the threat of a coup d'etat unless some stability is soon achieved.

Chronic fuel shortages in the capital have forced the closure of many businesses and brought about serious shortages of basic commodities such as bread, sugar, fruit, vegetables and cooking oil. Lines at local gas stations are often a mile long for the standard ration of two gallons—when that is available.

To compound the problem, the city's main electric generators failed recently—some said they were exploded by saboteurs—and phased blackouts commenced, giving neighborhoods power for two or three hours a day. At the same time Khartoum's water supply system faltered, leaving homes and businesses dry for days at a time. Officials blame this problem on an accumulation of silt in the main pumps from heavy Nile River flooding.

Tensions have risen slowly in this seemingly placid desert capital, as reports of much more serious conditions have filtered in from poverty-stricken rural areas. But two demonstrations were reported in the nearby city of Omdurman last week, and rumors of unrest among top army officers here are heard more and more frequently.

Sudan's pro-Western military government, reported to be near bankruptcy already, has responded by stepping up requests for international assistance, consolidating its internal strength, and calling for patience from the disgruntled population.

But time may be running out, and observers here believe that the president's planned trip to the U.S. may provide the opportunity for a move to unseat him.

AFRICA NEWS is published weekly, excepting the weeks of New Year's, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, at 720 Ninth St., Durham, N.C., by Africa News Service, Inc., a non-profit, tax exempt corporation. Copyright © 1978 by Africa News Service, Inc.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Profit—$65/year (pre-paid one month trial, $8); Non-profit—$36/year (pre-paid one month trial, $5); Individuals—$20/year (pre-paid trial, $5); Overseas—add $27 for Air Mail, $10 for Surface Mail.

STAFF: Charles Ebel, Tami Hultman, Reed Kramer, Ruth Minter, William Minter, Nzinga Z. Njeri, Jinni M. Stroman, John W. Stroman.

Composition by Regulator Press. / Africa News Service also produces an audio service for broadcasters. / Address all correspondence to P.O. Box 3851, Durham, N.C. 27702 / Telephone (919) 286-3910.

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT DURHAM, N.C.

ZAMBIA

'KK—No Change'

[AN] Despite a sagging economy, industrial unrest and the likelihood of imminent attack by Rhodesian troops, Zambia's helmsman of the last 14 years, President Kenneth Kaunda, has once again been nominated as the sole presidential candidate of the ruling United National Independence Party (UNIP).

Kaunda, who is known to Zambians as "KK," won the bid last week at the party's general conference, squelching the presidential challenge of three politicians, including former vice president Simon Kapwepwe. The contenders, all relative newcomers to UNIP, were eliminated from the field when the 6,000 delegates approved a new constitution for the party, one that carries a provision disqualifying presidential aspirants who have not been party members for at least five years.

The challengers had been expecting a defeat and raised no protest at the convention, but correspondents report that Kapwepwe and another of the losers, Harry Nkumbula, may yet stir up trouble in their constituencies.

Kapwepwe, who headed the opposition United People's Party until it was banned in 1972, warned the government last month that violence might result if the elections were not held fairly.

"A politician has no honor unless and until he is challenged by a fellow politician, Kapwepwe said. "He should not wait for unpredictable forces to challenge him."

Criticizing party leader Mainza Chona's statement that only those loyal to President Kaunda should take part in the convention, Kapwepwe complained, "If this is the way Dr. Kaunda is to be made to defeat his opponents, the elections shall have been rigged and Zambians shall have been subjected to the sufferings which many African countries have passed through."

Kapwepwe's major attack on government policy came when he first announced his candidacy. The one-time vice president charged the country's leaders with mismanaging the economy and hinted that he favored re-opening Zambia's border with Rhodesia, on the grounds that transport bottlenecks to the east and west were curtailing vital copper exports—a view widely held in the business community.

The president dismissed this suggestion, saying it would be "treacherous" from the standpoint of the African liberation struggle and pointless anyway, since guerrilla units could destroy the key rail links.

continued on page 10

YOU READ IT HERE FIRST

In yet another insider account of how the U.S. became involved in the covert war in Angola during 1975, former Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Nathaniel Davis has disclosed how he and other State Department officials opposed the Ford administration's intervention plans.

Writing in *Foreign Affairs,* Davis quotes from two top secret memoranda prepared by the Africa bureau raising pragmatic arguments against the covert operation. His account provides far more insight into how the administration reached the decision to go in than any other previously published.

Immediately after President Ford approved the Central Intelligence Agency's intervention plan (on the advice of Secretary of State Kissinger), Davis resigned. But his planned departure and the intense internal debate over Angola were kept secret for months.

The story of Davis' differences with Kissinger over Angola hit the pages of the *New York Times* in December of 1975. As long time *AFRICA NEWS* subscribers may recall, however, the news of Davis' resignation and the reasons behind it first appeared in our September 4, 1975 issue.

Quoting a "State Department source," *AFRICA NEWS* said "Davis is hesitant to go along with Kissinger's plan to intervene in Angola to protect U.S. interests there."

"Davis may fear that an Angolan intervention would add another blemish to his record—already clouded by questions about his role as American ambassador to Chile during the overthrow of Marxist President Salvadore Allende," the article went on to say.

Davis, who is currently State Department advisor to the Naval War College, was given routine clearance to publish his article, titled "Memoir." Henry Kissinger, who serves on the editorial advisory board of *Foreign Affairs,* a publication of the prestigious Council on Foreign Relations," has reportedly termed Davis' story "a one-sided and distorted view of events."