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AFRICA'S FIRST QUALITY MAGAZINE FOR NEW BREED PEOPLE



**MIRIAM MAKEBA**  
Sings to conquer . . .

**NZERIBE:**  
"I did not sell arms to Biafra".

**WATERGATE:**  
Bid to sack President Nixon

**STUDENTS' REACTION  
TO YOUTH CORPS:**

**NEWBREED ESSAY  
WINNERS.**

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# New Breed

AFRICA'S FIRST QUALITY MAGAZINE  
FOR NEWBREED PEOPLE

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July 1973 Volume 2 Number 2



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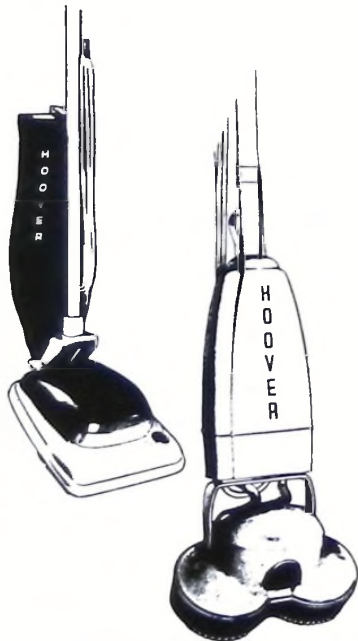
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# NEXT MONTH

Chat with  
Editor-in-Chief:  
Gowon's visit  
to Britain

**NEWBREED**  
Politics:  
Nigeria: 1976  
and Beyond

**International Scene:**  
America:  
The Police State

**Personality:**  
Black Powerman:  
Naiwu Osahon

**Nigerian Notes:**  
NEWBREED  
Briefs and  
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# TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN

## NIXON, WATERGATE AND THE ROLE OF BIG BUSINESS IN AMERICA.

The burglary of watergate has wounded President Nixon, weakened American political influence and subsequently exposed the bankruptcy of the American political system.

Perhaps the illegal funding of the election campaign and wages paid to watergate conspirators has led to the bold question who actually rules the United States of America. President Nixon or big business?

On page 9 . the watergate crisis is discussed and on page 30 Mr. Olu Akaraogun presents an analytical document in connection with U.S. Electoral system whereby. . . in order to become a U.S. President you must either have ample money like late President Kennedy or rich friends who are able and are willing to support (financially) your candidature with millions of dollars like Dick Nixon".

"It is only natural that when a candidate finally gets elected to the White House, he does not forget those who, through their donations, have made his elections possible".

### MIRIAM MAKEBA

Right now in the United States of America, a new black identity and fashion awareness is gaining currency among the black community since the "Empress of Song" Miriam Makeba gave an all venue sold-out 'Coast to Coast' concert.

Black women have now rejected the former aristocratic fashion symbol of: processed hair, the pearls and diamonds, the classical white satin gown and all the other fashionable artifacts of White aristocracy. They now wear 'beaded hair style', beautiful African 'jewelleries', 'fashionable African native dresses and gowns as worn, and illustrated by Miriam Makeba during her successful musical concert'.

Makeba who was embargoed and popularity cut down over-night because of her marriage to a black power advocate Mr. Stokely Carmichael, is due to release a new album recorded in October 1972. The Empress of Song 'Zenzile' on page 59

### PEOPLES CAPITALISM

Nigeria is a carnivorous society where a handful of people are massively rich and the vast majority are living in sorrowful starvation and squalor.



President Nixon



Miriam Makeba



A helpless man

In the thesis on page 24. The Editor-in-Chief, Chris Okolie argues that the present bourgeois capitalist system should be swept away and replaced by "Peoples Capitalism"—the system that will ensure progressive reshuffling of wealth in the society and a guaranteed minimum standard of living as a birthright for every Nigerian.

He concluded that if future governments fail to recognize and guarantee these standard, "we shall be prepared for another episodic crisis more like a war or guerilla movement".

#### FRANCIS ARTHUR NZERIBE

Mr. Arthur Francis Nzeribe was an unknown popular figure in Nigeria until in 1968 when he was accused of swindling £6,000,000 sterling from the government of Ghana.

Today, he is one of Nigeria's successful and enterprising business tycoon but accusing fingers still point at him.

Speaking to NEWBREED Investigators led by Mahamuud Ikuniaye, Nzeribe said "go and defend yourselves, I am quite used to these accusations", as we attempted to gather answers to some of the questions readers raised.

On the following subjects, Nzeribe said:

#### WOMEN:

"They are play things, hobbies you know. And no one spends too much time in hobbies or takes play things too seriously" "..... most Lagos ladies are very callous".

#### WEALTH:

"..... I am not a hungry man. I have everything I want ..... I have a comfortable house, I have good clothes for myself, my wife and children and we have food for ourselves and our dogs".

#### ARMS TO BIAFRA:

"Nonsense, ..... anybody who knows the details let him come out and prove".

#### FUTURE PLANS:

"..... I have very high political ambitions. This time I am not just going to service politicians ..... I will seek a representative position".

All these and more interesting revelations on Nzeribe's life on Page 49.

Also in this issue:  
 Pacematters .....13  
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 Readers Comments. 6



F.A. Nzeribe: "I will seek representative position".

# New Breed

## Reader's Comments

### LET'S ROTATE OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL

I would like to put forward my comment on your April edition's "Chat with Editor-in-Chief".

The whole nation is fast in need of development both in the rural area and the slums of the sophisticated urban towns. But I would suggest as Mr. Ebele Chinye has said that Lagos Capital should be rotated round the twelve states. I am strongly in support of this in as far as we need development.

Really the country need to have more Cities. As Badagry, Epe, Ikorodu are today, so was Lagos before the hand-over of the Federal Government. Why is it that Lagos financed by the Federal Government should be merged into a particular state without a genuine consent of Nigerians.

The name Lagos State does not mean that Lagos should be their Capital, if really they too want to develop. Why don't we think this twice. It is people that develop Lagos to this standard so is it that people can as well develop Badagry, Epe and Ikorodu to the standard of Lagos if really we are serious. We need development. I believe that our people are quite aware of this. Those who do not should open their ears to the understanding that the nation must go ahead in all fronts.

If Lagos should be moved as the seat of capital, well there is a solution to it. I suggest Warri, for the first experiment, in the Midwest will be the most suitable place so far in the whole country.

Lawrence A. O. Odanibe,  
O.B.M., Lagos

Readers opinions on this issue will be highly appreciated—ED.

### ECONOMIC AMBUSH: A BOOMERANG

The racist Mr. Ian Smith of Rhodesia, the Nazi-like beast devoid of human feelings, must have "learnt" bitter lesson in his recent encounter with the African nationalist, Dr. Kaunda of Zambia, who has taught him the futility in going too far in search of a tiger. Dr. Kaunda has, in no small way, projected Africa's image, abrogating the "erroneous" views that Africa can ever brook the friendship of the rider and the horse.

The British sponsored rebel, Ian Smith and his hench men, had for long laid an economic ambush for Zambia, the raison d'être being the presence in Zambia of

African freedom fighters and progressive nationalists who have incessantly been a bone in the throat of the criminal junta in Rhodesia.

To Ian Smith and his comrades in crime, that move would have cut the economic life of Zambia; but woe upon Smith and his vicious circle, the economic ambush turned a boomerang. Dr. Kaunda instead treated the economic spongers with ignominy and finally dealt a deadly blow to the economy of the racist regime of terror. Hail Dr. Kaunda for this lesson he taught Ian Smith, a lesson that will be registered in "annals" of African nationalism.

"Without the pen of Paine, the Sword of Washington would have been wielded in vain". Yeah, without the support given by African leaders, the sword of Kaunda might have been wielded in vain and Smith might have made capital out of it. Hence, hail all African leaders for the support given to Kaunda; such support is heartening and breeds confidence amongst African leaders. The Rhodesian beast is already cornered, and he is only playing for a time.

Let I forget, bravo to the authors of "NEWBREED" Magazine for the vital and animating topics they always make available for public consumption. Miss Theo. Azinge from Lagos requested in your January issue that you do "minimise your pages of advertisement"; could you please do so.

Aku Opija, Zaria.

It is not possible to minimise our advert pages because of the economic laws of continuity—ED.

### THIS IS UNJUST

I shall not have to waste my time congratulating you on your marvellous job, because everyone, the world-over knows your magazine—NEWBREED has the tastes of good journalism. However, I shall concern myself with this—'NEWBREED ESSAY COMPETITION'.

For the New Breed Organisation to launch an essay competition, is quite a nice idea and at the same time a 'shabby' idea. It's quite nice as for the generous prizes which includes—Free return tickets on board Swiss Air (The International reputable Airline for quality service), Grundig Television Sets, Seiko Wrist Watch and Cartons of Heineken and Star Beer as consolation prizes.

But quite 'shabby' as entries are open only to subscribers of NEWBREED. Now

that is most un-newbreed like. NEW BREED people, because one arm of you objectives is not to treat your subscribers with some kind of speciality from the monthly buyers.

I strongly believe, that there are many monthly buyers who want to subscribe but for fear of the delay of postage services, have decided after many thoughts to remain monthly buyers.

Now to push them aside because they are not subscribers would be doing them a high degree of injustice. I hope, however, that you do not win majority. At least, all of your readers become subscribers by the look of the competition.

If however, that is your intention then I would advise you sit in camera to think over the effects and defects.

An angry note, they say is another buyer—and to let your readers (monthly buyers) miss such an opportunity, though they are all not born to win, would make them a new set of people—people who would become antagonists to your idea as you would have deprived them of a chance to try their luck. Mind you, they all have their opinions to express about NEWBREED which would be of tremendous help to your organisation.

It's my very best wishes to you.

Babatunde Shine Marika,  
Mushin, Lagos

Your observation is quite correct and as we are contemplating more competition, we shall take a serious note of that—ED.

### WE WANT NEWBREED

We were able to read two of your Magazine NEWBREED No. 7 and No. 8 from Nigeria.

We are so inspired by the down-to-earth articles in them, that we felt the magazine takes the same views that most of us feel about things in general, here in America—particularly about the splendid new value of experiences that now flow out of Nigeria and most of all from Africa.

We respectfully request that you would send us copy Vol. 1 No. 1 to No. 6, No. 5 to No. 12—if available.

Enclosed is a money order for \$161 dollars for payment of the magazines.

Milton A. Edmes,  
New York, USA

### I DISAGREE WITH NEWBREED

As a regular reader of your paper, I have been enjoying the way you treat your topics until recently when I was disappointed at the way you handled your so-called debate on the position of Lagos as our Federal Capital.

In the first place, if you want a debate on such National issues it will be a good idea to interview people from different

parts of the twelve states, than arranging it within your office. It is true that most of you living in Lagos don't know anything about the rest of the country. It is not therefore surprising that you should oppose such a proposal without hesitation.

On the whole, I found it really difficult to get sense in your discussions. Some of your participants expressed how costly it will be to build a new capital but confused the issue further by suggesting the building of more overhead bridges. I think the total cost of these overhead bridges will cost more than the new capital. Again, a participant gave examples of poorer countries that changed their capitals. If these poorer countries were able to build new capitals, I wonder why we cannot do it.

Personally, I strongly feel the position of the country's capital has no betterment on a common Nigerian if only those industries in Lagos were to be distributed.

I take this opportunity to suggest that, it is not necessary to build the proposed National Theatre in Lagos. Cultural places like Benin or Ile-Ife are best for such a theatre.

*Honestus Tyahemba Johns,  
Aminu Road, Zaria.*

What we have done is to express our editorial opinion on a national issue that concerns everybody and the future of this nation. As free citizens of Nigeria we have that right to free and democratic expression as you do. More opinions on this topic are welcome—ED.

### LET'S LEGALISE PROSTITUTION

People must know that prostitution is not bad, it is a way of life, and should be legalised. Some may, and may not agree with these views. But we should note that truth is found, in the emergent synthesis which reconciles both the thesis and anti-thesis of any given issue.

Looking at our social structure, we can see that prostitution has actually become our way of life, regardless of its merits and demerits. Prostitution is a fact. But it seems our law is too slow or rather too reluctant to adjust itself to this fact. In this case, however, the fact is not injured but the law is damaged.

According to Late President Woodrow Wilson of America "... Law ... is the expression of the facts in legal relationships. Laws have never altered facts. Laws have always necessarily expressed the facts, adjusted interests as they have arisen and have changed toward one another". Therefore, I believe the legislation to legalise and control prostitution has called for an imperative action from our government. The quicker the better.

It is high time now the law should be promulgated to legalise and regulate prostitution; not to ban it. Apart from the fear of Venereal Diseases, which could

be prevented, prostitution does no one any harm; and if it does, it harms the prostitute herself only. Therefore, there are reasons justifying the legalisation of prostitution since, according to late President Thomas Jefferson of America, "... Laws provide against injury from others, but not from ourselves". He went further to say that even God Himself "will not save men against their wills . . . ."

Ethics and Religion have taught us that prostitution is morally bad and should be banned in any society. Well I, subjectively, agree with this teaching in every inch. But in general, to condemn prostitution as morally bad is better left to each individuals conscience. For example, some view drinking and smoking as immoral whereas some see nothing wrong in this acts. The example bears witness to the fact that 'the rights of conscience to which we cannot submit, we are answerable for them to our God'.

Prostitution has been one of the oldest professions in any human society in one form or another. There are no amount of measures that can be taken to eradicate it in our modern society. By banning prostitution is like running away from the fact. And as the old saying goes, "forbidden fruits taste the sweetest" the more our women flock to this trade.

Prostitution should not only be legalised, but its operations should be regulated as well. In the new law, prostitutes should be heavily taxed as other well-to-do citizens, for prostitution has become a very highly profitable business engaged in by a very great number of women in our society today. This may even open another reliable source of income to our government.

The law should also provide for at least a compulsory weekly medical examination to avoid the spread of Venereal Diseases. There should be regulations strengthened by the law, whereby any entry to the trade should be subject to having passed certain requirements. One of these should be an excellent medical report duly signed by the doctor and approved by the government and the award of Membership Certificate at a later date to the so named prostitutes.

Any potential prostitute who tries to sabotage any of the requirements as laid down by the law, should be brought to book and be penalised accordingly.

The above measures may even serve to curb the epidemics of prostitution in every corner of our cities, towns and villages. The measures will also restrain the influx of our Secondary School and University girls into the trade for the shame of being named prostitutes. I believe you will agree with me that the majority of our women, especially those in Colleges and Universities do not like to be known and called prostitutes. But they are doing things worse than the professionals.

*J. A. Popoola, NBC, Kaduna.*

### NEWBREED: EMBRACE THE "LEFT-OUTS"

It's quite note worthy that since the inception of the organisation gestured by such an out-standing piece of work, there has been no sign of retardation as regards it's standard in quality production. Quite commendable.

Apart from the handsome and attractive photos which appear to be a sort of 'drag-net' to the masses; one must not fail to scale the standard of the content— I mean the literature, the exclusive interviews with distinguished personalities around the country. Yes it is worth while. These write ups and interesting articles, as a matter of fact, inculcate in us the very effigy of our society—broadening one's out-look phylosophically and economically too.

Also, it creates a forum for public debate, which of course is of much value in the preparation of peace, justice, egalitarian society and freedom above all. It also embibes in a nut-shell the webbs and viruses surrounding the nation.

Setting aside the accuracy of this simple analysis, it would not be complete without pointing out the short-comings of the journal. For instance, the magazine focuses broadly and on a distinctive strata of people in the society, and that is, the distinguished persons mostly the progressive and well-to-do ones.

The organisation should endeavour to stretch out her other arm to embrace the 'left-outs' these include the mid-and the young folks—the common people and the peasants, other higher institutions of learning like The Technology, Advance Teachers College and Secondary Schools. All these constitute the bread's of the nation. Though a natural tendency that all things cannot be equal, but then it is of cardinal importance to include these strata of people for they constitute the members of the NEWBREED and the community in general.

### THE NEWBREED—OF THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

*Tony Precious, Lagos*

We have already taken a step forward in that direction. We are already talking to NEWBREED people in all spheres, class, colour, and creed notwithstanding—ED.

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# CHAT WITH THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## NIXON TO BE SACKED?

As the Senate interrogations on the bugging of Watergate drags on, a reflection of American justice in motion, moves are now being made to sack President Nixon. According to Washington sources, evidences so far revealed at the hearings are enough to risk the drama of "trial by Congress", another jargon for impeachment to convict President Nixon.

