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President, Supreme Revolutionary Council, Maj.-Gen. Mohamed Siad Barre

A COUNTRY ON AFRICA'S HORN WHERE THE SUN SHINES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Somalia is a beautiful, exciting and unknown land where the sun never sets throughout the year. The country promises a rich experience and some great potentialities to the pleasure seeker and the adventurous tourist.

The land, the people, the wild life and the fish along its long coastline facing the Indian Ocean, all call to the visitor with an appeal that cannot be resisted, and the tourist is everywhere welcome.

FOREIGN POLICY:

When the present revolutionary Government of the Somali Democratic Republic, took-over power on 21st October, 1969, it declared a six-point foreign policy, towards all other countries:

1. Support for international solidarity and national liberation movements. 2. Oppose and fight against all forms of colonialism and neo-colonialism. 3. To struggle and maintain Somali national unity.

4. To recognise strongly the principle of peaceful co-existence between all nations and peoples.

5. To continue and preserve the policy of positive neutrality and non-alignment,

6. To respect and recognise all legal international commitments undertaken by the Somali Republic.

FEARLESS STAND ON CRUCIAL ISSUES

WHILE the revolution has set itself to the all important role of economic advancement, there has been no neglect of its external relations.

These have been vigorously studied and pursued in a foreign policy that recognises Somalia's contribution to developing Africa and world affairs.

If anything, the revolution has lifted Somalia out of the isolation into which it retreated after independence, so that the country today, not only turns its attention to urgent international issues, but is an active participant in the efforts directed towards solving these problems and helping to preserve the peace that is so vital to human progress.

Both the President of the Supreme Revolutionary Council. Maj.-Gen. Mohamed Siad Barre, and the Foreign Secretary. Mr. Omar Arteh, have met representatives of Governments and the Heads of States of several countries. and personally committed Somalia's efforts in whatever way these may be required to improve relations and speed the activities of groups and nations to achieve recognition on the basis of legitimate rights and in the struggle against imperialist machinations.

ESSENTIAL BASIS

Foremost in its policy, of course, is the sovereignty of Somalia itself which, preserved and respected, affords the essential basis on which its contacts with other free States is determined. Realism plays no small part in Somalia's relations with other nations, and this is coupled with a fearless stand on many issues that has not only won it respect in Africa, but has earned the country international recognition at the United Nations and other world forums.

Somalia, was an effective participant in the conference of the East and Central African States in Khartoum, Sudan, earlier this year, which chose Somalia's capital of Mogadishu, as the venue for its June, 1971, summit.

Somalia, is staunchly committed to the Organisation for African Unity, and its voice has been heard in Dar es Salaam. Lusaka, Cairo. Jeddah, and in Europe and Peking in defence of human values, dignity, understanding and peace.

Somalia, signed the non-proliferation treaty, as General Siad observed: "Because in our conviction, the wealth wasted on these destructive weapons could be diverted for the welfare of mankind."

It is in the concept of human betterment and advancement that Somalia maintains and seeks new international contacts, convinced that in the recognition of human dignity and equality, free from false pride, is the foundation on which recognition will lead to understanding and the settlement of outstanding world

INVESTMENT

While substantial investment is being made to provide the essential facilities for the overseas visitor, it is a prevalent fact, that, not all the tourists want their comforts in skyscrapers not different from those they leave behind in London, New York, Los Angeles or Paris,

An imaginative programme of tourist development is currently being implemented to provide game lodges in the areas to which tourists will want to go—all served by facilities of a high standard, trained staff, suitable all weather roads and other amenities.

Mosques, camels and palm trees, ancient coastal sites, frankincense and myrrh, and a history that delves way back into the past—are just some of the fascinating aspects of what Somalia offers the visitor.

ROLLING BUSH & WARM SEA

The Somali Democratic Republic occupies the extreme North-East corner of Africa, better known as the Horn of Africa—and its 2,000 mile coastline, stretches from the north, on the Gulf of Aden and Cape Gardafui, the most easterly point of Africa, and then curving southwards along the beautiful palmy beaches of the Indian Ocean.

Mountains in the northern part of the country reach seven thousand feet, but the country is mostly flat, the rolling bush stretches as far back as the eye can see. Somalia's two main rivers, the Juba and the Shabelle are both in the south; rising in the highlands to the west of the Republic, they meander circuitously down to the sea, past the rich plantations and farms which depend upon their fertility-giving

Elsewhere, away from the great rivers, cultivation is difficult, and for the most part, the people lead a nomadic life as their ancestors had done before them for centuries.

