

a credible spread of Indian Ocean... threat... arms deal... a cloak of Africa's apart-

African arms. And Kaunda himself, remarking in semijocular tones "I suppose he didn't want to see our ugly faces," left without seeing Mr. Nixon at all.

Prime Minister Downing to an angry... insisted... policy and... had not... continued... Rhodesia... increase in... edly, the of... his car. "It

On his way home to Zambia, Kaunda stopped off in Paris, and there he did win a commitment from President Georges Pompidou that France would prohibit the sale of certain arms—including helicopters—that the South Africans could use against insurgent movements. "A step in the right direction," commented Kaunda. But Pompidou's gesture will make only a small dent in France's arms trade with South Africa—a trade that has reached an estimated \$500 million in the past few years and has made France South Africa's leading arms supplier.

As Kaunda flew into Lusaka late last week, it was all too clear that his mission to the West had been far from successful.

But that did not mean that Britain had no cause for unease. By all accounts, the Africans were profoundly disturbed by the attitude of the Heath government; already, Tanzania's President Julius Nyerere had warned that his government was reconsidering its membership in the British Commonwealth. And if, as expected, Heath begins delivering arms to the South Africans, it is conceivable that other Afro-Asian Commonwealth members may follow Nyerere's example.

AWARDS: A Nobel for Greening

"I'd rather take care of the stomachs of the living," said Alfred Nobel, who established the prestigious prizes that bear his name, "than the glory of the departed in the form of monuments." Last week, almost as if heeding Alfred Nobel's words, the Nobel Committee of the

Norwegian Parliament awarded its Peace Prize to a shy, retiring American agronomist who more than anyone else has been responsible for the "green revolution"—the collective catch phrase for those tremendous strides in agricultural science that have provided foodstuffs for millions who might otherwise have faced serious malnutrition or even starvation.

The prize was awarded to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, 56, director of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center in Mexico. The Nobel Committee's citation noted that Borlaug "through his improvement of wheat plants has created a technological breakthrough which makes it possible to abolish hunger in the developing countries in the course of a few years." More specifically, Borlaug's research center, in experiments conducted over a 25-year period, developed a hybrid form of wheat that was shorter, stockier and better able to hold the greater yields of grain that resulted from heavy fertilization and irrigation.

perhaps of equal importance, this new "dwarf" wheat proved adaptable to a wide variety of soils.

India, for example, imported the stubby wheat in the early 1960s and saw its annual yield soar from 12 million tons in 1965 to more than 21 million tons this year. West Pakistan also planted the strain and has almost doubled its cereal production during the past five years. Borlaug's seeds are currently being sown in Afghanistan, Iran, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey—with the expectation that they will produce bumper crops there.

Strains: Borlaug, who was born in Iowa and educated at the University of Minnesota, went to Mexico in 1944 as a member of a Rockefeller Foundation research team established to help that nation reap some of the benefits of American agricultural technology. Starting with



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Borlaug: Miracle worker

three strains of wheat, Borlaug ultimately crossed and re-crossed a score of different varieties from around the world before evolving several types that combined high yields with other desirable characteristics pertaining to protein level, size, milling and baking and resistance to disease.

Characteristically, Borlaug, who hates cities, offices and paper work, was at an experimental wheat plot 50 miles outside Mexico City when the news of his Nobel Prize arrived. And when his wife excitedly drove out to the country to tell him, Borlaug refused to return to the city until he had finished his work.

No one is more aware of the limitations of agricultural science than Borlaug himself. One of his first responses to the news of the Nobel award was a solemn assertion that the solutions effected by the green revolution are only temporary. "Unless we strike a proper balance between population and food resources," he said, "we will face more and more problems." Indeed, he added, unless such a balance is achieved, his work and that of all his fellow agronomists "will have been useless."

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