

**Shevardnadze departs from Namibia, visits Mozambique and Zimbabwe** Speaking at Windhoek airport prior to his departure on 22nd March, the Soviet Foreign Minister said the door was open to normal trade links with Namibia and the injection of Soviet development aid, the South African agency reported. The sound relationship forged between the USSR and SWAPO would help secure progressive bilateral co-operation. On his meeting with the South African President, Shevardnadze said that De Klerk "seems to have a firm grasp of the problems and a desire to work towards a solution". The USSR would play "a small role" in promoting peace and stability in southern Africa, but in the end "each country must solve its own problems". He expressed the hope that the determination and devotion of President Sam Nujoma would be made use of in Namibia's development. Radio Mozambique (Maputo) reported Shevardnadze's arrival in Mozambique on the 22nd and meetings he held with the Mozambican Foreign Minister and President. According to Radio South Africa (Johannesburg), while in Maputo Shevardnadze praised the Chissano government for agreeing to hold talks with the MNR rebels, promising continued Soviet support for efforts to find a solution to the country's conflict. He arrived in Zimbabwe the same evening and held talks with President Mugabe on the 23rd, the South African agency reported. Mugabe told Shevardnadze, according to the agency: "At the moment the West feels that they have been victors over the East and people like Mrs Thatcher say so quite loudly. But we have refused to accept that this period of review and revision is necessarily a victory for the West." [1] 1990