## To the Editor-

In my recent IO article ("The Creation and Maintenance of National Boundaries in Africa," International Organization, vol. 43, no. 4, 1989, pp. 673-92), the views of Saadia Touval were misapplied. Rather than local political factors being completely ignored in boundary creation, he argues that disregard of local

political circumstances was "not universal" and that sometimes local circumstances did affect the design of borders. See Saadia Touval, "Treaties, Borders and the Partition of Africa," *The Journal of African History*, vol. 7, no. 2, 1966, pp. 279–92.

-Jeffrey Herbst



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