RECEIVED
30 MAY 1980

WEST AFRICA

West Africa No. 3279
26 May 1980

Recommended Prices: U.K. 30p, Nigeria 60 kobo, Ghana 3 cedis, Sierra Leone 90 cents, Liberia 1 dollar, The Gambia 1.50 dalasi, CFA countries 250 francs, U.S.A./Canada US $1.25

Search for new oil

Split in trade unions

Amnesty report on Zaire

Who's Who in Freetown

Our tradition: to continue rendering true service to a progressive nation

In 1962 we pioneered the manufacture of paints in Nigeria. Since then, we have also pioneered most of the developments in several aspects of the Nigerian paint industry. We have grown too from one factory plant to two with well over twenty depots all over the country.

Our extensive distributive channels run by reputable Nigerians (thus further creating employment for thousands of Nigerians) have helped us considerably to ensure stable supplies to our numerous consumers — individual and corporate — all over Nigeria.

Mindful of the high level of manpower demanded by the paint manufacturing industry, we have continously trained and developed our staff at both management and technical levels.

Not only have we go[ne] public thereby enabling thousands of [Nige]rians to share in our growth, we also [have] attained a very high level of Nigeriani[sation] at managerial levels within the Comp[any].

As we move into more competitive years ahead, and believing in the continued patronage of millions of our consumers in further enhacning our existence, we would continue to render true service to a progressive nation.

Our name:

Berger Paints Nigeria Limited

BERGER
-the Paintmakers

Stability and change

QUESTIONS about the difference between stability and longevity (as regards West African regimes) have been dramatically raised by the news that there has been an attempt on the life of President Sékou Touré of Guinea (two grenades thrown at a public celebration, the one landing near the President failing to explode and the other killing one man and wounding 30) and that an assassination plot against President Houphouet-Boigny has been detected in Ivory Coast. The events in Liberia have also provided food for thought (indigestible food, some might say). The conclusion that is indicated is the apparent paradox that true stability comes from an ability to change.

The case of Liberia is particularly instructive, indicating that professed willingness to change is not enough: urgent measures are sometimes needed if "the blind fury of destruction" (to quote Dr. Boima Fahnbulleh, one of the leading opponents of the Tolbert regime and now Minister of Education) is to be avoided. Liberia used often to boast to overseas businessmen of its stability: the True Whig Party had been in power over 100 years with, before the rice riots of April 14, 1979, few overt signs of the intense public discontent that was brewing beneath the surface. The degree of corruption that inevitably comes from such a long time in power was also seldom emphasised in comments on Liberia. The events of April 12 this year have shown conclusively that the boasted "stability" was in fact only a thin crust at the top of a volcano. The subsequent explosion, and the events in Guinea and Ivory Coast, raise desperate doubts about the value of a static "stability", which is (in Zaire, for instance) what institutions such as the World Bank tend to admire and what western governments sometimes find themselves trapped into defending.

There is no doubt that there are new winds of change blowing in Africa. To quote Dr Fahnbulleh again (he was speaking of Liberia, but his remarks apply elsewhere as well): "The society is in a state of ferment because the developing consciousness of the people has outstripped the institutions which were designed to cater for the consciousness of a different historical era." A similar point was made last week by the man who has ruled longest in Africa, President Ahidjo of Cameroon, who came to power in 1958 before independence. Speaking at the beginning of his fifth consecutive term as President, he said that for young nations the present time was "not only marked with a serious crisis of growth and by widespread economic crisis, but even by a crisis of civilisation, an era fraught with more uncertainty and disquiet than with certainty and confidence ..." He talked of Cameroon's "peaceful revolution" of May 20, 1972, and said, "We determined that our revolution should be peaceful, never violent, tumultuous or boisterous, never destructive or hustling but ... fundamentally dedicated to gradual but certain improvement of material and moral living conditions of Cameroonians".

The more conservative regimes of Africa shy away from words like "revolution", but the fact is that the OAU Plan of Action, approved by all African states at the special summit in Lagos last month, contains within its recommendations certain extremely radical solutions, implying a fairer distribution of income, an ending of elitism and a turning away from the "capitalist" IMF solutions of the West; the Plan of Action might be taken as another reflection of the "state of ferment", second wind of change, or whatever one wishes to call it.

The important thing is that the structures of government in the states of Africa should be open to change without disruption and upheaval, and should be responsive to the wishes of the people and the currents of feeling flowing through the continent. Nigeria and Ghana are fortunate in having new constitutions specifically designed to allow for democracy in an African context. The great test of the new constitutions is going to be their ability to allow for peaceful change. They demand of people a certain amount of patience; having elected a government, the voters have to wait four years before they have a chance of realising they have made a mistake and trying some other combination of political talent. But if democracy is working well, that patience is a small price to ask.

President Senghor, during his visit last week to Lagos, advocated multi-party democracy for Africa (his system in Senegal limits the number of parties that are permitted and prescribes the points of view they are to represent, but it does provide for a diversity of view). It is possible, however, for a one-party system to allow for a degree of democracy, for a reflection of the different views of the people and for the possibility of change. Tanzania is often held up as an example. Sierra Leone will have much attention paid to its system during the OAU summit at the beginning of July.

One of the big problems of all systems has been providing for a leader to step down after a period in office and allow someone else to take over. A few months ago, when announcing that he was retiring from active politics, Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, former President of Nigeria and leader of the NPP party, said that one of the causes of political upheavals in Africa was over-staying at the helm of affairs by leaders. He added that power intoxicates. It certainly tends to corrupt. An excellent provision of both the Nigerian and Ghanaian constitutions is that a President must stand down after two terms. It is worth reflection in Guinea, Ivory Coast and elsewhere that would-be assassins are encouraged if there appears to be no hope of a man being constitutionally displaced.

A new motto needs to be hung in the government offices of Africa saying: "STABILITY IS CHANGE".

CONTENTS

Comment: Amnesty's case against Zaire: Children lead way to freedom	912
Nigeria: Prospecting for oil	913
OAU Plan of Action: food and agriculture	915
African films at Cannes	918
The Gambia: Oral historian of genius	919
Matchet's Diary	921
Ghana's timber trouble	922
Benin: Emergence of new government	923
Split in Nigeria's trade unions	924
Canadian African studies	926
Books and publications: Who's Who in Sierra Leone	928
Letters	933
Economic and business news	936
Dateline Africa: Shugaba gives evidence; Ghana's new deal on agriculture	943

Published weekly by the Proprietors West Africa Publishing Company Limited. © 1980 53 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2PD. Telephone 01-236 3381 Cables Wesnews London EC1 Telex 27950. Editor Kenneth Mackenzie. Typesetting and Printing by The Chesham Press Ltd., 16 German Street, Chesham, Buckinghamshire. Registered at the Post Office

Amnesty's case against Zaire

PRESIDENT MOBUTU Sese Seko has been the "Guide" of the people of Zaire since 1965, and he is normally credited with having held the country together after the turmoil of the first four years of its independence. But as Amnesty International says, this has been "... at considerable human cost, not only because of the number of people killed during rebellions against his government, but also on account of the massive repression carried out by security forces after outbreaks of rebellion ... and the routine repression of suspected opponents and critics of the government".

On the basis of Zaire's immense mineral resources, three main results have occurred: firstly, Zaire is one of the most heavily indebted nations under the tutelage of the International Monetary Fund; secondly, the standard of living for ordinary people has been falling drastically and wages in Kinshasa are estimated to be worth 10 per cent of what they were in 1960; and thirdly, President Mobutu is alleged to be one of the richest men in the world. Schematic and rapid as the presentation may sound, those three results are related and summarise a regime and a people whose interests seem diametrically opposed. Unfortunately for the Zairois people, the strategic position of the country in the heart of Africa as well as President Mobutu's ideological inclinations have made preservation of his regime a constant feature of Western policy in the central and southern African area. Late last year, President Mobutu launched the "Mobutu Plan" to reconstruct the economy. The plan requires massive financing from the World Bank, the EEC, the US, Saudi Arabia, Canada and Japan. There is little reason to believe that the funds will be more efficiently used than in the past.

Amnesty International has just published a report on *Human Rights Violations in Zaire* (available from the British Section of Amnesty International, Tower House, Southampton Street, London WC2) which describes in some detail the nature of President Mobutu's regime and the fate of people who dare criticise. Zaire is a military state basically governed by "Mobutu's law" which provides for a largely undisciplined Armed Force who are often terrorists at the service of the existing order, arbitrary detentions, torture, frequent use of the death penalty for criminal and political offences, a judiciary suited to the task, and a National Documentation Centre to pursue "state research" in arrests of opponents of the regime at home and surveillance of them abroad.

The most notorious prison camp in recent years has been Ekafera in the Equateur region which holds between 400-500 detainees, most of them without trial. Amnesty describes the main cellblock there as being "infested with insects, rats and parasites. Prisoners sleep on the ground. Most of the cells are ventilated by a gap between the walls and roof; however, there is also a punishment cell which has no windows or means of ventilation, in which prisoners have sometimes been left to die ... Living conditions both in cells and outside are reported to be extremely harsh, and many detainees suffer from malnutrition, vitamin deficiencies and such diseases as malaria and dysentry. Hundreds of prisoners are known to have died there over the past few years."

Amnesty International hopes that by this report, President Mobutu will be encouraged to improve human rights in Zaire. Doubtlessly, their hope is shared by the people of Zaire, too many of whom are passing away while President Mobutu, (still quite young at 50) remains.

PATERSON ZOCHONIS
Serving West Africa for nearly 100 years
Paterson, Zochonis and Company Ltd. (And Subsidiaries)
Widely Established Throughout Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Republic of Guinea, Cameroon Republic
Head Office Bridgewater House, 60 Whitworth Street, Manchester 1
Paris Office 131 Boulevard Haussman, Paris 8e
Department Stores
Manufacturers
Distributive Services
Industrial Enterprises

Children lead way to freedom

A DEMONSTRATION of schoolchildren in Bloemfontein, South Africa, led to police opening fire on a crowd, killing one man and seriously wounding two women. Schoolchildren in several black areas are maintaining a boycott of schools in protest against racial inequality in education. The movement was led by children classified as "Coloureds" in South Africa (that is, children of mixed descent). Thousands of them have temporarily ended their month-long boycott after giving the government until June 6 to remedy their grievances. The disturbances recall the Soweto riots of June 16, 1976, when schoolchildren, this time objecting on the specific point that the authorities wished to have them taught in Afrikaans, which they regarded as the language of oppression, came out on the streets and defied the guns of the police. This resulted in disorders that continued for six months, in 600 known deaths (perhaps as many as 1,000 in fact) and in damage running into millions of pounds. It also shook the apparently secure apartheid regime to its foundations.

It is significant that schoolchildren are once again leading the active resistance to the regime. Discrimination in education is one of the most clearly visible injustices (the fact that South African education for blacks is better than the education offered in some African countries to the north is irrelevant) and children are not conditioned to accept the intolerable. Their protests put in perspective the alleged reforms that Botha's government is carrying out. Black and white athletes might run hand in hand round South African tracks; "whites only" notices might be removed from park benches; there might be an easing on trade union restrictions and more opportunities for skilled work; but a new generation can see clearly that life is impossible while the basic racial insult of white power remains.

The young in boycotting their classes are teaching a lesson to their elders.

Prospecting for oil in Nigeria

In the first of two articles on the Nigerian oil industry Martin Quinlan, of the *Petroleum Economist*, looks at the prospects for a new attitude towards oil companies over exploration and financial arrangements. (As *West Africa* went to press it was uncertain whether Nigeria might raise its oil prices — following the latest moves by Libya and Algeria — so the figures in this article are based on the prices at the beginning of last week.)

OILMEN IN LAGOS were hoping last month for another offer of exploration acreage this year, similar to that of summer 1979 — but on terms more appropriate to the risks to be carried. Their hopes were given substance by the confirmation of a Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation source that another offer is in preparation, and that terms might be relaxed in order to attract companies into the more remote regions, away from the supply bases in the coastal delta area. But although the government is anxious for oil exploration to be extended into new areas, some of which still have received only superficial attention from the oil companies, the present turmoil affecting NNPC could well postpone the offer until late this year or even into 1981.

As previously reported in *West Africa*, senior NNPC management are currently suspended from their posts pending the outcome of government enquiries into the alleged loss of oil revenues amounting to $2,800m or more. The money will prove, most probably, not to be missing, what the American accountants from the firm Coopers and Lybrand found, when called in by General Obasanjo last summer, was that NNPC's books were so incomplete that it was not possible to ascertain that revenues to this total had been correctly recorded. It was also found that transactions between the state company and a number of foreign oil firms were either sketchily recorded or not recorded at all. The affair may well turn out to be less of a scandal than it appears, but in the meantime oilmen are being badly hampered by the impossibility of meeting NNPC management for routine operational approvals, and long-term planning is at a standstill.

But — and unofficially — NNPC sources were able to clarify some policy matters last month. First, it seems that there is no move for the present to raise Nigeria's oil output above the present rate of approximately 2.15m barrels/day. (Actual figures are 2.148m. b/d for February, 2.157m for January, and 2.304m b/d for the whole of 1979.) NNPC, and therefore also the government, regards 2.15m b/d as an "appropriate" level at the moment. It is well below Nigeria's current production capacity — output ran at over 2.4m. b/d throughout first-half 1979 — but at today's prices revenues have already reached undreamt of heights and by keeping the oil market tight the producers can keep prices up.

If output is not slated to rise, why give a boost to exploration? Partly, the answer is to see what resources exist in areas away from the delta, so that known reserves can be exploited accordingly. But there is also concern that production from the Niger delta could move towards a plateau later this decade, and from then on begin to decline gradually. If so, fields up-country will be of increasing importance.

But last year's offer of exploration acreage attracted much less interest than NNPC had hoped for. Effectively, it was throwing open the whole of its reserved acreage, comprising most Nigerian onshore territory except that already subject to oil licences, together with offshore tracts. Included were the promising Anambra, Benue, Bida, Sokoto and Chad basins. So far, however, only three companies have signed up for new territory. Agip, Italy's state-owned oil company, was awarded six blocks (on which it has now started seismic work), although it disclosed last month that Hispanoil, its proposed partner in two permit areas, had pulled out at the last moment. France's Elf, also state-owned, was awarded a concession and is also carrying out seismic work in the north for NNPC, while the American company Crown Central signed up through its Nigerian subsidiary Nigus Petroleum.

The major oil companies say that it is significant that two of the three firms agreeing to the new terms are state-owned and the third is a relatively small operator. It was not a good first move towards the government's hoped-for "two dozen new companies" exploring in Nigeria. The problem was that NNPC's terms for its new offering were just too tough to attract the majors, which more than ever need secure access to crude to feed their refining networks.

The new territory was being offered on a complicated service contract/production sharing formula, however, which according to one oilman provides for "only two tanker-loads of oil from a 30,000 b/d field" as the oil company's entitlement, after cost recovery. But if there were no commercial finds, the company would have to carry all of the exploration costs, the NNPC stipulated. For all but three companies, it just was not worth the risk.

NNPC now admits, however, that its new terms resulted in far fewer takers than expected, and a spokesman recognised that a much higher proportion of profit oil will have to be conceded to encourage companies to make the move north. Although the past year's more-than-doubling of oil prices has improved the prospects for concessions near to the Niger delta and in the shallow offshore, oil companies point out that returns under the new terms are still inadequate to justify the high costs of transporting heavy drilling equipment into less accessible regions. Finds in the northerly basins — Sokoto and Chad in particular — would also be costly to exploit, in view of the distance from export terminals on the coast, although NNPC envisages the construction of another inland refinery to process the crude near to its source, products being distributed in the northern states by pipeline.

But while oil companies are pressing for better terms for new exploration acreage, the equity producers — with a financial stake in joint ventures with NNPC — are also finding their profits squeezed. Shell, Gulf, Mobil, Agip-Phillips, Elf and Texaco-Chevron now operate with 60 per cent state participation — 80 per cent in the case of Shell, following the nationalisation of BP's 20 per cent holding last year. By owning 40 per cent (20 per cent in the case of Shell) of the equity, the foreign oil companies are entitled to the same share of production, the remainder going to the government through NNPC. But the government takes tax and royalty on the oil companies' shares of production, at the rate of 20 per cent royalty and 85 per cent petroleum production tax. (Royalty payments are an allowable expense against tax, however, and lower rates of royalty apply in the case of offshore production, to compensate for higher costs. The tax rate in the case of new fields, also, is lowered to 65.75 per cent for an initial period, to allow a measure of cost recovery.)

The problem for the equity producers is that the nominal profit margin allowed to the foreign companies by the government, and also the government's figure for production costs (which, like royalty, are an expense allowable against tax) have now fallen below what the oil companies regard as acceptable. Production costs allowed in the government's tax calculations, for example, are $1.10 per barrel — up from the previous $1 per barrel, but still less than the actual cost of producing oil from some fields. In contrast to the vast, easily-worked oilfields of the Arabian peninsula, Nigeria's oil is mostly found in reservoirs of small or moderate size, with nearly half of the 130 fields currently producing having flowed less than 5m barrels annually (under 14,000 b/d) at peak. Oil companies accordingly are faced with much higher exploration costs per barrel of output than is the case in, say, the Middle East, and costs are increased further by the extreme difficulties of working in the swampy terrain of the Niger delta.

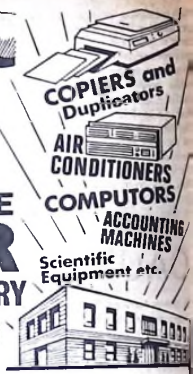
The government applies its royalty and tax calculations to the "posted" price for Nigerian crude. As from April 1 this year, the posted price for Nigeria's key grade, Bonny Light 37° API, was raised to $38.325 per barrel, tax paid cost for the companies' equity oil, using the government's assumption on production cost, works out at $33.91 per barrel. Against this, the current state sales price for Bonny Light is $34.71, giving the companies a profit margin of just 80 cents per barrel (the difference between the two figures).

This is the level to which nominal profits were increased under the package of fiscal inventives introduced by then-Colonel M. Buhari with effect from April 1, 1977, par-

YOU need a GALATREK AC MAINS VOLTAGE STABILISER

in your HOME, OFFICE or FACTORY

- keeps everything working right - all the time!



AK 7, 10 and 15

THE ALL IN ONE Galatrek Voltstab FLAGSHIP OF THE RANGE providing whole house stabilisation for all electric appliances and lights for all electric in factories Also useful in factories Up to 15,000 watts with internal low voltage cutout for maximum protection

AC 20 and AC 35

The Galatrek Voltstab Stabiliser model for Air Conditioning and lower power processing keeps your units at peak performance all the time down to 143 volts.

C1

The ultimate cut-out to protect your air-conditioner at high and low volts PLUS a vital 2 minute delay before start up and all **fully automatic**. For ONLY £26 you have lifetime protection for your compressor.

GALATREK ENGINEERING

Galatrek Engineering are proud to announce for the first time a "low cost" and extremely efficient range of AC Mains Voltage Stabilisers — with internal low voltage cutout giving protection to home, office and factory electrical equipment, including electronic circuitry which eliminates the possibility of damage to the Stabiliser caused by low voltage mains supply. New advanced patented design of outstanding efficiency. You do not any longer need to have two or more stabilisers around the house (or offices, or small factory). You DO need just ONE Galatrek model to keep everything working just right — ALL the time.

Also standard saturable reactorstabilisers and cutouts for all purposes, or made to specific power needs.

Contact: R. Koffler, Dept. E1

Also available special models for TV, Colour TV, Fridges, Deep Freezers, 3-phase industrial and all types of AC mains stabilisation with and without cut out protection.

There is also a special range for computers and business machines.

GALATREK ENGINEERING

SCOTLAND STREET, LLANRWST, NORTH WALES, GT. BRITAIN
Telex 617114. AB. Galahu
Telephone 0492 640311

tially redressing the decline from around $1 per barrel in 1975 to less than half of this amount in the following year. But over the past three years the costs of exploration and production have increased dramatically, while access to sale-back crude has declined, forcing the companies to turn to higher-cost alternatives to meet their refining commitments. (Sale-back crude is a part of the government's share of production, some of which up to 1976 was made available to the companies at an official discount. Sale-back crude now changes hands at the prevailing state sales price, and there is talk of volumes being curtailed further.)

Actual profitability — as opposed to the government's figure for nominal profitability — has declined as a result, with one company quoting a figure of as low as 40 cents per barrel (depending on the operating costs of individual fields). A realistic nominal figure, the producers argue, should now be about $1.10, if the production cost allowance is not to be increased above $1.10 per barrel.

NNPC's response to the pressure for increased equity profitability, together with developments in the "downstream" sector (refining and petrochemicals), will be covered in a continuation article.

OAU's plan for food

A drive towards self-sufficiency in food production is one of the main recommendations of the Plan of Action agreed at the OAU's special summit in Lagos last month. This, the second in a series of articles, is a slightly shortened version of the "Food and Agriculture" section of the document passed by the conference.

OVER THE last two decades, and at a time the African Continent is facing a rapid growth in population and urbanisation, the food and agriculture situation in Africa has undergone a drastic deterioration, the food production and consumption per person has fallen below nutritional requirements.

The shortfall in food production, coupled with high levels of post-harvest losses and periodic severe shortages, have led to rapidly increasing dependence on food imports, resulting in a drain on foreign exchange resources and creating serious major constraints in financing the development of African economies. At the root of the food problem in Africa is the fact that Governments have not usually accorded the necessary priority to agriculture both in the allocation of resources, and in giving sufficient attention to policies for the promotion of productivity and improvement of rural life.

For an improvement of the food situation in Africa, the fundamental requisite is a strong political will to channel a greatly increased volume of resources to agriculture, to carry through essential reorientations of social systems, to apply policies that will induce small farmers and members of agricultural co-operatives to achieve higher levels of productivity, and to set up effective machineries for the formulation of relevant programmes and for their execution. The development of agriculture, however, should not be considered in isolation, but rather integrated within the economic and social development processes. Emphasis should also be put on the later aspect particularly the problem of improving the conditions of rural life.

For an effective agricultural revolution in Africa, it is essential to involve the youth, and to arrest the rural to urban drift. Policies have to consistently emphasise the need not only to improve the living conditions on the farms but also to increase farm real incomes as a means of making agriculture more attractive and remunerative. New dimensions of inter-country co-operation are called for, but primary responsibility for a break-through in food and agriculture lies with individual Governments operating in their respective national contexts.

Over the years 1980-85, the objective should be to bring about immediate improvement in the food situation and to lay the foundations for the achievement of self-sufficiency in cereals and in livestock and fish products. Priority action should be directed at securing a substantial reduction in food wastage, attaining a markedly higher degree of food security, and bringing about a large and sustained increase in the production of food, especially of tropical cereals with due emphasis on the diversification of agricultural production. Urgent measures are recommended in each of these areas.

Losses

The objective should be to make significant progress towards the achievement of a 50 per cent reduction in post-harvest losses.

Recommended action includes:

— careful assessment of the extent of food losses;

— formulation of national policies for food loss reduction;

— mass media campaigns to educate the public on methods of reducing food waste;

— construction of appropriate storage processing and other facilities;

— establishment of central technical units;

— promotion (through research, infrastructural development, and incentives to farmers and fishermen) of improved methods of drying, preservation, storage, pest control, and processing;

— improvement of livestock routes and holding grounds;

— training of technical staff for food loss control work, preferably through sub-regional/regional institutions, seminars and workshops.

Security

Most African countries should aim, as a first step, at setting up national strategic

"K" LINE

KAWASAKI KISEN KAISHA LTD
(Tokyo & Kobe)

JAPAN to and from WEST AFRICA

(via Hong Kong and Singapore)

Calling at Lagos (Apapa), Port Harcourt, Matadi, Abidjan, Douala, Lome

General Agents in Europe

KAWASAKI (LONDON) Ltd.
17 St. Helen's Place,
London EC3A 6EH

Tel: 01-638 3486 Telex 888888

food reserves of the order of 10 per cent of total food production.

Urgent steps should be taken by every African country to adopt a coherent national food security policy. National policies must be translated into concrete actions such as early construction of storage facilities, creation of grain reserves, improvement of grain stock management and better forecasting and early warning systems.

The need for collective self-reliance will require subregional food security arrangements similar to the one initiated in the Sahelian zone. In addition, it is recommended that African countries should examine the feasibility of setting up an African Food Relief Support with a view to assist member countries in times of food emergency.

Production

Food development must be promoted in an integrated manner, and should take into consideration the problem of transportation and distribution of farm products at the level of consumers. And food self-sufficiency should take into consideration the nutritional values of food stuffs and solve simultaneously the problems of under and malnutrition.

The set-up of agricultural production should be based on adequate and realistic agrarian reform programmes consistent with the political and social conditions prevailing in respective countries. Improved organisation of agricultural production must be given a priority so as to increase agricultural production and productivity.

The OAU in co-operation with the ECA, FAO, IFAD, WFP and other relevant international organisations should carry out studies and make recommendations to the next economic summit on the establishment of regional food trade and distribution organisations.

Crops

All African countries should adopt necessary measures for the implementation of regional food plan for Africa adopted by African Ministers of Agriculture. The main immediate objective should be to bring about quantitative and qualitative improvement in food crops production (cereals, fruits, tubers, oil seeds, vegetables etc.), with a view to replacing a sizeable proportion of the presently imported products. Besides, the production of these food products should be encouraged in countries which have the potential for these crops. More particularly so as to replace the increasing demand for wheat and barley, special attention should be to the cultivation of cereals such as millet, maize and sorghum.

Areas in which urgent action is recommended include:

— promotion of better agricultural practices, particularly the intensive use of improved input packages and plant protection measures;

— modification of the techno-economic structures of production so as to provide the small farmers and members of agricultural co-operatives with the necessary incentives to increase production;

— better utilisation of water for irrigated cereals on ongoing irrigation schemes, and initiation of new schemes:

— soil and water conservation;

— flood control and drainage;

— intensification of the use of improved hand tools and drought animals, and promotion of mechanised farming where justified;

— physical infrastructural development including the building of small bridges, dams, access and feeder roads and the improvement of education, health and other social facilities, much of which at this stage should, as far as possible, be undertaken through voluntary self-help participation.

Livestock

The main areas in which increased support is recommended in the immediate future are:

— training: establishment of subregional training centres and workshops on livestock production, slaughterhouse practices, and poultry and small stock development;

— animal health: establishment of specialised trypanosomiasis control units, improving productivity of trypanotolerant breeds, and integrated development of areas freed from tse-tse, establishment of vaccine production facilities and an effective regional quarantine system; establishment of sub-regional research centres in tick-borne disease; and improvement of laboratory services and disease surveillance systems;

— animal breeding,

— control and eradication of foot and mouth disease;

— controlled grazing and range management;

— development of animal feed; and,

— infrastructural development.

Fisheries

The target should be to increase annual fish production from African waters by one million tons by 1985, which should permit a rise of one kilogram in the level of average annual fish consumption per person between now and 1985.

Incomes/prices

It is strongly recommended that governments undertake the formulation and application of effective and coherent policies to ensure that prices of farm inputs and farm produce provide an adequate incentive for increasing food production particularly by small farmers, while safeguarding the interest of the poorer consumers at the same time. Similarly, the individual activities entailed in the recommended programme of action should be designed and implemented with a view to ensuring a beneficial income distribution impact on the rural poor. In particular, efforts should be made to reduce the widening gaps in income between the rich and the poor in the rural areas.

Forestry

The objective should be to integrate forestry more closely with agriculture, to ensure adequate supplies of fuelwood and

Manchester Business School

University of Manchester, England

Senior Bankers' Course
3 Weeks: 28 September – 17 October, 1980. (4 October – 23 October, 1981)

A programme for bankers holding (or about to attain) positions of responsibility at senior levels. After surveying the development of financial markets, institutions and technology, the programme will familiarise the participants with modern management techniques and their application from the users' point of view.

