

WEST AFRICA

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LAGOS LINE ON THE EEC

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THE GAMBIA: TOURISM PAYING OFF?

Manatee: mermaid of the Benue

TWO CHINAS IN AFRICA

Lagos line on EEC

Last week Trade and Economic Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity and the Commonwealth Caribbean met in Lagos to discuss their future relations with the European Economic Community. This was the last in a series of consultations which have taken place this year prior to the formal encounter due in Brussels on July 25-26, when it is expected that the negotiating positions of both Africa and Europe will be stated. Our correspondent in the Nigerian capital in the first of two articles describes the opening of the conference and some of the issues posed.

The Lagos meeting on relations with the EEC was perhaps the most improvised of all the discussions held recently on the subject. News that it was going to take place only came out three weeks ago, and there was some confusion as to who was going to attend and what sort of conference it was going to be. However the speeches at the opening ceremony in the National Hall (the former Federal House of Representatives, now underemployed) all stressed the historic importance of the meeting. The fact that so many countries were able to send top level delegations at short notice testified to the importance OAU member states attached to the meeting. For previous consultations, particularly the OAU Trade Ministers meeting in Abidjan in May and the subsequent meeting of ministers and heads of state in Addis Ababa had left unfinished business, there

was still no final decision on what to do about the EEC.

39 delegations from OAU member states were present at the opening ceremony (Tunisia and Malawi were absent, although the African states not previously described as "associate" as they are non-Commonwealth were there — Liberia, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea and the Sudan — as were the north African states, which already have agreements with the EEC. There were fairly top level delegations from three Caribbean countries — Jamaica, Trinidad and Guyana. Barbados was unable to accept the invitation, as were the Pacific countries — Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa — who had also been invited and are "associate". So 42 states came out of 48 invited.

Nigeria's delegation was led by Mr. Wenike Briggs, Federal Commissioner for



Wenike Briggs: chaired the conference

Trade, who was chosen chairman of the conference, with his Permanent Secretary, Mr. Victor Adegoke, as a witness in evidence, as his Ministry has the main responsibility for the conference with the Ministry of External Affairs playing an important role. Ghana's delegation was led by Major Roger Lantieri, Commissioner for Trade, Sierra Leone by Mr. Francis Minnah, Minister of Trade and Industry, with the robust figure of Mr. Francis Jabatti, Sierra Leone Ambassador in Rome, who was also accredited to the EEC, at his side. Gambia's Minister of Finance, Mr. Gamba-Jahumpa was accompanied by his predecessor, Mr. Sheriff Debbah, the Ambassador in Brussels. Other Ministers included the Zaire Finance Minister, M. Namwizi, M. Duval of Mauritania (non-associated) with Sir Leckraz Teemu, the High Commissioner in London and Dr. Kiano of Kenya. Important observers included Dr. Ouko, of the East African Community and Mr. Djim Sylla, International Association Secretariat in Brussels.

The economic charter for the next decade prepared in Abidjan by the ministers and approved by the heads of state, set out general principles of fundamental importance related to the economic independence of the continent, but the scope of the declaration was much wider than simply Africa's relations with Europe. For the Lagos meeting, however, relations with the EEC were the priority, although, as General Gowon said in his opening address, the principles and norms which had already been worked out should guide the deliberations.

In the key part of the General's speech he urged the need to take account of "developmental circumstances". He said "it will not be enough to seek merely to perpetuate the status quo under old labels, or to insist on being determined by our approach, or to reform existing agreements in the context of new associations alone, or to emphasize existing advantages and privileges against long-term historical necessities". The Head of State also called upon the conference to be conscious always of the aim of the EEC as an arrangement

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economic and political union of Europe. "Africa's collective relationship with such a regional system should therefore be conceived as one of co-operation between Africa and Europe on agreed contractual terms of equality, sovereignty, and mutual interest".

In case some of the existing associates who expressed misgivings in Abidjan and Addis Ababa about the way in which the majority of African states viewed the question, might become even more unhappy because of these words, General Gowon declared: "We shall be the last to call on our brothers to commit economic suicide in the face of unknown realities". But he had preceded this statement with a pledge that Nigeria was prepared to make the necessary sacrifices to fulfil her duties and obligations to Africa. He continued by saying that she would never fail to press for a long-term view of the realisation of Africa's hopes and aspirations in freedom and dignity.

This speech, though solemn and full of a sense of history, was in a way only a prelude to the crisply explosive declarations of Mr. Nzo Ekangaki, OAU's Secretary-General. Now in his job for more than a year, Mr. Ekangaki seems to be getting into his stride. It was said at the time of his election in Rabat last year that with his unassuming modesty and lack of the flamboyance of his predecessor, Mr. Diallo Telli, he might pack a hidden punch. The question of Africa's economic independence has become his chosen issue and his punches are beginning to take effect. I am told that he has been travelling constantly in Africa in the past year and is now beginning to distil his experience. Quite apart from the fervour of his language, what took some people by surprise in his speech was the revelation of his proposals for a ten point platform for Africa's negotiations with the EEC.

Setting the pace

These were the crux of his speech and it was interesting that he should have chosen to set the pace by making them public at the beginning of the conference. The proposals are:

- (1) That Africa offers to negotiate with Europe as one block and not in piecemeal groups. The block should include all members who desired to establish a relationship with the EEC. Exception could be made of African Mediterranean countries.
- (2) There should be no pre-conditions and negotiations should not have as a basis any of the existing arrangements with specific groups or individual states within Africa, although experience gained from these agreements would be borne in mind.
- (3) The type of arrangement considered appropriate is a co-operation agreement on trade and development.
- (4) The agreement should be concluded independently of Gatt, many clauses of which Africa is at present contesting. Existing Gatt rules should therefore not apply.

(5) Associable states should refuse to offer reciprocal preferences or to establish free trade areas with Europe for the purpose of justifying acceptance of European preferential tariffs. "The contractual notion of the co-operation agreement shall be construed to be the acceptance of preferential tariffs from Europe against the assurance of the provision of our raw materials and other goods to Europe at remunerative prices. The contractual notion shall not necessarily imply the reciprocation of preferential tariffs". Mr. Ekangaki set this in the context of the international obligations of the advanced countries to developing countries and the moral obligation of Europe to Africa for the "contribution which Africa made to Europe's development through colonial spoilage".

(6) The European Development Fund should be increased to meet Europe's pledge of not giving the existing associates any less than they now receive and not giving the associates proportionately less than their associated colleagues. The fund should also be administered on a parity base between Africa and Europe and in its distribution not only viability but the situation of the requesting state should be considered so as to give preferential treatment to handicapped states. Priority should also be given to interstate projects:

- (7) Remunerative prices for raw materials should be assured through conclusion of special protocols on individual products, as in the case of sugar. As a second safety valve particularly for countries depending on one crop there should be guaranteed minimum earnings under conditions to be negotiated.
- (8) Investment guarantees from EEC should be made to those states wishing to encourage private investment from EEC countries, to avoid overloading fragile economies with commitments.
- (9) The present notions concerning

principles such as the right of establishment, provision of services, movement of capital and rules of origin should be "seriously reviewed" to take account of the OAU Economic Charter. (10) There should be the minimum of institutions necessary to ensure proper execution of the co-operation agreement - possibly an institutionalised negotiating body and a permanent committee. Institutions like the parliamentary conference should not be accepted as an integral part of the co-operation agreement.

After this strong meat the remaining speeches of Ministers were bound to be anti-climatic. There was some interest in what the Senegal Finance Minister, M. Babacar Ba might say, as Senegal is known to be one of the associated states particularly attached to the Yaoundé Association, but given the nature of the conference and the need for realism and compromise urged by both General Gowon and Mr. Ekangaki, the Minister only said that the associates would try to work for the interests of Africa as a whole and always bear African unity in mind. (This was by way of a reply to those who have been reproaching the associates for dragging their feet). It is understood, however, that in a separate meeting the francophone countries recorded the view that the Secretary-General had gone too far in rejecting all "existing arrangements".

Mr. Ekangaki's speech, however was voted on at the conference, which dealt with questions of procedure prior to the Brussels meeting. The common front was already achieved in the eight point proposals on the EEC approved by the OAU Heads of State Meeting in Addis Ababa as the minimum programme within which individual countries could still protect their own interests. Thus the conference set up an OAU Secretariat to work in Brussels with the existing Yaoundé and Arusha Secretariats and appointed Mr. Wenke Briggs as spokesman in Brussels.

"Ayu" !—The Manatee rises

The West African Manatee (*Trichechus senegalensis*) must rank as the region's rarest wild-life mammal. It is distributed widely in fresh-water lakes and rivers as well as coastal estuaries and creeks from the Senegal River east to the Lake Chad drainage area and it is probably the world's least known and studied larger aquatic mammal.

Now the prospects of learning more about this strange creature are greatly increased with the recent capture of a male manatee in the Benue Plateau State of Nigeria.

Over the last three years the well known wild-life expert and author, Dr. S.A. Sikes*, working as Consultant

Zoologist to the Benue Plateau Government, has spent her time surveying the State's wild-life resources and preparing a defined programme of fauna conservation and development.

Dr. Sikes found the State poorly endowed with larger mammals because of overhunting by indigenous hunters for meat. But she advised that there is a recoverable remnant of all Nigerian species in the State.

During the survey she found a surprisingly sizeable manatee population in the Benue River and its tributaries and identified dry-season territories of manatee herds in the Benue, Katsina Ala, Donga and Okwa Rivers. Like the elephant to which it is related, the manatee's only predator is man. Persistent hunting has drastically reduced the manatee population and increasing oil pollution spells doom for it in southern

* Author of 'Lake Chad', published in 1972 by Eyre Methuen, and of 'The African Elephant', published in 1971 by Weidenfeld and Nicolson.

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Nigeria. The IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) includes the manatee on its list of endangered species.

The animal has huge value to the Benue tribes and this is attached to the elaborate fabric of folklore and superstition that surrounds the creature. Many of those who have not seen a manatee (or "Ayu" as it is called in Hausa and languages of the Benue region) still believe the animal is a myth. If the head, or a hair from the head, can be obtained then the owner will gain "superhuman powers". Heavy value is placed on the meat because of "juju" significance and its exceptional tenderness when cooked: a small 4 ounce cut will sell for N1 in a local market. The thick layer of blubber from below the skin is used for fat and oil and has medicinal value. Pieces of skin are bought and shipped into the rafters of houses as "laja" or good luck charms.

The Kabawa (Hausa speaking people with Sokoto origins) are specialist manatee hunters and use harpoons, ljaws, Nupes and other Benue fishing tribes also catch manatee using nets and special traps. The rewards for a kill are high - a full grown manatee can fetch as much as N600. The complete carcass will be butchered and sold off to eager buyers in village markets within two days. Dr. Sikes told me that she recently found one Kabawa hunter who had killed 15 manatee in one area off the Katsina Ala River in three weeks. For his efforts he netted an estimated N7,000!

The 1963 Wild Animals Law of Northern Nigeria (Chapter 140) makes the hunting or illegal possession of a manatee an offence which carries a maximum penalty of a N1,000 fine, three years in gaol, or both. But with only 20 game wardens in such a large state, law enforcement is a difficult task. There has only been one successful conviction in the State: in 1972 two ljaws were each fined N100 for killing a manatee near Makurdi. However, the situation is improving. Increased public enlightenment, the active co-operation of police, local courts and authorities, and more trained wardens all make illegal hunting an increasingly risky undertaking.

Catching the creature

Catching a live manatee proved a painstaking task. Dr. Sikes adapted a harpoon to fire a dart loaded with a knock-out drug and set off with local hunters for a 6-week vigil on the Katsina Ala River.

"We sat up night after night and got nothing but mosquito bites," she recalled. At last the party gave up and Dr. Sikes returned to Jos, leaving behind a lorry carrying a "manatee transportation tank" (a large tank with a cradle of dunlopillo mattresses suspended in water). It was then that the driver learnt that some fishermen had landed a manatee and kept it alive immersed in a water-filled canoe.

When the animal arrived in Jos on May



The manatee in its pool at Jos. Note the minute eyes, absence of ears and the flapped nostrils.

7 it was removed from the tank and placed in an adapted swimming pool at the Benue Plateau Wild Life Research Centre.

The manatee, which the fishermen identified as a male, had several injuries on its tail and flippers and these were treated by applying gentian violet crystals to the wound along with penicillin injections. A well-built six-footer weighing 400 lbs, this six-month calf could grow into a 13-foot, 1,000 lb. giant. Already he consumes daily two dustbins full of water weeds and lilies. He has settled down well in the public manatorium and surprisingly is indifferent to onlookers and allows keepers to swim with him.

The manatee is an extremely specialised mammal with a remarkable number of anatomical extras and oddments: it has four vestigial fingernails on the ends of each flipper. The mammarys are located inconspicuously on the inside of the flippers. The eyes are minute and Dr. Sikes believes they can only distinguish between light and dark. It has no ears. The lips are covered with bristles which are used to strip water weeds. It manoeuvres food into its mouth by manipulating its circular lips as if they were fingers. The nostrils are flapped and whenever it surfaces the flaps open for air to be inhaled. It comes up for air on average every four minutes but can stay under for as long as 16 minutes. Large though it is, the animal swims like a restless shadow, rarely disturbing the water's surface.

It is the manatee's natural behaviour and social habits that are best understood and attempts are now underway to catch more manatee for the new manatorium so that more elaborate research can be conducted. The animals live in herds of up to ten and have seasonal movements. Living in herds indicates a high level of social organisation. The Jos manatee has been heard squeaking underwater and it seems possible that manatee have an elaborate communication system.

There are also numerous blanks in terms of the sociological and historical significance of the manatee: the juju and

religious values attached to the animal remain to be studied. So too the elaborate folklore and mythology throughout West Africa that is connected to the animal King Neptune, the Mermaid and the Sirens of Homer's *Odyssey* - all probably relate to the manatee and the allied family of the dugong.

Governor Gomwalk has done much to heighten the interest in conservation and wild-life development in the State. (He has an Ibadan honours degree in zoology and is a wild-life enthusiast). He has decided to make the manatee the State's special mammal for conservation and research funds have been made available.

But the manatee work is only a small part of the State's elaborate conservation programme. The plan firstly aims to increase law enforcement in order to stamp out illegal hunting and ultimately direct and control hunting by issuing high cost hunting licences.

Secondly, Game Reserves and Wild-Life Sanctuaries are being set up in the State with the intention of recovering remnants of standing stock. The Governor estimates that within 5 years buffalo, hartebeest, various antelope, small cat and even lion could develop viable populations within these reserves. The hope is then to open certain areas to licenced hunting for tourists and indigenous hunters.

Two wild-life tourist parks have recently been established. One is at Padam and includes a lake which contains a known herd of breeding manatee. An attempt will be made to translocate the State's estimated half-dozen elephants to Pandam Park (120 sq. miles) as well as stocking it with most species of Nigeria's larger mammals. The other park is just outside Jos and is the site of the manatorium and the State's Wild-Life Research Centre. It is here that depleted species will be bred to restock reserves. The Centre will also conduct research on conditioning animals for translocation and look into transportation methods.

Peter Harrigan

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GHANA

Examining the census

For Ghana's 1970 census elaborate training was given to a vast army of enumerators and supervisors and the most modern control techniques were used at all stages. Yet how reliable are the masses of figures which were obtained? In a paper prepared for the current ECA seminar in Accra on "Techniques of Evaluation of Basic Demographic Data" K.T. de Graft-Johnson and K.V. Ramachandran of the University of Ghana, suggest that in spite of the great care that was taken some of the results must be considered unsatisfactory.

For example, the authors say that age is the most unreliable basic information obtained in censuses in countries with limited statistical services. People tend to report their ages with end figures of 0 or 5, but prefer even numbers to odd ones. In the 1970 census some 32.33 per cent of both males and females gave their ages as ending in 0 or 5, in place of the expected 20 per cent. For children parents had a marked preference for the age of three because enumerators, to assist parents, had been furnished with a list of historical events and 1967, according to Messrs de Graft-Johnson and Ramachandran, had a number of such events. They conclude that the data for the age range 10 to 69 "is not acceptable quality".

Again, because of the prestige of old age, there is a tendency to exaggerate ages above 10. And because of the tendency of women in Ghana to overstate their ages the age-sex statistics are unreliable.

1970 figures for total population show an annual growth of 2.2 per cent for males and 2.6 per cent for females. This is unusually low for a country like Ghana and also shows an unexpected difference between the male and the female rates. But if the figures for Ghanaians only are taken these show a 3 per cent growth rate for males and 3.1 for females in spite of the hysteria about aliens. Messrs de Graft-Johnson and Ramachandran conclude that there was probably a substantial departure of aliens in 1960-70, while some new aliens may well have registered as Ghanaians.

The alien population declined from 12.3 per cent of total population in 1960 to only 6.6 per cent in 1970 and the sex ratio declined from 147 in 1960 to 136 in 1970. The total population showed a decline in the sex ratio from 102.2 in 1960 to only 98.5 in 1970 and the Ghanaian population indicated only a marginal fall in sex ratio from 97.2 in 1970 to 96.3 in 1970. The Ghana born population showed a decline in sex ratio from 97.8 in 1960 to 96.8 in 1970.

