

for Southern Africans

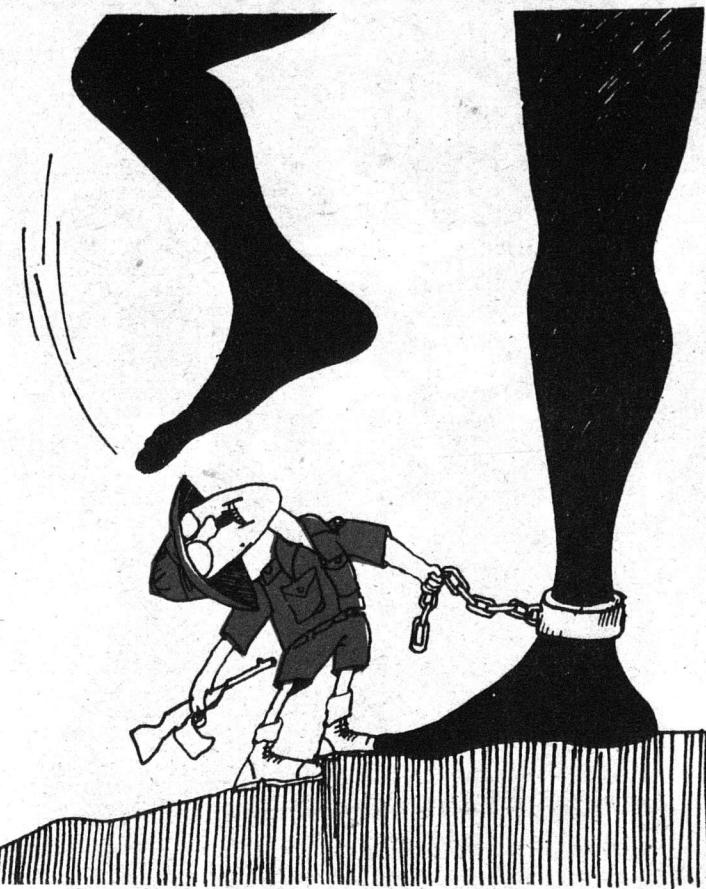


photo Kathy Kebartle

at least rich whites are not using Mozambique as a "cheap holiday resort," and this has resulted in some positive social changes.

For example, Harvey says that prostitution has been virtually eradicated. Before, rich South African businessmen would come to Mozambique in hordes to use

In fact, sexual violence has almost disappeared, says Harvey. She says she feels safe walking down the streets at 3:00 a.m. In South Africa this is unthinkable

for white women and at least dangerous for anyone else.

Harvey says these changes are attributable to the protocol consciousness of the Mozambiquan people. It is their way of showing their independence and reclaiming their pride, she explains.

The newly developing Mozambiquan establishment is markedly non-sexist, observes Harvey. About half of the people on the directorship level are women. However, it is only the urban black women who are emancipated; the majority of women in the country are still oppressed. Much effort is going into educating these women, says Harvey.

But this is all part of the fight against the internal enemy of Mozambique underdevelopment. Less energy is being spent now on outside enemies. This energy is, for example, going into handling the cumbersome bureaucracy left by the Portuguese and raising the seven percent literacy rate.

All this does not mean, however, that people are not waiting anxiously for the last threshold of white exploitation on the southern tip of Africa to be overcome.

Harvey predicts the South African protectorate, Namibia, on the West coast will gain its independence within 5 years. But not without some pressure and perhaps violence, as South Africa will not easily give up the valuable

soil, Walvis Bay. Harvey says, however, they will eventually realize there is little choice if they want to keep their white supremacist state a little longer.

As for South Africa itself, Harvey regrets that this will be a much harder nut to crack. There is a possibility no major outbreaks will occur there if the government keeps making minor cosmetic concessions which will appear favourable to the rest of the world.

If South Africa continues its strategy of creating a black middle

class to serve as a buffer, a major turnover of power could take longer, although Harvey believes African leaders in and out of the country will not be duped by this move.

"We're also left with the question of what will happen to Zimbabwe," says Harvey. With the success of the Mugabe coalition, Mozambique can feel more secure, but "if South Africa picks the bait there could be a holocaust."

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