BIG GAME & BIRD LIFE IN ABUNDANCE

The variety of animal life to be found in the Republic is amazing: elephant, lions, rhinos, hippos, leopards and buffalo roam near the rivers in the south; and innumerable herds of antelope of many kinds, including the oryx, the kudu, waterbuck, speke's gazelle, the dibtag, the gerenuk, the tiny dik-dik and many otherscan be seen everywhere. Smaller animals include the aardvark or ant-bear. the iguanas, the ratel or honey-badger and hosts of others. Much prized by visitors are the skins of many animals prepared and preserved by local craftsmenfor instance, that of the python used for the most beautiful snakeskin shoes and handbags.

Big-game hunting in Somalia is real hunting—tough and only to be undertaken by the tough. There are no air-conditioned hunting lodges in the Republic for those "hunters" who take the comfort of the city with them into the bush, but there does exist what is most important to the true hunter—a plenitude of

Licences to hunt are, of course, necessary; but they can be obtained without a fuss from the Ministry concerned in Mogadishu and cost much less than in

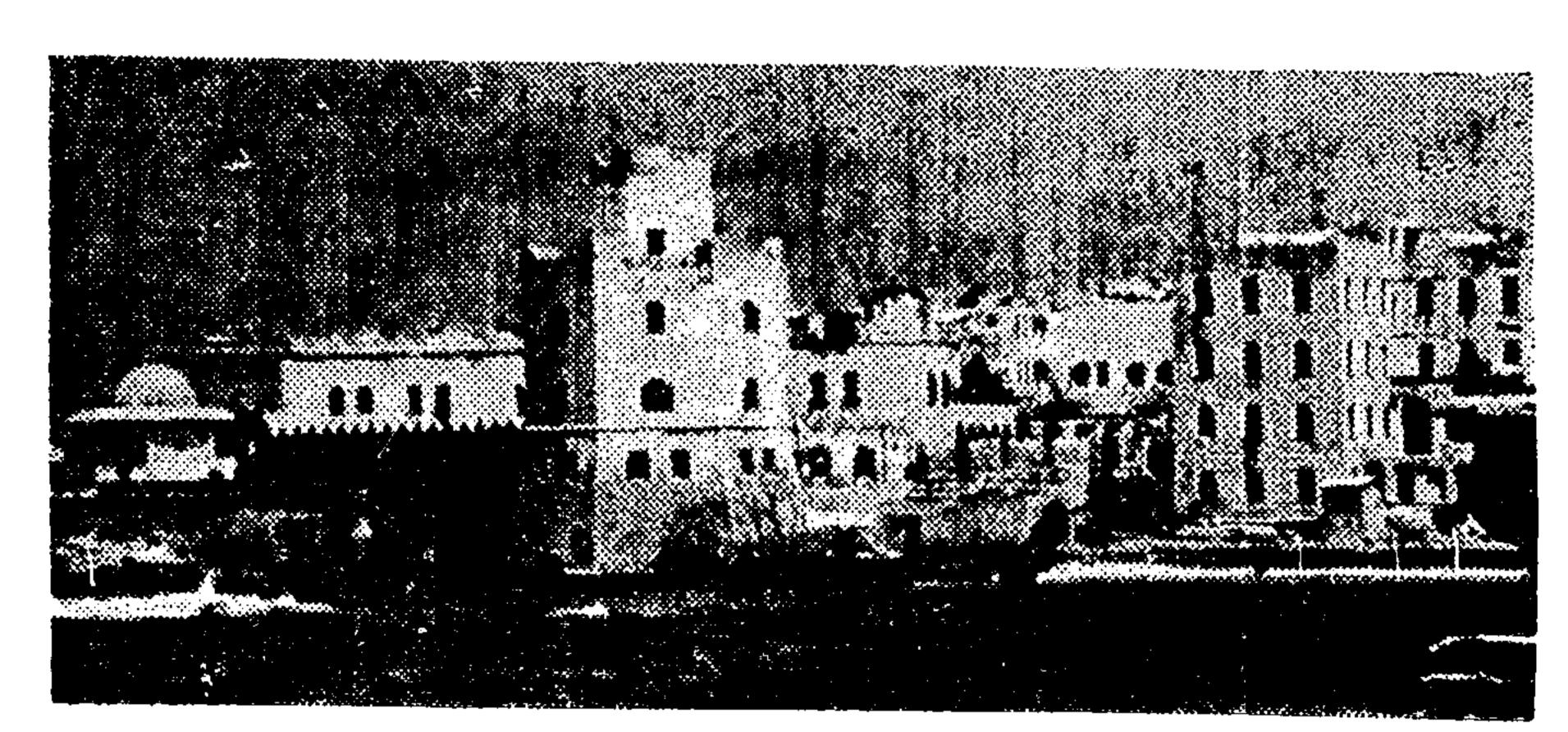
The country does not lack the great attractions that have made other African countries fast developing tourist havens, but rivals the best and can boast several features that are unique.