The paper's authors note that the numbers reported by Niger and Nigeria as having entered their countries from Ghana during 1960-70 are about double the figure reported by Ghana. The total number of "out-migrant" estimated by

the government of Ghana is in the neighbourhood of 200,000-300,000 for all part of the world. "If we assume that this figure represents only a part of the total migrants, and the ratio of recorded to non recorded is similar to those for Niger and Nigeria, then the actual figure could have been anywhere between 400,000-600,000."

One way to estimate the total number of net out-migrants would be to project the total population of 1960 by sex by assuming that their rates of growth should be similar to those of Ghana born persons. Actually, it may be slightly higher or lower depending on age-sex structure, fertility, mortality, etc.

"Under this assumption we calculate that 350,000-400,000 persons left the country during the decade. Assuming some fresh immigration and return migration just before the census, the actual number involved in the movement could have been 400,000."

The paper, which is claimed to be only a "preliminary and partial report on the evaluation and analysis" of the 1970 data offers a projection of the 1970 Ghana-born population figures by quinary ages and sex up to 1985. The following assumptions are made. Mortality conditions will improve between 1970-75, 1975-80 and 1980-85. Fertility, which was high and has shown some indications of decline, will decline faster in the years to come as the family planning programme catches on and general education becomes more widespread. "The effect of the spurt in education after independence is just being felt in the early reproductive ages now, but will soon be felt by the other ages as the years roll on."

Census results, the paper points out, can be evaluated both by the direct and indirect methods. The direct method includes post-enumeration surveys and sample checks whereas analytical methods, comparison of census results with data from other sources like registration, survey and administrative or other operations, use of models and analogies comprise the indirect methods. There was no post-enumeration survey to check the errors of the 1970 census of Ghana. Due to personnel problems, there was only a case study of Axim. There were also two experiments — one to compare the population aged under one year in the census with births registered between 1 March 1969 and 1 March 1970 at selected urban centres, by a matching process, and a second one, a coverage error evaluation programme, conducted 3 weeks after the main census. But "it looks as if indirect methods may be the only ones which may be feasible for the time being with the situation as existing in tropical Africa in order to evaluate basic demographic statistics and population counts".



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West African Opinion

EEC and Africa

Nigerian newspapers have commented on the Lagos conference of African Caribbean and Pacific Trade Ministers called to adopt a joint front on relations with the EEC. The government-owned *Nigerian Observer* calls for a repudiation of the Yaounde Convention "which tends to reimpose on Africa new economic imperialism". The Lagos-based independent *West African Pilot* comments that "African states should by now be resolute in their determination and be ready to pull out of any economic arrangements which will make them subordinate to developed countries". The government-owned *Daily Sketch* says the conference represented a growing awareness on the part of the emergent African nations that political independence without economic freedom was a sham. "It is only by adopting a decisive and common approach that Africa can ward off the danger of playing into the hands of foreign exploiters and, by implication, opening wide her gates to economic speculators". The *Daily Sketch* adds:

The state-owned *Ghanaian Times* says that it would be irrational for Africa to "plunge into association with the European Economic Community (EEC) without examining critically "the weaknesses of our various economies". In an editorial on the African Trade Ministers Meeting in Lagos, it notes that Africa would still depend on trade with EEC. But "a united Africa stands to gain in the long run when she goes it alone in the meantime". The crucial issue says the newspaper, is "whether African countries should always remain basically a producers of raw materials for factories in Europe".

Drought debate

In an editorial on drought which has hit Sahelian zone of West Africa, the Nigerian independent *Daily Times* notes that though the drought has not affected certain African countries it "should be considered as our continental problem that demands individual and collective help from all African states. By doing so we will be demonstrating that African unity is not only operative against external forces like apartheid, but it is also a source of help in a case of natural tragedy like the present drought". The newspaper calls on the OAU, as the organ of African solidarity, to make its contributions, however small, to aid drought victims. It notes that "Nigeria's groundnut and cotton production has dropped to critically low levels" while Ivory Coast's cocoa crop has been badly affected. "More important, an estimated six million people may die from famine due to drought".

The Northern States-owned *New Nigerian* comments that even though concern about drought is focussed on poorer transphone states of West Africa, "at least four states of Nigeria that fall within the savannah and sahel belts are just as badly affected". It was in recognition of this that the Federal Government has made grants to the states involved. The newspaper notes that "as a large country straddling a number of climatic belts and being blessed with so many other resources, Nigeria can absorb the effects of the drought more easily than its neighbours. Nevertheless, there is no room for complacency. In fact, there is every reason for greater concern" it was necessary to mobilise resources to produce more food on the better watered areas of the country, adds the *New Nigerian*.

Air Afrique

Commenting on the crisis in Air Afrique, Senegal's *Le Soleil* says it is time to clear up "misunderstandings". The newspaper asks "Has it not been reported that Senegal has threatened to quit the multinational company? Was it not rumoured that Ivory Coast would leave both the West African Economic Community and the West African Political Union?" *Le Soleil* describes the situation as very serious and notes that "the completion of the ambitious plans that we have for West Africa depends ultimately on the understanding, the cooperation and the common labour of these two countries".

Ghana's politicians

An independent Ghanaian newspaper, *The Echo*, in a front page comment headed "Are all our politicians dishonest?" says that given the vicissitudes of the politician it would seem that "politics in Ghana is not worthwhile". It notes that "people who chose to serve Mother Ghana in different capacities are always treated differently when they fall from grace" but "top civil servants who have virtually been dismissed from the service on various criminal grounds have been able to draw all their benefits and entitlements. Probes have never followed the fall of any civil or public servant." *The Echo* then asks "Has the Ghanaian public been fair to politicians?" It declares, "All politicians are not dishonest. All politicians are not rogues. All politicians do not seek their selfish interests. Some politicians may be rogues, dishonest and selfish. But so may be others who are not politicians."

Search for security

The independent weekly, *Palaver*, has urged the American NRC to order the removal of the American Embassy from the vicinity of Ghana's ministerial buildings in the light of the Watergate scandal.

The newspaper said that the Government must ensure that a foreign mission is not located close to the seat of Government where it is likely to interfere with secret codes and messages emanating from Government House.

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"Storm in a teacup"

In an editorial on "alleged organised
destooling of certain chiefs"
Brong-Ahafo region.
government-owned Ghanaian
warns that "a storm should not be
created in a tea cup, neither should
be an unnecessary tanning of the
sentiments at this crucial time of
national reconciliation
reconstruction". The newspaper says
Coussey Committee appointed to
the dispute should be given some power
mind to discharge its enormous duty
interest of all "We do not see
chittany matters to hinder the progress
of the national reconstruction program
in any way in this age of technology.

Africa's "festering wound"

Nigeria's Western State-owned
Sketch has called on African states to
seize every opportunity "to have
embrace the racist regime of Ian Smith
as well as his apartheid mentors". In
editorial headed "The battle against
racism", *The Daily Sketch* notes that
"the problem of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia)
where Ian Smith is still strutting in
state, remains as a festering wound in
body politic of Africa". The paper
refers to the secret mission sent to
Salisbury by the British Government
recently and describes it as "a
weak effort" by Britain to which South
"get-off-our-back" response was a
the face of "mother Britain".

Japan in South Africa

In an editorial on a plan by a
Japanese company to build a steel
in South Africa, *The Daily Times* calls
"a definite concerted action against
Africa's trading partners who continue to
disregard African opinion and her
interests". Also commenting on a trade
contract which includes imports of
400,000 tons of South African iron
the newspaper says that African opinion
ought to have an answer soon from
about its deals with the apartheid regime.
By assuming to strengthen the economy
of South Africa through trade
agreement, says *The Daily Times*, Japan
was indirectly supporting the apartheid
policy of South Africa. It notes that
between African states and Japan and
independence has been in Japan's

Malis detainees

A report in the French Communist
newspaper *L'Humanite* says that the
families of political detainees in Mali,
notably Modibo Keita, Madara Keita,
Ousmane Ba, Mahamane Hadari and
others have not had letters from their
relatives for more than six months.
Serious disquiet is now being expressed
over their state of health and their
whereabouts.

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Books and Publications

People of the hills

Government and Politics in the Akuapem State 1730-1850, by M.A. Kwamena-Poh (Longman-Northwestern £3.00).

In the book list he attached to his contribution to the recently published *Akwapim Handbook*, Mr Kwamena-Poh did not mention his own new book which, presumably, was no more than a thesis when the *Akwapim Handbook* was being prepared. But the list showed clearly the need for his new work. It was not only very short, but it contained no monograph on the history of Akwapim (throughout his new book Mr Kwamena-Poh spells it Akuapem) but only general histories or articles. Not only is this new history intrinsically interesting and, in view of the great contribution to national life by the Akwapim people, of some importance, but it also impinges on the history of many other important groups.

The main body of the work takes up the story from 1730, after briefly looking at the nature of the power of conquering Akwamu, and the events leading to its overthrow. The author, an Akwapim man, and now a senior lecturer at Kumasi, attempts to look at the setting up of a political system of an Akan type in the Akwapim hills, and particularly at how this was influenced by internal and external forces — Ashanti, European trading nations and, above all, the missions.

It was in 1730 that the Akwapim state emerged, comprising the various communities of the "Hill people" who with the Ga and with the assistance of others overthrew Akwamu suzerainty after being subject to it for at least half a century. Akwapim tradition gives chief credit for the creation of the new state to the leader of the contingent from Akim Abuakwa, known as Sefori, who, although there is some scholarly dispute about this, became founder of the present state. However that may be, the leaders of neighbouring Akim Abuakwa found the Akwapim hills a suitable area for expansion. In the hills were old established Guan speaking communities, and Akwamu settlers. These groups had been loosely organised but the advent of the Alams led to the adoption of Akan institutions of a military and centralised nature. Eventually Akropong (which Mr Kwamena-Poh spells Akuropon) was established as the capital. No real political unity, however, developed and linguistic diversity continued. Moreover the Guan

were patrilineal and the Akan were matrilineal. The paramount chief at Akropong also lacked funds and had right of jurisdiction only over limited areas of land.

Easily accessible from Accra, Akwapim was in close contact with the Dutch, the Danes and the British who at different times claimed some sort of authority in the area. Above all it was selected by the Basle missionaries as their headquarters. Mr Kwamena-Poh observes "On the whole the Danes deserve some credit. It was they, more than the British, who realised the positive method of stopping the trans-Atlantic slave trade (though not slavery) was to promote 'legitimate' trade, and they tried this by establishing plantations in, and at the foot of, the Akuapem hills. Though their attempt met with failure due to factors beyond their control, particularly the Asante invasions, they paved the way for the growth of 'legitimate' commerce in palm oil later in the century. And as a corollary to this, it was perhaps the Danes who pointed the way towards the Akuapem hills to the Basle missionaries whose activities are, as yet, the most dramatic event in the history of Akuapem, if not the whole of Ghana".

Christian West Indians were brought to Akwapim and even the style of building reflected Swiss influence. But it was the particularly high level of literacy that they brought to Akwapim State which Mr Kwamena-Poh sees as the "remarkable achievement" of the Basle missionaries. Later the State was to become the cradle of the Ghana cocoa industry and from it, and through the energy of its citizens, cocoa spread to other parts of Ghana (Mr Kwamena-Poh is inclined to attribute to the missionaries, rather than to the famous Teitch Quansie the introduction of cocoa).

The area covered by Akwapim begins at a point some 20 miles north of Accra and stretching northwards for some 30 miles. It includes, as well as Akropong, Larleh and Aburi, the towns of Nsawam, Koforidua, Adawso, Mampong and Mamfe. The population today is some 80,000.

One of the most interesting features of Mr Kwamena-Poh's book is his use of Danish archives as well as his extensive use of oral sources, recorded on tape. He discusses his oral sources in an extensive appendix in which he also describes the

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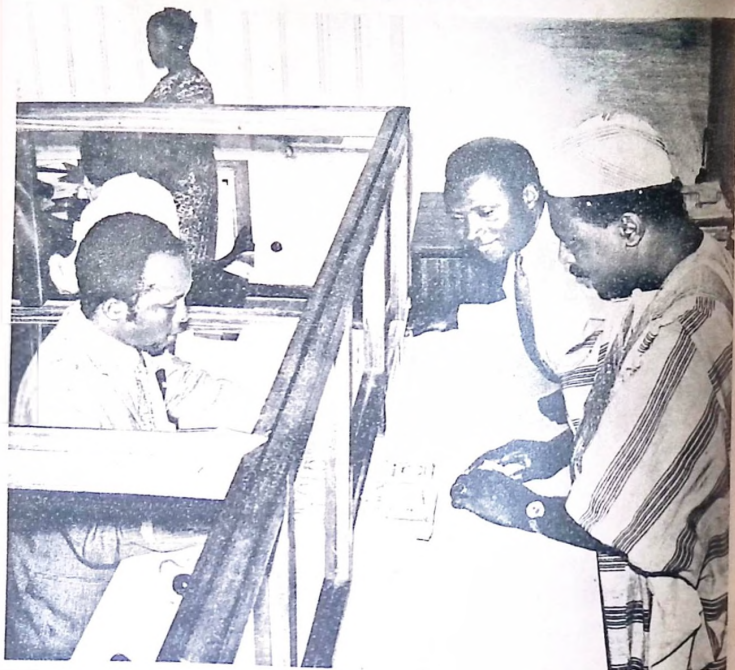
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way of life and the customs of the early Guan inhabitants. There is also a small number of photographs though none to show how attractive the area is, and seemed, particularly to Accra-based Europeans.

N.T.

John Strachey by Hugh Thomas (*Eyre Methuen, £4.50*)

In Africa John Strachey must be remembered as the British Minister of Food who was concerned with the Tanzania groundnuts scheme. Mr. Thomas devotes a short chapter to this episode in Strachey's career. Perhaps, as in similar cases, Strachey's failure lay not so much in the failure of the scheme itself, although that was almost total, but in his refusal to admit in time that it was failing and his determination to blame others for the failure, while excusing his friend, Leslie Plummer, Chairman of the Overseas Food Co-operation, which was responsible for the scheme. It was undertaken without proper investigation and planning and its execution was rushed. But it was thought up by none other than Sir Frank Samuel, then Managing Director of UAC, and originally it had widespread technical support. But Strachey's successor at the Ministry of Food, Maurice Webb, in 1950 told the Cabinet that "there seems no escape from the view that the original conception of the East African groundnut scheme must be abandoned. It has not proved possible to carry on 'the largescale production of groundnuts' on a commercial basis, and there is no hope of the UK receiving any significant supply of oilseeds from this scheme".

Yet this was only an episode in the remarkable career of a man who became prominent in public life in spite of being a bad politician. He exemplified all kinds of trends in British politics, so that his biography, while intrinsically interesting, also contributes to British political history from the early 'twenties until his death in 1963.

Always a great theoretician, and author before 1939 of several books which greatly influenced the Left in British politics, in his later years, chiefly because of his interest in India, Strachey turned to the study of imperialism. This produced his successful *End of Empire*, and a companion pamphlet, *The Great Awakening*. He even attended a conference on African socialism in Dakar in 1962 and spent some time in Lagos with Lord Head, then High Commissioner, and delivered some lectures there.

Unexpectedly Strachey was most successful in official life as an officer-spokesman to the general public on behalf of the RAF during the war, and he was more successful as a Minister of the armed forces than in any other political capacity.

As he died, Mr. Thomas says, "he was heading to the right". His enemies on the Left, and some of his friends, might have asked whether he had ever been doing

anything else. Mr. Thomas sums it up: "Strachey sallied out into the deepest waters of political and intellectual adventure, stopped off on the alluring quays of revolutionary action, psychoanalysis, economic theory and national administration, but, in the end, was returning to the familiar reaches of patriotism, security, family loyalty, tolerance and moderation".

A.M.

The abolition myth

The Great White Lie, by Jack Gratus, (Hutchinson, £3.75).

In his contribution to the intellectual debate on slavery South Africa-born Jack Gratus calls into question popularly held beliefs about the work of the abolitionists, notably William Wilberforce. From his research, Gratus has hit upon a fresh interpretation of the role of the anti-slavery movement in the 19th century. Although the abolitionists were sincere and well-meaning, Gratus thinks that they themselves could never have abolished slavery. The main impetus to abolition came from a new generation of radicals whose "direct-action methods" have not yet been recorded in the history books. The Atlantic slave trade, involving about 40m. slaves, was the largest forced transportation of human beings from one part of the globe to another in world history.

Writing about "the abolition myth", Gratus points out that "contrary to the myth which grew up in the 19th century and has now become hallowed by time, slavery was not simply a business conducted by a single and clearly identifiable group of cruel and unscrupulous individuals. It was a complete, all-embracing economic system involving, directly and indirectly, the colonists of the West Indies, the inhabitants of large areas of Africa, and countless numbers of people in Europe, Britain and America". He notes that what certain historians did was to perpetuate the abolition myth according to which the slave system was not a system. Rather the impression was given that it was a vast and unsavoury business run by some very nasty characters who treated poor blacks badly until a handful of white heroes organised the entire country against them, routed them after a long battle, gave liberty to the blacks and cleansed the nation for ever more of the taint of guilt and racism.

Gratus devotes his book to examination of the period between 1780 and 1880 because, he says, it was during these years that the great propaganda war was fought between pro- and anti-slavery factions in Britain and America. Gratus notes that the belief cherished by Britons and Americans that for all their sins they are

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more humanitarian than anyone else in the world found great favour in anti-slavery debates. "The fact that they operated, supported and benefited from the slave system, that they vigorously opposed every measure to ameliorate it or abolish it, and that in the end they did so only half-heartedly resulted not in critical self-examination but in national self-congratulations. A period which should have been remembered with humility was recalled with triumphant pride as proof of that great humanitarianism of which they boasted."

