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AFRICAN POLITICS as they affect E. O.

Potential trans-Africa problems divide themselves rather simply in half; physical and political.

Physically the problems lie entirely in our own lap. Politically we have always been bobbing about on the ocean of African current affairs susceptible to every pitch and toss.

Despite this we have never cancelled a trip, never failed to complete one more or less within the prescribed terms of reference, and always had at least one expedition moving in 'darkest Africa' every day since January 1970.

Today the risk of sudden flair-up between neighbouring states is no different (i.e. no better, no worse) to that of the last six years. These sudden flair-ups are less likely to arise affecting borders in Southern Africa than elsewhere in Africa, for in the atmosphere of Southern Africa movements are comparatively cautious and calculated and much diplomatic lobbying goes on behind the scenes.

The serious troubles in Southern Africa are estimated to have far reaching effects but this should not be confused with the comparatively free flow that will continue between, for example, Zambia and Botswana and Botswana and South Africa and thus indirectly between Zambia and South Africa. In the process Rhodesia can be avoided altogether.

In short, there is no reason to suppose that the completion of a trans-Africa journey to Johannesburg is any more or less difficult now than it has been previously.

What is different is the growing awareness of approaching and far-reaching change in Southern Africa. This fact may perhaps be reason enough for someone to consider shelving plans for crossing Africa. But for others this historic chapter in African and World affairs with immeasurable influences on the family of man will have the opposite affect.

If you have any queries about crossing Africa please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,


A LINDSAY JONES

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