaranteed. He also commits his government to a policy of nonalignment and an improvement in relations with Soviet bloc countries.
- 17/06/86 The SPLA reports that its forces are continuing to besiege the town of Rumbek, halfway between the southern capital of Juba and the key town of Wau in Bahr al-Ghazal Province which was retaken by government forces from the SPLA on 7 May. Throughout April and May, there was fighting around Rumbek and farther north around Aweil, where the SPLA claims to have destroyed a bridge on the railway line on 5 May, severing rail service to Aweil and Wau.
- 29/06/86 The SPLA and the National Alliance for National Salvation issue a joint statement at the end of a 5-day conference in Ethiopia, reiterating their commitment to the Koka Dam declaration on ending the civil strife in Sudan. The Alliance assures the SPLA that the Sudanese Government is preparing to implement the provisions of the Koka Dam declaration, which include cancellation of the 1983 September laws establishing the sharia as the law of the land, cancellation of joint defense pacts with Egypt and Libya, the return to the 1956 constitution as amended in 1964, and the lifting of the state of emergency. Both the SPLA and the Alliance anticipate the convening of a national constitutional conference and agree to meet again in the Ethiopian capital after 10 July.

Indian Ocean Islands

Madagascar

- 06/06/86 Colonel Christopher Raveloson Mahasampo, who was promoted to Brigadier General on 1 June, is appointed minister of defense in place of Rear Admiral Guy Sibon, who died 24 May

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1986 in the accident of the DC-3 plane of the Malagasy Navy. Also, Colonel Claude Rasamoely is promoted to the rank of brigadier general and Lieutenant Commander Rolland Ratsimandresy is appointed Director General of the National Military Bureau for Strategic Industries (OMNIS), succeeding General Hubert Andrianasolo, who also died in the plane accident. OMNIS is associated with some American companies in oil exploration in Madagascar. The new defense minister, General Mahasampo, who is President Ratsiraka's brother-in-law, was formerly the head of Madagascar's intelligence service, the General Directorate for Investigation and Documentation.

Sahel

Burkina
17/05/86

Four leftist fringe groups, which have no significant support, are incorporated into the ruling National Council of the Revolution (CNR). The decision of the groups--the Military and Revolutionary Organization (OMR), the Union for the Revised Communist Struggle (ULCR), the Union of Burkinabe Communists (UBC), and the Burkinabe Communist Group (GCB)--to merge with the CNR represents a further weakening of the civilian left as more independent groups are forced either to join the Sankara-dominated CNR or wither away on the margins of society. The only remaining independent civilian leftist group with any concrete base of support, the Marxist LIPAD party, still refuses to join the government.

Burkina/Mali

23/06/86

Tensions rise once again along the Burkinabe/Malian border as Burkinabe authorities reveal a new presence of large numbers of Malian troops stationed near the border. Burkinabe President Sankara notifies the heads of states of the Accord on Non-Aggression and Defense Aid (ANAD), under whose auspices the cease-fire after the December 1985 border war was arranged, of his concern about the Malian forces.

Chad

09/06/86

According to reports, the Codos, the last of southern Chad's guerrillas, may soon join President Habre's government. Attention is centered on the Hope Commandos, one contingent

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of the Codos, who are still operating in Logone Occidentale Province. If the Hope Commandos join the N'Djamena government, they will be following a pattern already established by other such groups. In another report, Habre says that it may be necessary to undertake military action without French support to dislodge the Libyans from northern Chad.

Gambia
24/06/86

Two long-standing opponents of the Jawara government, Khalifa Sallah and Sam Sarr, announce that they will form a new opposition party sometime in July. The new party is expected to be militantly nationalistic and very much opposed to the confederation with Senegal.

Mali
06/06/86

An important cabinet shake-up takes place in which President Traore dismisses four powerful longtime members of his cabinet--Minister of Planning General Amadou Baba Diarra, Minister of Equipment Djibril Diallo, Minister of Foreign Affairs Alioune Blondin Beye, and Minister of State Enterprises Oumar Coulibaly. All four were fixtures of the Malian Government and had built up independent power bases over the years. Their sacking reflects Traore's desire to extend his personal control over the machinery of the state. This is also evidently the motivation behind Traore's nomination of his personal physician, Mamadou Dembele, to the newly created prime minister's post.

Niger
06/05/86

Several hundred Nigerien Tuaregs, who had settled illegally in Southern Algeria, are expelled and forced to return to Niger. This move follows by several days an earlier expulsion of 2,000 Nigerien nationals from Libya. President Kountche downplays the diplomatic repercussions of the Libyan and Algerian actions by declining to call them "expulsions," and instead portrays them as the customary exercise of immigration controls. Nevertheless, the addition of this number of indigent persons into the already impoverished Nigerien economy is another headache for the Kountche government.

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Southern Africa

Angola/South Africa

05/06/86 South African frogmen attack ships and oil storage tanks in the southern port of Namib, marking a fresh escalation of South African aggression against Angola. The frogmen enter the harbor on a missile-carrying launch carrying Israeli-made Scorpion missiles which are fired against three oil tankers, two of which are destroyed. South African frogmen have been used in several sabotage attacks in recent years, including an attack on Luanda's oil installations and harbor, and last year's attack on the US-owned oil facilities in Cabinda.

Botswana/South Africa

14/06/86 Gunmen attack a house near the capital, Gaborone, killing one Botswana national and injuring two others. Although nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack, observers in Botswana are convinced that it is the work of South African agents, acting to eliminate African National Congress members. The South African Defense Force denies any involvement in the attack.

Lesotho

13/06/86 The government deports 63 South African refugees, including members of the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan-African Congress (PAC). The refugees are accepted by Kenya and Zambia. The move is the second mass expulsion of South African refugees by the government which seized power last January, and the first time that PAC members are included in the expulsions.

South Africa

10/06/86 Bitter fighting breaks out again between rival black factions in Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp as conservative vigilantes set fire to shanties. Reporters describe the renewed fighting as even fiercer than the previous battle in May which left 48 dead, and repeat accusations that the police side openly with the vigilantes

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against radical leftist groups whom they want to drive out of the area. At least two journalists are wounded and one is killed by the vigilantes. The renewed bloodshed in Crossroads comes as 900 leading businessmen publish a suggested reform program calling for black participation in the government and rapid advancement in the economy. Fierce clashes also break out between rival black groups in Alexandra township after a militant black leader, Mahlomola Mabizela, is killed.

11/06/86 The United Democratic Front (UDF) calls for mass disobedience of official orders prohibiting commemorations of the Soweto uprising on 16 June. The call coincides with a third day of fighting in Crossroads, where Bishop Tutu sought without success to mediate between rival black groups. On 5 June, Bishop Tutu had also urged the nation's churches to defy the government ban on commemorations which seemed to set the stage for a confrontation between the church and the government and has cost him the support of some of the Anglican Church's white laity.

12/06/86 The government imposes a nationwide state of emergency, banning all unauthorized political gatherings, giving police sweeping powers to make arrests and detain persons indefinitely without charge, and putting stringent restrictions on local and foreign press coverage. President Botha defends the emergency powers, calling them necessary to combat the climate of increasing violence and to prevent radical and revolutionary elements from staging acts of sabotage and terror on the 10th anniversary of the Soweto uprising. The restrictions come only 3 months after Botha lifted the emergency imposed last year on three of the country's major urban areas. The new rules are considerably more sweeping because they apply to the entire country and give the government even broader powers. Many activists who had gone underground in recent days in anticipation of the crackdown eluded police, but among those arrested are several senior UDF leaders, clerics, top trade union officials, leaders of the country's anticonscription campaign, and seven high-ranking officials of the Azanian People's Organization.

