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AFRICA'S LEADING MAGAZINE

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June 1977

EXCLUSIVE

**Kidnapped!
Boys' horror
story**

**Meet Mr.
Mission
Impossible**

**DRUM talks to
Stevie Wonder**

**Spotlight on
Sokoto State**



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The truth about women

1 CONGRATULATE Janet Taiwo on her letter, Women In Office (DRUM, December).

I am sure Janet has critically watched these women in their respective offices. Now the truth has been stated it is left for those concerned to do the right thing, which I am sure some officers will find difficult. Imagine a woman who comes to the office to care her daily bread but neglects her duties, instead engaging in painting her face or even sleeping on the typewriter. This is known to the authority but apparently no disciplinary action is taken.

Such things as cutting and polishing of finger nails are common. Of course, it is not unusual to find women coming to the office at 11 am instead of 7.30 am. If a query is made by the immediate boss, everything will be finalised after office hours with the overall boss, through some extra-curricular activities which are known to everybody but which very few bosses can resist as most of them are sex-mad.

These girls should be disciplined to free our offices from the shackles of unproductivity. **Job Braimah Isah, Kaduna**

The killers on our roads

1 APPLAUD the concern DRUM has shown over the wanton killing of Nigerians on our roads. I have also heard the Head of State, Lieutenant General Olusegun Obasanjo, express disappointment over the rate of road accidents in this country.

Well, I started working on a road accident research programme in 1968 and by the end of 1975 I had invented a system capable of reducing world road accidents by more than 90 per cent. The system is applicable to young or old, rich or poor. It will rock the world, only I need more time and support.

I need all the help you can give, specifically information on annual road statistics of (a) number of accidents, (b)



WELCOME to this month's DRUM! And who better to say that than your lovely June covergirl: she's Camilla by name and comely by nature. In addition, she's certain you'll enjoy what we've got for you this month. **Read on!**

number of casualties and deaths, (c) number of injured, (d) population and (e) number of car owners in the following countries: Nigeria, the United States, Kenya, South Africa, Argentina and Spain.

I am a Nigerian lecturing in the Architecture Department, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. **Jide Solanke, Environmental Design, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria**
Readers, please send any relevant information to Mr Solanke. — Editor

The egg comes first

A SENTENCE in the DRUM article, Medicine And You, was misleading. It said: "On being deposited in the vagina many of them swim into the

uterus, where an egg is waiting to be fertilised."

Actually an ovum does not wait in the uterus to be fertilised. What really happens is that during ovulation, which normally occurs every month, an ovum is released into one of the two fallopian tubes in a normal woman.

The egg travels down the tube gradually. During copulation, the penis ejaculates many spermatozoa into the vagina. The sperm cells swim past the cervix and uterus and on to the fallopian tubes where they meet the ovum on its slow journey to the womb. Fertilisation occurs in the fallopian tube and not in the uterus. A successful spermatozoon penetrates into the ovum to fertilise it.

Nature prevents fertilisation in the uterus by making sure that the life span of an ovum is short and that of a sperm shorter. So before an ovum gets into the womb, it is lifeless provided fertilisation fails.

If one sperm is able to fuse with an ovum, the result is a zygote, which sticks to the upper part of womb and develops placenta later. **Remi Adeniran, Lagos**

Who needs FESTAC?

NOW that the World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture (FESTAC) has been and gone, one obvious question is: Of what importance has it been to the country politically, socially and economically? Black culture was revived when all-black countries came together to exhibit their culture in Lagos. It was then crystal-clear to many that the main differences between white and black cultures were.

No doubt FESTAC encouraged cultural and racial revival, yet I think it was a waste of money. What has cultural revival to do with the problems of food, education and regular fuel shortages? The multi-million naira spent on the construction of the National Theatre should have been diverted to help schools of agriculture and award

scholarships to students of higher institutions.

There was even a display of moral depravity on the part of participants, thereby compounding our social ills.

By and large, the FESTAC brought something good to Nigeria. But the problems it created have overshadowed its goodness. The money spent should have been used to develop the country agriculturally and educationally. **Abudu, Nigeria**

Sadness and Joy Club

I AM thanking all who have made it possible for us to read Sadness and Joy. It is much better than its counterparts of the Western world.

I am therefore requesting the Editor to inaugurate a Sadness and Joy Club. **Williams Ojebabu, Lagos**
We are considering your request. — Editor

Universities for the people

I COMMENT the speech of the Nigerian Head of State, Lieutenant General Olusegun Obasanjo, when he emphasised that Nigeria's universities did not belong exclusively to the areas in which they were located. This order should be extended to schools of technology, teachers' training colleges and secondary schools.

A. Annunokwu, Abuja
Mr Annunokwu, all Nigerian universities are Federal institutions, which most colleges of technology are not. This, however, does not stop you from seeking admission into any institution of higher learning. You can be assured of entry if you have the right papers, no matter where the institution is located. — Editor.

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IBRAHIM looks at life



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Save our statesmen

THE RATE at which Africans kill their leaders is alarming. Does it mean we are not yet mature enough to rule ourselves? If so, why do we ask for independence? Why are coups and counter-coups rampant in Africa?

African leaders are power-mad. A leader will come to authority and in a couple of years declare himself a life president. If he is corrupt, the government will remain corrupt, so long as he rules.

I consider the United States government to be one of the best-organised governments in the world.

Yesterday we were accusing the CIA; today we accuse the British intelligence service, and tomorrow we will accuse France. We Africans forget that those intelligence services cannot operate here without the co-operation of our brothers. They have their agents here operating for them. Let us ask ourselves again why we kill our leaders.

While empires are vanishing all over the world, some African leaders are carving out empires and declaring themselves emperors. And here there is monopoly of power (one can easily see that what follows is coups and counter-coups. Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Benedicto Akuchi, Lagos

Life's hard for our poor

I WISH to make it known that the absence of price-control officials in most towns of Anambra State has made life unhappy for people, especially the low-income workers.

The Federal and State governments should post price-control officials to rural areas or at least to all local-government headquarters where the profiteers seem rampant.

The price-control men now operate only in the urban areas.

Andrew Eco, Onitsha

How to find a president

IT IS worthy of praise that the Federal Government of Nigeria has made the topic of executive presidency a matter of public opinion.

If an executive president is appointed in Nigeria, our country can be sure to make quick headway. The man who will take the post of an executive president in Nigeria must be dynamic and well-

disciplined, prepared to execute his duties and dispatch. He must eschew tribalism. If not, his duty will be difficult. John O. Ijeh, Asaba

The ideal leader

THE ideal presidential system for Nigeria is the executive type. The ceremonial type leaves the person without powers. Nobody would like to be a president without power. Executive leadership is good for Nigerians because we believe very much in order from above. Sylvanus O. Ihuefo, Njikoka

Publish FESTAC calendar

MANY Nigerians have enjoyed your 1977 DRUM calendar. It is not only the best calendar ever seen here but the price is very modest.

People all over Africa would like to see the 1977 Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture (FESTAC) captured in the form of a calendar. So, help us S. S. Oye, Niger

Thank you for appreciating our work. Your point is noted. — Editor.

Goodbye to Ghanaians

I SUPPORT Mr S. Bolingo Mбай (DRUM) who said "Nigeria should retaliate." He requested the Federal Military Government to appropriate the properties of and expel all Ghanaians residing in Nigeria. In retaliation for the inhuman and un-godly treatment meted out to Nigerians in Ghana some time ago.

Nigeria seems too lenient and we are being taken for a ride. History will not forgive Ghana for its unbrotherly attitude towards African neighbours.

Ghana failed to put the spirit of ECOWAS and African brotherhood into consideration before forcing Nigerians out and depriving them of their hard-earned property.

The time has come for the Ghanaians to pack and go home. We should not let the ECOWAS and OAU blindfold us. After all, we are not the only member. Olavehinde Sanusi-Aghabika, Lagos

Two wrongs do not make a right. — Editor.

Drop a line to DRUM LETTERS PMB 2128, Lagos, Nigeria

Forest terror for the Lagos boys

KIDNAPPED!

'Suicide to try an escape'

CONTINUED

about to board his taxi. I knew that he was a Yoruba. He was dark in complexion and had no tribal marks. He wore a shirt and a pair of trousers.

"We went past Ikoroju and when we were approaching driver gave us some sweets which we took without question. He drove on and on without stopping. I don't remember him stopping at all to refuel. In fact none of us was

in his right mind. We just sat like zombies. If he stopped to refuel, I cannot say because by then I could not believe that I was of this world.

"The journey continued until we reached a place which I later discovered must be somewhere near Mimma in Niger State. I cannot say exactly where. First it was dark; secondly, I had never travelled outside Lagos on my own until that fateful day. So I did not know where I was.

"Yet our kidnapper drove on for about four kilometres into the bush. It was very dark.

There were no lights and we could hardly recognise one another. Finally the taxi driver told us to come down from the cab and he took us into a house. When we entered it, he handed us to another man and that was the last we saw of the taxi driver. We never set eyes on him again.

"The man to whom he handed us took us to a room where he told us to sit down on the floor. There were neither chairs nor tables nor beds in the room — only a little cupboard. Also, in a corner of the room, a lot of kola nuts were packed in a calabash.

"At about 3 a.m. a man came into the room and asked us our names. My companions gave their real names, but I simply said I was 'Johnson'. Shortly after he took the names, he came back again and took two of my mates away. They were Jacob and Jimoh.

"Alami and I slept on the floor of that room until the following morning. That was how I found myself in confinement. I had, I realised, been kidnapped.

"It was only that following morning that I saw clearly where I was confined and what was to be my new home for two years. The place was in a thick jungle protected by tall trees, thick bushes and flowers.



SAFE at last. Ismaila Fawehinmi can smile now and show some of the souvenirs from his awesome adventure.

There is a three-storey building where our captor lived with his four wives and children. We captives lived in three-storey built around the small-house building. The houses were like boys' quarters and there were several of them.

"The whole area was sealed by barbed wire and there were tough-looking armed men all over the ground. Later, we were made to understand that attempt to escape from anyone to the compound, because if one was caught in the act, he would be shot on sight. Later, too, we discovered that it was not a threat. A man who tried to escape was shot in the leg. We saw the incident and from that day I lost all hope of escaping. Even when we slept at night, the armed men kept vigil.

"The second day, we were introduced to our captor, who was called Yaro Tapa. He is a tall man with a big tummy and had tribal marks on the two sides of his mouth. He told

us the rules and regulations of the place and warned us not to contravene that any attempt pointing out the rules would be ruthlessly dealt with. But he added that if we co-operated fully with his lieutenants, we were going to have a happy stay with him.

"I have never been more frightened in my life after the way the man spoke.

"Some of the regulations were that we should make our rooms clean, take our bath regularly; learn and speak Hausa, as no other language was tolerated; help in the killing of about 12 fowls every day and remove the intestines with which Yaro Tapa fed about a dozen snakes which he kept in a cage. The snakes are mostly cobras and I shivered each time I saw them. He also asked us to clean the snake rooms. We did not cut the fowls. When the intestines had been removed, the rest was thrown away."



"I HAVE never been more frightened in my life..."



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WHY were the boys kidnapped? What happened to their friends? What was the mysterious "den" run by Yaro Tapa in the forest? Ismaila Fawehinmi tells all — exclusively — in next month's DRUM. Make sure you don't miss this incredible story.



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The wrath of the Thunder God

FEAR gripped Okon Ohafia, a little town in Nigeria's Imo State, when lightning struck and three people were killed instantly. The tragedy started people talking about the mystery that surrounds thunder and lightning. Is it true, as some claim, that lightning strikes only sinners . . . or that human beings can send lightning to destroy their enemies? DRUM went to investigate.

CAN thunder and lightning be evoked by native spells? Do they serve as errand boys for an aggrieved person? Are they humane—sent, or are they purely an act of nature? These are some of the questions that have been asked since lightning struck at Okon Ohafia in Imo State, killing three people, and seriously injuring two others. Ohafia is noted for its native herbal medicine, and many powerful magicians and herbalists live there. The belief here is very strong that lightning was unnatural. It was felt that it was the work of someone in the town who had quarrel with the affected family. But others thought the affected families were sinners. They said that lightning strikes only sinners and that honest people could never be affected by thunder or lightning. Mrs. Ucha Agwu, who was seriously injured in the lightning disaster, were treated at the Archchukwu General Hospital. Later they had they settled in their house again than the sky turned foul again. The weather became gloomy, and it started

to rain and thunder. Fear gripped the family again and they decided to move out of the house immediately. No sooner had they left than the thunder subsided and the sky cleared. This seemed to support the rumour that the family was either cursed or that they were victims of some aggrieved people. They cannot live in the house any longer because it is believed that it is now the "route" of the lightning. It was in view of these rumours—that have made a little town panic—that DRUM went to investigate the real or imaginary causes of lightning and thunder. Dr Kalu Udo, a herbalist in Okon-Ohafia where the inci-

dent took place, talked to DRUM at length. He said: "That incident was a result of a love affair that failed. Someone was a disappointed lover. He wanted to marry one of the victims of the lightning disaster—she was struck dead by the lightning—but she refused. "That was after the man had paid the exorbitant bride price and had bought a lot of things for the fiancée. "The woman preferred another man, to whom she was married later. Lower boy did not take vengeance immediately. He waited until the lady was married and had a baby. When he had made up his mind on vengeance, he chose a day when it was

naturally stormy, with lightning and thunder about and he performed a little ritual that made the affected house the 'route' of the lightning and thunder. "The woman was killed, along with her child and another lady who had supported the woman all along. The woman's mother and sister were seriously injured. "But you can't prove this theory. It is not the type of case you take before a magistrate or a judge. Jungle justice, so to speak. "Man can evoke lightning and thunder. It is a power derived from an African herb. The dangerous aspect of it is sent may himself be a victim, if fully met. "Secondly, if the person to whom it was directed was innocent of the alleged offence, the lightning could backfire, unless a ram is quickly lightning and thunder. "It is an African science. Many people have used it in marriage and land cases. "There is, however, a big difference between human-evoked lightning and natural lightning. If lightning is human-evoked, it will produce

a light which resembles a fire from gunpowder. It can destroy any object. It can kill by mere shock. It also can cause deafness or dumbness. "But a human-evoked lightning cannot harm a clear-minded or an innocent human being. "God-sent lightning, on the other hand, does not harm anyone of any object. Rather, it purifies the world by removing and destroying evil things." Mrs. Ucha Agwu, now recovered from her injuries, said: "I really don't know what happened that day. All I remember was that there was a great storm and I went into a coma. When I recovered, I was told that my daughter had died. "It was true that there were two men running after my daughter. But that is not strange. It depended on her to choose whomsoever she wanted. I hate no-one and I hold no malice against anyone. "That lightning should now make my house its route is what I cannot understand. My daughter and I have been living in this house for more than six years. Although I am not a Christian, I believe in God and I know that He has been helping me and my family."

WERE these two women victims of the Thunder God? Mrs Ucha Agwu, pictured here, and her daughter Nkwu Kalu, pictured were badly injured in the storm at Okon Ohafia. They had just entered their home after leaving hospital when their home thundered again. As they fled the house in fear, the skies turned blue again.



Around the States

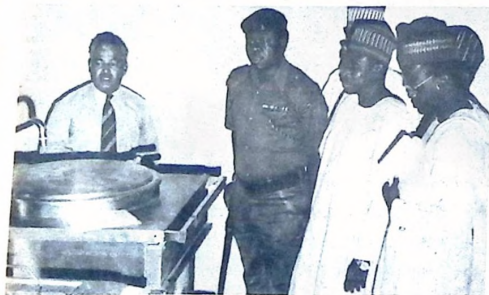
In a new feature, DRUM takes its cameras on tour through Nigeria. Here the focus falls on the events that made the headlines in Bauchi State.



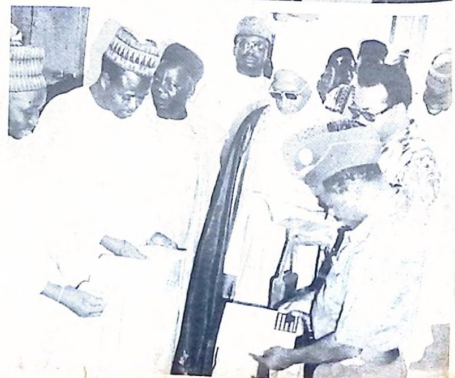
LEFT: The State Commissioner for Natural Resources, Alhaji Jibrin Nayaya, ready to inject a cow as part of the campaign to eradicate disease.