Among these are game herds in variety and abundance and an extensive coastline that offers the deepsea fishermen sport and excitement of a kind available in few places.

In fact the proximity of the gamelands to the coastal areas makes it possible for the visitor to combine hunting, game-

most countries. Limits are placed on the numbers of animals permitted to any one hunter, as Somalia feels a strong responsibility towards its heritage of African wild-life, and is determined to preserve it by the proper control of hunting and by the maintaining of game reserves.

One of the greatest pleasures of a trip in the Somali bush is the sight of the birds. The colours of some of these are so bright as to be almost unbelievable--the brilliant carmine of the bee-eater, for instance, or the electric blue of one of the many kinds of king-fisher that can be found in Somalia. And some of the bird-life is good to eat too—guinea fowl which roam the bush in thousands, and the gourmet's choice, the yellow-neck goose.



THE WHITE PEARL OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

Mogadishu, the capital of the Somali Democratic Republic, lies only 120 miles from the Equator, and is cooled by fresh monsoon breezes for most of the year. Its white bones lined glitteringly along the shore, long ago carned the city the title of "White Pearl of the Indian Ocean" from the seafarers—Arabs. Europeans, Indians and Chinese who have plied these waters and visited these shores for many hundreds of years.

It is a startling combination of the old and the new—modern houses, office blocks and restaurants lie beside ageless mosques and palaces which enshrine the history of this ancient city.

THE GOLD MARKET

The many places of interest include:

The diamond cut technique is unusual and possibly unique to Somalia. Of special interest are the rings, earrings, pins and cuff links, fashioned after the Star of Somalia and the Croce del Sud (Southern Cross).

HAMMARWEIN ANCIENT QUARTER

This area was the core of the old city. Literally the name means "the place where the great tamarinds grow ", as at one time there were many tamarind trees there. It is now a densely populated area, with extremely narrow walkways and lanes between the buildings. The Benadir weavers weave their cloth in this area, seated in halls dug out of the ground in a small open courtyard. Two old mosques and other more recent ones are found here. Fakhr el Din mosque is said to have been built, by the first Sultan of Mogadishu in 1269 A.D. Another mosque in town believed to be one of the earliest is on the Lido Road adjacent to the beach near the American Club. It is called the great mosque of Sheikh Abdul Aziz, and is easily recognizable by its cylindrical minarct. Somali legend has it that this mosque emerged by itself from the sea, as no one knows who had built it.

GROWING DEMAND FOR SOMALI LIVESTOCK AND MEAT

Since a higher percentage of Somali economy is largely based on livestock, and so long the country holds a prominent place in having one of the highest livestock-man ratios in the world. Somalia has been a dependable source of livestock supplier to a number of countries including Saudi Arabia, the People's Republic of South Yemen, the Arabian Gulf States and since recently to Kenya. Having greater reserves of livestock which could supply many more countries in the various parts of the world, the present Government is making further

studies of expanding this sector of livestock trade. The meat factory in Kisimayu is Somalia's biggest industrial plant, using the most modern equipment available, having been built at a cost of Somali Shillings 41.79 million.

The staff of the plant underwent an intensive training course on the latest methods of production, before the factory went into operation in February, 1969. Apart from several overseas countries that are buying tinned meat from Somalia, which include the Soviet Union and the United Arab Republic, local demand is soaring and the Somali National Army and Police Force are among

the factory's biggest local consumers. Production at present runs to 20 million tins of meat. 60,000 hides and thousands of tons of frozen meat, salami sausages and other products, prepared in accordance with international health standards, a year.

When the plant gets into full production it is expected that it will solve the unemployment problem in Kisimayu. In its first few years of operation there will be an anticipated annual profit of Somali Shillings 8 million. The Somali Meat Factory is making a valuable contribution to the nation's economic prosperity, and by mid-1970 production reached 60 per cent of its full

SOMALIA GROWS SOME OF THE BEST BANANAS IN THE WORLD

Somalia produces some of the best world bananas, which are exported to Italy and then find their way to other European markets. Bananas still constitute one of Somalia's principal cash crops, and year by year the scope of land with more banana cultivations increases and is expected to continue to expand in the years to come.

The concession area for bananas was about 50,000 hectares before independence in 1954, of which nearly 10,000 were under banana cultivation and 7,000 under other crops. The remainder was either bush or grassland.

After independence in 1960 up till 1965 the production of bananas increased by nearly 73% and this was not only due to higher yields but also to the increasing number of Somali banana growers.

viewing and the thrills of ocean sports with a minimum of difficulty.