Political and constitutional legalists say that if the President under-goes the humiliating processes of impeachment, it could last the remaining Nixon term in office. They affirmed that it would be long and tough battle to sack Nixon. But the movement to sack Nixon maintain that if the President is tried by the Senate under the full gaze of television cameras and carried live by say 374 networks, the President would be forced to resign voluntarily.

Mr. Nixon has flatly stated that he is not going to resign his White House office: "I will not abandon my responsibilities. I will continue to do the job I was elected to do". The President appears to be saying that whatever is the outcome of Watergate, even if it is proven that he masterminded, approved or participated in the cover-up game, he would sit tight in office to achieve his second-term "Nixonian" goals. The President has however denied any wrong-doing or blame of any kind, but accepts responsibility because the man at the top always does.

Watergate has weakened American political influence. It has disgraced a nation that has openly claimed her political system to be the most open and democratic in the universe. America claims a political democracy where the "separation of power" checks and balances, the power abuse of the Senate, Judiciary and Presidency are constantly open to rebuttals. In other words, none would be allowed in theory to exceed its constitutional authority.

But the Watergate burglary appeared to have changed everything. It has even exposed the corrupt and bankrupt the American political system. The electoral funds scandal tied up with it has thrown a lurid light on the connection between big business and the political bosses in Washington and the White House. Thus prompts the question of who actually rules America: Nixon or the Big Business?

The United States of America is now trying to repair the damage done by Watergate. It aims at restoring credibility to the once sacred White House. It now

wants to close gaps of election abuses. Mr. Nixon, making a show of business as usual as if aloof from it all, has proposed a special commission to prepare reforms that would prevent any repetition of Watergate.

But there is a widespread feeling that the first important step to prevent any other Watergate, to restore dignity and honour in the US, is to remove Nixon and the men he gathered as top White House Staff from the corporation and advertising world. An interesting trivial point is that most of the top White House men bear the first name of "John and James".

Already, some of these aides have been purged out of the White House because of the Watergate storm. This includes feared and powerful aides like Bob Haldeman, the most trusted, devoted and enigmatic of all the Nixon staff. He is a crewcut, non-drinking, non-smoking Christian Scientist. His Congressional enemies nicknamed him "autocrat-in-residence". Others describe him as the most powerful man in Washington after President Nixon. Next in line is John Erlichman, the White House domestic adviser who, like Haldeman, was detested by most of Congress. Apart from Watergate, he led the burglary of Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office by White House staffers. Others are John Dean III, Counsel to the President and Mr. John Mitchell, Attorney General. There are also seven people already convicted and serving heavy sentences ranging from 10-30 years, described as the original "Watergate Seven" including the main four.

Already convicted conspirators are James McCord, famous as a distinguished wire-tapper. Meaning one of the most competent tappers of telephones and handlers of bugging equipment. He led the raid at Watergate. The condemned conspirators are James McCord, Garden Liddy, Howard Hunt.

Despite these moves, some Americans feel that it would be better to keep, as President, a somewhat wounded and discredited Nixon. They want by all means to avoid an inexperienced and clumsier Agnew. So they consider impeachment as out of the question. Further, under any circumstances there can be no election for another three years. Moreover, no American President has ever resigned and his role, combined that of monarch and Prime Minister, his removal would be a more shocking experience to the American public than Watergate.

Other scenarios have been floated in Washington, based, not on the great



drama of impeachment process, but the much less familiar provisions of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution which came into force in 1967. The Amendment provides that if the Presidency is vacated for any reason, the President may name a new Vice-President subject to the approval by a simple majority of both Houses. It also provides that the President may be removed, if declared "unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" by the Vice-President and a majority of other principal officers of the Executive department (i.e. the Cabinet) or of such other body as Congress Laws may provide.

The Amendment does not define "incapacity" of the President, but it does not appear to be limited to physical or mental breakdown. What it clearly says is that, if the President is removed from office on the grounds of incapacity, the Vice-President would become acting President.

The 25th Amendment has so far received little public attention in America. But it has provoked a great deal of underground speculation. One scenario suggests that President Nixon would first persuade Agnew to resign. He would then appoint a new Vice-President. Mr. Nixon would wait for his choice to be confirmed by Congress and would then step down allowing the new Vice-President to assume full presidential powers until January 1977.

Another underground scenario, circulating in this Watergate-obsessed city assumes that President Nixon would refuse to resign, even in the face of total disaster. At this point, the most respected elders of the Republican Party, perhaps Senator Barry Goldwater, would persuade Vice-President Agnew and the Cabinet that it was their duty to declare Mr. Nixon "incapable" and make Mr. Agnew the acting President until 1977.

According to the 25th Amendment, Mr. Nixon could challenge such a move and the issue would have to be decided by Congress. Mr. Nixon would become President again unless both Houses voted by a two-third majority that he was still

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Mr. Archibald Cox —  
Special Watergate Prosecutor.



Haldeman—The most enigmatic of the Nixon  
aides and former autocrat in residence.



Stance—One of the donors to the  
controversial CREEP funds.



Mr. John Erickson  
who is also in the company of the President.

CHAT WITH  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Such speculative play with legal texts may be overwhelmed by events as in France in 1958, when de Gaulle insisted on a brand new Constitution. But that is the remotest of possibilities in a country where the written Constitution is regarded with even greater reverence than the Presidency.

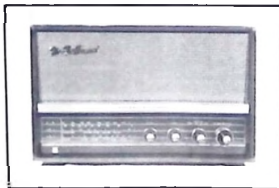
Mr. Nixon today is not the Nixon of November 1972, the year he buried George McGovern in a historical landslide election. He would "fight to finish" to stay in the White House. For if he is dismissed from office, he will not only miss the glamour, excitement, prestige and power, \$200,000 a year of White House money, he would have to face the prospects of civil indictment of actual felonies committed or concealed inside the White House, ranging from theft, burglary, breaking and entering, conspiracy, misuse of CIA and other secret Agents to gather information on the private life of at least one democratic Presidential candidate last year and political activities against opponents of the Nixon Administration by suicide squads of the F.B.I., malfeasance-in-office, suborning perjury, bribery, forgery, obstruction of justice, violations of election laws, too numerous and complicated to list.

President Nixon knows these facts and he has already challenged his accusers to a lengthy court fight. He knows the right constitution inside-out, knows it is clumsy, and is playing a good game of political football with it.

When President Nixon carried the American vote last November by burying his Democratic opponent in a historical landslide, the world was under the illusion that Nixon won by public confidence. Even his achievements in international affairs, the campaign for law and order, the impossible American dream and world peace impressed everybody.

It will be recalled that Time Magazine crowned him religious and Man of the Year sometime ago. Now it has happened that that religious man, that law-and-order man, is accused of abetting burglary and criminal offences; accused of trying to buy the silence of Watergate conspirators by the promise of Presidential clemency. The critical accusation is that of sweeping the pools by the use of illegal funding of campaign. This accusation has led now to a bold question: who runs the United States of America—Nixon or Big Business? OLU AKARAOGUN in documentary analysis answers this question on page . . . . and also gives a vivid discussion on America's electoral politics.

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# newbreed pacesetters



**TOUN TAIWO**

The future of marriage which was discussed in one of our past editions re-echoed again when a final year student of the University of Ife called in our offices recently. Miss Toun Taiwo, an ardent subscriber of NEWBREED, thinks "there is a great future for marriage only if it is based purely on mutual understanding and love."

"What is wrong with marriage", she pointed out, "is the same social problem that pervades our society—material sentiment". She believes that if women stop being selfish and develop broad minds towards marriage it could go a long way to rescue the collapsing old age institution.

Daughter of professional teachers, Miss Taiwo is also training to be a teacher whose inspiration, she said, "was derived from my parent's influence on me and my love for children".

On fashion Toun declared, "fashion should not be aimed to impress, it should aim at beauty and attraction". Herself, an occasional dress maker, she believes that nothing is wrong with fashion as long as the general outlook does not make a person look like a clown. "It is good to be fashionable", she said, "but not so much as to ridicule one's personality".

Asked how soon she intends to pick a man, she said: "Marriage can not be guided by speculations or emotions, it should be allowed to germinate. I am very carefully opening my eyes, to make sure I don't go into it and come out. I am highly determined to make a success out of marriage. Now, no serious arrangements".



**FOLARIN AROGUNMATI**

A twenty-three year old tailor Mr. Folarin Arogunmati recently set up a Tailoring Workshop—at Ogunlana Drive in Surulere, Lagos. The shop, Super Tailors Saloon is fast attracting the white collar class.

"We are new breed tailors. We shall continue to strive for the best and constant improvements. Our aim is to attract those people who care much about their public image", Mr. Arogunmati who is the Managing Director of the Saloon told a NEWBREED reporter.

A determined and hard working young man, Folarin thinks that one does not need to be a doctor or a philosopher before he could make a head-way in life. "What is wrong with our young people is that they don't seem to know exactly what they want. The result is a fruitless adventure, lack of vigour and determination, only to end in absolute failure", he added.

Mr. Arogunmati who now builds male and female attire intends to attract more young and hard working tailors to join his team of what he called "image-builders".

"When we are satisfied with our organizational set-up", he stressed, "the senior members of my staff will then visit Europe and Africa for familiarization. As at now we are just experimenting, afterwards life itself is experiment".



**BOLANLE AKINLA**

"By adopting the way-out psychedelic mode of dressing, boys are looking ridiculous these days. I admire a well-dressed young man with affable manner. I don't even approve of women wearing orthopaedic shoes that are definitely too high. They feel uncomfortable in those shoes anyway".

Miss Bolanle Akinla, 17, who was speaking to a NewBreed researcher recently sees the issue of sugar-daddies as an insidious force slowly but surely corrupting our youths. She thinks very low of any girl who indulges in the sugar-daddy affairs. According to her, "even if it is a matter of depreciation, money should not be the centre of everything".

A product of Queen's College Lagos and Queen's School, Ibadan, Bola hopes to read dentistry at the Lagos University College of Medicine. "There is a big dearth of women specialists in this country. That is why I am determined to do dentistry. I feel this is the kind of spirit necessary for all young progressive women".

Miss Akinla now works in the NBC—Gramophone Library, a job she feels is exciting since she has a high appreciation for old sentimental. But on office romance, she pointed out, "I don't know much about that but", she added, "it is too strange for our culture, and I have no reasons to believe in it".

Miss Akinla, who is the daughter of Dr. Akinla Specialist Gynecologist at LUTH, looks at life with ease and peace.

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# Around the Campus

## COLONEL ALI CLEARS THE AIR ON NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS

On July 2, 1973, 2,600 new graduates of Nigerian Universities were 'conscripted' into the controversial National Youth Service Corps.

This is barely two months after the official establishment of the service as contained in Decree No. 24 of May 23, 1973 amidst confused, hurried and thudorous preparation to launch the scheme.

Although within these two months government have actually improved the image of the scheme by stating in black and white the objectives, the machinery and other benefits of the scheme. Yet there are still wider areas of conflict, suspicion and mistrust by not only the affected graduates but by the general public who are enthusiastic towards a national outlook and goal.

Speaking to NEWBREED at an exclusive interview in his office at Cabinet Office, Tafawa Balewa Square, Lagos Lt. Col. Amadu Ali, Director of the Service Corps impressed and convinced NEWBREED that the National Youth Service Corps is the most positive step taken by the Federal Military Government to re-orientate the already corrupt and vice ridden Nigerian youths. A tradition they acquired from our elite leaders and god fathers.

Let me make it clear here that no Nigerian Government official appointed to direct a public project has been more enthusiastic and spiritually committed to make the scheme a success like Amadu Ali. He is energetic, open minded, humble and not one of the arrogant and power obsessed colonels.

Indeed, the Federal Government seem to have chosen the best man to launch the scheme and give it a business-like approach. Colonel Ali is doing so already. He works long hours and he enjoys it—"I have been used to long hours and overtime. It is a normal thing for us in the military. I enjoy tedious, difficult hours otherwise what do I do with the free hours?".



Lt. Col. Ali

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Amadu Ali is a Consultant Physician at the Armed Forces Medical Service. He was educated at Government College, Zaria (now Barewa College); the Nigeria College of Arts Science and Technology, Zaria; The University of Ibadan; Edinburgh University, Scotland. A keen Sportsman during college years, he was also a student union activist. He was the Secretary-General of the National Union of Nigerian Students in 1957-1958 and Secretary of the Ibadan Medical Students Association in 1961-1962.

Dr. Ali, aged 37, joined the Nigerian Army as a Medical Officer in 1963. At the time of his appointment to direct the National Youth Service Corps, he was Deputy Director of the Nigerian Armed Forces Medical Services. He is married with three children.

Outlining the objectives of the service corps, Lt. Col. Ali stated that "the programme (NYSC) is necessary especially at this time in Nigeria where the attitude and moral tone of Nigerians is at a low key". Agreed. "The present trend of throwing wasteful parties, string pulling at tribal fronts, discrimination, and other evils can only be effectively challenged when the potential leaders of tomorrow are re-channelled and re-educated into developing sincere affection for their fellow men and the country. In effect, the NYC will attempt to improve the moral tone of Nigerians. It will produce a patriotic, disciplined and loyal force in the service of the nation". Good.

Lt. Col. Ali continued: "We also hope that from the experience gained from the corps, the youth will become a self reliant, and dedicated to common national ideals and that they will find no problem in taking up jobs anywhere in the federa-

BY CHRIS OKOLIE

tion irrespective of their state of origin and ethnic background.

On the sour and suspicious question on why university graduates only? Dr. Ali said:

"In the first instance, university graduates constitute the much needed high level manpower which this country required badly.

"Secondly, they are the group that can be quantified more easily, therefore the scheme can be costed more accurately in the early stages of the operation.

"Thirdly, they are a group of young men and women who would find themselves in position of responsibility and leadership in the near future, so it will be necessary to groom them as leaders of tomorrow."

"And fourthly there are several technical colleges—an 'amorphous group', many are not approved, government does not know about the existence of some of them and therefore, they cannot be easily quantified to serve in the NYC".

He explained that the NYC will help Nigerian youths to re-discover themselves, by better interaction with their people as recruits will only serve in a state which is not their state of origin. They will have the opportunity to travel, learn the rich culture of the land which could broaden their general outlook.

On the question of the conscriptional and compulsory nature of the scheme, Col. Ali said: "The Scheme is not compulsory or conscriptional. It is voluntary—in that nobody is conscripted into it. Secondly there are many people who have been given exemption from it. Thirdly many pregnant women have been given deferment. Fourthly, married people with heavy family responsibilities have had their posting re-scheduled. And generally, deferment are granted to post-graduate candidates and professional apprenticeship like medical students who are to do housemanship, lawyers, for law school, articulated graduate accountants etc.

"In a compulsory or conscriptional scheme, candidates have no choice. They are all called-up to serve irrespective of



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## NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS

background. We are implementing it in a humane and flexible manner. So it would be wrong to call it compulsory or con-  
scriptional".

Asked if the interpretation that is, whether the present form of exemptions and implementation of the scheme would not change, he replied: "The interpretation cannot change because it is a federal executive council decision".

Col. Ali does not however agree with the views that the scheme has been hurriedly and badly planned. He said, "I don't think it was hurriedly planned or executed. It is a plan that has taken four years to evolve. The civil servants have been working on the project since then. But as civil servants, they work behind the scene and they are not in a position to make announcement on progress on the work that is going on.

"Besides a lot of people, students, academics, and individuals have written to the government about the shape, method of execution the NYC should take.

"All these views were collected and codified before the present establishment of NYC".

He revealed that the idea of NYC was a product of student recommendation in 1967, and of government thinking. "Perhaps it would be correct to say that both were instrumental to the formation of NYC. Their interest in it encouraged the government to a quicker decision".

The director however, admitted that he is having some administrative problems. He listed interviewing 200 graduates daily with various problems, as major. Each has to be considered on its merits. The late registration of student for degree examinations with their university, omissions, loss of call-up letters or pretence of not having been called-up, as the factors that have slowed down his administration.

He sees the prospects of the National Youth Service Corps as continuing and in all probability will not fold-up, but added that whether or not other category of people should be initiated will depend on the cost and positive effects of the programme.

Col. Ali gave the full year programme for members of N.Y.C. as follows:

- \* 2nd July - 31st July 1973: Orientation Programme.
- \* 1st August - 7th August 1973: Organised Tours of the State.
- \* 8th and 9th August 1973: Departure Stations.
- \* 10th August 1973 - June 23, 1974: Primary Assignments.
- \* Easter Holidays: 3 Weeks |
- \* Xmas Holidays: 3 Weeks | Community Development Projects
- \* June 24, 1974: Return to State Headquarters.
- \* June 25 - 29, 1974: Discussion and exchange of views on the programme

by all members of the Service Corps at the State Headquarters.