These techniques will be demonstrated in practise using data concerning the participants' own institutions. The learning process emphasises participation, each banker being expected to analyse problems and improvements of commercial relevance to his institution and his career.

Nigeria: Banking and Development Finance No. 8
12 Weeks: 5 September – 28 November, 1980.

This programme is a joint Manchester Business School/Centre for Management Development (Lagos) activity. It is intended for middle-ranking managers from Nigerian financial institutions (Commercial, Co-operative, Development, Merchant and the Central Bank, as well as other state agencies).

The course builds on the fundamentals of accounting, project appraisal and financial analysis. These fundamentals are rapidly developed and applied to the specialist operational areas relevant to the participant's sponsoring institution.

The transferability aspect of the fundamental and specialist inputs is emphasised and operationalised throughout the course but with particular attention during the project phase of the course.

These two fully residential training programmes will be held at Manchester Business School, England.
All MBS courses are applied, practical training programmes for the practitioner. Most teaching inputs are by practitioners with extensive, relevant, recent experience.

WITH RARE EXCEPTIONS, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE SPONSORED BY THEIR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE WRITE TO:
Professor D. C. Hague(W)
ICBF, Manchester Business School
Manchester M15 6PB, England.
Telephone: 061-273 8228.
Telex: 668354

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR BANKING AND FINANCE PROGRAMMES

to increase the contribution of forest resources in industrialisation.

Research

Science and technology has a pivotal role in the development of agriculture specially in connection with agronomic research, training and extension. Within the context of agronomic research special emphasis should be placed on the improvement of livestock, sheep and poultry breeds as well as the improvement of selected seeds, fertilisers, pesticides and other chemicals suitable for African conditions.

Agricultural research is crucial to the transformation of agriculture in Africa. National research systems should be strengthened, as also inter-country co-operative research programmes. Agricultural research work should be geared so as to support the objective of food self-sufficiency, and liaison between research and extension should be made more effective. It was therefore recommended that:

— agricultural research should put more emphasis on the development and spread of new technologies than has occurred in the past.

— biological innovation such as plant and livestock breeding and control of agricultural pests could substantially increase agricultural production and output in Africa. They provide more productive plant and animal species and other husbandry techniques and should be emphasised in agricultural research programmes.

— research has in the past addressed itself to a narrow spectrum of food crops and has neglected a number of food crops indigenous to Africa. Such crops are grown by a large number of the rural population and constitute a major proportion of their diet. This situation should be rectified.

— research should also be intensified in the area of root crops, tubers and soya beans, and into the improvement of production and nutritional values of all food crops.

— research should also continue for export crops which not only bring in foreign exchange necessary for development but also provides raw materials for our industries.

— special attention should be given to problems affecting food production in the semi-arid areas in order to stabilise production in this fragile eco-system. Research should develop adapted crop varieties and production systems that ensure optimal utilisation of the limited soil and water resources.

Services

Rational exploitation and development of natural resources, especially forestry and wildlife should be promoted as a means of improving food supply in the regions within the context of integrated rural development programmes.

Strong institutions should be developed for rural development planning and monitoring, data collection, provision of agricultural credit and inputs, efficient transport, marketing, agro-industrial development, and storage and processing.

Agricultural mechanisation has a priority role in the increase of agricultural production and in the modernisation of farms. However, this problem must be studied very carefully and should be related to industrial development so that it will not further increase the dependency of African countries on the developed world. In the process of agricultural mechanisation special emphasis should be put on animal traction in countries that have not yet reached the appropriate level of motorisation.

Resources

Total investments required over the 1980-85 period for the implementation of the proposed programmes amount to about $21,400m., at 1979 prices. In addition, expenditures for inputs would rise by about $560m. over the same period. This level of expenditure will form only part of the total expenditure requirements of the agriculture sector for the 1980s as contained in the document, Regional Food Plan for Africa (AFPLAN), approved by the Ministers of Agriculture in Arusha, Tanzania, in 1978 and endorsed by Heads of States in the Monrovia Declaration in 1979. Additional resources will be necessary to cover the latter half of the decade which is not covered in this Plan of Action for only 1980-85.

All African countries reaffirm their support for IFAD and WFP. They appeal to the international community to place more resources at the disposal of these organisations which should accord top priority to requests coming from African Countries.

It should be desirable to aim at financing at least 50 per cent of the investment requirements with domestic resources.

Governments should set up specific yearly goals for food and agriculture, and set up effective national and regional machineries to monitor progress towards them. At the regional level, monitoring should be an inter-agency exercise involving OAU, ECA, FAO, WFC and UNDP.

In the context of the new strategy and targets in food and agriculture, it will be necessary for a reappraisal to be made of the on-going projects that are financed from external sources with a view to ensuring that they too do contribute to the realisation of these new objectives.

The worst imperialism

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation, Mr Edouard Saouma, told the special OAU economic summit that "the tyranny of poverty and hunger" remains the worst imperialism of all.

He said FAO will make every effort to assist Africa to realise its food production potential, aiming at self-sufficiency in the shortest time possible. Mr. Saouma declared:

"My message is simple. It is that I cannot believe that you have fought so hard, so long, so victoriously to strike off the chains of colonialism and foreign domination simply in order to fall prey to the worst imperialism of all — the tyranny of poverty and hunger."

A to Z DISTRIBUTORS

We are the cheapest in London

We guarantee you that we can supply anything in Hi-Fi s. T.Vs. videos. washing machines, cookers and fridge/freezers etc, cheaper than anywhere else in the UK.

All we require from you is that you visit our showroom in person, and discuss the matter. A short visit to our showroom can save £100s and plenty of time.

Delivery is free to anywhere in London, outside London there is only a minimal charge.

We are open from 10 am to 6.30 pm Monday to Saturday

A to Z DISTRIBUTORS
70 Shepherds Bush Road
London W6
Tel 01-603 7737/602 3856
nearest underground: Hammersmith

JCTI

JAMES CROWE

TRADERS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Riverside House, Church Wharf, Corney Road, London W4 2RA
Telephone: 01-995 4671
Telex 932565

AIR & FREIGHT AGENTS
EXPORT PACKING
BUYING & CONFIRMING AGENTS
FULL DOCUMENTATION

CHARTER/SCHEDULE FLIGHTS
To Lagos and Kano only

Schedule } from 90 pence
Consolidation } per kilo
SERVICES WEEKLY TO
FREETOWN, MONROVIA, LOME, COTONOU, ACCRA, LAGOS, KANO
Rates on application

SEA FREIGHT
Ro-Ro Consolidation: Twice weekly
Conference Line: Weekly
Container Loading for Conference Line Vessels: Weekly

SERVICES TO
APAPA, SAPELE, PORT HARCOURT, WARRI, CALABAR, FREEPORT TEMA, TAKORADI etc.

Full S.G.S. Inspection Facilities Available

SUPPLIERS OF:
Agricultural Machinery, Building Materials, Pharmaceutical Products, Rice, Flour, Canned Foods etc., Motor Spare Parts, Stainless Steel Cutlery and Kitchen Equipment etc.

The food situation in Africa in the past two decades "has drastically deteriorated," Mr. Saouma said. He cited the 2 per cent annual increase in food production, overtaken by a 3 per cent increase in population; harvests remaining exposed to fluctuations of the weather; widespread and persistent pests and diseases.

"Today," Mr. Saouma said, "the average African has 10 per cent less food than 10 years ago. Average dietary standards have fallen below essential requirements. Hunger and malnutrition afflict more and more Africans. Starvation faces millions of refugees."

As a consequence, Africa was viewed by Mr. Saouma as becoming increasingly dependent on food imports. They are estimated to rise to 15m. tons in 1985, from 11m. tons in 1978.

Mr. Saouma urged "the highest development priority" for food and agriculture in national and regional economic planning. He particularly cited changes in favour of "the presently inequitably treated rural poor", asking that they be made "the agents as well as the beneficiaries of development instead of the victims of further impoverishment.

"The greater part of our comparatively small resources is usually devoted to Africa," Mr Saouma said, adding that he would make every effort to maintain and even increase them. Among examples he gave were Africa's share in the last two years of 82 per cent of the assistance provided by FAO under its Food Security Assistance Scheme and 434 projects totalling $175m. from FAO's Technical Co-operation Programme and Special Action Programmes.

A scene from the Cameroonian film, "Notre Fille"

African films at the Cannes Film Festival

THIS YEAR saw the largest African representation yet at the Cannes Film Festival. There were four new West African films and one Malagasy film screened at the 20th *Marché du Film*. They were not in the main competition but were shown to stimulate direct sales and to make more contacts for African film producers. This initiative was sponsored and organised by the Direction de la Coopération, the French equivalent of the Overseas Development Administration. They had set up a stand in the Palais du Festival offering catalogues, photos, posters and information on all of the films. *Nuages Noirs* was incorrectly listed under Nigeria instead of Niger, but perhaps this served as a useful reminder of the complete absence of films from the Anglophone West African countries.

The French, pursuing their passionate love for the cinema, have made a positive and financial contribution to the development of the cinema industry in the Francophone countries, something that the British have neglected in any of their aid programmes. The French provide grants and scholarships for study in France, funds for research and shooting and help with the promotion and distribution of films.

The problem of distribution is a serious one, and one that precludes many of the films from being screened in Africa. The film market in West Africa is small by international standards and the cinemas are scattered over a wide area where communications, climate and infrastructural facilities hamper the efficient distribution of films. Until quite recently a few French companies such as ASECMA and COMACICO have monopolised the region with third-rate karate, Indian and French gangster films to the point where they now say that their African audiences do not like African films. Perhaps if the new Consortium Interafrican de Distribution Cinématographique (CIDC), directed by

Inoussa Ousseini breaks this monopoly, the films screened at Cannes may soon be made available to African audiences.

Niger's *Nuages Noirs* by Djingarey Maga is a feature film on the paranoia, jealousy and corruption that pervades employment in the public sector and the struggle for justice against the power of money and nepotism. The film is set in Niamey under the former regime and opens with a young customs officer being arrested and charged for the rape of a 14-year-old girl, the daughter of his boss, the customs director. In contrast to this serious drama Daniel Kamwa presents *Notre Fille* from Cameroon, a light-hearted and amusing portrayal of the contradictions of traditional beliefs in modern times. Here the family, who have saved up to send one of their many children to study in France await anxiously for the return of their "wealthy" daughter. But instead of bringing back money and prestigious contacts for the family she returns to work as an assistant in a small-scale agricultural project. The vivid colours, music and gay personalities create a much warmer and more optimistic view of contemporary African life than the majority of films, which express only the problems and injustices within a developing economy.

It is unclear whether *Sey Seyeti (Un Homme, Des Femmes)* by Ben Diogaye Beye of Senegal attracted a full house in the Palais studio out of genuine interest or out of the critics' curiousity about the sexual myths of polygamy. The film is a semi-documentary with fragmented scenes from everyday life in Dakar. The different characters all live in a working-class neighbourhood where everybody knows everybody. The story of Nder, a Moslem in his fifties who is suffering from the growing antagonisms between his two wives, is used as a link between the different stories. Fatoh, a teenager compelled by her parents to marry an older man, vows to get divorced one day to marry her young lover Poop, promising him "even if that day you happened to be married I should still agree to be your second wife". Poop in the meantime gets married and shocks his bride as he unexpectedly declares before the marriage registrar that he wants to opt for a bigamous rather than a monogamous contract. Ironically Fatoh, through discussions with her girlfriends, changes her mind about society and finally tells him that men should learn to be satisfied with one spouse. In Senegal where the revival of Islam is already having an impact on attitudes towards marriage and where more and more young men seem to be keeping their options open to have up to four wives, this film should prove a good starting off point for discussion.

The other feature film *Kasso Den (The Prisoner)* by Sega Coulibaly of Mali, tells the story of Tierno, an accountant who was unfairly sentenced to 15 years hard labour for the embezzlement of funds. He encounters many difficulties on being re-integrated into society after his 15 years in prison. Lacking money and contacts and with no job prospects he is overcome by desperation and revenge which only leads to a sorry end. There is a moving portrayal of his young son who worships him and follows him everywhere.

The fifth film *Fitampoha* is about the bathing ceremony of royal relics in Madagascar, representing a political institution of the former kingdom of Sakalara-Menabe which disappeared at the time of the colonial conquest during the late 19th century. The ceremony held every ten years brings together from all over the island of Madagascar the numerous clans of people that constitute the kingdom. The film is a joint venture between Jean-Claude Rahaga the Director of l'Office Malguche de Cinema and a French producer Jacques Lombard. It attempts to show how the past is alive in the present, and how social and economic structures are related to traditional beliefs. The ceremony corresponds to a symetric inversion of the world of the living with the world of their ancestors, and it allows the participants to relive the history of their kingdom and to recall why certain traditions and forms of behaviour still exist today. The songs echo the words:

The kings are dead
We have secured their relics
For seven days
The Festival
Mingling past and present

A fitting verse perhaps for recalling that there are many hidden images in African films which pass directly from the oral traditions on to the screen in a rich language of symbols, style and time that is uniquely African.

The story of an oral historian of genius

By a correspondent in The Gambia

IN AFRICA, says the Malian author Hampathe Ba, when an old man dies it is like setting a whole library on fire and burning it down. If Mbalifele Janneh, the octogenerian sage of Bakau who died last month was no library, he was certainly a good number of books combined.

Mbalifele belonged to that breed of oral historians who are repositories of knowledge in traditional African communities. In situations where history is remembered rather than written, and where knowledge in general is handed down by word of mouth, the demise of an exceptionally knowledgeable man like Mbalifele is an event of the most serious consequence.

One of Mbalifele's special qualities was in the range of his specialisations. He could freely recount the history of other ethnic groups such as the Jolas and Manjagoes just

MATCH THE GEORGES TO THE OCCASION AND YOU COULD CHOOSE A WHOLE NEW WARDROBE FOR YOURSELF

NEW DESIGNS
CONCORD
CORONATION
NIAGARA FALLS
DISNEY WORLD
BIG WHEEL
GRANDSTAND
GOOD LUCK
BLESSINGS
CONGRATULATION
SWEETHEART
LOVE AFFAIR
LOVERS LANE

SUPER FINE
GEORGES

iana ltd.

Invites you to view our latest designs at our new showroom
GEORGES HOUSE
47 DALE STREET, MANCHESTER M1 2HF
near Piccadilly Stn. Tel: 061-236 2705

as well as he could for his own group, the Mandinkas. He was particularly knowledgeable of the histories of Kombo and Niumi. He was an eloquent social historian and an undisputed authority on the history of Bakau itself. In his latter years his home, Janneh Kunda in Bakau, became a frequently-visited centre for research students from Gambia and foreign institutions. They received from him in-depth information on any of his special areas. Those who sought knowledge on the mysterious crocodile pool, Katchikali, or the other animist shrines like Baba Ndeban and Mama Koto got it from Mbahfele's mouth.

Another of his qualities was his continuing search for knowledge. It is a truism that only good learners can make fine teachers of themselves. The giver of knowledge is one who himself constantly receives it. Mbalifele Janneh never ceased to be a learner; he was a permanent student in the broad sense of the word. His enquiring mind was ceaselessly busy in search of knowledge. But he was also critical and selective in the facts and materials he accepted as true and digested into his repertoire of history.

He told no contradictory stories. His facts were always found to be well balanced and plausible.

Mbalifele, who is survived by a wife, two sons, two daughters and ten grandchildren, came of a long line of Koranic scholars, the Jannehs who, according to oral tradition, migrated "from the East" (Mali) seven generations ago.

The youngest of Subu Janneh's 21 children, he was the only son of the former

Mbalifele Janneh, Gambian repository of knowledge.

Imam of Bakau who was prepared for religious leadership. He was well versed in the Koran, and he inherited from his marabout father many powers, notably that of healing sick children. For many years, until he himself was incapacitated by illness, his home drew a constant stream of patients that made his place sometimes look like the waiting room of a modern clinic.

As a healer, Mbalifele should not be confused with the hackneyed medicine man, the quack who is adept at exploiting the credulity and fears of his victims. His treatment was essentially based on the use of herbs and roots whose efficiency have been tested over long years of practice.

Earlier in his youth Mbahfele had found favour with two influential chiefs of Bakau, first with Njaga Camara and later with Jereba Touray. For both of these he worked as a trusted and strong right-hand man. Soon after he became associated with Njaga Camara in 1934 he established himself as an adroit detective. He successfully investigated many crimes for his chief during the troubled days of the Second World War. One remarkable case in which he operated was the alleged murder of one Samba Sil, a civilian, by the soldier Bangali Dabo — a case that caused much commotion in the Bakau of 1936.

Mbalifele was sent after the fleeing accused into what was then Portuguese Guinea. That legendary manhunt kept Mbalifele away from home for two years. When he returned in 1938 he brought no accused with him and fate of Bangali Dabo remains a mystery to this day. There are those who said Mbalifele knew everything about that case but, for reasons better known to himself, chose to say nothing about it.

That famous trip of Mbalifele's was one of several he had undertaken abroad on various missions. His frequent visits to the Portuguese colony of the time enabled him to learn and speak Guinean Creole as well as some indigenous Guinean languages served him well in his detective work. Under both chiefs of Bakau, right up to the abolition of the chieftancy in 1945 with Jereba, Mabalifele always played a leading role whether as a secret agent, a tax collector or a constable overseeing law and order in the socially ravaged Bakau of the thirties and forties.

After the Second World War Mbalifele saw himself working in the CDC project of the Protectorate, as a head labourer. Later he was seconded to the Agriculture Department where he remained until 1960 when he retired.

In retirement Mbalifele was not content with living with the past and doing little in the present. On the contrary, he became socially involved, perhaps even more active than ever before. Just about the time nationalist politics was taking a new turning with the era of independence approaching. The head of the Janneh Kunda Kabilo was readily involved in politics and became organiser, animator and chairman of the Bakau branch of the People's Progressive Party, a position he held until his death.

Mbalifele Janneh had many positive sides to his life. He distinguished himself in various ways, but it is as an oral historian of rare genius that he will be most remembered.

IF YOU ARE RETURNING HOME

contact us now

We are experts in getting your personal effects shipped home on time and in one piece. You may want to send just your car, fridge or furniture home or, all your household effects.

If so, contact us for Low Rates and personal service. Telephone or write at once to

RADIUS

Shipping and Forwarding Ltd.,
60, Lewisham Way,
London SE14
Telephone 01-691 0931

Matchet's Diary

THE GOVERNOR of Ogun State, Chief Bisi Onabanjo, has been in his time a distinguished journalist and editor, and it is hardly surprising that he has strong views about the present state of Nigerian journalism. This was one subject in a discussion I had with him in London last week. Chief Onabanjo was stopping in Britain on his way home from a holiday at a Rumanian Black Sea resort. The holiday, he said, has not been an unqualified success; the weather was colder than he expected, and towards the end a large number of official Rumanians came to discuss the affairs of Ogun State with him. This was welcome in its way, but not restful. However, he was always pleased to be in London; he studied journalism there in his youth and had been a frequent visitor ever since.

On journalism Chief Onabanjo admitted that some of the UPN-supporting press had undesirable aspects. He did not approve of some of the things that appeared in *Tribune*, for instance, and he was able to say authoritatively that Chief Awolowo, the leader of the UPN, had not been pleased by some of the features of *Tribune*. He claimed that the tone was now milder than it was before. And it was certainly not the only offender. "As for *Concord*," Chief Onabanjo began, and then became almost speechless with indignation.

On a non-partisan note, he said the great fault of the Nigerian journalist was laziness. They tended to accept without question what official handouts told them, and were reluctant to publish any facts that were not announced by official spokesmen. "It is never, 'A million textbooks were printed in Ogun State . . . but always, 'An Education Department spokesman said that a million textbooks were printed . . .'"

He emphasised his belief that newspapers should be free from pressure by state governments, and should not continually publish pictures of the Governor or the Governor's children, as had been said recently by the Guild of Editors. Ogun State was part owner of the *Daily Sketch*, but he would insist that the editor did not give way to pressure from the proprietors.

In talking politics, the Governor was open in his admission that the UPN needed allies if it was to win in 1983 or beyond, but he denied most vigorously suggestions that the presence of Chief Awolowo as leader was a handicap to the formation of alliances. He would not predict in detail what was going to happen in 1983, but indicated that there would be realignments. He quoted Harold Wilson as saying that "a week in politics is a long time", and he added: "Three and a half years is an eternity!"

Something new into Africa

A NEW weekly magazine dealing with Africa was launched at a party at the Hyde Park Hotel, London, last week. It is the *African Economic Digest*, an offspring of the very successful *Middle East Economic Digest*, edited by Peter Robbs, who was once Agence France Presse man in Lagos, has a special knowledge of the Horn of Africa and was, with me, one of the "boat people" at last year's Monrovia OAU conference.

It is the easier for *West Africa* to wish the newcomer well because it is only marginally a competitor. The new magazine deals with the whole of Africa (except the Republic of South Africa) and concentrates almost entirely on business and economic news: *West Africa* deals with the whole of life and concentrates almost entirely on the region of West Africa. More important, the new publication — AED, for short — is aimed at a different readership. It is available on subscription only (as opposed to our large bookstall sale) and a year's subscription costs £110 (or £120 if it is sent overseas by airmail). This means that an individual copy costs about £2. *West Africa* sells for 30p. It hopes for an initial circulation of 7,500.

Another reason for welcoming AED (apart from friendliness towards the people involved) is the fact that there is not a limited amount of magazine readership to be shared out: the truth is that any increase in interest and publicity about African affairs must benefit everyone concerned with African journalism.

First Premier of Cameroon

MR. ANDRÉ-MARIE MBIDA, the first Cameroonian to be made Prime Minister of a Cameroon still under the French Trusteeship but self governing, is dead. He died in a Paris hospital on May 2 aged 63, after a prolonged illness. He was given a state funeral at his home village Efok, six kilometres west of Obala along the Saa Road, about 36 km from Yaounde. President Ahidjo had decreed that the man from whom he took over as Prime Minister on February 7, 1958, be given a befitting state funeral. The Cameroon Minister of State for the Armed Forces, Alhadji Sadou Daoudou, represented President Ahidjo.

Andre-Marie Mbida was the first Cameroonian to have defeated a Frenchman in elections to enter the Palais Bourbon in the early fifties. On May 10, 1957, the Legislative Assembly of Cameroon met under the French High Commissioner, Mr. Pierre Messmer, and designated Andre-Marie Mbida as the first Cameroonian Prime Minister. The young Ahmadou Ahidjo's Union Camerounaise Party then had 30 representatives as against 20 for Mbida's Cameroon Democratic party. Ahmadou Ahidjo was Vice Premier and in charge of the Interior. In February, 1958, Mr. Mbida's position became hopeless after most of his members had crossed the floor to the other party. He resigned and on February 18, the French representative in Cameroon asked young Ahidjo to form a new government.

Chart University Tutors
LLB
Bachelor of Law
Degree
University of London
(External)

Three year full time course
and correspondence courses available.
Central college facilities
include library, full-time academic staff,
comprehensive study manuals.

For prospectus write to:

CT

The Registrar, Chart University Tutors
53, Great Sutton Street, London, EC1V 0DQ
or telephone 01-251 4981 (24 hour answering service)

STOP PRESS

1980
DESIGNS
OF REAL

HAYES
FIERZ
HEADTIES

KEEP UP
WITH FASHION
AND GET
YOURS NOW
AT

BENNY'S
TEXTILE CORNER
1 STOKE NEWINGTON ROAD
LONDON N16 8BH
TEL:
01-254 7998

TAX FREE
PERSONAL EXPORT
Special Prices for 2 weeks

CARAVELL
FREEZER
10 cu. ft. £119.90
14 cu. ft. £129.90
Bottle Cooler
12.9 cu. ft. £259.90

INDESIT
Fridge, Single door
7 cu. ft. £110.90
(Model 002)
9 cu. ft. (011) £119.90
11 cu. ft. (012) £129.90

Fridge Freezer, Two door
8 cu. ft. £129.90
10 cu. ft. £139.90
11.5 cu. ft. £149.90

SUPERSER
COOKER
(4 gas - 2 elec)
oven, grill rotisserie, glass doors £249.90
oven, grill rotisserie, glass doors (2 - 2) £189.90

SUPERSER
COOKER
(3 - 2) £189.90

LOCKFORD
Marketing Stores Ltd.
tel: 01-385 6814 & 01-381 4121
10 Fulham Broadway, London SW6 1AA

SHIPPING NEWS
We collect, pack and ship at prices second to none — speed and reliability are our hallmarks. Contact us with all your shipping problems. Destinations Worldwide. We arrange freight Forward shipment to West Africa ports. Open Mon to Sat 9.30-6. Thurs 9.30-1.

Timber in trouble

John Kugblenu adds a postscript to our articles on the timber trade.

AFRICAN TIMBER and Plywood (Ghana) Limited (ATP) at Samreboi in the Western Region is apparently in serious difficulties at present.

The company, which started as a subsidiary of UAC International in 1947, was taken over by the Ghana Government during the euphoria which characterised the Acheampong coup of 1972. In 1976, the Government took over the management with the appointment of Mr. S. Quaynor as the first Ghanaian managing director. He is now a private farmer on the Akuapem Ridge.

According to Mr. Y. A. Kwabi, the firm's President Representative in Accra, the company is heavily indebted to its bankers, can no longer meet its overhead expenses and "even has to borrow in order to pay its workers." Mr. Kwabi said production had been on a steady decline ever since the Government took over total managerial control of the firm.

The present low production rate, estimated at 15 per cent, is attributed, among other things, to old machinery which need replacement and spare parts as well as liquidity problems.

Three other timber companies were also taken over by the Acheampong regime. They are: Gliksten (West Africa) Limited at Sefwi Wiawso, Takoradi Veneer and Lumber Company (TVLC) and Mim Timbers in Brong Ahafo. It is believed that these three timber companies are also "sinking gradually". Mim Timbers is fairly new compared with ATP and may therefore not as much in need of spare parts as ATP.

It is ironical that ATP, which was once a great foreign exchange earner as there was a great demand for its Cresta plywood, is now finding it difficult to raise loans from local banks to meet the payment to its 3,000 workers.

The company supports a population of 20,000 at Samreboi — a town carved out of a dense tropical forest — and supplies medical facilities, electricity and pipe-borne water to the inhabitants (The company even has a refrigerated van which brings in frozen fish from Tema fishing harbour to sell at reasonable prices to the workers) Although the company has generally enjoyed considerable industrial harmony, one recalls the killing of two striking workers during a confrontation between the police and the workers in 1971 and the recent strike of April 1980 over the payment of a canteen subsidy. The employees were demanding ₵2.00 subsidy but the management said it could not afford that. What then could be done to prevent the dismissal of thousands of workers if the Samreboi factory were to close down"

Last August, the Government appointed a committee headed by Dr. F. W. Addo-Ashong, director of the Forest Products Institute of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, to investigate the problems of the timber companies within the state sector with a view to establishing a Timber Holding Corporation (TIHOC).

In its interim report, the committee recommended that the four companies — ATP, Gliksten, TVLC and Mim Timbers — should be granted a loan of ₵12m. to meet their recurrent expenditure and to enable them to establish Letters of Credit for the much-needed equipment and spares. The committee also recommended that the present Timber Marketing Board should be scrapped to give way to the TIHOC to market the products of the corporation.

Mr. H. R. A. Okoe, managing director of ATP, welcomed the proposed Timber Holding Corporation but said he would like such a corporation to operate as a commercial organisation registered under the Companies Code in order to avoid unnecessary Government interference.

New route for Benin?

By a correspondent

IT IS JUST OVER three months since President Kerekou announced the composition of the new National Executive Council, which gave the first confirmation of the depth of the changes which Benin has seen over the past nine months.