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South Africa

- 13/06/86 Three UDF leaders, Henry Fazzie, Stone Sizania, and Nkhuseli Jack, emerge from hiding to announce at a prohibited news conference that blacks will protest the 12 June declaration of a state of emergency with a rent boycott in the Port Elizabeth area. Boycotts are prohibited under the new emergency regulations, but black leaders and white businessmen say the use of consumer boycotts have been very successful in the past. Residents of black townships pay rent to local governing bodies.
- 14/06/86 A car bomb explodes in Durban, killing 4 and wounding 60 others. The explosion is one of the largest since a car bomb explosion killed 19 people in Pretoria in May 1983. Many observers view the bombing as a response by the ANC to the emergency decree of 12 June.
- 16/06/86 Millions of blacks stay away from their jobs in commemoration of the 1976 Soweto uprising, bringing the country's major cities to a virtual standstill. Observers estimate that the 1-day, nationwide general strike is at least 90 percent effective among blacks in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, and Pretoria; 80 percent effective in Cape Town; and between 30 and 40 percent effective in Durban. There are few reports of violence, although information about Soweto and other townships is limited severely because of emergency orders issued in the morning by the police, banning reporters from all black townships.
- 21/06/86 The police, invoking the emergency decree, announce new prohibitions affecting 119 political and church groups around Cape Town, including the UDF, the Azanian People's Organization, and the End Conscription Campaign. They also cover the country's largest black labor federation, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). Under the prohibitions, none of the designated organizations is permitted to publish pamphlets or posters, nor can any of

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their officials be publicly quoted in six magisterial districts around the city.

21/06/86 In a bold act of apparent reprisal, suspected ANC guerrillas kill a black police commander whose officers killed 11 political protesters on a soccer field in the Winterveld squatter camp northwest of Pretoria 3 months ago. The killing marks the first time in recent history that there has been a reprisal assassination of a senior official in the country, although low-ranking black policemen have been the targets of many attacks in the past 2 years. Other violence takes place in Durban, where three bomb explosions rock the port, one of them bursting an oil pipeline near a refinery, setting fire to the oil. The explosion, thought to be the work of ANC guerrillas in retaliation for the government's massive crackdown since the 12 June declaration of the state of emergency, results in no casualties.

23/06/86 Four black trade union officials, who were the last defendants in one of South Africa's largest political show trials, are acquitted of treason after the judge throws out a key part of the state's case. The trial in Pietermaritzburg, which began 13 months ago, was one of two in which the government sought to hamstring the UDF by charging more than three dozen of its leaders and their trade union allies with treason. It ended abruptly when the prosecution conceded its case had collapsed when the presiding judge declared that the state had failed to establish that audio and video tapes accurately represented records of political meetings both within and outside South Africa at which the defendants spoke or appeared.

24/06/86 Two bombs explode in a fast-food restaurant and outside a hotel in Johannesburg, wounding 17 people. A third explosion is reported in Soweto's Jabulani Stadium, where Inkatha leader Chief Buthelezi was scheduled to address a rally. The attacks, blamed on the ANC, seem to deepen a sense of crisis since the authorities issued the decree

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declaring a national state of emergency on 12 June. Since the state of emergency, bomb attacks have become more frequent and the attackers appear increasingly willing to hit civilian targets.

- 24/06/86 A senior British government official, Minister of State at the Foreign Office Lynda Chalker, meets with acting ANC President Oliver Tambo in London. The meeting is seen as a turning point in British government policy toward the group; British Prime Minister Thatcher has previously refused to meet with ANC leaders unless the group renounced violence.
- 24/06/86 The South African Air Force announces a military exercise called Operation Golden Eagle. Air force bases in the North Transvaal and the Kruger National Park area will be involved in the operation, which will last from 25 to 30 June.
- 25/06/86 Government authorities threaten further action today against journalists deemed to be violating regulations imposed under the emergency decree. Minister of Information Louis Nel says that this could include the closing of local newspapers. The regulations on journalists forbid the reporting of activities of the security forces anywhere in the country and make it an offense to report what are called "subversive statements." Since the emergency was declared on 12 June, three foreign journalists have been ordered out of South Africa.
- 25/06/86 Parliament finishes approving a major package of reforms in some of the key elements of the apartheid system. In the past week, the government has abolished 34 separate acts that together constitute the pass laws, and another bill restores South African citizenship to about 20 percent of those blacks who lost it when the tribal homelands were

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declared independent by the government. Also approved is a bill giving urban blacks a limited increase in local self-government. The reforms illustrate the dilemma of the government--while these measures have cost the government further support on its white right flank, they have not attracted any noticeable backing from black leaders, who generally deride them as too little and too late.

29/06/86 South African authorities, seeming to favor some black factions over others, permit thousands of Zulus to crowd a sports stadium in Soweto for a rally addressed by their leader, Chief Buthelezi. The rally coincides with reports of a crackdown on black labor activists and official acknowledgement of continued violence. It is the first time the Zulu leader has addressed a public rally in Soweto in almost 2 years.

Zambia

04/06/86 Reports in the capital, Lusaka, indicate that the remnants of the South African-trained Mushala gang have regrouped in the northwest, unleashing a fresh wave of terror. The terrorists have reappeared several years after their gang leader, Adamson Mushala, was gunned down in 1982 by Zambian security forces after 7 years of eluding capture. The government claims that South Africa is training the terrorists with the intention of destabilizing the Kaunda regime.

14/06/86 President Kaunda declares a partial military mobilization in view of what he fears is an impending massive military attack by South Africa. He also reveals that nine white South Africans have been held since the South African raids on an alleged guerrilla base near Lusaka last month.

Zimbabwe

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05/06/86 Taking action to avoid a potential new blot on his often-criticized human rights record, Prime Minister Mugabe orders the release of Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (JPC) Chairman Michael Auret and the Commission's acting director, Nicholas Ndebele. Both men had been arrested in late May for political reasons as part of a campaign led by powerful Home Affairs Minister Enos Nkala against the internationally respected JPC because of the latter's alleged contribution to an Amnesty International report charging that hundreds of people have been arrested and tortured for political reasons in Matabeleland. Ironically, Auret has frequently acknowledged that while serious human rights abuses do occur, the government usually takes corrective action.

13/06/86 Sources report that two former Zimbabwean Army officers, Nicholas Nkomo and Tshaka Moyo, who were arrested in early 1982 on allegations of plotting to overthrow the government, were released on the orders of the High Court. Although they were acquitted of charges of treason in 1983, they were immediately redetained, despite recommendations by the Detention Review Tribunal to free them. Lookout Masuku, who had been arrested at the same time, died in April following his release from detention. One other detainee, Dumiso Dabengwe, the head of military intelligence for the guerrilla wing of the Zimbabwe African People's Union who supposedly has links with the Soviet KGB, is still being held in Chikurubi prison outside Harare.

West Africa

Ghana
06/22/86 Seven persons plotting to overthrow the Rawlings regime last fall are executed by firing squad. Guilty verdicts against the seven, who include five civilians and two members of the armed forces, were returned in May.

Guinea
22/06/86 French Minister of Cooperation Michel Aurillac signs a new cooperation agreement between France and Guinea. French aid to Guinea represents four percent of France's overall assistance to developing countries and places Guinea second

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on the list of countries receiving aid from France. Clearly, the amount of French aid earmarked for Guinea is indicative of the very high priority that France is giving to its relations with Conakry and to bringing Guinea back into the fold of relatively prosperous, moderate francophone states.

Guinea Bissau

01/06/86 For the second time in a month, an organizer of the unsuccessful November 1985 coup attempt, former Fire Brigade Chief Caraco Zacarias de Antonio Pereira, dies in prison, reportedly after a long illness. His death follows that of his alleged co-conspirator, Colonel Forena Bitnoff, who was reported to have died on 2 May. Despite his image as a pragmatic and moderate Marxist leader, President Pereira shows little leniency for those who oppose his regime, as it has now become common for political prisoners to die in jail.

Liberia

06/06/86 President Samuel Doe declares a general amnesty for all political prisoners who were detained following the unsuccessful November 1985 coup attempt directed against his regime. This action releases from prison former Finance Minister Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, whose detainment has focused much international criticism on the Doe government, particularly from the United States.

Nigeria

16/06/86 President Babangida leaves Nigeria for a 5-day trip to Niger and Ivory Coast. This will be Babangida's first official trip abroad since seizing power in August 1985. His visit to Niger is expected to include talks on relations between the two countries following the re-opening of their borders in February 1986.

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24/06/86

The government endorses the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) protocol on the free movement of persons within the Community. The protocol permits citizens of ECOWAS members to live and work in a second country without visas and work permits. Nigerian ratification was expected in light of the election of a Nigerian to preside over ECOWAS in the coming year. However, it represents a sharp departure from Nigerian policy over the past 2 years, during which the government ordered the expulsion of close to one million ECOWAS aliens.