\* June 30, 1974: Passing out ceremony.

One fantastic achievement of the government in designing the outlook of this programme is that political orientation has been wisely left out. According to Dr. Ali "Our main interest is to get the students on the programme to become better citizens. If students want to go communist, capitalist or fascist after the programme, that is their own business. We have no desire to politicize the NYC".

NEWBREED however feels that the government blundered in their wages policy to student. I can not see any form of sacrifice when government seemed to have bribed the youth by generous conditions of service instead of creating a climate requiring self-reliance and sacrifice. The objectives or call it ideology of the scheme is enough attraction if Government have not been so secretive about it. The government would need to do civil education about the NYC. Its activities should be widely publicised.

Again the present system of allocation where it appears Northern and ABU graduates are concentrated in Lagos and Western State is not satisfactory. It is even open to political overtones and interpretations. The Director should convince us why this is so.

NEWBREED believes that the Scheme has been hurriedly planned and the present administration needs to be strengthened. Student representatives should be included in the day-to-day running of the scheme on a permanent basis. It should not be left to Civil Servants alone. This will assure the students and will also ensure a realistic demand from the students. If student participation is restricted to mere suggestions or writing to the Director which may be rejected, then bureaucracy and ineffectiveness will rear its ugly head.

We wish the NYC all the success it deserves and hope that the present shortage of funds and inability to quantify other youths will soon be resolved so that the scheme will embrace more non-university youths and clear the suspicion, doubts, conflicts and mistrust surrounding it.

### MOOD OF STUDENTS ON NYC SAMPLED OPINIONS WERE GATHERED AT NSSUKA AND IBADAN CAMPUSES.

I see the N.Y.S.C. as a laudable scheme designed to achieve National Unity, National consciousness, moral discipline and equal distribution of manpower throughout the country. One major snag lies in the organisation and administration.

For this scheme to succeed, the government should appoint Niger-



ians of high calibre in integrity and character. The government should also realise that money incentives does not necessarily lead to high morale and high productivity.

Group norms and cordial human relations are very vital for the success of any organisation and this is where the government failed with the students.

Perhaps, the N.Y.S.C. may yet lead to the emergence of a dynamic political movement that can produce the ideal leadership we have been yearning for in this country.

Mich Obi Madubuke, President  
Room 302 Awolowo Hall,  
University of Nsukka.

I am not yet able to reconcile the name. If it means "National Youth Service", then by all means let it involve all the youths in the nation. On the other hand if the aim is to steer only the corp of our 'youthful' intellectuals into developing a common feeling, national dedication, and the realisation of national responsibility, then the venture should be christened to reflect such objective.

But a compulsory service at this stage when parents have borrowed to train their children is shattering the individual and family plans. The government should have set some years aside a period she would have been turning out graduates through a National Loan Scheme.



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## MOOD OF STUDENTS ON NYS

A haphazard introduction now can not mean indigenisation policy and neither can it help bridge the gap between the rural and urban areas. I ask, have we built a labour force that can be restricted without causing stagnation somewhere?

In short, I am saying that the scheme be rechristened and deferred, if even to develop an ideology nationalistic in outlook.

**Chide Ubani,**  
(3rd year student of Pharmacy),  
217 Balewa Hall, Univ. Nsukka.

It's better that the number of years has been cut down to one. The money has been increased, but is it taxable? If not, then the conditions are fair but if it is, then I don't think it is worth all the trouble. I don't know why only university students should be involved in the service. What about those jobless juveniles that are on the increase. These should be utilised since they're the real youths. School leavers have fantastic ideas but when they get to university, they become disgruntled with life, the government, and so at this level they aren't really suitable. I feel school certificate students and those who have just finished Higher School should be utilised.

**Teresa Deinsah,** Queens Hall.

It's not compromising. They're too much in a hurry trying to do things the military way. They should have waited for some time.

**Aghabiaka,** Sultan Bello Hall.

The idea sounds okay, but why only university students? To be more effective, it should involve a greater percentage, not just graduates. Is it only graduates that should sacrifice for the nation? (Sorry). Are we safe? Anyway I don't think that one year is enough if we are really to serve the nation. We should go from state to state instead of just one state. How much can really be done in one year.

**Carny Tay,** Zik Hall.

The aim is very good. If Nigeria has to develop, we have to do it ourselves. It will also help a large number of us to understand people from other parts of the country. The only snag is the question of regimenting us and putting us under stupid officials. We in the south feel as though everything is geared towards developing the north.

The question of graduate from overseas university not getting involved immediately, is unfair. We would rather have youths as those below 40 and this should include everyone, the soldiers notwithstanding. I think the salary is okay. We can only say how effective it is after the first trial.

**Tosin Odumosun,**  
Sultan Bello Hall.

I'm not happy with the whole thing because we're being forced, instead of them trying to win our confidence. I don't like the conditions. It's a sacrifice on our part. I feel that all young people should be involved instead of just graduates.

**Aloy, Mellamby Hall.**

I have no comments. It's all bull shit.

**Timmy Dabiri,**  
Independence Hall.

The idea is not bad but having to stay in camps isn't appealing.

**Inam Udo-Udoma,** Zik Hall.

It seems as though certain percentage of the population, that's students, are being victimised. I feel it should be nationwide.

**Dotun Ogunyemi,** Zik Hall.

Because the war is now over.

**Oba,** Independence Hall.

Government feels its a duty but students don't feel so. We feel that this is not the right approach and this may affect productivity. The aim is national unity but it is rather late at this level i.e. university. It should be impressed at a lower level.

**Sultan Bello Hall.**

It's going to be fun up north. I'm going to have a great time chasing all those beautiful fula girls. I feel however that it should include a military training for everyone, including the girls, where we all stay in the same camps. I'm just looking forward.

**Bobby Kalango,** Zik Hall

That the compulsory National Youths Service Corps has come to stay, is a commendable achievement by the Federal Military Government. But I still do not agree with the idea of recruiting only graduates; as the percentage of these youngmen and women in relation to the entire population of youths in Nigeria is very small to make the desired impact.

Like some other countries in which it has been a success, Age-limit should be the only criterion for recruitment, in which case, the programme will have a wider scope and therefore include all citizens who fall within the limit; irrespective of class, marital status and state of origin.



On the other hand, why not the Federal Military Government also mobilise Secondary School Leavers most of whom are unemployed and may in the near future constitute a threat to the National Economy.

I also wish to point out, that it would be a waste of manpower if the 'corp' leaders make the mistake of deploying these professional and skilled men and women into areas not related to their fields of specialization.

**Nnaemeka Nzekwe,**  
Dept. of Animal Science,  
Room 119 Akpabio Hall, U.N.N.

The aims of the National Youth Service Corps are quite laudable, more appealing even is the idea; the idea of a brief pilgrimage to the country side, labouring side by side with counterparts from other parts of the nation before finally plunging into the grind of the rat race. From the approach used in the establishment of this corps. The authorities responsible seem to have felt that the students should not or could not contribute relevant ideas to the working of the corps. It is this feeling of being coerced that rankles deep down.

A solution however is possible; The government on its part should improve its public relations in connection with the corps. Then the graduates should show the expected maturity by accepting the shortcomings of the government and thus make possible the materialisation of this altruistic ideal.

**Anele Ebizie,  
Eyo-Ita Hall, U.N.N.**

I am an enthusiastic supporter of the National Youth Service Corps. University undergraduates are generally regarded as leaders of tomorrow. If therefore we leaders of tomorrow are to tackle successfully the herculean tasks facing this nation, we must be prepared to undergo the one year period of disorientation and orientation. Disorientation from the cult of the tribe and state with all its prejudices and parochialism involved. Orientation—within the youth corps of the nation would inculcate into youth the dreams, aspirations and ideals of one united Nigeria. If this innovation succeeds, we shall have leaders that are prepared to make all humanly possible sacrifices for their fellow country men leaders that see the nation a fatherland and leaders that see themselves as children of one family.

**Femi Kehinde Olupona,  
Awolowo Hall, U.N.N.**

The NYSC scheme is good in its principles, but how well will it assist the "youths" in the development of patriotic sense!

This idea of NYSC may be said to have originated in Great Britain

after the vast achievement of Bismack in inculcating sense of loyalty and patriotism into the Germans during the unification of Germany in 1870s. Britain did not want to copy Germany and therefore had to introduce another means of securing loyalty among the "youths".

There is nothing bad in the NYSC in Nigeria if only it could achieve its various aims which include among other aims, inculcating of discipline into the "youths".

This idea offers an opportunity for a Nigerian to know more about his/her country especially of other states than his/hers and how far the country is progressing, whether the progress is on equilibrium basis or not. It will also remove some parochial ideas some people may tend to have about other areas. What is more, it will make the "youths" think of the way to develop this multi-state country. One knows more about his people by living among them.

But it will rather be a mere support, if I fail, as an undergraduate, to point out that though the policy is good it will have some consequences.

Firstly, those below thirty years will suffer in two ways. The first is that there is a reduction on their salary for one year and furthermore, they will have to start afresh the next year on the former initial scale (N1,680 p.a.). But is it a curse for people below thirty years to read at an early age?

Another point to note is that while this service is restricted only to Nigerian graduates studying in Nigeria below thirty years, Nigerian graduates from overseas countries will feel that our standard of education is inferior to theirs.

But all said and done, it is a good scheme for it will create a basis for both social contact and a forum for political discussion against 1976 civilian election if and only if the Army is willing to hand over to the civilians by that year.

I doff my hat for the planners for it is a partial fulfilment of creative sense of oneness among the Nigerian "Youths".

**Shola D. Araoye,  
Dept. of History/Archaeology,  
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.**

The conditions are okay—however I feel that it should involve military training because it helps to discipline people. I also feel that it should involve an insurance scheme

**Sola Aboderin,  
Queens Hall, U.N.N.**

The conditions aren't too bad especially as its only for one year. It'll help unemployment as some people find it difficult to find jobs for even up to nine months after graduating, only if they know people in responsible posts who'll help them out. The only disadvantage is that you won't be able to choose where you'd like to be and this can lead to frustration. Anyway the whole idea is good because it'll help promote unity in the country.

**Tunde, Queens Hall, U.N.N.**

I really don't dig losing those twelve months you know. Anyway it's all a nice idea for it makes you feel more of a Nigerian and you get to know more people. I would have preferred it if military training had been included. Pay isn't bad.

**Yinka Gesimil,  
Sultan Bella Hall, U.N.N.**

I think the conditions are okay. After all, if you go to work how much will you earn, and if it's only for one year. I think I'll enjoy it because there'll be many of us there. The only thing I won't like to be taken to where there'll be shortage of water and no electricity. I think married women should be exempt because one year is too long to live without your husband since it'll give him an opportunity to play around.

**Folake Atunmbi,  
Queens Hall, U.N.N.**

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# HUMOUR

It was a fun fair for two, both enjoyed the fun. One out of the two contributed more towards the fair, the other frolicked; swung; sighed; and murmured saying "It's painful, it's enough, remove it".

A lady Secretary was involved in a scandal in one of the big offices in Enugu.

When she could bear it no longer she decided to see the Manager about it.

"Please Sir," she said, "I can not take this thing lying down. I want to report to the Police."

"Well, well," replied the Manager, "maybe you took it bending down, which would be more realistic, since we don't have beds in the office." "Oh no!" she sobbed. "So you too think I did it."

During the crisis an escapee went to a landlord at Aba for an accommodation.

"Well," said the Landlord, "I understand that you people from Enugu always take your Landlords to court. Now if you want to leave in my house you must observe my rules which are that:

- \* You must pay your rent regularly.
- \* You must keep the yard clean.
- \* You must maintain peace.

"Alright," agreed the would-be tenant, "I shall do all these provided I will have comfort."

"Sorry then," replied the Landlord, getting up from his chair. "I am afraid I have no accommodation."

His daughter's name happened to be Comfort.

A woman was giving her five year old son a hot bath one cold evening.

"Mummy," said the boy, "So Daddy has this thing too," holding his genital organ.

"Shut up," reprimanded the mother, "who told you that?". "The maid," replied the boy.

"Damn it," said the mother, "so she has been messing around with my husband in my absence."

"Maybe," the boy said, "she always tells me I look very much like my Dad."

A man went to spend a week-end with a friend somewhere in Enugu.

In the morning the wife served him rice and fried plantain for breakfast. Then on a second thought she asked him, "Do you want fork?"

"Yes, no, I mean em! not immediately," answered the man. "I can have it when your man leave for work."

A girl wanted her boy-friend to buy her her favourite indoor game. Ashamed

to pronounce the name she wrote it on a piece of paper.

On reaching the shop the boy-friend walked up to the sales lady. "Excuse me please," she said, "do you have Toto - -, Toto - -, I mean em!" he fiddled in his pocket for the piece of paper. He had forgotten the full name.

Before he could produce it the lady had walked away to attend to another customer. "Sorry", she said over her shoulder, "we don't sell what you've asked for in the shop."

He wanted "Totopoly".

1st man: The President said over the radio last night that we are going to fight a war.

2nd man: Yes—but I think the President should watch his English.

1st man: In what way?

2nd man: He said "We"—he is never going to go to the battle field, it is you and I who will. So what's the "we" for?

Young politician: "What must we do to have peace".

Old politician: We must first of all fight a war! Because there is no peace without war.

Pastor to young boy: You should always pray to God to give you your daily bread.

Young boy: Yes—but I will like it buttered too.

He: Are you married for better or for worse?

Him: For better not for worse.

He: What do you mean by that?

Him: To better my monetary condition with hers.

"Wehn you are caught by a traffic policeman for a traffic offence in Lagos—go into your car and put a piece of paper into an envelope and hand it to the policeman".

Mr. B: "A piece of paper"?

Mr. A: "Yes—he will think it is money".

1st man: "I heard you wrote a book on the purpose of life. Did you actually explain its purpose?"

2nd man: "No one can explain that, I just wrote it for the money it will fetch me".

1st man: "How will it fetch you money?"

2nd man: "It will do so because people will buy the book to see if was able to explain the purpose of life."

1st man: "What happens when they find out you did not?"

2nd man: "Who cares, so long as they have bought it!"

It is true that the world will end one day. The big question however is—who will end it? God in his anger or man with his nuclear weapons.

The world is getting over populated and still more children are being born. The strange thing about this is that nine out of every ten child is a girl who will grow up to be the man of tomorrow, bear more children and what do we have—Population Explosion!

He: Is it true that for every one man there are about three women?

Him: That is a fact.

He: Too bad!

Him: Why is it too bad?

He: Too bad for some women who will have no husbands to find fault with.

Two teenage boys—a black and a white were having an argument. The white boy racially prejudiced said the the black "I hear there are black monkeys over there in Africa"?

"Yes", replied the black. "However they are better cultured than some of you white apes".

In Lagos some people after closing from work about 5 p.m. get home about six. They wash and get dressed and at about 10 p.m. go to night clubs. In the early hours of the morning they go home. Due to the burning of a lot of midnight oil they wake up late and thus arrive at their work place late with the old age excuse that their lateness was due to traffic hold up.

It's surely nice to have the Lagos traffic jams, it gives us an excuse to get out of a work jam.

He: The thing a man does is wake up early in the morning, bathe; eat and rush to work. At five you close and rush home. Bathe, eat and finally sleep. All this business of living is just to eat and drink; isn't it?

Him: Sure man, when you totally stop these two things you are dead.

# Newbreed politics



*A family house in a nation's capital. Are we really a rich nation?*

With the 1973/74 Federal Government Budget announcement Nigeria's oil power continues its impressive upward trend—a large proportion of the budget, is going on defence, administration and and prestige projects.

The new increased Budget reflects a surge in national income which even makes it possible and more desirable to utilise some of the nation's surplus resources for the benefit of the Nigerian masses. This does not seem to be the case (we repeat) a substantial percent of Federal funds are allocated to white elephant projects—building Heathrow-type airports, defence and enlarged bureaucracy. Nigeria here seems to be behaving like Russian and China by building motorways and airports in key centres of the country for prestige and political propaganda.

were built at least in all divisional centres so that our people can survive cholera and dysentery attacks by obtaining better and faster treatment. The Budget could have made further sense if a better form of transportation were to be provided instead of the present unreliable, confused, congested, and inadequate system in our cities. These are grass-root fundamental policy which our economic planners have failed to grasp because they appear to be insensitive to poverty in an industrial future.