The recently retired military Government of President Kerekou came to power in 1972 in the fifth military coup since independence. The regime's seven years of rule were not untroubled. The middle classes, mainly businessmen and civil servants, were immediately alienated by price control and partial nationalisation. Also, when Captain Aikpe was expelled from the Government in 1975, his left-wing supporters, including groups of students and unionists, rapidly became disillusioned. The situation was made worse when the attempted coup in January, 1977, by a group of mercenaries, led to a severe deterioration in Benin's external relations. France, Gabon and Morocco were suspected of supporting the attack.

Benin's economic stagnation contributed to the Government's problems. Two aspects of this are worth highlighting, firstly, in agriculture, the mainstay of the economy, production of cash crops declined catastrophically:

Benin's Cash Crop Production (tons)

	1973/74	1975/76	1977/78
Palm oil	9,816	23,005	10,527
Cotton	45,081	20,070	13,659
Cocoa	4,365	1,065	1,373
Groundnuts	4,732	6,996	2,716
Coffee	1,320	1,140	180

Secondly, the trade deficit worsened from CFA fr 15bn. in 1973 to CFA fr 52.7bn. in 1977; and reserves have been at a level insufficient to cover one month's

imports for two years now. Benin's increasing international isolation contributed to its economic problems. As a consequence of the mercenary affair Gabon expelled many Beninois ex-patriates, who were remitting important sums of foreign exchange.

Much of the industrial and commercial sector had foreign participation, and the government brought or acquired control in most of the major industries during the mid seventies, including the banks, the brewery, petrol distribution, and textiles. This policy effectively halted private investment and led to a significant withdrawal of private French interests in Benin. Another consequence of deteriorating foreign relations, especially with France, and of Benin's policies of public control of major industries was stagnation in the level of foreign aid commitments during the seventies, especially until 1976. In 1976 and 1977 total aid increased significantly over the 1975 level of CFA fr 8.5bn., however, but this was mainly because of the capital grants from Nigeria.

In fact, since 1975 Benin's relations with Nigeria appear to have been of crucial importance in the face of the economic and political adversity catalogued above. GDP growth of 6 per cent or 7 per cent was recorded in each of 1975 and 1976 as a result of the boom in neighbouring Nigeria. Traders in particular were able to make large profits importing through Cotonou and then re-exporting. While not accounting for all of the problems, a part of the trade deficit must be due to not recording the re-exports; and one may suppose that the poor agricultural performance may also be partly explained in this way, as crops could well have been smuggled over the border. Furthermore, Nigeria is providing the finance for two of the four major development projects — the Savé sugar complex and the huge cement factory at Onigbolo. (The other two are the extension to Cotonou port, and the oil refinery). Besides these, it has also contributed to other important projects, such as the coastal road. With only one bright spot in an otherwise gloomy situation, it is possible to appreciate the importance of recent political changes.

A one-party state had been declared in 1975; and a new constitution with provision for an elected National Assembly was introduced in August, 1977. However, until the elections last year, these moves appeared to be simply cosmetic; and the then rulers appeared set to continue indefinitely.

On November 20, 1979, 336 pre-selected candidates were elected to the new National Assembly. They were chosen to represent the various social classes; thus there are 84 peasant representatives, 64 from workers' organisations, 33 for the armed forces and seven other groups, including eight representatives of the middle classes. It was not surprising that the party list was endorsed by the electorate because there was no alternative (though objections were received against 45 members and 16 were subsequently annulled by the National Revolutionary Council), nor was it surprising that the pre-selected Assembly unanimously voted Kerekou President on February 5 and accepted his new cabinet a week later.

But the extent of the consultations that occurred before the elections, and what appears to be the significant political manoeuvres leading up to the formation of a new cabinet could indicate that the Government of Benin is now on a very different and more moderate course-especially when seen in conjunction with the improvements in external relations which took place during 1979.

In the month before the national elections the President held the first full-party Congress, and also an open meeting of 400 civil servants (non-members of the party) who were invited to criticise the Government's policies. The administrators requested, and were granted, an amnesty for their colleagues who had been suspended in the 1975 Aikpé affair. A number of the more radical policies were openly criticised. Later, at the party Congress, the President subjected left-wingers to a strong attack, called them "infantile opportunists".

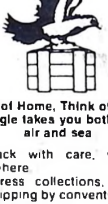
No doubt this clearly worried many of the more radical, especially within the military. It would seem that in order to avoid opposition during the two-month interregnum between the elections and the changeover in February, 1980, membership of the two key bodies — the Central Committee and the Politbureau of the party — jumped from 25 and seven to 45 and 13 respectively. The new members were mainly civilians and, probably, moderate supporters of the President.

It is not at all clear the extent to which certain members of the old Government opposed the President's manoeuvres while they still had the chance. During January it must have become clear to many that there would be no room for them in the new Government. Eight ministers, all from the armed forces, lost their posts and two others were demoted from the key ministries of the Interior and Foreign Affairs. Some of these were among those who led the 1972 coup. The new cabinet of 28 members contains only six military men. Many of the new members were previously senior civil servants.

As has been said, these developments and the prospects for the new Government should be seen in conjunction with developments in foreign relations. Relations with France in particular have improved remarkably, especially since the meeting of the Franco Beninois Grande Commission in May, 1979. This was attended by M. Galley, the French Minister for Development. One of the topics discussed was the level of aid, which had been static since 1972 at about CFA fr 1bn. But during 1979 alone a number of new agreements were signed, including finance for the extension to Cotonou port (CFA fr 0.9bn.); improvements to the railway (1.25bn.), a study for the rail extension to Natmey (0.25bn.) to increase transit trade and earnings, and other technical assistance agreements, including aid for the oil palm and coconut programmes.

The other important development is

EAGLE
Shipping Services



Think of Home, Think of Eagle. Eagle takes you both by air and sea

We pack with care, we ship every where.
1. Express collections, packing and shipping by conventional and container way.
2. Economical Air Cargo services are available.
3. Concessional rates for all students going back home.

Eagle House
168 Dalston Lane
London E8
Telephone: 01-254 1466/7/8
Telex: 299536
Cables: EAGLESHIP E8

LOW COST FLIGHTS TO LAGOS AND OTHER PARTS OF AFRICA

Special Fares available to Accra, Douala, Freetown, Lusaka, Nairobi, Salisbury and many other African destinations.

For efficient and reliable services to Africa — contact us today.

TRAVEL 'n AFRICA
Africa Centre
38 King Street
London WC2E 8JT
Phone 01-836 9866

progress towards normalisation of relations with Gabon. At the July, 1979, OAU meeting in Liberia it was agreed to establish a commission of enquiry to resolve the dispute. Besides Liberia, one might speculate that Nigeria also played a role in arranging this. Unfortunately the commission is chaired by Liberia so the coup in that country may well delay a final resolution of this problem.

Information about the Republic of Benin is scarce, so any attempt to discern a trend from what is available must be open to question. Yet, looking at the economic, internal and external political position of Benin in 1978 and all the developments in 1979 it appears as if Benin could be embarking on more moderate policies and a less isolationist international stance. To achieve this, President Kerekou seems to have completely reformed his Government, drawing support from groups that were previously excluded.

Whether this is true, and if true, whether his efforts will be successful, only the future will reveal. Certainly Benin can look to some positive economic developments. The small Semé oil field may start production in 1981; the sugar and cement projects will soon be commissioned, and, most important, Nigeria successfully weathered its foreign exchange crisis of 1979 and is relaxing import controls. On the other hand so little is known of Benin's internal politics that one must wonder whether there is not frustration among those disappointed by the recent changes, expecially the dismissed ex-cabinet members.

Political strains in Nigeria's trade union movement

Umoh James Umoh, Labour Editor of the *Daily Times*, in the first of two articles, gives an individual and controversial analysis of the split between Marxists and moderates in the Nigerian Labour Congress.

THE saddest thing which could happen to Nigerian workers in this era of civilian administration would be the break-up of the Nigeria Labour Congress into ideological factions and the revival of bitterness and antagonism in the Nigerian trade union movement. But this break-up will become inevitable if Marxist union leaders persist in their subtle but determined efforts to turn the congress into a left-wing movement with definite Marxist political objectives.

When the NLC was launched in Ibadan on February 28, 1978, the mandate workers gave to the leadership of the congress was that it should remain an independent, free and democratic labour movement. The constitution of the NLC prohibits partisan political involvement.

For more than three decades previously, Nigerian workers had been disunited because of ideological differences among union leaders. Workers lacked effective bargaining power so long as their leaders remained divided. The inauguration of the NLC as the only central labour organisation was supposed to put an end to all forms of bitterness and antagonism among union leaders.

To prevent revival of old divisions, the NLC decided not to affiliate with any of the international labour movements. However, the NLC has sponsored about 150 union leaders abroad for trade union courses and 45 of them were sent to Eastern Europe. The Marxists in the NLC are now campaigning seriously to prevent industrial unions from fraternising with their international counterparts in Western Europe.

Whereas the NLC criticised Egyptian and Israeli peace efforts during a meeting in Tripoli, Libya in 1979, and whereas the NLC criticised the British handling of elections in Zimbabwe, the same NLC has not issued any statement over the brutal Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Now, the Marxists in the congress have persuaded the organisation to endorse a "Workers Charter of Demands", which critics compare to the Communist Manifesto. The charter is supposed to outline workers' demands, with objective suggestions as to how such demands should be met, but opponents say it is advocating socialist revolution for the purpose of enthroning a dictatorship of the proletariat.

Under the heading "Indigenisation of Nigerian Economy and Its Consequences", the charter laments that the Nigerian Enter-

Westwind Africa Line Limited

Regular Express Freight Service between U.S. GULF PORTS and WEST AFRICAN PORTS (Freetown, Monrovia, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema, Lagos/Apapa, Douala, Warri)

EASTBOUND

DESERT WIND — ETA Houston May 2, ETS Houston May 7, ETA Abidjan May 22, ETA Lagos May 26.
BUNNA FORTUNA — ETA Houston May 10, ETS Houston May 15, ETA Abidjan May 30, ETA Lagos Jun. 4.

For rates of freight and other information apply to: Southern Star Shipping Co., Inc., 245 Park Ave, New York, N.Y., 100172 — or — Texas Transport and Terminal Co., Inc., New Orleans and Houston

WEST AFRICAN AGENTS

General Agents:	SOUTHERN STAR SHIPPING CO. (Nigeria) Ltd. P.O. Box 318, Apapa, Nigeria.
Other Agents:	Alraine Ltd. (Freetown, Lagos, Monrovia, Port Harcourt, Tema, Takoradi, Warri) Socopao (Abidjan, Dakar and Douala)
U.K. General Agents:	RIVER PLATE SHIPPING & TRADING AGENCY LTD., Windsor House, 83 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6SD Telex 261619 Tel. 01-405 0111

STOP! BUYING FOR EXPORT?

COME TO US FOR LOW PRICES

TROPICALISED GOODS

National 14" TC451UR R/C Colour TV Set	£340
Sony 14" Colour TV Set	£745
Sony 20" Colour TV SET Remote Cont	£331
Sony 22" Colour TV Set Remote Cont	£458
Philips 18" Colour TV Set	£375
Philips 22" 647 Colour TV Set	£330
Philips 20" Colour Touch Control	£418
Philips 26" Colour Remote Control 663	£458
Akai VHS 9700 Video Cassette Recorder	£498
National 5510 Video Cassette Recorder	£313
Philips 1702 00 Video Cassette Recorder	£375
Sony Beta 6080 Video Cassette Recorder	£435
Sony SL-F7 Video Cassette Recorder	£525
National CQ 5350 SW1-2 Car Radio Cassette	£41 50
Bosch 14 cu. ft. Freezer	£231
Bosch 17 cu. ft. Freezer	£287
Bosch Fr Freezers	£231
Philips Fr Freezers	£186
Indesit Fr Freezers	£171
Main Cylinder Cooker	£229
New World Cylinder Cooker	£228
Smeg 6 Burner Gas Electric Cooker	£285
Kelvinator Fridge	£199
Air Conditioners	£350
Shipping Trunks	£22
Chain Saws	£191
Fans 12"-16"	£41
Generators	£229
Washing Machines	£145

MOLENS EXPORTS
600 Lea Bridge Road, Leyton
London E10
01-556 9111/2/3, 01-539 8978,
01-556 8533
Closed Thursdays

PACKING, CRATING, SHIPPING

prises Promotion Decree only ensured transfer of wealth from expatriate exploiters to Nigerian exploiters. It adds: "What is required and called for by Congress is fundamental structural changes within the national economy with a view to establishing an internal economic and social order which would lead to the liberation of the workers and the broad masses from conditions of exploitation, misery and poverty. The structural changes recommended are those which lead to bringing the economy under the ownership and control of the workers and the masses."

Encroachment into politics

This aspect of the NLC charter is described by its critics as clearly Marxist and beyond the competence of the NLC to advocate. They say the NLC, which is barred from partisan political and ideological involvement, cannot make such explosive political and ideological demands without expecting internal and external crisis. How can Nigerian workers own and control the national economy and effect fundamental structural changes within such an economy without political power? And by what means will workers attain political power without a political party of their own? The only available option is for the NLC to seek political power by force through a revolution.

The charter can be interpreted as having an implicit political threat: "Nigerian workers are aware of their commitment to promote the social and economic development of their fatherland through their sweat and productivity and are prepared to increase these. But at the same time, they expect to be duly rewarded by both government and employers for their exertion and dedication. Where it happens that this has not been done due to oversight or accidental lapses, they are duty-bound to register their demands (as in this charter) so as to bring their feelings and requests to the notice of those in authority. Where, however, the denial is due to deliberate neglect and when peaceful or constitutional approaches are ignored and mistaken for weakness or ignorance, workers reserve the right to enforce their claims by whatever means at their disposal."

In his May Day speech in Lagos this year, the National President of the NLC, Mr. Hassan Adebayo Sunmonu, who is a Marxist, further revealed the left-wing direction of the congress and the political and ideological objectives of the Marxists in the congress:

"The great lesson (of May Day) is that workers will not achieve anything except through struggle, unity and solidarity . . . the NLC is the vanguard of the working class of Nigeria and the champion of the oppressed and the exploited. Its role is to continue to educate and to lead the masses, who produce the nation's wealth, in the right direction to ultimate victory in the working class struggle . . . Our objective is the objective of all working-class struggles the world over, to ensure that, in the end, the wealth of the nation which is produced by the toiling masses and the labouring poor, is so evenly distributed that class and poverty will be wiped out of our society once and for all time. In the final end of the struggle there should be no poverty because there will be no capitalism."

With such an ideological shift to the left, democratic union leaders in the NLC are now alarmed that the NLC, created to sustain labour unity and remain neutral, is now facing the threat of "communist control". Democratic union leaders in the NLC are therefore regrouping and are now determined to halt this left-wing drift. A struggle between Marxists and democrats in the NLC for the control of the power structure of the congress is expected soon. The outcome of this struggle will determine the pattern of industrial relations practice in Nigeria and may, in fact, determine the political future of Nigeria, the contest will be settled in March, 1981, during the first convention of the NLC to elect a new leadership.

The present leadership of the NLC elected during the inaugural conference in February 28, 1978, and others appointed in May, 1978, is a mixture of Marxists and democrats. This is the line-up, as seen by some observers: President — Mr. Hassan Adebayo Sunmonu, Marxist; Deputy President — Mr. David Ojeli, Democrat; General Secretary — Mr. Aliyu Musa Dangiwa, Democrat; First Deputy General Secretary — Dr. Austin Osunde, Marxist; Second Deputy General Secretary — Mr. Benard Obua, Marxist; National Treasurer — P. O. Ero-Philips, one-time Democrat who now

START YOUR CAREER
IN SHIPPING
WITH A PROFESSIONAL
QUALIFICATION

CERTIFICATE IN
EXPORT OFFICE PRACTICE
Full-time Intensive study
July — September
September — December
January — May

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE
IN SHIPPING
Full-time Intensive study
September — December
February — June

Practical Tuition is provided by Professionaly Qualified Staff and Practitioners from the Shipping Industry.
For full details write to:
The Registrar
Central London College
209/212 Tottenham Court Road
London W1
Telephone: 01-636 2212

NOW!! NOW!! NOW!!
8 TONE DAMASK
OF THE 1990s
MOST SUPERIOR QUALITY
Available for:
WHOLESALE — RETAIL — EXPORT
Repeat:
8 TONE DAMASK IN MOST BEAUTIFUL
COLOURS AND NEWLY DESIGNED
AT
METRO TEXTILES CORNER
7 QUEENS PARADE
LONDON NW2
Telephone: 01-459 3756
Trains: Jubilee Line to Willesden Green Tube Station
Buses: 8, 176, 260, 266, Greenline 719
OPEN:
SUNDAY & THURSDAY 9 am — 2 pm
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 9 am — 5.30 pm

seems to be Liberal Socialist; Deputy Treasurer — Mr. M. E. Mpamugo, Marxist; National Trustee — Dr. Bala Usman, Marxist; National Organising Secretary in charge of Administration — Mr. M. O. Funmilayo, Marxist; Assistant General Secretary in charge of Department of Research — Mr. I. E. E. Amechi, Democrat; Assistant General Secretary, in charge of Co-operatives — Mr. R. O. Shodeinde, liberal left.

Mr. Dangiwa, who is a Democrat, has not been given the necessary co-operation by his colleagues. Mr. Dangiwa is hemmed in between a full-time president and two deputy general secretaries, all Marxists. Mr. Dangiwa complained during the national executive council meeting of the NLC in Lagos on April 10, 1980, that he was being denied vital documents of the congress, although he is the chief executive.

Politicians seek favour

Apart from imminent internal power tussle in the NLC, the congress is also facing external pressure from politicians. Many union leaders have affections for different political parties. Now these parties are scrambling to win the loyalty of the congress, or at least influence the congress to follow their line. Some state governments declared May 1 as a public holiday to mark their solidarity with Nigerian workers. Kano State Government has offered to pay N102 a month minimum wage whereas President Shagari offered N100. The Lagos State Government says it will pay N200 minimum wage provided the Federal Government gave the approval and then made grants to State Governments to subsidise workers' salaries.

What such gestures from politicians will mean in practice is that during the 1981 election of new officers of the NLC politicians will be interested in certain candidates favourable to their political colouring. Politicians will certainly be involved in campaigning for such candidates.

Another threat is that if the Marxists win the next NLC elections, many industrial unions will break away. The possibility of such unions forming another central labour organisation is not ruled out. The main reason is that many industrial unions do not want to be involved in a political programme which will commit the NLC to sponsor or take part in a socialist revolution for the purpose of workers' ownership and control of the national economy and for the purpose of establishing a dictatorship of the proletariat.

What the workers are craving, these union leaders claim, is the restoration of collective bargaining so that they can negotiate with their employers for a fair reward. Nigerian workers are not in favour of any union leader using them as tools for political objectives, they say. Union leaders fighting for dictatorship of the proletariat should get out of the Nigerian trade union movement and form their own political party.

Next week Umoh James Umoh will deal with the history of trade union divisions in Nigeria.

Canada provides food for thought

A correspondent reports on this year's conference of the Canadian Association of African Studies

IT WAS APPROPRIATE that Professor J. F. Ade Ajayi of the University of Ibadan should choose for his keynote address to the 10th annual conference of the Canadian Association of African Studies the theme of the relevance of African studies to African development. Praising the Association for its choice of conference theme, "Urban and Rural Development: Stagnation, Crisis and Solution", Professor Ajayi criticised institutes and centres of African studies, above all but not exclusively those in Africa itself, for their failure (his language was blunt) to relate their research to the practical problems of the people. More doctors are trained, he argued, but today there is more not less disease; there are more holders of degrees in agriculture, yet African countries are now net importers of staple foodstuffs.

African history, Professor Ajayi went on, the central discipline studied in every African Institute of African Studies, was perhaps "the most useless of all disciplines" — the kind of challenging judgment that only such a distinguished African historian could utter and leave unchallenged at an African Studies conference! In respect of Africa at least, was the time not past when African history understandably provided the rationale and dominated the thinking of Institutes of African Studies? Should it not now make way for more relevant subjects? He maintained that Africa regrettably lacks a body of critical scholars in the resource and consultancy responsibilities of such Institutes. Is it not time, Professor Ajayi concluded, that they took stock of their limited achievements and recreated themselves as Centres of Development Studies?

Practical projects

Among the universities which were partially absolved from this charge of being what one speaker referred to as "ebony towers" was that of Guelph in Southern Ontario, the host campus of this anniversary conference. For there, among a number of practical projects culminating right now in an international workshop on agricultural extension methods to be held at Legon this summer, the Ghana-Guelph project is recognised as truly a success story in international co-operation between the University of Guelph, whose veterinary and agricultural colleges enjoy over a century of Ontario history, and no less than five

SHIPPING NEWS

★ Pack consignment in one lined case or steel container ★ Roll-on/Roll-off services ★ 10 years experience in Export packing/shipping ★ Shipment of general cargo of all kinds, including MACHINERY, TRUCKS, CARS etc., to all parts of the world ★ Discounts for students going home ★ Part payment at destination accepted ★

Our Main Shipping Lines are: Palm Lines, Elder Dempster, Nigerian National Lines, etc.

Sea Freight W/A: (Containers every 2 weeks (Roll-on/Roll-off). Wooden 11 days (conventional).
Cars and break bulk twice weekly (roll-on roll-off). Sailing schedule to all other countries on application.

Air Cargo W/A: Twice weekly from 95p

Air Travel: Regular departures throughout the year. Special charter flights Summer/Winter.

Car Sales: European and Japanese makes at competitive prices

PLEASE CONTACT US:

Roshview Ltd.

3/5 Dunston Road, Hackney, London E8

Mon.—Fri. 9 am—5.30 pm. Saturday 9—12.30. Tel: 254 4836/7/8/9.
Telex 922488 Ref. 129 10 mins. bus journey Liverpool Street.

GHANA
Roshview (GH) Ltd
Ya-Bow House
No. 3 Osu Labadi Road
PO Box 14745 Accra

NIGERIA
Cemathans (NIG) Co
61 Olusegbe Road
Surulere, Lagos

Freight forward payments in Nigeria: International Bank W/A, Broad Street, Lagos

departments of the University of Ghana.

At the same time, this very approbation of the go-ahead Canadian Association of African Studies' conference theme emphasises that major differences between the *modus operandi* of the sister British Association (ASAUK) and of the North American ones (CAAS and ASA). Whereas in Britain a theme is a theme and every paper presented at the conference must relate to that theme, in Canada and America the theme is a core only: numerous other panels are set up to accommodate papers on all sorts of Africanist topics without any pretence at being germane to the theme of the conference. If both approaches have their merits and their reasons, the North American technique inevitably attracts a wider range of participants — among them in Canada always a conspicuous and welcome group of young African scholars in the making — and provides them with an *a la carte* menu if they are, for instance, allergic to the fare offered by the *table d'hôte* chef's special.

Titillating regional dishes

For the West African gourmet, there were a number of regional dishes to titillate the tastebuds of the CAAS Conference which took place at Guelph earlier this month. Paul Lovejoy (York), whose *Caravans of Kola* has been announced by Ahamdu Bello University Press, gave a paper on "Kola in the History of West Africa"; Bertram Uba, a graduate student at Queen's University, spoke of the colonial state and agricultural development in the context of Eastern Nigeria; and Alan Bishop, a leading Canadian scholar of Joyce Cary, discussed the latter's letters written to his wife when he was A.D.O. Borgu, in 1917, illustrating the talk with slides. Dr. Yusufu Bangura, who is temporarily teaching at at Dalhousie after successfully defending his Ph.D. at L.S.E., set up a model to explain the politics of economic decolonisation in West Africa, a theme which Peter Emudong, also at Dalhousie, is looking at in his study of decolonisation in the Gold Coast between 1938 and 1948.

Incidentally, as the marked Ugandan presence in Canadian universities shows, one advantage of the enforced diaspora of Makerere graduate students is that we shall soon have the unusual and welcome experience of African students writing their theses on the politics and history of other African countries rather than, as is the norm, concentrating on their own localities. Unlike Nigeria, where in terms of research the Nigerian civil war is something of a dead duck (and unlike the USA, where not a year goes by without several new books appearing on its own civil war, now more than a hundred years old), North America still encourages graduate students to analyse the causes of the Biafran failure, as B. Nnagbo (Regina) showed in a panel on "Self-determination and Secession: Eritrea and Biafra". This was, of course, a topic very much in the minds of may attending the conference, with the Quebec referendum on "Sovereignty-Association" due later in the month.

Dr. Shute (Guelph) and F. Tuzo prepared a paper on the Nigerian-Canada Technical Education Program as an example of cost-recovery technical assistance, while from the same university, E. M. Francois examined time-use among women in an urban community in Ghana. Still on the core-theme of rural and urban development, M. O. Awogbade (Ahmadu Bello) considered its impact on Nigeria's livestock producers, T. O. Fadayomi (NISER) looked at the interplay between rural development and rural migration, and J. B. Idode from the Governor's Office, Benin City, described the work done by rural development organisers (RDOs) in his state. Unfortunately the special panel on "Mahdism in the Sokoto Caliphate" had to be cancelled — the Conference suffered unduly from the 'no-show' of several African invitees and/or their papers and baggage. There were contributions, too, on contemporary rural Benin by M. Houndjaoue and on the economy of modern Zaire by B. Jesiewicki, and a case-study of Koranic *malamat* and *madibbe* in Maurua by R. Santerre, all of them from Laval University, and M. Sankerre this year's CAAS President.

Splendid feast

This report, like all good conferences, must also come to an end. We return to the idiom of cuisine, this time not metaphorically but quite literally. It would be no reflection on the general quality of the papers to say that for very many participants the most memorable feature of the tenth Canadian Association of African Studies Conference was the birthday banquet created by Dr. G. D. Killam, doyen of African literature teachers in Canada and this year's Conference Co-ordinator. Chef Dominic prepared a great African feast, with *akara*, groundnut-stew, rice plantains, *okra*, beer and wine and "palaver" (a fish - and - spinach - and - all - things - nice - dish devised by Dr. Killam from what may well be his memory of *moyin-moyin* from his Ibadan days), and rightly deserved a standing ovation from all those who still could.

Next year's Canadian conference is stated for Calgary. If Southern Alberta cannot repeat "The Grass is Green at Guelph" slogan (granted that the name of the game in Ontario's universities is currently survival, Guelph's other message, the controversial 'Picture Yourself at the University of Guelph" advertising campaign is a separate issue), its preliminary programme suggests that Africanists will do well to "Go West" next May. Meanwhile, that grass is not allowed to grow under Canadian Africanists' feet. Already the Canadian Bureau for International Education is organising a conference on "Education and Development in West Africa" at Quebec in the fall. Professor Ajayi was right to pay tribute to Canada's role and reputation in the study of Africa.

West Africa Travel Services

Reliable low-cost flights and holidays.

Specialists for Nigeria and Ghana and all West African destinations.

Regular departures throughout the year.

Contact

West Africa Travel Services Ltd.
Empire House, 2nd Floor, 117-119 Regent Street, London, W1

Tel 439 7891-2
439 8511 (24 hour service)

Send coupon for further details

Name .....

Address .....

Tel No .....

Destination .....

Depart ..... Return .....

ECONOMY FLIGHTS TO AFRICA

Contact us before your next flight to Accra, Lagos, Abidjan, Douala, Johannesburg, Lusaka, Monrovia, Nairobi, Dar-es-Salaam and many other African destinations.

Remember we are the African travel specialists.

Call or write:

INTER-AIR TRAVELS
16-17 Jacey Galleries
523 Oxford Street
London W1N 9HH
Tel: 01-493 7843

Telex: 8952994

BOUTIQUE AFRICANA

REAL WAX BATIK PRINTS, GEORGES ETC AND DELISTAR DAMASK & HEADTIES.

