

# IRON LADY NEWS

17 SEPT 91

M has executed her scenario of changing the image of the US as supporter of Mobutu and corruption to supporter of democracy and economic reform. After persuading Washington to agree with her tough line, M flew to meet with the President on his yacht upstream and then met the press. She was blunt in describing the economy as in chaos. Then she went to see the Prime Minister, gave a press conference, and a few days later gave the press a copy of her note to the P.M. Here is the front page cartoon of M with the P.M. The press referred to the Iron Lady with praise, full praise. One editorial said "It must not be nice for a man (P.M.) to be driven to the wall, in his own home, by



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a woman who isn't his wife -- especially if she is like Mrs. Melis Wells, certainly charming, ... but has the reputation of an Iron Lady."

M had notified the two men that, under US laws, the US could not extend aid (except humanitarian) to Zaire because Zaire was more than a year in ~~arrears~~ arrears.

Actually, we had already stopped aid. Nevertheless, the headlines were "US Cuts Off Aid"; European papers picked it up. A Belgian headline read "Former Swimming Champion Pushes Mobutu Under Water".

We are going to dinner tonight at the home of a Belgian who in 1955/56 used to drive from Kinshasa to Lubumbashi in an MG. Roads and bridges were kept up. Now you are lucky to get through in the dry season in a 4 wheel drive vehicle. Forget it in the rainy season.

We had dinner with friends who have 2 young chimpanzees. So different from monkey. They jump up and down with joy. First they want to know you. They stare fixately