No matter the rationale of the present economic policy, it is a national disgrace, in this era of the Naira, that Nigerian masses are still terribly destitute and deprived of basic human needs. At present in Nigeria the non-college educated and the unemployed are doomed.

wide. Despite scientific progress in launching man on the moon and considerable progress in discovering Life in outer space, no nation has provided a scientific solution to Social problems.

However, some nations have made conscientious efforts and good progress. Some have made less impact. Others, including Nigeria, appear to have deliberately refused to approach the problem with serious thought and action. They have simply played down and swept the cardinal issues under the carpet.

The big question that hangs on, menacingly, is should we in the midst of

By Chris Okolo

# PEOPLE'S CAPITALISM

This aspect of the Budget is definitely another bonanza and milestone for the minority elites. It makes sense, if the money was spent on electrification for all, provision of pipe-borne water so that our people will stop walking miles to fetch dirty Polluted Pond water. It makes better sense if more hospitals

That was why when new breed readers last May demanded to know: What is NEWBRED Social Policy; Where is our Support—Capitalist or Socialist System? we considered it a vital and fundamental question to answer.

The problem of "Equality" and the distribution of "Wealth" is today world-

surging economic wealth allow the intensification of a unified elite system or socialise the nation? Our answer is total rejection of the present privileged class system, the coalesced property-owning landed aristocracy and industrial bourgeoisie. It should be changed at once and replaced by People's Capitalism of a

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# PEOPLE'S CAPITALISM

## 'Socialist Democracy'

At the same time, we would not recommend an all-round 'socialisation' or 'welfarisation', where what ought to be a right is given a price tag or turns out to benefit the middle class more than the disadvantaged class whom it was originally meant to benefit.

The British history of Welfare State, where elites have refused to participate in some aspects of the welfare programme and also have clearly mapped out a route and life style to remain the governing class and superior, teaches us also to reject the kind of welfare schemes that cannot be sustained because of poor resources. If we do, it will be helping the rich to get richer and the poor poorer.

From their experience of the welfare service, it has been proved that the working class because of poor education have great difficulties in manipulating the wider society, in managing change, in choosing between alternatives, in finding their way round the complex of welfare especially health care.

The higher income groups know how to make better use of the service, they tend to receive more specialist attention: occupy most of the beds in better equipped and staffed hospitals; receive more elective surgery; have better maternity care; and are more likely to get Psychiatric help and Physiotherapy than low income groups.

Oxford and Cambridge (Oxbridge) graduates still enjoy a monopoly of administrative positions in Whitehall, Britain's Civil Service headquarters. Also the power-elite, fearing contamination and drawbacks of slum children, still pack their children off to £1,400 a year public schools like Eton, Rugby and Harrow. Public schools in Britain feed Oxbridge with over one-third of its entrants.

The heat is now on 'comprehensivisation' of schools. The argument is that the present system where brighter children, many from affluent homes, go to grammar schools and study in a more intellectual environment, while the ghetto children go to modern schools and study in a less stimulating atmosphere, does not help the move towards an equal opportunity through education. Instead, a comprehensive school with grammar schools and other schools combined should be established, and every child, bright or dull, should study under the same roof, as against the present unfavourable grammar and modern school system. This is a pet Labour idea.

But the Conservative Government cannot see grammar schools die. They maintain that everyone has the right to choose the type of school and schooling they require. The bitter truth is that their educational system is still largely segregated which ensures a progressive trend of 'inequality'.

It would, therefore, be unwise to spread the net of welfare policy in such a way that it tends to create a double standard and continued discrimination. If we decided on, say, free education, the standard should be high enough. It should be the type that would encourage the middle class to participate. Even if they decided to send their children to the millionaire's school or somewhere else, better and more expensive, that should not give them any privilege over others except by merit alone. The whole system should be a meritorious one.

An interesting aspect of this analysis is that Britain and Nigeria appear to share the same social outlook. We all still remember very well that Britain colonised and ruled Nigeria and that by the time of departure, she left behind some of her culture, legacy and traditions, especially the dangerous class system. Nigeria, since then, has continued to operate this system.

In the distribution of wealth, private and public, Nigeria is again essentially British. The basic difference is that in Nigeria millions of people are starving and dying in poverty despite the fact that Nigeria is supposed to be a rich country. There are no indications also that this uninterrupted dominance of the minority class in a society which has long been the most "proletarianised" in the world, which is surely one of the most striking phenomena of modern times, will change. Nobody is starving in such a dimension in Britain and the socialist world.

Let us make it clear that our brand of socialism is not left wing Socialism or Communism. It is different in the sense that we realise that greed (Capitalism) is a human nature but this drive can be controlled.

Left wing Socialism and Communism is a dictatorial process. The control of individual mind and freedom is not compatible with civilisation and democracy. Certainly, if it were possible mankind would prefer economic warfare and political independence instead of economic freedom and political slavery.

The Communists claim that communal efforts bring better productivity, equality for all and virtually less unemployment, if any at all. Yet, communist states like Poland and Yugoslavia have suffered from chronic unemployment for many years. Even in the Soviet Union there have been open statements admitting unemployment existence as early as 1960's.

It is one of the few instances in which a biblical teaching is practiced, "He who does not work shall not eat" or "from thy sweat shall thou eat". Soviet logic (even though it claims 'Communal living') maintains that a person who loses a job can always find work if he is willing to take any job at any wage, so there is no unemployment relief—but as already mentioned in the 1960's they had admitted the existence of unemployment. The Soviets do not worry about loss of pride and emotional equilibrium a person

might suffer if he has to take a low paying job of less prestige in an entirely different part of the country. Similarly the pension for the aged are low that many old people keep on working long as they are able.

The Soviet worker is subjected managerial authority, such has not been known in Capitalistic countries for over a generation. Under Soviet managerial failure could result in strike labour or even execution. In more recent years the manager who fails in production quota is more likely to be fired and downgraded to a less responsible position. The communist promise of liberating the worker from capitalist oppression has turned into the reality of complete subjection to management by direct representative of the all powerful state.

Wages are based on performance rather than on fixed hourly rates. It is practice concentrated on maximum production. The incentive for higher pro-



In his own country this man is hopeless uncared for and abandoned only because he is insane.

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come rather than service for the Community has become the main appeal. Personal income taxes in U.S.S.R. are among the heaviest in the world but 90% of their revenue accrue from sales tax and indirect levies.

According to an American Professor, "The group with the highest incomes are Ministers, Scientists, Business Managers and Executives, Professors and Medical Doctors, just in line with the Capitalist". Inheritance tax has been abolished since 1942 in U.S.S.R.—another benefit to the affluent elements of Soviet Economy.

Capitalism with all its political benefits has its ugly and unacceptable face, too. That is why it should be "democratized". The Watergate bugging and the subsequent White House crisis is not only one of the many famous historical American scandals, but has also exposed the monstrous evil underlined in naked Capitalism advocated and practiced by America—the most criminally-minded nation in the world. (See page 30 on "The Power Behind the Presidency").

The bias of Capitalism in favour of private ownership of the means of production is based on two major considerations; first, ownership of productive property means power over the lives of other people; it is preferable that such powers be diffused to many property owners rather than be held by one owner, the State. Moreover, the economic power of private property owners can be curbed by the properly elected governments; were the State to own all productive property, economic and political power will coincide, and the outlook for personal economic liberty would be doomed. Secondly, the assumption of Capitalist thinking is that technological progress is more easily attained when each person minds his own business and has personal incentive to do so.

This personal incentive in Capitalism, as already pointed out, can be controlled from turning into the American type of greediness that could lead to the systematic "bugging, and Confidential Card-indexing of a nation."

America has achieved greatness and a high standard of living through capitalism but it is not democratic Capitalism, since economic power in the U.S. is concentrated largely in few hands.

To quote again another passage from Dr. William Ebenstein—"The present concentration is high enough to suggestions that America's economic system still has a long way to go before it can rightly be called people's capitalism.

"The 400 largest industrial corporations (manufacturing, mining, construction, trade and services) hold over 40% of the assets of all industrial corporation and nearly one third of all industrial enterprises (incorporated and unincorporated).

In manufacturing concentration is higher: the top 200 manufacturing corporations hold 55% of all manufacturing assets, (corporated and incorporated) and employ about 40% of the labour force in all manufacturing enterprise. In research and development, the 50 largest corporations employ nearly half of the total scientific and technical personnel".



*This child is born to a beggar. Helpless, perhaps he too will have to beg. But, he is a Nigerian.*

What we have tried in this economical and political survey is to show that the principal issue at stake is not who owns the means of production but how can society benefit more from any of those economic philosophies.

We do not believe in a governing class by privilege, we realise that inequality in society can not be totally curbed. All that can be done is that the whole system must at least appear to be fair. We should be generous and compassionate to the poor, ensure progressive redistribution of wealth, but that does not make all of us equal. Inequality is always least resented when expectations are low, and conversely deprivations are most strongly felt when a previous great expectation has been disappointed. This does not mean that even if 'slaves preferred to be slaves' slavery is just, and if everyone was miserable under a just regime, this would not make misery unjust.

Therefore, we are recommending people's Capitalism for Nigeria as the only way out—a system that will guarantee minimum standard of living for every one at the same time will support healthy competition and reward. The people who happen to be more successful and the governing class, not by privilege would be required to pursue socially desirable programmes.

Minimum standard of living must be part of one's right as a citizen. Other benefits should be progressively in line with economic growth.

Nationalization should be restricted to public interests only not as a method or policy to revive failing national income and other depressions. Some people argue that Nigeria is currently implementing the welfare programme embodied in people's capitalism, although on a small scale. For example, we have free primary education, Hospitals etc.

It is completely misleading to say that we have a welfare programme, for the present Nigeria. The General Hospital ought to be free but in practice everything from card to drugs and hospitalization are paid by patients in our kind of society where the state capital has a concentrated general and limited teaching hospitals. Free primary education in Nigeria is also a false. School fees are charged in primary schools in the North, Midwest and East Central States. Unemployment is mounting despite our economic boom. Public transport is not only grossly inefficient but inadequate and expensive. Low cost government houses, for the poor, are being occupied by big men or their relatives.

Nigeria must now rethink and chose between prestige and priority in her economic policy. Welfare programmes are a must and should be a birth right in this era of the Naira.

If future governments fail to recognise and guarantee a minimum civilized standard of living for everyone, we should all be prepared to face another episodic crisis more like a war or a guerrilla movement.

NEWBREED will certainly play a major role in the revolution of the masses towards a better and fair Nigeria.

# WHO RULES USA NIXON OR BIG BUSINESS?



by Olu Akaragun

It is best to start this examination of where real and effective power in American government lies with a few platitudes about the American political system.

As of now only two major political parties matter in the U.S.A. These are the Democratic Party and the Republican Party.

The older of the two parties is the Democratic Party which was functioning as far back as 1792. One of its founding members was Thomas Jefferson, one of the authors of the American independence and who was elected President of the U.S. in 1800. Jefferson was from the agricultural South and this fact affected his political outlook and the traditions of the Democratic Party.

The other major American political Party is the Republican Party which was founded in 1854 and gave the U.S. its first Republican President in 1860—Abraham Lincoln.

According to a United States Information Service (USIS) booklet on the 1972 U.S. presidential elections: "The Republican party originated in the North and became identified with the interests of business and industry."

This close identification of the interests of the Republican Party and those of business and industry is very significant. It will show us later how those who pay the piper in American politics also dictate the tune.

However, let us note in passing a few more platitudes about the American political system. When the Democratic Party was started around 1792, the other parties in existence were the Federalist party and the Whigs. The Republican party supplanted both the Federalists and the Whigs as the other major party in American politics.

Nowadays it is difficult to discern what ideological issues, if any, divide the Democrats and the Republicans. So far, both parties have had about the same number of popular votes in USA's presi-

dential elections since both parties started vying for supremacy in America's political arena.

The Democratic Party and Republican Party send up their members if elected, to the White House in Washington as U.S. presidents. They also provide members to the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives. The victorious party also nominates candidates to fill several Federal government offices, particularly in the executive arm of government. Let us briefly note here another set of platitudes about the US system of government.

The executive arm of government is headed by a President who is elected nationally every four years. Members of the Senate are elected every six years; while members of the House of Representatives are elected every two years. Both the Senate and the House of Representatives constitute the Houses of Congress—which is the legislative arm of the US government.

The President nominates candidates to fill vacancies in the US Supreme Court which is the judicial arm of government. It is a very important arm because the US Supreme Court is often called upon to pronounce on the constitutionality or otherwise of legislation passed by Congress.

Unlike in Britain, the US legislature is not supreme; it has to act within the constitution. The US is one of the so-called democracies where an attempt is made to separate the powers of the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary. Each of the three arms of government is expected, at least in theory, to provide checks and balances on the action of the others, so that none can exceed their constitutional powers. The platitudes we have noted so far make up the neat picture presented in any text book on American civics. But in the real world, things are not that neat and orderly.

Like in any political community, there

are those who hold the substance of power. In England for example, the Queen enjoys the shadow of power. The substance of power is held by the Prime Minister and his friends in the City of London who make the British economy tick.

There are also the 'Kingmakers' and the "whispers behind the throne" who are the real decision-makers. The President or the Prime Minister or whoever they have chosen as their megaphone is only a glorified errand boy who dutifully echoes the opinions of Kingmakers whom power put him in office.


If this sounds too different from what is written on civics text-books, it is because the real world is very much different from classrooms.

Politics is about the acquisition and use of power. In the two-party system such as is run in the US and in Britain, the winning political party takes all. That is why everything is put into the business of acquiring political power. The stakes are very high and all the high-minded stuff one reads about in text-books have no basis in reality.

cont. Page 37



President Nixon



## ANGELA BROWN

Britain has one of the worst cold weathers in the world—its long winters—wet, cold and dreary and its people confined indoors. Life is dull and gloomy. That is why every summer, English girls go wild and free and flock to the scenic open fields.

Besides, they go crazy in the name of fashion. Like Angela Brown in pix above taking a cool lie on the grass while lazing away a warm summer day.

Angela is casually dressed in a faded Denim Jeans with a studded Sheriff shirt. The Danish clogs completes the air of freedom.

On Page 34, Angela is again seen in a pair of white acrylic roll-neck dress which is conveniently convertible.

Photo-by: Armet Francis, London.

ANGELA BROWN





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This last observation is very much true of modern American politics. White Americans have come a long way from the days of their so-called founding Fathers who held public offices with the greatest reluctance. George Washington, for example, had to be persuaded to accept office as America's first President.

Nowadays, white Americans regard the office of president as a politician's highest prize. Everything is thrown in to win this coveted prize. The two parties—Democrats and Republicans—do everything to ensure that their candidates win the presidential elections.

In a country like North America, which is the size of a continent and has a population of over 200 million people, the machinery of national elections has certain obvious economic implications.

The most influential men in either party dominate the political machine. Where money is needed to run a campaign, it is the bosses of the political party machine who know those who can aid the party with money. In other words, there is a link up between the party bosses and the generous donors to the party funds.

It is only natural that when a candidate finally gets elected to the White House, he does not forget those who, through their donations, have made his election possible. Even if a new president wants to get carried away by his own private notions of statesmanship, the bosses of the political party machine to which he belongs constantly remind him of his obligations.

The naked truth is that people donate to the funds of political parties not

Americans are supposed to be running a democracy and not a plutocracy. The importance of money in American politics has been a source of worry to Americans who care about the fate of genuine democracy in their country as opposed to sham electoral politics.

When he was leaving the White House at the end of his second term as President, the late General Dwight Eisenhower, warned about the savoury influence on American political life of the "military-industrial" lobby.

General Eisenhower definitely knew what he was talking about. During the 1939-45 war, he was the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe. He knew the intimate workings of the military in both the US and in Europe.

He was elected the Republican president of the US in 1952, a post he held till he was succeeded by John Kennedy in 1960. While he was the President of the US for eight years, he knew at first hand what pressures a president was exposed to. Also, he knew who and what lobbies exerted these pressures on the occupant of the White House in Washington.

Now, what is the significance of President Eisenhower's warning about the unsavoury influence of the military-industrial lobby on the US President? The fact is that the US is the world's most advanced technological power. American technology has enabled her to assemble the most sophisticated and mighty war machine in the history of mankind.

Ideologically, the US believes in a free-enterprise capitalist system. The US has taken upon itself the role of a policeman to make the world safe for "democracy". All these facts hang together.

American technology was developed by private individuals running private enterprises. When the US government decides to keep the lead in the world armaments race, it depends to a large extent on private arms manufacturers to deliver the goods. Today in the US, a number of defence industries have grown up. The US government awards a number of defence contracts to giant firms. These private firms manufacture items ranging over military air-craft, guns, armoured cars, napalm and other war chemicals. These defence industries constitute an important part of the US domestic economy.