OVERSEAS INQUIRIES AND CUSTOMERS MOST WELCOME

LOGANBERRY SATIN HEADTIES

ORIENT HOUSE, GRANBY ROW MANCHESTER 1 TEL: 061-236 7805

Open Monday to Thursday 9 am to 4.45 pm Friday 9 am to 3.45 pm

D.T.L. Shippers

offers fast and reliable service to any destination for Household effects and General cargo. Roll-on Roll-off services for your car.

Buying and confirming Agents for all purchases here and abroad. Full documentation. Our charges are moderate. Effects professionally packed in steel container or special lined case.

Special Discount for students returning home. Part payment at destination may be accepted for all shipping and purchases.

AIRFREIGHT:
KANO/LAGOS from .....85p per kilo
ACCRA from .....120p per kilo

Low Cost Travel to W. Africa too!

Dalemont Transport Limited

11 Bruce Grove, Tottenham London N17

Telephone: (01) 801 3121 (3 lines)

Bus services 171, 243, 76, 123, 149, 259, 279 & 8. Liverpool Street to Bruce Grove. Underground (Victoria Line to Seven Sisters Station)

BOOKS and Publications

Who was Who

Dictionary of African Biography; *volume 2, Sierra Leone and Zaire (Reference Publications, $59.95)*

IT WAS IN 1909 that the late Dr Du Bois, who became a Ghanaian citizen in 1961, conceived the idea of an *Encyclopaedia Africana*. Many years later his idea took shape with the establishment in Accra of the secretariat of the *Encyclopaedia* project, directed by Dr Ofusu-Appiah, who is Editor-in-Chief of the biographical series it was finally agreed should be published.

Eighteen volumes containing biographies of varying length of many hundreds of people of importance in Africa's history — nobody living at the time of a volume's writing is included — are planned. The first volume, covering Ethiopia and Ghana, was published in 1977. Now comes the second, with space divided almost equally between 137 Sierra Leone and 102 Zaire entries, contributed by over 40 authors.

Sixteen more, mostly covering two or more countries, (some seem oddly paired, such as Uganda and Liberia), will appear at intervals. Only Nigeria and South Africa have volumes to themselves while The Gambia will appear with four "island countries". The final two volumes will provide a bibliography and an index.

Whose subsidy?

This time we are not told who is subsidising the work-whose price is the same as that of the first volume: but the project needs a permanent staff and help from national committees, consultants and so forth. In the first volume we were told that the Ghana government had borne the main burden, in spite of the overthrow of Dr Nkrumah, the original sponsor; other African governments, the OAU, Unesco, and other bodies in Africa, Europe and the US had helped. Is that still the position?

For historians and all interested in Africa's past the volumes are not only an essential source of reference: they can be read through with pleasure. Each volume has a full but concise historical introduction. In this case Dr Arthur Abraham and Dr Magbaily Fyle, who are also the Sierra Leone editors and contribute many entries, wrote the introduction for their country. Dr Ndaywel è Nziem, also editor and contributor, wrote the Zaire introduction. A surprising number of old photographs have been found to illustrate entries. There are also useful maps, and brief guides to "names and terms". Each entry has a short bibliography.

The relating of history by use of biography has advantages for countries for whose complete histories there are still many gaps. Biographies provide a solid and eloquent base for fuller histories. In this volume, as in the first, the contributors are able — which they might not have been until recently — to range far afield, in particular recalling the lives of the great Chiefs. In Sierra Leone there are not just the well-known Bai Bureh, of the Hut Tax War, Madam Yoko, and the modern Chief Kai Samba, but such personalities as Almamy Kandeh Bokari, 19th century ruler of the Soso state of Morea — now divided between Guinea and Sierra Leone — Dalla Modu of Rokon, an early intermediary between the Colony and the hinterland, and the legendary Farma Tarn, looked on by the Temne as founder of their nation.

Among Creoles there are not only Sir Samuel Lewis, the first African Knight, Dr Taylor-Cummings, Mayor of Freetown seven times (there could have been a better photograph of him), and John E. Ezzidio, of Nupe origin and first African member of the Legislative Council; there is Alfred Shorunkey-Sawyerr, a early but inconsistent advocate of "Africanism", who published the weekly *Saturday Ho* in the 1890's — a staid version of today's *Lagos Weekend* or Alimamy Bungie, (his real name was William Lumpkin), who among other exploits, obliged the procession of the Prince of Wales, during his Freetown visit, to stop outside his shop by hiring a large band to play "God save the King" at the right moment.

A long history

If the Zaire contributors cannot draw on such a wealth of characters as Sierra Leone's Creole community provides, they can go back to the kingdoms of the Kongo and the Luanda. The great king Afonso I of the Kongo (1451-1543) founded schools and sent boys to Portugal for education — but Tsimba Mabiala, his biographer, underlines his numerous weaknesses. His son, Dom Henriques, was undoubtedly the first black African to become a Roman Catholic Bishop. There are, too, the Luba King Kalala Ilunga who around 1600 founded the Luba empire in Northern Shaba; and Kanyimbu Newej, the military leader who extended Lunda power in the 18th century. Of modern figures, apart from the politicians, there are, for example, Kimbangu,

who founded the powerful sect named after him.

There are no "non-persons" for these dictionaries. As in the first one Haile Selassie had the longest entry, so in this one Moise Tshombe has nearly as much space as Patrice Lumumba. Opponents of the present regimes, executed after their alleged complicity in plots, are given their place — Kimba and Mulele in Zaire; and Bangura, Lansana, Dr Forna and Ibrahim Bash Taqui in Sierra Leone.

Representatives of the colonial powers are also here: Governors Clarkson and MacCarthy of Sierra Leone, the long-time residents in the country Zachary Rogers and John McCormack, ancestors of important dynasties, and Governor-General Ryckmans of the Congo (one misses the colourful Pope-Hennessy of Sierra Leone, and King Leopold and H. M. Stanley, however evil their record, should surely have appeared in any record of the history of Zaire).

In view of the magnitude of the endeavour, which is unlikely to be repeated for many years, all readers of this volume will have strong views about the names included, the space given to different entries, and above all the names for which no space has been found.

Temptation

Since, however, this work already runs to 372 pages, a few more than its predecessor, one should suggest possible additions with caution-even if the temptation to suggest sample names is irresistable. Among Creoles there are Sybil Boyle and William Grant, the successful merchants who were early members of the Legislative Council, and H. E. B. John, first Secretary of the SLPP. Among Chiefs are Alexander Bey Kanta, who as Chief (1859-72) revived the Koya kingdom, and Be Sherbro, deported after the Hut Tax War with Bai Bureh and Nyagua, who are both included.

Among Europeans there is S. W. Koelle, of Fourah Bay, who pioneered the study of West African languages; and the Swedish botanist, Adam Afzelius, a pupil of Linnaeus, who during some years at the end of the 18th century, identified the indigenous coffee. The great Blyden, one supposes, will appear in the Uganda-Liberia volume, although he played a notable role in Sierra Leone's history. And could a place not have been found for the composer Coleridge-Taylor, with his Sierra Leone ancestry? Is the omission of Ntinu Wene, founder of the kingdom of the Kongo, due to the shortage of sufficient information to produce an entry about him?

To offset such possible additions one could suggest some ommissions, for example that of Isa, a Chief of Kalieri. But it is too late; one must be grateful for the splendid achievement we do have.

There are few misprints, but some dates are misprinted; and on the cover Mauritania is misspelt. The photograph of Dr M. C. F. Easmon appears as that of his distinguished father, Dr. John Farrel Easmon.

D. W.

A thoughtful soldier

Danjuma *by Lindsay Barrett. Fourth Dimension Publishing Company. ₦4.20.*

IN HIS PREFACE to *A Combatant in Government*, the book produced by Brigadier David Jemibewon, former military governor of Nigeria's Oyo State, Lt.-General Danjuma, who retired as Chief of Staff of Nigeria's army at the return of civil rule, wrote that the soldier-rulers had made a poor showing in recording their experiences. In this short biography he has made some amends, as, although written by the Jamaican artist who now lives in Nigeria, it clearly depends largely on his personal testimony.

The result is a useful, if limited, contribution to the history of Nigeria under military rule. Gen. Danjuma was a highly efficient officer who reached the peak of his profession at the early age of 38. A studious man, he had wanted to be a teacher and his family, in Takum, a town of the ancient non-Muslim Jukun empire in what is now Gongola State, even as recently as 1959 opposed his joining the still-despised profession of arms. His decision to join the army was much influenced by the excellence of the Cadet Corps at the former Nigerian College of Arts, Science and Technology at Zaria, at which he was a student — and by his desire to acquire the "jungle hat" of the Nigeria Regiment.

Service with the Nigerian contingent in Zaire and in Tanzania, and courses in Britain and the United States, had prepared the then temporary Lieutenant-Colonel to take command of the First Division (this extraordinary contrast between rank and responsibility in the federal forces continues) on the Nsukka front in the civil war in 1967. From then on his rise was almost automatic.

Some readers will find the details of Gen. Danjuma's experience in the original 1966 mutiny, which led to the installation of General Aguiyi-Ironsi as Head of State, the July 1966 overthrow of the General,' the overthrow of General Gowon, and of the abortive coup of 1976, of absorbing interest. Others will be grateful to Mr. Barrett for reproducing, in full, Gen. Danjuma's perceptive comments on the problems of establishing an "African High Command" — the most valuable comments yet made on the subject — in his address to the Lagos Institute of International Affairs in August 1978. In this he expressed his support for the idea but, with informed references to NATO, the Warsaw Pact and SEATO, he clearly showed the difficulties, while, surprisingly, urging the need to enlist the support of Black Americans for the propaganda war which he considered to be as important as the physical one against South Africa.

Mr. Barrett also reproduces the much-publicised talk to the Jaji Staff College in July 1979, in which Gen. Danjuma frankly asked whether Nigeria could survive a second civil war. He saw the

PERSONAL EXPORT

TAX-FREE TROPICALISED ELECTRICAL GOODS

Cookers — Washing Machines — TV — Fridges — SW Radio & Cassettes — Hi Fi — Stereo — Deep Freezers — Air Conditioners — Videos

SARDAR DOGRA BROS. LTD.

120 UXBRIDGE ROAD
SHEPHERDS BUSH, LONDON W.12
Telephone: 01-749 7846 and 01-749 2788

Personal Service
by Mr. V. Dogra,
Managing Director.

Agents for:
SANYO — GRUNDIG — NATIONAL — JVC
TOSHIBA — PYE — PHILIPS
ALL OTHER BRANDED ELECTRICAL GOODS

NEW PUBLICATION

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IN PRACTICE

By Joe C. Onochie FCMA ACA

In this rare combination of theoretical and practical analysis ably demonstrated, Mr. Joe C. Onochie undertakes a simultaneous investigation of accounting in all its various ramifications.

This 'Financial Management In Practice' offers a topical survey of financial and accounting systems. The projected visual approach enhances an easy understanding of this vital subject and thereby makes it ideal not only for the interested layman but also for the student and businessman.

This book will inevitably be treasured by students throughout their professional training; and for Lecturers, and the Accountants in profession who intend to keep abreast of the subject.

ISBN 978 2291 00 5. Hand Sewn.
Size 23½cm x 15½cm. 619 Pages.
Retail Price ₦17.50.
Suppliers: Through most Booksellers or the Publishers.

Publishers:
EMEKA ADICHIE PUBLISHERS & CO.
P.O. Box 952, 97 Zik Avenue,
Enugu, Nigeria.

possibility that religious and sectarian strife would pose for Nigeria dangers which tribalism, "as a fall-back position for political ends", destroyed by the civil war, no longer did.

His other ideas cover the possibility of Nigeria doing what Cuba had done militarily in Africa, the need for political education in the army, the necessity — clearly shown in the first budget of the civilian regime — to cut the size of Nigeria's army but to increase its fire-power; and the likelihood that civilian rule in Nigeria will produce more radical policies than the military regimes developed.

Mr. Barrett often introduces events and people without explaining them; but he has faithfully carried out his intention of presenting his subject as "a truly committed military-political visionary". Perhaps the fact that this biography is published in Enugu is partial proof of that.

D.W.

The business of accounting

Financial Management in Practice *by Joe Onochie (Emeka Adiche Publishers & Co., Enugu, ₦17.50)*

THE AUTHOR of this book, after more than thirteen years diversified post-qualification practical accountancy experience in United Kingdom, Central Africa and Nigeria, wished to epitomise his financial expertise by publishing a book which takes cognisance of Nigeria's needs in modern financial management.

The choice of the title was consciously chosen after having a cross-sectional appraisal of the needs of financial managers in developing countries. Hence the contents of the book tend to dwell in the main, on accounting with a measure of topics on financial management. In other words, the author was conscious of the fact that the two topics are inseparable.

The book contains 17 chapters covering the final accounts of manufacturing organisations, miscellaneous accounts ranging from royalties, containers, hire-purchase, to investment accounts; others include modern depreciation theory, partnerships and various aspects of company accounts including interpretation, consolidation and mergers. The last five chapters dealt with share valuation, working capital, sources and disposal of funds, international marketing and product pricing, and insurance. The appendix contains some International Accounting Standards.

The book, therefore, aims to cover two out of the six industrial activities of "Henri Rayol", viz., financial activities (search for and obtain use of capital), and accounting activities (stock-taking, balance sheet, costs and statistics). The work challenges many of the preconceptions of accountancy in Nigeria. However, it is not yet the complete theory and practice of financial management which the author seeks. The author has, nevertheless, not only succeeded in putting his ideas into print but also has excelled in helping to create a conscience for indigenous writers on financial management.

Accountants, like average human beings under proper conditions, have learnt to accept responsibilities for the application of their expert knowledge on financial matters. They will also seek responsibility for dissemination of the financial knowledge through printed pages. This is what the author of this book seeks to do viz., to expand the use of his intellectual and inter-personal abilities.

The book starts with accounting topics, showing in great detail theoretical analysis of each subject intertwined with practical examples. It then develops into the main theme of financial management with the adaptation of questions, and also those (questions) set by some of the recognised professional accountancy bodies for purposes of maintaining a high degree of penetration and expertise.

There is a multitude of original ideas and a plethora of Nigerian background pervading all the chapters of the book. The book, thus, has much to commend it to students of accountancy and finance in universities from their second years to graduation; students of the colleges of technology, polytechnics, colleges of education, majoring in accounting, and those studying for the professional examination of the renowned accountancy bodies.

P. N. Uchendu

World Aid Funds and Rural Needs

a "business opportunities" conference

14, 13 June 1984
Connaught Rooms
London WC2

Learn
- ☆ How major funds are assessing, planning and funding projects.
- ☆ What type of equipment and services the projects will require.
- ☆ How to tender correctly.
- ☆ How commercial banks can co-finance projects.

Speakers include
Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade
Mr Donald C. Pickering, World Bank, Washington DC
Mr Nicholas Wolfers, Samuel Montagu & Co Ltd
Mr Rainer B. Steckhan, World Bank, Paris
Dr J.T. Meadley, Minster Agriculture
Mr Gunter Gruner, European Development Fund
Mr Michael Lake, European Development Fund
Dr John Howell, Overseas Development Institute
Mr A.W. Piers, Overseas Development Administration
Mr D. Lloyd, Sir William Halcrow & Partners
Mr J. Evans, Booker Agriculture International

Organised by Palace Publishing, 44 Conduit Street London W1R 9FB. Telephone 01-437 7131

Sponsored by British Agricultural Export Council "World Aid Digest"

Complete and return to:
Palace Publishing Ltd
44 Conduit Street
London W1R 9FB

☐ Please register the following delegate(s) for WORLD AID FUNDS AND RURAL NEEDS conference at a fee of £330 each (includes £30 VAT). Cheques should be made out in favour of Palace Publishing Ltd.

☐ Please send me further information on WORLD AID FUNDS AND RURAL NEEDS

Name(s) _____

Title _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Telex _____

Conference fee covers all refreshments, cocktails, lunches and conference documentation.

VAT Registration No 340 0538 06
This form will be returned to you with your conference ticket as your tax invoice for VAT purposes

Cancellations and refunds
Fees in full will be returned for cancellations received any time before May 29th. Substitutions may be made at any time.

Africa focus at Frankfurt

The world's biggest Book Fair is paying especial attention this year to African publishing. A. C. Imfeld of Evangelical Press Service reports on some of the preparations involved.

AFRICAN BOOKS, this year's theme at the Frankfurt Book Fair (October 8-13) will be spotlighted and surrounded with a full programme of events and activities. The aim is to create an impression lasting far beyond the hectic six days of the Fair in the hope that, long after the autumn of 1980 books from Africa will be translated and read.

The theme of the 32nd Frankfurt Book Fair is "Africa — a continent asserts its identity".

Focal themes are designed to make both publishers and readers aware of little-known or forgotten topics. For it is the publishing industry itself that helps to perpetuate the European orientation in literature. In the northern hemisphere, from Japan to the Soviet Union, from Europe to North America, nearly a million titles by or about "Northerners" are published or reprinted every year. Other cultures and continents tend to be lost in the deluge of paper and ink.

The greatest victim of this ethnocentrism is the Third World. Books supported by no lobby, little advertising, and only meagre profits have only an outside chance in the tough literary marketplace. Only a small group of insiders has any conception of book production in Africa, Latin America, Asia or the Arab world, since only a handful of publishing companies from those areas, most of them state-owned, can afford to rent a stand and present their productions at the world's largest book fair.

All roads lead through Frankfurt, at least as far as the book trade is concerned. What is not on hand at the Fair is unlikely to be on hand in the book stores the following year. It was for just this reason that in 1976 the management of the Frankfurt Book Fair decided to give this event a focal point every second year. This year's Fair is dedicated to Africa south of the Sahara.

"The idea," says Book Fair director Peter Weidhaas, "is to open the door for themes and areas which occupy only a peripheral place on the book market and do not have a strong lobby, books which otherwise might be lost in the great flood of literature being published." The Fair's organisers hope to raise the awareness of the reading population, maybe even after it — through literature. But the Fair is also business orientated so the goal is also to create a market for these books, "to interest our publishers more for works from Africa, to translate them and get them into the book stores here."

None of this will happen by itself; it has to be planned, and this is where the trade comes in. The Fair is a hectic whirlwind revolving around rights and licences. They are exchanged, bought and sold. According to Weidhaas, this functions remarkably well between industrialised nations and, during recent Fairs, relatively well with Eastern Europe. Africa tends to be woefully neglected. Many people still believe that Africa has no publishers other than the large British or French subsidiaries. African books are little known outside Africa. Therefore, the responsibility of the coming Fair is to bring African publishers and their books into focus.

"Up to now, Africa was only an exotic outsider, little noticed in the bustle of the literary marketplace," says Weidhaas. He hopes, with the aid of the Frankfurt Book Fair's excellent reputation world-wide, to offer aid to the literature of developing countries, to arouse interest in it, to produce an impact that will be felt beyond Frankfurt and to influence not only the book trade but promote cultural awareness of Africa. Every effort will be made to bring to Frankfurt as many publishers and authors as possible. A delegate has been assigned for each Black African country to compile a list of private, religious and national publishers and to invite them to the Fair. The German Foreign Office has set aside funds for this purpose and invitations will be made through the respective embassies.

Not only publishers, but also African

POPCORN MACHINES
FROM £397·00
★★★
ICED DRINK MACHINES
★★★
CANDY FLOSS MACHINES
★★★
ALL SUPPLIES
★★★

SPECIALIST IN EXPORT TO WEST AFRICA
★
SHIPPING CATERED FOR

AMERICAN FOODS LTD, 30 CLAPHAM HIGH STREET, LONDON SW4 TEL: 01-720-9455

AHMAD AUTOMOBILES
(DRINCOMBE LIMITED)
33 Charles Street,
LONDON W1
for
New and Used
TAX FREE CARS
All European and Japanese makes, for use here and then export or direct shipping
All services arranged
Offices open
Monday—Saturday
9 am to 6 pm
Nearest underground: Green Park
Telephone: 01-493 5197/8388
01-499 5197

We invite you to come and see our new arrivals of slightly used Datsuns.

The
RAYNES CENTRE
106/8 Kingsland High Street
London E8
Telephone: 01-249 1467

Well worth a visit –
Wholesale and Retail
at discounted prices
GOLD GOLD GOLD
18ct Jewellery
at very
competitive prices
LACES & EMBROIDERIES —
Latest fashions, including silk organza, voile handcut with stones, wonyosi, latest and best quality damask. Hayes headties BB and BBL and super, super wax brocade prints. Wide range guinea brocades, etc. etc. etc.
Open: Mon–Fri 9–6. Thurs & Sun 9–2
Nearest tube: Liverpool St.
Buses 67, 76, 149 & 243
Branches: RAYNES TEXTILES,
66 Middlesex St., E1 (01) 247 3502
RAYNES FABRICS,
122 Kingsland High St., E8 (01) 249 0453

authors are scheduled to be at the Frankfurt Book Fair. The Fair management plans to invite between 30 and 35 authors and journalists. A list is being drawn up based on the suggestions from German and African publishers and other interested parties. Despite this concerted effort, however, many of the smallest publishers will not be able to participate. Since publishing houses in Africa often fail — as they do elsewhere in publishing — with only their books remaining, the Book Fair's exhibit of Black African literature, composed of some 2,500 books, newspapers, magazines and journals, will contain works published during the past ten years. This exhibit will have pride of place at the Fair.

A parallel exhibit will display literature written about Africa by non-Africans, the so-called "Africana".

African organisations and exile groups in the Federal Republic of Germany and Europe also will receive a place of honour. The Fair management would like to go a step further than the printed page, to make Africa appear alive and real.

Before the Book Fair gets underway, a major seminar and a special conference are planned. Dieter Riemenschneider, Professor for English and American Literature, will conduct a three-day seminar with African authors at Frankfurt University. Alwin Diemer of Düsseldorf, is responsible for organising a conference on African philosophy, in connection with the Book Fair. Who in Germany knows anything about African philosophy or has even heard of Towa (Cameroon) or Hountoundji (Benin)?

Peter Weidhaas hopes that private initiatives will make it possible to provide music and films, to create both a visual and oral image of Africa during the Fair. All these activities underline Weidhaas's desire to achieve a broad cultural spread. The "fringe" activities are designed to place the African book in its proper cultural setting and to produce cultural reverberations. It is his aim, Weidhaas says, that even after the stands are dismantled and the exhibitors gone that "something of Africa will remain with us."

Serious trading

In spite of the extensive fringe programme, Weidhaas emphasises that Frankfurt's Book Fair should not be viewed only as a sort of cultural festival, but also as a hard-driving business event. The object is trade as well as culture. Therefore, at the Fair itself, a meeting point will be set up as a centre for Third World publishers, where African trade visitors can seek advice on making proper contacts and contracts.

To assure lasting interest in African publications, Weidhaas and others in the book trade are considering establishing a Third World Book Agency. Such a project has been discussed within the Evangelical Church in Germany for some time. Weidhaas hopes that this year's Book Fair will provide the final push and that a sponsor can be found. This Agency would have the responsibility of watching over and evaluating African book production during the entire year. Books suitable for publication in Europe could be translated and steered through the proper literary channels. The Agency could also undertake the task of negotiating rights and licences. A regularly published bulletin could be sent to publishers and the media.

Since Africa is not a unit, but rather a large continent with very different traditions and culture, African ideas as to how the Book Fair should look are many. "We will try to incorporate as many African wishes and interests into the planning as possible," says Weidhaas, while stressing that one single event cannot make up for a century of neglect. The Book Fair management has no easy job, especially when trying to integrate three major language areas — English, French and Portuguese. "We are determined to follow certain paths, whether right or wrong," says Weidhaas, "otherwise we might just as well give up." Efforts will be made to reach a consensus and there will have to be compromises. Weidhaas is glad of the vigorous help of Mr. Said Mzee, a Tanzanian who was formerly deputy chief editor of the East African Publishing House in Nairobi where he had special responsibility for Swahili.

Representatives

African publishers present at last year's Frankfurt Book Fair elected their own representatives: Ife Book Fair director Jean Dihang of Editions CLE and the Rev. Etemesi, representing Kenya's small publishers. In addition, African publishers asked officials of the Frankfurt Book Fair to visit two African book fairs for the purpose of establishing further contacts. Every year a book fair for French-speaking Africa is held in Bamako (Mali). English-speaking West Africa has the Ife Book Fair in Nigeria.

The Bamako Book Fair had to be postponed several times and finally took place between Christmas and New Year, when Peter Weidhaas and his team were unable to attend. But they did get to the Ife Book Fair. This year, before the Ife Fair opened, a workshop on economic publishing was held, with trade representatives from Frankfurt participating. Several African countries exhibited their productions there for the first time and Ife was viewed as an important dress rehearsal for Frankfurt.

In West Germany, publishers are getting ready for autumn. The best warm-up, according to Weidhaas, was the "Dialogue Africa" action. Through reader participation, two publishing houses were able to obtain support for a noteworthy experiment in cultural exchange, the translation of 16 titles by Black African authors into German. Radio, television and the press also have begun to tune into the African theme. An Africa Year seems to be on the horizon. Weidhaas says: "I am no prophet, but I believe that this year's theme will catch on. Already we have achieved more than with our Latin American programme two years ago. We have learnt from our mistakes and this time are sure that we have the proper support."

LETTERS to the Editor

"Case for change in Cameroon"

SIR: It would have been unreasonable not to expect that the issues I attempted to raise and confront about Ahidjo's 22 years in power would arouse mixed reactions from fellow Cameroonians as well as friends of Cameroon (*West Africa*, April 14) But I must, in all candour, confess that Antony Steel's "A Calm Refuge" (*West Africa*, May 5) destroys any hopes I may have had that challenges to my assessment would, at the very least, be pitched above the level of *ad hominem* attacks and within a context that is both intellectually and constructively profitable. There are three points which I feel compelled to make with respect to Steel's misdirected attack on my call for a transfusion of new leadership blood into Cameroon's anaemic political system.

First, both in tone and substance, there was an unconcealed eagerness on Steel's part to typecast me as a Marxist, left-wing revolutionary dilettante for whom Cameroon remains nothing more than a convenient laboratory to test my pet theories of revolutionary change regardless of the social costs. This eagerness led, too often, to simplistic explanations on the one hand, and to careless (better still, selective) inattention to the arguments I advanced, on the other hand. Altogether, Steel's attempt to pin an ideological label on me and to impute instrumental motives behind my disagreement with the *status quo* tended to scuttle his major point (assuming he had one) before it was established and to weaken and distort his analysis (if we may so call it) of social change in post-colonial Africa.

Second, Steel's point that Cameroon under Ahidjo's leadership has remained an island of calm and stability has already been conceded in my earlier assessment (how I wish he had taken the time to read it!) All the same, I must say that in my judgement he fails to make a persuasive case that peace and stability equals social and economic progress. The fact of the matter is that after two decades in office the Ahidjo regime has failed to ease the misery of the poverty-stricken Cameroonian masses. That my compatriots have remained silent this long is not, in spite of Steel, "because of the calm that President Ahidjo's government maintains" in the country. It is in part a testimony to the remarkable endurance of the human spirit and in part a reflection of the *gendarme* state atmosphere which ominously shrouds the entire country. Fear has become so institutionalised and the government so eager to unleash its array of draconian measures against dissenters that few Cameroonians are willing to take the chance of openly criticising government policies.