Abolitionists in Britain like William Wüberforce, Thomas Clarkson and Thomas Buxton, saw their campaign as both "positive" and "negative" — negative in the destruction of the slave trade and positive in a policy which can be summarised as Christianity, commerce and colonialism. Gratus notes that since basis of the "positive" policy was a belief in the inherent superiority of white christian civilisation, this belief became entrenched and respectable, and became the moral and religious *raison d'être* for colonial expansion and imperial arrogance. Instead of demolishing "the great white lie" of white supremacy over blacks, the abolition myth has strengthened this belief. And the implications of this myth are manifested in racism as we know it today. Gratus' book makes an important and original contribution to a debate that is destined to continue for a long time.

FA

Nigeria Handbook 1973 (*Federal Ministry of Information, Lagos, free*).

The last edition of this Handbook was published in 1970 and the one before was in 1952. The preface to the 1970 edition indicated that it was planned to chronicle the progress of Nigeria "year after year", but the present edition has appeared three years later. The Handbook attempts to give vital information about Nigeria, but it falls sadly short of the ideal. For example, information on the economy does not include the Gross National Income and income per caput. Information about newspaper circulation is merely reprinted from the previous edition, and so does not give anything like an accurate picture. Names of federal and state commissioners are omitted. Allowing for the time lag between fact-gathering and printing, one would still expect a handbook which is supposedly the most authoritative in existence to have information as up-to-date as possible.

All the same, the Handbook does give much basic information about the country. The chapters on geography, government, national economy, social services and culture, and many facts and figures are useful. There are interesting photographs, including those showing aspects of the second All-Africa Games in Lagos. There is also a useful, but not up-to-date, bibliography. A better job could have been done with the Handbook, by tight "subbing" to allow space for more information. Publication should also be more speedy.

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Private persons

Privacy and Human Rights, Edited by A. H. Robertson, (Manchester University Press, £6.00).

Protection of privacy is one of the rights guaranteed in the European Convention on Human Rights ratified by 15 member states of the Council of Europe. Greece, significantly, withdrew from the Council and denounced the convention in 1970; but some other members have contested her right to do so. The subject matter of this book is drawn from the third conference on aspects of human rights held by the Council of Europe, in Brussels, and organised by the Belgian Universities. It concentrated on protection of privacy.

Among contributors were M. Vein, Professor of Law at the University of Brussels, and a host of scholars and public personalities from many countries.

One of the most interesting contributions came from Professor R. V. Jones, of the University of Aberdeen, who described ways in which development of science and technology has been or might be used to "penetrate and control what the individual may well claim to be his private affairs and actions". As Mr A. H. Robertson, Head of the Directorate of Human Rights of

the Council of Europe, points out elsewhere in the book, some forms of interference with privacy, such as those which have existed for centuries. But spying now be carried out by the hidden camera or the hidden microphone.

Professor Jones takes us a first step further by pointing out that 1000 each containing 1500 meters of 25mm wide film could store a 20 page document every man, woman and child in the world — and there are governments all over the world which would like to do the same. Professor Jones describes the delicate devices now available to those who spy on government agents — who spy on others. Fortunately, he believes that neither drugs nor hypnosis can do much help in manipulating minds.

Summing up the conference Mr. Rolin, President of the European Council of Human Rights, says that the European Convention on Human Rights "is doomed to remain sterile and to disappear if the university professors teach it limit themselves to the theoretical analyses of the Commission to examining, after the event, what brought before the Commission or Court (or which might have been referred to these bodies) if those teachers consider that their first, elementary principal duty is not to be the servants of scholarship but the servants of the public conscience."

Robben Island, by Danny Zishe (Heinemann, 60p).

This 'non-fiction' fiction by a black South African dramatist of the horrors of apartheid, the official policy of the Republic of South Africa, where white minority holds on tenaciously to rule over an overwhelming African majority. Robben Island, from which the book derives its title, is notorious as a prison where opponents of apartheid are condemned to serve long and hard terms.

Danny who had been imprisoned on the island would not talk about his horrible experiences. "I was happy to talk about the place, not because of my own pain but because of the remembrance of those who remained there". Danny writes that he enjoyed the memory of Robben with "nostalgic bliss". This is because, he says, "I am proud of the man on Robben Island who rejected a slave-life. He chose to fight. His concept of fighting is not limited to action on the battlefield. Fighting is making no surrender to irrationality, abdicating from one's conviction when chained to a tree, at the point of gun."

Now exiled, Danny chose to write rather than talk about the South African tragedy. He writes about a leader of resistance to apartheid, code-named Bekimpi. The style of his novel is commended to readers both as a work of art and as a commentary on apartheid.

KWARA STATE BUDGET

Confounding the critics

by a correspondent

Contrary to the notion "sometimes held by our critics," said Colonel David Bamigboye, Military Governor of what is generally regarded as Nigeria's poorest state, as he introduced the 1973-74 budget. Kwara State's progress "has been such that affords me a great sense of confidence and satisfaction". Encouraging progress had been made in executing various projects. More importantly "a number of the constraints to the rapid implementations of the [Four Year Development] Plan has been removed while the State's financial position continues to improve". Productivity had risen and the output of goods and services had increased. The "runaway" inflation which had hit the Federation after the Civil War had receded considerably.

Reviewing the success of the budget for 1972-73, Governor Bamigboye spoke of the 100 per cent increase in the

distribution of fertilisers "one of the most valuable and effective agricultural services". Farm mechanisation had also been expanded so that "it is now possible for farmers in most parts of the State to obtain tractors from the tractor hiring

units". There had been wide distribution of improved coffee, cocoa and oil palm seedlings for large scale production, and a feasibility study for a 10,000 acre oil palm production mill at Ailoma had been carried out. The quality of meat had been improved because the Veterinary Service had taken over Meat Inspection Services.

Forestry programmes had made satisfactory progress and 500 acres of trees had been prepared to supply the future requirements of Jebba Paper Mill and the Match Company. Ten chalets and several miles of road had been constructed in the Borgu Game Reserve "thus preparing the ground for the Reserve becoming an important and enjoyable tourist centre".

Industry had not lagged behind. Feasibility studies were carried out on a number of industries including the Kwara Line, the Kwara Commodity Supply Company, a brewery, pharmaceuticals, the soap industry and the palm kernel crushing industry "About 30 additional small scale industrial projects newly established in every part of the State benefited from the Small Scale Industries' Credit Schemes".

Engineering designs on most of the roads in the Development Plan were completed and the study and design work on the Share-Lafagi/Pategi Road was commissioned. As promised, the Kwara State Water Corporation came into existence in April 1972, said Governor Bamigboye, but "in common with most parts of the Federation, the State experienced acute shortage of water supply this year at a degree hardlyprecedented". The number of primary schools increased and the College of Technology "made a good start". Governor Bamigboye boasted: "an inspiring feature is its cosmopolitan non-discriminatory national outlook as its catchment area for staff and students alike covers the whole Federation".

Administrative facilities were not overlooked. The Printing Press began operating in February 1973 and construction of the new Secretariat was going according to schedule. Kwara State also acquired a house in Lagos to serve as a State Office and provide accommodation for officials on business in the Federal capital.

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created in 1972. "The sudden awareness of the people of the state in the appreciating value of land has meant increasing demand for security to landed property within the provisions of the Land Tenure Law", said the Governor. Over 500 applications for statutory right of occupancy had been processed and some 400 title deeds registered. Economic development through bank advances increased due to subsequent transactions in land.

The Kwara Food Production Company was incorporated in October 1972, with an initial capital of 500,000 naira, and the Kwara Investment Corporation "began to function in earnest". Other institutions established include the Local Government Service Board, the Advisory Committee on Community Development and the State Schools Board, the reconstituted State Planning Board.

Turning to his plans for 1973-74 Governor Bamigboye said that he aims to implement as much as possible of the balance of the Four Year Plan and to strengthen the State's administrative machinery.

The budget for the year envisages total expenditure of 62,787,346 naira, consisting of 20,546,815 naira recurrent expenditure and 42,240,531 naira capital expenditure. An estimated revenue level of 45,790,870 naira is expected with 20,735,525 naira as recurrent revenue and 25,055,345 naira as capital receipts. This means a rise of 50 per cent in the level of capital expenditure over last year. Special priority is accorded to "essential"



Governor Bamigboye

infrastructural facilities such as roads, water and health services.

Governor Bamigboye cited agriculture as the "biggest booster" of the State's economy. And the highest increase in domestic revenue was recorded in that sector. One of the greatest obstacles to the development of agriculture is the low price incentive to farmers, he said. Because the marketing of food crops was still handled by the "traditional and fragmented system" their prospects were not sufficiently promising. A committee would be set up to advise on a more efficient organisation for the marketing of food crops in the State.

The administration is very concerned about the inadequacy of water supply in Kwara, especially in the capital, Ilorin,

and this year 6.6m. naira has been set aside for water development.

The private sector in Kwara State is at a "distinct disadvantage" in being able to take advantage of the Indigenisation Decree because of the lack of financial institutions able to attract long and short term borrowers. Plans are to be drawn up for the establishment of a suitable financial institution.

Local school boards are to be established in each of the eleven divisions to improve the quality and add to the primary schools in the State. State grants have been increased so that the effect primary education will be felt: predominantly from grants. Free benefits are to be paid to teachers of voluntary agency grant aided primary schools. Nor is higher education to be neglected. One million naira has been set aside for the development of the College of Technology on its permanent site.

Local Government accounts for a large part of total spending. Last year grants to local authorities topped 3m. naira and from the 787,260 naira made available the authorities to pay the Adebosede award to primary school teachers.

Governor Bamigboye feels the need for Kwara State to have its own newspaper and therefore has decided to establish a State printing and publishing corporation this year to publish a daily newspaper and other topical journals.

The Governor concluded his speech by thanking "the Emir, the Chiefs and people for the regular support and loyalty" they had given to the government.



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Two China's in Africa

In recent years nearly all West-African governments have recognised the Peking regime as the legitimate government of China. Some countries, notably Liberia and The Gambia, however, still recognise Formosa as a separate regime, and the Formosan Government is still making strenuous efforts to win friendship — and trade. A correspondent reports some recent moves in what appears to be a polite contest.

Peoples China began replacing the Taiwanese in economic assistance to Senegal. A team of 25 rice-growing experts has arrived in Ziguinchor to replace the Taiwanese team. China has had diplomatic relations with Senegal since December 10, 1971, and Taiwan transformed its embassy in Dakar into a co-operations agency shortly after this date at the request of the Senegal government. It is experts from this agency who are now being replaced.

Mr Wei Pao Chien, first Chinese Ambassador to Togo, has presented his credentials to President Eyadema. He was formerly Charge d'Affaires in Kenya. Togo opened diplomatic relations with Peking last October, following a visit by the Foreign Minister, Joachim Houlede.

President Moussa Traore of Mali has been on a ten day visit to Peoples China. The visit concluded with the signing of an agreement on economic and technical co-operation. Chairman Mao, at his meeting with the Malian head of state said: "We all belong to the third world; we are developing countries. May your country develop, your people enjoy happiness, and the whole of Africa unite and overthrow imperialism". Mali has been receiving substantial aid from Peking for some time and has assisted three factory projects, as well as providing agricultural technical assistance.

Rising trade with Ethiopia

Latest figures on trade between Ethiopia and China show a five million Ethiopian dollar balance in favour of Ethiopia. The Minister of Commerce said trade between the two countries had been going on since 1956, but Ethiopia had only been buying from, not selling to China until 1971 when the Emperor visited China. Since then the pattern had changed and latest figures showed that Ethiopia sold 22m. dollars worth of coffee and oil seeds to China while she imported 7m. dollars worth of Chinese manufactured goods.

An investment and trade mission organised by the man-made fibre industry of Taiwan is making a 40-day promotion tour in Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. In Africa the group will visit the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Ghana and the Central African Republic.

Taiwan has granted Gabon a loan of 500m. CFA francs (£900,000) for the

construction of a sugar refinery.

A government spokesman in Taipei has said that Taiwan is still making a positive effort to win the friendship of African countries, despite her recent diplomatic setbacks. Thirteen African countries now have diplomatic relations with Taiwan while 27 recognise Peking. In 1969 twenty-two African countries maintained diplomatic ties with Taiwan while only 13 recognised Peking. The spokesman attributed Peking's gains in Africa to "cheque book diplomacy", as well as the change in the international situation following Peking's admission to the UN. There are still 12 Taiwan teams of 562 technicians working in Africa. Besides her technical co-operation, Taiwan was also encouraging her businessmen to invest in Africa and offer technical aid to Africans.

Peking advises caution

According to *Jeanne Afrique*, Peking is recommending those African countries which have asked for revision of co-operation agreements with France to be cautious if they feel not yet secure enough to stand a total break with France. Mauritania and the Congo were being advised to proceed "by stages and preferably together". At the same time Peking basically supported the claims of the African countries and welcomed them as evidence of African development. "The Chinese have neither the means nor the political desire to take France's place. They consider also that the majority of states involved are not secure enough to overcome the chaos which a total break would bring".

The Chinese were also counselling Africans to strengthen their own links among themselves. It was said in Peking that their advice of moderation to President Sekou Toure of Guinea had contributed to rapprochement with Senegal.

Finally, an example of protest in a country which does recognise Taiwan, even if it is on good terms with Peking. The Movement for Justice to Africa, a University of Liberia organisation, has called on Taiwan to break its economic ties with South Africa. The organisation was commenting on press reports that Nationalist Chinese trade with South Africa amounted to \$80m., an increase of \$22m. over last year's balance. But Taiwan is still going ahead with a sugar mill in Liberia, which might in the end produce an export surplus.

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Letters to the Editor

TV in the Rivers State

SIR, I am concerned over the proposed opening of a new television station in the Rivers State of Nigeria at a cost of 6 million naira (*West Africa*, June 11).

Anybody who knows the Rivers State and has watched its development should view this proposal with apprehension and disapproval. Space does allow one to catalogue the shortcomings of the state administration as regards the provision and improvement of transport and communication, health and other basic social services.

Electrification does not appear to have gone one step more than it did before the civil war. To date, only Port Harcourt, the capital (pre-civil war population 90,000) out of a population of 1.5 million can boast of any supply of electricity. It seems the government should embark on importing battery-operated television sets and sell them directly at subsidised rates (highly impracticable) to the bulk of creek dwellers who pay the taxes and from whose lands the "liquid gold" is being tapped. Otherwise only the few affluent in Port Harcourt will ever benefit from this chronic revenue sapping venture.

I do not think what the people want now is television, which, by our standard, is still a luxury. The government should shelve this proposal, at least for the time being, and concentrate its attention on more urgent things — like making Port Harcourt more presentable by clearing all the slums and extending health and essential social services including clean, wholesome water to places far beyond Port Harcourt.

Besides, the government should view the problem of shortage of accommodation in the capital with the seriousness and urgency it deserves. This is one of the biggest challenges which the government should have faced very squarely before thinking of spending 6 million naira on a project that will reach less than ten per cent of the population. I am sure many people in and outside the state would have been more relieved if it was announced that this money was rather being used to start an ambitious housing programme.

TONY BORISHI

A view of Guinea

SIR, Mr. Ladipo Adamolekun's four articles captioned "Some reflections on Sekou Toure's Guinea" (March 19 onwards) seem permeated with contradictions. I shall address myself to his unscientific verdict that little economic progress has taken place in Guinea since 1958. This verdict is a negation of facts and a disservice to President Toure in his efforts to rid the country of imperialist and neo-colonialist tendencies. As many "Diploma elites" in Africa are still in the service of neo-colonialists and imperialists, one could easily understand Mr. Adamolekun's frustration at the gradual erosion of the privileged position of the national bourgeoisie, including so-called intellectuals, in Guinea. An objective analysis of Guinea's development effort should locate Guinea within the global framework of Africa's development

and the impact of French imperialism in Guinea: what roads, ports, bridges, power plants, what kind of schools, hospitals, health personnel and agriculture did the French leave behind? This would determine whether the French had prepared Guinea for independence. Mr. Adamolekun should be reminded that the depth of such impact could affect the rate of modernisation and economic progress and its limits on government.

Mr. Adamolekun concedes that the state controls the major part of the means of production, and that education is available from primary to university level. What is indicative of economic progress is that more than doubled enrolment in secondary institutes at all levels, and in addition to provide free education? Mr. Adamolekun does not require the services of a public economist to understand that this is not a massive mobilisation of resources but is exactly what President Sekou Toure has done on behalf of the Guinea masses.

RANDOLPH

Winnipeg

Jos campus

SIR, I have read Peter Hargan's article on the Benue-Plateau State with much interest. I would however like to comment on a statement in your issue of June 25 that is mainly because of the (Jos) campus. The Institute of Linguistics has been renamed Zaria to Jos". We in the Institute do welcome the establishment of the Jos campus and its strong emphasis on Nigerian history and cultures, and we hope that the institutions will be able to contribute to each other's objectives. But the decision to move the campus was in fact only one of a number of reasons for the decision to move the campus to Jos.