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East/Central Africa

Uganda

05/07/86 The Army arrests more than 40 people for suspected involvement in an underground movement, the Force Obote Back (FOBA), working for the return of ousted President Milton Obote. The arrests are made at a pub in Kampala's suburb of Kisenyi and the detainees are taken to the nearby Lubiri Army Barracks.

Horn of Africa

Somalia

05/07/86 The Somali National Movement (SNM) claims to have successfully attacked Somali government forces, killing 37 soldiers and wounding 37 others, in addition to destroying vehicles and other equipment, during several battles in the northwest at the end of June. These engagements are the latest in SNM's guerrilla attacks on isolated outposts and garrisons of the central government's armed forces.

Sudan

02/07/86 The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) reports that its forces recently captured a 200-passenger river boat traveling between Al-Rank and Malakal. Since the passengers were civilians, they were all released. The boat is to be destroyed, the SPLA using the incident once more to warn the river transport corporation that steamers traveling between Kosti and Malakal do so at their own risk. The SPLA also says that in recent raids around Terakeka, just north of Juba, 147 government fighters were killed. SPLA forces took control of Terakeka District and pursued the fleeing government soldiers close to Juba, where the SPLA insurgents now pose a threat to the airport of the major southern administrative capital.

14/07/86 The government announces that it plans to bring businessman Fu'ad Ahmad Makki to trial for his role in an alleged plot against the government of Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi. Makki is accused of being the contact for former President Numeiri, whom the government accuses of plotting against it. Numeiri currently enjoys the protection of the Egyptian Government, which so far has resisted Sudanese attempts at

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extradition and has refused to accept the validity of the current government's accusations against him.

- 16/07/86 According to reports from Anyanya II, a group of southern fighters allied with the government's forces, the SPLA is facing a serious split within its ranks because a number of officers, who prefer a negotiated settlement to the conflict with the government, have recently refused to take part in military operations. Anyanya also reports that SPLA leader John Garang is living in Ethiopia under such tight Ethiopian security that he has not been permitted any contact with other SPLA members. Still, Anyanya alleges that Ethiopian authorities continue to train SPLA fighters in camps along the border between Ethiopia and Sudan.
- 19/07/86 Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi announces that his forthcoming official visit to the Soviet Union will begin on 12 August. The visit is intended to institute good relations with the Soviet Union and to restore balance to Sudan's foreign policy, which is based upon nonalignment. The trip, originally scheduled for July, is the outcome of commitments made by the previous interim military government to the Soviet Union.
- 21/07/86 Anyanya II claims to have seized 2 SPLA bases near Bentiu, west of Malakal, killing 150 opponents and seizing weapons and ammunition. These battles are among the largest between Anyanya II and its former SPLA ally.
- 30/07/86 Juba airport, closed for about 2 weeks as a result of fighting between government forces and SPLA guerrillas, is reopened after being completely secured, according to government broadcasts from Khartoum. Khartoum sources deny

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rumors about deteriorating security in the city, and say that Sudan Airways will continue flights in and out of Juba.

31/07/86 Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi and SPLA leader John Garang open talks in Ethiopia on a range of topics and problems facing Sudan, including the ongoing insurgency in the southern regions of the country. The meeting between the two Sudanese leaders is part of an attempt at national reconciliation foreseen in the Koka Dam (Ethiopia) Declaration of last year, which, among other things, calls for abrogation of the "September laws" instituting Sharia law in Sudan and for a convocation of a constitutional conference. The two leaders also discuss the lifting of the current state of emergency, a cease-fire, and the cancellation of military agreements with Egypt and Libya.

Sudan/Ethiopia

30/07/86 Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi, while in the Ethiopian capital for a meeting with Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) leader John Garang, meets with Ethiopian leader Mengistu. The two heads of state discuss the current state of relations between their countries and the reasons for the deterioration in these relations.

Sahel

Chad

05/07/86 Representatives of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), led by Goukouni Oueddei, say that GUNT is still determined to resume negotiations with the Habre government in pursuit of national reconciliation. In this regard, the representatives point to the current tour of African capitals by the GUNT foreign minister and express their regrets at the circumstances which prevented a meeting of the two opposing sides in March.

Southern Africa

Mozambique

11/07/86 A Portugal-based spokesman for the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO), Jorge Correia, announces that

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RENAMO Secretary General Evo Fernandes has resigned his post in a bid to end months of speculation about a divisive split in the movement. Other reports claim that rumors naming Fernandes as the leader of a Portuguese faction within RENAMO caused RENAMO President Afonso Dhlakama to demote Fernandes.

12/07/86 Seven people are injured when a bomb explodes in the Alto Mae B ward in Maputo. The bomb also shatters the glass in the main door of Papelaria Mocambican bookstore. A child, who is among the victims, told police that one of his friends found the bomb in a trash can and hung it on his bicycle. The bomb was probably planted by the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) as part of its disruption campaign.

Mozambique/Malawi

05/07/86 In a rare interview, Mozambican Armed Forces Chief of Staff Mabote accuses Malawi of helping Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrillas both materially and logistically. He also claims that infiltrations by RENAMO guerrillas directly from South Africa are continuing, "as though the 1984 Nkomati Accord had never been signed." Since South Africa is unable to make flights every day into Tete and Zambezia Provinces, Mabote contends, Malawi is frequently facilitating the infiltration of guerrillas from its territory.

South Africa

01/07/86 A bomb explodes in a liquor store in central Johannesburg, wounding eight people. The explosion, one in a series of attacks on civilian targets in the past week, rocks an area close to corporate offices where a visiting delegation from Yale University is meeting. Meanwhile, South Africa's black labor movement urges widespread disruptive action to protest the 12 June emergency decree and to demand the release of labor leaders detained under its provisions. The two developments coincide with the formal abolition of the pass laws.

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Southern Africa

South Africa

- 04/07/86 A bomb placed between two cars explodes outside a supermarket in Silverton, a white suburb of Pretoria, injuring at least 15 people of all races, some seriously. The explosion is the twelfth in South African cities since the declaration of the state of emergency on 12 June, and the third this week. Other bombs have exploded in Durban, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Queenstown. The African National Congress (ANC) is routinely blamed by the government for such attacks.
- 04/07/86 More than 1,100 workers from 4 De Beers Diamond mines around Kimberley are reportedly on strike, the first sign that the protest against emergency detentions has reached the mines. The strike started as the country's fragile labor relations neared chaos with government employers and black unions heading for confrontation over the mass detentions of unionists. In addition, wage disputes in the country's two biggest industries, the mining and metal sectors, and the decision by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) to call a day of action on 14 July have added to the gathering storm clouds.
- 09/07/86 The government announces that an order barring trade unions from holding indoor meetings in the Johannesburg area was incorrect and would be changed. The ban, affecting more than 30 community groups, student bodies, and trade unions, was published on 7 July in the government gazette, provoking a storm of protest from unions and employers alike. Labor experts said that it would make it virtually impossible for unions to do their job. A police statement says that the organizations mentioned in the new announcement will exclude all trade unions and trade union federations, and that the ban on indoor meetings would be limited to Soweto.
- 11/07/86 Jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela refuses to meet with British Foreign Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe during the latter's visit to South Africa in August. The refusal of

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Mandela, whose release Sir Geoffrey has made a condition for proposed negotiations between the white regime and the black majority, will probably deal a fatal blow to the British peace mission since it would result in a one-sided dialogue undertaken without the backing or involvement of any of the principal anti-apartheid forces. Other leading opponents of the Pretoria government, including Bishop Desmond Tutu and United Democratic Front (UDF) leaders, have already said that they will not meet with Howe.

11/07/86 The police claim that 10 ANC guerrillas have been killed in 2 separate battles with security forces, bringing the total number of ANC guerrillas killed during the state of emergency to 19. In the first clash in the northeastern Transvaal near the border with Botswana, the police claimed to have killed six guerrillas who had infiltrated South Africa from Botswana. The second battle took place in the eastern Cape near King William's Town, where police intercepted a car carrying four armed men. In a separate incident, the village of Magogwe in the homeland of Bophuthatswana was rocked by explosions on 10 July; the police did not suspect political motives. There are also continued reports of fighting between radical and conservative groups in Soweto.