ABOVE: The Emir of Gombe, Malam Abubakar Umar, presents a prize to a farmer at the annual agricultural show in Gombe.

BELOW: Lt. Col. Datti S. Abubakar (with pen) is sworn in to the state executive council by the State Military Governor, Lt. Col. Muh. Bello Kallei.



ABOVE: During his tour of government establishments Lt. Col. Abukakar visited the kitchen of the School of Agriculture.



RIGHT: The Federal Commissioner for Education, Dr A. Ali, examines books at Ningi during a visit to UPE projects in Bauchi State.

AFRICA'S WOMEN WARRIORS

MORTAR shells fell in the valley below as I struggled up the steep hillside. My desert boots skidding on the sand. There was suddenly a blaze of fire and a big plume of grey smoke a few hundred yards away from our Land-Rover parked at the foot of the hill.

Saharan guerrilla commander offered me his hand as I slipped, startled by the falling of another mortar shell as it hurtled past and landed with a deafening boom nearby.

I was in a strange country, in the heart of North Africa, in the middle of a war I was only beginning to understand ... I was petrified.

The commander sensed my nerves and said: "Don't worry, I fought with women before. I'll soon make a marvellous soldier."

Just two weeks before, I had been in a safe and secure home. I wanted to experience at first hand what motivated Saharan men to take up arms along with their men and turn their backs on 2,000 years of male-dominated Islamic tradition.

Our women are special. They are the descendants of Mohammed's daughter. Life in the desert has always been hard and death are not strangers to them.

I remembered the story I told back at the guerrilla camps of how Saharan men had torn out the eyes of a main marauding tribesman 40 years ago, and I cried.

Now they are at war again. This time their enemies are poorly-armed nomads but the combined might of the forces of Morocco and Mauritania.

These women are their "home-land" — Western Sahara — which Spain ceded to these two African countries over the objections of the Saharans a year ago.

In this war," the commander said, as we reached the front line, "our women have been sent from the back line to the front line to shoulder with men.

"Look," said one of the guerrillas, "you see the hills in the distance. I peered gingerly over the brow of the hill, and saw that I might be out against the sky.

Here, only 1,000 metres away, was a squat little fort. Polisario fighters were coming out of it from a hill to my left with an anti-tank gun. In the valley to my left, two guerrillas promenade in the sand as bullets began to pelt the ground at their feet. War shells were coming once every three minutes.

I was relieved to see that some of them were dropping wide of their targets.

"To create, there's a plane," one hissed in my ear. I hid into the cloudless blue

sky and saw the unmistakable vapour trail of a jet fighter. I felt like a fly waiting to be swatted, and ridiculously so. I was glad I had changed my red socks that morning.

We all crouched with our heads bowed, not moving a muscle until the aircraft had disappeared.

By mid-afternoon the fire became sporadic and then ceased. Little had been achieved, or so it seemed, but the commander clearly regarded the operation as a success.

For me, it was the most frightening experience of my life.

To get here, I had driven across vast barren plains, crisscrossed with wooded dunes and fringed with bizarre lunar mountains. To supplement a diet of bread, rice and occasional meat, I and my four-man guerrilla escort had picked edible dandelion-like plants from the sand and red herbes from grey spiky bushes.

We travelled through a country about the same size as Great Britain, located on the north-west African coast opposite the Canary Islands. The Saharan people, however, number only 200,000. The inhabitants, mainly nomadic herdsmen, have now fled to refugee camps in the dreary barren wastes of southern Algeria. More than 100,000 Saharan refugees live in tented cities just across the border, lacking food and medical supplies.

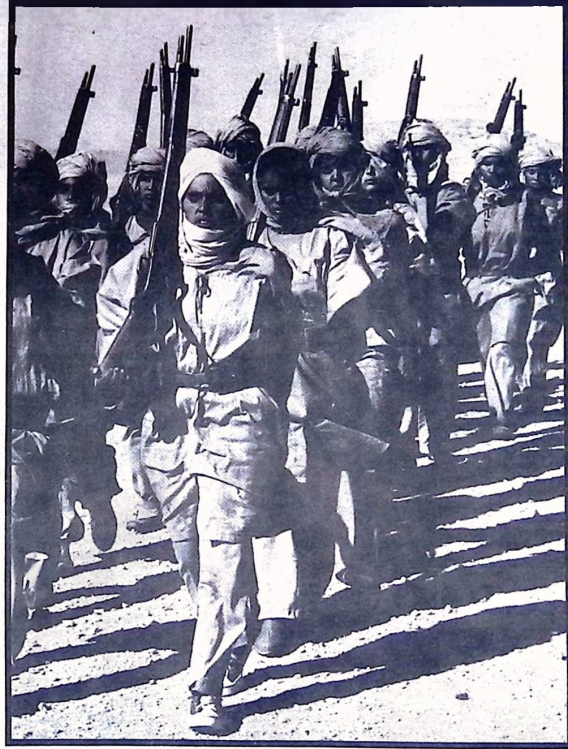
It was here I met my first woman fighter. I was dropped with my guide in an empty rocky patch of desert. 30 minutes drive from the refugee camps. A Jeep roared up to us several minutes later carrying two figures wearing khaki smocks and trousers, with a cloth tied round their heads.

In one purposeful, practised movement one of them slid out of the vehicle, came up to me and shook my hand.

"I am Ara'aba," she said. She was 26, slight with delicate bones. She wore a large revolver in a holster strapped around her waist. Fadah, the driver, was fat and jolly. She packed us into the jeep and drove us to the training area, where I saw 25 soldiers marching up and down at the double, their rifles held upright, wheeling and turning while the sergeant-major danced alongside, rapping out orders.

All were girls, aged between 15 and 25. I watched Ara'aba, their commander, order the sergeant-major to divide them into groups. Some of the girls wore canvas shoes, others sandals, and one I watched nar barfoelod over sharp flints and thorns. All the shoes were too big for them — their army stores only supply them in men's sizes.

The girls' daily routine is



Sadie Wykeham, a special DRUM correspondent, reports on her visit to the desert where war has catapulted the women of the Sahara into the 20th century.

PLEASE TURN OVER

AFRICA'S WOMEN WARRIORS

CONTINUED

harsh. They live on a diet of bread, rice or lentils. They eat meat once or twice a fortnight. They sleep outside in trenches, wrapped in a blanket and curled round their guns.

"We must always be on our guard, especially at night," said Eudah, who cradled her Kalashnikov automatic rifle in her arms like a baby and then briskly snapped cartridges into the magazine.

Their day starts at dawn with an hour-long session of keep-fit exercises. Once their limbs, aching from sleeping on rough ground, are supple and warm, they light a fire and breakfast on small glasses of hot syrupy tea. They wash it down with water from a smelly goatskin.

During the day they learn military tactics of surprise and ambush and how to deal with armed prisoners at close quarters. They are also schooled in how to handle firearms.

For most of the girls the change in life-style is startling. Some had lived with their nomad families who roamed the Sahara, just as their ancestors had done for thousands of years before them. Others grew up in towns, and were taught that a woman's place is in the home, cooking and looking after the children.

"We try to teach them to live together and to join our fight for independence," said one of the women who gives an hour's political instruction a day to the recruits.

These girls will join the other 300 women in the guerrilla army after three months' training. They leave parents, husbands, children and sweethearts, and the few comforts of their tent homes.

"There's no going back, you know," said Slaytina, a madonna-faced 22-year-old. "Once you join up, you can't change your mind and go running home when the going gets rough. And you go on fighting until you win the battle or die in the attempt."

"It's no life being exiled from your home, living in refugee camps on international charity. We have a choice — to live or die with dignity," she said.

"Most of my family are refugees here but my husband is fighting with Polisario. I don't know where he is or even whether he is still alive. Perhaps I will meet him when I go in to fight."

I talked to one 22-year-old girl, who told me she and two of her brothers had been tortured by Mauritanian soldiers while fleeing towards Algeria, earlier this year. For a whole night they were interrogated, and soldiers stubbed out cigarettes on their naked bodies and urinated on their heads.

"They left me and one of my brothers half-dead when they moved on and took my 15-year-old brother with them — we haven't heard of him since."

"We walked and crawled without food and water for several days until we met a guerrilla patrol who told us where to find the rest of our family. They were waiting at a camp for us with thousands of other Saharan refugees."

The girl related how Polisario tried to evacuate them further north to escape pursuing Mauritanian army units. The old and sick were relayed in cars and the rest of the refugees walked in a long straggling column of wretchedness.

"My mother and my little boy were walking ahead of me when planes began to bomb the column. One moment they were there and the next they had vanished in smoke and sand as a bomb hit them," said the girl. "At that moment, I

wanted to die. There seemed nothing left to live for, but I had to struggle on."

"In the next camp, three weeks later, the Moroccans bombed us with napalm. I saw a woman leaving my tent about to give birth. She and her child were blown to bits a few yards from me."

I was shocked into silence. I understood how age-old traditions had been turned topsyturvy by the gruesome mechanics of modern warfare, and I understood why women were prepared to forsake their families to fight.

Several of the women I talked to were mothers and they had handed their children over to their close relatives to look after back at the refugee camp.

"Of course I miss my child," said one woman fighter. "I miss my family dearly and my husband as well. But there is no choice for us."

The fatalism and resignation of the Saharan women became a familiar theme as I progressed through the camp. It seemed to me their suffering as women and human beings knew no bounds.

But in the camps, which could have been so full of despair and misery, life had to go on. The women plunged with energy and enthusiasm into organising the daily routine — running the camp health service, educating the children and setting up a small handicraft industry to earn money and avoid too heavy a reliance on outside charity.

At one camp, deep in the desert, I was shown how their women also entertain their fellow refugees with community theatre. Around a make-shift stage, in the headlights from a parked Land-Rover, sat a ring of women and children swaying to the singing of a group of girls. One young woman plucked out the accompaniment on an upturned metal washing bowl.

The actors were all women



and the sketches familiar to everyone in camp — a complaining husband who wants his wife to stay at home and not help organise the refugees, or a confrontation between a hard-working and a lazy girl.

The humour was direct and the message simple — the "revolution" must come first. We all rocked with laughter as one girl acted to explain to her deaf old dad why she had to learn about drugs and nutrition.

There were children everywhere. Beautiful, big-eyed, some laughing, some sad, none of whom had seen any fresh fruit since they left home in Western Sahara at the beginning of 1976.

At school in a tent they learned the five "Rs" — reading, 'rithmetic, religion and revolution. But the saddest of all these small, storked Saharans I found in the children's hospital.

"One in five babies die

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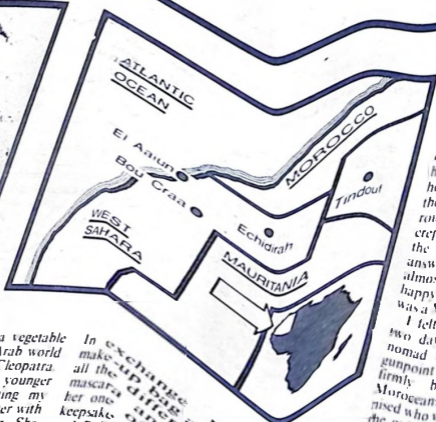
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packet of henna, a vegetable dye known in the Arab world since the times of Cleopatra. She and her two younger sisters began decorating my hands after mixing water with the dark brown powder. She said the thick paste on my palms and then patterned my ankles and the palm of my feet. "This is a typically Arabian design," she said. I sat with hands covered in henna and the children peering over me. Little five-year-old Abdullah disappeared then came back under the weight of my hands.

henna dried, I showed my hands at the market — my nails bright orange and my feet bright red.

In exchange I made up all the mascara and lipstick for her one-keepsake. A Polisario officer came to our tent that night and asked whether I was armed in the may need a self-defence. "Moroccans can press card could warrant." I remained firm to the Sahara as a combatant likely to shoot travellers' feet off their own skin. "You do it, I'll do mine," I told him. The officer was relieved. "Journalists

exchange I emitted eye-shadows and the lipstick as a keepsake. A Polisario officer came into our tent that night and asked whether I was armed in the may need a self-defence. "Moroccans can press card could warrant." I remained firm to the Sahara as a combatant likely to shoot travellers' feet off their own skin. "You do it, I'll do mine," I told him. The officer was relieved. "Journalists

met no woman fighter wherever I went the praisers as combat, they're tough," a 20-year-old told me. "But I prefer to look for the refugee camps. As gale-force winds blew through the braided women guerrillas who sacrifice their husbands, their children, the dignity of a free life.

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THIS BABY JUST LOVES TO DANCE

She's completely lost in the music . . . the people, the place and the time don't mean a thing. We know the place — it's the Tourist Hotel, Enugu — and even the time of their increasingly popular dance sessions, but her name . . . ? It didn't really matter to her, and it doesn't matter to us. We just enjoyed the sheer delight and delirium of the dance. DRUM photographer ABIM OLADEJO was there to capture her enjoyment just for you. The pictures speak for themselves. Keep dancing Baby!



Chief Davies has not done badly!



CHIEF H. O. Davies seen talking to DRUM's Olaseinde Lawson.

WHEN a young Nigerian lawyer, Mr Hezekiah Davies joined the band of lawyers who represented the management of the Nigerian Railways during the inquiry in the late 40s, little did he know that he was on the road to fame.

He was not even aware of the good reputation he was building for himself when he represented the miners during an inquiry into the Iva Valley shooting, when several miners were shot about the same period.

Two British journalists came to Nigeria to report the two historical incidents. The two journalists were Colin Legum of the *Observer* and Oliver Woods of the *Times*. They did not hesitate to put the brilliant performance of Mr Davies in their reports. That was how Mr, now Chief, Davies became an internationally acclaimed lawyer.

So it did not come as a surprise when, during the Mau Mau trial in Kenya, Chief Davies was briefed by the sec-

retary-general of the Kenya African Union, Mr S. S. Awori, to defend Jomo Kenyatta, the founding father of the Kenyan nation, who is now its President.

The Mau Mau trial was, and still is, regarded as the most controversial political trial in East Africa. It involved Kenyatta and five top officials of the Kenyan African Union. The others were Paul Ngei, Fred Kubai, Richard Oneke, Bildad Kaggia and Kungu Karumba.

Chief Davies joined other international lawyers to defend the East African nationalists. The other lawyers included Jaywant Singh from India, Dudley Thompson from Tanganyika, now Tanzania, D. N. Pritt from London and Chaman Lal, also from India. Chief Davies now looks back at his practicing days and says: "I don't think I have done badly."

I met Chief Davies at his Agard Street residence at Yaba

PLEASE TURN OVER

Chief Hezekiah Davies (left) has spent most of his 72 years contributing to the emancipation and development of Nigeria. Olaseinde Lawson reports.

His greatest achievement

CONTINUED

one Saturday morning. He had just finished work on a case which lawyers in his chambers were to argue in court.

"That is all I do now, make drafts and give advice to my seniors. My court days are over," he said.

Recalling the Mau Mau episode, Chief Davies said "I had earlier met Jomo at the London School of Economics when he was a research student. It was at that time he was writing his book *From Mount Kenya*."

"I did not know that I would represent him one day, in fact I was not reading law then, but when it happened we were both very happy."

On April 3, 1953, judgment was delivered and all the accused were found guilty and were sentenced to seven years' imprisonment each.

On the judgment, Chief Davies said "It was a political case. If Jomo did not mean that he was guilty, the colonial masters must have their way."

"After Jomo Kenyatta's case, I felt reluctant to handle any political case any more. The only one which I later participated in was the marathon treason trial of Chief Othman Awolowo and others."

"I defended Dr Akinola Maja. The charge against him was later dropped by the prosecution and he became a prosecution witness."

"After Maja junior was dropped, I was a counsel for Chief Awolowo for a brief period."

"In the first civilian regime after independence, Chief Davies got a United Nations appointment but the Government did not allow him to take up the appointment. I asked him why."

"Before that appointment, I

was approached by the late Chief Justice Osofe-Faboh and Alhaji Idris Balewa to head a new national press.