The Institute is an independent body with branches also in the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Cameroon, as well as in other parts of the world, and its members are engaged in a programme not only of linguistics but also of application of this research to orthography development, literary translation (especially Bible translation) in some 20 Nigerian languages. The main part of this work are in North-Eastern, Benue, East Central, South-Eastern and River States and this fact, too, makes Jos the most suitable centre for our activities, especially in the light of the road development to which Mr. Hargan referred in his first article.

The Benue-Plateau State Government has shown considerable interest in the linguistic aspect of the Institute's work, and we intend to work closely with them in the development of educational materials and other literature in some of the languages of the State. This has been another major factor in the decision to move to Jos.

Even with the planned move to Jos at the end of the year, however, the Institute intends to maintain its links with Ahmadu Bello University, and especially with the Centre for the Study of Nigerian Languages at Ahmadu Bello College, Kano. One final point: this link is the occasional series "Studies in Nigerian Languages", published jointly by the Centre and the Institute. Two issues have been published and others are in preparation.

I trust that this will clear up any possible misunderstandings that might exist regarding the role of the Institute of Linguistics and its relationships with other bodies.

RANDOLPH

Institute of Linguistics Zaria

Matchet's Diary

What a success story Alhaji Ibrahim Muhammadu Garba-Jahumpa has been able to report in his first budget as The Gambia's Finance Minister (see page 961). Last year's expected small deficit turned out to be a small surplus. The Income Tax Department almost doubled its yield in 1972-73 compared with the previous year. The IMF has reported favourably on the country's fiscal performance, debt servicing represents only 1.6 per cent of annual export earnings and the reserves are equal to the value of some 14 months' imports. Even tourism, about which the Minister himself is known to have had some misgivings (best illustrated, perhaps, in his proposed new tax on post cards which may seem to "emphasise the derogatory aspects of our country") shows a real net contribution to the economy. Employment in hotels is expected to rise to some 1,400 in the coming season while tourism provided net foreign exchange earnings in 1972-73 of almost £2m, much of this coming from sales of the handicrafts which Gambian craftsmen have been producing for the largely Scandinavian tourists. Even the recent revaluation of the Gambia's Dalasi, the Minister claimed in his budget speech, had greatly reduced money prices, even if it had increased the purchasing power of wage and salary earners, and might deter some tourists and tourist spending on the handicrafts. World market prospects for groundnuts are very good; the serious problem is probably unemployment resulting from rural migration and the steady increase in school leavers.

The Garba-Jahumpa family comes from Senegal, which the Minister's grandfather left in 1815 for the new British settlement of Bathurst because he wanted to remain a British subject. Ibrahim's father was a leading shipwright, who had a fleet of cutters on the river, and who died at the age of 104 as Doyen of the Muslim community. Ibrahim himself (known as "Baa" to friends) after leaving school first became a commercial clerk and then a teacher. He later worked for BOAC and entered politics via the trade union movement under the late Edward Small, who was the father both of trade unionism and of politics in The Gambia. His own political career began in the Bathurst City Council, of which he ultimately became chairman. He was first a Minister in 1954 but for a time was in the political wilderness. In 1968 his Gambia Congress Party merged with Sir Dawda Jawara's Progressive Party, for which he won its first victory in the capital last year. In making his Minister of Finance Sir Dawda has shown his appreciation of the talents and importance of his ally.



The £21,000 Benin head



Fang male reliquary figure



The Lower Niger bronze bracelet

My photographs show some of the African carvings sold at a major sale at Sotheby's last week. The splendid Benin bronze male head went for a record £21,000. The head is similar to that given by General Gowon to the Queen on his State visit to Britain. The sale of Primitive Art included two fine Fang figures (which sold for £12,000 and £11,000) from the collection of the late Edward G. Robinson, the actor, whose African sculptures included some fine Baoule dance masks and figures. Other Africans at the sale included some Dan masks, more Baoule figures, Baluba and Bakongo carvings, a Lower Niger bronze bracelet (which fetched £340), and an intricately carved Afro-Portuguese ivory group, 2½ inches high.

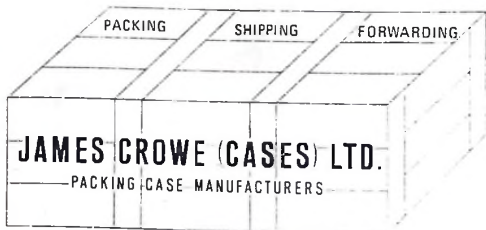
All out in Ghana

Once again, Ghana has no detainees. The release of the last 23 of 1,301 ministers and other supporters months after their original detention, is welcome if not unexpected news. And General Afrifa, who was Chairman of the National Liberation Council before the military regime handed over to the civilians, has also been released although he remains under open arrest. Few people outside Ghana, where he is so well known, and probably few inside Ghana have been able to understand why Mr. J. H. Mensah, Dr. Busia's Minister of Finance, who worked for ECA and is internationally known as an economist, should have been detained so long. And although detention now appears to be a hazard anybody entering politics in West Africa must expect, there will be much relief that some politicians who suffered detention under Dr. Nkrumah and who were again detained by the military regime last year should at last be free. They include Mr. Reginald Amponsah, Mr. S. D. Dombo, Mr. Kow Richardson and Alhaji B. K. Adams.

Such releases always indicate the self-confidence of a government, which in this case is fully justified. The Acheampong regime can expect criticism inside Ghana but it appears to be so securely based on disillusionment with all politicians that it need have no worry about setting loose the remnant of Dr. Busia's army.

Cameroon's classical guitarist

The Cameroonian classical guitarist Francis Bebey has produced an attractive new long-playing record under the title *Guitar d'une autre rime*. When Bebey was in London, in November, 1968, to play at Wigmore Hall, we noted that he was pioneering in trying to introduce certain African elements into classical guitar playing, with unusual and original results. This latest record includes further



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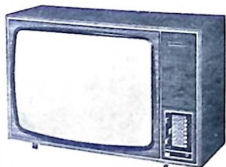
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explorations in this marriage of two cultures, with such compositions as "Sakara of Ife", which is inspired by the popular Yoruba dance with overtones of Yoruba sacred music; "Tingrela", which is the name of a village near Banfora in Upper Volta, whose women dancers are noted for their anatomical "trembling"; "Malinke Praise Song", which is Bebey's arrangement for guitar of a traditional Guinean song; and "Almas Where", a Congolese popular tune and a spoken text of a poem by Aboubakar (Davidson) Nicol, a poet as well as Sierra Leonean and international public figure.

Bebey has also been acquiring an increasing reputation as a writer, not only because of his book on African music (*Musique de l'Afrique*) but also because of his novels. Following *Le Fils d'Agatha Moudio*, winner of an African literary prize in 1968 (now translated into English and published in the Heinemann's Educational Book Library), he has produced *Le Fils d'Ashanti*, a story set in Accra about a love affair between a civil servant and the daughter of a market woman. *Le Fils d'Agatha Moudio* is published by the prolific Editions Cle in Yamoussoukro, one of the first and most successful of African publishing houses.

A shock for Houphouet

For President Houphouet-Boigny it must have been a shock to learn that his army officers now accused of attempting to overthrow his regime are alleged to have used Lake Kossou to sacrifice immigrant fishermen in order to ensure success for their venture. For the lake has been created by the creation of the Kossou dam, on the Bandama river, and the river is sacred to the President's own Baule people. Apart from that fishing has been prohibited in the lake to allow the water to rise behind the new dam and to allow fish stocks to build up. The dam, inaugurated last December, is in the middle of the country but the power generated there is meant to serve the growing industry of the Abidjan area.

King George's crown

Using a crown originally presented by King George III, President Siaka Stevens has crowned his uncle Paramount Chief Sylvester Lansana Massaquoi, Bervei of Gallinas Fern Chiefdom, at Biama Massaquoi, Puchou District. The first recipient of the crown was King Siaka of Gendema, a great-grandparent of President Stevens. The crown was recognised by King George III in 1833, by Queen Victoria in 1840, and by successive British monarchs.

THE GAMBIA

Budget from Banjul : 2

In last week's issue were summarised the sections of Alhaji Garba-Jahumpa's first budget as The Gambia's Minister of Finance. This concluding article summarises the sections of the budget dealing with the general economic situation and the expenditure and revenue estimates for 1973-74.

In 1971-72 The Gambia's total imports rose by D3.6m. to D46.2m. Alhaji Garba-Jahumpa told the House. A large part of the increase was attributable to further growth of consumer demand, but an important element was expansion in development spending. The major trading partner was still the UK, although recent years had seen some decline. From an average of 64 per cent in 1966-68, the share of exports to the U.K. fell to about 39 per cent in 1971-72, reflecting a decline in the proportion of groundnut oil and cake. In recent years the share of France has been on the increase, rising to more than 21 per cent in 1971-72, mainly shelled groundnuts. The share of Italy has also risen. The UK accounted for 32 per cent of The Gambia's total purchases in 1971-72, compared with 36 per cent in 1966-67. Japan remained the second largest source of imports while Formosa was also becoming an important supplier. "Recorded trade" with Senegal was also on the increase.

In 1971-72 the trade deficit was reduced to D10.2m as "export receipts rose significantly while imports increased moderately", compared with a deficit of D11.9m. in 1970-71. The services and transfers account improved "markedly", owing to increased earnings from tourism, at D4.2m. in 1971-72 against D1.2m. in 1970-71. The long-term capital account improved further, as both private investment and economic aid increased, but this was more than offset by the placement of commercial bank balances in London.

The overall balance of payments surplus increased by about one-half in 1971-72, to D11.5m. "Another balance of payments surplus is expected to be achieved in 1972-73". Although imports were expected to increase significantly, especially as a result of the intensification of development, the deficit was not expected to worsen appreciably, because world prices for groundnuts had risen to compensate for the decline in export volume. "Moreover, the services and transfers account has benefited from a further expansion in earnings from tourism, and a rise in private investment and official development assistance is expected to improve the capital account".

External reserves, the Minister said, including Special Drawing Rights and the IMF gold tranche, amounted to D36.9m. at the end of April, the equivalent of fourteen months value of average annual

imports. The IMF had observed that in recent years The Gambia's fiscal performance had been favourable, with the recurrent budget contributing significantly to financing of development. The balance of payments had remained strong and official foreign reserves were at a comfortable level. The government continued to avoid short or medium term loans which could create servicing problems. The external debt consisted entirely of long-term soft loans, so that servicing represented only 1.6 per cent of annual export earnings. External debt last March amounted to only £3m. and total public debt was D13.8m.

The Gambia Commercial and Development Bank had begun operations, Alhaji Garba-Jahumpa continued. The bank's first months of operation had fully borne out their hopes, particularly in mobilising domestic resources.

Recently The Gambia's currency, the Dalasi, was revalued from a rate of D5 to the pound to D4. This had meant an increase in the purchasing power of wage and salary earners in relation to imports. But the government was determined to control inflation by relating income increases to productivity increases. The revaluation of the dalasi had been necessary because the currency had previously been depreciated in the general realignment of currencies and the floating of the pound, and because local costs of imported goods was rising fast. The price of these had already started to fall: of cement, by an average of 10 per cent, of food by 9 per cent and of corrugated iron by 15 per cent. Mainly because of the drift to urban areas and the increase in school leavers seeking employment, unemployment had become pressing.

Surplus on the year

Giving details of his budget proposals, the Minister announced that revenue for 1972-73 came to over D21m. compared with estimates of just over D19½m. Personal income tax, land rent and import duties on petroleum products contributed to the increase. Expenditure came to D21m. compared with just under D20m. estimated. Among reasons given by the Minister for the rise was the opening of the Gambian mission in Brussels. In the end the year registered a small surplus instead of the expected small deficit. Development expenditure in the year, at some D6½m., was almost D2m. less than estimates because of the

slow rate of "project implementation".

For the coming year the Minister estimated revenue at some D20½m. which, with a balance from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, would cover estimated recurrent expenditure of some D22½m. But this meant a serious run-down of the small reserve. External Affairs expenditure needed to be "contained". Development expenditure for the year was estimated at D11½m., compared with the actual expenditure of not more than half of this in the previous year. Development receipts of some D11m. would come from a British government loan of some D4½m., World Bank loans of rather over D4m., the government's own contribution of D1m., a Produce Marketing Board contribution of D1m., and a UN housing loan for some D200,000. The deficit of some D400,000, all for local costs, could be met from various local sources.

The Minister announced only minor tax changes, of which the most interesting is the import duty on post cards. To make sure that the tourist industry itself contributed to the recurrent expenditure incurred by the government on its behalf, there will also now be a hotel bed tax of 40 bututs per night, which should produce D100,000 in a full year.

The Minister emphasised the success of the Income Tax Department in raising its collections in 1972-73 to some D2.4m. compared with D1.45m. in the previous year. The present Commissioner was provided by the UN, but training should ensure that the department was soon manned entirely by Gambians. In the meantime they continued to rationalise income tax legislation. They propose to extend unilateral relief to investors from countries with which they had no double taxation agreement. Similarly the Companies Act and the Partnership Law were under review. The Minister noted that UNDP had not found it possible to provide local costs of projects in The Gambia, because the country was not in the category of the "least-developed". But the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation had assisted in the recurrent cost of training, and it was hoped that Britain would provide assistance to re-organise the PWD budget to assist in transferring to the capital budget sums now on the recurrent one.

Tenders had been invited for major improvements at Yundum Airport. They were expecting an expert from the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation to help them in the change-over to metrication.

Noting that The Gambia Ports Authority and The Gambia Utilities Corporation had both completed nearly a year's operation the Minister said that although at present the Ports authority seemed to be in the better position, there would later be heavy payments on the loan for the Banjul port extension, a tariff review would be required. In the long run only the expected increase in traffic would solve the problem.

Chairman's Statement



Standard and Chartered Banking Group Limited

Chairman's Statement 1973

(abridged extract)

Sir Cyril Hawker Reports

Group Results

Profits for the Group for the year ended 31st March, 1973, together with comparative figures for the previous period are as follows:

	1973	1972
	£000	£000
Profit before tax:		
The Group	13,661	33,343
Share of Associated Companies	3,131	2,331
	17,092	35,674
Less Taxation:		
The Group	19,168	
Associated Companies	1,139	20,697
	20,307	20,697
Less Additional provision for Doubtful Debts (less tax):	1,500	1,500
	21,985	18,963
Less Minority Interests	1,364	912
	20,621	18,051

These satisfactory results justify an increased distribution to shareholders by way of dividend. Your Directors therefore recommended payment of a final dividend of 6.09p per share under the new imputation tax system (equivalent to 8.7p per share under the previous system) making with the interim dividend of 6p per share gross paid in April a total distribution equivalent to 14.7p per share. The total dividend for the financial year ended 31st March, 1973, thus exceeds by 5 per cent the dividend of 14p per share paid for the year ended 31st March, 1972, and represents the maximum increase permitted under the Counter Inflation Act 1973. But for this limitation your Directors, as intimated in the Interim Statement, would have increased the interim dividend to 6.3p per share and would have recommended a final dividend in excess of the maximum permitted. Shareholders will be interested to learn that although a substantial proportion of our profits are earned overseas, earnings of the Group within the United Kingdom are at present more than adequate to meet payment of the dividend.

Group Development

In continuation of the progressive merging of the constituents of the Group, the Boards and General Managements of the two Banks are shortly to be brought under one roof at 10 Clements Lane. This important step to rationalise the Group's central administration is essential to the planning and

implementation of further moves to develop our business.

In last year's statement I referred to the increasingly international orientation of the Group and to the importance attached to expansion outside our traditional areas. Now Britain's long-awaited entry into the E.F.C. has become a welcome reality. Europe's trade and investment links in the Common-wealth are growing. For a Group such as ours involved not only in foreign trade but in international business generally, a strong position in Europe is paramount.

In the past year we have continued to study how the interests in Europe of the Group and its customers can best be served. In Hamburg, our two branches, which date back to 1904 and are highly profitable, are being merged into one, while Group market offices are being set up in Frankfurt and Düsseldorf. The representative offices in Paris and Milan will shortly become full banking branches. In Rotterdam we have acquired the entire share capital of the bank formerly known as European and Overseas Trading Bank N.V., which The Chartered Bank founded in 1969 with Conrad Hinrich Donner of Hamburg. Renamed Standard and Chartered Bank N.V., its operations will cover all Benelux. In Switzerland where we have disposed of our investment in Establishment Financier de Placements, the Group's interests are being developed through Anglo-Nordic Bank.

In the United States our two banking offices in New York have made strong progress and are an increasingly important source of profit. Profitability is enhanced by the fact that part of the book-keeping of our New York offices is already carried on in London, while plans have been laid for the entire book-keeping to be a London operation. All this has been possible through use of advanced communications techniques coupled with effective computer technology.

In the United Kingdom we have progressed in our policy of bringing the Group's specialist services in international trade closer to business throughout the country. The Birmingham branch, which has had a successful first year, is already profitable. The representative offices in Leeds and Glasgow, created during 1972, are being raised to full branches, these should become operational during the first half of 1974. A representative office will be opened in Bristol very shortly and further expansion in the United Kingdom of our international business is being investigated in certain other centres.

Diversification of services offered by the Group is also continuing. Recently we have become established in the bullion market on an international scale by the acquisition of a

controlling interest in the old-established London firm of Mocatta and Goldsmid and of a large stake in Mocatta Metals Corporation of New York. The former is one of the five members of the London gold market and Mocatta Metals can now claim to be the largest silver and gold bullion dealer in the United States. We feel that bullion dealing facilities—a natural adjunct to the Group's business—will be a useful additional service for our customers, particularly in the Middle East, the Far East and in Africa.