14/07/86 Thousands of students stay away from school and workers stage sporadic strikes and sit-ins to protest the imposition of the state of emergency on 12 June. About 1.7 million students were due to return to school for the first time since the state of emergency, but reports from around the country indicate that attendance in some areas is less than 50 percent. The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) had called for a day of protest to demand the release of union officials, who were among thousands of people detained under the emergency decree. The best known of the union detainees, COSATU president Elijah Barayi, was released on 11 July. However, many of the country's blacks work normally, with the only widespread absences occurring in the eastern part of Cape Province, a UDF stronghold.

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- 16/07/86 The South African Air Force (SAAF) unveils a new fighter aircraft, the Cheetah, which was developed by the Armaments Development and Production Corporation (ARMSCOR) and is based on the French-built Mirage III. The new airplane is said to match the Soviet MiG-23 in ability and sophistication.
- 16/07/86 The government withdraws charges against the editor of the Cape Times, Tony Heard, for having quoted ANC leader Oliver Tambo on 4 November 1985. Instead, the owner of the newspaper, South African Associated Newspapers, will be prosecuted.
- 21/07/86 Bishop Desmond Tutu meets with President Botha for the second time in little more than a month to discuss the internal security crisis in the country. While both men describe the meeting as a "friendly exchange," Botha later questions Tutu's standing as a church leader and declares his determination not to talk to churchmen until they can speak with one voice. In another incident, church leader Allan Boesak claims that he was teargassed in his car following a church service.
- 22/07/86 Government authorities announce the capture of a large number of ANC guerrillas said to have been responsible for a series of bomb attacks around Durban. The announcement follows an increase in encounters between government and ANC forces. The capture of the guerrillas, according to Minister of Law and Order Louis LeGrange, was aided by information obtained from the interrogation of people held under the 12 June emergency decree. More than 4,500 people have reportedly been detained during the emergency.

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27/07/86 Security forces claim that they shot and killed two armed ANC insurgents, one of whom was described by the officially controlled news organizations as the country's leading terrorist. According to security forces, the two insurgents were killed a few days before in a gun battle in Katlehong, a black township 30 miles southeast of Johannesburg. One of them, Zondi Roland, was reportedly wanted in connection with 17 bomb attacks.

Zimbabwe
31/06/86

Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Eddison Zvobgo announces that the government intends to abolish the parliamentary seats reserved for the white minority next year. Other plans include the elimination of Parliament's upper house, the Senate. Both moves will be permitted in 1987 by the Lancaster House Constitution, and both are seen as preliminaries to a one-party system, which is not allowed by the Constitution until 1990. The country's white population, estimated to have stabilized at about 100,000 out of a total population of some 7.4 million, enjoy parliamentary representation far out of proportion to their numbers. It is certain that the Mugabe government will be able to acquire the 70 votes needed to end the white parliamentary preserve.

10/07/86 The Reagan Administration suspends disbursement of economic aid to Zimbabwe in response to sharp criticism leveled by a high Zimbabwean official at the US Embassy's 4 July reception. The criticism prompted former US President Carter and the senior American diplomat to walk out of the embassy. This marks the latest in a series of incidents which have severely strained relations between the two countries. In 1983, angered over Zimbabwe's refusal to vote in the United Nations Security Council to condemn the Soviet Union for shooting down a South Korean airliner, the United States cut Zimbabwe's aid from \$73 million to \$40 million.

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Zimbabwe
16/07/86

The House of Assembly votes in favor of a renewal of the state of emergency for a further 6 months. The state of emergency was first introduced on 11 November 1965 by the white Rhodesian Government on the eve of the Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI), and has been in constant effect ever since. It gives the government sweeping powers for indefinite detentions without trial and search and seizure. The government justifies the current renewal by pointing to the continuing dissident activity in Matabeleland.

23/07/86

Prime Minister Mugabe announces a new police rank structure policy which will completely abolish the once white-dominated force. Under the new policy, all entrants to the police force will join at the same rank. Until 1978, there were no blacks above the rank of patrol officer. Since then, many black noncommissioned officers who joined as constables have been commissioned, and the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) now has its second black commissioner, Henry Nukurazhizha. There are believed to be less than 100 whites left in the estimated 8,000-member ZRP.

Zimbabwe/Mozambique

11/07/86

The Ministry of Defense announces that four Air Force officers died in a plane crash in Mozambique the day before. The crash of the Dakota aircraft occurred shortly after takeoff from Chimoio airfield and was thought to have been caused by a technical fault. However, some observers believe that the plane was hit by a Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO)-launched missile.

West Africa

01/07/86

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) holds its ninth annual summit meeting at Abuja, Nigeria. The 2-day conference, attended by 10 heads of state and 6 accredited representatives, focuses on a number of economic issues within the region including the creation of an ECOWAS monetary zone. It also examines the impact of the second phase of the ECOWAS protocol which allows the free movement

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of persons within the community. Nigeria finally signed the protocol in June 1986, after having expelled a total of about one million ECOWAS aliens in 1983 and 1985.

Equatorial Guinea

19/07/86 Thirty people are arrested in the capital of Malabo for staging an attempted coup on the night of 19 July. Among those arrested are President N'Guema's uncle, Deputy Prime Minister Fructoso Mba Onana. The plotters had tried to occupy the Presidential Palace while N'Guema was on an official visit to France. The attempted coup seems to be the result of the personal squabbling that is common at the highest levels of the government, rather than a symptom of profound ideological or political opposition.

Guinea Bissau

07/21/86 Six men accused of plotting the unsuccessful coup attempt of October 1985 are executed. Among those killed is former Vice President Paulo Correia. Earlier this month, another of the accused plotters died in prison, bringing to six the total number of deaths in prison before the execution. The decision to carry out the execution indicates that someone in the regime of President Vieira deemed it more advisable to execute the accused plotters after a trial than to continue to kill them one by one in prison. Either way, as a result of this episode, Guinea Bissau's reputation for respect of human rights has taken a deep plunge, potentially souring relations with the West.

Liberia

28/06/86 Talks between a coalition of opposition parties and the ruling National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) break up as President Doe rejects the proposed agenda put forth by the mediating Liberian Council of Churches (LCC). The failure of this initiative indicates that the Doe government is not willing to capitalize on whatever goodwill it created earlier in June by releasing those suspected of complicity in the November 1985 coup attempt. Therefore, chances that Doe might open up the Liberian political system enough to reduce his government's isolation remain as slim as ever.

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West Africa

Liberia
07/07/86

A warrant is issued for the arrest of Liberian Action Party executive committee member and leading figure Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf after she stages an illegal political rally in the coastal town of Buchanan. Johnson-Sirleaf managed to evade arrest after the rally and her whereabouts are now unknown. She had been released from jail just last month after being held for suspected complicity in the unsuccessful November 1985 coup attempt.

Liberia/Sierra Leone/Guinea

12/07/86

The Presidents of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea meet in the Guinean capital of Conakry in an effort to resolve the differences that have arisen between Sierra Leone and Liberia since the aborted coup attempt in Liberia during November 1985. The meeting seems to have finally eased Liberian President Doe's fears about Sierra Leone's attitude toward his government. An agreement is reached which results in the opening of the Sierra Leone-Liberian border which has been closed ever since the November coup attempt. Further plans are announced for a nonaggression pact between the two countries.

Nigeria

01/07/86

Nigeria's Justice Minister releases two British engineers who had spent 2 years in a Nigerian prison for allegedly stealing an aircraft. The two were sentenced in October 1985 to 14-year prison terms for allegedly readying an aircraft for a flight from Lagos to Britain. They were acting on behalf of the British owners of the Siddeley jet who were attempting to repossess it. The release of the two British citizens corresponds with a formal request from Nigerian authorities for the extradition from England of four former Nigerian ministers now residing in London. The four ministers, Chief Adisa Akinloye, Emmanuel Osamor, Sunday Esang, and Mallam Ali Makele, are accused of corruption and abuse of office.