Besides, Somalia's attractions are closer to the principal areas from which the tourists come than other centres in Africa.

Official surveys show that the "most significant human impulse" in the development of tourism over the past twenty years has been the "search for the sun". This puts Somalia in the forefront of Africa's tourist havens.

In 1967 about 184,000 tons of bananas were harvested, but because of the closure of the Suez Canal there was an adverse effect on the export of this commodity to its traditional markets in Europe. But, after October during that year, after the introduction of faster and better equipped ships travelling around the Cape, exports recovered to their normal volume level.

Somalia does not only grow bananas but having a total land area of 63.8 million hectares, of which one-eighth is cultivable, it also produces sugar cane, cotton, sorghum, rice, maize, tobacco, citrus fruit, myrrh, frankincense, gum arabic and kapok.

Year by year the expansion of the agriculture increases, and since the Revolution in 1969 the present Revolutionary Government, having introduced crash programmes to create self-sufficiency in food production, has facilitated better methods of farming techniques and is assisting Somali farmers, through the Somali Development Bank, enabling them to buy agricultural implements, expand their scope of cultivation and produce food not only for the country, but in the course of a few years to produce surplus food for storage and for export to other countries.

A THRIVING SUGAR INDUSTRY

With a total output last year of 43,000 tons, sugar ranks among Somalia's industries.

The sugar factory in Jowhar. near Mogadishu, was first started by a private Italian company in 1919. Clearing the land, planting the crop, erecting the factory, the administrative block and residential buildings took most of the time until production started in 1926, with an output of 30 tons of sugar a day.

Production continued uninterrupted during the second world war. when the demand increased and production went up considerably.

In recent years, a new factory has been built on the site. The old factory is used as a store and a distillery was added which now processes the molasses residue to produce alcohol for export and use locally in laboratories and other

Of the three types of alcohol that are available all over the world. pure alcohol, ethyl alcohol and spirit alcohol, the Jowhar factory produces the ethyl and spirit types. Annual alcohol production runs to 3,200,000 litres, of which

800,000 litres are used locally, while the rest is exported to the European Common Marketa

When the sugar project started over fifty years ago, the area under cane cultivation was 4,000 hectares. Today this area has largely but



Camels provide Somali nomads with transport, nourishment and fuel,

steadily expanded over the years. Greater developments of the factory took place only after independence in 1960, when the Somali Government at the time acquired a 50%, share in its ownership and the company renamed "The National Society for Agriculture". The remaining 50% share was nationalized in May, 1970, after the Somali Revolution.

EAST AFRICA'S LARGEST FISH FACTORY

Somalia's fish processing factory, in Las-Koray, along the northern coast, 18 so far the largest and the most modern in the whole of East Africa. The factory, having commenced its operation in 1970, has an output of 5.000 tons of tuna annually, and with the Somali coastal regions richness in fishery resources, further studies are being made by the Revolutionary Government to have the factory further expanded.

There is an abundance of big game fishing along the Somali coast on the Indian Ocean and opposite the Gulf of Aden. These areas offer ample opportunities for catching a prize Kingfish. Tuna. Sailfish, Blue Marlin. Barracuda. Shark. Dolphin. Turtle and many other kinds and species of African fish.

For sportsmen, the lido beaches along the coast are paradises of their own kind, with a variety of tropical beaches of unparalleled beauty, and safe from sharks and other harmful sea animals.

THE MINERAL RICHES OF SOMALIA

Since 1968 when an official announcement was made that a substantial indication of uranium, thorium and uttrium mineralization had been struck in the Bur Region, to the west of the Somali capital, a United Nations geological survey confirmed in a report that 500,000 metric tons of ore had been discovered on the basis of two drill holes.

Apart from uranium, the UN survey had also examined large iron-ore

deposits, discovering at the same time bauxite. Setting aside the radio-active discovery, iron-ore deposits in the Bur Galan area has an iron content of 35 to 40%. Reserves of this deposit on the basis of geological evidence, are estimated to be about 120 million tons. Near Dinsor, in

the Upper Juba region of Somalia, another iron-ore deposit is estimated to be approximately 50 million tons, with similar out crops found in other areas. Manganese was found in Salawel, near Hudiso and Sheikh in northern Somalia, while meerschaum deposits of a considerable commercial quantity at

El Bur, may comprise one of the world's largest reserves. The extensive occurrences of gypsum deposits located near the modern port

of Berbera, are estimated to contain several million tons.

Other minerals such as beryl, copper, tantalite and tin, have been found in northern Somalia, and since their quantities are subject to further geological studies, it is the policy of the Revolutionary Government to encourage further surveys which would bring to light Somalia's mineral wealth and the possibilities of developing them to boost the economy of the country.