There are several communities where the workers are virtually dependent on some defence contracts. Thus the private firms who make money out of the production of war weapons will strive to win more and bigger contracts in order to achieve the capitalist's dream of maximum profits. These defence contractors are therefore most interested to see that whoever occupies the White House is sympathetic to their cause.

Where whole communities are dependent for their livelihood on some defence



Reception for Nixon in Texas.

Modern electioneering in America involves the maximum use of the mass media of communication to project a particular candidate and the programme of the political party he belongs to.

Then the candidate has to visit almost every state and make personal appearances. A presidential candidate has to be aided by a staff of campaign workers including fund raisers, speech writers, secretaries, canvassers and so forth. To do all this costs a lot of money, running into several million dollars.

What this means is that a candidate without sufficient money cannot make serious impact in the presidential campaign and therefore cannot win the elections.

Put in another way, it means that in order to become a US president, you must either have ample money like John Kennedy or you must have rich friends who are able and are willing to support your candidature with millions of dollars like Dick Nixon.

Now, both the Democratic Party and the Republican Party have vast political machines whose business it is to put their candidates into the White House

because they are philanthropic; but because they want the victorious candidate to be well disposed towards them. They do not mind that about 75 million people vote to put the president in office. What these "generous" donors care about is that they should be able to control indirectly whoever occupies the White House.

The USIS booklet, quoted earlier, says that the Republican Party has become identified with the interests of business and industry. So, if businessmen and industrialists contribute to the campaign funds of a Republican presidential candidate who is successful, they will expect the president to pursue policies and programmes which businessmen and industrialists consider favourable to them.

As said earlier, it is becoming more difficult, if not impossible, for a man without ample money to succeed in American politics. The economics of electioneering in, the US are such that only those who are very rich or who have access to millions of dollars can hope to be successful.



industries, the government too has an interest in keeping them alive. To close down such industries would lead to unemployment and social dislocation which is the last thing any government wants.

Moreover, there is free mobility of labour among the top Army brass and the top echelon of the big business and industrial corporations.

To put the matter briefly, there is close understanding between the Pentagon—the US war office, and the giant private US Corporations. It also happens that these corporations which are after government contracts are the most generous donors to the coffers of the two US major parties.

Defence contractors make most money when there is a war going on such as the 1939-45 war, the Korean war and now the war in South-East Asia in which America plays the dominant role of all the countries of the so-called free world.

In this type of situation, the issue of war and peace is not decided in practice only the President and the Congress. Kingmakers who are not in government, but in business are interested too.

A US president cannot just discontinue a defence contract worth billions of dollars, simply because it is no longer needed.

Such an action may hurt a corporation which has donated generously to party funds. And since presidential elections are conducted every four years, it is not wise to antagonise those who keep the party purse always filled up.

General Eisenhower's fear was that if care was not taken, the US President will have to take dictation or bow to the wishes of the military-industrial lobby in the US.

All this has to do with the influence of money on US politics and politicians. This is how a USIS booklet on the US presidential campaign for 1972 put the matter:

"The cost of all this campaigning, however, can be monumental and Americans have become worried that the techniques of salesmanship may replace serious debates of political issues, and that candidates may find themselves beholden to the rich who can provide them with the money for television time and newspaper advertising.

"So, Congress passed, last year, new rules on campaign spending and President Nixon signed them into law on February 7, 1972, saying that they "will guard against campaign abuses and will work to build public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process".

The US law on campaign spending says that presidential candidates may spend on their campaigns no more than 10 cents for each vote-age resident of the United States.

This worked out at about 14 million US dollars as at 1972. Of this amount only about 60 per cent is to be spent on television time and newspaper advertising.

This total is about a third less than

what the Republican Party spent on the successful Nixon campaign of 1968; and a third more than the Democratic Party spent on the unsuccessful Hubert Humphrey campaign of the same year.

Furthermore, the law lays down complete rules allowing the Press and the public to know the name and political affiliation of every individual who gives more than 100 US dollars to any presidential campaign.

If faithfully implemented this law will keep campaign spending within defined limits. The point remains of course that some candidates may find it difficult to raise 14 million US dollars—thus finding money still a serious handicap to their electoral prospects.

Secondly, the law if faithfully observed will enable Americans to know who is supporting which candidate with how much money. That is if those who pay the piper in the White House must dictate the tune, ordinary Americans will be in a position to know who are those likely to dictate tunes to their President.

For a long time, it has been known that various rich individuals representing different powerful sectional interests in the U.S. have been contributing to the campaign funds of both the Democratic and Republican Parties. There is a vague awareness also that these generous donors seek to influence the policies of the U.S. Administration. But specific allegations came to light during the 1972 presidential campaign.

The American Newsweek Magazine of September 11, 1972 quoted President Nixon as saying about the law on campaign spending: "technical violations have occurred and are occurring, apparently on both sides".



Vice President, Spiro Theodore Agnew.



At the election victory celebration, Nixon rejoiced over the landslide victory which gave him another four years in the White House.

A certain Mr. Dole wrote to the U.S. General Accounting Office and made the following allegations:

"That General Motors (the largest US Corporation) heir, Stewart Mott, contributed a total of 377,500 U.S. dollars to McGovern's campaign funds; but, says the allegation, Democratic Party records showed receipt of only 198,000 U.S. dollars.

"That computer magnate, Max Palevsky donated 350,000 U.S. dollars; but the records showed only 102,000 U.S. dollars.

"That McGovern had received 50,000 U.S. dollars from Playboy magazine publisher—Hugh Hefner, and had channelled the money in 2,500 U.S. dollar lots through dummy committees in order to avoid gift tax payments required by law on sums over 3,000 U.S. dollars. All these foregoing allegations related to the Democratic Party.

President Nixon's Republican Party was not clean either. In September of 1972, the General Accounting Office alleged "apparent and possible" violations of the new federal campaign financing law against the Republican Finance Committee to re-elect the President.

The General Accounting Office of the U.S. government charged the Republican committee with failing to keep adequate books on 350,000 U.S. dollars in campaign funds.

Dwayne Andreas, a Minneapolis, "soya bean millionaire", was alleged to have contributed 25,000 U.S. dollars to the

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Nixon campaign fund. He was alleged to have passed the money through Kenneth Dahlberg, the Mid-West fund raiser for the Republican Party.

If ever there was an apparent direct link between donation to a political party fund and government favour this was one. For millionaire Andreas, and a group of investors later applied for a federal charter to start a bank in Minneapolis and they got it about the end of August 1972.

It is known that both parties resort to all sorts of devious means in order to hide the identities of political donors. It was known that money was passed to one of the parties through a Mexican bank; there was a secret transfer of 25,000 U.S. dollars in cash on a Miami golf course.

Before April 7, 1972 by which time the list of political donors was expected to be made public, President Nixon had raised 10 million U.S. dollars for his campaign.

All these allegations are no more than the tip of an iceberg. Very thorough investigation is likely to reveal more sordid details. The necessary investigation is not made any easier by the fact that the party of the President in office is an alleged major violator of the campaign spending law.

The attention of the American public has been diverted from this issue by the Watergate Scandal, in which some officials in the White House working for President Nixon, were alleged to have broken into the headquarters of the National Committee of the Democratic Party for the purpose of gathering political intelligence by electronic and other means.

No one man can have the money and make the political efforts to win elections to the White House in Washington. He requires the help, morally and financially of party comrades and friends of the party.

That being that, it is useful to remember that in politics as in ordinary life, it is wise to be grateful. Given the capitalist ethos of the American society, and the overriding influence of the almighty dollar, it is not surprising that the business and industrial lobby do have a decisive influence in the selection of an American President and on his policies.

This will be more true of Nixon's Republican Party which the USIS admits is identified with the interests of big business and industry.

Even if volumes of evidence are produced to show that Richard Nixon is in the pockets of the giant U.S. corporations—that to many Americans does not make him a sinner, he is only being a pragmatic American doing what it takes to get to the White House.

If those who provided the money to put him there seek to influence his policies, that does not make him a sell out, it is just the American way of political life.

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# NEWBREED

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38, OGUNLANA DRIVE, P.O. BOX 6414 LAGOS, NIGERIA.

# NIGERIAN NOTES

That Saturday midnight, when I was rushed to a Nigerian hospital, between life and death, has exposed to me the decaying nature of this society. I realized just immediately that it was not only me who was really sick, but my fatherland of whom I had, earlier, been so proud.

The poor waiter who filled my card for treatment did not know why, during her series of interviews, a seriously sick man could burst into laughter; I laughed when she demanded to know of my religion, tribe, and place of birth.

That was more than stupid. What has religion and tribe to do with the chronic moribund dysentery

There were people who have died, and this may be in hundreds, in Nigerian hospitals not because of the gravity of the sickness but of lack of on-time attention. That was a conclusion after observation. I am sincerely worried, I don't know if she is still alive, about another woman who was brought to the same hospital say at 9 p.m., two hours before I arrived. The only first doctor who talked to both of us arrived at about 3 p.m. the following day, Sunday. Yet, that lady was said to be on danger list.

The problem of scarcity of doctors and medical equipment is today a household debate. Believable personalities who made open promises about all that, only made a pure mockery of themselves when a year after, there is no more than a single mention of such promises. I don't know anywhere else, where doctors have to struggle for chairs with their Nursing Sisters.

Imagine poor handsome doctors, very energetic, alert, brilliant, hard-working, but, paralysed by lack of equipment, running helplessly from ward to ward to borrow equipments with which to save a patient's life. That is the plight of some few Nigerian doctors who despite their preparedness to work has been landlocked by scarcity of hospital equipment. Even, the facts that there are now very few doctors, the problem is highly worsened when private clinics are brought into it, as a problem of medical efficiency. Unless a patient has a private arrangement with his doctor, no patient should expect doctor's serious attention. Some are probably just lucky, when they still manage to climb the walls of the neatly-tight doctor/patient's arrangements.

It hurts, very badly, that a doctor who treated a friend's wife recently expected the poor guy to pay ₦52 for a gynaecological case for which going through Professor Lister, Nigeria's highest authority in that sphere, may cost only ₦3.80k.

## MADE-IN-NIGERIA DOCTORS

The decision to produce our own home made doctors can be good and bad. This is because the home-made-goods are usually cheaper in cost of production and output. So it should be, but where it becomes poisonous, without effective attention to all the pre-requisites and

quality, I am sure no such doctors will ever come my way. Death sooner.

It does not matter, really, where; it should be more by quality. But, if we insist to do all in a haste and hustle vagabonds into this made-in-Nigerian thing, everything will look like a mere triumvirate with an alchemist on the top. Alchemy itself is old and as old, if not older than the triumvirate. But who says all old things are good?

A doctor-to-be must show an ethics particularly of moral discipline to instil a degree of confidence on her patients-to-be. If the soul doctors, say those 27 idiots, are hoping to come into this wanting but less competitive medical profession then we should all start learning to avoid sickness that can expose

# a moribund society

us to our daughters with this accumulated lack of courtesy.

Any place where doctors are being prepared should put up a decent look, at least, if only to look slightly better than a horde of 27 monkey mimicry of a clown; a primitive marionettes of 27 apes.

The problem in Nigerian hospitals merely throws a bright light at the numberless problems that confront our society. With her approximately 72 million people and about 78% of the population in active labour force capacity; with its vast area of land, and about 62% of that land improperly utilized, with its vast mineral resources and all that have been discovered so badly under-utilized,



Mahamuud Ikuniaya,



## A MORIBUND SOCIETY

no other giant has lived such a dull life in history as Nigeria is.

There are days, not too far away, when Nigeria's personalities were judged purely by their degree of discipline, firmness and contribution to the development of the society. Those were days when nobody needed many houses, chains of cars, and battalions of concubines to be important.

Today, things have so badly changed for the worst that the only notable personalities are those who can purchase their image. The result is that people who went to jail, just yesterday, for embellishing public funds are today the "illustrious" sons of our decaying society. It remains so unnoticeable that more dishonest men parade the streets in expensive, if not air-conditioned, cars.

There seems to be nobody capable enough to question the right of "wrong-ownership." Who needs to be told that the "never-do-wells" who used to be the "block-heads", are today the brilliant but honest people? Perhaps nobody needs to be educated to know that the greatest enemy of any society is the "right to wrong images," but "super-scale executives who come to work at 11 a.m. and go to meet his concubine at 2 o'clock and never comes back to the office," are the most quickly promoted in the Nigerian style.

Sometime in Ibadan, Brigadier Rotimi was so disgusted by this "executive fraud," that he ordered a military roll-call for civil servants in the west. Many, not only junior servants, were trapped by the military net; while we thought those perpetual late comers were going to be whipped openly, news of the late comers gradually vanished. One thing was discovered in that exercise, and that is "to instil sense of responsibility into the civil service, one has to start purging right from the top".

### FRANKNESS

"The most outspoken people are usually the contented ones", my people used to say. But the reverse is the case today. The only frank people are the least fortunate ones who have virtually nothing to lose. The fun of our new life is the rate at which qualified elites, in search of what nobody can say, linger around the people in authority, lick their boots and refuse to advise them frankly. The leaders, in our kind of society are too far from the people and the only machinery of information contact and leadership is the "go-between"; and it is in these "go-between" that our main problems really lie.

For instance, the mid-west governor will ever remain grateful to the bold and frank suggestions he got from the states elites and chiefs. That was the only state where truth was expressed at the initial stage, no matter how violently. The dynamic governor is now the only person who stands to gain from that frankness.

On the other hand, facts exist to show that it may be the wish of the elite to advise frankly, the other side of the stick remains in the preparedness of the leaders concerned to absolve the naked truth. But, the people in Mid-West praise Ogbemudia for his tolerance and preparedness to absolve explosive, frank, but purposeful criticism. Where else?

The yardstick for measuring a very decent society is the degree of concern and inter-relation of people of various strata in that society. It can hardly be said of our present society where those who preach the gospel "over-live" by the "gospel." Nobody is anymore impressed by public execution of armed robbers. Some people believe it has lost its effects. "Executive Armed Robbers" parade the streets undisturbed and comfortably dine with the "Chief Executioners". More inhuman, is that people have gone away with millions of naira, invest them in national and foreign banks while others are being shot for stealing ₦10. The law is, more than, an ass, as far as Nigeria is concerned.

### LEADERSHIP

"To identify oneself with the problem of the people is the testimony of good leadership", late President Kennedy once told his campaign committee. Perhaps, our people are happier when it takes them hours to move from one place to the other and for a few opportuned, it is "operation non-stop".

Where virtues are lost for blunder, stupidity takes the lead. My school mate who dropped-out because of academic incapability and found his way into "where knowledge does not matter," can now expect my car to stop for him while his car can pass completely undisturbed in a sort of military precision. The changing face of Nigerian clock is reducing the value of human personality.

### EDUCATION

School education which used to be the centre of character building is today the centre of moral decline. Some of today's teachers do not care any more of children behaviour, as long as, they are able to deliver their marathon lectures. Where students and the tutors compete openly for girlfriends, there can be no honesty. So many young ladies can now obtain their certificates, without tears if they know how to mix, caress and romance their tutors properly.

What does it matter again, the percentage of pass-marks, for a class-room where majority of the students came in through the window and probably went out through the very window. It was interesting that an expatriate company once cried out that it was more profitable to recruit secondary school leavers, train them to handle delicate mechanical jobs, than employing Nigerian graduate engineers. That is the direct result of "admission fraud" that almost nobody has ever noticed, until, it exploded recently at

Yaba College of Technology.

A Nigerian lady-undergraduate was to uncomfortable in her heated room that she bought, on her own, an air-conditioner, installed it in her hostel room. The news said that the lady stays with two other room-mates with whom the cooler comfort was to be enjoyed.

The fun of it was that when this lady's school fees was not sent in on time, the school authority had to send the girl away and for two months her parents were unable to raise money to pay up the school fees while the air-conditioner was busy comforting the indigent student's room-mates. This happened in a Lagos University mini-hostel which is situated outside the campus. That is in the first half of 1973, a year when the value of education is no more a question of luxury but necessity. If not madam, what does it mean to me to "air-condition my toilets" while school fees, the only way to ensure continuous studentship, is left stupidly unsecured for.

Today may be too early, but tomorrow is definitely too late, for our under-graduates to learn to put their priorities right first before flumbyancy. On the long run, for that matter, it is the students who stand to gain.