"I refused, pointing out to them that I was not going to be an apology for the blunders of the Government."

"After representations I agreed and became chairman and managing director of the *Nigerian National Press*, publishers of the now defunct *Morning Post and Sunday Post*."

"Though I accepted the offer, I did not leave my legal practice."

"So it happened that the United Nations wanted to draft a constitution for the Congo, now Zaïre, and they wanted a constitutional expert from a country with a federal constitution. I was appointed direct from the United Nations headquarters in New York."

"The then Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Jaja Wachuku, went to town and made all the noise on earth about it, that the Federal Government was not consulted and that I should not be allowed to take up the appointment."

"Under normal circumstances the Federal Government should not be consulted. The UN could only consult them if I were a civil servant and the UN needed my services."

"But that was not the case. I was a private man — a legal practitioner, regardless of the fact that I was the chairman and managing director of the *Nigerian National Press*."

"However, the Federal Government had its way and I was deprived of the UN appointment. But it was not that note that I resigned as the chairman and managing director of the *Nigerian National Press*."

"The United Nations wrote to me later to apologise for all the embarrassment."

"Asked what is his greatest achievement both as a lawyer and a politician, Chief Davies had this to say:

"What I regard as my greatest achievement is my association with the Nigerian Youth Movement, because it was the movement that spearheaded Nigeria's independence."

"I was a foundation member of the movement and I later became its general secretary. I am proud being associated with all its achievements."

"I resigned from the Youth Movement when there was disagreement among members over Lagos as a federal capital, Chief Awolowo, Chief Bode Thomas and others went to form the Action Group and I formed the Nigeria People's Party, which I later merged with the NCNC."

"I am also proud of being associated with the formation of trade unions in Nigeria."

"When I came back from England in 1936 there was no single trade union in this country."

"I started the Railway Workers' Union, the PWD

Workers' Union and the Marine Workers' Union. In fact, Vice-Admiral Akintunde Wey was an official of the Marine Workers' Union."

Chief Davies also talked about military regimes.

"In 1959 I was invited as a Fellow of the Centre for International Affairs at Harvard University. It was there that I met Dr Henry Kissinger for the first time."

"In 1960 I wrote my book *Nigeria: The Prospect for Democracy*. It was Sir Abubakar Balewa who wrote the foreword for the book."

"It was in that book that I highlighted the chances which Nigeria had to avoid military rule."

"At that time there were so many countries that were being ruled by soldiers and when I set-up I discovered that their were countries that have built a very large army."

"When you build a big army you stand the risk of being ruled by that army, because of little short-coming on the part of the civilian government will result in army take-over."

"That was the warning I gave in my book in 1960. Nigeria would be telling a different story today."

Chief Davies was a celebrated nationalist during the enthusiastic support of Ibadan's NCNC leadership. Chief Davies, a long-time critic of the Western Working Committee, was elected chairman in 1953. Then 53, he was one year younger than Dr Awolowo, the West Lagos merger. Chief Davies supported Dr Awolowo. He had been a consistent advocate of Lagos as a symbol of the ever-promise the proposal to compromise its national character by incorporation within a particular region.

WORKERS' UNION AND THE MARINE WORKERS' UNION IN FACT, VICE-ADMIRAL AKINTUNDE WEY WAS AN OFFICIAL OF THE MARINE WORKERS' UNION. CHIEF DAVIES (ABOVE) AND LATER WITH NIGERIA'S FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR ADOTOKUNBO ADEMOLA (BELOW).



Chief Davies is a fully-fledged Nigerian. He said "My father is from Ilesha and my mother is from Efon Alaye in Ekiti division." He later became a Chief in Efon Alaye and once contested an election for the constituency.

"Asked if he would like any of his children to be lawyers, Chief Davies said "It has always been my practice to advise and encourage anyone, including my children, when they want to embark on a career."

"If any of my children wants to become a lawyer, I will advise and encourage him. It is a profession I am very proud of."

"If they want to become practice lawyers they will receive my blessing."

To young lawyers, Chief

Davies says: "You win your cases in the chambers and not in the law courts, so do your homework very well."

Chief Davies attended the Olowogbho Wesleyan School, Lagos, the Baptist School, Lagos, the Methodist Boys' High School, Lagos, and Kings College, Lagos.

He later became a tutor of mathematics in Kings College between 1924 and 1925. In 1926 he became a clerk in the Northern Provinces Secretariat in Kaduna. In 1934 he went to England to study economics and commerce at the London School of Economics. He came back in 1936.

He returned to England in 1944 to study law and he was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1946.



"I AM proud of being associated with the formation of trade unions in this country."

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Mr. Mission Impossible

18 years ago he was a poor young man. Today he is a famous film star whose parts in 'Mission Impossible' have made him the darling of television viewers in 89 countries. DRUM Editor Olu Adetule spoke to Greg Morris in Lagos.

LISTEN to this: "Anthropologists have produced abundant indisputable evidence that civilisation originated from Africa. Many famous men in history were black, including Alexander Dumas, author of 'The Three Musketeers' Washington, the capital of the United States of America, was laid out by a black man."

"The black man should be given a true history of his great ancestral past so he can feel justly proud of himself and his past. There is too much about the black man which has not been told. Black people should make films which will show this great past so as to counter the derogatory European propaganda. Stories about great black heroes should be told, not as an indictment or accusation, but to educate the young and the old of all races of the world."

These words summarise the views and the ambition of Greg Morris, the famous American film star whose part in the popular TV serial "Mission Impossible" has endeared him to thousands of TV viewers in Nigeria.

Greg says he tries to learn something new every day. And he seems to have learnt many new things since he started

acting in 1959, when he abandoned an ambition to be an announcer on radio and TV. Apart from acting in all but two of the 172 episodes of "Mission Impossible," Greg has acted in 75 other TV films. He has made five major motion pictures including "Countdown to Kusini," shot

in Nigeria. He has done seven plays, and featured in most of the major TV shows in the United States.

Eighteen years ago he was an inconsequential young man of 25, struggling for a chance to prove his mettle in Washington. That he was a black man in a country noted

for its white discrimination against fellow black citizens was no help to the man from Cleveland, Ohio. But thanks to his stubborn will to succeed, his readiness to work hard and adapt himself to people and situations, this handsome and tall son of a trumpeter is now a shining example to others. A

father of three grown-up children, Greg is happily married to Lee, a pretty and charming woman who has been his wife for more than 20 years, and of whom he is very proud. He bursts with good health and lacks practically nothing. He will not confirm or deny that he is a rich man. He said with a boyish smile: "I used to eat beans because I had to. Now I eat beans because I want to. My family are comfortably taken care of. My oldest daughter is going to a college of her choice. I have reached the stage in my career where I make many times more money than I ever made when I was a starter in Washington."

He can now afford to turn down offers and even when his agent arranged for him to meet Bruce Geller, executive producer and creator of "Mission Impossible," he carefully studied the part that has now brought him fame and adoration. Over the years the series has provided entertainment to 89 countries where it has been shown or is still being serialised.

Greg Morris is 6 feet 3 inches tall although he appears much shorter in "Mission Impossible." He explains: "At

Mr. Mission Impossible

CONTINUED

one time "Mission Impossible" had the tallest cast in TV. There was Peter Graves, the white-haired chap, who is 6 feet 3/4 inches tall; Peter Lupus, 6 feet 4 inches, and the ladies in the cast, too, were tall. The shortest of them was 5 feet 8 inches. So, in relation to our individual height, everybody thought we were shorter than we actually are. I am asked this same question by many people. I didn't realise you are so big, they say and I make them laugh by replying: "Maybe you have a small TV."

In "Mission Impossible" Greg Morris has played 40 different characters, among them a Nigerian banker, a rock singer, a West Indian chief, a clown complete with all the make-up, and a convict.

He has become so enmeshed in acting that even when he is off-stage, he sometimes stands up and acts out what he is saying. He did this quite unself-consciously during his interview with DIRM.

Greg says his ambition is to be an even better actor and to produce good films. He now has a production company and has signed a contract with Paramount television. He wants to emphasise what is right and seek to bring about greater understanding between

different peoples through his films.

He loves travelling. "Every year I lease a mobile home, built like a bus, and my family and I travel around the United States. We live and sleep in it. It has everything including a bathroom, kitchen and a refrigerator." Greg has also visited some countries in Europe and Asia and hopes to visit more African countries in the future. Many of his cousins, he said, were born in Liberia. "My uncle, the Rev. Montrose Waite, and his wife are missionaries still serving in Liberia."

He said he had been impressed by his experience in Nigeria. "The Nigerians I have met are a very proud people. I've had a chance to find that they are warm-hearted and the children are very polite. I love the people's colourful outfits and magnificent hairstyles. You must see Lagos at first-hand. Don't just read about it. Here is the capital of a black man's country, run entirely by black people."

Of his marriage, he said: "I think I am probably one of the luckiest people in America. My wife will do anything for me and our kids. When I first started as an actor, my wife worked as a secretary and we combined salaries. She never complained."

Of sex, he commented: "I think it's beautiful. But the world is hypocritical about it. I believe in sex education and my wife and I discuss sex with our children. There is nothing more beautiful than a man and a woman consummating their



THE GLAMOUR of a film star existence has not turned Greg Morris away from the joys of family life (ABOVE).

love. It is very wrong for anyone to preach against sex. I do love women but not for public viewing. Sex must be private and personal. Making love with a woman with about 1,000 people watching me is appalling and beyond me. A nude woman may not appeal to me. A woman is much more sexy when she has something on. Then I can let my imagination do numbers."

Speaking on the need for family planning, Greg said: "Ten million people go to bed hungry every day in the United States. I don't know why a little boy or girl has to go to bed hungry in any part of the world in spite of the technological achievements of the big nations. Why can't we cut down much of the waste in this world, utilise the vast farmlands in every part of the world and feed the hungry?"

But apart from the greater issues Greg says there's something new to learn every day. Of a typical day in Nigeria he said: "I learnt how to act the part of a piano player. I learnt about Manu Dabango, the jazz musician who created 'Soul Makossa', and we became friends. I also learnt something about Dahomey from a visit to the place yesterday. If you are open and receptive, you learn something every day. Life is a learning process."



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A black and white photograph of Grace Kelly. She is shown from the chest up, wearing a white, off-the-shoulder garment. She has her signature voluminous dark hair styled in a bun. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. Her right hand is raised, holding a cigarette. The background is a light-colored wall with a grid-like pattern of small squares.

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HEAD of State, Lieutenant-General Olusegun Obasanjo explaining Africa's needs.

Africa must be transformed — Obasanjo

A LOT of lip service had been paid to the concept of a new international order — but little had actually been done about it, Nigeria's Head of State, Lieutenant-General Olusegun Obasanjo said at a top-level conference in Lagos.

The time had come to take the necessary initiative to realise the economic transformation of Africa, he told African leaders who met to discuss mobilisation of resources to implement the United Nations Economic Commission's medium-term plan for 1976-81.

Nigeria, said General Obasanjo, was dismayed at the ambivalence of most countries to the call for a new economic order. Political independence by itself was only a limited step forward because it was the conditions necessary for real economic independence. It had now become fashionable to talk in terms of three

new orders for Africa — a new national economic order, a new regional economic order and a new international economic order. But, General Obasanjo maintained, if they were not firmly based on national as well as collective self-reliance, they would not

guarantee the development of Africa. General Obasanjo explained that the objective was to demonstrate in a more definitive way Africa's political will, firm determination and capacity to identify obstacles to development.

Three airports get go-ahead

CONSTRUCTION contracts have been awarded by the Federal Military Government for the Yola, Sokoto and Kaduna airports.

The contract for Kaduna, worth N22,177,000 (£19,293,990) was awarded to Messrs Dr Ing Trapp and Company.

It involves the construction of earthworks and pavements for the runway, taxiway and apron, and is expected to be completed in 30 months. The runway and associated

facilities will be suitable for the operation of Boeing 747 type aircraft.

The Kaduna project also includes the construction of an access road, together with the roads in the terminal area and airfield lighting.

A statement by the Aviation Ministry said that a separate contract would be awarded for a new terminal building. The airport will be equipped with modern navigational aids.

Stevin Construction won the

contract to build the new pavements. The contract, worth N18,257,332 (£15,883,879), is expected to be completed in 27 months.

The Sokoto airport will also be able to handle the Boeing 747 and similar aircraft. It will have two connecting taxiways, and a concrete apron for the operation of scheduled and charter flights. In addition, the project includes the construction of an access road, the roads in the terminal area and

airfield lighting. The third contract, for the construction of earthworks and pavements for Yola airport runway, taxiway and apron to Amey Roadstone Construction Ltd.

The N12,570,570 (£10,936,396) contract should be completed in 23 months. Yola is designed to meet the requirements for the smaller Boeing 737 type aircraft. The runway will be 2,400 metres long and 45 metres wide, in addition to two short taxiways and an apron.

The Federal Military Government has donated 41 lorries costing N1,135,819 (£988,667) to the States to assist the cooperatives in the distribution of essential commodities. Twenty-five more vehicles, costing N827,328 (£719,775) have also been bought for distribution.

New banks now require approval of Federal Executive

THE Federal Executive Council must approve proposals for any new banks in Nigeria before they can be established.

The new directive is contained in the Government's views on the latest report of the committee on the Nigerian financial system.

The committee was set up to examine, among other things, the adequacy, relevance, or otherwise of the institution in, and the structure of, the financial system to meet the needs of the economy for rapid development.

The Government also directs that before any new private Nigerian bank is granted a licence to function, the Federal Commissioner for Finance should be satisfied that there is such an identifiable group of indigenous Nigerian interests.

The Government maintains that because the financial system is an important mechanism for the operation of Government economic policy, it is important that its policy seek and secure a controlling share of equity and control of the banking system, as expressed in the policy of 60 per cent Government participation.

Approved by the Government are several committee recommendations designed to improve the quality of banking services.

YOU SEXY BEAST, YOU!

WIDE distribution of a sex attractant simulant can disrupt reproduction of insects — and save farmers millions of naira. This is the award-winning discovery made by two American scientists.

The work, by Dr Roelofs and Dr H. H. Shorey, is said to have important implications for the control of agricultural pests in Africa.

Dr Roelofs, working in Geneva, Switzerland, investigated the chemical identification of various sex attractants and studied how they are produced and perceived.

Dr Shorey's understanding of insect sexual communication led to experiments in the disruption of the process. Together, the scientists have pioneered the technique of disrupting sexual communication by using the attractants.

WE'LL PRINT IT, SAYS THE GOVERNMENT

NIGERIA'S Federal Military Government plans to establish a National Publishing and Printing Company.

The Federal Education Commissioner, Colonel A. Al, told the Nigerian Publishers' Association that this was one of the most important measures being taken by the Government to eliminate the problems facing the publishing industry.

Other measures included the provision of facilities for the training of all categories of staff in the book industry and the creation of incentives for authors of textbooks for general reading, for children and books written in Nigerian languages.

The Government, the Commissioner said, intends to provide infra-structural facilities for printing as well as for providing, at a reasonable cost, printing equipment and materials.

The commissioner stressed the importance of book production as a basic need of the country's educational and socio-cultural development.

The Government, through its establishment of the National Publishing and Printing Company, would publish worthy manuscripts of low sales potential, the sort of job that private publishers could not do because of the low financial returns.

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WOMEN

PLEASE TURN OVER

Oil revenue increase in first quarter

NIGERIA had an increase in her oil revenue during the second quarter, April to June, 1976.

The Central Bank's November report shows that Federal Government revenue from the oil-producing companies for the period amounted to N1,253 million.

This was N160.1 million above the receipts in the previous quarter, and compared with the corresponding period in 1975 it was a revenue increase of N356.6 million.

Petroleum profit tax realised during the period under review was N935.5 million, royalty N311.5 million, rentals N3.5 million and miscellaneous local payments N2.6 million.

The report showed an increase in crude oil production, which totalled 188.5 million barrels. Compared with the same period in 1975, the increase was 43.8 million or

30.3 per cent.

Shell-BP-NNOC maintained its lead, accounting for more than 58 per cent of total production.

The report pointed out that production by the other companies fell during the period under review compared with the first quarter of 1976 although in each case it was higher than during the corresponding period of 1975.