05/07/86

After more than 2 years in detention, former President Shagari, Nigeria's last civilian head of state, is released

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from prison and returned to his hometown of Sokoto. Shagari's Vice President, Alex Ekwueme, is also released. A jury assembled by the current military government of Babangida judged the two innocent of the charges of corruption leveled against them by former military leader Buhari following the December 1983 coup. Military authorities in Lagos also announce that the cases of some 1,000 other officeholders in the Shagari government will be reviewed.

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East/Central Africa

Equatorial Guinea

20/08/86 Eugenio Abeso Mondu, a former member of Parliament, is sentenced to death for plotting against state security and is promptly executed. Another unspecified number of political figures, including President Obiang's uncle, Deputy Prime Minister Fructuoso Mba Onana, and the Malabo Chief of Police are sentenced to prison terms ranging from 4 months to 20 years for allegedly plotting a coup. The coup was to have taken place on 20 July 1986, shortly after Obiang returned from a state visit to France. The president also accused many members of his own clan of joining the plotters, thus allowing him a pretext for imprisoning some close relatives who are believed to harbor political ambitions.

Horn of Africa

Ethiopia

14/08/86

Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde returns from a trip to Bulgaria, where he met with President Todor Zhivkov, Premier Georgi Filipov, and Foreign Minister Mladenov to discuss ways of further strengthening bilateral relations. Among topics discussed were international issues, the foreign politics of the two nations, and the arms race. The Ethiopian delegation also presented briefings on the state of the Ethiopian revolution, current events in Ethiopia, and the proposed draft Constitution that will create the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. These topics are of great interest to both parties since the Ethiopian Government regards Bulgaria as the model of a Socialist state.

Ethiopia/Somalia

26/08/86

The second meeting of the Ethiopia-Somalia ad hoc joint ministerial committee adjourns with agreement to hold the next meeting in Addis Ababa at a mutually convenient date. Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre and Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde held 4 days of talks in a further attempt to find a peaceful solution to the problem of the Ogaden and its Somali inhabitants. Both men view the meeting as a step forward in their evolving relationship. The joint ministerial committee is the result of proposals agreed upon by Ethiopian Head of State Mengistu and Somali President Barre during their meeting last January in Djibouti.

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Horn of Africa

- Sudan
10/08/86 Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi returns from a 2-day visit to Libya, where he met with Libyan leader Qadhafi and other Libyan officials for discussions on bilateral cooperation and Sudanese efforts to find a solution to the problems in Chad. He says that Libyan forces that have been present in Dafur Province in western Sudan have returned to Libya. These troops, numbering about 1,000, were reportedly encamped near Fashir and linked with military developments in Chad.
- 15/08/86 Prime Minister al-Mahdi returns from a 5-day trip to the Soviet Union which he says "has opened a new page in Sudanese-Soviet relations." Characterizing the trip as "a corrective step to achieve nonalignment," al-Mahdi says that Sudan must have normal relations with the Soviet Union since it is a superpower. The talks centered on plans for future meetings for a ministerial committee, protocols regulating bilateral work and cooperation, Soviet technical aid to complete or revitalize Soviet-sponsored hospitals and factories, diversification of technology sources, and promotion of trade between the two countries.
- 16/08/86 Rebel forces of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) shoot down a Sudanese airliner on a domestic flight shortly after takeoff from Malakal, about 420 miles south of Khartoum, killing all 60 people aboard. The incident follows by a day an SPLA warning that any plane, military or civilian, flying to Juba, Wau, Malakal, or any other town in government hands in the south, would do so at its own risk. The SPLA warning applies both to government flights and those of international relief agencies ferrying food to besieged populations in government-held areas. The SPLA alleges that food relief flights provide a cover for reinforcement of government garrisons.
- 17/08/86 In response to the shooting down of the Sudan Airways domestic airliner on 16 August by the SPLA, Prime Minister

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al-Mahdi orders the suspension of all air traffic to and from southern Sudan. This action effectively isolates the populations and garrisons in government-held southern towns from Khartoum, since land links have also been severed. The ban on flights also affects international relief efforts, raising the spectre of mass starvation in several towns. Since the beginning of the year, tens of thousands of civilians, seeking food and protection from the SPLA rebels, have fled into southern towns. Although the towns are still controlled by government garrisons, several major ones are besieged by SPLA forces.

19/08/86 In the aftermath of the downing of the Sudan Airways plane, the government says that it will no longer negotiate with the SPLA about the future of the country and ending the SPLA insurgency. Meetings between the SPLA officials and the National Salvation Alliance, a coalition of government parties, have been going on since early August as a result of an agreement reached at talks in Ethiopia in late July between Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi and SPLA leader John Garang.

25/08/86 Prime Minister al-Mahdi announces that conscription will be introduced to deal with the insurgency in the south and to meet defense requirements, and that the National Defense Council is assessing the needs of the armed forces for equipment, vehicles, and other resources. He also labels the SPLA a hostile and illegal movement, in keeping with his declaration a few days earlier that it is a "terrorist rebel movement and that dealings with it will be based on this principle." At that time he predicted that a military confrontation with the rebels was "inevitable." Al-Mahdi warns that "Sudan will define its relations with its neighbors in light of their attitude toward the outlaws," an obvious reference to the aid and protection that Ethiopia accords the SPLA.

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26/08/86 The Ugandan Government decides to close its border with Sudan in an effort to cut off supplies from its opponents in southern Sudan. These opponents, remnants of the armed opposition whom the National Resistance Army (NRA) chased from Uganda earlier this year, allegedly intercepted relief supplies bound for cities and towns in southern Sudan and used them to help support raids in northern Uganda. The border will reopen, Ugandan sources say, when Uganda is assured that relief materials will not fall into the hands of forces loyal to deposed General Tito Okello, former commander of the Ugandan Army.

Sahel

Burkina

29/08/86

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega concludes a 2-day visit to Burkina by issuing a joint communique with Burkinabe President Sankara that, among other things, condemns US "interference" in Nicaragua. Nothing of substance results from the visit, of which the main purpose seems to have been to get the Third World's two most photogenic radical leaders together for the benefit of the media. The inclusion of the anti-US reference in the final communique was an unavoidable result of the rhetorical and ideological intoxication to which both Ortega and Sankara are prone. Ortega's visit shows that even though Sankara is undeniably putting his government on a more pragmatic and less ideological course, he still has a showman's love of the radical spotlight.

Burkina/Mali

01/08/86

Malian President Traore admits during a press conference that relations with Burkina have deteriorated considerably over the past month. Traore attributed the mounting tension to Burkina's failure to live up to the January 1986 accord between the two countries which ended the Christmas 1985 border war. The situation is once again becoming ominous as both countries concentrate on improving their military capabilities in the disputed Agacher strip region. Burkina has recently acquired ground-to-air missiles, while Mali has held large-scale exercises in the border region and has improved the strategically located Sikasso airfield to allow its use by combat aircraft. These actions, together with the verbal recognition that relations have deteriorated since January, indicate that the Burkina/Mali dispute is a long way from being settled, and may again flare up into open conflict.

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Chad
15/08/86 Acheikh ibn Oumar, secretary general of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), one of the major components of the Chadian Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), accuses GUNT leader Goukouni Oueddei of indulging in "extortion, torture, and physical liquidation." These accusations come a day after Acheikh ibn Oumar announces that the CDR will "suspend its activities" in GUNT because of differences with Goukouni Oueddei and some of his aides. Acheikh ibn Oumar is the second Chadian opposition figure, after GUNT Vice President Colonel Wadal Abdelkadir Kamougue, to leave the Libyan-backed antigovernment coalition in 2 months.

22/08/86 In heavy fighting between GUNT and CDR forces, CDR forces seize control of the strategic northeastern oasis of Fada, 550 miles northeast of the capital, N'Djamena, depriving Libyan forces in northern Chad of one of their most important outposts. According to Chadian sources, Libyan troops refrained from involvement in the fighting, but Libyan authorities attempted to negotiate between CDR Secretary General Acheikh ibn Oumar and GUNT leader Goukouni Oueddei.

Southern Africa

Angola
11/08/86 According to a communique issued by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), UNITA forces launched a massive attack against Cuito Cuanavale 2 days before as Cuban forces were about to attack Mavinga with the aim of capturing UNITA's provincial capital, Jamba.