Third, in citing the tragic and traumatic upheavals in Equatorial Guinea, Chad and recently Liberia as reasons why Cameroonians should be thankful for Ahidjo's protective umbrella, Steel succeeds only in describing results (i.e., the *consequences* of violent change) without attempting to explain its causes. The serious student of social change would have asked "*why*" these upheavals and "*how*" can they be avoided? That they continue to occur vitiates Steel's thesis that in the vast majority of the countries in the world, Africa included, resort to revolution as a means to usher in change is unjustified precisely because other, presumably peaceful, methods are available. Without going into the many reasons behind the upheavals in Africa, we can at least draw some very important lessons from them. The first lesson to draw is that leaders who ignore for too long the legitimate aspirations of their people do so at their own peril. Second, that the masses are not as stupid as many would have us believe - they are sufficiently endowed with intelligence to recognise when they have reached their threshold of tolerance beyond which they are prepared to revolt against tyrannical rule. Third, that violent methods for change become attractive when peaceful avenues are blocked and people are denied *real* and *meaningful* participation in determining their political destiny.

Lastly, that the Liberian ruling class should suddenly find itself before a firing squad urged by a jubilant populace after attempting for decades to anaesthetise the masses with the soothing talk of "peace and stability" is perhaps the most compelling evidence to discredit Steel's thesis. The Liberian upheaval in particular should have caused Steel (and all those who profess to love Cameroon) to pause and undertake a much overdue reappraisal of how politics is conducted in Cameroon. To my disappointment, he chose instead to play on the fears of my compatriots by disingenuously suggesting that a change in the country's leadership amounts to an open invitation to anarchy, destruction, and disorder. How I wish Steel was right, even *a little* right. My contention is that the present leadership in Cameroon has after 22 years in office run out of fresh, innovative ideas and should step aside for a new crop of visionary leaders dedicated to the pursuit of economic and social justice for *all* Cameroonians.

Governors State University
Illinois PROF NDIVA KOFELE-KALE

Human massacre not the answer

SIR: There is no doubt that Nigeria has taken her place in the queue of the civilised nations. On two different occasions within the past 10 months, the governments of Nigeria had internationally and diplomatically demonstrated their disapproval to the uncontitutionally elected and blood-thirsty regimes in other parts of Africa. The first time was by cutting the crude oil supply to Ghana after the mass killing of the country's ex-heads of State. Second, is the Nigeria government's refusal to allow the Foreign Minister of Liberia's military junta to enter into the country to attend the OAU Summit. Presumably, the Nigerian Government's stand on this issue stems from the failure of the new government in Liberia to accept the last-minute appeals for clemency mounted by the US Embassy and other Western diplomats on the officials executed in the country.

We must now understand in Africa that human massacre on its own does not solve the problems of the society. It is the least effective method of representing the view of carrying out the wish of the poor people. There is no useful purpose served by destroying human lives. At its best, the frequent and excessive use of arms and ammunition in the developing nations creates markets for the advanced nations and thereby aids the advancement of their industrial economy. At its worst the value of our people's lives continues to depreciate, whereas in the so-called civilised countries, people are prepared to dump millions of pounds into research on how to combat dreadful diseases such as cancer, and they will also be eager to spend their monies on such treatment as "heart transplant", in order to preserve the lives of their citizens.

Therefore, what is good for the goose is also good for the gander. The life of a petty thief needs to be preserved as well as the life of a corrupt public figure. Both of them are in the same boat — namely, they commit crimes which harm the society in which they live. Crimes which are committed by those in top positions do as much harm (if not more) to the society as crime com-

SHIPPING & AIR FREIGHT NEWS

★ Shipping for general cargo — including cars, trucks, personal effects and machinery at competitive rates.
★ Low airfreight cost from 80p per kilo.
★ Airticket arrangements available at low costs.
★ Consignments packed in either lined case, steel container, roll on — roll off.
★ Discount for students.
★ Freight payment at destination by arrangement.
★ Collection, removal and storage at low costs.
★ For reliability, low cost rates, service and our long experience in shipping to East and West Africa — we consider unchallengeable.

★★★ Contact us for your shipping problems, we can ease your burden by collecting, packing and shipping your goods to any destination.

OVERSEAS FREIGHTWAYS

38-40 KENNINGTON PARK ROAD, LONDON, SE11
Tel: 01-582 4150 and 01-582 4987

BOOK WITH THE PROFESSIONALS

AND

FOR THE CHEAPEST SUMMER FLIGHTS TO WEST AFRICA

Visit us at our new premises at

6 NORTH END PARADE
NORTH END ROAD
LONDON W14

or phone us on
01-602 5091 Telex 261426

For further details send the coupon

Name .....
Address .....
.....
Destination .....

mitted by the petty thief who steals meagre amounts of money by using a piece of wood violently on another victim. Because of this, the "shooting exercise" of the armed robbers which the "Robbery and Firearms" Decree of 1970 provided for, needs to be reconsidered by Nigerian legal experts. Capital punishment of this nature tends to undermine the civilised practices and the humanitarian philosophy of the people in modern Nigeria.

Moreover, the rationale of "bumping-off" armed robbers is to redress the wrongs committed by them and also to serve as a deterrent to others who might like to commit similar crimes. But in Nigeria, for example, this has not served the purpose envisaged.

A lot of people who drift into committing crimes do so not for the interest and prestige of it but because the society has denied them the opportunity of making a living. Poverty and inadequate job opportunities can be the cause of Hobson's choice for stealing and committing grievous crimes. The basic redress lies in economic development which fulfils human needs and aspirations and not capital punishment. Capital punishment can be counter-productive. When opportunities are not there to fulfil one's basic needs and self-respect, some people would prefer to commit crime, disregarding the death penalty, than live in poverty and degradation.

Staffordshire, UK DAYO OLATUNJI

. . . Yet another look at Moscow Games

SIR: The resounding noise of the Western political trumpets keep on blowing and calling the athletes of the world to sacrifice their ambition on the altar of political expediency by boycotting the forthcoming Moscow Olympic Games. President Carter, the renowned champion of human rights and the protector of Western democracy, is very vociferous in vanguarding this course as a retaliatory measure against the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. Consequently, a number of countries, especially in the West, have been caught in a dilemma, unable to decide whether or not to encourage their athletes to participate in the Moscow games. Whether this concerted behaviour of the countries calling for the boycott of the games is salutary or not could be judged from the merits and demerits of the circumstances.

Admittedly, political aggrandisement by means of wanton military invasion into other people's domain under any colour of pretext is, and should be roundly condemned by sanity. The fact that a country is economically and militarily superior to her neighbour should in fairness and in the interest of peace, not entitle a super power to impose on the weaker power (in the absence of military provocation).

Were the means adopted by USA to register her disapproval and condemnation of the Soviet Union's action in Afghanistan appropriate, the rest of the peace-loving world, who believe in the political doctrine of sovereignty, would have whole-heartedly rallied to her support. Unfortunately, President Carter has hastily attempted to clip the claws of the polar bear with the wrong tool. The most effective way by which the government of USA and her supporters should have taken to register their strong protest against Moscow's "diabolical action" in Afghanistan was to have severed trade and diplomatic relations with Moscow. Such an action would have struck at the political nerve centre of the various contacts with Moscow and the result would have been the paralysis of the enervated peripheral organs.

Officials of the past and present Olympic games committee and other sports councils of the world have repeatedly appealed to politicians not to mix politics with sport. The harmony in inter-personal relationship achieved from the participation by athletes from different countries, including USA and USSR, in the last winter Olympic games in Lake Placid, in spite of the hullabaloo against the Soviet Union, was a demonstration of the assertion that sports is above politics.

The reader may be tempted to ask, "Why then has South Africa been ostracised from international sporting activities?" The answer is simple. International sport competitions are held between and among peoples of the world, regardless of colour, race or creed. In South Africa the nauseating policy of apartheid — a monstrous political beast, whose species in other parts of the world are extinct — does not allow black or coloured people to mix on equal terms with the white people at any level of civic life, let alone sporting activities. But since international sports involve free and voluntary participation by peoples of the world, be they black or white — the very idea South Africa's policy is against — it would be an affront to natural law to welcome South Africa to the arena of international competitions. To be precise, it is their own apartheid shadow that has ostracised them from the scene of international sports stadium.

Politicians must appreciate the fact that the sporting life of an athlete is ephemeral. The gifted few could survive in the tracks for eight years. This year's Olympics may provide some of the athletes their last chance to compete for medals in an Olympic forum. The youths among them must therefore not be denied positive encouragement to participate in the scheduled games in Moscow. Politicians have endless terms to live in politics, and it is up to them to find an appropriate political means to settle their scores with the Soviet Union.

It is undoubtedly a naked hypocrisy on the part of the US to advocate for a boycott of the

ROCKFORDS Serving You Since 1963

THE SPECIALISTS IN PERSONAL EXPORTS

THE BEST BARGAINS IN THE U.K. FOR THE WORLD'S TOP BRANDS

We stock and demonstrate fully tropicalised goods suitable for West Africa.

Tropicalised Deep Freezers
High quality with oil jacket compressor for tropical conditions
From 7 to 23 cu ft

Video VRC
Export and local — Sony, JVC, Philips, and Akai plus blank and pre-recorded films.

Tropicalised Refrigerators/Fridge Freezers
From 5 to 14.5 cu ft
Luxury models with push-button "Magic Defrost"

Export and local TVs
black and white and colour
From 12" – 26"

PLUS

Voltage stabilisers and 100's of other bargains in radio, radio/cassettes, TVs, Hi-Fi, electric and bottled gas cookers, washing machines and other domestic appliances.

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM FOR A DEMONSTRATION

Use Rockford to collect, pack and ship your personal effects at the lowest possible prices. For transport, shipping, packing and forwarding visit our warehouse.

Showrooms:
Shepherds Bush: 25 Shepherds Bush Centre, London W12 (nearest Tube: Shepherds Bush) Tel: 01-743 95
Warehouse: 26-31A Shepherds Bush Place, London W12 (nearest Tube: Shepherds Bush) Tel: 01-749 35
Cables: SATNAM London W1 Telex: 23532 SATNAM G

ROCKFORDS

Moscow games while ironically she keeps trading and maintaining diplomatic links with Moscow.
Ilford, UK S. EFFAH-BAFFOE

Irrelevant nomenclature

SIR: One of the cardinal problems of our African leaders and others in authority is their myopic outlook; their inability to read the writing on the wall. It is this short-sightedness that has led many into trouble. It was not surprising, therefore, that the former Sewa Grounds in Freetown has been renamed June Holst Roness Grounds. Prior to this, it was called Queen Victoria Park. Our leaders have a way of ignoring public opinion to their detriment. Their ability to treat national issues as if they were their personal affairs is baffling.

One wants to know what this lady Mayor Roness has achieved for Freetown, a neutral city, that she thinks she should be so honoured. The smearing of names in places of civic and national importance in Freetown should not be tolerated, especially when such names are so grotesque within the African context that they should be treated with contempt. This callous attitude towards national affairs and self-glorification in its simplistic forms is a syndrome of megalomanic dimension.

People should leave the public to honour them when they have left or honourably retired from public office. They should not force people to honour them while they are still in power. It is bad taste, an exercise in political coercion. One gets some form of power in four years, she wants to be registered in history, the whole exercise is scandalous to say the least, especially for someone supposed to be enlightened. It is the mark of an educated and enlightened man to be humble in the face of power, to be selfless in his or her service to the people.

Nothing has changed in the Freetown municipality since our lady mayor took office. One needs to visit our markets in deplorable conditions, the filth in the streets of Freetown and so on, to appreciate the ridiculous nature of this historically irrelevant nomenclature she now wants to impose upon us. But these are temporary labels which will be removed when the social situations change and assigned to their natural place — the dust-bin — of history.
New York AMADU L. KAMARA

Immodest claim

SIR: In the issue of *West Africa*, February 25 under the heading "Arbitration Centre for Nigeria", Dr. Ben Sen, Secretary General of the Afro-Asian Legal Consultative Committee, was reported to have paid a visit to Nigeria, "recently". Chief Richard Akinjide, Attorney General for Nigeria, welcoming the august visitor in his office was further reported to have said inter alia, that "Nigeria has the largest number of lawyers, very brilliant ones too, and obviously the best in Africa."

I find it difficult to believe that the learned Attorney General of Nigeria and Minister of Justice did in fact make the claim attributed to him in this report; this is not to cast any doubt on the integrity of a paper we have learned to respect for so many years. However, if this immodest claim was in fact and in truth made to the visiting Secretary General then I must in the name of modesty, logic and good neighbourliness, question the basis of such a claim.

That Nigeria — a country of over eighty million people — has the largest number of lawyers in Africa, is nothing to be wondered at, considering the affluence that "liquid gold" has brought her. But, surely, to argue that quantity per se, equals quality par excellence is to indulge in unbridled fantasy and self-deception. The proper time for battle will come when the Arbitration Centre will have been established in Nigeria.

Perhaps, we who come from the smaller countries of Africa, can find room in our hearts to forgive our brother from Nigeria for his patriotic exuberance; does not our African proverb say: "No same person points to his father's village with his left index finger?" All the same, in our search for true African Unity, there is need for us to remember that another African proverb which says: "If physical dimensions alone were the deciding factor the elephant would be the undisputed king of the jungle."
Kumasi, Ghana JOE APPIAH

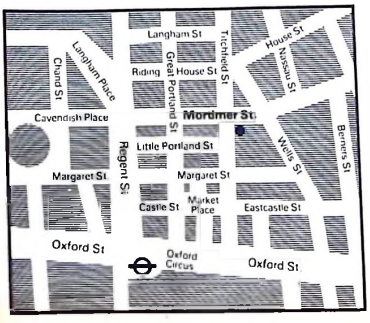
Conflicts with objective

SIR: The importation of right-hand-drive vehicles into Ghana had been banned since the country changed from driving on the left to the right. It is true to say that highway authorities all over the world encourage the use of vehicles more suitable to the operative road system in their country. But in almost all the advanced technological countries the importation of vehicles not designed to the authorised road system (whether left hand or right hand) is not banned. The worst an importer may suffer is a higher licence fee for the vehicle. And these are countries which have no serious road transport problems of our kind.

With the present state of Ghana's economy and the acute shortage of vehicles for both passenger and goods transport, one wonders if it is still reasonable to continue the ban. It would seem that the ban has created a conflict with the objective of the free and easy movement of people and the flow of goods to and from all parts of Ghana. Perhaps President Limann's government can look at the gains and losses in this area of vital economic concern for immediate action.
Birmingham JIM WEMEGA

Intorica Showroom
now open in LONDON

Intorica, having over fifty years trading experience in Africa, are happy to announce that they are now able to offer a direct service to London-based customers and overseas visitors.



The Intorica Showroom has the widest selection of:

Grafton Wax Prints **Fancy Prints**
Hayes Head Ties **Intorica George**

at their new fourth floor showroom at:

Gilmora House, 57-61 Mortimer Street London W1

Business Hours:
10.30 am—5.30 pm Monday to Friday

Personal callers and cash sales only

Intorica

ECONOMIC and Business NEWS

A cocoa consuming view

from a correspondent

BRITAIN'S Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance held its annual general meeting last week, as the name shows the Alliance is of some importance to the cocoa industry and represents the buying side of the industry in Britain including, through the feed-back from sales figures, the ultimate consumers in the home. For example in 1979 consumers in Britain paid more than £1,600m. for the products of the Alliance's members. In money terms this was an increase of some 12% per cent though only about 9 per cent more in volume terms. Looked at in more detail the figures for 1979 show growing sales in the first half of the year but a decline after the near doubling of the Value Added Tax, and there are no indications of an improvement so far this year.

In his address to the AGM the President of the Alliance, Mr. R. N. Wadsworth, (of Cadbury-Schweppes, pointed out that apart from periods of rationing, fluctuations in the industry's sales have been attributable over a long period of years to the prices of its products in relation to prices in general and the surplus cash in consumers pockets. He was making this point with particular reference to governmental taxation policies but it is also relevant to raw material prices, to which he referred later in his speech. Before he came to that passage he said that the fall in the industry's exports "from £216m. in 1978 to £209m. in 1979 was largely due to a sharp drop in exports of intermediate manufactures such as cocoa butter and paste powder and crumb".

Mr Wadsworth said that raw materials, excluding packaging, account for about 40 per cent of the industry's costs. He went on: "Cocoa beans and cocoa butter cost us more than any other single commodity we use; and, as they are basic to about two-thirds of the turnover of this industry, much time and effort is devoted to the study of the market and to furthering research. Although the present price of beans is less than the all-time highs of two years ago, it still remains (after allowing for inflation) at an historically high level.

"Moreover, it is not always understood that the industry is just as dependent on the price of cocoa butter (which is derived from beans), and this remains close to its highest ever level. It is for this reason that, in the recent series of international negotiations, the consuming countries resisted the producing countries' efforts to negotiate a very large increase in the floor price of the International Cocoa Agreement.

"We have always supported the concept of an International Cocoa Agreement incorporating a base price high enough to prevent the cocoa economies of the producing countries being damaged by excessively low prices in times of surplus, but set at a level which would also encourage consumption to grow and absorb the surplus.

"We regret the breakdown of the negotiations in March of this year but believe that the floor price asked by the producing countries was basically too high to permit the necessary growth in consumption. We hope that in due course new measures will be discussed to help assure the stability of the market in this commodity in years to come in the interests of both producers and consumers."

Referring to directives and regulations from both Whitehall and the Common Market Mr. Wadsworth said that the Alliance was still awaiting an amended Chocolate Directive from Brussels, with appropriate provisions on how ingredients are to be listed on labels. Here, too, he had something to say of much wider interest. "The *Chocolate Directive* must also deal with the problem of permitted emulsifiers and the use of vegetable fats in partial substitution for cocoa butter.

"With the march of science, the industry now has fats available to it which can be used in limited amounts as substitutes for cocoa butter at half the cost without any effect on the acceptability of the products to the consumer.

"This substitution is already permitted by national legislation in the UK, Ireland and Denmark; and we would welcome its extension to the original EEC countries, as it would take some of the pressure off the cocoa market . . . There is now, at last, a glimmer of hope that progress may be made this year towards this goal."

● UK cocoa bean grindings in the first quarter of this year totalled 15,500 tonnes, down 12.4 per cent from the same quarter last year.

Prices dive again

Having recovered slightly from the lows of an oversold market cocoa has turned round again and plunged down. At the middle of last week May cocoa was below £1,100 a tonne and so was July cocoa, down to its lowest level for four years, even July next year was little above £1,250.

Dealers said the new fall was started by rumours of sales by Ghana and the Ivory Coast; for the latter the sales reached up to 100,000 tonnes sold to a visiting deputation of European merchants.

The three-day meeting of ten members of the Cocoa Producers' Alliance in Salvador, Brazil, to discuss methods to stabilise prices seemed to have little effect on the market. Perhaps because of the failure of earlier CPA talks to produce any convincingly practical proposals. Reports of further selling by producers in need of income and similar rumours seem to have been more effective in the market-place.

It was reported fro Abidjan that the European Common Market's Aid Commissioner, Mr. Claude Cheysson, has said after his talks with President Felix Houphouet-Boigny that the EEC should do more to stabilise cocoa prices.

The newspaper *Fraternite Nain* quotes Mr. Cheysson as saying: "We know very well the importance of cocoa for your peasants and also for the development of the state.

"Therefore there is not the slightest doubt that if we want to be faithful to the spirit of co-operation and association, we must contribute more than we have done so far towards ensuring a stabilisation of the price, or more exactly a capacity to forecast the price."

Mr Cheysson's remarks came rather late. Had they been advanced and vigorously pressed say six months ago they might have helped to prevent the collapse of the International Cocoa Agreement and, possibly, that of cocoa prices which has followed (possibly coincidentally) with the removal of any hopes of a unified approach by the cocoa industry to the problem of coping for the third successive year with a surplus of production over estimated demand.

Plans to process some of the Ivory Coast's stockpile of more than 130,000 tonnes in Brazil are opposed by Brazilian growers who fear that this might introduce some of the West African cocoa diseases into Brazil. No financial details of this scheme have yet been published.

Ivory Coast's gamble

Falling commodity prices on the world markets have forced the Ivory Coast to shelve about 10 projects costing $1,430m., including plans for a new airport at Abid and more television. Finan Ministry sources have said according to Reuters.

President Felix Houphouet Boigny decided last year that the Ivory Coast should stockpile cocoa, the country's second mo important export, to try to l world prices. Income from cocoa has therefore dropped considerably.

The postponed projects could go ahead in a few years' time.

There is widespread speculation in Abidjan that the President "cocoa gamble" has taken because the country had found major oil reserves which could cushion the blow if the gamble failed.

The Ivory Coast's first offsh the offshore Belier field, is due to start production in July. It is expected to produce an estimated one million tonnes of oil a year in the years ahead, about half of the country's needs.

Discovery of a second oil field, was officially announced in April. No details of estimated production rates were given, but officials have said the field could be several times bigger than Belier. They added that the Ivory Coast would almost certainly be self-sufficient in oil by 1982.

The Ivory Coast has 130,000 tonnes of cocoa stocked and the general trend of prices is still downwards. After six months, the outcome of the gamble is still in doubt.

After the airport, the next big guest project which is being shelved is a $380m. programme to develop television to the whole country.

Other projects include a hospital at President Houphouet-Boigny's home town of Yamoussoukro and a new bridge at Abidjan.

Coffee drifts

Coffee prices weakened slightly last week, having shown good gains the previous week under the influence of Bogota Group activities. At the middle of last week spot coffee was just above £1,690 a tonne, July was £1,740, September £1,790, both November and January were above £1,805, with March and May next year coming back somewhat above £1,750 a tonne.

Tin stronger

Against the general run of base metals last week tin moved upwards. The reason is thought to be a growing shortage of nearby supplies, London Metal Exchange warehouse stocks were down 810 tonnes to 2,015 tonnes. Cash metal in London at the middle of last week was about £7,435 for standard tin and showing a premium over three month tin which was at £7,425 a tonne.

● The Cardiff Chamber of Commerce is sending a trade mission to Nigeria and Ghana from June 22 to July 9.

FAO predicts better harvests

Substantial gains over 1979 in world harvests of cereals and oilseeds, major crops for both food and feed, are foreseen by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The forecasts are based both on larger plantings by farmers and on good weather thus far prevailing in many regions and an assumption of average growing conditions for the rest of 1980.

After dropping by 4 per cent in 1979, combined production of wheat and coarse grains is expected to recover to 1,208m tons, according to the FAO's latest Food Outlook report. Winter cereal crops in the northern hemisphere have had generally good weather. Though excessive rains and cold weather delayed sowing of spring crops in some countries, larger plantings are expected.

FAO raises its estimate of 1980 coarse grain production slightly from last month's 755m tons to 758m tons, 3 per cent above 1979. The wheat production estimate is unchanged at 450m tons, 7 per cent above 1979.

Although world trade in wheat and coarse grains has reached unprecedented levels following last year's reduced crops, FAO said that export availabilities of grain are more than sufficient to meet import requirements. FAO predicted 1979/80 trade of 179m tons, 20m tons over 1978/79. World rice trade, also heavy, was forecast at 10.7m tons for calendar year 1980, slightly below last year's record.

FAO has reduced its estimate of world cereal stocks at the end of 1979/80 to 251m tons of wheat, coarse grains and rice, 5m tons below the March estimate and 14m tons below 1979. While stocks are larger than in any year except 1979, FAO said they would be equivalent to 17 per cent of annual consumption — "the minimum required for world food security".

FAO predicted that world output of fats and oils would rise by 9 per cent in 1980, and that of oilmeal proteins, used for livestock feed, would increase by 17 per cent. Even with an above-average rise in use of these commodities, FAO said, stocks would build up and international prices decline from 1979 averages.

Most of the output will come from soybeans. Expected 1979/80 soybean output of nearly 99m tons compares with an estimated 82m tons in 1978/79. Among other oilseed crops, the Food Outlook predicted a sharply larger sunflower seed output, expanding production of rape-seed, cotton-seed, palm oil and copra, unchanged groundnut output, and lower olive oil production.

● The International Wheat Council (IWC) has raised its estimate of 1979/80 world wheat production to 424.3m tonnes from 420.5m due to an increase in the official Chinese figure to 60m tonnes from 56m.

IWC's estimate, covering crops harvested during the 12 months starting April, 1979, compares with 450m tonnes in 1978/79.

The IWC lowered its estimate of carry-over stocks of the five main exporting countries at the end of their respective 1979/80 crop years to 51m tonnes from 52.7m against 53.1m in 1978/79.

● African wheat imports in the 1979/80 July/June crop year are expected to reach a record 12.9m tonnes.

Food grants

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has announced loans to help rural development projects in Ghana and Niger and grants to help with agricultural research in Nigeria and Liberia.

● The US and Upper Volta have signed an agreement providing for a supplementary US grant of $4.3m to Upper Volta to implement rural water supply projects and forest development projects.

● Ghana and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have agreed on a five-year $6.5m. technical assistance programme to further 11 development projects in Ghana.

● The OPEC Special Fund has signed agreements to lend $7m to two African countries. Mauritania received $5.5m and The Gambia $1.5m. in balance of payments assistance.

● The Arab Monetary Fund is to lend Mauritania $17.5m. to help it adjust its balance of payments, the loan will be repayable over five years at 5.2 per cent to 6.4 per cent interest.

● The International Development Association (IDA), has approved a $10m. credit to Benin to be used to support industrial development through a state bank for promoting economic and social development projects.

By road as well with Redcoat

Redcoat Cargo Airlines is now offering its own trucking service for destination in Ghana beyond Accra and will deliver directly in Redcoat vehicles to addresses in, for example, Tamal, Takoradi and Kumasi, among other places.

An extension of the service also covers several Francophone African towns such as Douala, Cotonou, Lome, Abidjan, Conakry, Dakar, Nouakshott and Bamako. This service is for cargoes of less than 5,000 kilos — cargoes above that weight are flown directly to the relevant airport.

These smaller consignments will go on the regular twice-weekly Redcoat flights to whichever of Accra, Freetown, Monrovia and Banjul is most appropriate and then be transferred into Redcoat's own bonded trucks for delivery to their Francophone destinations. This new through service avoids exporters of smaller loads to Francophone destinations having to make a series of transport arrangements to get their goods delivered.

Zaire pays up

The central bank of Zaire is reported, by the *Financial Times*, to have paid $58m. (£26m.) in fulfilment of its first obligation under an agreement made last month to reschedule $434m. in uninsured syndicated credits from 122 commercial banks. The money covers all interest arrears as at January 31 and 10 per cent of arrears on repayments of principal at the same date.

● The International Development Association (IDA) has announced a $13.5m credit for Zaire's Société Financière de Developpement. The fifth in a series the IDA has granted the Société (SOFIDE), to help finance foreign exchange requirements in developing priority agriculture, transportation and industry projects.

Road works

British consulting engineers Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners, have been appointed to supervise construction of 97km of single carriageway between Musenge and Biruwe in Zaire. The road will eventually form part of the main route between Bakavu (on Lake Kivu) and the port of Kisangani on the River Zaire. The project is being financed by the European Development Fund SWK were selected by the Government of Zaire from a short list of consultants prepared by the EEC Directorate-General for Development.

Lagos ousts Kinshasa

Lagos, is now the most expensive city in the world, according to a worldwide survey of executive living costs published by the American research and counselling firm, Business International. The UN recently rated Kinshasa the most expensive (*West Africa*, May 12).

But London comes top for hotel costs: an overnight stay for a businessman in London is quoted at $237.45 for a single room with breakfast and lunch. This is $83 more than Frankfurt, West Germany, which comes second for hotel expenses.

The 10 most expensive cities in the world, on an index with New York rated at 100, are: Lagos 133.5, Tokyo 132, Douala 130.5; Zurich 126; Abidjan 125; Vienna 124.7; Oslo 124; Geneva 123; London 122; Stockholm 121.

The five most expensive cities for travellers, calculating the cost of a one-night stay at a first-class hotel with breakfast and lunch are: London $237.45; Frankfurt $154.19; Paris $152.26; Brussels $148.04; Abu Dhabi $138.70.

The Business International cost of living survey includes food items, drinks, household supplies, clothing, recreation and transport but not housing or education.