It was exactly 8 p.m. one Saturday when I called to see a friend who incidentally is a porter at one of the female hostels in a Nigerian University. Normally the students leave that hostel for library at 7.30 p.m., but, at 10 p.m., I saw a young man coming out from one of the students' with a girl apparently his lady friend. But, they said it was examination period.

When the young man finally left, and the lady was coming back to her room, my professional inquisitiveness drove into me and I queried:

"Yinka how are you preparing for your exams". The proud lady did not hesitate to say, "we are having our first papers on Monday and that guy is the lecturer whose papers we shall be taking first", pointing to that man who was still struggling to pull out his car.

It quickly occurred to me that if one really wants to pass exams, particularly the lucky lady, why don't that one merely sit around, get to pleasing the professors one after the other, shortly before exams. In our style whether she reads or not, it does not matter. Even the porter did not weary in saying of that experience, "Ogal wetin. Yinka no dey go school self. Den teacher dey come here come carry am one by one. Some dey do in thing here self. Who be mi way go talk. I just dey look them".

### SEX PERVERSION

The other day a lady called me on the phone to invite me to a week-end orgy and said:

"There is a party at my flat on Saturday, so many male and female journalists, doctors, company directors



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## A MORIBUND SOCIETY

high army officials will be present. There will be all sorts of fun and a free bedroom to do your own thing. I am therefore particular that you should be present as an Editor I very much respect."

With extreme politeness I told her it was not possible to be at the party because of the nature of my job, and that I would have loved to meet the collection of people at her party, only if I had had an appetite for an orgy.

Offended, probably, she said that for sometime she had called journalists of my calibre and better, to her orgy and that nobody had ever refused such an offer. Perhaps, she advised "it will be more reasonable for you to learn to meet the people that really matter in your own interests."

"What a hell is it all about." It's my right to accept or reject any invitation that I feel has nothing to do with my ways of life; I do not go to parties except it has a professional value to me: I won't just meet people that I have no reasons or don't want to meet.

Even, the fact that some other professional colleagues admire parties, even an orgy, does not impress me and I said: "Madam, if all the people loose their heads, one person should be able to hold his own so as to save this mad commune

### MARRIAGE

Once, in the days worth remembering, one could meet a girl, express natural but sincere affection and get married. These type of couple used to live quite a happy life after wedding. Nobody is expecting that sort of free love in the sophisticated society of today. Love has become a marketable commodity, and sex has become unreasonably commercialised.

Male and female, now utilize sex perversion for their existence. Some prostitute directly, others live by employing prostitutes, while still, the males merely organize brothers. All in the name of food.

Material sentiment stole away the remains of our human value and more and more people seem to be living in a fool's paradise. Where the authority has failed, individuals take the chance to rape the innocents. That is purely the law of the jungle, where it is normal for the rich to trek on the poor.

### RELIGION

Religious institutions that used to be the hopes of the society, in morality, has gone its own way. Those "God sent" institutions have degenerated into purely profit making ventures. The irony is that even rogues can now hold shares in the church and the dividends, are distributed immediately after the sermons have been preached. Belittled are these vague religious institutions that everything about religion now looks certain as moral truths

merely mystified, decorated and camouflaged as to make it possible for priest craft to make a living.

As at now, we are left with the uncomfortable, and yet, for me, strangely satisfying feeling that what religion is left of, in our lives, will be a very much more simplified feeling of reverence for beauty, gradeur and mystery of life; with all its responsibilities, it has been deprived of the good old, glad certainties and accretions which theology has accumulated and laid over its surface.

The shame therefore rests behind the scenes to think that while the economy is disorganized and embryonic, the religious institution is better organized in both staffing, organization and capitalization. They have sub-divided the nation into dioceses, parishes and stations; the whole hierarchy neatly solidified and members are blindly schooled together. Men, women, youths and small children are well organized. While farmers produce our agricultural goods, without knowing where to sell them; the year is divided into liturgical seasons and days are punctuated by Sundays and feast days, yet perishable goods for those feasts have no storage facilities. Farmers produce with ignorance, tradition and gods as their guidance.

Religion therefore holds the people in hunger and deprivation thus making them under productive. "The churches are full while the bellies are empty; no wonder the parishes are rich while the peasants are destitute; no wonder religion is enjoying such a boom in this country while the economy is depressed. In every corner of the country we have street preachers and wonder workers, prophets and salvation-mongers gorging our people with the message about happiness in another world while their lives in this world is marginal", Rev. Onuoha once declared.

Is it not on the same basis, this one-time controversial Roman Catholic Reverend, now Dr. Onuoha declared, "The military era . . . has taught us that, even though man is a political animal, political activities can be postponed when more basic needs like unity and stability are threatened. By the same token religious activity can legitimately be restrained and even postponed till the religious subjects can find shelter for the heads, clothes for the body, and food for existence". That is more than correct. If there is need to go to church let only those whose income is more than ₦8,000 per annum go, while we should all go back to labour for our necessities.

### NIGERIAN POLICE

In its sensational style, Lagos Weekend of February 23rd 1973 carried an interesting story which is today worth a brief mention. The first paragraph states: "An irate crowd has no sympathy for a crooked traffic policeman when he was outwitted and paid off with a crooked currency note by a more crooked minibus driver whom he contravened on a

bussy Surulere Street on Monday night. . . The crowd heckled and boomed when it was discovered that a one Naira note he (the policeman) demanded and received from the (bus) driver was fake. . . one side of the note was a near-perfect replica of the genuine money while the reverse was totally BLANK". The paper was reporting a Nigerian Police!

It was with genuine sympathy that I used to look at the case of the bad egg in the police force but I do not sympathise anymore. What I do say now is that a sane institution where police can now be governors and others live in mere penury and deprivation is of no depression that can attract sympathy. Afterwards, a beggar of today can profitably be a great tomorrow.

It is easier for an assistant superintendent of police on say ₦100 a month to build a house of ₦10,000 even after a year of promotion. Nobody seems to be interested in questioning an Inspector of Police who rides his own car while the Boss is still going about official business in jeeps or Police-Rovers. Even where discipline is a necessity, how is it that some police, just in traffic, take money as openly as in the Lagos Weekend story.



We regret the wrong captioning and credit for cover and centre models of NEW-BREED April and May 1973 editions.

Our models for April was Miss Caroline Brown not Charlotte Brooks, and photograph by Ronnie Brathwaite of Brathwaite Photo Features, New York.

In our May anniversary edition, our model was the vivacious, cool and glamorous Charlotte Brooks, a South African and a one time sought-after model and secretary in U.K. and Germany. She is currently based in USA.

We are sorry once again for these mistakes—ED.



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# THE UNTOLD LIFE OF NZERIBE

By Mahamuud Ikuniaye

No one is better qualified to speak for himself than the accused. In the NEWBREED issues of February and March this year, we carried two news items about Nzeribe.

The February issue spotlighted the disastrous "Osibisa Tour"; which Nzeribe financed and lost well over ₦25,000. NEWBREED saw this as a bold venture, and said so. The March edition carried a story on his charity donation of ₦5,210 to the Trinity Methodist Youth Club in Lagos. The donation was received on behalf of the Youth Club by Mr. Charles Lawson, Head of the Federal Civil Service and Secretary to the Federal Military Government.

In consequence, we have received some letters accusing us of undue projection of Mr. Nzeribe's conflicting image. As a result, we decided to interview Nzeribe.

The interview that follows is the composite; it took place in several of the places where Mr. Nzeribe could be tracked down: at his office, his home and at the Bacchus Stereo Nite Club, which he frequents visits.

At the last session which took place in his residence, he re-defined his fundamental doctrines about life and then made the following comments: "I have not given any such interviews during my fifteen years of personal involvements—political, business or otherwise and I do not plan to give any others. I do not believe that I have even spoken like this to anyone outside of my family. I think of this interview as a testament for posterity".

It is on this basis, in defence of our professional ethics and that of our magazine's image Mr. Mahamuud Ikuniaye, our Features Writer, went underground to investigate the unknown life of the Nigerian Millionaire "to whom many accusing fingers are pointed".

Before this interview could finally be booked, it took Mr. Ikuniaye's team two working weeks, day and night, to break into the locked-out life of this strange and mercurial personality. Recounting his experience Mahamuud, who led the investigating team, says:

"First, it was at Bacchus Stereo Club in Ikoyi, where a lady introduced me to Mr. Nzeribe. The six-footer young man flamboyantly dressed like the Canadian Prime Minister, Trudeau before elections, was only prepared to offer Mr. Azinge

and I some drinks but will never accept our drinks. He avoided any topic that will make us talk about him. He danced freely and, constantly looked unruffled.

"After meeting him in three places: office, house and the club I broke loose the silence by telling him that I had met him once in Ghana and that as a journalist in NEWBREED I have been busy defending his personality. I finally told him that we have been badly accused by so many people as strong apologists and supporters of his mysterious life and that our prestige is in serious conflict if he does not accept an interview with the NEWBREED Magazine.

"Go and defend yourselves", he said, "don't worry about me. I am quite used to all the accusations".

Accepting the defeat I left, but, determined to get the interview out, at least to instil a sense of confidence in our complaining readers, I went back again. Thus, during my next visit, I was waiting at his gate even before he got ready to go to work.

"Don't feel disturbed Mr. Nzeribe my duty is to the readers of my magazine as yours is to your clients. We have some accusing letters, highly damaging, which are of prime interests to us", I told him.



"What do you want me to do, you readers can write what they want about me but..." he said smiling and adjusted his silk tie.

"It is my wish, and that of our Editor-in-Chief that you answer our questions, even for a few minutes". I explained "I am sure you don't want to ruin a professional career".

"I don't want to ruin anyone's NEWBREED", he replied.

"Then you must talk to me", I demanded and he finally agreed to grant me a twenty-minute interview which he provoked him to talk to me for half day".

Few years ago Mr. Nzeribe was completely unknown till he had to leave Ghana after the fall of the Chairman of Ghana's National Liberation Council, General Ankrah. He was accused of "political scandal" that involved some members of NLC and General Ankrah. Then Mr. Nzeribe was a well known Biafran in Ghana.

When he left Ghana he stayed in two West African countries and later returned to Nigeria five months before the end of the civil war.

No sooner he settled in Lagos



Nzeribe: "I will never work for the C.I.A."

## THE UNTOLD LIFE OF NZERIBE

arrival Mr. Nzeribe, in the name of his company, Fanz Inc., exploded financially, buying over companies and investing here and there. Along with the financial fames, accusing fingers were pointed at Mr. Nzeribe styling him all sorts of names. He has been called everything you can think of.

Born on 2nd November 1938, at Oguta in East Central State, Mr. Nzeribe's father is a lawyer who was once a Principal State Counsel. His grandfather was the traditional Chief of Oguta.



Nzeribe at peace.

**NEWBREED:** Your critics accused you of having profited on a grandiose scale during your term of office in Ghana, saying in turn the late President Nkrumah and General Ankrah. It is further alleged that you left Ghana with a large personal fortune running to a tone of £6,000,000 sterling. How true is this?

**NZERIBE:** The answer is before you. Look about yourself. Do I look to you like a man worth six million sterling pounds?

I agree I live well—very well but modestly. I do not live in oriental splendour. I have a small comfortable office, I have a comfortable house, I have good clothes for myself, my wife and children and we have food for ourselves and our dogs. We have furnished our home comfortably but we do not live for show. It is not large compared to the "Estates of the Lagos Oligarchy". Where then is the six million sterling pounds?

**NEWBREED:** In the Nigerian society you have been looked upon by different people from their different perspectives. For, instance your life in Ghana is still not understood to Nigerians. To what extent were you really connected with the political scandal with General Ankrah which led to your deportation from Ghana? To what extent do you think all these events have affected your life: present and future.

**NZERIBE:** First and foremost, I will like to correct the impression that I was deported from Ghana. I was never deported neither was I declared "persona non grata". The truth of the matter is that my residential permit was withdrawn.

A letter signed by the Principal Immigration Officer in Accra stated that very clearly: Here is the letter. (Mr. Nzeribe then presented the letter); As you can also see from my departure date (he presented his passport), I did not travel from Accra till two months after this letter.

Within these two months I was a free man in Ghana, not in anyway restricted. Deported people don't have such privileges. In my own case, I ran all my business, made my travelling arrangements, obtained my visas for my destination. I left Ghana in a private chartered plane after an airport press conference which was broadcast by B.B.C. I have even visited Ghana twice since Colonel Acheampong came to power and I was not in anyway molested. I can now go to Accra when I like provided I obtain a visa like any other Nigerian passport holder. I am on best of terms with Ghanaians as a whole. I love them and they love me.

As for my involvement with the late President Nkrumah and General Ankrah, these are not only things of the past but also professional which should be buried and forgotten. It is sufficient to say that whatever I do for my clients will always be legal and above board. The unbiased mind will agree that if I have done anything wrong in Ghana or any other place where I operate, I would have been detained for questioning at least, tried in courts, restricted or closed down any of my offices. So far none of these have happened which means I am good.

You said I have been labelled all sorts of names in this country and people are seeing me from various angles. I wish to be brutally frank here and admit that I don't like such allegations. But I wish to assure you emphatically that it does not disturb me at all. I don't mean to be arrogant but I should tell you the reasons.

I have analysed my situation and I have come to the conclusions that it is not me as an "NZERIBE" that is being singled out, but it is me, an "individual" who found himself in a position not of his own making, that they are after. What is happening to me now will also happen to any other young man who rises up to my position in life the way I did. It is this conclusion that have made me not to develop any bitterness against anybody, not even my bitterest enemies. I only sympathise with them because they don't know, nor understand me at all; they only gaze at me from their own mirror that suits their own purpose.

And then, my friend, besides, it is better for the whole world to talk and worry about me than for it to happen that I talk and worry about the whole world. Who am I not to be talked about? They talk about the highest people in this country, so, why should I lose sleep over them and their flippant talks.

**NEWBREED:** Why these different Mirrors?

**NZERIBE:** The answer is simple. If you go back to when Nigerians became aware of who is Nzeribe i.e. during the Ankrh episode, which occurred during the civil war, you will find easy answers to most of these questions. For instance, being an Ibo, supporting the "other" side and General Ankrah being pro-Nigerian; the Nigerian Press saw me as a scape-goat, went to town with my name and flogged me mercilessly. The Press could hardly praise me then. So they presented me to the public as a mischievous person. Sadly enough, the "other radio" praised me as if they had commissioned me to do it. Thus, my image was badly damaged beyond repairs on both sides without regards for the truth.

Nigerian Press saw and projected me as a dangerous person while the 'other' side praised me as a noble son. I can't blame the Press because it could not do otherwise, neither the public who could not but believe the Press. There was no other source of information for them to learn the truth. In this type of situation, one will imagine therefore that I will be seen as such when the war finally ended. But, the "other" side regarded me again as a traitor because I came back to Lagos five months before the end of the war, and anybody who was not with them when the war ended was regarded just as a traitor. This is how I lost friends on both sides and since I came back I have made no efforts at counter-acting all the fictitious allegations and such impressions against me.

Another bad factor was that as soon as the war ended, I exploded financially. This I now consider to be an error of judgement. My timing was very wrong? I think I should have waited a little longer. I started buying companies over, investing here and there.

My style of living did not help me either. But I could not and still not prepared to change my ways of living. That is my way and the only way I really know. I believe in good food, good clothes, good cars, good house and good company. This is because I want to live and not just vegetate like a piece of cabbage.

That period again was when most of my tribesmen were coming back to Lagos in complete penury; to come and meet me then in a comparatively luxurious ways of living did not please them. So they started to call me all sorts of names from mere speculation.

This is because they had already been made to believe that I was "their" agent. They concluded, therefore, that I have amazed wealth from stealing their money. Whereas those on the federal side had concluded that I had swindled the Ghana government of £6,000,000 sterling.

## THE UNTOLD LIFE OF NZERIBE

As these rumours were so strongly spread and believed, what machineries do I have to dispel them. None! Absolutely none! I have no pressmen, nor press, radio or television. Unlike in Ghana and Sierra-Leone where I had powerful contacts in those countries' mass media and owned my own press. Here, in Nigeria, it is not the case. I have no platform to build up my image or to dispel the rumours. So I just have to live with it. Too bad, but that is the position. I can't go to Tinubu Square, build a "soap box" or create a "speaker corner", to say what I did and what I did not do.

I can't also start to white-wash myself. Even if I had tried that, I will not succeed. I only have to develop a thick skin, carry on my business and hope that one day the masses will understand. One consolation I do have is that the right people, I mean the ones that really matter in my life know the truth and they all have absolute confidence in me. It is not important for me to win the love of the rest sixty million people in this country. Most of them in no way contribute to my living, my freedom, my prosperity and business. Why should I bother about them. NO SIR. It is not worth it. At least not yet.