All the producing companies, the report revealed, recorded increases in their export of crude oil which totalled 184.9 million barrels. The United States, the Netherlands, Britain, the West Indies and France remain the major importers of the country's crude oil.

There was an increase in the consumption of petroleum

products which amounted to 1,030,782 tonnes during the period.

Petrol product shortages, reports the Federal Ministry of Petroleum, have caused "irritation and inconvenience" to the public.

The Ministry assures everybody that there are enough petrol products in the country and adequate replenishment stock on board vessels waiting to berth at Apapa. Everything is being done to relieve the shortages.

The shortages have been caused principally by the inadequacy of the existing distribution facilities of road

tankers and rail, which have been over-taxed for some time.

The situations have been worsened by the unpatriotic actions of some Nigerians who have hoarded petrol to sell at exorbitant prices to other Nigerians, ignoring the grave hazards to life and property.

In order to relieve distribution problems, the Armed Forces have made available 50 road tankers each of 27,000 litres or 700 gallons capacity. They will travel in convoy in various parts of the country.

The freakish growth in the consumption of petrol products has contributed greatly to over-stretching existing facilities.

For instance in 1975 the total consumption of super petrol alone was 1,133 million litres, while in 1976 the consumption was 1,650 million litres.

The steep increases have meant that our distribution of products is always on a critical balance.

7 FOR PETROL BOARD

A seven-member board is to manage the affairs of the new Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation.

The board will be headed by the Commissioner for Petroleum, who will be called chairman.

The Permanent Secretaries of the Finance and Economic Development as well as the managing-director of the corporation will also serve on the board. The three other members of the board are to be appointed by the Federal Executive Council.

The staff of the new corporation will be drawn from suitable former personnel of the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, the NNOC and indigenous staff in the industry at home and abroad.

The new corporation will also embark on a massive recruitment of foreign personnel able to contribute to the country's objectives of participation in all facets of the petroleum industry.

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GIVE WOMEN MORE CHANCE

PARTICIPATION by women in national economies should not be limited. They must be free to decide whether they prefer to remain full-time home-makers or to contribute through outside earnings, according to three African women who made a month-long survey of the economic role of African women.

The four group consisted of 17 women from 15 nations, and included Madame Ateal Frazer, Dean of Medicine and Pharmacology at Conakry University and a deputy of Guinea's National Legislative Assembly; Ms Adenike Mosunmola Osoba, research economist at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, and Ms Sarah Vincent, provincial coordinator of the International Women's Decade and organising secretary of the Women's Federation of Voluntary Organisations in Sierra Leone. The programme is sponsored by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The women noted that the modern African woman have much in common in their new-found freedoms. The integration of women into the economy to a much greater degree, worldwide, is both desirable and inevitable, they agreed.

Trade fair gets advisory board

AN advisory board has been set up for the Nigerian Trade Fair and has met in Lagos.

The Acting Federal Commissioner for Trade, Dr G. B. Leton, said the board was set up to help the Ministry of Trade organise the first Lagos International Trade Fair.

The fair would be the first major international economic exhibition to be staged in the country in the last 15 years. That period had witnessed great strides in science, technology and advancement in economic growth in many parts of the world.

Dr Leton added that many of the results of those developments would be put on display in Lagos during the trade fair.

The chairman of the Trade Fair Board, Alhaji Dan Banppa, promised that the board would do its best to see that the aims and objectives set by the Government in building the modern trade-fair complex could be realised.

The board comprises 15 members from public and private sectors.

BRIEFLY

• **HARMONY** in industrial relations is necessary for the orderly progress of the economic development of the country, said the Permanent Secretary at the Labour Ministry, Mr E. O. Oluwole, when he presented certificates to personnel managers at the end of a six-week training course in Lagos.

\$57m. LOAN FOR GHANA

GHANA'S plan to expand its hydro-electric power-generating and distribution capacity will be assisted by two loans and a credit totalling \$57 million, the World Bank has announced.

The first loan of \$39 million goes to the Kpong Hydro-Electric Project. The project foresees the construction of a new dam on the Volta River with hydro-electric plant and transmission facilities.

The new project is 28 kilometers from the existing Akosombo Dam, also built with the help of a loan from the World Bank in 1962.

The new \$39 million World Bank loan will cover about 23 per cent of the foreign exchange cost of the project. It is estimated at \$172 million. It will also finance, among other things, the purchase of construction equipment, vehicles, generating equipment, power house crane, transformers, materials and equipment for transmission lines.

Other international donors participating in the Kpong Hydro-electric project are the Canadian International Development Agency, the European Development Fund, the European Investment Bank, the Kuwait Fund, the Saudi Fund for Development and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa.

• **SEVEN** Federal Ministries are moving into the 12-storey secretariat complex at Ikoyi, Lagos.

• **NIGERIA** and Italy have signed an agreement on economic, technical and scientific co-operation. It is the first comprehensive agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The cop who became a captain of industry

THEN young Gabriel Igbinedion left Eko Boys' High school in 1951. He never lived he would make his me in business. Instead he took up a N7 68 job as a rical assistant in the education office in Benin City, and worked there until 1955.

In 1958 he joined the Nigeria Police, and in January 1959 started training as a constable at the Southern Police College, Ikeja.

Looking back, Chief Igbinedion says that it was the best training he ever had.

He said: "I would even like my children to go through that training, not necessarily for them to become police constables but because anyone trained in the police college can face life's ordeals with ease."

"At the police college, I was paid a monthly allowance of N18 and out of this the college took N15 for my food and lodging and I was left with N3."

"But you dare not complain. No-one complains in a police college."

"I passed out of the college in June 1959, and I was posted to Ibadan as a third-class constable on a salary of N22. Four months later I was promoted to second class and two years later I was promoted to first-class constable."

In 1964 Chief Igbinedion resigned from the Nigeria police force and became a sales



CHIEF Gabriel Osawaru Igbinedion, good businessman.

supervisor for Leventis Motors. He opened the first Leventis Motors office in Benin as its sales manager. He ran the office single-handed. He was the clerk, accountant, mechanic and manager.

He said: "I did this to encourage Leventis, who had been unwilling to set up at Benin. Soon the turnover grew. In about N2 million a year, but I was soon frustrated by the company."

"I went to Lagos and told the director, Mr. Dino Leventis, that I was resigning from the company."

"I also told him I was going

to set up my own motor company to compete with him and that I would be more successful."

"I flew to London to negotiate with the Reliant Motor Company in the Midlands. They made some proposals to assemble the motors here. The Nigerian Industrial Development Bank rejected the proposal, but that did not discourage me."

"I picked up the Hino Motor Company of Japan, with whom I arranged the sale and service of trucks and buses."

"At that time there were only 15 recognised motor companies in the country and they were all foreign-owned. It was I who broke their monopoly."

"Today, I run about the most successful local motor company, with 13 branches throughout Nigeria."

But Chief Igbinedion thinks that Government encouragement to local businessmen is not adequate.

"For instance," he explained, "the Government ahead for an assembly plant."

"Unless I am up to a high standard, it will be difficult for me to compete with other companies. I have petitioned the new administration, and I hope they will consider my case."



THE Chief celebrating with some of his happy family.

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SOUL SPECIAL



With his hits selling more than 40 million records, Stevie Wonder is a one-man black music machine. But his life is still founded on a few basic facts—his family and his friends.

SUPER STAR'S SONGS RULE THE WORLD

THE first time I got to meet Stevie Wonder he's sitting in the back of a car in Lagos, Nigeria. He was there for the Black Arts Festival and later on in an unscheduled appearance with Osibisa and Miriam Makeba he brought the house down.

That was to be the first of several meetings, his simple down-to-earth attitude prevailed throughout. It is hard to believe that this is the same Stevie Wonder who has set the music world alight and has sold more than 40 million records.

He is fragile in appearance and is much smaller than most people imagine. He closely clutches a tape recorder wherever he goes and one can be forgiven for thinking that this is an extension of his hand.

Blind since birth, which he attributes to a poorly regulated flow of oxygen into an incubator after his premature birth, nature has adequately compensated with his other senses. His hearing is so sharp that he

can tell by the acoustical changes in the air that there is an object in front of him.

His hands and ears serve in place of the cane and guide dog that he does not use and he has this uncanny sixth sense that allows him to pinpoint objects with a remarkable accuracy. One night while talking with Larry, his brother, and myself, he was led to us from his car by one of his entourage. While coming across he was warned to step over a concrete perimeter. Several minutes later he excused himself and set out to the car alone. "Watch out for the slab," someone yelled but it was too late for he had already stepped over it and seated himself in the car. Perched behind the steering they had to remove the keys lest he drive the car forward—a favourite trick of his.

He is oblivious to his plight. "You've noticed how people assume that because you're blind you're deaf too? They stick their faces up to yours and shout. 'Hey, Stevie. Over



TOGETHER in Lagos: Stevie Wonder, in dark glasses, as guests of Bobby Benson of the Caban Bamboo, with song-bird Miriam Makoba

here, Stevie. Man, to me that's like an alarm clock going off in the middle of a deep sleep. He is always under the close scrutiny of his personal and press assistant Ira Tucker and Calvin Hardaway, his younger brother. Calvin is his constant companion and is responsible for the choice of Stevie's ward-

him well "As a child the only thing I accepted was love." "Sneaking out the back door To hang out with those hoodlum friends of mine Greeted at the back door..." Music has always been an integral part of Stevie's life. When he was ten he had

on his hands. Stevie had many successes, but in his late teens he had yearning to employ his talents to their fullest and not just remain a singer who played harmony. His 22-month-old daughter Aisha is the literal sunshine of his life and her mother, Yolanda Simmons, is the apple of his eye. Whenever he speaks about his daughter, his face lights up and a smile invariably appears.

Bull (his publishing company) I liked the way she sounded and we became friends, then turned into other feelings. But he wanted to rid himself of the wounds and shackles of a musical confinement. The result was *Music of My Mind*. It signalled his marriage to R & B and heavy synthesized music was temporarily hated when a sports car in which he was a passenger ran into a logging truck.

was due to fly into Lu from Lagos but he got off plane because he felt the were bad. He delayed release of *Sorcerer in the K*. Life to coincide with Laurus astrological star.

Alistair Atholomus meets Stevie Wonder

robe. It is Calvin who guides him on stage whenever he performs. Born in Michigan, on May 13, 1950, Stevie was raised in Detroit. The third of six children, his mother never treated him differently from the rest. "I always have loved my mother for giving me that independence to let me feel the breeze of riding a bicycle and climbing trees." He boasts he was the fastest tree climber in the neighbourhood. That independence served

mastered piano, bongos, drums and harmonica. His talent was blatantly evident and he was introduced to Motown by Ronnie White of the Miracles. "Those days there was no Motown, it was there was no Motown, it was called Hitsville until Berry Gordy changed its name." It was Gordy who changed Stevie's name as well. He rechristened him Little Stevie Wonder, and got him to record *Fingertips*. This was to sell over 1.5 million records. Berry Gordy had a "child prodigy"

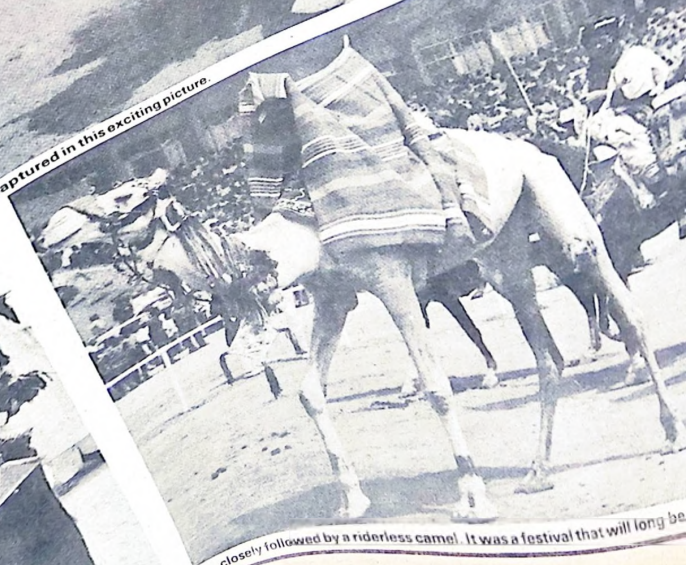
sense Yolanda and me. I can like me she is inquisitive about the way things work. She will open a drawer, stick her hands in and lean on it. She'll cry then feel around until she finds the handle." he goes on with a bunch, but I don't know if I'll ever make that. "Londie, as a lover, happened along in 1973 just after he had broken up with his first wife, Syreeta Wright. He recalls, "We met on the phone when she was looking for a job with Black

time I figured who and where my friends were. Life has got to be positive... we learn from forward not rewind." He is a man of moods. He

Being around him sh what boundless energy he and what a profound music plays in his life. W talking to him his m wanders and he breaks out what he has done a apologise but half an ho later, and he is off again cre- ing more music in a stu- ment. Wonder argues, "M Wonders go by my moods can't tell time by lookin outside. There be nightfa and prepare for it. If my flow, going I keep on till I peak. Then it's time to move on." He is as involved and intricate as his music suggests and offers an insight to the inner visions of the music of his mind it can be found at any record shop.



THE full splendour of the pageant is captured in this exciting picture.



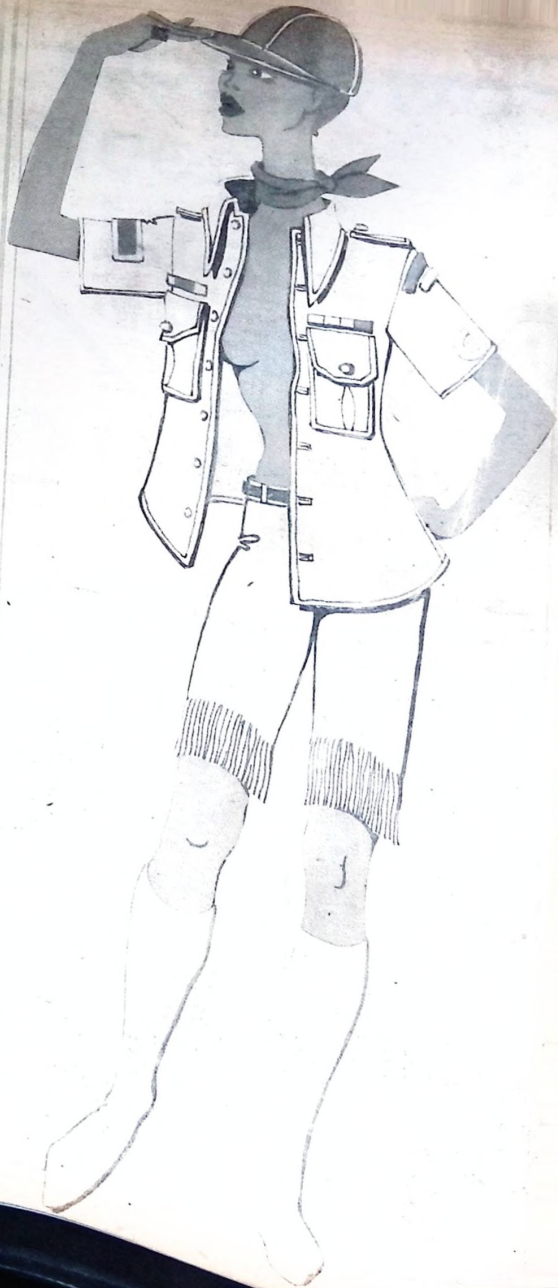
... closely followed by a riderless camel. It was a festival that will long be



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great
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FAR LEFT:
Light up slinky
scares with this
outfit — short shorts
set off by the
coloured bands on the
top's waist and
the shocking straps
and visor to match.



Power your way to a

NO MATTER how skillful you have been in a project, the final result will depend on the last, and often most neglected, stage—that of smoothing.

Whether the materials are to be polished, painted or left in their natural states, the final appearance depends on how much trouble has gone into smoothing off. It is all groundwork which produces the final finish, but it's hard work, isn't it?

Fortunately, there are many tools and attachments to help with this arduous task as well as the traditional sanding block.

Many people argue that there is no substitute for the sanding block fitted with a piece of abrasive paper and used with plenty of elbow grease and perhaps this is so, particularly if the workpiece is intricate or delicate.

