

RACE AGAINST TIME (KARIBA DAM)

At the Kariba Hydro-Electric Dam, the mightiest project now under construction in all Africa, they are racing against time. For power is scheduled to flow from the great turbines early in 1960. And they have to make good the results of disaster. This was what the Kariba Gorge looked like only a few weeks ago - with the Zambezi River gone berserk, as though intent on destroying man's efforts to harness and tame it. And the river nearly won - for as the coffer dam was inundated by flood waters fiercer than any in living memory, and even the high foot bridges were no longer safe, months of patient work were swept away in a few days.

To make the setback even more disastrous, the industrial plans of the rapidly-expanding economy of Rhodesia and Nyasaland are geared to the 1960 target date; so any delay will have far-reaching effects. The Federation are not the only sufferers - over the border in Portuguese territory, the Zambezi floods have put whole towns and villages under water.

But along the 250 miles to Kitwe switching station, the pylons are going up - for the Kariba builders are confident that in spite of everything, they will be ready on time, and that power will be flowing in early 1960 as planned. These pylons spanning the jungle, are symbols of that confidence.

The waters - are still high - but even the mighty Zambezi is less powerful than the determination of man.