Standard and Chartered Leasing, which is specialising successfully in computer leasing, has established a subsidiary in Switzerland and is making good progress. The Group has also acquired a controlling interest in London and Dominion Trust, a company specialising in arbitrage and trading in securities for corporate clients.

For some time we have been seeking a merchant banking arm in the United Kingdom to provide facilities complementary to our normal banking services. Now, in welcome partnership with T. G. Kemley and Millsburn Holdings we have formed a merchant bank, Tozer Standard and Chartered (Tosca) which opened its business in April.

The World Financial Scene

In my last statement I spoke about the uneasy situation in the exchange markets and it gives me no pleasure to record that my fears were justified. Although the world has coped with floating rates and the many exchange adjustments which have taken place in the last twelve months without a dramatic fall in world trade, one cannot be happy with the upward surge in prices and the rampant inflation to be seen almost everywhere, reflecting the lessening of confidence in paper money. This has also been demonstrated as a dramatic rise in the price of gold in a world where the countries of the Middle East hold such a vital place in the supply of energy needs, and international payments system which uses gold is unlikely to be generally acceptable. Certainly the attitude towards the dollar of the United States that the world must take dollars for its assets, comes what may is unrealistic.

The Years Ahead

In my remarks I have described our continuing efforts both to consolidate and to develop further our Group's operations in traditional areas overseas and, at the same time, to broaden the base of our United Kingdom, European and international banking business and related services. Our story is one of continual development and adaptation to increasing competition.

Commercial News

\$55m for Lagos port

A loan equivalent to \$55m. for the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has been approved by the World Bank to help finance a \$83.8m project for expansion of the port at Apapa and for improvement of its management and operation. A bank statement notes that Nigeria has four port complexes for general cargo, Lagos (Lagos and Apapa), the four Delta ports (Koko, Burutu, Warri and Sapele), Port Harcourt, and Calabar. These ports serve not only the 68m people of Nigeria but also handle some transit cargo for Niger and Chad. "The total potential capacity of the four port complexes is 5.2m tons."

The Port of Lagos, which handled about 76 per cent of port traffic in 1972, was the beneficiary of a World Bank loan of \$13.5m in 1962 to finance construction of ancillary equipment. The Bank also financed repairs to dock sheds and warehouses at Port Harcourt and purchase of equipment for all ports under a loan it made in 1970.

The objectives of the new project are to help provide more capacity at Lagos and assist NPA in improving its management and operations. The project includes construction of 1000 metre berths representing five berths, construction of transit sheds, a warehouse, service building, road access, rail tracks and utilities, purchase of cargo handling equipment including specialised container handling equipment, dredging of a channel and a turning basin in the harbour, consulting services for the civil works construction and supervision, and expert services for management improvement. NPA is responsible for execution of the project and consultants will assist in supervising the civil works

and, if necessary, revise specifications for handling equipment.

The proposed project would enable Lagos to meet the expected demand of 5.4m tons per annum in 1980. The economic benefits of the project consist primarily of avoiding costly traffic diversions, and surcharges on shipping lines which could result from congestion.

Estimated total cost of the project is \$83.8m and the Bank loan of \$55.0m represents the foreign exchange costs of civil works, equipment and consultant services. NPA is providing all local costs. The loan will be for 25 years, including 5 years of grace, at an annual interest rate of 7½ per cent.

Seven financial institutions in Japan, Switzerland and the United States are participating in the loan.

Lending to Nigerians

In his first annual statement as chairman, Mallam Ahmadu Coomassie told shareholders that the percentage of Standard Bank Nigeria's lending to Nigerians stood at 56. This surpassed the 40 per cent limit set by the Federal Government.

Mallam Ahmadu explained that this meant that of a total lending portfolio of some 116m. naira almost 66m. naira was in the hands of Nigerians. He expressed concern, however, at the failure of some Nigerian businessmen and organisations to repay loans. Although, the amount provided for unpaid loans and overdrafts in 1971-72 was more than the 1,622,872 naira allocated in the year ended in March 1973, "it is still disturbing that so many individuals and organisations

should behave in such an irresponsible and indeed, dishonest manner".

The chairman announced gross dividend of 33 per cent, the highest dividend ever paid by a commercial bank in Nigeria. He also announced that the bank made a record profit of 4,792,577 naira after tax in the year, an increase of 20 per cent over 1972.

Welcoming the abolition of the 90 and 180 day import payment system, Mallam Ahmadu regretted that the question of interest on the 90-day rule had not been resolved. "The problem so created has given rise to a great deal of concern and misunderstanding overseas".

Speaking on the drought-affected areas of the north, the chairman announced that Standard Bank had given relief to supplement the Federal Government's 10m. naira contribution.

In his annual statement to shareholders of the parent company, Standard and Chartered Banking Group the Chairman, Sir Cyril Hawker, records that in Nigeria, following "amicable negotiations", a satisfactory agreement has been concluded with the Government by which the latter had acquired 3,500,000 shares in Standard Bank Nigeria. Standard retains 51 per cent of the share capital. Part payment had already been made and payment was being received in London. "We are delighted that the chairmanship has been accepted by that distinguished Nigerian Mallam Ahmadu Coomassie".

These events had taken place against a background of "very encouraging progress" by the bank in Nigeria. Continuing improvement of the Nigerian economy was based on increasing oil revenues and production stood at over 2m barrels per day. Nigeria in 1972 was the eighth largest free-world producer. The agricultural sector had had a disappointing year in 1972, but greater efforts were now being made to expand production and to secure balanced development.

In Ghana, Sir Cyril said, Standard Bank Ghana continued to maintain a profitable operation but

remittance of dividends remained blocked. An official statement on investment policy had declared that Ghanaians should have effective control over the significant areas of the economy in areas of joint state-foreign ownership, including banking and insurance, this requirement was to be met by minimum prescribed levels of Ghanaian equity participation. "This is in line with the Group's own thinking".

In the past year Ghana had pursued a policy of self-reliance. Rigorous import controls had been introduced and agricultural production was being stimulated through Operation Feed Yourself.

Standard Bank Sierra Leone had had another satisfactory and profitable year. The Government had recently established its own commercial bank. "Recovery in the world diamond market continued throughout 1972" and helped to reduce the trade deficit and increase foreign exchange reserves.

Diamond boom

Sales of newly mined rough diamonds handled by the Central Selling Organisation on behalf of De Beers and other producers have risen in the first half of this year to £276m. This compares with £187m, a year ago when the total for the full 12 months reached a record £321m.

A *Financial Times* comment said that the rise reflects strong consumer demand plus the first effects of three price increases announced this year and hedging against currency uncertainties. "The last factor may well come more into the picture during the current half of this year, while the price increases will make their full impact during the period".

Two contracts, together worth more than £234,000 have been obtained by International Aeradio in connection with Yundum International Airport. The first contract, awarded by The Gambia government, covers the operation and maintenance of aviation technical services at the Airport for a further five years. It covers Airport

Management, Air Traffic Control, the Aeronautical Information Service and the operation and maintenance of the aeronautical fixed telecommunications network and the radio navigation aids. The new contract also provides for the training of Gambians in these services which have been provided by IAL since 1947. Yundum is being developed to cater for the expected growth in business and tourist traffic.

The second contract, received through the Crown Agents, covers supply of Air Traffic Control and VHF radio equipment for installation in the control tower are now being built.

• William Baird, the textiles, metals and finance group, and parent company of Sierra Leone Development Company, has halted all new cocoa dealing business after the discovery of losses totalling £1.5m, by Fergusson Wild, its subsidiary. The losses were said to result from "unauthorised dealings" in cocoa futures on the London Exchange by Fergusson's cocoa market dealer, who was caught out by the recent unprecedented rise in the world cocoa price. Fergusson, a long-established dealer in minerals, ores and metals, acquired its seat on the cocoa exchange only at the beginning of the year its general business is unaffected.

Mr. S.A. Field, chairman of Baird, said that the dealer was "set minuscule limits of trading and he vastly exceeded them".

Mr. S.A. Field, chairman of Baird, said that the dealer was "set minuscule limits of trading and he vastly exceeded them".

"Tiny" pays up

Both Mr. "Tiny" Rowland, Managing Director, and Mr. Alan Ball, former Chairman, of Lonrho have now paid the company for the homes they occupy. Two months ago their failure to do so, as urged by the accountants, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, was one issue between Mr. Rowland and the eight directors who tried unsuccessfully to dismiss him. Mr. Rowland has paid over the £350,000 it cost Lonrho to buy his house in Buckinghamshire.

Mr. Ball, former Chairman and now Deputy Chairman, had put his London flat up for sale at £275,000, after paying the original cost to Lonrho. He has now withdrawn the property.



The Directors of the UN institutes for training, research and planning, have held their 8th Annual Meeting at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. This was the first meeting under the chairmanship of Dr. Daoudou Diop, who became Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in 1972. The proposed United Nations University was one subject for debate, based on an informal proposal by the Chairman, who had attended the two meetings of the Boarding Committee of the University.

• Representatives of 17 African national railways met in Addis Ababa to lay the basis for cooperation. The occasion was the opening session of the constitutive meeting of the Union of African Railways, organised by ECA. The Ethiopian Minister for Communications, and Mr. Robert Gardiner, ECA Secretary-General, both stressed the vital need to develop railways in Africa, as they formed the basis for economic development.

The Nigerian representative was appointed chairman and the Ghanaian rapporteur.

• During May hot, humid conditions continued in northern areas of Nigeria, according to *Barclays International Review*, with only isolated showers, and drought conditions are still widespread. It is reported that the decreasing water level of Lake Chad, which has been causing concern for some years, now appears critical with a real danger of the lake dividing into two parts.

Because of poor rainfall at the end of May, first estimates of the 1973-74 cocoa main crop (assuming that weather conditions for the rest of the year are favourable) indicate that production is unlikely to reach 200,000 tons. An indication of the exceptionally dry conditions which have prevailed is the number of cocoa farms; one estimate gives a figure of 40,000 acres as having been destroyed.

• Applications are invited from Nigerian candidates for appointment to the post of General Manager of the Nigerian Mining Corporation, the Federal Statutory body established "to promote rapid exploration and development of Nigeria's solid mineral resources in fields other than Coal and Iron Ore, and to encourage greater indigenous participation in and control of the country's mining industry". At least 10 years' post-qualification experience in mining or an allied industry, including three years in a top management position, is required.

Salary scale is N7,000-N9,000.

• In Ghana the Timber Marketing Board is reported to have ordered spare parts worth 500,000 cedis for sale to producers to help increase their production. It is understood that the spare parts will be sold to bona-fide producers and sawmillers at subsidised prices. Arrangements are under way for the establishment of a central plant pool in Kumasi.

Rails for Nigeria

An order worth £4m for 3,500 tons of rails and sleepers has been placed by the Nigerian Railway Corporation with the British Steel Corporation. The order was negotiated through the Crown Agents. It brings the total value of British business with the Nigerian Railway Corporation during 1973 to £1.3m.

• Venezuela's Petroleum Minister is to head a UN Committee which will consider how oil can be used to foster industrialisation in developing countries. The committee will study the effects of various basic industries and petrochemical plants on steel mills in developing countries and analyse market reaction. The Minister said it was the first time a group of developing countries had such a permanent instrument in the possession.

• The Secretariat of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) has agreed to set up an ECA/UNIDO Industrial Division. This will be a second joint division of UNIDO with another UN agency. The first was between UNIDO and FAO. The objectives of the new division are to assist African countries in accelerating industrial development and in promoting co-operation between them.

• Dr. B.A. Ika, head of Research in African Timber & Plywood, Nigeria, has visited Sapele, Nigeria at the invitation of the German Government, working on Properties, Processing, Marketing of Tropical Timber in Berlin. The German Foundation for International Development organised the gathering in conjunction with FAO and the German Research Institute for the culture & Forestry.

• The UN has announced the names of 18 out of the 20 international personalities who will carry out a study of the impact of multinational corporations on development and international relations. The Secretary-General is awaiting a reply to invitations addressed to nationals of Brazil and the UK. The study was requested by the fifty-third session of the Economic and Social Council, the UN's top economic policy making body. Those appointed include Mr Mohamed Diawara, Minister of Planning, Ivory Coast.

• Commenting on the record of the Metal Box Company of Nigeria, the annual report of the London-based patent company for 1972-73, notes that the limit of production facilities in the existing Lagos factory had been reached. Through sales were satisfactory, efficiency had suffered. "The situation should improve as soon as the second factory is ready, the site for which has now been cleared and fenced, and building will shortly begin".

Timber campaign

A campaign to interest European timber merchants in little-used types of tropical African wood is to be financed by the European Development Fund. The Fund is giving 190m. CFA francs (over £300,000) to Ivory Coast, Gabon, Cameroon, Congo and Zaire. A laboratory is to be established in Abidjan to test the timber for industrial potential.

• A delegation of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions consisting of Daniel Pedersen, Head of its Education Department and Salam Gaye, ICTU representative in Africa, met Gerard K Ouediango, Prime Minister of Upper Volta, in Paris. The subject of the meeting was the conflict between the government and the Upper Volta Organisation of Free Trade Unions which resulted in the imprisonment of seventeen trade unionists. Over one hundred others were suspended from employment. Thirteen of the arrested were released on bail.

Accra-Abidjan highway

The exact route of a planned international highway between Abidjan and Accra has been fixed at a meeting between representatives of the African Development Bank and the Governments of Ivory Coast and Ghana. The road will go through Aboisso in Ivory Coast and Mpataba, Nkroful, Axim, Agona and Takoradi in Ghana. A survey to decide the route was financed partly by the ADB and USAID.

• Ghana and the Food and Agriculture Organisation have signed an agreement under which FAO will assist in storing maize. Under the agreement, signed by Colonel Bernasco, Commissioner for Agriculture and Mr Emmanuel Bruce, FAO's regional liaison officer, 80,000 dollars provided by the Australian Freedom will be spent on the scheme. Mr Bruce said the purpose of the project was to induce maize farmers through practical demonstration and the use of audio-visual aids to adopt prevailing methods of preserving maize.

• The Commonwealth Development Corporation is to develop 8,000 hectares of oil palm in Nigeria's East Central State. The project, at Owerrri, is to be undertaken in partnership with the State Government. Dr Okesie, Federal Commissioner for Agriculture, told a CDC mission in Lagos that in order to boost production the Federal Government would invest in the establishment of new oil palm estates and the rehabilitation of old ones.

• FAO director-general, Dr A. H. Boerina, has told the council of the organisation of need for a minimum level of food stocks to avoid repetition at present dangerously low grain reserves which would pose threat of famine in event of further crop failures. He called for international action against danger of a world food shortage and said that the basic object of his proposal was to ensure sufficient world supply of cereals at all times to avoid acute food shortage in the event of widespread crop failures.

Shipping News

ELDER DEAMPSTEEL LINES
SOUTHBOUND - DEGEMA s/g Jul 18. DIXCOVE due Freetown Jul 13. EBOE s/g Jul 20. FIAN s/g Jul 26. FODRARI BAY due Appa Jul 26. IRINI s/g Warri Jul 14. KOHIMA due Port Harcourt Jul 27.
From London: FULANI due Appa Jul 23. PEGU s/g Tema Jul 4.

FROM N. Continent KABALA due Tema Jul 13.
NORTHBOUND - To Liverpool: DUNKA s/d. Port Central Jul 14. MANDU due Takoradi Jul 20. To Glasgow: KUMBA due Jul 20. To N. Continent: MACHAON s/g Takoradi Jul 13.

EASTBOUND - From USA/Canada: DARI due Cleveland Jul 13. DEIDO s/g New York Jul 15. DOMGA s/d Lome Jul 13. DUMURRA s/d Lome Jul 14.
WESTBOUND - In USA/Canada: DUMBAIA due Free town Jul 16.
Easter Service to West Africa: SPY BANK s/d Takoradi Jul 13.

BARBER BROS
OUTWARDS - BARBERGATE due Takoradi, thence Tema, Lome, Lagos/Appa, Warri, Douala. BARBERBROOK s/g New York Jul 27. Stephenville Jul 31 for Monrovia Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema, Lagos/Appa, Douala.
HOMEWARDS - BARBERBROOK s/g Return for New York: BARH RCAF s/d Lagos Jul 24. Douala Jul 26. Abidjan/Monrovia Aug 1/3. Freetown Aug 5.

'K' LINE
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Lubin, Luanda, Matadi, Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan - MISSISSIPPI MARU s/d Japan Jul 8 due Lagos Jul 16.
EASTBOUND - From Lagos, Abidjan, Freetown etc: MISSISSIPPI MARU s/g Lagos Jul 26. Tema Jul 27. Freetown Jul 30. Abidjan Aug 4 due Hong Kong Sept 5. Japan Sept 9.

BLACK STAR LINE/USNH
WEST AFRIC LINE/USNH
WESTBOUND - KLORIE LAGOON Ghana Jul 20. Abidjan Jul 31. Montreal Aug 13 thence Great Lakes.
BLACK STAR LINE/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA

SOUTHBOUND - BIA RIVER Hamburg Jul 19. Bremen Jul 21. Antwerp Jul 24. Rotterdam Jul 26.
NORTHBOUND - NAKWA RIVER Bremen Jul 17. Amsterdam Jul 20. Rotterdam Jul 23. AFRAM RIVER Avonmouth Jul 17.