In 1970, it was more than this. Today things are gradually changing, even those who did not want to see me then have now placed me on their guest list. It is getting better and better with time.

**NEWBREED:** The fact that your first company, Jeafan Limited, which you launched with only £100 in England made such a fantastic turnover made some people to believe that you were making your wealth in the name of Biafra? What did you really do for Biafra?

**NZERIBE:** I left Nigeria four years before the civil war. Jeafan Limited, was formed in U.K. with an authorised capital of only £100, as most young companies do to save tax. Nobody blows up his company recklessly at the initial stages only to pay exorbitant taxes.

Apart from this planning, the company alternatively had £50,000 loan capital. Does anyone publicise this fact? Ofcourse not.

**NEWBREED:** We understand Nkrumah gave this £50,000. How true?

**NZERIBE:** I am sorry, no comment. The source is immaterial.

**NEWBREED:** What of your Biafran involvement. How lucrative?

**NZERIBE:** If that government can pay me for the services I rendered them, I do not need to work again and can be able to provide all that I want in life till I die, without any labour. It will be very wrong, therefore, for anybody to say that I made a penny out of 'them' rather

**NEWBREED JULY 1973**



*Nzeribe: "I like good food"*

it was 'them' that really used me. I have living witnesses.

**NEWBREED:** But some people say you sold arms to both sides during the war!

**NZERIBE:** Nonsense. I sold arms to nobody. Anybody who says that, let him come out and prove.

**NEWBREED:** Perhaps the most disturbing public opinion about you today is that you now work directly for Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.). How are you connected with that dreadful American Organization?

**NZERIBE:** I have never worked. I am not working and I will never work for the C.I.A. Anybody who knows the details let him come out openly and accuse me. This is utter nonsense.

**NEWBREED:** To most Nigerians, you are being presented as a mysterious, fearful and elusive person, living a life similar to that of a big American mafia God-father, what a sad accusation. Have you any explanation to counter such accusation?

**NZERIBE:** I will tell you why they think I am mysterious. I have tried to analyse myself and been able to know what my problems are. They say I am mysterious probably because I pick and select my friends carefully and like to live to myself a peaceful life. I don't have to see anybody I don't want to see.

I get things done without having to go any place nor to see anybody. The only persons I ever visit are my bank managers. I can afford to do this by conducting strictly honest, legal and above board business. Do what I can, feel free and leave the rest to God.

I feel very independent and there is no need to lick anybody's boot, except to keep the law, respect everybody and be polite.

Being fearful, please can you ask any of my accusers to mention a case in point?

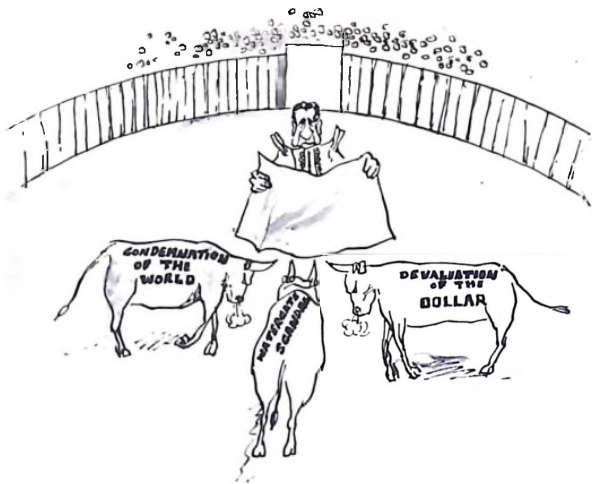
As for linking my life to that of a "mafia God-father", you have seen my office and my house. "Mr. NEWBREED" have you found anything of "mafia-like" environment around me? Being elusive—well, that is a matter of opinion.

**NEWBREED:** They say you hold 60% Shares of the Travellers Bank Limited, and that you are the "Executive Director for Africa" of this non-commercial and non trading bank. How true is that?

**NZERIBE:** That is very correct.

**NEWBREED:** People doubt the genuineness of this bank's operations. How involved is the bank in African politics? How do you come about this notorious bank?

**NZERIBE:** The travellers bank is not a notorious bank. It is genuine and duly



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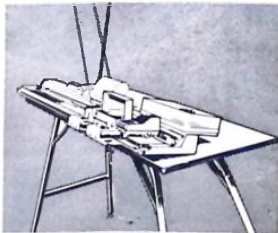
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# NOTES



## TOP SINGLES

- INTERNATIONAL  
**THE STAPLE SINGERS**  
 I'll Take You There 2025 110  
**JIMMY CLIFF**  
 The Harder They Come WIP 6139  
**HOPETON LEWIS**  
 Groovin' Out On Life PTH 1029  
**MARVEY SCALY**  
 I Wanna Do It 2025 120  
**THE STAPLE SINGERS**  
 Tho' World/Am You Sure? 2025 129  
**SOULFUL DYNAMICS**  
 Mademoiselle Ninette/Say PH 1031  
**GLORIA WALKER**  
 Them Changes 2001 377



## TOP SINGLES

- CHARTBUSTERS - African Reportage  
 Single  
 PE 6043 373 SAWALE/ESASAT CWO  
 King Sonny Brown & His Diamond  
 Natipath  
 PE 6043 374 ANAMEELE UWA/WRE  
 AKAM AKOLAM Celestine Chikwe  
 & His Entertainment Group  
 PE 6043 398 ORIEDA WO INGB  
 HO/ME WA TI EPO ICHICHE  
 Popular Cooper & His All Stars Band  
 APL 7 618 LUNCH TIME FUTARULA  
 VYA AJARU Cebalé Ganda & Apollo  
 Komolafe '71



- THE JB'S  
 Met Paul Reed/Gimme Some More 2066 252  
**FARON YOUNG**—It's Four In The Morning 8052 140  
**JIM CROCE**—You Don't Mess Around With Jim P1020

## TOP 5 LPs (INTERNATIONAL)

1. **DANDY LIVINGSTONE**—TRES 45
2. **THE STAPLE SINGERS**—Beatitude 2325 869
3. **ROBERTO DELGADO**—This Is Hoopla 2331 029
4. **ISAAC HAYES**—SHAFT 2C28 001
5. **JAMES LAST**—BEACH PARTY VOL. 1 2371 820

- EPs  
 PE 6259 181 EKE WU AGWO/ABA NGWA  
 Martin Brothers Dance Band  
 ONYE PE 6259 186 MGBU AYAPA  
 NNANNE 1 & 2/OCO OI PART 1 & 2  
 Blacka Imanya & His Mayan Dance Band  
 PE 6259 146 ROUBUISI/DISANA/THE  
 LATE DICK TIGER The Sunny Ot Group



- LPs  
 PE 6361 012 PROFESSIONAL SEAGULLS  
 Professional Seagulls Dance Band  
 PE 6361 023 GUINEA ADE B  
 Guinea Ade & His Brown Brothers Band  
 PE 6361 031 YUSUFU OLATUNJI VOL. 19  
 Yusufu Olatunji & His Group



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## THE UNTOLD LIFE OF NZERIBE

registered according to law. As to the last part of your question, I refuse to answer.

**NEWBREED:** Why do you refuse to answer?

**NZERIBE:** Because the involvement in African politics is a difficult thing to define. A bank is privileged to give and keep money no matter for and from whom.

**NEWBREED:** What is your feeling about women generally?

**NZERIBE:** They are play things, hobbies, you know. And of course, no one spends too much time in hobbies or takes play things too seriously.

Mind you, there are few exceptions e.g., wives.

**NEWBREED:** There are some ladies in town who claim to know you so well. How do you come about them?

**NZERIBE:** Most Lagos ladies are very callous and they like using people's names for their selfish ends. They say "I know General A, Doctor B, Director C and Commissioner Z", just to make themselves look big.

I will admit I have gone out with one or two girls, like every other young man. I don't even do it more than anyone else. Because I am not usually seen too often at private parties, once I show up with a girl it becomes a talk. Those girls eventually go to exaggerate our relationship.

What they are doing to me is not different from what they have done to any other succeeding young man in this country. In this regard, I am not alone.

**NEWBREED:** But you know some of your critics call you a play boy. What do you say about that?

**NZERIBE:** Now look Mr. NEWBREED, I expect you to ask reasonable questions. In one breath you accuse me of being deep, hard, elusive, mysterious etc., etc., then suddenly you switch to play boy talk. Can a man be both? Impossible. Any way, how do you define a play boy, it may well be that you are paying me a compliment. Let's see, if your definition agrees with mine, then—Yes I am a play boy—"A man who works hard, plays hard and has the means to support his hard plays". And you know as I do that no lazy man or an idiot has means. You must acknowledge that no fool makes money, or gets into position of power.

**NEWBREED:** But then sir, where do you derive your power?

**NZERIBE:** You keep asking the wrong questions or shall I say using the wrong words. I have no power. I think however, that I know what you meant to ask: "Where do I derive my strength?"

**NEWBREED:** Yes.

**NZERIBE:** Well then—this I can answer—it is simple. I don't only mind my business but I also mind how my business affects other people's business. By so doing, I never get into trouble. I don't step on any one's toes. You will find that if you do this, no one will go out of their way to hurt you, no matter the pressure being brought by your enemies or lies being told. Only a fool wants to offend people in authority and I am no fool. Particularly in a military regime, close your eyes, mouth and ears. Don't gossip, don't indulge in rumour mongering. Then you will find that you are enjoying maximum freedom. If any lies are told against you they will take care to investigate them. You know—give them maximum and absolute loyalty and respect. This is no cowardice—it is wisdom. You may even find that by your behaviour they too will reciprocate. It is a two-way traffic. They may not even do you a single favour but then they will not harm you. This is my thesis for durability. "Mind my own business".

There is of course God, who protects everyone on earth—big and small alike. In addition to this I am a great believer in natural justice.

**NEWBREED:** Your international relations. Do you think it has affected your public image in this country?

**NZERIBE:** A very tricky question. For the ones who understand and appreciate my potentials the answer is very favourable—because they exploit me for their own ends and I, in return, make a little more money. But to those who don't understand me, it is very disastrous.

**NEWBREED:** As a businessman how do you look at the military government when compared to the civilian government? Do you wish the army go to 1976 to the Barracks. How do you look at Zik's theory?

**NZERIBE:** I will take the last part of the question first by saying that Dr. Azikiwe is not a small fish to be written off so slightly. When a man of his "timber and calibre", to quote Dr. Mbariwe, puts up a proposal, it is worth a careful examination. As to comparing the military and civilian governments, I am not qualified to do that, at least not for Nigeria.

You asked me about the army going in 1976, first and foremost, they put themselves there and if they want to go, or not, nobody can dictate to them. Nothing can be done.

are told against you they will take care to investigate them. You know—give

**NEWBREED:** Very recently, Major-General Hassan said that the country is sick from top to bottom and have to be purged. What is your opinion about that?

**NZERIBE:** This is another question I am not qualified to answer. I am not power, not even in the corridors of it are therefore cannot claim to know what going on. But then, it is quite a achievement to be a Major-General in a Army of two hundred thousand men; to be a Chief of Staff and a member of the Supreme Military Council. Therefore the common man, the man in the street like I am, if such a personality opens his mouth and says something, it is very safe to assume that he knows what he is talking about.

**NEWBREED:** How do you feel about the National Youth Corps?

**NZERIBE:** I am a strong believer in the development of the youths. I therefore strongly support the National Youth Corps, since, this is going to be the only direct way for discharging a national obligation towards the youths.

The youths are the leaders of tomorrow so they should be given a sound national concept today in preparation for tomorrow.

**NEWBREED:** What has been the contribution of your "Afro-American" marriage to your national, international and business image?

**NZERIBE:** This is an irrelevant and ridiculous question bearing in mind that I only met and married my wife in 1971, long after I have reached my present level of life. What impact could she therefore have.

**NEWBREED:** What are your future plans?

**NZERIBE:** I make no bones about it, I have very high political ambitions. This time I am not just going to service politicians, being a back-room man or controlling the "Boiler House", as in the past. I intend to participate very actively. I will seek representative position.

**NEWBREED:** What is your advice for the young generation?



Nzeribe at the peak of the interview.

# NEWBREED ESSAY WINNERS

We have pleasure to announce the best winning Essays on "What I think NEWBREED Magazine".

They are:

- (1) Mrs. Mary Babalola a graduate teacher at Ijebu-Ode now with Lagos State Ministry of Education. Prize: One Grundig Television Set.
- (2) Mr. Silas S. Balewa, Senior Personnel Secretary with Niger Dams Authority (NEPA) Kainji - Prize: One Universal Television Set.
- (3) Henry Oguchi, an Owerri based Lawyer. Prize: One Seiko Watch.
- (4) Mr. Christopher Torulagha of Mile 1, Dabolu Port-Harcourt. Prize: One Carton of Heineken.
- (5) Mr. Eugene George Ekprikpo of Kalabari National College Buguru Rivers State. Prize: 1 Carton of Star.
- (6) Mr. Azeez A.B. Popoola, of ASC Blocks, Box 175 Zaria-Prize: 1 Carton of Gulder.

We regret to announce that we are unable to offer any of the Competitors the 2 Swiss Air Tickets for any part of Europe. Although we received many interesting and thought provoking Essays, none of the candidates met the other requirements of winning the 2 tickets.

We are most grateful to everybody that sent in Essays and expressed their opinions about NEWBREED Magazine.

We hope that more readers would now accept the next challenge to win these 2 tickets in our next Essay Competition which begins in August, 1973. Watch out for more details and book your copy of NEWBREED Magazine in advance.

## MARY BABALOLA (MRS)

Mrs. Mary Babalola, a teacher who now works as Education Officer in the Lagos State Ministry of Education, graduated from the University of Ife in June 1968. Married with five daughters, she is an ex-student of United Missionary College, in Ibadan.

As a teacher Mrs. Babalola, has taught in so many schools in Nigeria. Her last school was Ogbogbo Baptist Grammar School, via Ijebu Ode.

A beautiful Princess, Mary was expecting her sixth child at the time her first-rate thought provoking Essay arrived at NEWBREED Offices.

## SILAS S. BALEWA:

Mr. Silas S. Balewa, (28) was born in Tafawa Balewa, North Eastern State of Nigeria. His early school days took him to Mwari Primary and Kabwir Middle schools.

He was later admitted to Northern Nigerian Institute of Administration, Zaria; and on leaving the school in 1962, he was absorbed by the then Northern Regional Government, as a Clerical Officer at the offices of the Northern Nigerian Marketing Board.

In 1963, Mr. Balewa went back to Federal Training Centre, Kaduna Where he successfully came out with a good pass in Secretaryship. He then moved to the Federal Service and was attached to the Niger Dams Authority, now part of NEPA. Balewa who was moved to Kainji in January 1966, holds the post of Senior Personnel Secretary as his present capacity.

An ardent reader of NEWBREED Mr. Balewa, married with children, is a budding politician. A career on which he places a very high premium.



## THE UNTOLD LIFE OF NZERIBE

**NZERIBE:** Let the youths set their targets, get about achieving it and never let what people say worry them. In most cases the end always justifies the means.

**NEWBREED:** How rich are you?

**NZERIBE:** Irrelevant—you did not come here to ask me how rich I was but to give me an opportunity to defend myself. However, I am not afraid or shy to answer. I am not a hungry man. I have everything I NEED. Being rich is a relative position. To one man having a fixed deposit of ₦250,000 is very rich and makes his head swell. To another man even if he has ₦5 million locally or abroad may regard himself not so rich particularly if his commitments and ambitions, either compulsory or voluntary, demands ₦20 million.

What I do say about myself is that I am in a position to continue to provide myself with everything I NEED in life till I die, even at the age of hundred, whether I make more money or not as from now. This ofcourse is impossible.

What I will like, however, and that is when I will claim to be rich, is to be able to provide myself and make the provision with the same ease as of now, with everything I WANT in life." What you need and what you want are very distinct.

**NEWBREED:** Do you feel you are successful?

**NZERIBE:** Yes.

**NEWBREED:** To your knowledge has there been anything written about you that you considered objectively well written or worth reading, politically, socially or otherwise?

**NZERIBE:** I told you previously that I have never devoted much time yet to cultivate the Press people. I have not bothered the Public Relations people to build the public image. I realise that though million lies can be told, not one of the million lies can be converted into truth. Lies don't hurt.

However, it is necessary to distinguish between two kinds of writing: that which is written as propaganda and that which is written impartially.