Angola/Zambia
25/08/86 The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) claims to have inflicted heavy casualties in new attacks on government forces in the southeastern province of Cuando Cubango. In recent weeks, UNITA has announced

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repeated attacks on Cuito Cuanavale; while one of the attacks was officially acknowledged by the government, it was blamed on South African forces. UNITA guerrillas also apparently raided a village in Zambia, marching off four civilians at gunpoint. Zambian police claim that UNITA has abducted a total of 15 civilians in similar raids in the last 3 months.

Mozambique

06/08/86 A Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) spokesman in Lisbon announces that three Roman Catholic nuns, held in captivity for about a year, were released. According to the spokesman, the three nuns, one Portuguese and two Italians, were released unconditionally to show that RENAMO has nothing against churches working in Mozambique. RENAMO is still holding at least 12 foreign hostages, mostly Portuguese citizens.

15/08/86 The Mozambican People's National Security Service (SNASP) claims that Mozambican airspace in Manica Province has been violated by aircraft which have been landing men and unloading war materiel in recent days. SNASP indicates that the aircraft are identical to South African planes which provided regular supplies of weapons to RENAMO in Gorongosa district before the capture of RENAMO headquarters, Casa Banana, in August 1985. This resupply of RENAMO is occurring during a period of continued violations of the Nkomati Accord by South Africa and is thought to be in preparation for military actions against the Beira corridor.

South Africa

05/08/86 Government officials announce that they will impose economic countermeasures against black-ruled neighboring countries after the announcement of new economic sanctions against Pretoria by the Commonwealth countries. Foreign Minister Botha says at a news conference in Pretoria that these measures will include the imposition of import licences, a levy on goods traveling across the country, and stricter border controls. More than half of southern Africa's trade passes through South African ports under what has been

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nearly a free-trade system. The levy will oblige South Africa's northern neighbors, particularly Zambia and Zimbabwe, to pay for this service.

11/08/86 A supreme court in Natal Province rules that the parts of South Africa's emergency decree permitting detention without trial and for indefinite periods are invalid. Lawyers say that if the ruling survives a government appeal and is upheld in other provinces, it could force the authorities to release the thousands of people detained since the state of emergency was proclaimed on 12 June. The ruling is the latest and most far-reaching judicial challenge to the state of emergency.

13/08/86 The government offers the country's black majority its first nationwide elections in 300 years, but makes it clear that the vote would be to choose those black leaders prepared to negotiate with the white minority. At the same time, Defense Minister Magnus Malan warns black-governed African nations that South Africa had "not even started to use our muscle and capabilities" against those of its neighbors, notably Zimbabwe, seeking economic sanctions. The offer of elections and the threat of reprisals are made at a congress in Durban of the ruling National Party, and seem to reflect the government's insistence that if it is to negotiate a solution to the country's racial crisis, it plans to do so from a position of military and political strength.

14/08/86 Thousands of students stay away from several Soweto secondary schools as a protest against the presence of security forces. The boycott started the day before with pupils leaving their classes in the morning. This is the second time in 2 weeks that pupils have boycotted classes.

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South Africa

18/08/86 The government announces that a new segregated township will arise north of Johannesburg's wealthy suburb of Sandton which will accommodate 250,000 blacks. Many observers interpret the announcement to mean that racial separation in housing, a pillar of apartheid, will continue despite government assertions that the ideology of racial and ethnic separation is, if not dead, then a relic. But in another development, the government promises a further weakening of the laws that require racial segregation in such places as movie houses, hotels, and restaurants, although with the proviso that individual proprietors have the final say on whom they serve.

18/08/86 The government gives Parliament a list of those it says have been held in detention, acknowledging for the first time that the ranks of people held without charges under the emergency decree number in the thousands. The list, presented by Minister of Law and Order Louis LeGrange, includes the names of 8,501 detainees held since the 12 June emergency decree. The list is apparently disclosed in response to legal requirements that the authorities report to Parliament on some aspects of their conduct under emergency rule.

22/08/86 The wife of KwaZulu legislative assembly and Inkatha member Wimmington Sabelo is killed and her three children seriously injured when a hand grenade is thrown into their home in Umlazi near Durban. The attack is probably one in a series of violent acts committed by young radical blacks who are vehemently opposed to the role of black politicians in homeland legislative organs.

23/08/86 According to the independent Community Research Group at Witswatersrand University in Johannesburg, both partial and nearly total rent boycotts are underway in 42 of the nation's townships. The Community Research Group estimates that the authorities are losing the equivalent of \$500,000

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per day in rent because of the boycott in which as many as 300,000 black households are participating, making the boycott one of the widest forms of sustained protest ever to emerge in South Africa. The authorities have responded to the boycott by evicting participants from their homes.

26/08/86 Security forces open fire on crowds in Soweto Township, injuring at least 80 people in the most serious outbreak of violence in the township since the 12 June imposition of the state of emergency. According to residents, police were breaking up a meeting of residents involved in a rent boycott. The day before, a clash between security forces and striking students resulted in the death of one protester.

28/08/86 During a protest at Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg over the violence in Soweto 2 days before, about 50 policemen and 400 students confront each other. A statement issued by the Black Students Society explains that the protest is a reflection of the growing impatience of blacks with the determination of the government to crush all forms of opposition, including peaceful methods like rent boycotts, consumer boycotts, and stayaways.

28/08/86 Education officials confirm that thousands of black pupils are boycotting classes at schools in four Durban townships. It is the biggest stayaway at schools in the Durban area since the 12 June declaration of a state of emergency. The boycott, which began on 25 August, is apparently in protest against the shooting of youths in Chesterville the week before. Student leaders have also demanded the release of pupils detained under the emergency regulations.

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01/08/86 A spokesman for the eastern Transvaal command confirms that an electrified fence was erected between South Africa and Mozambique. The fence, which stretches from Komatipoort to the start of the border between KaNgwane and Mozambique and runs for about 25 kilometers, is designed to prevent Mozambican refugees fleeing Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) attacks from entering South African territory.

Zimbabwe/Mozambique

15/08/86 Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mugabe announces that Zimbabwe will deploy more troops to defend the railway line to Maputo as well as the Beira corridor in Mozambique. Mugabe says he expects increased attacks by the South African-supported Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) because of the mounting pressure for sanctions against apartheid.

West Africa

11/08/86 The Gabonese, Togolese, and Zairean Heads of State and Defense Ministers from Senegal and Cameroon meet with Ivorian President Houphouet in Ivory Coast to discuss regional and internal security concerns. The last minute meeting follows the announcement by Togolese authorities of a terrorist plot to destroy the American Embassy in Lome. The Togolese authorities say that additional attacks, linked to the Libyan Embassy in Benin, are planned against Ivory Coast and Zaire.

Cameroon

21/08/86 A cloud of poisonous gas erupts from the depths of Lake Nios in southwestern Cameroon and envelops four villages in the valley below, killing over 1,500 people and affecting the lives of more than 20,000 other Cameroonians.

26/08/86 Israel and Cameroon restore diplomatic relations after a 13-year interruption. Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Cameroonian President Paul Biya announce the agreement

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following 2 days of talks in the Cameroonian capital, Yaounde. Cameroon, like many black African countries, broke relations with Israel after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war. In reestablishing formal links, Cameroon joins Ivory Coast and Zaire to become the third sub-Saharan country to do so since 1982. The move was part of Israel's effort to expand ties with black Africa.

Liberia
06/08/86

Three leading figures of the Liberian opposition are jailed for refusing to pay \$1,000 each in fines for forming the illegal "Grand Coalition." The leaders, Edward Kesseley of the Unity Party (UP), Jackson Doe of the Liberia Action Party (LAP) and Gabriel Kpoleh of the Liberian Unification Party (LUP), are being held at the remote Belle Yella Prison, which is commonly used for political prisoners. This latest move by President Doe proves once again that recent talk of reconciliation is only a smoke screen and that Doe will not hesitate to use the repressive power of the state to back up his rule.

31/08/86

Liberian security forces are placed on full alert in response to reports from the Justice Ministry that social unrest is expected in the capital. In a related development, the three political opposition leaders, Edward Kessely, Gabriel Kpoleh and Jackson Doe, are released from prison after agreeing to pay their fines, which were assessed when the three formed an illegal political coalition. The timing of these two events is meant to convey the message to the freed opposition leaders that their release should not be interpreted as a license to return to their strategy of forming a united opposition.