DAIWA LINES
WESTBOUND - DAIRA PAUL s/g Luanda Aug 4 due Matadi Aug 5. Pointe Noire Aug 8.
EASTBOUND - FRANZBERG due Houston Aug 1. New Orleans Aug 4. Monrovia Aug 21.
PALM LINE
SOUTHBOUND - LOBITO PAUL due Freetown Jul 25.
NORTHBOUND - IBEJA PALM due Matadi Jul 20. KATSINA PALM due Abidjan Jul 19.

N.Y.K. LINE
WESTBOUND - SAIKYO MARU Tema Jun 14/21. Lagos/Appa Jun. 22/25. Douala Jun. 26/30. Abidjan Jul 2/4.
EASTBOUND - SAIKYO MARU Lagos/Appa Jun 22/25. Douala Jun. 26/30. Abidjan Jul. 2/4. Cutonnu Jun. 5/6. Japan First Port Aug. 6.

MITSUBISHI OSEKI LINE
NORFOLK MARU s/d. Kobe Jun. 26 due Lagos Aug 16. KINKASAN MARU s/d Kobe Jul 5 due Lagos Aug 8.

MAERSK LINE
INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Abidjan - JESPER MAERSK s/g. Kobe Aug. 5 due Luanda Sep. 1.
OUTWARDS - From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Takoradi - JOHANNES MAERSK s/g. Matadi Jul. 17 due Lagos Jul 25.

SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA LINE
NORTHBOUND - VIKAREN s/g W.A. Aug/early Sep for Inchage Scan. Sep/early Oct. ARIZONA 100 s/g W.A. Sep for Inchage Scan Oct.

ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES
INWARDS - STRAAT FRANKLIN s/d. Jun 18 due Luanda Jul 26. Monrovia Jul 31. Freetown Aug 2. Port Harcourt Aug 6. Lagos/Appa Aug 9. STRAAT FRANKLIN s/d. Hong Kong Jun 12 due Lagos/Appa Jul 19. Cutonnu Jul 16. Lome Jul 15. Tema Jul 14. Abidjan Aug 3. Monrovia Aug 6. Freetown Aug 8. Dakar Aug 12. Conakry Aug 16. Abidjan Opt. Takoradi Aug 20.

OUTWARDS - STRAAT FRANKLIN from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan early Aug. STRAAT MAGELHAEN from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore, opt., Hong Kong, Japan Shanghai Jul/Aug.

FARRELL LINES
HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN SUN s/d. Matadi Jul 13 for Luanda, Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports. AFRICAN COMET s/g Lagos/Appa Jul 10 for Port Harcourt, Douala, Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports.
OUTWARDS - AFRICAN COMET s/g Monrovia Jul 15 for Buchanan, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema, Lagos, Appa Jul 25. Port Harcourt, Douala, AFRICAN NEPTUNE due Monrovia Jul 17 for Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema, Lagos, Appa Aug 4. Lagos/Appa Aug 6. Matadi, Luanda.

WESTWIND AFRICA LINE
SOUTHBOUND s/g Tema Aug 1. Lagos Aug 9. Pointe Noire Aug 9. NORTHWIND s/g New Orleans Aug 17. Houston Aug 14 for Tema, Lagos, Pointe Noire Jul 25. Port Harcourt, Douala, AFRICAN NEPTUNE due Monrovia Jul 17 for Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema, Lagos, Appa Aug 4. Lagos/Appa Aug 6. Matadi, Luanda.

AMERICA LINES
SOUTHBOUND - SINOBA s/g Rouen Jul 19 due Dakar Jul 26. Monrovia Jul 29. Abidjan Aug 1. Cutonnu Aug 5. Lagos/Appa Aug 6.
NORTHBOUND - ALAMEDA s/g Lagos/Appa Jul 19. Abidjan Jul 22 due Rotterdam Aug 4. Bremen Aug 1. Aarhus Aug 4. Bremen Aug 8. Hamburg Aug 9. Antwerp Aug 12. Rotterdam Aug 15.
THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE
SOUTHBOUND - ODUDUWA s/g Bremen Jul 24 due Appa Jul 22. Port Harcourt Aug 24.
NORTHBOUND - GRANYAN due Liverpool Jul 25.

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MEETINGS

**NIGERIAN INSURANCE STUDENTS'
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take place on Sunday 22nd July, 1973, at the Nigerian Centre &
Hotel, 20-22 Inverness Terrace, London, W2 at 2 p.m.
Please make all efforts to attend and be punctual.

AGENDA:

1. Reading of the Minutes
2. Matters arising from the Minutes
3. Introduction of new members
4. Finance
5. Reports of the Const. Committee
6. General Election of Officers
7. General

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Mr. E.A. Oyeneyin, Managing Director
Dansadiq Brothers

Supported by eminent Nigerians and special
Guests of Honour
Tickets: **£1.25 Flat**
Nearest Underground - Bethnal Green (Central Line)
All are welcome

Philip Abiodun Oyeneyin,
(Publicity Secretary),
16 Weighton Road,
London, SE20
Tel: 01 659 2662

Diran Oyewole,
(Social Secretary),
4 Byrne Road,
London, SE26
Tel: 01 859 3840

THE SIERRA LEONE WOMEN'S SOCIETY
will hold a
GRAND SUMMER DANCE

at
THE KENSINGTON TOWN GRAND HALL
KENSINGTON HIGH STREET, LONDON W8

ON
FRIDAY 27th JULY, 1973
FROM 7.30 p.m. UNTIL 1 a.m.

Under the distinguished patronage of
HIS EXCELLENCY, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
SIERRA LEONE,
THE REV. J.A.C. DAVIES

Music by

IVAN CHIN - HIS AFRO CARIBBEAN DANCE BAND
LICENSED BUFFET AND BAR PROVIDED

Tickets £1.00 single available from Members, and at the Door

ALL ARE WELCOME
Dress Optional Buses: D, 27, 28, 73
Nearest Tube Station - Kensington High Street

Mrs E. BRIGHT
Social Secretary

DANCE! DANCE! DANCE!
THE EKWEMA SOCIAL CLUB
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND
PRESENTS

Obiakor & Nkwopara Dance Band from East Central
State, Nigeria - on tour of the United Kingdom
this summer

Their Top Hits include

1. 'Sambola Mama' 2. 'Amashi Ukou Wu Ego'

Come and see your brothers in action
PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

LONDON

6th July, 1973

21st July, 1973

27th July, 1973

17th & 24th Aug, 1973

14th July, 1973

3rd Aug., 1973

31st Aug., 1973

20th Jul, 10th Aug., 1973 Chesterham Town Hall, Liverpool

11th Aug, 1973

Holborn Assembly Hall, St. John's Mews,
Northampton Street, London, WC1

Hampton Town Hall,
Haverstock Hill, London, NW3

Ilkeston Club, Manchester

Time: 7 p.m. until midnight. Tickets £1.00 Flat, obtainable
from The President, 43 Winchester Lane, Wood Green, N22.
Tel: 01 889 5726

STEPHEN OSITA OSADEBE
(COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF)
and
**HIS NIGERIA SOUND
MAKERS DANCE BAND**

PLAYING AT HORNSEY TOWN HALL
THE BROADWAY - CROUCH END, LONDON N6
Nearest Tubes: Turnpike Lane, Archway, Finsbury Park
Buses: 41, W2, W3, W7

SATURDAY 28th JULY 1973

FROM 6 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. £1.00 Flat
GUEST STAR - TOP GHANA VOCALIST
EDDY NTRE OF UHURU/STAR BAND FAME

ALSO APPEARING AT

SATURDAY 21st July 1973
HOULDSWORTH HALL, 90 DEANSGATE
(CITY CENTRE), MANCHESTER 1 £1.00 Flat

RAR AND REFRESHMENTS

LATEST AND BEST OF HIGHLIFE, AFRO ROCK,
REGGAE AND SOUL MUSIC

ALL ARE WELCOME

FRIDAY BOOKINGS - W2, 01-459 5011

THE SIERRA LEONE CULTURAL SOCIETY
AFRICAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY
and
THE AFRICAN CULTURAL UNION
proudly present
A SPECIAL SUMMER DANCE

featuring

THE FABULOUS
"AFRO NATIONAL BAND" FROM SIERRA LEONE
THE MASTER SOUNDS "COUNT SHELLY"
AND "SIR NAZO DOWN BEAT"

AT FULHAM TOWN HALL ON SATURDAY 28th JULY 1973

FROM 7 p.m. to MIDNIGHT

MIC, STEVE BARNARD
(LEADING DISC JOCKEY RADIO LONDON)
AND AIR A. T. DEEN

TICKETS: £1 IN ADVANCE & £1.25 AT THE DOOR
FOR ADVANCE BOOKINGS, TEL: 01 622 6450

Nearest Tube Station: Fulham Broadway

Buses: 11, 14, 28 & 295

THIS IS A NIGHT YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS

ALL ARE WELCOMED

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
STEPHEN OSITA OSADEBE
and his
NIGERIAN MUSIC MAKERS BAND

will be entertaining his fans on

Friday 20th July

Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham

7 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Friday 27th July

Africa Centre, 38 King Street, WC2

8 p.m. - 3 a.m.

Friday 3rd August

Cheetham Town Hall, Manchester

6.30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Friday 17th August

Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham

7 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Gate Fees - £1.00 Flat

ALL ARE WELCOME

Note: Birmingham engagement for Saturday 4th August
is CANCELLED

DANCES Cont

DANCE! DANCE!! DANCE!!!

IBADAN DESCENDANTS' UNION
of Great Britain & Irelandproudly presents the greatest
SUMMER DANCE OF THE YEARat Islington Town Hall
Upper Street, London, N1
on Saturday 28th July, 1973

The dance will commence at 6.30 p.m., under the distinguished Chairmanship of Mr. G.O. Ajani (Secretary, Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria). The Chief special Guests of Honour are Chief & Mrs S.L. Duruoro (Managing Director of WAATECO). Other special guests include the Patron of the Union, Dr. Omololu Olunloye (Senior Lecturer, University of Ibadan and a former Commissioner in Western State).

Music by a leading Nigerian Band

Admission is by invitation and tickets at £1 flat

All are welcome

Nearest Underground stations: The Angel, Highbury & Islington.

Buses include 19, 279, 4, 4A, 43 and 104

Please come in time to avoid the inevitable squeeze at the gate.

Ibadan A Gbe Gbogbo Wa O

Gen. Secy: President Tel. 01 274 2040. Kola Akano,
Publicity Secretary Tel. 01 272 5477. Lere Adetunji, Social
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TO ALL UWAIFO FANS!!

SIR VICTOR UWAIFO'S BAND

(currently touring Europe with the Nigerian Dance Troupe)
at The Africa Centre

38 King Street, London, WC2

Saturday 21st July, 1973

10 p.m. - 4 a.m. Admission £1.50

All are Welcome

Nearest Tube Station: Covent Garden, Leicester Square

*Tickets now on sale at The Calabash, African Centre
Telephone 01 836 1976

DANCE DANCE DANCE

THE GHANA STUDENTS UNION

AND

THE AFRICAN CULTURAL UNION

PRESENT FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY 20th JULY at FULHAM TOWN HALL

FROM 7 p.m. - 12 midnight. Admission £1.00

MUSIC BY THE

FAMOUS PEOPLES' AFRICAN BROTHERS BAND

SATURDAY 21st JULY at BATTERSEA TOWN HALL

FROM 7 p.m. - 12 midnight

MUSIC BY THE

PEOPLES' AFRICAN BROTHERS BAND

Admission £1.25

*There was an error in the admission fee in our handbill!

SUNDAY 22nd JULY: "AFTERNOON JUMP"

at 31 COLLINGHAM GARDENS, SW5

Nearest Tube Station: Gloucester Road

MUSIC BY THE

PEOPLES' AFRICAN BROTHERS BAND

TIME 2 p.m. - 9 p.m. ADMISSION 50p

ORGANISERS: 01 986 2575, 01 348 7799
EBI TE YIE

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NOTICES Cont.

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25 CLIFTON GARDENS, LONDON, W9

EXPORTERS OF MILITARY WEAR
JERSERY PULLOVERS
BLANKETS
JUNGLE BOOTS, ETC

NOTICES Cont.

Nigeria

Competition for entry into the Administrative and Special Departmental Classes in the East Central State Public Service

The 1974 competition for entry into the Administrative and Special Departmental Classes in the East Central State of Nigeria Public Service will be held on 18th and 19th January, 1974. The Special Departmental Classes comprise the Scale A posts of Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Warehouse Officer, Inspector of Taxes, Accountant, Auditor, Industrial Promotions Officer, Commercial Officer, Information Officer, and Loans Administrator.

2. The Competition will consist of —

- (a) a qualifying written examination conducted by the West African Examinations Council;
- (b) a series of tests and interviews conducted by the Public Service Selection Board; and
- (c) an interview by the Public Service Commission.

Only candidates who attain the qualifying standard in the written examination will be invited for the tests and interviews to be conducted by the Public Service Selection Board. The Public Service Commission will subsequently select, in the light of the performance of such candidates, those who will be interviewed by the Commission.

3 QUALIFICATIONS —

(A) OFFICERS NOT YET IN EAST CENTRAL STATE SERVICE

To be eligible to enter for the competition, a candidate who is not already in the Public Service of the East Central State of Nigeria, should either possess the following qualifications or be sitting for them in the course of the year 1974 —

(i) Administrative Class:

- (a) First or Second-class Honours Degree, or a higher Degree, preferably in Arts, Economics, or other Social Sciences from a recognised University;

- (b) Honours Degree (Pass or Third Class), First or Second-class General Degree from a recognised University, a Graduate Diploma in Public Administration from a recognised Institution;

(ii) Auditor and Accountant:

- (a) Final Certificates of one of the following professional bodies:
 - (i) Chartered Accountants
 - (ii) Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors
 - (iii) Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants
 - (iv) Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants
 - (v) Institute of Cost and Works Accountants
- (b) Honours Degree in Accountancy or Economics or other subjects with Accountancy as a Special Subject from a recognised University;

(iii) Inspector of Taxes

- (a) Any of the accounting qualifications listed in paragraph (ii) (a) and (b) above;
- (b) A Degree in Law from a recognised University;
- (c) A call to the Bar.

(iv) Produce Officer

An Honours Degree in Agriculture, Commerce or Science from a recognised University.

(v) Other "Scale A" Posts

For the posts of Industrial Promotions Officer, Commercial Officer, Loans Administrator, and Information Officer.

NOTICES Cont.

candidate should either possess the following qualifications, or be sitting for them in the course of the year —

First or Second class Honours Degree in Arts, Economics, Statistics, Sociology, Business Administration, Commerce from a recognised University, recognised in the above contexts in Nigeria, or recognised by the Government of East Central State of Nigeria.

(B) SERVING OFFICERS

Serving Officers in the East Central State Public Service who are in possession of any of the qualifications listed in paragraph 1 (A) above, but who have not previously passed the Competitive Examination for entry into the relevant class, are also eligible to enter for the competition.

(C) GENERAL EXECUTIVE & SECRETARIAL CLASSES

The following serving officers in the General Executive and Secretarial Classes are also eligible to enter for the Competitive Examination:

- (a) Grade 10 officers or officers with appropriate Diploma in Public Administration or Management who have served for at least three years.
- (b) Other officers in the Executive and Secretarial Classes who not being graduates or possessing appropriate Diploma in Public Administration or Management have served at least five years in the General Executive or Secretarial grade.

4. The purpose of the written examination is not to test the candidates in the subjects in which they studied for their degree, but to test their ability to think clearly, to understand and write English and also to test their knowledge of current affairs, particularly West African affairs. Notes for the guidance of candidates drawn up by the West African Examinations Council will be issued to all candidates by the Council in due course.

5. The written examination will consist of the following papers:

- (1) English (Precis and Critical Appreciation)
This will consist of a fairly long and complex passage and candidates will be required to summarise it in their own words and to make critical comments on its central idea.
- (2) Current Affairs
This will comprise two separate papers one of which will be a paper of three compulsory questions of the traditional essay type and the other an objective test of fifty questions. The questions are designed to test the candidates' intelligent awareness of current affairs which any educated person may be presumed to possess.
- (iii) General
This will consist of two questions. The first, known as the "Logical Force Passage", will test the candidates' ability to detect dubious thinking and the second known as "Statistical Inference Question", will test their ability to draw correct inferences from a table of numerical data.

6. The written examination will be held at the following centres: Lagos, Ibadan, Enugu, Benin City, Onitsha, Zaria, Accra, Freetown, London, Washington and at such other centres as may be determined later.

The dates and centres of the sitting of the Public Service Selection Board will be announced later.

7. Candidates will be responsible for arranging and meeting the cost of their accommodation and transport.

8. Each candidate will be required to pay a fee of ₦10.50 (£6.62) which will not be refundable. No responsibility will be accepted for money sent in any manner other than the one prescribed in paragraph 9 below.

9. METHODS OF APPLICATION

Candidates who have already applied for appointment to any of the classes mentioned in paragraph 1 above should send to the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Enugu, crossed Postal or Money Order for the examination fee of ₦10.50 (£6.62) each. If outside Nigeria, the candidates should send the fee of ₦10.50 (£6.62) each by crossed Money Order or crossed Postal Order to the authority to whom he addressed his application. The name of the applicant should be inscribed on the reverse side of the Money or Postal Order and the serial number(s) of such Postal or Money Order should be recorded in the accompanying application form or letter.