The survey adds that housing costs in London are "astronomical" because of the restricted real estate market. "A five or six-room apartment can run anywhere from $2,500 to $6,500 a month — considerably more than one would have to pay in the most expensive European cities," it says.

Intra-African trade disappointing

The latest issue of *African Trade*, published by the Economic Commission for Africa, publishes some statistics on the intra-African trade of the developing countries of Africa, which appears to have been declining as percentage of total African trade, although the monetary sums involved have increased. A table is given below:

African trade 1967—1978, in millions of dollars

Year	Total Developing Africa			Intra-African Trade			Intra-African Trade as percentage of the total (%)		
	Imports	Exports	Total Imports&Exp	Imports	Exports	Total	Imports	Exports	Total
1967	8,039	8,267	16,306	468	449	917	5.8	5.4	5.6
1968	8,394	9,567	17,961	536	522	1,058	6.4	5.5	5.9
1969	9,222	11,111	20,333	613	565	1,178	6.6	5.1	5.8
1970	10,784	12,554	23,338	696	658	1,354	6.5	5.2	5.8
1971	12,364	12,772	25,136	704	708	1,412	5.7	5.5	5.6
1972	13,621	15,060	28,681	744	819	1,563	5.5	5.4	5.4
1973	17,854	21,180	39,034	925	1,089	2,014	5.2	5.1	5.2
1974	27,672	38,739	66,411	1,459	1,644	3,103	5.3	4.2	4.7
1975	37,752	34,384	72,136	1,613	1,772	3,385	4.3	5.2	4.7
1976	38,727	42,654	81,381	1,514	1,471	2,985	3.9	3.4	3.7
1977	47,245	46,319	93,564	1,718	1,871	3,589	3.6	4.0	3.8
1978	50,767	44,094	94,861	1,889	1,856	3,745	3.7	4.2	3.9

African Trade also gives a comparison of the trade in 1971 and 1976. In 1971 the biggest sector in intra-African trade was *food, beverages and tobacco* at 31.6 per cent of the total, in 1976 this category was 25.2 per cent: *raw materials (excluding fuels) fats and oils* were 12.6 per cent in 1971 and 11.1 per cent in 1976; trade in *chemicals* and in *machinery and transport equipment* declined from 5.6 per cent and 4.2 per cent respectively in 1971 to 3.5 per cent and 2.9 per cent respectively in 1976 while trade in *other manufactured goods* increased between the two years from 27.3 per cent to 31.2 per cent.

SHIPPING News

BARBER LINES
EASTBOUND — TEXAS loads Norfolk May 26, Paulsboro May 28, Baltimore May 29, Philadelphia May 30, New York June 1 for Tenerife, Dakar, Freetown, Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos, Douala. TAMPA loads Jacksonville June 7, Norfolk June 10, Baltimore June 11, Philadelphia June 13, New York June 17, Sunny Point June 19 for Tenerife, Dakar, Freetown, Monrovia, Tema, Lagos and Douala
WESTBOUND — TEXAS discharges U.S. Atlantic ports May 26-30. TAMPA loads West African ports as above May 14-28, for U.S. Atlantic ports discharging June 7-12.

E.A.C. LINES
SOUTHBOUND — BORINGIA Oslo/Moss May 15, Copenhagen May 20, Aarhus May 25, Hamburg May 29, Bremerhaven May 29, Rotterdam May 31, Antwerp/Zeebrugge May 31, Rouen/Le Havre June 1, Tenerife June 5, Dakar June 7, Freetown June 8, Monrovia June 9, Abidjan June 10, Tema July 4, Lome July 3, Lagos/Apapa June 12, Douala June 16.
NORTHBOUND — FIONIA Port Harcourt May 25, Lagos/Apapa May 28, Cotonou May 26, Lome May 29, Tema May 30, Abidjan May 31, Monrovia June 3, Freetown May 21, Dakar June 4, Tenerife June 7, Amsterdam June 10, Antwerp June 10, Rotterdam June 10, Bremen June 16, Hamburg June 15, Aarhus June 12, Copenhagen June 17, Oslo/Moss June 19, Le Havre June 19

ELDER DEMPSTER LINES
SOUTHBOUND — SAPELE Warri May 26. SOKOTO sig Liverpool May 27
NORTHBOUND — DUMBAIA due back May 28. PEGU sig Takoradi May 27. SHONGA sig Apapa May 31.
EASTBOUND — SEKI ROKAKO due Monrovia May 26

FARRELL LINES
EASTBOUND — Departs Matadi May 22, Lagos/Apapa May 16, Abidjan May 26, Monrovia May 28 (if sufficient inducement) arrives Boston June 7, Philadelphia June 9, Baltimore June 10, Norfolk June 11

K LINE
WESTBOUND — SEA EXPRESS from Japan, via Hong Kong and Singapore, to Abidjan, Lome, Apapa/Lagos, Port Harcourt, Douala, Matadi, sailed Japan June 4 due Apapa/Lagos July 12.

MEDAFRICA GOLDEN EAGLE/ NIGERIA LINE
MEDITERRANEAN / WA — SOUTHBOUND — JESAMINE, Marseilles Apr. 19-21, Barcelona Apr 22-23, Valencia Apr 26, Agde May 2-3, Lagos May 8-12
NORTH EUROPE / WA — CAP BRETON Dunkerque Apr 22-23, Rotterdam, Apr 24-26, Lagos May 8, Port Harcourt May 12
USA/WA — HEKTORFF Lagos May 9, Port Harcourt May 13.

FAR EAST/WA — ZIRIA Kobe Apr 18-19, Keelung Apr. 23-24, Hong Kong Apr. 25-26, Singapore May 1-2, Lagos May 22-31, Port Harcourt Jun. 1-4

MITSUI O.S.K. LINE
WESTBOUND — BRAVE PIONEER Kobe Apr. 10, Hong Kong Apr. 21, Singapore Apr. 21, for Monrovia June 2, Apapa May 22, Port Harcourt June 8, Douala June 15. AFRICA MARU last Japanese Port Apr. 5, Singapore Apr. 16, for Abidjan May 9, Apapa/Lagos May 14. HEROINAE sig Japan mid April, calling Hong Kong, Keelung, Singapore for West African ports mid May.

NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE
SOUTHBOUND — RIVER OTI Liverpool May 2, Monrovia May 12, Apapa May 14. RIVER MADA — Hamburg May 5, Bremen May 6, Antwerp May 9, Rotterdam May 13

OT AFRICA LINE AB
SOUTHBOUND — KAPRIFOL Grangemouth May 23, Le Havre May 27, Felixstowe May 28, Walhamn May 28, Zeebrugge May 30, Rotterdam May 30, Dakar June 8, Monrovia June 10, Lagos/Apapa June 12, Tema June 13, Abidjan June 14.

PALM LINE
SOUTHBOUND — APAPA PALM Abidjan May 4-6, Tema May 8-15, Port Harcourt May 17-26

S.C.A.D.O.A.
SOUTHBOUND — SAINT-MATHIEU Dunkirk May 17, Rouen May 20, Le Havre May 21, Cotonou June 4, Port Gentil June 19, Pointe Noire June 13. SAINT-LUC Dunkirk May 20, Rouen May 24, Le Havre May 22, Bordeaux May 27, Dakar June 2, Abidjan June 5, Lome June 8, Apapa June 22 (containers only), Port Harcourt July 2 (containers only), Douala June 14, Libreville June 12
NORTHBOUND — Rouen June 13, Le Havre June 13, Bordeaux June 19, San Pedro June 20, Nantes June 30, Le Havre July 9, Dunkirk July 3

SCANDINAVIA WEST AFRICA LINE
SOUTHBOUND — LYCAON Aarhus June 2, Copenhagen June 3, Norrkoping June 5-6, Banjul Dakar May 23-24, Freetown May 26-28, Monrovia May 29-June 1, Abidjan June 3-7, Tema June 8-11, Cotonou June 12-16, Port Harcourt June 18-28, Douala June 26-29

WESTWIND AFRICA LINE
DESSERT WIND ETA Houston May 2, ETS Houston May 7. ETA Abidjan May 22, ETA Lagos May 26. BUNNA FORTUNA ETA Houston May 10, ETS Houston May 15, ETA Abidjan May 30, ETA Lagos June 4.

UNITED KINGDOM WEST AFRICA LINE
SOUTHBOUND — MARON Middlesbrough May 9, London May 16, Lome May 26, Apapa May 27.

SITUATIONS VACANT

NIGERIA AIRWAYS LIMITED
VACANCIES

Opportunities exist in the Nigeria Airways Limited for suitably-qualified candidates to fill the following vacant posts in the Corporate Planning Unit of the Company:

1. **PRINCIPAL CORPORATE PLANNING OFFICER**
2. **SENIOR CORPORATE PLANNING OFFICER**

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

for (1) A good University Degree in Business Administration or Economics or a related professional qualification with a minimum of five years' post-qualification experience.

for (2) A recognised University Degree in Economics with Econometrics bias, statistics or mathematics with a minimum of three years' working experience in a similar field.

DUTIES:

for (1) (a) Examining the Airline's route structure, Industry Segment, Traffic Trend and recommending changes to improve long-range profitability. Developing specific proposals for altering the Airline's Fleet Composition with the objective of improving the company's profitability.
(b) Liaising and working with the aircraft manufacturers and the Airline Technical Performance Characteristics for aircraft in the design stage of development.

for (2) (a) Regular collation and evaluation of data on the Airline performance and designing mathematical relationships between the Airline decision and operating variables with a view to computerisation.
(b) Development of quantitative indices which will serve as warning to any deterioration in the execution of the periodic long-term plans and to serve as "Internal Consultant to the Planning Staff".

SALARY:

(1) Grade level 12: ₦7,404 x 216 = ₦8,052
(2) Grade level 10: ₦5,760 x 162 = ₦6,732

METHOD OF APPLICATION:

Interested candidates should forward 10 copies each of applications and credentials, stating age, qualification and experience, schools and colleges attended, with dates and names and addresses of at least three referees, to:

THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION,
NIGERIA AIRWAYS LIMITED,
MURTALA MUHAMMED AIRPORT,
P.M.B. 1024, IKEJA, AGOS, NIGERIA

To reach him not later than Saturday, 14th June, 1980.

REPLIES WILL BE SENT ONLY TO SHORT-LISTED CANDIDATES

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

Faculty of Medicine

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following posts in the Department of Pharmacy at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ibadan:

(a) Professor
(b) Reader
(c) Senior Lecturer
(d) Lecturer Grade I/II

QUALIFICATIONS:

(a) Professor
- (i) At least 10 years teaching or professional experience in a University, an Institution of University standing or comparable Professional Institution
- (ii) Ability to initiate and develop research projects
- (iii) Some recognised publications in learned journals.
- (iv) Experience in directing academic group discussions
- (v) Preferably some experience in inter-disciplinary group.
- (vi) Candidates should in addition to the above hold a good Honours Degree and Higher Degree i.e. M.Sc/M.Phil./Ph.D. in any of the following fields (a) Pharmaceutical Chemistry (b) Pharmaceutical Microbiology. (c) Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Technology (d) Pharmacognosy.

(b) Reader
As for (a) above but with seven years teaching or professional experience in a University, and Institution or University standing or comparable Professional Institution

(c) Senior Lecturer
As for (a) but with five years teaching or professional experience in a University, an Institution of University standing of comparable Professional Institution

(d) Lecturer Grade I/II
At least three years experience in teaching or research in a University, an Institution of University standing or a comparable Professional Institution. For Lecturer Grade II some experience in teaching or research in a University, an institution of University standing or comparable Professional Institution would suffice. Some recognised publications will be an advantage. In addition candidates should hold a good Honours Degree and a Higher Degree in at least one of the areas specified in (a)(vi) above.

DUTIES: Duties will include teaching and research work and such other duties as the successful candidates may be required to perform by the University Authorities.

SALARY GRADES:

Professor	G.L. 16 — N11,568 x 526 — N12,720
Reader	G.L. 15 — N10,256 x 516 — N11,328
Senior Lecturer	G.L. 13 — N8,004 x 320 — N9,024
Lecturer Grade I	G.L. 12 — N7,404 x 216 — N8,052
Lecturer Grade II	G.L. 10 — N5,760 x 162 — N6,732

N1=80p approximately.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: Appointment will be either on permanent or contract basis and would commence as soon as possible. Non-contract appointees below the rank of Professorship will be on probation for the first three years and will be considered for confirmation to retiring age thereafter if their services are considered satisfactory. Leave transport grant. Housing Scheme and partly furnished accommodation at rentals not exceeding 8½ per cent of salary or rent allowance of between N480 and N720 per annum in lieu. Contract appointees would be entitled to contract addition on their basic salary payable monthly with salary and contract gratuity payable at the end of each tour.

METHOD OF APPLICATION: Four typewritten copies of curriculum vitae giving following details: (i) Full name (ii) Place and date of birth. (iii) Nationality and marital status. (iv) Number and age of children. (v) Permanent home address. (vi) Academic qualifications. (vii) Detailed list of publications indicating (a) authorship whether sole or joint. (b) names of journals in which they are published and. (c) dates of publication. (viii) Detailed description of research projects on hand. (ix) Present salary. (x) Other activities outside normal work. (xi) Names and addresses of three referees. (xii) Proposed date of availability for duties if appointed. Applicants should request their referees to forward references on their behalf. Applications and referees reports should be addressed to The P.A.S. (Recruitment), National Universities Commission 180 Tottenham Court Road, LONDON W1P 9LE, not later than 30th June, 1980.

NOTICES

EBONY

School of Hairdressing — The London Academy of Afro Hair Design

58 DALSTON LANE LONDON, E.8.
Tel: 01-254 4708

Our Motto is: Precision — we teach:

1. **Basic Hair Dressing**
2. **Advance Hair Styling**
3. **Afro Cut and Blow-out**
4. **Afro Asian Hair Care**
5. **Refresher — Open to Professionals only**

Please send me a copy of your illustrated brochure

Name .....

Address .....

STATE GOLD MINING CORPORATION — GHANA

It is intended to strengthen the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering staff of the Corporation

Applications are invited for the following positions:

ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS

Ghanaians with B.Sc. Degree in Electrical Engineering or HND or its equivalent with experience in a supervisory position in industry to be responsible for installation, maintenance and repair of electrical plants.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Ghanaians with B.Sc. Degree in Mechanical Engineering or HND or its equivalent with experience in a supervisory position in industry.

SALARIES

To be negotiable, according to qualifications and experience.

OTHER TERMS OF SERVICE

(a) Free accommodation includes hard furnishing, electricity, water, refrigerator and cooker, free medical attention in Corporation hospitals (excluding spectacles and dental treatment) subsidised canteen. Adequate social and sporting facilities — club, cinema, golf, swimming, tennis.

Social Security Fund

5 per cent (Employee); 12½ per cent (Employer).

Leave

28 Working Days after every tour of 12 months.

Applications should be addressed to:
THE OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES,
STATE GOLD MINING CORPORATION (GHANA),
BUSH HOUSE, NORTH-EAST WING,
ALDWYCH, LONDON W.C.2.

NOTICES Cont.

GOLD

Brooches and pendants created after oriental flowers and wrought in 22 carat gold. Something new in costume jewellery (not obtainable in shops)

Quantity 600. Price £10.00 each, must be cleared

Godsen & Richard, 126 Camrose Avenue
Edgware, Middlesex. Tel: 01-952 3567

EMERALD FAST FREIGHT SERVICES

FOR SHIPPING, AIR FREIGHT AND TRANSPORT

Competitive rates for general cargo — personal and household effects, cars, machinery etc.
Part-payment at destination by arrangement.
AIR FREIGHT from 80p per Kilo (3 flights weekly Lagos and Accra — 1 flight weekly at least elsewhere).
Export packing (lined cases).
Fast full **CONTAINER AND GROUPAGE** services (continuous receiving).
TRAVEL — Cheapest fares.
Export/Import — Forwarding/Customs clearing.
A total shipping and airfreight export logistics service by experts.

EMERALD FREIGHT & TRANSPORT SERVICES
Ring 01-478 1542/01-514 1212 or
call at our Main Office — 151 Ley Street, Ilford, Essex.
Warehousing at 172 Chandos Road, London E15.

NOTICES Cont.

ROLLS-ROYCE! ROLLS-ROYCE!

The much talked about ROLLS-ROYCE GEORGE is now available in various designs only at OTI BROS. RUSH now for your piece of this fantastic George while stocks last. Also available are the latest CROWN, VOLVO, SILK, PLAINS, WAX (AGBADA) etc., etc.

OTI BROS & CO LTD
African Products Distributors (Wholesale & Retail), 76 Bedford Hill, Balham, London SW12 9HR. Tel. 01-673 3657 CABLES: OTIGROUPS LONDON SW12

oti TRADE MARK

uNIQUE

CASH AND CARRY
21-31 Woodfield Place
(Off Harrow Road)
London W9
Tel: 01-289 1127

LONDON'S LARGEST CASH AND CARRY
Specialising in all famous brands of
JEANS AND CASUAL WEAR FOR LADIES, MEN AND CHILDREN AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
Strictly Wholesale and Export
(shipping arranged for Overseas Customers)
AMPLE CAR PARK
OPEN 9 am—6 pm Monday to Friday. Sunday 9 am—2 pm

SHIPPING A CAR?
Our service includes FREE COLLECTION, FREE STORAGE and LOWEST RATES to any West African destination

HOUSEHOLD and PERSONAL EFFECTS
FREE ESTIMATES in your home, FREE TEA CHESTS and PACKING, CRATING & BANDING on OUR OWN PREMISES

Visit us any time during office hours
or telephone: 01-622 1243 (5 lines)

Contact
A. & G. Rochford Ltd.,
LOWOOD GARAGE, 12 Kings Avenue,
LONDON SW4 8BQ. Telex: 8951677

J.T.W. WAREHOUSING LIMITED
(INC. PURFLEET PACKING CO.)
(100,000 sq. ft. Storage Space)
CARDENHOUSE (IMPORT & EXPORT) LTD.

OFFER SECURE STORAGE, PACKING, AIR AND SEA FREIGHT SERVICES TO EAST, WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

ESTIMATES GIVEN FREE

Unit 1, Magnet Works, London Road, GRAYS, Essex
Tel: Grays Thurrock (0375) 32201/4 Telex: 995402

For a regular
CONTAINER
service to Lagos and for all of your
SHIPPING
to West Africa contact OVERSEAS CARRIERS LTD., Armoury Way, London SW18. Phone: 01-874 3366

The specialists in household effects

BLACK HAIR
CHEZ LUCIE
RELAXING, PERMING TINTING, CUT & BLOW DRY STEAMING, WET LOOK TREATING DAMAGED HAIR
24 Kilburn High Road
London NW6
Tel: 01-624 8030
and 01-328 0090

SONY NATIONAL JVC AKAI Pro
Thorpe Close Trg. Estate, Wall
Ohm Services, 23a Greengate,
Greenford, Middx.
Tel: (01) 903 5263

OSCAR GUARANTEES
● Georges - all recent designs, e.g.:
● Volvo - Iptiemba - Barclays Bank - Festac ● Wax Block - Prints - Single and Double - Salina - Nbu Creams - Clariear, Venus Cream 99p, wholesale or retail.

Nigerian food and vegetables in abundant supply

NIGERIAN RECORDS WILL SOON BE IN GREAT SUPPLY!

410 EVELYN STREET, LONDON, SE8
Telephone 691-6315

CHRISTIANSBORG ENTERPRISES
- Cheap Airfreight Cargo to any destination in Africa
- Low Air Tickets to any part of the world
- Shippers of Household Goods Vehicles & General Cargo
- We can arrange for collection of goods from home or place of purchase
- Manufacturers Representatives for capital & consumer goods. Put in your order & we will supply pro-forma invoice by return

Call at 2nd Floor,
167 Bethnal Green Road, Bethnal Green
London E2 7DG or phone 01-729 4423

Eternal Sacred Order of Cherubim and Seraphim
Learn Seraphic Science. Solve difficult problems through powerful prayers and prayer books
Contact: Mother Prophetess Janet Awojobi
7 Ranelagh Road
Tottenham, LONDON N17

SUNGLASSES
High quality Polaroid Sunglasses for immediate clearance. Part of distress goods
Quantity 200,000. Market Price £12.50. Our Price £2.25
Must be exported outside Europe
Write to: The Advertiser, Box 2044
West Africa Publishing Company
53 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2FD

D & LEE TEXTILES LTD
265 KINGSLAND ROAD London E2 Tel. 01-739 8069

GOLD GOLD GOLD
We stock 18ct gold jewellery

JUST ARRIVED
6 tone DAMASK Alade 2222 with six crowns.
Head Holland Prints, Guinea Brocade, Laces and Headties

OPENING HOURS:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 am—6 pm
Thursday: 9 am—1 pm
Sunday: 9 am—2 pm

LONGEST—AT THE CENTRE OF TOWN AND LONGEST—AT THE CENTRE OF THE TRAVEL TRADE FOR WEST AFRICA

NEW SUMMER FARES TO ACCRA AND LAGOS
Your first choice
AFRO-ASIAN TRAVEL CENTRE
52 Shaftesbury Av. London W1. Tel. 01-734 7123

EDUCATIONAL

Association of Cost and Executive Accountants

Examinations are held under the supervision of West African Examination Council in June and December

FCEA (FELLOW) ACEA (ASSOCIATE)

Members are entitled to designate as Incorporated Executive Accountant

Part-Exemption is granted for HNC/D or equivalent

Write to

The Secretary-General,
The Association of Cost & Executive Accountants Ltd (by guarantee)
330 Holloway Road
London N7 6NJ
01-609 4185

EFFECTIVE PRESS RELATIONS

and House Journal Editing
Second Edition

12 lesson programmed learning teach yourself home study course.

How to write press material, plan PR events, edit house journals. First edition sold to 32 countries. Complete with 40 lessons. £19.50 UK, £22 airmail

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Frank Jefkins' latest book based on LCCI PR exam syllabus. £3.45 UK, £4 airmail

FRANK JEFKINS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
84 Ballards Way, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 7LA, England
Telephones: 01-657 2911, 01-686 6868

American, Canadian University and College Placement

Subject to your academic records, we place you at Phd, Msc, Dsc, and other courses throughout USA and Canada. For application forms contact: Data Services, Top Floor, 49 Kensington High Street, London W8, UK
Telephone 01 937 7001
Telex 896559 Gecoms G

SANDRA SECRETARIAL COLLEGE LEARN SECRETARIAL SKILLS EASILY

ONE YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE
Reasonable fees, beginners welcome

Shorthand, typing, speed development, refresher, audio, office skills, English, MEDICAL SHORTHAND/TYPING. Day evening and Saturday courses

R.S.A., L.C.C. PITMAN EXAMS

Suffolk House, 1/8 Whitfield Place, Whitfield Street, London W1P 5SF. 01-388 2290/9206

AIRLINE COURSES AND HOTEL MANAGEMENT

Business studies, typing and telex. Free prospectus. Belair Education Centre, 10 Denmark Street, London WC2. Tel: 01-836 1316 Telex 27775

DEAN TUTORIAL COLLEGE

O and A level courses — all subjects. Resident and intensive courses. Also English language — all levels. For prospectus and application forms write to: The Registrar, Dean Tutorial College, c/o 197A Seven Sisters Road, London N4 3NG
Tel: 01-263 1435/6

IN LONDON

Full-time Course
In
Business Administration
One year Diploma Course
for
Graduates or Equivalent
Starting OCTOBER 1980

Centre for Business Administration (WA)
30 Baker Street
LONDON W1, ENGLAND

CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

Enrol now for September 1980 G.C.E. 'O' and 'A' level courses: one year intensive (Sept—June). Also a twelve-week revision course (Sept—Dec).
Business Studies Courses. Accountancy (ACA) Foundation Level
Diploma in Business Administration
Tuition fee for all one-year courses is £800 plus VAT
For prospectus and application forms write to The Registrar, 243a Whitechapel Road, London E1. Tel: 01-247 2166/7

FIRST step to **SUCCESS** is a qualification and the surest way of getting a qualification is through Wolsey Hall, the Oxford Correspondence College. With a Wolsey Hall course you get the personal attention of a qualified tutor and a guarantee of free additional tuition if required to pass your examination. Option of fees by easy instalments. Lessons sent by special air service. Courses include GCE, WAGCE, RSA, LCC, Banking, Admin, Management, ICSA, Statistics, Teaching, Theology, Languages and Business. Write for free Prospectus to: W. Milligan MA, Dept PG6, Wolsey Hall, Oxford OX2 6PR, England

A RAPID RESULTS COLLEGE

Home Study Course can give you success in GCE, School Cert., RSA or a Professional qualification in Accountancy, Banking, Book-keeping, Management, Marketing, Selling, Stores Supervision, Transport etc. For details of our specialised courses, write for a free copy of **YOUR CAREER** to your nearest Careers Adviser, quoting Dept. NR4

- Box 4925, Lagos, Nigeria
- Box 3703, Accra, Ghana

THE RAPID RESULTS COLLEGE
Dept. NR4, Tuition House, London SW19 4DS

CARS FOR SALE

EXPORT CARS

115a Glenthorne Road, London W.6
Tel: (01) 741 0364 Telex: Autoex 935 893 G

TRANSIT CARS

EUROPE'S LEADING TAX-FREE VEHICLE EXPORTER
Can offer immediate delivery on all makes of vehicles
R.H.D. and L.H.D.
AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
Check the rest then try the best
Transit Cars International Ltd
31 Harcourt Street, London, W.1
Telephones
01-402 2090 01-402 0187
Telex 299812

LEFT-HAND DRIVE

NO SENSIBLE OFFERS REFUSED — BARGAINS GALORE

ALL MAKES OF CARS

DATSUN	OPEL	TOYOTA
MAZDA	BMW	MERCEDES
PEUGEOT	FIAT	RENAULT
	VW	

Small COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

COMPETITIVE PRICES

CONTINENTAL CARS

Peugeot, Datsun, Toyota, Mazda, Volvo, Mercedes etc. Good quality left hand drive cars supplied at bargain prices. For details telephone 01-749 7074 01-228 9362 Shipping arranged

VENAHILL LTD.

Export Car Compound, 1288 London Road, Norbury, London SW16. 6 to 6 pm (not Sundays). Tel: 01-679 5544 and 01-679 4677

CAR SPARE PARTS

Cut out the middle man — buy DIRECT from manufacturers.

For your supplies of:
Japanese
American
European
Car parts/accessories
Contact:

INTERTEC
Linburn House, Suite 309, 342 Kilburn High Road, London NW6
Tel: 328 9521
Telex: 268048 G 514

100 TAX FREE Left Hand Drive Cars

Save £££'s

No reasonable offer refused

Ring Andy 272 2424 (day) or 363 6255 (Evenings or Sundays)

CARYATID MOTORS LTD
3/6 Durham Road, Finsbury Park, N7

CARS FOR SALE

AMEX

100 CARS IN STOCK

AUTOMOBILE EXPORTS
AMEX HOUSE, NORTH END ROAD, WEMBLEY, MIDDLESEX
TELEX — 888941 AMEX WEM
01-903 4184/5 15 Mins Oxford Circus

LEFT-HAND DRIVE CARS

Specialists in Fine Quality Cars at Bargain Prices

Rush to the nearest Phone and Ring St. George at 01-531 2573 or 01-508 0039 or call in and see us at 61 Cecil Road, E17.

We will be pleased to collect you from Blackhorse Road Station 7 days per week

NOTICES Cont.

DOCUMENTS for **ACCRA** or **LAGOS**? **AATC** are fastest and cheapest — **ACCRA** from £20 — call 01-734 2333/7123
SHIPPING to **LAGOS** and **ACCRA**. Your personal baggage, household effects and cars expertly handled by **AFRIQ ASIAN TRAVEL CENTRE**
52 Shaftesbury Avenue, LONDON W1
Tel. 01-734 2333/7123 or 434 2420

NOTICES Cont.