But when there are large areas to smooth off and you want a really smooth finish, then reach for a power sander.

smooth finish



The fourth in our series on doing it yourself

sanding movement at one end than the other. This can produce an uneven finish.

Purpose built

The purpose built orbital finishing sander gives a smooth finish without scratching, plus, of course, the convenience of having its own motor.

As a general guide, two factors should be remembered. A fast speed (10,000 orbits per minute) with a smaller orbit (one eighth of an inch) will give a faster and finer finish but with less timber removal. A slower speed (4,000 orbits per minute) with a larger orbit of three sixteenths of an inch will give a better timber removal but a less fine finish.

There are extra features available with purpose-built sanders in addition to the convenience of having the tool available for the job and immediately to hand.

There is normally a choice of much higher speeds to give

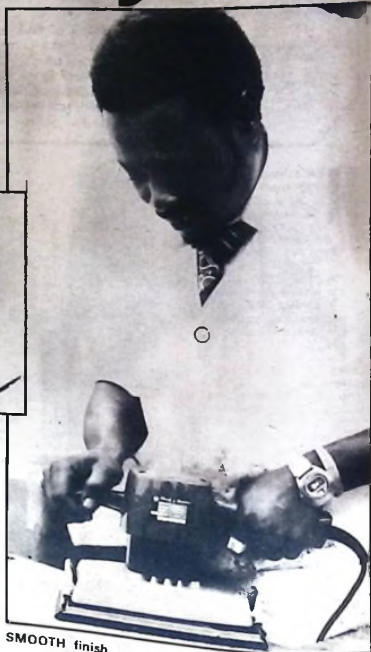
even finer finishes. There is a choice of sizes and on some models there is dust collection, a most useful facility particularly when sanding overhead or sanding off plaster filler.

The units are more convenient for use when sanding around shapes. When sanding a circular shape, a much more even contour can be achieved if the sander is rocked in the opposite curve to the profile being sanded.

If you wish to chamfer the edges of work which will be exposed to protect them from accident and to soften the overall appearance, an orbital sander is ideal.

Attachments

In addition to the self powered sanders, there are several sanding attachments on the market to suit the various drills available. They are inexpensive and useful additions to any power tool



SMOOTH finish . . . with an electric power sander.

Several Types

There are a number of types of power sanders and not all of them are finishing sanders.

Disc sanders, such as Black & Decker's powerful LEM, are ideal for automotive or wood sanding operations, but by the nature of their rotary action they tend to leave circular grooves and swirl marks in the surface which are sometimes hard to remove.

So the tip is be careful when you reach the required level and switch to a finishing sander.

The popular disc sander which is fitted into a drill is a valuable tool, but do not use it for finishing. The most popular finishing sander has always been one with an orbital action.

The action of an orbital sander differs from that of other sanders in that the sanding surface moves in small circles or orbits. This reduces scratch marks to a minimum and a really smooth finish can be achieved.

Check before buying that you have a true orbital sander as some have a true reciprocating action and pivot from one end of the base and give a greater

workshop, but they are not as efficient and versatile as the purpose-built units.

To fit an attachment, the special offset drive adaptor slotted into the attachment and drill clamp fastened on to the

the platen so that the paper does not flap; this stretching will prevent premature paper failure.

Using a sander

Select a high speed and, starting with a coarse paper, progress until you can use a fine paper for an extra smooth finish.

It is not necessary to apply your whole body weight in the hope that the tool will work better results using a lighter pressure and working the sander back and forth along the grain of the wood.

Clear away the sawdust during initial sanding to avoid clogging but in the later stages it will act as a lubricant and produce an even finer finish.

For sanding paintwork, it is abrasive foil similar to the discs available for disc sanders. These have tungsten carbide surfaces, welded to their with a wire brush to avoid the clogging which occurs with other papers.

Setting Up

The sanding area of the tool usually one third or one half sheet, if you buy abrasive paper size. You can, of course, buy standard size sheets and cut your own.

When fitting the abrasive resin adhesive, which bonds the sheet, makes the backing difficult to manipulate.

A good tip is to run the paper over the edge of the break up in both directions to make the paper more pliable.

It is important that the paper is stretched tight over



SMOOTH finish . . . with a car sander.



SMOOTH finish . . . with a sanding sheet.

DRUM begins exclusive serialisation of **JUJU**, a new and startling work by the young Nigerian writer, Dillibe Onyeama (LEFT).

A PAIR of twins gifted with supernatural powers are born in a Nigerian village at the turn of the century. But while James Nwokedi is a prodigy of God, Beatrice is a progeny of Satan. Afraid of her powers, the village isolates her family. But Chief Arusike, who had been influenced by

missionaries into dismissing the death sentence passed on her by the village elders, falls for her beauty. The result of terrifying war between her uncles and a that is to last 50 years... Read on for the first gripping instalment.

HER baby was born in the early hours of the morning. It was a boy. It had the same complexion, the same deep-set eyes and prominent features as its mother, but the potentially wide nostrils and thick, rubbery lips of Chief Arusike.

The tension that had hitherto bedevilled the Nwokedi household was exorcised by the joy that greeted the baby's arrival.

Towards midday that same morning, Beatrice startled her parents by saying that she was going to relieve herself in the bush and would take the baby with her. Mr. and Mrs. Nwokedi opposed this for health reasons. She snatched the baby into her arms and defiantly walked out of the bungalow.

A good hour passed before she was seen again. But she was seen not by her family, and not at her home, but by a group of women on their way to fetch water from the Ajali river. They came across her on the track leading to Chief Arusike's compound.

What they saw caused them to cry out in alarm, drop their pots from their heads, and take to their heels. Beatrice was clutching her baby with one arm as she walked, her features tense and wide-eyed, as though arranged for war. Her gait was a determined, purposeful march, and sliding sinuously on the ground alongside her, like a well-trained dog, was a snake.

"Oh God, it has come!" the women screamed as they fled. "The Devil has come!"

"Yes, you run!" Beatrice shouted after them with the voice of one deranged. "You can run to hell, and may the Devil take you!"

The chief and a few boldly robed elders were chatting over palm-wine in the courtyard when the terrified women appeared, screaming. Within moments a crowd had gathered to listen as the women poured out their story to the startled chief.

Next instant the crowd was rushing helter-skelter to pick up every available weapon. The chief and elders remained seated, clearly confident of the protection of the people, but a little apprehensive.

When Beatrice finally entered the compound, the crowd was waiting with machetes and pickaxes, and

slowly advanced towards her. There were exclamations at the sight of her heaviness, the baby and the snake sliding alongside her. Beatrice appeared totally unmoved by the overwhelming odds against her, and marched towards them.

"Be warned that anybody who tries to harm me, my child or my snake will die in the attempt!" she called out in a voice that did not sound like her own. "Such a person will die a very painful death."

The crowd halted with cries of alarm. Everybody stood there shifting uncertainly from one foot to the other.

"What is it you want?" an elderly man called out to her. "What have we done to you?"

"I want you to make space among you so that the man who gave me this baby should step out and welcome it!" Beatrice returned in a voice dry with sarcasm.

There was a commotion in the crowd as everybody asked each other in disbelief which man could possibly have been responsible. Next moment the crowd dispersed in panic, retreating to safe viewing distances.

Nothing now blocked the path between Beatrice and the chief, who remained glued to his regal seat as though suffering from constipation. As Beatrice approached nearer, the four elders sitting with him got to their feet and hobbled off to a safe distance. The chief remained seated, shaking from head to foot.

When Beatrice was a few feet away from him, she stopped. The snake halted, too, as though obeying an unspoken command, and with the exception of its darting tongue, lay perfectly still.

"Well then?" Beatrice began sharply. "Are you not going to say anything to your baby?"

But fear had frozen Chief Arusike's tongue. He made a few guttural sounds and kept silent, his features twitching uncontrollably. His fearful breathing sounded loud against the devastating silence.

"Or do you deny that it is your baby?" Beatrice suddenly screamed, causing the chief to jump. "Eh? Is it not your baby? You foul pig!" she shrieked, stamping her feet on the ground. "You heartless animal!"

"You took your pleasure from my body with disregard for my own feelings and have brought to being a child you could not care whether it sees happiness or misery. Now I am going to experience the pleasure of watching you die. The Devil take you!"

As though in response, the snake released a piercing hiss and started to move, rearing as it did so. The chief tried to scream, but only managed a whine of anguish, the rest caught in his throat.

The snake reared to the chief's height and struck. The chief howled and clutched his

off to a safe distance. The chief remained seated, shaking from head to foot.

"Be warned that anybody who tries to harm me, my child or my snake, will die in the attempt!" she cried.

PLEASE TURN OVER

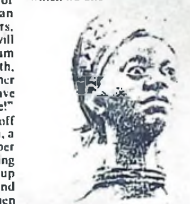


ignored the young man as if he was not there and marched past him.

James surveyed the column with intense concentration, as though looking for a particular ant. Next second he reached forward to the centre of the third row. Gingerly, as though afraid to harm the insect rather than to be harmed himself, he picked one up between his thumb and forefinger and rose with it into a kneeling position.

The villagers exclaimed and stared aghast at the rest of the column. The entire army had halted — all 40 yards of them — halted the moment James Nwokedi picked up the one he sought. There was not the slightest movement in the column.

In an atmosphere that thrilled with silence, James Nwokedi brought the ant to his face in close scrutiny for several long seconds, then closed his eyes. His lips moved in a series of dark phantasies, of which no one heard a word.



Then he opened his eyes, and as delicately as he had picked it up from its position, placed the insect back. Before the eyes of the dumbfounded villagers, the entire army turned in orderly fashion and began to march back toward where it had come.

For some moments James Nwokedi remained in his kneeling position watching the retreating ants, then got to his feet and turned to the villagers.

"You are right, my people," he began, "this was the doing of my sister. It is her wish to destroy the whole village, because her own life has been all but destroyed by you all."

"All she wants is vengeance. But do none of you attempt to kill her because such is her own life person would lose his own life in the attempt."

"As you all know, she has a child from Chief Arusike, who has now paid the penalty for his negligence. All I ask of you is not to give the child the same life of isolation that his mother has suffered."

"As for myself, the powers that I have I will use to be of whatever help I can to whoever will need help of any kind. I have said my part now, so go in peace."

He turned and walked off, leaving the villagers dumbfounded.

Though James was heading in the direction of his home,

that was not his immediate destination. When he was out of sight of the villagers, he waded his way along until he came to a sandy patch.

There his sister sat weeping, her baby clutched to her body.

"Do not cry, my sister," he consoled her.

"You too, James! You too are fighting me! Why do you not let me punish them? Why, why, why?"

"Beatrice, be reasonable. I cannot let you destroy an entire village. The people isolated us only out of fear of your powers, not out of spite. The only person who ever really harmed you was Chief Arusike, and he has paid for that with his life."

"Why can we not forgive and forget, Beatrice? Resist the will of the Devil and make peace with the world..."

"I will never sleep properly again until every one of those elders who said I should die have themselves been destroyed!" Beatrice cut in with ruthless defiance.

James looked down sadly and said nothing for a moment. Then he resumed, his voice grave: "You will lose my love if you do that, Beatrice. You will lose the love of Mama and Papa — you will be losing the love of the people who have loved you and stood by you all these years." He paged to lay the points sink in.

Beatrice appeared to consider it sadly, but gave no indication that she would change her mind.

Without another word James walked away.

When he got home he called his parents together, sat them down and told them: "As from today, I am having nothing more to do with Beatrice. Never again will I communicate with her in any way."

His startled parents asked why.

"The Devil is in control of her," James replied in a tone of profound regret. There was the truest pain, and he added: "and I will remain so for the rest of her life."

He paused longer to allow the charged silence to emphasise the tragedy of the situation.

"Let us more..." Mr Nwokedi's tone was a shocked whisper.

In a voice that threatened to break with emotion, James began to describe the events of that afternoon — the death of Chief Arusike.

His own intervention, his vain attempt to defuse his sister's bitterness, and the terrible fate she had in store for the elders who had passed a death sentence on her 13 years ago.

James knew he could not really tell his parents the real reason for his unwillingness to counteract Beatrice's destructive powers. The truth was that to do it effectively would mean having to actually destroy her.

This he could never do to his wife because his love for her was infinite.

As his mother wept in his father's consoling arms, James said quietly: "Do not worry, everything will be taken care of. I have an idea which must be carried out by both of you..."

Mrs Nwokedi raised her head to listen as he began: "At this moment the villagers are congregating at Chief Arusike's compound to mourn his death. All I ask of you both is to go there."

"Tell them that I, your son, who has got your powers than Beatrice, I read with them to exercise a little more tolerance, because Beatrice still plans to wreak her vengeance on 11 more people. Do not say who the 11 are, because I want the poor souls to be spared the terror of knowing that their end is at hand."

Just left the villagers that after the deaths, they can look forward to a more peaceful life. Finally you must give them my assurances that Beatrice's turn to die a horrible death will come one day."

At Chief Arusike's compound the atmosphere was electric as the huge crowd of mourners listened to Mr Nwokedi's speech. Hardly had he uttered the last word than he clutched his chest with a stricken cry and collapsed on the ground.

After a series of spasms had shaken his body, he was still lying on his back. His eyes were closed, and he looked cutlously cheerful in death — nothing to suggest the agony that had gone before.

As a commotion engulfed the crowd, Mrs Nwokedi was frantic, and flung herself on her husband, screaming: "Ogechi, my husband, screaming —?" Then her own body gave a violent lunge that wrenched a great gasp from her.

She clutched her chest, then collapsed limply on her husband's body.



The crowd was in uproar. Though he had been seen and body present, with a sense of fugitive evil in the air that which [1] of them in cold panic, suffer the vengeance of this destructive witch? What form would her vengeance take?

It was hastily agreed that a group of them should hurry to the lad's home and implore his

help, offering whatever payment he should require. In the event of their encountering the witch herself, they should plead fervently with her for mercy...

A group of about a dozen men hurried off on their urgent mission. But on arriving at the Nwokedi's home, they saw no sign of James. They called repeatedly, but no answer.

James was never seen again. It was believed that his powers were not greater than his sister's after all, and that he had met his end at her hands. The villagers were convinced, too, that Beatrice had been responsible for her parents' deaths.

She, of course, was seen again; but not for 12 days after James' disappearance. Her presence, however, was terrifyingly felt. On the night of the same day that she killed Chief Arusike, one of the elders awoke, screaming from his sleep in his hut.

It was a horrendous shrieking that wrenched every member of his household into the depths of sleep and chilled them to the bones. The old man screamed, without stopping until he died moments later.

When the lamps and candles were lit, the two small punctures that had swelled the side of his neck were visible.

The old man's death marked the beginning of Beatrice's war against the 11 elders who had passed a unanimous death sentence on her 13 years back. At once on the 11th day, an angry night for the next 11 days, an elder died in the same manner as had the first.

By the time the sixth victim died it had become obvious to the villagers that Beatrice Nwokedi's war had come to the elders who had conspired her death, and that they themselves were out of harm's way.

Every villager, including the doomed elders' close relations, knew better than to try and protect them from the killer-snake.

The day after the last elder died was seen again with her child, going around her morning chores as though unaware of the tragedies which had bedevilled the village in the last 12 days. Though wary and hateful of the villagers and their tongues, she never remembered her brother's instructions to leave her alone, to treat her son with compassion as he grew up, in this way they would know peace.

As it turned out that was very much the state of affairs as time progressed. But for the couple we are about to meet, there was to be no peace — only misfortunes of the worst conceivable nature.

Juju, by Dilibe Onweama, is published in Nigeria by Oluwa Fagbamigbe Ltd. and in London by Sailerite Books.

There was to be no peace . . . Don't miss July DRUM.

CONTINUED

neek. Then Beatrice was standing over him, shrieking: "Yes, die hard! Die hard! Hard! Hard! Hooaaaaaarrrrr!"

After several seconds the rest of her sect, not taking her hateful eyes away from his face. The chief's head rested against the back of the chair, his whole body rigid in death. His fists were clenched, his jaw muscles firmly clamped, and his eyeballs had rolled up into their sockets so that only the whites were visible.

The commotion had caused Beatrice's baby to start crying. Shifting it into a more comfortable grasp, Beatrice turned and vaguely walked away. The snake followed at her heels.