10. Candidates who have not yet applied, but who wish to do so, should send their fees in the manner described above, together with their applications on the official forms (which are obtainable from the Recruitment Section, Nigeria High Commission, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London W.C.2), to the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Enugu.

11. CANDIDATES WHO ENTERED FOR THE 1973 EXAMINATION

Candidates who entered for the 1973 examination which did not take place and who have indicated in writing to the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Enugu, that they are willing to keep their 1973 entry open until the 1974 examination need not re-enter, since they having already applied, are deemed eligible to take the examination.

12. CLOSING DATE

Final dates, applications and fees will be prescribed up to and including 26th August 1973, but not after. Incoming candidates who had earlier submitted applications, but who for some reason may be in doubt about whether or not they will be accepted on the basis of such applications, the payment of the prescribed examination fee of ₦10.50 (£6.62) are advised to submit fresh applications along with their fees.

13. Instructions as to the date, time and place of the examination will be sent direct to candidates by the West African Examinations Council.

Help build the new Nigeria

NOTICES Cont

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, LAGOS 1974/75 POSTGRADUATE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the 1974/75 Postgraduate Commonwealth Scholarships. The awards which are to be made by other Commonwealth countries will extend over a period of not more than three academic years.
2. **FIELD OF STUDY**
There is no restriction as to the fields of study for which applications may be made.
3. **COUNTRIES**
Commonwealth countries for which candidates may be nominated for awards are as shown below:
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| United Kingdom | Malaysia |
| Canada | Jamaica |
| Australia | Trinidad & Tobago |
| New Zealand | Cyprus |
| Sri Lanka (Ceylon) | Ghana |
| India | East Africa |
| Hong Kong | |
- An applicant is allowed to choose two out of the Commonwealth countries listed in paragraph 3 above. It is advised, however, that applicants should not restrict their choices to any two of the very popular Commonwealth countries, such as Britain and Canada, Britain and Australia, or Canada and Australia, as this would reduce their chances of being considered for awards, since these countries offer only a limited number of awards in a year.
4. **QUALIFICATION**
Applicants should have a good university degree. The minimum entry requirement is second class upper.
5. **AGE LIMIT**
Applicants should not be more than 30 years old on 1st October 1974. Preference will be given to applicants below 30 years.
6. **APPLICATION FORM**
Applicants are expected to fill ONE copy of the application form in the first instance and this must be on the prescribed form which is obtainable from the Federal Ministry of Education, Scholarships Section, Lagos, all the Ministries of Education in the states, all the Academic Registrars of Nigerian Universities and all Nigerian High Commissions, Embassies and Consulates abroad.
Applicants who want application forms sent to them by post should send a self-addressed stamped envelope, 11" x 9", marked "CESP 74" at the top left hand corner.
Successful candidates, suit at a later stage, be required to fill FIVE more copies of the application form.
7. **REFERENCES**
It is the duty of applicants to ensure that each of their THREE referees submits SIX copies of a confidential report on them. These reports should be sent by the referees direct to the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, Scholarships Section, Lagos. The envelopes containing them should be sealed and marked "Confidential CESP 74". The last date for their receipt is 31st August, 1973.
8. **CLOSING DATE**
Completed application forms with photostat copies of the following supporting documents -
- six copies of degree certificates;
 - six copies of birth certificate or sworn declaration age;
 - six copies of plan of study;
 - six copies of curriculum vitae;
 - six copies of transcripts of university examinations;
 - six passport size photographs of applicant; and
 - six copies of a letter of admission, if available, from a university in the Commonwealth country which applicant proposes to study -
- should reach the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, Scholarships Section, Lagos on or before 1st July, 1973.
9. **PLAN OF STUDY**
Applicants are to attach a typed or hand-written plan of study to their forms. The plan of study should describe and clear account of the course of study they intend to pursue and an outline of the various stages they will follow in their courses. This is essential as it helps both in the selection of candidates and in the placement of applicants in the universities of the awarding countries.
10. **INTERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION**
Interviews will be held for selected candidates sometime in September or October, 1973. Only applicants who are qualified academically and who fill their forms properly and submit the documents listed in (8) above will be invited to interview.
11. **GENERAL**
- The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education will not enter into correspondence with an applicant in respect of the applications except in the case of successful candidates.
 - Photostat copies of documents submitted will not be returned to applicants.
 - Late applications will not be entertained.
 - Although every effort will be made to nominate a candidate to one or other of the countries of his choice, where this is not possible another country offering facilities for his course will be selected as a substitute.
 - It has now come to the Ministry's notice that some applicants who, in the past, had been nominated by the Federal Government and were successful in gaining awards had, at the last moment rejected their offer of awards, or abandoned their courses, but was without satisfactory reasons. To avoid the recurrence of this, applicants are advised to be absolutely sure that they are genuinely in need of scholarships, and that they, if successful in their applications, would not without good reasons, reject their offer, or abandon their courses.

Dateline Africa

SIERRA LEONE

Crop prospects good

Prospects for commodities handled by the Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board this year are good. The coffee crop in the season just ended exceeded 11,000 tons, prices for cocoa had soared, and the SLPMB has taken advantage of this by "selling forward against next year's crop". This report was made to the President by the Managing Director of the Marketing Board, Mr. J. Teesdale, when board members called at State House. The Managing Director also informed the President that the board had sent a team to Kenema to rehouse the coffee milling machinery there. Engineers from West Germany, from where the machines came, had been invited to Sierra Leone. (During the President's tour of Kenema District this year, he saw much of the machinery in cases, still unpacked). Mr. Teesdale said that the engineers would also advise the board on the animal feed mill machinery in Moyamba.

The President has expressed dissatisfaction with the increase in the prices and quality of some locally manufactured goods. He was addressing members of the Board of the National Trading Company. He said that when the monopoly was given to certain companies, the government expected a reduction in the prices of local goods; instead prices increased while quality deteriorated. The company, sponsored by the government, has been given a monopoly of a number of imported products.

The Managing Director of the company, Mr. John Solomon, has announced its plans to extend activities. Mr. Solomon said that the company would begin to import yeast, manufactured tobacco and toys. Mr. Solomon

emphasised that the company was making every effort to stabilise prices of essential commodities especially cement and sugar. Even though the world price of granulated sugar had soared 500 per cent over the last decade, the company would continue to sell it at the 1968 price of 14 cents per pound.

Commenting on the budget statement Mr. Sih Alimay Mansaray, M.P. for Koinadugu North-East, criticised some companies and "Made in Sierra Leone" products. Mr. Mansaray said that since the National Trading Company came into operation they had witnessed scarcity of some commodities. People had to queue for sugar, which had never happened in Sierra Leone. He called for re-organisation of the Company, from which many people had made money. He also said that if you used the product of the Match Factory "you have to break 20 sticks before a cigarette is lit."

Earlier Mr. Mansaray thanked the civil servants, but criticised some heads of departments for suppressing vacancies until they could get their relatives to fill them.

Asking the government completely to nationalise the diamond mining company, Diminco, the Kono M.P., Alhaji S. I. O. Gborie, in whose

constituency Diminco is located, and who was for a short time Resident Mines Director of the enterprise, called for a change in the valuation and marketing of diamonds and suggested that a free market should be created. The Alhaji, basing himself on his own experience, described alleged corrupt practices in Diminco.

There would be no more diamonds in Sierra Leone in less than 30 months, Alhaji Gborie maintained. He said that in December 1972 proved potential diamonds stood at 2,102,230 carats, but Diminco recovered 800,000 carats annually.

President Stevens has reacted to the mounting crime wave with a warning that convicted armed robbers would be executed according to the law. The President's warning came a few hours after armed robbers had broken into a bar and strangled the keeper.

Mr. Stevens said the death penalty introduced in 1971 would have to be applied as a deterrent to violent robbery. More than 160 people have been arrested since the Vice-President issued a strong warning to armed robbers.

During the second quarter of this year the Government Diamond Office bought diamonds worth Le 11,336,101.26. In the second quarter of 1972, purchases were worth Le 4,677,111.

Officer Cadet S. M. Koroma of Kissy was among 263 officer cadets who took part in the sovereign's parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Princess Anne reviewed the parade. A Sierra Leonean, Professor George O. Val-Cox, has been appointed Director of the Institute of African and Afro-American Studies at Richmond College, City University, New York.

France has awarded eight scholarships to Sierra Leoneans to study in the Ivory Coast and twenty-three to study in Gabon. Two more outstanding scholarships for Civil Servants to study in France are also available, as are scholarships for agriculturists.

In addition to former Brigadier David Lansana whose release was announced last week, four others have been released from detention. This now brings the total number of detainees released within a month to 65. The four are Regimental Quarter-Master Alex Foday Conteh, Lt. Habb Lansana Kamara, James Sorle Kamara, and Sulay Black Lawyer.

LIBERIA

Storm damage in Monrovia

Violent winds and rain have lashed Monrovia, causing some of the worst damage the capital has known. A 30-minute storm, accompanied by gale-force winds, tore roofs from buildings and felled trees. A huge tree dropped across United Nations drive, blocking the entrance of the US Embassy. At the University students fled as an asbestos roof was ripped off a new dormitory building.

Traffic jams built up throughout the city as drivers tried to negotiate streets blocked by trees.

President Tolbert said in Tanzania that if it was true that ships flying the Liberian flag were involved in violating UN sanctions against Rhodesia, his Government would take action against any company concerned. In a communique signed by Mr. Tolbert and President Nyerere, the two expressed the hope that African states "will continue to participate in the enforcement of sanctions against the regime of rebel Ian Smith." President Tolbert was asked at a news conference about the appearance of Liberia on a list of six countries which had failed to respond to requests by the UN Security Council's committee on sanctions about alleged violations. He said that if the allegations were correct "definite action will be taken by the government of Liberia."



Mr. Desmond Luke, External Affairs Minister, introduces Mr. David Newsom, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs in the State Department, to the President. In the middle is Mr. Clinton Olan, the U.S. Ambassador. Mr. Newsom has been touring some West African states.

GHANA

Record rainfall

Recent rainfall in Accra (see July issue) is the heaviest recorded in about twenty years. From June 1 to June 25 the Meteorological Services Department recorded 20.98 inches of rainfall at Teshie, 15.37 inches at Labadi, 13.95 inches in Nima, 13.40 inches at Kotoka International Airport and 13 inches at Kotobaabi, Teshie had 13.20 inches of rainfall in just three days.

Helicopters could be used to convey food from the villages to urban areas, according to the Commissioner for Agriculture, Col. Bernasko. He added that farmers who found it difficult to convey foodstuffs should contact the nearest police station for aid. Col. Bernasko said that he appreciated "the fact that things are a bit scarce and will be more difficult with the rains which will make the accessibility to the food markets difficult."

Farm managers of the Food Production Corporation who fail to reach their production target next year without good excuse will be dismissed, Col. Bernasko warned. He told a press conference "Any farm manager who fails to reach his target next year and fails to give any convincing excuse, such as weather effects, will be dismissed for sabotaging the agricultural efforts." Colonel Bernasko stressed that warning applied to all departments under his ministry.

Ghana has ordered 35,000 tons of rice from Brazil, the United States and China to augment local production, according to Major D. G. Weir, Chairman of the Logistics Committee. As a result of increases in world commodity prices, the Government was heavily subsidising most imports. Foods and commodities to prevent shortages, he said.

Seventeen companies, including the Bank of Ghana, have presented 4,050 cedis and 10,000 cedis-worth of agricultural implements for use in Operation Feed Yourself.

Farmers in the Volta Region have appealed to the government for military aid to check smuggling along the border with Togo during this year's main and mid-crop seasons.

The shaft named after General Sir Edward Spears, former chairman of Ashanti Goldfields, in which Lonrho has a minority shareholding, has been renamed Adansi Shaft. Lady Spears Estate becomes Onyinashe Estate, the Spears Dance Band the Goldfields Band and the General Spears School the Ashanti Goldfields School. The changes follow a call by the Commissioner for Lands, Mai Gen Amenu when Gen. Spears and a majority of the Lonrho board tried to dismiss the chief executive, Mr. "Tiny" Rowland, that all places in Obuasi named after the General and his wife be renamed.

It is reported that Mr. R. W. "Tiny" Rowland, chief executive of Lonrho, is to visit Ghana shortly to pay his respects to Col. Acheampong.

Felli back from US

Major Roger Felli, Commissioner for Trade and Tourism, has returned from the U.S., where he held trade and tourism talks with Government officials, businessmen and tour organisers as guest of the State Department. Major Felli said he was impressed by the desire of American businessmen to invest in Ghana and of tour operators to organise more tours to the country. Major Felli, who was accompanied by Major W. A. Oduha, General Manager of the Ghana Tourist Corporation, also visited Britain and West Germany.

The American Ambassador Mr. Fred Hadsel, has presented samples of moon rocks brought back to earth by astronauts of the Apollo 13 expedition to Colonel Acheampong.

Mr. Hadsel also delivered a special message from President Nixon.

Accompanying the moon rocks on a plaque was also a flag of Ghana which the Astronauts took with them to the Moon last December.

Work has begun on five small canals reach about five miles long for Dawhenya on the Prampram Plains. The canals, which will help irrigate 1,700 acres, will cost 700,000 cedis to construct. The work is a prelude to the construction of the 50 mile canal from the Volta River to irrigate the Accra Plains. Col. Bernasko, Commissioner for Agriculture, led a team of volunteers and experts to begin the project.

Professor Boateng, Vice-Chancellor of Cape Coast University, is giving up his post to become full-time chairman of the National Environmental Council. Students, believing that he had been dismissed, staged a demonstration to demand his immediate removal from the campus. Col. Amedume, Central Region Commissioner, intervened and explained to the students that Professor Boateng's redeployment did not stem from the recent appointment of a committee to look into certain complaints at the University.

Lt. Col. Skogbe, Commissioner for Education, has said that his Ministry will not tolerate student strikes and demonstrations as instruments for redress.

Free kindergarten education is being considered by the Ministry of Education. The Ministry believes that there is a need to prepare children between the ages of four and six for formal education and suggests that the public should help with the provision of facilities such as building and furniture while the Government provides staff and other aid.

The Cocoa Marketing Board is to increase its scholarships to students in secondary and technical schools from 1,930 to 2,500 in the next academic year.

The Reverend James Owusu, Roman Catholic chaplain of the armed forces, has been consecrated first Bishop of Sunyani. Colonel Acheampong attended the consecration, performed by the most Reverend John Kodwo Amisah, Archbishop of Cape Coast. The Rev. Owusu's consecration increased the number of Ghanaian Roman Catholic bishops to eight.

A high court has imposed an eight-year sentence on two businessmen last for corrupting an amount to 12 and 18 months.

Mv. Chumu and ten Soviet trawlers were in 1965 and abandoned the 1966 coup, having the same trawler sank about a year ago and was shipwrecked at a cost of nearly 17,000 cedis.

Ban lifted

Nigeria has lifted a ban on Ghanaian journalists returning to the country, the High Commission announced in Accra.

The announcement of the move was a reflection of Nigeria's desire to normalise cordial relations with Ghana and other neighbouring countries.

The ban, which was unannounced, came into effect after the Nigerian Coup.

The Government has taken steps to ensure that there is no more cement shortage after August. Col. Bernasko, Commissioner for Agriculture, has announced a delegation has been sent to traditional suppliers to negotiate for more supplies.

The Timber Board has called on the Government to take Takoradi a "timber" because the presence of timber export will be increasing congesting the harbour.

Civil servants are to be governed by the Civil Service Act of 1960 which provides for the revocation of the 1957 Civil Service Discipline Regulations.

Nana Kofi Boateng of Goaso in Brong Ahafo denied allegations that he had been destooled.

Colonel S.M. Aducci, Ghana High Commissioner in Nigeria, will also send an Ambassador to Lagos and Abuja.

New currency notes issued in August to those issued after the death of Dr. Nkrumah.

NIGERIA

No opposition to trade blocs

General Gowon has told the Nigerian monthly magazine *Afriscopes* that Nigeria is in favour of formation of economic communities in Africa. Gen Gowon said: "We are not opposed to foreign groupings or blocs in as much as we ourselves see the foundation of a West African economic community as an opportunity for greater sub-regional co-operation and economic development".

"Similarly we are not opposed to the forging of commercial links with other economic blocs. There is no reason why a West African economic community cannot enter into a trade agreement with the EEC or the Caribbean Economic Community for the mutual benefit of both sides". Gen. Gowon who is OAU current chairman, noted that commercial and economic agreements between blocs are developments which might well come to dominate international economic relations.

Trade with Australia

Australia will give preferences to goods from developing countries, to increase its trade with them Australia's Special Minister of State, Senator Donald Willesee said in Lagos. The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Trade, Mr Victor Adegoroye, appealed to Australia to import more Nigerian products to remove a trade imbalance in Australia's favour. Mr. Adegoroye thanked Senator Willesee a list of commodities which Nigeria would sell to Australia. It was agreed that talks should be held between officials of the two countries on ways of expanding bilateral trade. Mr. Willesee said efforts would be made to promote Nigerian goods on the Australian market.

The Senator was invited to an African tour was intended to

consolidate the improvement in Australia's standing with Black Africa, resulting from his Government's new policies against racism and colonialism. Senator Willesee will also visit Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Mauritius.

