LUSAKA, ZAMBIA, Sept. 1 – The leaders of three African nations gathered at the Zambian-Tanzanian border this week to mark the completion of the first half of the railroad that will link landlocked Zambia with the East African port of Dar-es-Salaam.

President Julius K. Nyerere of Tanzania, President Kenneth D. Kaunda of Zambia and President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire took part in a ceremony to mark the beginning of work inside Zambia. Construction of the railroad, which has been financed by a \$400-million interest-free loan from China, is being supervised by Chinese engineers.

The completed section of the 1,160-mile line links Dar-es-Salaam with the border town of Tunduma. The railroad now will be pushed southwestward into the Zambian copper belt to link up with the Zambian rail system at Kapiri Mposhi, 100 miles north of here.

The New York Times

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