Sierra Leone

23/07/86

Automatic gunfire breaks out at the home of newly appointed Junior Minister Daramy Rogers near the main army post in the Freetown suburb of Wilberforce. Rogers is seriously injured when he jumps from a second floor window in an apparent attempt to escape from the shooting. Unconfirmed reports attribute the incident to Lebanese businessman Jamil Sayid

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Mohamed's private security force, composed mainly of Palestinians. However, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) ambassador in Freetown denies that there are any armed Palestinians in Sierra Leone. A likely explanation for the shootout is that newly appointed Minister Rogers mistakenly felt that his cabinet status should exempt him from making loan payments to Jamil, who was then forced to disabuse the minister of this notion. It is a common practice in Sierra Leone for members of the Lebanese business community to loan funds both to state-owned enterprises and key government officials.

Sierra Leone/Liberia

01/08/86 Approximately 600 troops are deployed to the Guinean and Liberian border areas in an effort to stop the rampant smuggling of scarce goods out of the country. The smuggling problem has recently become more serious following the Liberian Government's decision to reopen its border with Sierra Leone. The deployment of 600 troops represents a significant portion of Sierra Leone's armed forces and will enhance the government's control of the border region around Kono, where there has been some fighting between rival political factions.

Togo

23/07/86 Authorities thwart a plot by Libyan-backed Togolese and Beninois extremists to blow up the American Embassy and Lome's open air market. The plotters had explosives supplied by the Libyan Embassy in neighboring Benin, a self-proclaimed radical state with close ties to Libya. Togo's interior minister says that the nine suspects were found in possession of two briefcases containing plastic explosives, a grenade, and a pistol.

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East/Central Africa

Uganda

02/09/86

The Ugandan Government detains 25 people accused of plotting to overthrow the government of President Museveni, with the aim of establishing an autonomous kingdom of the Baganda people. Those arrested are leaders of a party, known as "Kirimuttu," which groups together members of the Baganda royal family and seeks the restoration of the Baganda kingdom, abolished by former President Milton Obote in 1967.

13/09/86

More than 40 National Resistance Army (NRA) soldiers are killed when Ugandan rebels attack three army trucks transporting government troops in northern Uganda, where rebels have been attacking military and civil targets since mid-August. The most recent attacks, launched on 12 October, have centered around the Paraa Park towns of Kitgum and Oroi. The trucks were destroyed at Pipia, near Kitgum, by antitank grenades mounted on submachineguns. The rebel drive against Kitgum and Oroi seems to have stalled, with the rebels moving from a strategy of direct attack to one designed to cut NRA supply lines. The government has said the attacks were being engineered by former presidents Milton Obote, Idi Amin, and Tito Okello who have formed an alliance.

Uganda/Sudan

08/09/86

The Ugandan Government reopens its border with Sudan so that food relief shipments may reach an estimated 2 million people facing starvation in southern Sudan. Once over the border, relief officials will negotiate with the Sudanese People's Liberation Army over distribution of the food. In return, Sudan pledges to attempt to move Ugandan refugees in southern Sudan away from the border to prevent them from easily crossing into Uganda. The infiltration from Sudan of Ugandan refugees loyal to ousted President Milton Obote to attack Ugandan towns and security forces has been a bone of contention between the two countries for several months.

Horn of Africa

Djibouti

02/09/86

President Hassan Gouled Aptidon reshuffles his cabinet, filling three vacant posts. Among the new appointees is

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Ibrahim Mohammed Sultan, who moves from the Ministry of Finance to that of Defense. This governmental shakeup is the latest episode in a continuing pattern of political intrigue, which has been particularly virulent over the last year or so.

07/09/86 Two members of the country's security forces are charged with plotting a coup against the government of President Gouled Aptidon at the instigation of former Minister of Commerce, Transport, and Tourism Aden Robleh Awaleh, who has fled the country and who has himself been charged in absentia with plotting against the president. The two men receive sentences of 2 years and 5 years, while three others are sentenced to life in prison in absentia.

Ethiopia
01/09/86

Special forces affiliated with the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) storm the military section of Asmara airport and destroy a number of military planes. Also destroyed are three military positions, fuel tanks, and ammunition depots in the airport area. The operation lasts 45 minutes, after which all special forces return to base safely. This operation is the third such attack against government forces this year and coincides with the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the Eritrean armed struggle.

03/09/86

Ethiopian ambassador to France, Kebreth Getachew, leaves his post without explanation in a case of apparent defection. Kebreth is one of the last career diplomats to have served under Emperor Haile Selassie and who is still active in the Ethiopian diplomatic service. His action seems to be another in a series of defections in the Ethiopian diplomatic service over the last few years.

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14/09/86 Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi leaves Ethiopia after an overnight visit during which he met with Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam. Qadhafi came to Addis Ababa after an equally short stay in Sudan for talks with Prime Minister Sadiq al Mahdi. Qadhafi's talks with both leaders centered on bilateral relations and international issues, including the civil war in Sudan, which Qadhafi has offered to mediate.

Sudan

04/09/86 The official Sudan news agency reports that Sudan's rulers are retiring the armed forces commander in chief, the chief of staff, and three of his deputies. Major General Fawzi Ahmed al Fadil is named acting commander in chief. It is not immediately clear if this action has been expected or if it is related to events in southern Sudan, where rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army intensified operations against government positions in August.

11/09/86 Prime Minister al Mahdi says Sudan will settle the question of war in the south by peace and justice, if possible, or by force if necessary. While addressing a political rally, he asserts that a compromise on the sharia laws will soon be reached that will not ignore the demands of the majority nor harm the demands of the minority. The issue of sharia law in Sudan is one of the major irritants among the southern Sudanese who are rebelling against the Khartoum government of al Mahdi.

Indian Ocean Islands

Seychelles

15/09/86 A coup plot is foiled in the Seychelles, according to rumors circulating in Victoria and Reunion. The rumors were sparked by the announcement of the resignation of Defense and Youth Minister Olgivy Berlouis. Mr. Berlouis was allegedly placed under house arrest before leaving the country on 14 September 1986.

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Sahel

Mauritania

05/09/86 Thirty to forty leading black intellectuals are arrested on 4 and 5 September for acts which threatened the unity of the nation. Among those arrested is Dr. Oumar Ba, a well-known scholar and leading cultural figure among Mauritania's black Pulaar-speaking population. Those arrested are accused of signing a statement which denounced the government for allowing formerly nomadic white Maures to claim large tracts of land in historically black areas along the Senegal River. This act represents a significant escalation in the racial polarization which is never very far from the surface in this deeply divided country. The upcoming completion of a new dam at Diama on the Senegal is likely to exacerbate racial tensions in Mauritania even further, as there will be intensified competition between whites and blacks for the newly irrigated farmland.

Southern Africa

Angola

10/09/86 Cuban President Fidel Castro leaves Angola after a 3-day working visit to Luanda, during which he reaffirmed his determination to keep Cuban soldiers in the country as long as needed. At the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Harare, several days earlier, Castro declared that Cuban troops would remain in Angola "as long as apartheid remains in South Africa." This newly stated commitment to keeping Cuban soldiers in Angola on a long-term basis reflects a hardening of the Cuban-Angolan position on the possibility of Cuban withdrawal in response to the lack of interest shown by South Africa in working out some sort of withdrawal in exchange for Namibian independence.

16/09/86 Fighting between government forces and National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels intensifies, as 5,000 Angolan Armed Forces (FAPLA) troops mass in the Moxico province town of Lucusse in a prelude to an expected attack on the UNITA strongholds of Canganba and Gaga Coutinho. Included in the Lucusse force are engineering units whose job it is to repair the destroyed bridge over the Lungue-Bungo river. These developments in Moxico, together with FAPLA's successful resupply of Cuito Cuanavale, which was achieved in the last few days, provide

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further indications that the tide in recent fighting has turned against UNITA.