EPS

Regular Container RO-RO Services
Air/Sea Freight Shipments
Export Packing
Buying/Confirming Agents
Domestic/Commercial Cargo
Special Projects
Weekly/Fortnightly Services Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania and Cameroons
Rates on Application

EPS Overseas Transport Ltd.,

11 Camberwell Church St. London SE5 8TR
Tel: 01-703 9135/6 703 7512

£1.40 buys one line (approx 4 words; minimum five lines £7.00) and £4.50 buys one single column centimetre of space in WEST AFRICA.

The Methodist Girls High School Centenary Celebrations 1895-1995 Freetown, Sierra Leone

The Ex-Students Thanksgiving Service at the Wesley Church at the corner of Thanksgiving Service at the corner of 48 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU On Sunday, 1st June, 1995 at 3.00 pm

Please Come and give us your warm support. We especially call on the old students of the Methodist Girls' High School in UK for their moral support.

JACKSON BROS
Shipping & Transport Co
2a Hickling Rd, Ilford, Essex
Evening-S-W/ends (01) 472 3050
Tel: (01) 553 2877
Please note our new address
Weekly container & conventional services to East & West Africa.
FREE 16 day storage in our own warehouse. No money collected until Bill of Lading is ready. Send your goods with the people who know and care about shipping.
Agents in Ghana: Tegro Commercial Agency Ltd., P.O. Box 896, Tema, Ghana. Tel: Tema 2235.

NEW LOOK TAILORS LTD.
7/8 Kilburn Bridge, London, NW6
Tel: 01-328 4419/328 7071
When you are in London have a suit made by us.
DUTY-FREE FOR OUR OVERSEAS VISITORS
A TOP-QUALITY SUIT CAN BE MADE IN 4 DAYS
Please telephone us and we will send a chauffeur-driven car to meet you — at no extra cost — and drive you to one of our branches in:
HOLLOWAY — HARLESDEN AND KILBURN

HAIR GROWER
We have a medically formulated and approved hair grower available for purchase in bulk for EXPORT. Developed from a formula created by a German Professor and formulated in the UK by Dr. H.C Blair it is approved by other doctors and available only through us.
Price £2.50 per 130mls bottle
Lorpex Cosmetics Ltd
23 Napier Road, Tottenham, London N15.
Tel: 01-808 4359 Mon —Fri 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING IN
WEST AFRICA
TELEPHONE: 01-236 3381

SPRING BANK HOLIDAY

The Offices of
WEST AFRICA
will be closed on
Monday, May 26

53 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2FD
Tel. 01-236 3381

Create your own REFERENCE LIBRARY

Bind your copies of WEST AFRICA in the EASIBINDER.
Attractively bound in blue Balacron with the title blocked in gold on the spine, the Easibinder is designed to hold copies of WEST AFRICA.
The Easibinder opens flat for easy reference and copies can be removed and replaced with ease.
Price: U.K. £3.40 plus 25p per extra binder
Overseas £3.65
Cheques payable to Easibind Ltd

EASIBIND LTD., 4 UXBRIDGE ST., LONDON W8 7SZ, ENGLAND.
I enclose p.o./cheque value ..... for
..... binders at £ each for WEST AFRICA.
Name .....
Address .....
..... Date .....

A SPECIAL OFFER FOR BONA-FIDE STUDENTS

WEST AFRICA
WEEKLY MAGAZINE
Is available to you wherever you are on subscription LESS 10% STUDENT DISCOUNT
WEST AFRICA PUBLISHING CO. LTD.
53 HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON EC1A 2FD, ENGLAND
Please ensure that accompanying your order is a letter from your school/college certifying that you are a full time student.

DEDUCT 10% FROM THESE PRICES
SUBSCRIPTION RATES (inclusive of postage)

	Surface	Airmail
UNITED KINGDOM AND EIRE		
12 months	£18.00	—
6 months	£9.50	—
EUROPE		
12 months	£22.00	£27.00
6 months	£11.50	£14.00
AUSTRALASIA, JAPAN & FAR EAST		
12 months	£22.00	£35.00
6 months	£11.50	£19.00
AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST		
12 months	£22.00	£32.00
6 months	£11.50	£17.00
USA, CANADA & SOUTH AMERICA		
12 months	US $45.00	US $65.00
6 months	US $25.00	US $35.00
OTHER COUNTRIES (not specified)		
12 months	£22.00	£32.00
6 months	£11.50	£17.00

Dateline AFRICA

NIGERIA

Alhaji Shugaba gives evidence

Alhaji Shugaba Abdurrahman — the GNPP Majority Leader deported to Chad last January on the allegations that he was not a Nigerian — has been talking about his ordeal at the Marduguri High Court where his deportation appeal case is being heard. He said it was an NPN plot, masterminded by four senior members of the party in Borno State. He named "the architects of the plan" as Alhaji Kam Salem, the defeated NPN governorship candidate in the state and a former Inspector General of Police, Alhaji Mai Deribe, the party treasurer in the state, Alhaji Kachalla Barko, the Presidential Liaison Officer and Alhaji Kachalla Mbana.

Alhaji Shugaba said that four immigration officers came to his house in the early hours of January 24, seized his passport and asked him to "follow them to their office for a few questions". On reaching the immigration office, he was served with a deportation order and was driven off to the Nigeria-Cameroon border at Gamboru, where a friend, one Kachalla Damaturu, who had been alerted about his predicament, met them to give him N400. Alhaji Shugaba said he had never been to Chad and when he complained he did not know where to go, he was given two addresses in N'Djamena.

First nightmares

At a river bank in Kousouri, Cameroon, Alhaji Shugaba said, his escorts handed him a letter to the Nigerian Ambassador in N'Djamena and left. He was able to find his way to one of the addresses given to him by the escorts — the home of Alhaji Modu where he spent his first nightmarish night outside Nigeria. He left N'Djamena the following day to visit a friend (Alhaji Abaeha) in Mafoua, in Cameroon, where he stayed before moving into Wandala Hotel in Mura, also in Cameroon. He was able to pay his hotel bill — 3,500 francs per day — out of the money Alhaji Kachalla Damaturu had given him on the day he was whisked off from Nigeria. He was running out of money when he met a businessman who gave him "a bundle of franc currency notes". From Mura, Alhaji Shugaba left for Waza, also in Cameroon, where he stayed in a hotel, paying a total of 192,400 francs. He left Waza and went back to his former hotel in Mura after a Commissioner of Police in the city came to harass him in his hotel. He stayed in Mura until March 9, when he was brought back to Nigeria (following pressure from other political parties on the Federal Government) to defend himself in the deportation case filed on his behalf. Contradictory affidavits have been received by the court regarding Alhaji Shugaba's true nationality. The hearing continues.

Plans for a new voters' register

The Federal Electoral Commission has completed arrangements to compile a new register of voters. The Executive Secretary of the commission, Alhaji Ahmadu Kurfi said that the polling stations used in the last elections would be used as registration centres. People would be required to check-off their names from the old register that would be displayed at those centres, using their old registration cards for identification. They would then be issued with new cards which can be used in the by-elections into federal and state legislatures.

Alhaji Ahmadu explained that the new arrangements should give the people who did not register in the first exercise in 1977, the opportunity to do so this time, including people who have now attained the voting age. He said that between July and August, the new registration cards would be issued and a supplementary list of voters compiled. In September, "there would be a display of preliminary lists of the voters existing register, plus the supplementary list and the hearing of claims and objections against those registered".

The FEDECO secretary said that a comprehensive voters' register should be ready between November and December, so that by-elections into 46 vacant seats in 15 states of the federation could be held in January or February 1981. He said that political parties would be asked to nominate registration agents to help reduce deliberate muddling of names and rigging by any particular party. He therefore called on every eligible Nigerian to ensure that he is registered this time or risk losing the opportunity to vote in elections in the country for a considerable time.

Stronger ties with Senegal

Nigeria and Senegal are to set up a permanent joint commission. The two countries also pledged their determination to strengthen existing cordial relations between them. These were contained in a communique signed in Lagos at the end of a state visit to Nigeria by President Leopold Sedar Senghor. The communique said that the joint commission would explore avenues of promoting commercial, industrial co-operation between the two countries within the framework of the Economic Community of West Africa States, ECOWAS. On the promotion of cultural exchanges, the two leaders agreed that a new programme should be set out guidelines for the implementation of existing cultural agreements.

Presidents Shagari and Senghor reaffirmed the determination of their countries to the aims and objectives of ECOWAS. They also agreed to work together to forge, along with other member states of the Community, for the speedy strengthening of ECOWAS into a political and economic base within the subregion.

The two leaders viewed with great concern the widening gap in development between the northern and southern regions of the Community. They noted the continued deterioration in the trade of developing countries. They also noted with satisfaction the programme of action adopted at the recent OAU economic summit in Lagos and noted with satisfaction the attainment of independence by Zimbabwe. They pledged their continued support for the people of Namibia in their struggle in Zimbabwe. They pledged their continued support for the people of Namibia in their struggle for freedom, and called on the racist regime to take all necessary steps in the search for a peaceful solution to the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia's transition to independence in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolution.

The two Presidents expressed great concern at the continuing conflict in Chad. They reaffirmed their conviction that a solution should be found on the basis of a negotiated settlement within the framework of the Organisation of African Unity and under the umbrella of the OAU. President Senghor has accepted the invitation to President Shagari to visit Senegal as soon as possible. The Senegalese leader has since left for home.

A correspondent writes

At the attainment of independence by the two countries in 1960, the opened cordial relations in various fields. Besides the opening in 1960, the tie missions in each other's capital, the Senegalese leader came to Lagos in 1964, when he was awarded an honorary doctorate degree by the University of Ibadan. But after that, relations between the two countries became cool. The cooling, as with an old neighbour, started in 1973, during FESTAC [Festival of Arts and Culture]. When two countries differed led to the resignation of Dr Aloune Sene of Senegal from the international committee of the Festival. There was also another incident, involving the two countries in December 1978, when Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo, Nigeria's former Head of State, was not given the necessary political attention at Dakar airport.

But coincidentally, the accident and its aftermath turned the page towards improvement in relations between Nigeria and Senegal. It came about after an exchange of views on the Dakar incident and a visit to the Senegalese capital by the Nigerian leader for a meeting of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] in 1979.

The restoration of cordiality was followed by the signing of a cultural agreement in Dakar by the two countries. The two countries have also devoted a great deal of attention to the liberation of Southern Africa. As President Shehu Shagari had said, Nigeria and Senegal share a tremendous sense of victory with the people of the new nation of Zimbabwe. Lately, too, both countries have shown the same concern for the economic emancipation of the continent. While Nigeria played host to the African leaders who attended last month's first OAU economic summit, President Senghor was elected to preside at the conference. It is against this background that the visit of the Senegalese Head of State should be placed. It is hoped that the occasion will offer the desired opportunity to improve the existing ties between Nigeria and Senegal.

Green Revolution committee nominated

Twenty-one people have been nominated as members of the Green Revolution Committee with Dr Bukar Shaib, the Presidential Special Adviser on National Security, as chairman. The announcement was made by the Minister of Agriculture, Alhaji Ibrahim Gusau, who also said the list had been approved by the president.

The members of committee are: Dr Olaifa, Deputy Chairman, Chief F. F. B. C. Nwankwo (Anambra), Magaji Bello Sarkin Kudu (Bauchi), Mr. J. O. Aghimien (Bendel), Col. Richard Asom (Benue), Mr Lawan Musa (Borno), Mr. C. Etim-Bassey (Cross River), Alhaji Abubakar Abba (Gongola), Mr Aja Nwachukwu (Imo), Alhaji Abdulkadir Jibril (Kaduna), Alhaji Bashir Tofa (Kano), Zakari Baba Wawa (Kwara), Mr S. Bello (Lagos), Alhaji Umaru Gbeto (Niger), Chief J. A. Ayaji (Ogun), Mr. Adesunloye Oyolola II, the Olishua of Ishua (Ondo), Alhaji R. A. Sarumi (Oyo), Group Captain Usman Jibrin (retired) (Plateau), Mr. N. David Wodu (Rivers) and Alhaji Sambo Sarkin Gabas (Sokoto).

"Strikes are still illegal"

The Minister of Employment, Labour and Productivity, Mr. Adebisi Ogedengbe, has criticised the several industrial actions which have occurred throughout the country in the past five months. Particularly disturbing, was the on-and-off walk-outs by air traffic controllers. According to reports, the strikes were so frustrating that pilots risked taking off and landing without signals.

Mr. Ogedengbe said the Federal Government was aware that the series of strikes was a calculated attempt to destabilise the present administration and disrupt the economy. He reminded workers and employers of labour that strikes were still illegal and expressed regrets that the central labour organisation has proved unable and unwilling to stop the strikes.

He cited the Trade Dispute Decree and the Essential Services Decree (both of 1976) with their 1977 amendments which outlawed strikes and lock-outs. The Trade Dispute Decree makes it obligatory for the parties to a dispute to first attempt to settle it by negotiation through mutually agreed machinery, on the failure of which the two parties should invite a mutually-approved mediator.

When and if the mediator fails to settle the dispute, either of the parties should, within 14 days, complain in writing to the Minister of Labour, who at his discretion could refer the dispute to an industrial arbitration panel or a board of inquiry. The dispute would go to the national industrial court whose ruling is final, if all the other avenues failed.

He warned that the present administration is totally committed to the standing labour laws and the statutory machinery for settling disputes. He said that until the laws are reviewed as promised by Shagari's administration, workers and employers of labour must adhere strictly to them or face serious consequences.

Trade unionists criticised

Trade unionism, as it is practised in Nigeria, does not place emphasis on professional standards and conduct of its registered members. This lapse has resulted in the falling standards of professionalism because the union leaders expected to regulate such standards and conduct have not been doing their job. These were the views expressed by the Cross River State Commissioner for Trade and Industries, Dr. Edoho Bassey Edoho, while addressing the opening session of the first National Delegates Conference of Medical and Health Workers' Union of Nigeria in Calabar.

Dr. Edoho called on the unions to look into the issue of standards of practice of their professions and to evolve ways and means of ensuring improvements. He said that if the unions did this they would be helping higher productivity and better conditions of service of the Nigerian workers.

Police operations examined

The Minister of Police Affairs, Professor Emmanuel Osamor, has said that Nigeria is facing an acute shortage of policemen. He said that the present strength of the Force, estimated at 75,000, was grossly inadequate for the country's size and population.

Professor Osamor said that the target strength of the Police Force in the Fourth National Development Plan (1981-85) had been fixed at 200,000 men. He explained that this target figure could be achieved by strengthening the measures introduced by the last military administration. The measures included reduction in the age of enlistment in the force from 19 to 17, and recruitment of demobilised soldiers. In addition, his ministry would try to better the conditions of service for members of the Force. He blamed the high crime rate in Nigeria on the low strength of the Force and the inadequate equipment they use. The Minister said the ultimate objective was to have police stations and posts in every town and central villages by the end of the Fourth National Development Plan.

Professor Osamor explained that since he took office, there has been 103,257 arrests, 14,905 trials, 8,048 convictions and 6,857 acquittals. He further said that 36,580 cases were awaiting trial, 2,666 could not be detected, 196,021 were to be investigated and 343 were awaiting legal advice.

The Minister said that armed robbery had claimed 4,513 lives and that looting, ranging from household utensils to cars, was nationwide. His statistics showed that in the past six months, armed robbers had looted property estimated to be worth over ₦7m per month. He spoke about plans to build more police colleges and specialist courses for the rank-and-file of the Force. He said that only 1,269 demobilised soldiers were absorbed into the police force after special training.

Presidential nominees screened

The Senate Committee on Public Services has submitted its reports on President Shagari's nominees for the Code of Conduct Bureau and the Federal Electoral Commission. The two lists had been screened before and were rejected by the Senate. The FEDECO list submitted last December had Mr. Justice Samuel Igbodalo as the commission's chairman but Mr. Justice Victor Ovie-Whiskey, the Chief Judge of Bendel State, was substituted in the second list, on April 22. The first list of nominees for the Code of Conduct Bureau was rejected by the Senate on February 14, because most of the nominees were said to be too old.

After the recent screening exercise, the following 10 people were recommended for appointment to the CCB: Alhaji Isa Kaita from Kaduna State as chairman, Alhaji Madu Maibe (Borno State); Mr. Agan Dankaro (Benue); Mr. Boniface Nwakanma (Imo) and Reverend Akpan Ukpong from the Cross River State. Alhaji Zubairu Mahmudu (Kwara); Alhaji Hassan Lemu (Niger); Mr. Moses Olarenwaju (Oyo); Alhaji Isa Iko (Sokoto) and Alhaji Usman Bichi (Kano State).

Alhaji Usman Bichi was nominated to replace Alhaji Mansur Kankarofi whose nomination was not approved because he was alleged to be involved in active politics. Dr. Kola Ikusemiju (Ondo), declined the offer. Two other nominees, Mrs. F. M. Sanusi from Lagos State and Chief A. B. Batubo from Rivers State did not respond to invitations to appear for screening before the committee.

New men for FEDECO

The Committee approved the nominations of 19 out of 25 names submitted by the President for FEDECO. They are: Mr. Justice Victor Ovie-Whiskey (Bendel, chairman); Chief J. B. C. Anyaegbunam (Anambra); Mrs. Ethel Onwu (Anambra); Alhaji Ahmed Kan (Bauchi); Brigadier I. N. Obeya (Benue); Alhaji Mustapha Umara (Borno); Mr. B. F. Udo (Cross River); Alhaji Mohammadu Kyari (Gongola); Mr. N. A. Adunmanu (Imo); Alhaji Liman Umaru (Kwara); Alhaji Aminu Salthu (Kaduna); Alhaji Mohammadu Nashabru (Kano); Alhaji Zubairu Danbatta (Kano); Dr. (Mrs.) Mabadeje (Lagos); Mr. Bola Ajibola (Ogun); Alhaji M. B. Ibrahim (Plateau); Chief P. G. Warmate (Rivers) Mrs. E. A. Pam (Plateau) and Alhaji Garba Jabo (Sokoto).

The screening of Mrs. Hassu Iro Inko (Kaduna), Alhaji Umaru Audi (Niger) and Dr. Lateef Aremu (Oyo) was specially referred to the Senate because members of the committee expressed reservations over their nominations. The nomination of Dr. Aremu was said to have been opposed by the Oyo State Governor, Mr. Bola Ige.

● A sea port is to be built at the Snake Island, near the Tin Can Island, Apapa. Announcing this, the General Manager of the Nigerian Ports Authority, Alhaji Bamanga Tukur, said the new port will provide only warehouses for imports and exports.

Pilot's heart attack

It was reported in London Sunday papers last week that a pilot flying a Nigeria Airways Boeing 707 suffered a heart attack after taking off from Heathrow. The second pilot flew back to Heathrow. Another pilot of the airways who was travelling as a passenger on the same flight later flew the passengers safely to Lagos.

Specialist hospitals planned

Seven specialist hospitals estimated at ₦4.5m, will be established in states which do not have university teaching hospitals at present. This was stated by the Minister for Health, Mr. Daniel Ugwu, while defending the budgetary allocation for his ministry (totalling ₦226.8m) before the Senate Committee on Health. He said that three specialist hospitals would be established during the new development plan period in seven states: Imo, Ondo, Bauchi, Benue, Ogun, Niger and Gongola.

The minister said, that if a university was established in any of the seven states before the take off of the project, university teaching hospitals would replace the specialist hospitals. Mr. Ugwu also told the committee that the construction of the university teaching hospitals in Calabar, Sokoto, and Maiduguri had started; and similar projects in Ilorin, Enugu, Jos, Port Harcourt, Kano and Zaria, would follow soon. He explained that the idea was to establish teaching hospitals to coincide with the country's 13 universities.

The minister also told members of the committee that the malaria control programme of the Federal Government was being reviewed. The exercise, he explained, would involve the provision of prophylaxes for pregnant women and children. The arrangement would also entail the participation of local communities and other sectoral agencies like the Waste Disposal Board.

He also stated that new chemistry laboratories were to be established in Sokoto, Maiduguri, Kaduna, Ibadan and Enugu.

Contracts for cold stores

The Federal Government has awarded contracts for the construction of 123 cold stores with a capacity of 4,550 tonnes, in three zones of the country. The zones are Lagos/Maiduguri, Kaduna/Enugu and Kano/Sokoto Zone. This was

announced by the Minister for Agriculture, Alhaji Ibrahim Gusau, while defending his ministry's budget for 1980 before the Senate Committee on Agriculture.

The minister said the contracts were awarded to three expatriate companies — Samifi babcock of Italy, handling the Lagos and Maiduguri Zone at a cost of N9.6m Loita Commercio of Brazil got the Kaduna/Enugu Zone contract for N7.9m. and Hunt and Baird of Australia got the Kano and Sokoto Zone for N9.7m When completed the Lagos centre would cover 25 towns, Maiduguri centre, 21 towns, Kaduna, 21 towns and Enugu, 21 towns. He said the cold storages were intended for preservation of surplus meat, fish, vegetables and cold meat marketing services

Plans for ECOWAS army

A military command to be known as Regional Force is being planned by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) The Minister of External Affairs, Professor Ishaya Audu, said proposals for the command will be tabled at the meeting of Defence Ministers of the community in Lomé, Togo, this week. The ministerial meeting will be followed by a Heads of State meeting, which will discuss the proposals for the command and other economic issues.

Mrs. Adenike Oyagbola, Minister for National Planning, led a delegation attending the ECOWAS Economic Ministers meeting in Lomé while Professor Iya Abubakar will lead the delegation for the Defence Ministers meeting also in Lomé. President Shagari is expected to attend the Heads of Government meeting which would conclude the series of the ECOWAS meetings in Lomé this week.

'Scope for political suspicion'

The Nigerian Press Organisation (NPO) has called on the Federal Government to look into serious allegations involving dismissals and redeployments of journalists in television, newspaper and radio houses. A statement issued by the organisation said that uncontinued checks on such victimisations could only give scope for political suspicion. It stated: The organisation felt unhappy that at a time when the Nigerian Union of Journalists, the Nigerian Guild of Editors and the Nigerian Newspaper Proprietors Association were jointly trying to take steps which could strengthen the place of the press in the Nigerian society, countervailing actions were being embarked upon to deliberately weaken the mass media.

Visa for aliens made easy

Nigerian missions abroad have been empowered to issue entry visas for aliens coming to work in the country. An official statement said that such visas would remain valid for a period of three months subject to regularisation without reference to the Director of Immigration Department.

The statement explained that the visas would only be issued on the production of a letter of appointment from a company in Nigeria concerning acceptance of immigration responsibility on behalf of the applicant while in Nigeria. The move is designed to reduce to the barest minimum the delay being experienced in obtaining entry visas and permits for employment.

● The National Bank of Nigeria Limited has appointed Mr Reuben Olorunfemi Adewusi deputy managing director. Until his new appointment, Mr. Adewusi was in charge of banking services.

Political meetings banned in Kano

Sequel to recent sporadic political clashes in various parts of Kano City all permits for political meetings in Kano Municipality have been suspended until further notice. In the recent weeks various clashes have been reported in parts of Kano City as a result of which several people were believed to have been injured during the disturbances.

A police press statement which announced the suspension of all political activities in Kano Municipality said that singing of party slogans and the use of abusive language were unlawful. It also said that when political rallies and campaigns resumed, applications for permits should be sent to the Assistant Commissioner of Police, State Headquarters, Bompai, Kano, and not to the Divisional Police Officers, who usually gave such permits. The statement appealed to the general public to be calm and to co-operate in the maintenance of peace in the state

● The Senate President, Dr Joseph Wayas has warned that there is a limit to the number of states that can be created in the Federal Republic Dr Wayas said he had got over 10 petitions for the creation of new states. He however supports the creation of a few more states particularly in areas where there have political instabilities and serious boundary disputes

● Senator Oyibosiya Ebere Waniye, representing Degema Senatorial District of Rivers State, has resigned his Senatorial Seat on the ticket of National Party of Nigeria (NPN).

In his letter of resignation, Mr Ebere stated his reason as his inability to carry out his legislative functions.

GHANA

Limann's "new deal" for agriculture

President Hilla Limann has launched a two-year government crash programme for agriculture with an appeal to "overhasty critics or carping theorists to re-examine the programme more closely and impartially". He said what Ghana had lacked in the past was not ideas, theories and criticisms, but political direction, will-power, realism, decisiveness, consistency, practical and sustained implementation of good ideas and sound programmes. "Let us for once now learn from hindsight and be guided by the dictum that 'deeds are better than words' in our attempts to salvage our shattered economy and regain our lost national respect and dignity," the President said.

Dr. Limann said his government was determined to make Ghana produce not merely adequate staple foodstuffs to satisfy domestic needs but eventually export the surplus. Production targets for the crops to receive most attention are: maize 560,000 tons; rice 182,000 tons; yam 3m. tons; sorghum/millet 170,000 tons; cassava 8m. tons; plantain 4.3m tons. Under the programme, 26,400 tons of fertiliser will be distributed to producers while an import licence of ₵52m has been given to the Ministry of Agriculture to order more imports for distribution to producers. The President said that in the 1979/80 estimates, ₵148m. had been allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture, which was 74 per cent more than in the previous year's estimated.

President Limann regretted that although Ghana's rich variety of arable lands, soils, seasons and water were the envy of other countries in the sub-region, they were able to produce more crops and livestock than Ghana. He said Ghana could no longer afford "a situation where only 11 per cent of the available arable land is under cultivation, out of which not more than five per cent is under food production." He added "we must all bestir ourselves and help produce more food for our own use since no one else will do so for us even if we cry our lungs out." He said the success of the Government's policy options, consequential plans and scarce financial resources management required the active support, material involvement and physical participation of all able-bodied men and institutions. He mentioned the banks and other financial institutions, chiefs, sturdy farmers, fishermen, public and parastatal agricultural organisations, schools, colleges and service institutions. Dr Limann said the government was the creature of all nationals and not their creator, and that it was not appropriate for Ghanaians to sit down and expect the government to take all initiatives or do everything for them.

The President also appealed to private owners of available implements, from tractors to the simplest traditional farming tools, to use them effectively or hire them out at reasonable charges to others for optimal use. He stressed that the system of chits, authority notes and preferential treatment which enabled a few unproductive agents and even malingerers to make unearned incomes or windfall fortunes belonged to the past. The government, he said, would not encourage these things. President Limann finally invited all Ghanaians to take advantage of the "new deal" and improve agricultural production.

Search for economic solutions

President Hilla Limann has said his government's search for solutions to Ghana's economic problems was based on a three-way approach, namely rehabilitation, retraining and redirection. He said the government strongly believed that this approach was the best to tackle the problems. Answering questions from foreign journalists who were covering the Pope's visit, the President said a lot has to be rehabilitated since no specific area could be tackled in isolation. He recalled his sessional address to Parliament last December in which he said that agriculture occupied top position on the government's list of priorities. The government, he said, was also concerned to inject discipline into public spending.

Measures against inflation

Dr. Limann said his administration had introduced measures to control inflation since it was almost impossible to avoid it at the moment. He rejected the allegation that his government was eroding the gains of the June 4 revolution. He said no gains properly achieved through a revolution could be eroded and that his government had not acted in any way to reverse any gains of the June 4 revolution.

On the relationship between himself and Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings, the President said they were free with each other and that they were almost like brothers. He said the former AFRC chairman had not been dismissed from the armed forces, but had been retired in his own interests and in the interests of the problem his presence in the forces would pose to the command. Dr. Limann added that Flight-Lt. Rawlings could play a public role like any other Ghanaian, a right which nobody could take away from him.