Beatrice was long out of sight when a young man suddenly burst into the room, screaming: "Let it be that I will die in the attempt, but I am going to avenge your death. Papa! I swear it! I will neither sleep nor eat again until I have that woman's head on a plate!"

With these words, he was off at a sprint, sobbing as he ran, a machete in his hand. A number of men pursued him, calling him back. They caught up outside the compound, and were struggling with a machete one man exclaimed loudly and pointed down the wide track.

Everybody looked — and gasped at the sight!

There exactly the soldier his comrades, nobody knew, but there was no doubting who had sent them, and that their mission was to destroy the villagers. They came in their millions, a column some 40 yards long by six feet wide. They marched rapidly, with military precision, like a well-trained army on its way to war.

Never had the villagers seen anything like this before, and they stood riveted to the sight with mounting horror.

The only answer was to find a medicine-man. The most reputable one that immediately came to mind lived in Ebe, a small village some six miles away.

The youngest of the group was about to set off when James Nwokedi appeared at a run in the direction of the approaching ants. "Please keep calm all of you!" he shouted with a wave of the hand. "Leave this to me!"

The villagers gaped as he caught up with the column and overtook it, his speed impeding somewhat by his slipping wrapper.

James passed the front line of the column and parting several yards ahead, parting heavily. He got down on his hands and knees a little to the side of their line of advance. The villagers looked on in silent bewilderment as the ants

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DRUM SPECIAL REPORT

WELCOME TO SOKOTO STATE

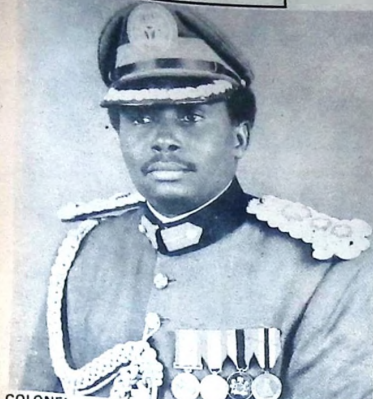
This new state, created by Murtala Muhammed, is less than two years old. Yet already it is making great strides in agriculture, industry, education and welfare. DRUM reporters look at its leaders, its culture, its origins and its economic potential.



PLEASE TURN OVER



Fair share for the common man



COLONEL Alhaji Muhammed, Governor of Sokoto.

Most people living in the South or, to be specific, who have never been to Sokoto, will take it to be either an isolated area or a semi-desert. No, Sokoto is far from that. To their surprise, when such people visit this part of the country they find it completely different from what they were made to believe.

It has been accepted all over that this country is an agricultural nation. Agriculture is the Sokoto state government's priority, followed by health and education. But we are not leaving other human needs and necessities behind. The Government is doing as much as is possible to provide amenities such as pipe-borne water and electricity to rural areas. For instance, under this current development plan the Government will provide 48 towns with electricity through its rural electrification programme.

Our aim is to try to see that the common man shares and enjoys the same facilities as any other citizen of this country. For example, in the field of agriculture, which is the pre-

dominant occupation of the people, the Government is providing farmers with aids and introducing modern methods of farming which, little by little, will replace the old methods.

To this end, the Government has opened tractor hiring units in each zonal headquarters. Zonal headquarters were established last year when local government reform was introduced. Areas near each other were grouped together to be served by one office. This will help spread development projects evenly.

With the introduction of Operation Feed the Nation, the position of agriculture in this state has been very progressive. Fertilisers are made available and sold directly to farmers together with other agricultural implements. This year has witnessed one of the most successful harvests we have had in recent times.

The Government is committed to providing all amenities to the common man. New hospitals and rural health centres are being constructed while existing ones are being extended.

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BITTER TRUTH!

THE Sokoto government will not allow the interests of the people to be neglected as a result of faction fighting within the ruling local authority. Thursday, April 21, was a day of bitter truth for the acting Governor of Sokoto Military Governor, H. O. D. Eghagha, spoke at the swearing-in ceremony of 19 local government council chairmen at Government House.

he said. He charged them to remember that local authorities "are instruments of welfare and development of the community."

The Acting Governor said that councillors should always strive to justify the trust placed in them by their electors, using their conscience as their guide.

'Councils are infested with squabbling and jealousy'

Elected councils which were at loggerheads with their regional bodies in their areas of jurisdiction received a stern warning. Col. Eghagha observed with regret that councillors seemed to believe that the system of local government had been deliberately set up to collide with the tradi-

SOKOTO state secretariat.

itional council. "While the aim of the present local government reforms is to democratise the system of local administration and make it subject to the will of the people, you should not lose sight of the value and virtues of traditional institutions," he said.

Col. Eghagha's speech also touched on the place of local government secretaries in the system. He said the secretaries were purely civil servants. The councils should therefore expect only frank, impartial and sincere advice from them, and adding that it was left to the councillors to accept or reject the advice.

He asked the secretaries to remember that they were servants of the people. "The councillors, as the representatives of the people, are your masters."



ACTING Governor of Sokoto, Colonel H. O. D. Eghagha.

MEN OF HISTORY

SOKOTO state has a population of 4,538 million people, which grows annually by about 2.5 per cent. The fertility rate is increasing while the death rate is declining because of improved medical facilities.

The major ethnic groups are the Hausas, the Kambars and the Dakarkars. These are the Zambaras. These are the aborigines of the State. Like any other part of Nigeria, Sokoto has experienced an influx of other ethnic groups like the Nups, Yorubas, Ibibios, Urhobos, Calabars, Iyaws and Iy.

The predominant group in the state are the Hausas, whose origin is connected with the ancient history of the "Bavarda of Daura." The population of Hausas in the

state is about three million. Historians always refer to "Gobir" as a very important ancient Hausa state. It is one of the Hausa States, and Seven takes up the North-eastern part of present-day Sokoto.

Three of the traditional "Bavard Hausa States" (Banza Bakwai), which came under the influence of "Hausa Bakwai" (the Bakwai) are probably the "Zairi", "Yauri" and "Kebbi".

For centuries, the Fulanis were nomads, but a large number of them have now settled down in towns. The people of the settled Fulani political activities which started probably in the early 18th century is well-documented.

Their importance began with the development of the Jihad Movement headed by Usman Dan Fodio, an Islamic religious reformer of high integrity. Usman Dan Fodio is believed to be the grandfather of the present Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Abubakar.

The political and religious reforms made by Usman and his followers have to a great extent influenced the socio-economic, religious and perhaps also political situation of Nigeria. Sokoto, the capital of the state, was the headquarters of Usman Dan Fodio and Emir Abubakar is today referred to as the spiritual head of Nigerian Muslims.

PLEASE TURN OVER

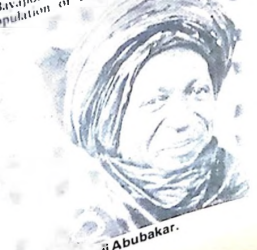


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JAIL FOR TAX DODGERS

**'People
refuse
to pay even
inadequate
taxes
and the
State
suffers'**

THE GOVERNMENT of Sokoto State has earmarked N291,754,529 for its expenditure during the 1977/78 financial year. Appealing on Nigerian television on April 13, the then Acting Military Governor, Col. H. O. D. Eghagha, said that a breakdown of the vote showed N142,420,060 for recurrent services and N149,334,460 for capital projects. The recurrent revenue was estimated at N146,836,941 and the capital receipts at N103,691,560.

In his budget speech the Acting Governor described the state's giant 1977/78 shopping list as a "take-off budget". Col. Eghagha called on citizens not to expect the Government to do everything for them. "Over-dependence on government for everything must be a thing of the past," he emphasised.

"Although there is an increase in internal revenues which rose from N24 million last year to N39,400,000 this year, the State Government is suffering substantial revenue losses as a result of unsatisfactory assessment of personal incomes of people engaged in the private sector," he said.

"Such people often refuse to

pay on time even the inadequate taxes levied on them. The Government has been forced to amend the personal tax law to make the non-payment of assessed taxes a criminal offence, instead of treating it as a civil debt. Revenue officers will henceforth be posted to all departments and Government Ministries to ensure that every kobo due to the Government has been collected.

"In the current year, efforts will be directed towards provision of basic amenities like a good transport system, water supply, electricity and social amenities such as education and health.

"Contracts worth N25 million for the roads through Bua, Kangwa, Kamba, Ullilla, Wurno Gada, Uguwar Lalle, Wurno Raba are being signed. Work will soon start on other projects such as the Gusau Dan Sadau-Kotonkora-Udara road, the Bunza-Dakin Gari-road, the Isa-Marnona-Koko road, the Gidan Madi-Binji-Gande, Gidan Madi-Tangaza and Mankai-Kaoge roads.

"The Sokoto urban water supply project is expected to be completed this year and when completed it will raise the

supply of water from 2.5 million gallons to 7 million gallons," Col. Eghagha said. "My Government is fully aware of the frequent disturbances which occur between cattle Fulani and farmers. The matter is being seriously studied for remedial measures. The Federal Government will make funds available for massive land clearance and rehabilitation for subsequent allocation to farmers.

"Efforts are being made to increase the number of children going to school from 44 per cent last year to a little over 50 per cent this year. The first phase of building nine more secondary and technical schools and vocational training centres will be undertaken this year.

"Efforts are being made to train more para-medical staff for the ever expanding medical services of the state. Tenders have also been invited for the construction of Sokoto School of Nursing and Midwifery and consultants have already been appointed to design a medical auxiliary training school at Jega.

"Construction work will also start soon on the 300-bed Muhammed Memorial Hospi-

tal at Sokoto and other hospitals at Yelwa, Zuru and Isa. The hospitals at Maijara and Argungu will be opened in a matter of weeks while the rural health centres at Dakin Gari, Dan Sadan, Gwaranyo and Kangwa will be opened later.

"The State Government is purchasing 40 more tankers to add to its present fleet of ten in order to ensure an adequate supply of fuel to all parts of the State. A petrol depot will also be constructed at Yelwa to supplement the one now at Sokoto."

He said that the Government would set up a state co-operative company and re-organise the functions of the co-operative system. To this end, it had made provision for the construction of one multi-purpose co-operative shop in each of the state local government areas.

"I seize this opportunity to appeal to all the citizens of this state to contribute their quota towards the development of the state," he said. "Over-dependence on Government for everything must be a thing of the past."

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ABOVE: Malam Lawal Bungudu (in white) at a farm.

The people's councillor

ALHAJI Ibrahim Gusau, the chairman of Sokoto Local Government Council, was born on January 25, 1925 in Sokoto township. At the age of six his father sent him to a Gusu primary school. He attended Sokoto Middle School where he completed his secondary education in 1943. He was later admitted to the "Literary Bureau" of Zaria for further studies.

After completing his studies in Zaria, he was given an appointment as assistant editor of *Gaskia Tafi Kwabo*, a vernacular newspaper. As an editor, Alhaji Ibrahim Gusau was accused of incitement by the colonial government. He became a freedom fighter among his people as a result. He was ordered to terminate his appointment as an assistant editor. He was sent back to Sokoto where he kept an eye on me.

offer from Zik's Enterprises Ltd. to study journalism in the United States in the mid-1940s. He accepted the offer, but the colonial masters robbed him of the opportunity. Eventually, in 1954, he became a member of the former "Northern House of Assembly" after winning a regional election as an independent candidate. He later consulted the attorney and declared for Congress (NPC).

He was later elected into the Federal Parliament in Lagos where he served as the official spokesman on Foreign Affairs for the Government. He was Federal Minister (Minister of State) in the Federal Ministry of Establishments in Sir Abubakar's cabinet of 1966.

He has just been appointed chairman of the Sokoto Local Government Council. His people apparently like him because he is hardworking and loyal to them. "My council's priorities are the water supply, roads, medical facilities and education," he told DRUM in an interview in his Sokoto residence.

The man who feeds the nation

THE BRAIN behind the Operation Feed the Nation Scheme is Sokoto State's young agricultural officer, Malam Muhammad Bungudu. He was born on February 11, 1946 at Bungudu in Sokoto State. At the age of seven, in 1953, he started school at the then Junior Primary School, Bungudu. After passing the entrance examination, he went on to the then Senior Primary School at Kotokoshi, where he obtained his Primary VI Certificate in December 1959.

He started his secondary school education in January 1960 at the Provincial Secondary School, Sokoto (now Government College, Sokoto), a member of the first secondary education programme in the West African School Certificate in December 1964, one of the first to start the five-year secondary education programme in the former North, and passed with flying colours.

He took up a teaching appointment with the Sokoto Local Education Authority in August 1965, teaching for eight months and resigning in February 1966 to proceed to the Federal School of Science, Lagos. He studied Chemistry, Zoology and Botany and passed the GCE "A" Level after two years in all the three subjects. This qualified him for a degree admission into Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria in September 1967, from where he obtained a B.Sc. degree in Agriculture in June 1970.

Immediately after his graduation he took up an appointment with the Institute for Agricultural Research as Assistant Research Fellow in Agricultural Economics, which he took for two years, after read for a Masters degree in Agricultural Economics at the University of Arizona. After obtaining his M.Sc. degree in May 1971, he returned to the Ahmadu Bello University to take up a joint appointment as lecturer in the Faculty of Agriculture and as Research Fellow at the Institute for Agricultural Research. He held this position until he was invited by the Sokoto Government in June 1976, to head the State Committee of Operation Feed the Nation.

CHICKEN FEED!



Food from your own backyard

AT THE end of the rains last November, Malam Bungudu's committee launched two programmes. Backyard poultry keeping was aimed at encouraging individuals and groups to produce their own eggs. To ensure the success of the programme, large quantities of poultry feeds were purchased and sold at N3 (50 per cent subsidy). Feed constituents about 60 per cent of the total cost of poultry production, so many people were encouraged to embark on backyard poultry keeping.

Two poultry assistants were also recruited and trained at the Poultry Production Unit. They gave advice to all those who indicated their interest in poultry keeping.

Backyard vegetable production was aimed at encouraging individuals to grow their own vegetables so that they depended less on the market for their requirement. More vegetable seeds were purchased and more seedlings raised and sold to the public.

Four semi-skilled labourers were employed and trained at the Horticultural Section of the Ministry of Agriculture. They went round the residential areas helping people to establish vegetable gardens.

Before the launching of the two programmes, questionnaires were sent out to all Ministers, Government Ministries, corporations and companies. About 2,000 were sent out but more were returned to the State O.F.N. Secretariat. The objectives of sending these questionnaires were:

- To determine the interests of individuals thereby determining the type of assistance that should be given them.
- To help organise civil servants, in particular in poultry clubs and vegetable production clubs, so that they could exchange ideas on their interest to help them improve what they are engaged in.
- To assess the impact of the O.F.N. programme among civil servants.

Due to the large number of responses received and lack of staff to analyse the questionnaires, it has not yet been possible to organise the clubs.

The first year of the Operation Feed the Nation programme has proved a successful one. With continued operation of the general public and nature's support with rain, Malam Muhammad Bungudu and his men have every reason to be optimistic in subsequent years.

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The agricultural revolution goes for growth



ABOVE: The camel, much-loved as a slow animal, pays its way as a beast of burden for the farmer. BELOW: Sokoto fisherman shows his skill with the prize-winning catch at the famous Argungu Fishing Festival.

**BIG
FISH
AND
BIG
HOPES
FOR
FEEDING
THE
NATION**



MALAM MUHAMMAD BUNGIUDU, head of Sokoto's Operation Feed the Nation committee, is pinning his hopes on seeds, pest sprays and fertiliser.

At present the OFN committee has a backlog of 11,992 metric tons of fertilisers either undistributed or unsold. Malam Bungudu expects to receive another 13,981 tonnes for the 1977-78 planting season, made up of calcium ammonium nitrate (4,897 tons); single superphosphate (6,450 tons); bauxitised superphosphate (1,887 tons) and calcium magnesium sulphate (747 tons).

Because of the storage problem, his committee plans to dispose of the existing stock before the new fertilisers arrive. From April 1, 1977, all the committee's vehicles were mobilised to carry fertilisers in small quantities to villages and other markets to sell directly to the farmers.

The old and new fertilisers will also be distributed to all Local Government Committees for sale to farmers. The committee hopes that the fertilisers will reach the farmers in good time before the rains start.