• The director-general of the NBC, Mr. Christopher Kolade, has called on the Federal Government to remove all forms of control on the running of the corporation. He said day to day running and issues like appointments and discipline of staff should be left in the hands of the corporation's executive. But he agreed that there should be close liaison between NBC and the government.

• Mallam Aliko Mohammed, chairman of the National Insurance Corporation of Nigeria (NICON), has led a 15-man Nigerian delegation to the second All-Africa Insurance Conference in Nairobi. He told newsmen that the Federal Government was reviewing the Insurance Company Act to bring it up to date.

• The maiden issue of the *Evening Times*, a newspaper of the Daily Times Group, will be published on August 6. It will appear daily except on Sundays. The night editor of *Daily Times*, Mr Martin Iroabuchi, has been named editor-designate of *Evening Times*.

Decree on exam leaks

The Federal Government has enacted a decree to help the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) curb examination leaks. The decree published in Lagos prescribes stern punishment for offenders. Any person found leaking examination papers will be fined 2,000 naira on conviction or go to gaol for five years or both. There are penalties for impersonation and other forms of dishonesty by candidates. There have been examination leaks in recent years.

As from 1975, WAEC will issue only statements of result to candidates with passes in less than six subjects of the School Certificate examination, the Acting Senior Registrar of the Council, Mr. F.A. Longe, has announced. At present GCE certificates are issued to candidates who pass in less than six subjects.

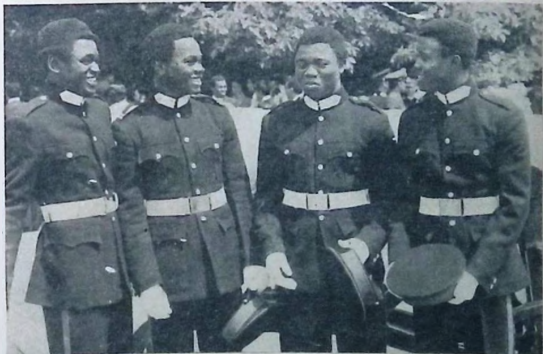
• A \$3m. agreement between Nigeria and the World Food Programme is expected to create jobs and help rehabilitate palm oil, cocoa and rubber plantations which were neglected or damaged during the civil war. Using food to pay part of the salaries, the authorities hope to recruit 5,000 more people, doubling the current number of workers. Food will also be

provided for dependents. This agreement raises to \$18.4m. the total amount of WFP assistance to Nigeria since mid-1969.

• Twenty doctors have been recruited from the University of Ibadan for Armed Forces Medical Services, the director-general Brig Austin Peters, has announced.

Nigerian parents disappear

A London high court judge has ordered a Nigerian couple, Dami and Reke Ugen, to prison for contempt of court because they failed to hand their daughter back to her English foster parents. The couple had taken eight year-old Jete from her foster parents, Albert and Jean Dunmore, on holiday in May but failed to return her to them. The Dunmores had fostered Jete since babyhood. Recently, a court ordered the couple to hand back their daughter to the foster parents but the couple were reported to have disappeared from their south London home since the order. Mr. Ugen had told an inquiry that his daughter was in Nigeria. The couple were not in court in spite of bench warrants ordering them to appear.



Four Nigerians (left to right) at Sandhurst passing out parade. Michael Ajas from Oni, Chidi Paulibus Ewuriga, and Godwin Swadike, both from Okigbo, (the three staying on at Sandhurst for five months to do the Regular Careers Course) and Fidehis Uwa, from Abakaliki, returned home to join his regiment. Princess Anne took the salute at the parade, where the four were among 153 officer cadets passing out.

• Brig. Esuene has told members of the National Youth Service Corps in Calabar that Nigeria's greatest problem had been her inability to evolve a permanent machinery to ensure national unity and understanding among various ethnic groups. He urged corps members to take their assignment seriously.

• The chairman of the Midwestern State branch of the Nigerian Medical Association, Dr. Onni Okpaku, has called for abolition of free medical treatment for senior civil servants because "these senior servicemen enjoy a number of financial and fringe benefits" to enable them to meet their medical expenses. He said that such a measure would help to check drain on meagre financial resources of the government.

The editor of the *Daily Times*, Mr. Areyo Oyebola, has said that "it is a great disservice to the people of this nation for highly placed government officials to discuss government policies with foreign embassies and Press at the expense of the local Press. He told Benue Plateau State Commissioner for Finance and Acting Commissioner for Internal Affairs and Information, Mr. J.A. Adeka, that the local Press should be informed of the governments' policies and problems rather than having to rely on second-hand foreign sources. Mr. Adeka said that his government had an open attitude towards the Press but noted that some officials dodged the press to avoid "harassment with questions".

• The Nigerian World University Service has raised N6,000 in aid of reconstruction of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, while British World University has given N2,500 worth of books, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Herbert Kodilinye, has said.

• Nigeria's *Tribune* has urged France to call off its proposed nuclear test in the South Pacific and welcomed measures taken by Australia to stop the exercise.

The newspaper said that "France's policy to match with the other nuclear powers of the world is quite

understandable. But what we cannot accept is the principle of pursuing it in defiance of world opinion". The *Tribune* went on "This newspaper is particularly grieved not only at continued nuclear build-ups by the major powers, but by the fact that they have consistently relegated human consideration to the background in pursuit of their mad ambitions". It said Australia had every reason to feel concerned.

• Chief Abdul Eke, Federal Commissioner for Education, has told journalists to make representation to the government on any measures relating to Press freedom. Opening a senior editors' seminar organised by the Nigerian Institute of Journalism in Lagos, Chief Eke said: "If your representation is backed up with constructive proposals conducive to the preservation of the national interest, it would be given its due attention". He added: "You have a liberal government willing at all times to give careful consideration to the views expressed by citizens".

From the States

The northern states Interim Common Services Agency (ICSA) has expressed concern over threatened food shortage because of drought. The agency said after a meeting in Kano that it was working with Federal Government agencies to produce enough food for the population. It noted that only by proposed food crop production schemes could be impending danger of food shortage be met. Reports from the six northern states showed that drought had affected planting of major food crops like maize, guinea corn, yams, millet, and to some extent, rice. The report noted that late rains had affected growing and harvests were expected to be poor.

• About 20m. naira will be needed by Nigerians to take over 400 foreign businesses in Kano State affected by the Enterprises Promotion Decree, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Alban Isa Gambo Dutse, has said.

Kano's late budget

Governor Audu Bako has presented a late budget of over 74m. naira for the financial year 1973-74, providing for 39m. naira of capital and 35m. naira of recurrent expenditure. Highlights of the budget include a plan to set up a university. Work is in progress for the establishment of a polytechnic which together with other institutions will form the nucleus of the new university. There is provision for a 16m. naira teaching hospital and a glass factory, while 5.5m. naira is voted for the Ministry of Health. The government will take over full payment of teachers' salaries and those of administrative staff of educational institutions.

• Canon Akinyemi, Western State Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, has warned DOs against sending inaccurate reports to his ministry. He said inaccurate reports could rattle the ministry and the government.

• Agricultural Development Authority (ADA) of East Central State and the Commonwealth Development Corporation are to set up a joint palm oil plantation in Owerri Division. Already a team of CDC experts had visited the state on a feasibility study.

DO guilty of theft

A former DO of Ilesa South Division, Adepoju Akanni Adetunji, has been found guilty of stealing N1,837.20 from Ilesa Urban District Council. Mr. Justice Adenekan Ademola at Ilesa Assizes ordered Adetunji to repay the money to the Council before July 31 and committed him to prison till that date when he will be brought to court for sentence.

• The Continuing Education Centre, Benin, is conducting an eight-week summer school

from July to September for candidates for the West African School Certificate and the GCE (at ordinary level) examinations, the Director, G.N.I. Enobakhare, has said.

• A 30,000 naira water ward and a 20,000 naira operation theatre are to be provided at Eja Mission Hospital, Itidiri, in Oyo division of South Eastern State, the senior medical superintendent, Dr. S.E. Imoke, who was a member of the former Eastern Region Government, has said.

Shopping centre

The Lagos State Development and Property Corporation (LSDPC) is to build a N64m. shopping centre on an eight-acre land in Lagos, its chairman, Alade Animshahun, has said. 2,000 residential units would be built on 200 of these would be in Horodu and Badagry areas of the state, while the rest would be sited in Ibeju (Ilupeju and Epe). The LSDPC had planned to build 1,000 yearly but could not meet the target because of lack of funds, Mr. Animshahun said. See the 600 units in last year would be allocated to the purchase, mortgage and ownership saving and mortgage schemes to middle income earners their houses. Work on the Odofin new town to accommodate 70,000 people and provide 4,000 acres of industrial and commercial development would begin soon and be sited on the Apapa-Badagry expressway.

• Commenting on the examinations for the Administration of Justice Central State, Mr. Justice Asika, said that the government was to ensure that those who were trained professionals continued to be of high qualities of their work throughout their careers. He added that it was essential that those who took to themselves be well equipped. Teachers in the state have rejected the idea of the examinations.

THE GAMBIA

Sir Dawda's
thanks

On his return to Banjul after medical treatment in London, the President expressed thanks and gave tribute to the British government and people for the treatment given him, adding that his speedy recovery was a living testimony to British science. Sir Dawda went on to say that he was deeply touched by the action of President Sekou Toure of Guinea, who sent a delegation to visit him in hospital, and of President Leopold Senghor of Senegal for sending him his personal doctor. The French government he also thanked for the speedy arrangements made for him to leave Banjul. He also thanked President Siaka Stevens, who met him at Lunga Airport, and all who sent him personal messages.

• The Vice-President told the House that provision has been made in this year's estimates for the opening of a diplomatic mission in Lagos. This was long overdue and had only been held back so long out of financial considerations. From the mission in Lagos, The Gambia would also be able to devote more attention to her developing relations with Ghana, Cameroon, Gabon, Zaïre and other countries.

Drought hits
The Gambia

• The Vice-President also told the House that the first consignment of food assistance from the World Food Programme had arrived. More consignments were expected. Mr. Camara pointed out that it was now apparent that The Gambia had been much more severely affected by last year's drought than was realised. It was quite clear that the assistance from the WFP would not be sufficient to see the farmers through to the next harvest. Despite world shortage, The Gambia Produce Marketing Board had been

able to secure adequate stocks for the country. Fortnightly distributions should last until September.

The Vice-President said that for the past year, The Gambia had been receiving its rice from Pakistan.

On the question of negotiating a new rice contract, the Minister of Finance, Alhaji Garba-Jahumpa, informed the House that Eastern countries had indicated that the prospects for renewing rice contracts after September this year were not bright as these countries themselves had been hit by shortages.

DAHOMEY

Ex-ministers
accused

Three ministers in the ousted civilian government have been accused of misappropriation of public funds. Former Justice Minister Michel Bamenou Toko is accused of having misappropriated 7,403,966 francs CFA (30,350 dollars). He was alleged to have set up a fictitious construction firm to which he gave contracts and advanced credits for work which was never carried out. One of these contracts was for a new court house in Porto Novo. Former Health Minister Albert Ouassa, is alleged to have misappropriated 9,087,107 fr CFA (37,862 dollars), while Finance Minister Pascal Ghabi Kao, when in office became managing director of the National Ceramics Company (SONAC) which showed losses of nearly 10,000,000 fr CFA, for which the minister was held personally responsible for 2,735,827 fr CFA.

The accusations are contained in a report presented to the cabinet, drawn up by a National Verification Commission which has been looking into the affairs of former ministers. The military government has decided to recover all the misappropriations discovered from those concerned, and legal and disciplinary steps will be taken against all those concerned, it was stated.

Civil rule
not yet

In a statement the presidency ruled out power being handed over to civilians in present conditions. The "Voice of the Revolution" radio broadcast was seen as aimed at stopping current rumours in the capital about a handover to civilians. It added that there was no question either of any army officer, "whatever his competence or rank," being appointed to lead Dahomey's land forces. Major Mathieu Kerekou the head of State, holds the post of army chief of staff.

The statement denounced "fantastic and tendentious rumours" and blamed "propagandist trouble-makers and agitators". It warned "anti-revolutionaries" and subversives, whom it referred to as "mediocre elements who only feel at ease in disorder and darkness," that they should go and look for trouble elsewhere, declaring that the military government and "the Dahomean Revolution" would continue "happily" on their course.

BURUNDI

Micombero's
denial

President Micombero has denied allegations that battalions of the Burundi army had crossed into Tanzania. In a message to Gen. Gowon, the OAU Chairman, President Micombero said, "we assure you that all activities in defence of the nation are being carried out only in our country and that there is not one battalion of the Burundi army which dare to cross the border and sneak into Tanzania."

He alleged that Tanzania had seized imports to and exports from Burundi totalling some 3,000 tons at the port of Dar es Salaam. "This step imposes a heavy burden on the economy of Burundi and such a burden is contrary to the laws and rights that ought to exist between nations. Such a burden may well threaten relations between Tanzania and Burundi." He said that all

the imports and exports of Burundi are sent through Tanzanian ports, especially at this time when "we export to the outside world the coffee crop, the first basis of the wealth of Burundi and a backbone of my nation's finance". The President then requested that an OAU commission of inquiry be sent immediately, to ascertain for itself the situation on the border between Tanzania and Burundi.

IVORY COAST

£7m hotel
complexes

Ivory Coast is to build three new hotel complexes with investments totalling nearly £7m. sterling. The largest will be a 500-room air-conditioned international class hotel with a 500 seat restaurant, conference and reception rooms, and commercial and sporting facilities. It will cost more than £5.7m. and will be on Ivory Coast's "African Riviera" on the Ebrie Lagoon between Abidjan and Bingerville. The second, a 300-room hotel, will be built on the coast at Vridi, south of Abidjan and the third, which will include a private airfield and 20 holiday bungalows, will be at Ferkessedougou, 400 miles north of Abidjan.

• The Planning Minister, M. Mohammed Diawara has said that the Ivory Coast will be like Brazil within ten or fifteen years. He has just returned from a visit to South America. He said he was impressed by the way Brazil had developed its industry and built up roads, railways and bridges. Brazilian products were adapted to tropical climates and salaries there were lower than in Europe, so that Brazilian goods could compete favourably.

The Minister added: "In Ivory Coast we can form companies with capital invested by both countries, importing raw materials from Brazil and manufacturing them in Ivory Coast, for export to neighbouring countries. We can sell to Brazil some of our products, like rubber latex or textiles".

SENEGAL

£9m to stop the desert

Senegal is to increase its forest areas by 50 per cent during the next four years to help fight southward desert advance and drought. Five and a half thousand million fr CFA (about £9m) will be devoted to protecting and extending present forest areas. It was decided during a recent ministerial meeting chaired by Prime Minister Abdou Diouf.

Senegal's present forests cover 29,400 square kilometers (about 11,200 square miles) or 20 per cent of the country's land surface. By 1978, under its fourth four-year plan, the government hopes to reach 30 per cent. Modern fire-fighting equipment will be purchased to keep down bush-fires, and fire-stop spaces will be cleared. The government has also ordered more severe punishment for forest vandals. During the next four years wood and charcoal consumption will be reduced by 50 per cent with a programme to boost use of butane gas, and the people

are to be kept informed of progress. More attention will also be given to agriculture stabilisation and semi-intensive stock rearing.

UPPER VOLTA

Trade unionists set free

Four detained Upper Volta trade union leaders — B. Kabore, General Secretary of the Upper Volta Organisation of Free Trade Unions (OVSL), C. Ouedraogo, Assistant General Secretary, L. Bainogo and H. Werrem, both executive officials — have been released. They were arrested in connection with a conflict between the Government and the OVSL. A delegation of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions met the Prime Minister last month and appealed for the release of the leaders.

CAMEROON

\$48m highway

The World Bank has approved a loan of \$24.0m, and its soft-loan affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA), has

approved a \$24.0m. credit to help finance a second highway project in the United Republic of Cameroon. The country's location on the Gulf of Guinea, at the junction of West and Equatorial Africa, makes it an important gateway for its landlocked neighbours: Chad, and to a lesser extent, the Central African Republic. The distances between Cameroon's principal agricultural areas and the sea are great.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is providing technical assistance for the project.

The World Bank loan will be for a term of 25 years including a five-year grace period with interest at 7½ per cent. The IDA credit will be for a term of 50 years including 10 years of grace; it will be interest free but a service charge of 1 per cent will be made to cover administrative costs.

ZAIRE

Death penalty abolished

The death penalty has been abolished in Zaire. President Mobutu has

announced this in a press statement. Swiss journalists pointed out that it was approved by parliament and promulgated by limited to abolished capital punishment. The President said on the same occasion that the Government did not intend to nationalise foreign banks.

IN BRIEF

M. Gaetan Doucoure, Mauritanian Foreign Minister and Chairman of the ECOWA Ministerial Council, has written in reply to a question about withdrawals from the ECOWA that the articles of agreement provided for withdrawal and "there is nothing we are doing about it".

● Mauritania's Prime Minister M. Abdou Aziz Bah, has said that the international community understood the dimensions of the drought disaster in the

o Marcel Yondo, Technical Adviser to President Mobutu, has been named Director of the Central Bank of Cameroon.

● M. Jean Le Gall, former Counsellor to the French Embassy in Tananarive, has been named Ambassador to CAR.

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