Lesotho
24/09/86

Lesotho's former Prime Minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan, is freed from house arrest after Acting Commissioner of police Major General James Dingizwayo revokes the 7 September 1986 restriction order served on Chief Jonathan. The relaxing of the restrictions placed on Chief Jonathan indicate that Lesotho's new rulers no longer consider him to be a serious threat to their regime.

Malawi/Mozambique
11/09/86

In a news conference in Maputo, Mozambique President Samora Machel threatens to close Mozambique's border with Malawi and to place missiles along the border if the Malawian Government of Hastings Banda does not stop supporting the South African-backed Mozambican National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) guerrillas. Machel indicates that he, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe have delivered an ultimatum to Banda to stop allowing RENAMO to operate unhindered from Malawi or have his borders closed. The Mozambican president accuses Malawi of cooperating with South Africa in waging its terrorism in southern Africa, of allowing South Africa to base its guerrillas in Malawi, and of placing its police, armed forces, and security totally under South African command. Machel asserts that South Africa dictates Malawi's policies and that Malawi amounts to nothing more than a South African enclave.

26/09/86

High-level talks are held between President Machel and a Malawian delegation in Maputo. Topics of discussion include ways to strengthen relations between the two countries and to resolve the issue of RENAMO operations launched from Malawi against Mozambique. The talks result from the threat of border closings by Malawi's neighbors and the accusations against Malawi which Machel made earlier in the month.

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Southern Africa

Mozambique

09/09/86 In a communique issued in Lisbon, the Mozambican National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) claims that its fighters carried out several violent operations in Maputo on 6 September. Targets included the army ammunition dump, the municipal market, and two police stations where seven police officers were killed. The official explanation for explosions at the depot is that they were caused by the current heat wave in southern Mozambique. RENAMO, however, claims to have carried out all four operations and threatens further military actions on 25 September, Mozambique Army Day.

26/09/86 The railway line between Maputo and the South African border town of Komatipoort is put out of action by an act of sabotage. The incident occurs only 6 kilometers from the border with South Africa. In the past, Maputo has attributed such acts to operations of RENAMO.

South Africa

02/09/86 A bomb explodes in a department store in a white, middle-class suburb of Durban, injuring 18 persons. The bombing was the ninth since the government declared a state of emergency on 12 June 1986 and brings the total number of bomb injuries to 145. During the same time 8 people have been killed. The government blames the explosion on guerrillas from the African National Congress (ANC); however, the ANC refuses to admit that its members are responsible.

03/09/86 The South African Commissioner of Police reissues an order banning reporting of "security action." By order of the banning, no journalist may witness any unrest, restricted gathering, or government police action. Reporters gathering news material who find themselves on the scene of or within sight of unrest, restricted gatherings, or retaliatory action by security services must leave the area immediately. The reissue of the banning order follows a successful

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challenge to the original order by the country's English language newspapers.

04/09/86 Violence erupts in Soweto as residents decide to defy a government ban on a mass funeral for 24 blacks killed by government forces during a protest demonstration at White City, Jabavu. Protestors of the ban erect barricades, making routes out of the township impassable, while students staging a school boycott vandalize buses and trains carrying commuters to work in violation of a work stoppage. Meanwhile, Mr. Chris Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, rejects a proposal from Mrs. Helen Suzman of the Progressive Federal Party calling for an investigation of police security action that caused the 24 deaths.

11/09/86 A poll conducted by Market Research Africa of 1,000 urban white adults shows that whites in urban areas are split almost down the middle on the future of the vote in South Africa. According to the poll, 50 percent do not want one-man, one-vote elections, 47 percent are in favor, and 3 percent are undecided. The poll also shows that attitudes are linked to ages, with younger people between the ages of 16 and 24 in favor of universal suffrage.

15/09/86 Department of Education and Training authorities insist that the "youth camps" housing detainees are voluntary education centers offering life enrichment courses, and are not concentration camps for political reorientation. Former state of emergency detainees, on the other hand, insist that the camps are voluntary only in the sense that detainees can attend the camps or remain in prison. Detainees also see the courses as extensions of police interrogation since most of the sessions deal with their personal feelings while in detention. There are also reports that the government is using the camps to coerce children into becoming police informants. Meanwhile, the Progressive Federal Party in South Africa links the camps to the State Security Council,

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which presumably sees the camps as political reorientation centers.

16/09/86 Violence continues for a sixth day in the black township of Soweto as rival bands of young men, mostly "comrades" and members of the Zulu Inkatha movement, clash in a settling of old grievances. In the Zone One Meadowlands area of Soweto, several homes are firebombed and their occupants attacked, resulting in at least two deaths and scores of injuries. Earlier unconfirmed reports say that residents of a transit workers hostel near Meadowlands attacked Zone One residents, causing at least 3, but perhaps as many as 14, deaths. Meanwhile, black council officials in Sharpville township come under attack and pupils boycott schools. Attacks against council officials, seen as collaborators by township residents, are a growing phenomenon across South Africa.

28/09/86 Three people are injured when a hand grenade is hurled into the lobby of a packed multi-racial nightclub in the colored township of Eden Park, near Alberton. Two days earlier, a bomb explodes in a hotel in Johannesburg's Braamfontein business district, injuring three men. Another, not injured by the blast, suffers a heart attack at the scene. The bomb was apparently placed in a restroom of the Devonshire Hotel.

West Africa

Ghana/Ivory Coast/Nigeria

12/09/86 Sam Nujoma, leader of the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO), pays an official 3-day visit to Ghana. The purpose of the visit is to discuss strategies for the liberation struggle in southern Africa with Head of State Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings. Nujoma's visit to Ghana follows a similar visit to Ivory Coast, where he met with Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. Following his meetings with Rawlings, Nujoma will spend 4 days on an official visit to Nigeria, again to brief Head of State Ibrahim Babangida on the progress of SWAPO's struggle in Namibia.

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West Africa

Ivory Coast

14/09/86 Having reestablished diplomatic relations with Israel in February 1986, Ivory Coast announces that it will reopen its old embassy in Jerusalem, and names as its first ambassador Mr. Jean-Pierre Boni. Boni had been ambassador in Cairo and Brussels prior to being assigned to his new post. The decision to use the Jerusalem embassy, which remained the property of Ivory Coast when ties were cut in 1973, represents a coup for Israeli diplomacy, since most nations with ties to Israel have located their embassies in Tel Aviv. Only Costa Rica and El Salvador have embassies in Jerusalem.

Ivory Coast/Ghana

09/09/86 Ivorian authorities seize a ship suspected of carrying arms for a Ghanaian opposition group. The Hercules One, flying a Ghanaian flag and without valid berthing documents, is boarded off the Ivorian coast following a tip from unnamed sources. Ghanaian newspapers say that the ship was chartered by Lieutenant Joshua Hamidou and Godfrey Osei, a Ghanaian currently living in exile in the United States. Mr. Osei, who was linked to an earlier seizure off the Brazilian coast of a Panamanian ship carrying six tons of weapons and equipment for dissidents in Ghana, has allegedly been involved in several attempts to overthrow the Rawlings government since escaping from prison in June 1983.

Liberia

09/08/86 Despite being denied permission to travel abroad, well-known Liberian Action Party (LAP) figure Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, leaves Liberia to become a political refugee in the United States after her house in Monrovia is ransacked by National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) partisans. According to Johnson-Sirleaf, she decided to leave Liberia both because of the break-in of her house and because of thinly veiled threats on her life made by NDPL Chairman Keikura Kpoto--a charge which Kpoto denies. Whatever the true circumstances behind Johnson-Sirleaf's departure, the presence in the United States of such an articulate and respected opponent of the Doe regime will add yet another element of instability into the volatile relationship between Monrovia and Washington.

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West Africa

Togo

24/09/86

In a coup attempt, approximately 50 dissidents infiltrate the Togolese border from Ghana and attack a military barracks that serves as President General Gnassingbe Eyadema's residence. Other targets in the nighttime raid are the headquarters of Togo's single political party and the state-run radio station. Government army and air force units, aided by French troops from an unnamed African country, engage and subdue the attackers, who are armed with Soviet-made rocket launchers and bazookas. Six civilians and 7 rebels die in the action, while 19 rebels are taken prisoner. Meanwhile, Ghana, which in the past has tolerated and even encouraged anti-Eyadema groups within its borders, denies any culpability for the raid.