SOKOTO Airport is the largest in the State, followed by Gusau, 131 miles from the capital. At present, Nigerian Airways is trying to maintain daily air services between Sokoto, Kano, Kaduna, and Lagos as well as other principal cities in the Federation. There is a plan to raise Sokoto airport to international standard. There are also airstrips in some major towns in the state, such as Zuru, Birnin Kebbi and Yelwa. But roads still remain the most important transport routes although some parts of the state are served by railways and river transport. Sokoto city is the state capital with most of the influence, and

Seeds and seedlings have already been sold to backyard producers, who are growing carrot seed (1,000 packets); onion seed (15 kg); lettuce seed (100 packets) and okro seed (50 kg). They were all packed in 7 gm packets and sold at 10K each. Vegetable seedlings of various types were also grown in "cell-packets" of 12 seedlings each and sold to vegetable growers, mainly in Sokoto.

Earlier in the season there was an outbreak of grasshoppers in some parts of the state which threatened some field crops. Beetles on rice were also reported. An SOS for aid was sent to the Federal Department of Agriculture through the National Committee. The Department sent 1,000 litres of Kokakine, 200 litres of Basudin 250 LLV, 500 litres of Basudin 60 CE, 200 litres of Nogos 50 CE, 500 Diarmecron, 132 pounds of Grammoxone, 400 pounds of sprayers and 16 wheelbarrow sprayers.

Help with farm implements for distribution to educational institutions has not yet been sent because the committee has just received information

ROAD TO PROS

commands most of the attention of the planners. The Government has planned the Sokoto city network to link the state, as well as other major towns in the Federation with Zaria capital. The state capital is linked with Zaria with one trunk "A" road from Sokoto to Zaria. The construction of the State to Sokoto stage through Yelwa, Keffio, and Jega has considerably reduced the hazards between the road and capital and the Southern part of the country.

A new road has been constructed from Sokoto to join Niger. This project, which is part of the ambitious Trans-



INFANT industries include dyeing (ABOVE) and looms (ABOVE RIGHT) of textiles. RIGHT: Workers queue for eggs at the OFN depot.

about how to spend the N9,000 approved to supply the institutions.

Poultry feed for backyard keepers is being subsidised. A total of 212 tonnes of poultry feed (40 tonnes of chief mash, 30 tonnes of growers' mash and 142 tonnes of layers' mash) worth N44,868.00 is being sold to backyard poultry keepers at 50 per cent subsidy. Nearly half of this has now been sold. It is reported that the public are very satisfied.

About 4,000 day-old chicks of the egg-producing type (layers) were received from the National Committee late last December. These were supposed to be reared and distributed to educational institutions, but most of them died during the breeding period.

PERITY

Sahara Highway, will enhance the movement of goods and people between the two countries. The Government has also commissioned a feasibility study to cope with road networks to cope with increasing demands for road transportation services.

A large portion of the River Niger flows through the state, and with the completion of Kainji Dam, the Niger is navigable for a greater part of the year from the coast up to Yelwa and beyond.

Yelwa is a river port through which the state's produce passes to the South, as well as to other parts of the Northern states and the Niger Republic.

Only 700 lived until they were six weeks old, when they should have been distributed.

The high death rate was attributed to a disease peculiar to that breed of chicks, which were imported from abroad. The long journey and change of environment may also have contributed to the high death rate.

It was decided to sell the survivors to the public and supply the institutions with the usual breed from the Poultry Production Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The institutions will shortly receive

their chicks. Another batch of 1,300 day-old chicks of the breeding type (parent stock) than the first batch, are doing better than that breed of chicks, which has also had help in this Sokoto State has distributed to fishermen's co-operatives, 199 fishing canoes and 43 outboard engines (three under the NARRP programmes). They are being sold to co-operative fishermen at 50 per cent subsidy, mainly at Warra and Yelwa, in the Yauri Local Government area.



Partners in progress

There are many industrial projects in Sokoto State, which has the land, the water, and a state government prepared to go into partnership with industrialists or governments to set up industrial and commercial enterprises. Partners are expected to contribute not less than 25 per cent of the total equity capital.

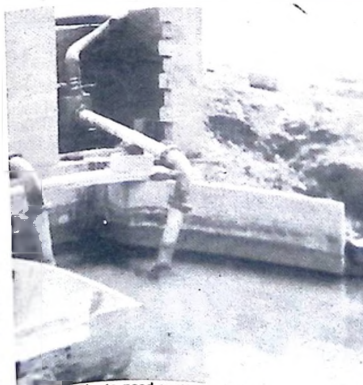
Agro-allied projects are accorded top priority but they must be planned to highlight the agricultural aspect of the venture. Where plantation estates are concerned the state government undertakes to provide necessary land at nominal cost. To attract both foreign and indigenous industrialists for agro-allied industries, a substantial amount is to be spent on feasibility studies and general economic analysis.

Possible candidates for future investment are livestock, oil seeds, fish canning, leather works, tobacco, fruits and vegetables, rice-milling,

sugar, flour-milling, tomato paste, animal feed and brick works.

The major industries in the state are the big cement factory formerly owned by the Cement Company of Northern Nigeria (CCNN) and in which the Federal Military Government has decided to have full participation. Another cement factory at Kalambaiya, some city, is a joint venture between New Nigeria Development Corporation (NNDC) and the Ferrostaal A.G.

Zamfara Textiles Industries Ltd., Gusau Oil Mills Ltd., Sokoto Furniture Factory, Trade Development Company (TRADEV), Sokoto Tannery (SOKOTAN), the match factory and the sweet factory at Gusau are all contributing to the economic development of the state and the social well-being of the people.



ABOVE: Plants need water and the Kalmano irrigation plant is one of the projects which provides it.

PLEASE TURN OVER

STUDENTS PLUNGE HEAD FIRST INTO THE FUTURE

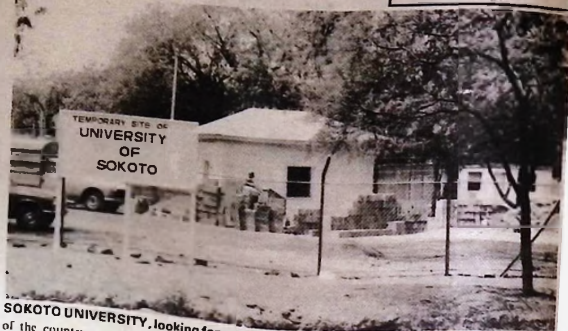


E DUCATION in Sokoto suffered, like many parts of the Federation, from a severe shortage of manpower after independence. To replace the positions vacated by colonial officers, in the Civil Service, to solve the problem of a "crash" "Northernisation" programme was started, to train competent local people to take up key positions in the Civil Service within a short time. The shortage of manpower was inherited by many communities in the North, and Sokoto State was no exception.

The early missionaries in Nigeria had a great impact on education. In communities where they were allowed to operate, they established primary and secondary schools for the children. In villages and towns where Islam had too tight a hold, this Western education opportunity was missed and jobs were taken by applicants from the areas where formal education had been long established. Modern education gained firmer ground in the South of

Nigeria but the Koranic schools dominated most parts of the North, including Sokoto State. When the 12 states were created, the former North-western State, which consisted of Sokoto and Niger provinces, had to get most of its officers for the Civil Service from Niger province, because of the Sokoto shortage. Since the inception of the new state, the Government has mapped out a new education policy to tackle the skilled manpower shortage. A Public Service Review Commission was set up to try to eradicate illiteracy. Educational facilities are to be expanded, along with scholarships in all fields.

Although rapid progress has been made, some problems still remain. The lack of qualified teachers for institutions of higher learning is a serious difficulty, as is the attitude of peasant farmers, who are not keen to send their children, especially girls, to school. They prefer to send their children to Koranic schools where they believe the children get a good religious and moral education. In Sokoto State, like the rest



SOKOTO UNIVERSITY, looking forward to a bright future.

of the country, primary education is a six-year course, aimed at making pupils literate and able to solve simple mathematics.

The Government provides money, manpower and land for all schools and the number of primary schools in the State in 1967, with total enrolment of 26,000 to 522 with a total enrolment of 80,197 in 1972.

The Universal Primary Education (UPE) programme has been geared towards increasing the number of

primary schools. The Government has provided money in addition to the normal 50 per cent capital grants, better known as the "equalisation grant".

The Government formulated a new aid policy for the local education authorities, whose responsibility is to manage all primary schools in their areas. Local authorities in the state have been directed to give 25 per cent of their annual local department to the education department. However, since the Federal Military Government has decided to bear the

cost of the UPE, these financial arrangements are being reviewed.

Secondary education has also witnessed a great expansion since 1965. Secondary schools have been increased and re-organised. Candidates have been prepared for the school certificate examinations, while additional streams of classes have been established. The State Government has reportedly taken out a loan from the World Bank to build three secondary schools at Tangara, Kaoko and Ilesa.

Under the current development plan, 14 new secondary schools will be opened, three for girls, and four secondary technical schools. They will be built in the following areas: Yaho, Binji, Gummi, Shinkafi Wa, Zuru, Talata Mafara, Anka, Koko, Kaura Namoda, Birnin Kebbi, and Zauri.

Teachers' education is also being expanded in existing teacher training colleges. A mobile teacher training scheme has been introduced, with a view to improving the quality of these teachers who need further training, but who are unable to get a place in the teachers' colleges. Other institutions that offer training facilities for teachers in places like Kano, Zaria and Lagos are also used.

Arabic and Islamic education has special priority because many people retain great interest in it. Nearly every village in the state has a Koranic and Islamic school. The state also has a number of adult education schools, a College of Arts and Science to prepare post-primary school leavers for entry into university, and the N24 million Sokoto Teaching Hospital.

HERE'S A HELPING HAND

TO PROVIDE essential social services, a government needs adequate administrative machinery. Sokoto State has set up social development and area social welfare offices in local government areas.

The social welfare division is responsible for policy, but actual implementation of the policy is carried out through the following social welfare offices and institutions:

- Social welfare offices in Sokoto, Gusau, Birnin Kebbi and Zuru
- Officers deal with family guidance and counselling, resolving matrimonial disputes, arranging foster care for abandoned children, juvenile case work, repatriation of stranded persons and court cases relating to juvenile delinquents.
- Remand home, Sokoto
- This is an institution where juvenile case work, repatriation of stranded persons and court cases relating to juvenile delinquents are dealt before their cases are decided

by the courts. The inmates are provided with board and lodging, elementary and religious teaching and indoor and outdoor games. They are also given advice on morals and behaviour.

• Approved school, Bungudu

This is an institution where juveniles under the age of 18 are kept after their conviction by the courts. Apart from board and lodging the inmates are provided with elementary and religious education as well as training in carpentry, masonry work, farming, gardening and tailoring. Facilities for indoor and outdoor games are also there. The school can take about 90 juveniles.

• Blind centre, Sokoto

The centre provides training for blind persons in various crafts, such as making mattresses, foot-mats, carpets, brooms, and in tail work. The training course lasts for one year and 15 blind persons are trained every year

- Orphanage, Sokoto
- Here institutional care is provided to abandoned babies and orphans who are referred to the police and hospital authorities. At present the Sokoto orphanage has 14 children. Arrangements are foster made to find suitable parents for the children.
- Medical social work project
- To assist needy patients overcoming their financial, problems, a medical social work project has been set up in which is functioning in close co-operation with medical authorities.

• School social work

Problems of students from maladjustment of their relationships with teachers and fellow students are dealt with through interviews and counselling work at the school. The project is at the school College, Sokoto.

- Voluntary organisations
- The Government registers

suitable voluntary social welfare organisations and gives them annual subvention. These organisations include Nigeria Association, Boy Scouts Arewa, and so on

- Reception of refugees
- There is also an arrangement for reception of Nigerian refugees from Sokoto State countries.
- Census of beggars
- At the instance of the Federal Government a census of beggars has been carried out

• Proposed institution

Plans are afoot for the setting up of a rehabilitation centre for the disabled in Sokoto. For this purpose, the Federal Government has approved a grant of N200 million.

- Reception centre for destitutes
- Arrangements have also been made to set up a camp for 300 destitutes in Sokoto.



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Headache
I am 38 with eight children. For 20 years I have been suffering from constant headache. Despite my repeated calls to hospitals and taking pain-relieving tablets, I have never had two hours free from this headache. Is it curable? Please help me, Doctor.

Mrs J.E. Enugu
Migraine, hypertension and frontal sinusitis are causes of constant headache. Your treatment will depend on the cause of this headache. The cause must first be known, as pain-relieving tablets will not give you a permanent cure. See a doctor soon.

Male breast
I am a boy of 19 with breasts like a female. It is all very embarrassing. I have seen in your reply to other people with the same complaint that there is a treatment for this condition. Could you please send me the necessary prescription?
Mina, Embu

As I have said, an operation can reduce the breast to normal male size. You can have this operation done in any provincial hospital in Kenya.

Pregnant
My wife is four months pregnant. Recently she started to eat a diet and was forced to donate blood. Is it safe for a pregnant woman to donate blood? I am worried that she might either give birth to a very weak child or die in the process.
Albert, Lagos

Your wife was probably not asked to donate a full pint of blood. Every pregnant woman must have certain blood tests during her pregnancy and I think the blood might have been taken for this purpose. We do not as a rule ask a pregnant woman to donate blood.

Outflow
Whenever I have sex with my wife, my sperm instead of staying inside her, flows out. I have never had any venereal disease and I am wondering why this is happening.
Jonathan, Oro
This is quite normal. Most of the semen does flow out of a woman after intercourse.

Weighty
I am worried because I am the fattest in my family. I would like you to advise me on what pills I could take to slim.
Nancy, Ibadan

The question of overweight is a matter of overeating, consuming the wrong type of food, lack of exercise and sometimes hormonal in origin. In general I would advise you to cut down on the quantity of your food, cut down on fats and starches and indulge in light games and exercises. If this does not help you may have to

Doctor Drum

If you have a medical problem, DRUM is able to advise you.

Write to Doctor Drum at PMB 2128 Lagos, Nigeria

see a doctor or attend a diet advisory clinic which it usually held every week in a reputable hospital near you

Nervous
I am a 20-year-old girl attending a teaching course. I am in great trouble because I am a very nervous person. Answering a question in class or speaking to more than one person makes my heart beat fast and my words get lost. I will be grateful for your advice.
Juma, Mombasa

Your nervousness will gradually disappear with practice. Take part in group discussions, force yourself to speak up and in time your fright will go.

Tea run
I am a 20-year-old student. My problem is that after having my morning tea when I go to school in the first hour I have to excuse myself from the class at least at three times. This is very disturbing to me and my teacher. Is there anything wrong with my kidneys?
Petes, Kano

Tea is a stimulant to urinate and you should try going without it for a few days. If you succeed that should be the end of your problem.

Fractured
In 1976 I fractured my left leg. In 1978 I was hospitalized for three and a half months and was told that the fracture had knitted. Eight months

after I still feel a pain in my left knee and also in my hip. This is worse when it is cloudy or when it is going to rain.
Minja, Dar es Salaam

It seems that following your fracture you have been left with some arthritis in your knee and hip. This is usually worse during wet and cold weather. Minor pain-killing drugs and physiotherapy in the way of heat and massage and exercise will help you.

Virginity
This is my third letter to you. I have had no reply to my previous two letters. My problem is that when I had sex for the first time with my boyfriend I did not have any bleeding which I am told every virgin should have after her first sexual experience. Does this mean I will not have children?
Edna, Kumasi

Please do not worry. This is not an indication of a sterility.

Irritation
I am a 30-year-old man and I think that I have developed an irritation on my foreskin. How can I cure this, Doctor? If I want to be circumcised, where can I go and how long will it take to heal?
Thabo, Accra
I think circumcision is the answer and this can be done at any hospital. You will have to stay in hospital a day or two and it will heal completely in about a week.

WE OFTEN get letters from girls, and sometimes even from boys, who want to know more about nursing as a career.

Nursing is a career whereby useful service to the community and the country can be combined with a very satisfying vocation. Training of nurses has come a long way from the old Spartan existence and the Florence Nightingale image.

Even though it remains a vocation there is fun, excitement and enjoyment in nursing. Nurses enjoy a good salary, conditions of living are infinitely better than they were and good off-duty hours are provided. Opportunities also exist for higher training.