That first mentioned, whether it is for me or against me, has no real value because its basis is in falsehoods, in things that aren't real. It's like when they say: "Buy Amingo toothpaste and you'll have many friends". In real life, the same thing happens as in advertising.

During my two years in Ghana, absolutely everything was propaganda, like selling toothpaste. Everything that was published was in my favour and much of it was written by 'apple polishers'. During the long years of my absence,

everything was against me. But all of it for or against me, is captions. All of it is pragmatic and of very little value. As the years pass, it will be sold for old paper. It does have that value.

As for the second kind, that which is written objectively and impartially, there is very little, if any. I do not know any. As yet, nothing has appeared that reflects the truth of what happened in Ghana then or of what is happening now. No, I couldn't name a single book or article worth reading. It is something that may be written about within the next 20 years. Passions must cool.

**NEWBREED:** If you could go back in time what would you do differently?

**NZERIBE:** Nothing—I would try to do the same. I would do more of what I had done before.

**NEWBREED:** Who would you be if you could be any other person in history?

**NZERIBE:** I would be F. A. Nzeribe. To be "HIM" is not so bad, is it?

**NEWBREED:** Why is it that you don't belong to any of the prestigious elite clubs in Lagos except the Lagos Flying Club where I hear you are an active member and a good pilot. You fly every weekend, don't you?

**NZERIBE:** I have never been a group person or a movement person. I am not attached to courses with a big 'C'. My goal is very simple and that is, to be myself, to pursue the things that interest me and the things I like. This is what makes me happy, and I define happiness as ability to do what I like, when I like, and how I like.

**NEWBREED:** NEWBREED intends to throw your explosive life into a public debate. That is, we shall encourage constructive public opinion on you and your mode of living. What about that?

**NZERIBE:** I seriously object to that because my life is not meant for public consumption. It is my respected private and can be discussed purely by and with me. But can I ask you a question, Mr. NEWBREED?

**NEWBREED:** Of course, yes. You are free to ask anything.

**NZERIBE:** I know your Editor-in-Chief, Mr. Okolie, who had called to my office twice in connection with the "OSIBISA TOUR" story. Now I am meeting you after I have also met Mr. Molokwu a former Editor of your magazine. What does NEWBREED think about me; do you think I am what they say of me?"

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S COMMENT:**

During my interviews with Mr. Nzeribe I have found him intensively intelligent. He is a man of ambition with an overwhelming passion to make more and more money. The sky is his limit.

Somehow, he wears a very tense humble and mysterious look.

He is very enterprising and would invest in any class of business for profit. He has already staked money in Insurance, Pop Shows, Banks, Cement Imports and Public Relations Consultancy. From reasonable indications he could even invest in refuse disposal and conservation contract if the prospects are good. Definitely Mr. Nzeribe is one of the few men who could be described as a Businessman.

As regards allegations against him we can not hazard a declaration—the charges



Nzeribe surrounded by Newbreed investigators and counter charges are complex and explosive.

One fact is, however, clear. He has succeeded financially. Young.

The law says that a criminal should be condemned when charges against him have been proved beyond doubts. Therefore, he should not be hanged or condemned because of unproven allegations.

Whether Mr. Nzeribe is a good or a bad man only time will tell. The law is also there to take care of criminals and offenders.

It is very gratifying that Mr. Nzeribe has now declared an open ambition for politics and political office. NEWBREED will be a keen watcher of him and his politics.

Today, we open a new file for him clearly marked in bold black letters—"THE NEW NZERIBE" (F. A. NZERIBE BUSINESS TYCOON). His political ambition would be monitored, published and open to rebuttals. Meanwhile we have also transferred the Osibisa episode-documents to this new file.

### MAHAMUUD'S COMMENTS

Mr. Nzeribe as I saw him, looks like a gentle man with all appeals of a determined personality. He is cool, collected, and seems, to me, very frank. To be what he is at his age, and come by wealth the way he did, it is quite possible to wear a lion-look and act so occasionally. Perhaps that is solely responsible for the gossips and consequently misjudgements.

Bye and large, as tomorrow is above human imagination, time shall prove Mr. Nzeribe. It is only very necessary to note that the highest mountain must definitely end in a valley otherwise it stops being a mountain.

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The date was February 14, 1973, Wednesday night, Valentines day in the U.S.A. (This day is interpreted to mean a day for lovers). All roads led to the Philharmonic Hall at the Lincoln Centre, New York City, to a completely soldout concert by the 'Empress of Song' Miriam Makeba. It was barely a couple of years

ago when Miriam appeared on an American stage. The overwhelming patronage of this concert proved that the people never forgot that sultry sensual voice which had catapulted her to universal stardom. This also proved that the undeclared embargo on this South African black sensation, infused after her marriage to Stokely Carmichael a black power advocate in 1968 had come to an undeclared end.

"A piece of Ground", "Where are you going", "Quit it" were all so beautifully done in the Makeba way. But "Pata

Pata" the greatest hit and "When I've Passed On", my favourite, were top.

The seriousness with which she treats "When I've passed on" was and has always been sensitive. Sivuca the Brazilian composer, accordionist and guitarist provides such a sonorous one man duo of voice and accordion accompaniment to

# MIRIAM

# MAKEBA

## SINGS TO CONQUER

-By Joe Mensah, reporting from New York City.

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Prudence does not permit me to equate her love for Stokely a good looking blackman who preaches for black people, against the oppression by white systems, the world over, (which Miriam and her people in South Africa suffer the worst type), tantamount to an embargo, or backlash or whitelash of her indomitable artistry. But of-course this also proves that nobody is perfect and that the showbiz industry here in the U.S.A. needs a little more moral maturity. The Philharmonic Hall concert left no doubt that this showbiz has triumphed.

Dressed in full length green and gold flowery designs, blending on to her dark brown skin, 'Zenzile', as she is called by her friends came on to the stage. With her cornrowed hair in some very colourful African beads, she 'grabbed' the microphone and started 'tearing away' with her scintillating vocal renditions, uncut by trumpet-like resonance of a sweet voice, like a hundred birds, singing in unison.

It was a real treat for all the lovers, suggests and the rest in the auditorium. The evening's selections comprised of some new hits and old goodies. There



Miriam Makeba in one of her shows.

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were a great deal of love songs, as if the evenings theme was love. The "Promise" "The Question" both written by Caiphus Semonya of South Africa were among the new songs performed.

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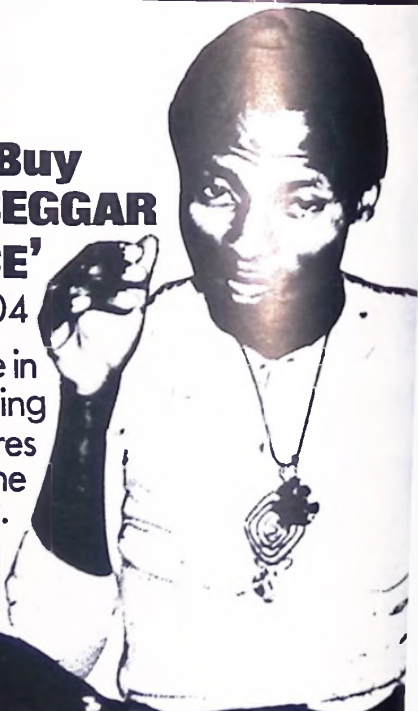
Miriam Makeba in one of her shows.

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## MARIAM MAKEBA SINGS TO CONQUER

Miriam, that really takes her up among the angels when she is doing this song.

Everything comes down or start moving around when it comes to "Pata Pata". Like in Johannesburg on a Saturday night, she wiggles, her body begins to move, suffused with the Makeba body tremors, to a moving rhythm, when it's Pata Pata time, everything was excellent musically, and that concludes that things were once again in the hands of Maestro Sivuca and the original musicians who had worked with Miriam in the States.

It was particularly thrilling to see Miriam in costume do the "boot dance" with the Chuck Davies dancers. The boot dance is a South African Dance. The black labourers who work in the mines developed this dance to fill the time gap of their afternoon lunch break. It is now an integral part of the culture of the African in South Africa in the context of dance.

Miriam did this dance to well reminding everyone once more who she is, what she is and what she will always be, a daughter of the Soil of Africa. This great evening continued, in this great hall filled with people from all over the world including some African Diplomats. It was a song and dance from the Republic of Guinea—accompanied by a group of female singers and dancers. Makeba draped in a Guinean costume thrilled the audience to an authentic, rich, Guinean folklore, reminding everyone once more where she has been what she has been doing and what she will always be, an African woman playing her rightful role.

At the end of the show I hurried backstage to congratulate her. To my amazement there was a very thick crowd also waiting to pay their honours to a super star. As she came out of her dressing room accompanied by assistants, everybody moved in to shake hands, hug and kissed this unbreakable Xosa woman. I hugged her for a while, kissed her then started a long handshake and a short conversation.

As we were talking, her eyes were roaming through the crowd. This confused me a little, until she asked her attendants: "Where is Bonji my baby?" (referring to her daughter). Bonji was fetched, she hugged and kissed her mother. After a while her grandson (that is Bonji's son) appeared and swiftly jumped into his grandmother's arms as if it's a daily exercise.

I was filled with an abundance of passion and pleasure. I asked the boy, "what is your name"?, and in his junior soprano ranged voice he said "Lumumba". I turned to Miriam and she said proudly to me "Yes! this is my grandson Lumumba".

Miss Makeba was born black, deprived and suppressed in South Africa. No black in South Africa is exempted from apartheid. This means that it is impossible for an African in South Africa to grow up to his or her fullest potential and obtain the fullest benefit on the land his forebearers have toiled to sustain. Miriam, no doubt must have been an exceptionally bright young girl to come out this great, under the worst type of suppression and deprivation the world has ever known.

In their conversations the black South Africans who have been fortunate enough to escape this torture of human sanity, always discuss their unfortunate relatives and friends left behind. They also reminisce some of the many sorrowful encounters in their daily lives back home in South Africa.

It is impressive to learn that they never forgot the people they left behind. And all black people who are concerned always ask! 'what is the world doing



"I am an African" Miriam Makeba.

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## MIRIAM MAKEBA SINGS TO CONQUER

about this? What could the United Nations do but pass resolutions after resolutions, and cast them in libraries. There is such a tremendous number of nomenclatured pack of resolutions in the U.N. as to fill the graves of blacks who have died and are dying daily in South Africa under apartheid. (The gravity of this issue has no comparison with the exaggeration of the preceding statement).

These Africans are suffering more and more each day and it seems the world powers don't give a damn, or are condescending to the rationale carefully devised by pro-apartheid or people who have no reason to be sympathetic because they are the benefactors of this horrible system. I have never and will never consider myself a politician but this is no issue exclusively for politician. I am black and will always be black but this is no way an issue for blacks or whites for that matter. It is a very urgent human problem, which if left forever could one day be the catalysts to plunge the whole world into a battle of endless hate and bloodshed.

I heard a white South African settler, an acclaimed actress and dancer, make a statement on a New York City T.V. show that made me want to have been on the same show to open a dialogue to make her reason more equitably. She said, "The problem of the blacks in South Africa, cannot be solved in a year, it will take a long time. It is like handing a machine over to someone who does not know how to operate it. It will be a disaster". She had the nerve to add that his is true because to her knowledge "the independent African Countries, because they were handed the machinery of governing themselves overnight, made a failure of their governments because they have economic problems."

This showed me how naive and ignorant this white woman settler and most others are, to the vast triumphs of the colonized, suppressed, oppressed and devalued Nations of Africa, who are today one of the most prospective and prosperous States in the world. Most developed countries, today, are economically sinking, in a disastrous condition. I fail to recognize the sense in the analogy of a novice being handed a machinery overnight. Experience has always been the best teacher, and how could one become experienced if one is not given the chance to do so.

Every country in the world had to learn to govern herself, and even today, many developed nations are still learning to govern themselves to the fullest of their potential. It is a very loose rationalization for any people, government or system to deprive any people of their God-given right to flourish to their utmost. Like a seed is implanted and by

the grace of time found to be a big tree, so is the natural process of the development of the government and or a people to their greatest capabilities. The implantation of the seed of freedom of the blackman on his own soil in South Africa is long overdue.

You could hear this echo in your subconscious mind, when you hear Miriam Makeba sing. She has been singing the songs of freedom all her life, but now more than ever she is heard more clearly.

At a press party in honour of Miss Makeba in the "Rainbow Room" on the 66th floor of the Rockefeller building, I asked Miriam if the overwhelming patronage of her return to the U.S. stage meaning the end of her ostracization, could also mean that she has forgiven all those who embargoed her records, concerts and other performances?, she retorted "Brother Joe, I have always sang and spoken the truth and those who fear the truth will never find me any different now".

It is interesting to observe that even after her great concert at the Philharmonic hall, she could not be given a work permit to come back on stage to the Apollo Theatre and to her other bookings. Her itinerary was interrupted, after her performances in Jamaica. I learned from reliable sources that she could not obtain a work permit to continue her U.S. tour. Part of her performance itinerary released at the beginning of her relaunch in the U.S. was as follows: Feb. 14th, 1973 Concert Philharmonic Hall, New York, Feb. 19-26, 1973 Jamaica and Montego Bay, March 12-19, (Tentative) Rome, Italy, April 4th-10th, Apollo Theatre, New York.

Miriam Makeba is happily residing in the Republic of Guinea. She is selflessly contributing her share, in the never ending struggle of the people of Africa to make their world free, prosperous and progressive. She has been honoured many times for her work in the progressive republic of Guinea. She is helping the Youth in Guinea's efforts to give her people a new confidence, a new hope and a new world of self-reliance, stability and an abundance of health and happiness for all. She performs in Europe and Africa frequently. She is greatly adored all over the world.

Miriam Makeba's presence in the U.S.A. marked the beginning of a new awareness in most black women. There was a time when the most venerated black female symbol is the woman muffled from top to bottom in a high society European culture, including the pressed hair, the pearls and diamonds, the classic white satin gowns and all the other fashionable artifacts, that complements the class woman of the day, be she black or white. Today, thank heaven for the beautiful woman like Miriam Makeba we have a new black female idol, in the natural hair style, corn-rowed hair style, beaded hair style, beautiful African

Jewelry and artifacts, fashionable African dresses and gowns, giving us the black beauty, the Natural blackwoman who emulates or imitates no one but her black ancestry, who is the irrepressible





*In her active nerve touching actions, Zenzile Miriam Makeba, is a queen on the stage.*

modern black woman that no other woman could imitate.

When Miriam revived the 'Queen of Sheba' headdress or turban in New York City a few years ago, it became the hair-

style of the day for many black women. The acute and long pointed "headpiece" was a menace to the vision. In an Makeba concert you went, your vision completely blocked if you are unfortunate enough to sit behind one with this "head do". You were not able to see the woman on the stage because of the woman in front of you. It was beautiful, it uplifts your soul even though, you have to keep uplifting yourself to see a thing on the elevated stage in front of you.

The Makeba influence was and is vast. From fashion to songs, to a way of life for a lot of blackwomen. Even though the modern Makeba does not admit to the influence, it is clearly manifested, in the time she appeared over here in the U.S. and the changes that appeared after that time. Even though "Pata Pata" practically epitomized her whole career, Makeba recorded almost a dozen and a half albums and countless singles.

She has recorded albums like "Many voices of Makeba", "Miriam Makeba", "The Magic of Makeba" and "Keep me in mind" to name a few. A newest recording done in the U.S. is expected to be released soon was recorded in October 1972 with the Crusade formerly known as the Jazz Crusade Miriam records for a Guinean record company, which has put out a few albums and numerous singles.

Her records coming out of Guinea displays her versatility. She works with basic Guinean folkloric themes, and a variety of other formulas. Miriam's records from Guinea represent some of her greatest if not her greatest. The people of Africa in general and the people of Guinea in particular are proud and happy to have this great African Empress of Song in their midst.

Miriam Makeba born in Johannesburg, South Africa, 41 years ago, is from the Xosa tribe. She always says that she gained world wide fame with the persuasive tribal songs she learnt from her people as a child. By 1957 she was appearing as a soloist in a musical called the "African Jazz and Variety Show" which toured Africa for 18 months. She participated in the movie "Come to Africa", that exposed and attacked the maltreatment of Africans on their soil, shamelessly known as "Apartheid". The film was smuggled out of South Africa and into the 1960 Venice International Festival. She made her debut in New York City in Nov. 1959 at the Vanguard, and what followed is history.

She had appeared in capitals all over, and sang to royalty, dignitaries, and ordinary alike. At her own birthday celebration this year in Conakry, Republique de Guinee, President Alpha Sekou Toure crowned her belatedly the "Empress of African song".

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