In the course of her training, a nurse is taught procedures which will make her a good wife, good mother and a good

social worker. During her three to four years in the hospital she will see pain, high fever, fits, broken bones, major operations and many other facets of human life denied to other people.

She will learn to nurse the young and the old. She will also learn how to ignore fastidious fuss-pots gracefully and how to be firm with advances made by recovering patients. She may have to help a woman who is screaming during child birth and assist a surgeon in the operating theatre.

She will have to face up to death almost every day. This may sound very frightening but it gives the nurse a deep insight into the basic facts of life.

This is not all that a nurse has to face. The fun is so much more precious because she has an opportunity also of seeing the tragic side of life as a contrast.

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DOUG YOUR STARS

Gemini



When it comes, to money matters, you are usually your own best friend and this particularly applies now. You could take a sudden decision about an investment — or find things changed for you it's a good phase for dealing with savings

Sagittarius



A slight health upset may make for difficulty in co-ordination and you will be too much inclined to disperse your energies or let yourself be distracted by irritations. You may hear that a colleague you are friendly with will shortly be moving to another area. The emphasis is on social life and events will involve a friend of your own sex.

Cancer



You'll tend to make the right moves. Should you have a minor health worry, this would be a good time to sort it out. A small flutter might add a bit of spice, but make it just for fun. The stars are favourable for courtship, social life and the affairs of youngsters, if you're a parent.

Capricorn



Let your intuition guide you to a certain extent in business matters. An auspicious night for career matters and anything connected with your worldly ambitions. Try the subtle touch rather than your usual bluntness in new approaches. A splendid time for travel or for holiday bookings.

Leo



The moon makes a pleasing aspect to the sun. Nice surprises could concern more than one sphere of present activities. Overseas matters, distant relatives, legal affairs, travel — all are under helpful signs. Stars are tranquil and will give you a chance to patch up a disagreement.

Aquarius



Your vitality and enthusiasm will be useful in present projects. You may differ views than those you held taken in your judgment on a friend or partner — better to await events.

Virgo



There'll be challenges but you'll be able to impress your ideas on others successfully. A sudden change of mind could work in your favour, so take heed of hunches. A splendid phase for roping in the family on ideas and plans. An excellent working month. Colleagues will be helpful, work will go with a swing. New contacts will prove profitable.

Pisces



The sun in your sign is linked with the moon and could bring about an affair. In business dealings, back your own judgment, as advice and initiative taken soon will produce profitable results.

Libra



Generally, don't count too much on the support of others or rely on times, friendly meetings will prove very expensive. The sun's opposition to your sign is placing the emphasis on the affairs of close companions rather than on your own.

Aries



Home and family life show pleasing relatives of an older generation will be under pressure for a few months but present stars lighten the atmosphere and bring good news about strictly personal concerns. A good period for forming new plans.

Scorpio



Letters will be important — those you send out as well as correspondence which arrives. You should be touched with what you've been out excellent time for making firm changes or for experimenting with necessary economies.

Taurus



Personal relationships are favourably emphasized over the next week or two. People will be generously helpful, kindly disposed plans can be issued which afford a time when you're especially lucky for you. This applies specially in fresh contacts, make definite plans for pulling strings, asking favours of people.

LONELY HEART

by Matchmaker

Everybody passes through lonely times. And often, even when two people are together, the magic spark of compatibility doesn't occur. DRUM'S MATCHMAKER will help you find the match you want. Write to Lonely Hearts, DRUM Publications (Nig.) Ltd., PMB 2128, Lagos, Nigeria.

Letters

Dear MATCHMAKER, Kindly find me an Hausa man to exchange letters and photographs. I am 19, a writer at the Secretariat, Ibadan. I have been School Certificate with grade II and aim to go further. I am a native of Ilesha in Oyo State. Anike, Ibadan — c/o Matchmaker.

Reliable

Dear MATCHMAKER, I am a single boy of 22, good percentage and an accountant. I have been lonely for some time. I want you to introduce me to a reliable girl-friend who will love me as she loves herself.

I am 1m 60cm tall, fair in complexion, handsome and gentle in manner. My partner must be sincere, educated, fashionable and gentle in manner. She must not be more than school certificate holder, not less than primary school six school-leaver and not be more than 20 years. Shola, Warri — c/o Matchmaker.

Sociable

Dear MATCHMAKER, A couple of months ago I returned to Nigeria to settle down, having lived almost all my life in the country. I am faced with the problem of settling down with a lady partner. Apart from Yoruba and English, I also understand Hausa, and a couple of other foreign languages. Good looking, sociable and 'frugal' in the many things that I love to do. I am quite well-educated.

I would want to meet girls between 19 and 26 years of age from any part of Nigeria. I have schooled up to secondary school or undergraduates or graduates of university. All they need have is politeness, humility and like a clean and simple home. I must love simple, beautiful clothes and keep a cute appearance, fair skinned or jet black, I have no queries. All I need is someone serious.

Ola, Lagos — c/o Matchmaker.



Dear Dolly

Would like to take her to bed

AM 18 and in love with a girl of the same age. We are both students, love each other very dearly, and we do not do without seeing each other. I would like to take her to bed, but I do not know how to tell her. She will soon go away with her brother and I am anxious to sex her. I have spent a lot of money on her. Dolly, let me hear from you or I will go mad.

Chiko, Nsukka

You should think more about love and less about sex! It is plain from the tone of your letter that you do not really love her but are only interested in sexing her. I wonder what you think you stand to gain. Do you not think of anything other than sex? Dory, think that because you've spent money on her she owes you anything — you've been satisfying your own delights and you can't buy her love.

Should I stop trying to woo her?

I AM 17. The girl I have fallen in love with is the talk of the town because of her beauty. The first day I saw her I gave her money without telling her about my feelings for her. The day I approached her she did not say anything. I love her very much. Do you advise that I stop wooing her?

Patrick, Nairobi

If you really love her, you will not give up so easily. Have you not heard that a faint heart never won a fair lady? You need to learn that it pays to persevere.

My husband treats me shabbily

I AM 22 and my husband is 23. We were so much in love that I did not wait for him to pay me a bride price before I went to his house. But now he treats me shabbily. He keeps late nights and goes to the extent of bringing his girlfriends to our home. I am confused and I do not know what to do. I have a child by him and I would not like to marry more than one man in my life. Please advise me, Dolly.

Cambar, Ondo

You must hear whatever treatment you receive patiently. You must bear with your association, but if your 'T'ry to make a success of what threaten to leave him and happiness is at stake in his selfishness. Find out how he responds. If he persists in his selfishness, find yourself another man.

She says she's not ready

I AM a boy of 21 and have a girlfriend of 20. The problem is that sometimes when I meet her she tells me that I am only her lover. Looking at the facts, I think she really loves me, but the main problem is that when I really love her, she tells me she is not ready to have sex. Dolly, does this girl really love me as I thought? I need your advice.

Bonzo Rongo, Kangaamba

The girl obviously is in love with you and you should not press her for sex. That will come later.

I have five wives — and a problem

I AM a young man, married with five wives. I have built a permanent house for each wife. My problem is that when I sleep in the house of one of them, I didn't sleep morning the others complain and ask why I don't sleep in their houses. Now I don't know what to do. Should I build one large hall so that I can sleep with all of

them and so avoid the complaints? Or should I send four of them away and stay with only one? The problem is that I love all of them and am now very worried about them.

Hawan, Eldoret

You really have a k-messize problem! The obvious solution would be to have them all with you under one roof but that might create even more problems for you. Have you tried asking them what they think best?

The girls smile at me

MY PROBLEM is that some girls smile at me when I come across them at school. I don't know how to win their love, but my friends keep telling me that they smile at me because they love me. Please help me. I am a shy boy.

Sholly Boy, Olorun-Sogo, Lagos

The mere fact that they smile at you does not mean that they love you. They may admire your way of life but may not mean anything beyond that. If you do not mean that you will advise you to face your studies and only smile at the girls when they smile at you. Nothing beyond that!

She wants to settle down

I AM 17 and have fallen in love with a girl of 19. She now because I want to finish my studies for 19. She class man, and turn me down when I call on her. Please help me, Dolly. I don't want to lose her.

Papa Negro O. Onyegulu, Ebute-Metta

Definitely, this girl does not love her. Please advise why she did not wait till you finished your studies. I still love you to settle down. Moreover, both of you are important things in a man's life — education is the most

She won't accept money

I AM 18 and in love with a girl of 16. My problem is that when I ask her for sex she brushes that request aside and asks me to wait till we get married. I am not thinking of marriage now. Do you think she loves me, because she does not even accept money from me?

Defunctly, Thomas, this girl loves you dearly.

She refuses to make love does not mean that she does not love you. She does. Her own problem is that she does not give herself out so cheaply. See, dear Thomas, if you cannot wait till she's ready, please leave her alone.

I think he's deceiving me

I AM 16 while the boy I love is only 17. We both live in Lagos and our parents know about our love affair. My problem is that this boy has started deceiving me. He denied I found out that the writing was his, but he letter this. Do you think he loves me?

Ronke, Lagos

If you love him you must stop doubting him, or your love will soon get to know.

An elegant and smart girl

I AM 20 and desperately in need of a girlfriend. She must be between 18 and 20, a student like me, elegant either Oyo, Oyo or Ondo state. She must be from Jide Ogun, Government Trade Centre, Oyo.

Well, there you are, dear friends. If you are interested, please write to Jide at the above address and remember to enclose your lovely picture.

She married a policeman

I AM a trader in love with a girl who has married a policeman and has two children. My parents are in a policeman has sent her back to me and young boys want me to love her. What always me to marry. The girl did not tell me before she decided to marry. I am telling me how much she loves me?

Henry, Lagos

You are sure this girl does not love you, but she loves money because you are a trader. If she really loves you as much as she is now making you understand that you would not have left you to marry the policeman. I did you not to heed her advances. Let her face her problem herself and you find your own love partner, etc.

Send me the bill, she said

I AM 24 and the girl I love is 20. We have promised to marry each other, but what bothers me now is her sexual activities with big men and young boys outside our love nest. Through this I have contracted gonorrhoea. When I told her about this she said I should treat myself and send the bill to her. I have done so and she in return has paid the amount incurred. Despite this, I still love her and she loves me too. Shall I continue to love her or discontinue my association with her?

Pose Man, Imo State

Despite the dreadful disease, you will love her? What have man you are? Well, you are the judge of your own fate; if you think you can cope with her despite the disease, why not go ahead? But it is better that you try to forget those big men and young boys who strike terror to you alone to avoid further contact with this disease.

I love my friend's friend

MY FRIEND met his girlfriend some two or three years ago. They love each other dearly and have promised to marry later. But now my friend has met another girl with whom he is madly in love. When the first girl heard about this, she asked her boyfriend, but my friend said she should not bother herself about this new-found love. He is merely not to use this girl and will discard her soon. And as a friend, I have my friend's interest to protect. Now the second girl has got to know my friend's secret and has decided to part with him. My problem is that am madly in love with this girl and I have already told her, and she has promised to think it over. Do you think am a bad friend for having connections with this girl?

Confused Bibi, Lamu

In the first place, it is not right for you as a friend to be an intermediary with a girl who is formerly your friend's friend. And the girl would be stupid to agree to love you in place of her boyfriend. The confusion is from your friend who cannot keep his eyes shut and forget about any girl and cling to his first girlfriend. Please don't make a mistake of loving this girl, as the association with your friend would nullify the good relationship with your friend. He would not take it kindly if he gets in know. Beware!

She called me all sorts of names

I AM a student in one of the teachers' colleges and I am in love with a girl of 17. After a month of my friendship she demanded a necklace from me and I promise to give her one on a fixed date. Unfortunately, I could not meet her demand and she started calling me all sorts of names. In spite of this, I still love her and don't want to leave her. Please help me, Dolly.

Augustine Oduko, Bendi, Nigeria

If this girl loves you, she won't mind any sort of disappointment from you. This act of hers is a youth who type of love she has for you. Advise you to go for it if you can. If not, talk to her and make her understand that your love should not be based on material things alone but on true love.

I am Dolly

Is there anything wrong in kissing?

I AM 15, in love with a girl of 14. The girl is beautiful. Do you think there is anything wrong in kissing?
Okonko, Ibadan.

There is nothing wrong in kissing someone you love as long as you keep within that limit. But if you indulge in kissing every Dick and Harry that falls on you, you will find, for sure, you have to look out, as you may find yourself a regular visitor to the doctor's clinic.

He says I'm maltreating him

I AM 18, he is 24. I am a student while he is a worker. I love him dearly, but what worries me is that any time I visit him he must make love to me. This is becoming too much for me. Whenever I refuse him he starts complaining that I am maltreating him. Please help Dolly. I don't want to lose him, though he has promised me marriage but I am afraid his sexual demands may not let this promise come true.

Maria, Nsukka
At the age of 18, agree this is too much for you in bed. Please talk to him and let him know that the after effects of love-making may be dangerous to the health. If he insists, I advise you to leave him. Forget him and his marriage promise. After all, he might have made that promise under pressure, just to satisfy his sexual urge.

I cannot get her off my mind

I AM 20 and I fell in love with a girl of 16. We had a quarrel in 1974. I was guilty, and my girl and I parted. When we met last year we did not talk to each other. I seem somebody to her, but she refused to visit me. Many girls have approached me for friendship but my love for this girl is great and I do not want to lose her. Please advise me, Dolly.

Ajax, Ibadana
Forget your foolish pride and go and make it up with her.

I want to lose my four girlfriends

I AM 22, well built and light in complexion. My problem is that I have four girlfriends whom I want to die away with now that I have decided to become a Christian. But these girls do not believe my story. They have decided to follow me to the church and talk to the pastor. Please help Dolly, before these girls eat me up.

Amadi, Oshodi, Lagos
Go on, Amadi, keep your promise and forget them and their threats! Let them go to the pastor if they wish. The pastor, I am sure, will answer them accordingly.

She sleeps on the verandah

I AM 27 and my wife is 20. She loved me at the beginning of our marriage and has had two children by me. But my problem is that whenever I ask her to make love with me now she refuses. If I ask her to pack and go to her parents, she won't. If I push her out she doesn't mind spending the night on the verandah. Please help me, Dolly. I don't want to mix up with the harlots.

Sunday, Appa, Lagos
Sunday, if it is a pity you did not tell me how old these two children of yours are. Some men take their wives for granted. They think they can push them around just to satisfy their sexual urge. Your wife might have refused your advances because of your frequent demands, or perhaps the last child is still too young. If her reason falls within any of these, then she is right in refusing you. However, I will advise you to talk to her. Don't resolve into seeking divorce yet as that won't yield you any good results.

Her sister has separated us

I AM a handsome boy of 17. I fell in love with a girl of 15 who also loved me very dearly. We have now parted because her elder sister saw us together and warned her violently against having a boyfriend. I love this girl very dearly and I do not know what to do.

Nojimu, Lagos
Your girl's sister is only protecting her younger sister's interests. You know what some of you boys are and any guardian or parent who does not check the movements of the youngsters will have themselves to blame. If you

was genuine, your sister still would suggest. Friends if you could make it clear to the sister that your intentions are pure etc.

Do I take her back?

She is 17 while I am 19. We became lovers in 1980, shortly after which she left me for another boy. I did as you after her, but to my surprise she came back to me with an apology. She has left me again for another boy, and I know that she will come back. What do you advise me to do?

Vince, Nanyuki
Do not take her back. Let her know that she is an indisputable. Why don't you look for another girl if you are in need of a girlfriend, instead of allowing an irresponsible girl to toy with your feelings?

Is he right to ask?

A form four student, I am 16. My boyfriend is 17 and is form five. He asks me for sex whenever we are together, but I refuse because I am a virgin. He tells me that if I do not have sex now I will find it difficult when I get married. Please advise me, because I am worried, Dolly.

Mary, Moshi
Do not allow yourself to be misled by a selfish boy. Stick to your policy, and concentrate on your studies.

Help before it is too late

I am a handsome boy of 16 and a student in a secondary school. There is a girl in my area whom I love very much that I will do anything for her. I suspect she knows my feelings, but my problem is that I have not had the opportunity to speak to her. I am desperate to have the girl, so please help me, Dolly, before it is too late.

Desperate, Lagos
There is a popular saying that where there is a will there is a way, so I would advise you to watch her movements and then see how you can work it so that you meet her. Then you can talk.

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