● On his return from a visit to Benin and Niger, President Hilla Limann said the trip had enabled him to reactivate joint commissions for co-operation with both countries. One item of particular

significance he had discussed with President Seyni Kountche of Niger was the exploitation of solar energy. It was the first visit by a Ghanaian Head of State to Niger.

Accra radio reported that Ghana and Niger and Benin had worked out concrete arrangements to increase trade and co-operation including the exchange of teachers. Benin wanted to import timber, salt, and cocoa beans from Ghana; Niger wanted the same products as well as more liquefied gas. Benin would be sending students to train at the Ghana Nautical College and the Cocoa Research Institute while Ghana would send medical students to Cotonou for training.

Call against Farmer's Council

The Popular Front Party (PFP) has called for the immediate disbandment of the recently-formed Ghana National Farmer's Council and the dismissal of its General Secretary, Ohenebra Osei Yaw Akoto. According to the PFP General Secretary, Mr J B da Rocha, the erstwhile United Ghana Farmers Council, which was controlled by handpicked Convention People's Party activists and into which millions of cedis were pumped, turned out to be a corrupt and inefficient organisation. He said it had functioned more as an integral wing of the CPP than as a body catering for the interests of farmers in Ghana. Mr da Rocha feared that the new body was intended to function in exactly the same way as the Farmers Council of the Nkrumah era.

Mr da Rocha said Ohenebra Osei Yaw Akoto was one of the stalwarts in the Nkrumah Farmers Council, and had surfaced during the Acheampong regime in the Special Marketing Unit into which huge sums of money were pumped. The PFP, he said, did not want any "integral wings of the PNP masquerading as national organisations and financed by taxpayer's money". Today the Government has brought back the Farmers Council, and tomorrow it may be the Workers Brigade, the Young Pioneers of the Kwame Nkrumah Ideological Institute.

Limann's hopes disappointed

Mr. da Rocha said much as the PFP agreed with Dr. Limann and his government that agriculture should be given the highest priority, it was convinced that the "re-introduction of Nkrumah's organisation, systems and methods could not achieve anymore now than they did in Nkrumah's lifetime." At a time when Ghana needed stability and peace, it was unfortunate that the Government could embark on a course bound to frighten and alienate thousands of citizens, he added.

At the inauguration of the Farmers Council a few days earlier, President Limann said he hoped that with the formation of the Council all farmers would be mobilised into a strong movement which would make its presence felt by speaking with one voice in their own interest. Ohenebra Osei Yaw Akoto declared that the formation of the Council was the "beginning of a relentless war to be waged against starvation and misery."

Black Star Line recommendations accepted

The government has accepted recommendations that four senior officials of the Black Star Line be dismissed for incompetence and mismanagement. GBC radio said the recommendations were contained in the report of a committee of inquiry set up at the end of 1978 to investigate the national shipping line. Financial difficulties in recent years have aggravated the problems of BSL which has ageing ships. Some of them have on occasion been temporarily detained in European and West African ports due to disputes over alleged debts of BSL. It is also reported that only six of BSL's 16 ships can enter US waters because of anti-pollution regulations. GBC radio said one of the officials to be dismissed was the managing director, Captain Tachie-Menson.

● The overseas London branch of the People's National Party is holding a monthly meeting on Saturday, May 24 at 2.30 pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, 15 Wakefield St., London WC1.

Dr. Kuta-Dankwa dies in London

The death is reported of Dr. A. K. Kuta-Dankwa at University College Hospital, London on May 9 1980. Dr. Kuta-Dankwa was educated at Achimota College, where he taught for some time before proceeding to Edinburgh University in 1939. He worked in general practice in Salford, Lancashire up to 1955 when he returned to Ghana. He was Head of the Nutrition Board until 1964 when he spent one year in detention under the Nkrumah regime. Later he was Medical Officer at Achimota School before setting up the Oman Clinic, Kaneshie, Accra. He is survived by his wife Rita, daughters Ama and Yaa and son Kofi. There will be a service at the premises of John Hemp, Undertaker, Chepstow Mansions, W.2 on Thursday, May 28 1980 at 6 p.m. prior to his return to Ghana for burial on May 29 1980. All enquiries to Mrs Kuta-Dankwa, 16 Croxley Road, W.9. tel: 01-969 8606.

FRANCOPHONE
The creeping desert

from a Special Correspondent

Right across Africa, from Senegal to Somalia, famine conditions are spreading. In the Sahel, the zone to the south of the Sahara desert, conditions are even worse than they were at this time of the year in 1973, when the outside world first became aware of the scale of the disaster caused by five years of drought. In 1973 perhaps 150,000 people died in the Sahel.

The "little rains" are usually expected around February in the western Sahel and slightly later in the eastern part of the region. They enable seeds to germinate in the ground. The main rains, between June and September, provide the moisture required to make the grain grow. But in the second half of 1979 the rainfall in most parts of the Sahel was either belated or so excessive that it washed away the seeds, or both. In some areas the little rains of 1980 have either failed altogether, or been too heavy, making the seeds germinate into young shoots which then rot on the stems. Unusually, this year it is the western part of the Sahel that has been worse hit.

Low rainfall

In Senegal the rainfall in late 1979 was well below average, and very uneven: heavy in June and again in October, with a long dry spell in between. The water in the Senegal river was so low that only 13 per cent of the area normally irrigated by the annual flooding could be cultivated. A plague of caterpillars affected three-quarters of the country. The cereals crop is down by a third to 489,000 tonnes, not much more than half of the total needed to feed Senegal's 5½m. people.

Mauritania already depends on annual contributions of between 50,000 and 75,000 tonnes of cereals from foreign donors. This year, lack of pastures in the country's central area brought the nomads down to the south in February; they would not normally move there until April. After torrential "little rains", Mauritania faces its worst year ever in terms of both food stocks and crop prospects.

Acute shortages of food

Mali faces the most acute difficulties of any Sahel state. At this time of year the Timbuktu and Gao regions, with 850,000 inhabitants between them, are often short of food, but shortages have now been aggravated by the low rainfall most of last year and by the flash floods in December (which also destroyed the rice crop in areas on the lower Niger that normally send food to Mali and its neighbours) The government of Mali has appealed for 123,0 tonnes of cereals from abroad.

Upper Volta seems to h heading for self-sufficiency in foo this year. But the price of mos has risen sharply, and some of th cereals now in the markets w have been smuggled fro hungry Mali. Niger has announce a surplus of 20,000 tonnes of m some of which will find its way in northern Nigeria. In Chad, the c war has created more than 200,00 refugees (by some relief agencies count), and many of them have fle into Cameroon — which achieve self-sufficiency in food in som recent years, but may now com under severe pressure because o the refugees.

Grave famine

Over to the east, the drought ha compounded the problems caus by Amin's misrule in Uganda an by the war between Ethiopia an Somalia. There is a grave famin among the 485,000 people of th Karamoja district in north-easte Uganda, where this year's fir rains did not come until late May Reports of cholera have been an obstacle to the movement of fo from other parts of Uganda. Another has been the fear of attac by armed gangs, some of Amin former soldiers are still at large i the Karamoja district, with their weapons.

The northern part of Kenya ha been hard hit by the drought, an the government is reported to hav asked for 450,000 tonnes of maiz to overcome the food shortage. I Ethiopia's southern region of Sidamo a third of the population is reported to be in grave need. I Somalia, it is estimated that 50% infants are dying of starvation every week in the 21 camps now occupied by 600,000 people, most of them former nomads.

Natural disasters

Famine is harder to quantify than other natural disasters, and less photogenic. It is usually a gradual process; while the old, the very young and the infirm die of hunger, the able-bodied tend moving on in search of food. They have been vast southward movements of the Sahel's inhabitants under the presure of drought in the past 12 years.

Until recently, many observers believed that the changes in the region's rainfall patterns and the increasing spread of the desert were only temporary. But it now appears that they may at least be permanent. Studies carried out in Sudan show that since 1960 the desert has advanced 100 kilometres to the south. The present rate of its advance in that sector probably between 7 km and 8 km a year, and in western Africa the Sahara is reported to be advancing southwards even faster.

GUINEA

Sékou Touré survives grenade attack on his life

During anniversary celebrations of the Parti Démocratique de la Guinée, two grenades were thrown, the first causing the death of Comrade Moriquet Semasse (according to BBC monitoring) and wounding 30 people, and the second, a stronger grenade (according to Conakry radio) thrown in the direction of President Sékou Touré's stand failing to explode.

The party's central committee said, "Here is a manifestation of imperialism which does not stop arming criminals to carry out attempts on the life of cadres of the Guinean revolution" An extraordinary session of the Conakry Regional Council of the Revolution, chaired by the National Political Bureau invited all party and state bodies to take the opportunity of this to intensify the counter-revolutionary action to carry out a systematic enquiry at the level of every local revolutionary organisation with a view to exposing the criminals "concealed among the people". All branches of organisations and various departments were invited to launch a general mobilisation and a vigorous offensive to "unmask and expose the counter-revolution".

Conakry radio said "The Central Committee knows that imperialism and neo-colonialism, funded by the growing prestige of the Guinean people's revolutions in Africa and throughout the world, is embarking on a new stage of its permanent plot aimed at the life of the Guinean Democratic Party. The Central Committee vigorously reiterates that all provocations by imperialism and its lackeys will fail. The Guinean People's revolution which enjoys the sincere and deep support of the entire people, fully aware and strongly organised, will continue to guide the fighting people of Guinea towards future prosperity, unity and peace"

A message of solidarity from the Togolese people and government was delivered by the visiting Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema, and a message of sympathy was also sent to President Sékou Touré by President Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast.

CHAD

French troops 'leave vacuum'

Chad's Vice-President, Colonel Abdelkader Wadal Kamougue, has warned both African and non-African countries to avoid the temptation of filling in the gap left by the withdrawal of French troops from Chad. "Whether we like it or not, I say in my capacity as Vice-President of Chad that the evacuation of French troops has created a vacuum," he told a news conference. "And I strongly appeal to all African and non-African countries which might be tempted to fill the gap not to do so" He added: "I call on all nations, African and non-African, to avoid a foreign occupation of Chad by any one country."

Colonel Kamougue represented his country at the recent Franco-African summit at Nice.

● French troops have completed their withdrawal from Chad, a presidential communiqué announced in Paris.

It said the 1,100 troops garrisoned in N'Djamena, completed an orderly withdrawal without incident.

CAMEROON

Ahidjo, the "great comrade", is sworn in for his fifth term

Alhaji Ahmadou Ahidjo has been sworn-in for his fifth consecutive term as President of Cameroon. The ceremony took place on May 5, at the National Assembly, witnessed by parliamentarians, members of the Supreme Court, and the entire diplomatic corps. The route from the Presidential Palace to the National Assembly, a distance of almost one kilometre, was lined with singing spectators while night club bands played in the open air and party militants chanted songs in praise of Ahidjo, the "great Comrade" and "father of the Cameroon nation"

In his inaugural speech, President Ahidjo said the year 1980 not only marked the end of a term of office but also "that of two decades which are the first and most decisive ones in the task of nation-building". The new era coincided with the end of a millennium which "for the young nations is not only marked with by a serious crisis of growth or by widespread economic crises, but even by a crisis of civilisation, an era fraught with more uncertainty and disquiet than with certainty and confidence" He lauded Cameroon's achievements despite what he called "bottlenecks, obstacles, hesitations, errors and risks, unforeseeable intrigues and cupidity"

The President praised Cameroon's peaceful revolution of May 20, 1972 and said "We determined that our revolution should be peaceful, never violent, tumultuous or boisterous, never destructive or hustling but ... fundamentally dedicated to gradual but certain improvement of material and moral living conditions of Cameroonians". He condemned revolutions which instil in the minds of citizens mesmerising slogans and statements which were high-sounding but only helped intoxicate peaceful

SUMMER AND ALL YEAR ECONOMY FLIGHTS

TO NIGERIA, ACCRA, FREETOWN, EAST AFRICA, ONWARD CONNECTING FLIGHTS, AND OTHER DESTINATIONS.

For more details please contact, or post attached coupon to

SOUTHWING TRAVELS

377 Edgware Road
London W2 1EE
Telephone:
01-402 5286
01-402 7652

Name .....
Address .....
.....
Telephone No .....
Destination .....
Departure Date .....
Return Date .....

DEPHNA ELECTRONICS

Tax Free

National 14" TV TC481 Remote Control	240.00
Sanyo 14" CTV	240.00
20" Remote Control TV	330.00
22" Remote Control TV	450.00
Philips 18" 636 Colour TV	270.00
22" 647 Colour TV	350.00
26" 663 Remote Control TV	400.00
Akai: VS 9700EG 3hr Video Cassette Recorder	490.00
VS 9800EG 3hr Video Cassette Recorder	585.00
National: NV 8610E 3hr Video Cassette Recorder	500.00
Philips: N 1702.00 3hr Video Cassette Recorder	375.00
Sony Betamax: SL8080E 3hr Video Cassette Recorder	485.00
SL C7E 3hr Video Cassette Recorder	525.00
National: CQ 6350 Car Radio Cassette MW SW1 SW2	55.00
RD 517 Radio Cassette MW SW1 SW2	45.00
Hitachi: TRS 5302 Radio Cassette MW SW1 SW2	42.00
Philips: LVC 150 2hr Video Cassette	14.00
LVC 120 2 hr Video Cassette	13.00
LVC 90 1½hr Video Cassette	11.00
Sony Betamax: L 750 3hr Video Cassette	8.50
L 500 2hr Video Cassette	7.00
VHS: E 180 3hr Video Cassette	10.00
E 120 2hr Video Cassette	8.00

Stockists of all leading brands of tropicalised goods. Video TV (Colour and B/W) cameras, audio and H-F-, domestic and electrical appliances.

Nearest underground station Totteridge and Whetstone on the Northern Line

Dephna Electronics Limited
1158 High Road, Whetstone
London N20
Tel: 446 3150/3159 or 446 1498
Telex: 23155 Dephna G
Please note correct telephone numbers as above

VOGUE FABRICS

7 Stoke Newington Road,
LONDON, N.16
Telephone: 01-249 0339
and 81 Middlesex Street,
LONDON, E.1.
Telephone: 01-377 8513

IMPORT – EXPORT
WHOLESALE – RETAIL

LATEST COLOURS
in DAMASK, 5- & 6-tone
GUINEA BROCADE & HEAD TIES &
all sorts of EMBROIDERIES
★ WONYOSI ORGANZA
★ WONYOSI VOILE LACE
★ SPRAY VOILE LACE
★ SATIN LACE
★ GUIPURE LACE

Watch for the latest designs *every* week

Open 9 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday
Half-day 9 am to 2 pm Thursday
Closed all day Saturday
Open 9 am to 2 pm Sunday

citizens. He said a revolution that "crushes everything in its path: men, values, traditions, leaving behind a legacy of ruin and devastation, and ahead a future of anarchy and adventurism . . . has no place in Cameroon".

President Ahidjo said the peaceful revolution, guided by the ruling democracy, was receptive to necessary improvements and was concerned with efficiency, an indispensable element of stability and regional national reconstruction. He attributed the atmosphere of serenity and growth to the Cameroon National Union Party (CNU). He said the time had come to proceed to a higher stage of national and social integration. The President implored Cameroonians to think first as Cameroonians and not as francophones or anglophones.

WESTERN SAHARA

Genocide charge

Sahrawi people in South Morocco and occupied parts of Western Sahara are threatened with "genocide" by the Moroccan authorities, the Algerian daily newspaper *El Moudjahid* said, citing a report from the Sahrawi Red Crescent. The newspaper made no reference to the fighting in the Ouarkziz area of South Morocco between Moroccan forces and those of the Polisario Front. Its report centred on the civilian Sahrawi peoples, who it said suffered daily exactions and reprisals by Moroccan military authorities and police. It accused Morocco of prohibiting the peoples from speaking their original dialect, wearing their traditional costume, listening to radio broadcasts from other than Rabat and meeting in groups of more than three. According to the Red Crescent statement, Sahrawi prisoners were subject to "kidnapping, torture and detention". It quoted statements from lawyers, particularly French ones, charging that Sahrawi accused, in two April trials at Rabat and Marrakesh, had no defence counsel.

Moroccan gain in Ouarkziz

A Moroccan army sweep through the southern region of Ouarkziz close to the Algerian border has put more than 450 Polisario Liberation Front guerrillas out of action, according to provisional figures released in Rabat. A communiqué said that in the first three days of the operation, the troops had killed or wounded more than 450 "mercenaries" and destroyed 162 military vehicles and five 122 mm. multiple rocket launchers (known as "Stalin Organs"). Large quantities of arms and ammunition had been seized.

● Polisario troops killed 327 Moroccan soldiers and wounded as many in fighting last week in Southern Morocco, Saharan sources said in Algiers. They added that Polisario had destroyed 126 lorries and armoured vehicles, 40 cannon and heavy mortars, and captured one Moroccan soldier and a large quantity of equipment. The statement was the first from the Polisario Front on fighting in the Zaak and Abattekh regions in Southern Morocco. It gave no further details.

ANGOLA

Benguela Railway has opened

The director of the Benguela Railway has told foreign reporters that the line is open and has carried thousands of tons of manganese from Zaire to the Angolan port of Lobito in the last few months. The statement by Sr. Fernando Falcao was confirmed by officials of foreign companies that have interests in the railway, which had been reported closed since 1975 by guerrilla action of Jonas Savimbi's UNITA.

Sr. Falcao said that now the railway's difficulties were technical rather than political or military. He said a dozen soldiers rode the train across Angola from the Zaire border to the Atlantic, but that there was now no need for "any particular guard" along the 13,000 kilometres (7,800 miles) of rail lines in Angola. Angola has received substantial aid from the EEC to revitalise the railway.

UPPER VOLTA

European loan agreed

A 26,000m. CFA franc agreement has been signed between Upper Volta and the European Development Fund of which 22,500m. CFA will be in the form of grants, and 3,700m. CFA will be special loans at an annual interest rate of 0.5 per cent. The loans are repayable over 40 years with a 10-year grace period, and will be used to finance programmes for boosting agricultural production, improving water supply, health and education in rural areas, as well as for reducing energy expenses, developing mineral resources, communications and manpower training.

GABON

Government threat to teachers

The Government has threatened to "take the necessary measures" if primary and secondary school teachers do not return to work immediately. The Government expressed surprise at the strike (in support of demands for increased allowances) in view of the widely publicised increases scales to be applied in June 19[illegible] backdated to April.

VISITING LONDON?

THEN A VISIT IS WORTHWHILE TO THE NEW

METRO TEXTILES

for all sorts of EMBROIDERIES LASTEST FASHIONS of WONYOSI, VOIL & ORGANZA & SPRAY LACES GEORGES NEW 8 TONE DAMASK HAYES HEADTIES GUINEA BROCADE etc. etc. etc.

LOWEST PRICES ASSURED at 35A & 35B WALM LANE, WILLESDEN GREEN, LONDON NW2 5HT Tel. 01-459 6516

Trains: Jubilee Line to Willesden Green Tube Station
Buses: 8, 176, 260, 266 Greenline 719

SUNDAY & THURSDAY 9 am — 2 pm
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 9 am — 5.30 pm

Electrically t(r)opical — 3 minutes from Oxford Circus

To see the very latest in a wide range of tropicalised goods visit our new extensive showrooms. We stock TVs, Hi-Fi, Video and cassettes, washing machines and all household appliances. We are main agents for PYE, PANASONIC, JVC, SONY INDESIT, TRICITY, BELLING, etc.

Just arrived

Sierra Export Colour TVs Model 37K 7225 14 Portable £195

Check prices for furniture, carpets and bedding too!

DELIVERY? Direct to your home, Shippers or under the personal export scheme

HILTON DIRECT EXPORT

73 Oxford Street, London W1
Tel: 01-434 2344 01-734 7773
Telex 896021/2/3 (Utrans G)

Certified USED AND NEW CARS FOR SALE at export prices

Mercedes Peugeot
Volkswagen Citroen
BMW Buses

All Cars are Left-Hand Drive

CONVENIENT SHIPPING SERVICES to West Africa and other ports available

For Further information and Prices, Visit or Write to

A&R

(Alexandre & Rommerts Expl H D)
Koningstraat 1A — The Hague — Holland
Tel: The Hague 883717
After Office Hours, Tel: The Hague 557466

LIBERIA

Soldiers warned against mutiny attempts

Brigadier-General Thomas Quaiwongba, commanding general of the Armed Forces of Liberia has warned that any soldier or law enforcement officer who engages in any act to tarnish the good image of the revolution will face the full force of military disciplinary measures. He told local and foreign journalists that despite the massive support from all walks of life for the PRC Government, some military personnel with different motives had engaged themselves in subversive activities to overthrow the government.

Gen. Quaiwongba said these soldiers included some officers recently promoted by the PRC who had tried to influence a few soldiers and some civilians to carry out a plot against the PRC. He said the openness of the PRC in identifying with the Liberian people in seeking solutions to their problems in its one month of office had been seen by enemies of the revolution as a bad start. He disclosed that "these enemies in our midst will not stop us from loving our people". All the ringleaders in the unsuccessful coup attempt had been arrested, he said, while the search for collaborators continued.

The alleged ringleaders included Major James Horrace, Col. Arthur B. Benson, Major Robert Lape, the former Aviation Commander, Col. Arthur Bedel, and General Rudolph Kolako (promoted to one-star general after April 12). Others arrested were Col. Joseph Solo and Col. William Passewe. Earlier that day at the Barclay Training Centre, the Head of State, Master Sergeant Doe, had told newsmen that Major Edwin Lloyd, former Chaplain General of the Armed Forces, had been gaoled at Ghalayala, Lofa County, for attempting to incite mutiny in the forces. The Government also categorically denied that the Minister of Commerce, Major Joseph Douglas, had been involved in the attempted coup and had subsequently been arrested.

Journalists warned

Master Sergeant Doe has said the Liberian press should stop using slogans and pronouncements which tend to divide the nation. He said reference to ethnic origins and affiliations should cease immediately. In a letter to the Minister of Information, Mr. Gabriel Nimley, the Head of State re-emphasised that the purpose of the April 12 revolution was to ensure the march for progress of a united Liberia, where all the citizens would enjoy equal social justice and opportunity.

Soldiers reassured

The Head of State, Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, has called on soldiers to be disciplined and patriotic in building the new Liberia. He reiterated the commitment of the People's Redemption Council to improving the living conditions of soldiers and the Liberian people in general. Visiting a military camp near Monrovia, Sgt. Doe told soldiers that it was their duty to contribute to socio-economic development of Liberia through hard work, self-respect and discipline.

Cuban support

The Cuban Foreign Affairs Minister, Sr. Isidoro Malmierca, has said the April 12 revolution was inevitable and timely. For a long time, he said, the Liberian people had been exploited and oppressed by a few individuals who denied them their civil rights. According to Ethiopian radio monitored in Monrovia, Sr. Malmierca said all progressive countries in the world welcomed the coup and that the new regime was in the interest of the bulk of the Liberian people.

Cameroonian respect

The Cameroonian Ambassador, Mr. Henry Foussung, has reaffirmed his country's continued respect for the Government and people of Liberia. He also expressed his government's desire to strengthen relations with Liberia. He told Mr. Gabriel Baccus Matthews, the Foreign Minister, that Cameroon regarded the events of April 12 as the internal affair of the Liberian people, and that relations with Liberia were the same as before.

SIERRA LEONE

Christian Council's golden jubilee

The United Christian Council (UCC) of Sierra Leone has been celebrating its golden jubilee. The week long celebrations started with special services in all member churches as well as on radio and television and continued with a public meeting at the King Memorial United Methodist Church, chaired by the Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Mr. D. F. Shears, who praised the council for its role in bringing harmony, unity and tolerance among the various Christian groups in Sierra Leone.

At the meeting the annual report of the council was delivered by the General Secretary, Mr. L. J. Pratt, who noted that apart from working for unity the council has brought together all religious bodies in making collective representation to government on various matters of national interest.

During the week of the celebrations the theme of which was "The Kingdom in the 1980s" the General Council meeting also took place presided over by the President of the Council, the Most Reverend Bishop N. M. C. O. Scott, Bishop of Sierra Leone and Archbishop of West Africa.

The United Christian Council is a fellowship of eleven member-churches and missions in Sierra Leone with thirteen affiliated bodies. It is an affiliated member of the All Africa Council of Churches.

British Minister supervises aid projects

Mr. Richard Luce, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, has paid a brief visit to Sierra Leone. While in the country Mr. Luce, who is responsible for African affairs, development and economic planning and finance, visited Bo to look at several projects being financed through British technical aid. These included the mechanical workshop of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Bo Teachers College building programme and the National Training Centre and the Paramedical school.

The official opening date for the Mammy Yoko Hotel, which is managed by the French Union Tounsitique Hotelière (UTH) has been set for June 2.

Revenue from tobacco

Government revenue from duty and excise derived from the Aureol Tobacco Company's operations for the fifteen-month period to December 1979, amounted to Le16.2m. The Company's turnover for the period was Le34.5m.

At the company's Annual General Meeting, the chairman, Mr. E. L. Coker, said that a final dividend of 23 cents per share would be paid. Three interim dividends of 15 cents were paid in May, August and November of last year.

The company's lead-growing activities, which it carries out in co-operation with the National Development Bank, produced 1,066,000 lbs of tobacco, an increase of ten per cent over 1978 and a reasonable profit for 1979 was achieved.

Guinness award introduced

Sierra Leone Brewery has introduced a Guinness Stout Effort Award in order to foster the spirit of national and community service as well as individual development. According to SLB, it is an attempt to encourage and reward chivalry, bravery, intellectual and physical achievement and other outstanding contributions to community and nation in fields of human endeavour, by giving publicity, and an award for outstanding and commendable achievements in Sierra Leoneans.

The award will be presented each quarter to any individual, group of persons or organisation considered by a panel of judges to have made the most outstanding effort or achievement under difficult conditions. This may be in the field of agriculture, sports, social/community welfare, intellectual effort or in any other field of human endeavour.

Candidates will be nominated by members of the general public describing in full the particular performance of achievement for which the nomination is being made.

Row over match tickets

Police had to be called to the Siaka Stevens Stadium to control angry crowds, who had paid to watch what had been described in advance as likely to be the most sensational club football match of the year, between the Blackpool and East End Lions football clubs. The match never took place because Blackpool failed to field a team because of injury to several of its players.

The club had written to the Minister in Charge of Sports, former Information Minister, Thaimu Bangurah, asking for a postponement of the match, but the Minister had refused a postponement on the grounds that the club had enough reserves to field a team.

The public did not realise anything was wrong until the Director of Sports came on to the field and made the announcement. The police were then left with the task of containing a crowd of well over ten thousand demanding their money back.

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Rural Development which is responsible for sports in Sierra Leone has issued a statement that tickets bought for the match will be valid for another match.

Black woman US ambassador

The United States of America has appointed a new Ambassador to Sierra Leone in succession to Mr. John A. Linehan. She is Miss Theresa Ann Healey, a career diplomat who has served in Naples, Bern, Brussels and Wellington where she was Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission.

Miss Healey will be the first woman Ambassador to be appointed to Sierra Leone by the United States, and the first black American.

THE GAMBIA

Efforts for rice self-sufficiency

The Minister of Agriculture, Alhaji Jerreh Daffeh, said that the ministry's current efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in rice production includes intensification of production in the areas under cultivation. This involves the introduction of high-yielding varieties of rice suited to different rice land conditions. New techniques of crop husbandry and fertiliser application, the minister added, are employed to maximise the yield per given area.

The minister said the effort to achieve self-sufficiency in rice production involves the development of existing potential swamps, including the Pachare and Jakhali swamps, covering 21,000 hectares and numerous other small swamps throughout the country.

He said the move also entails the expansion and consolidation of irrigable and irrigated lands. About 2,500 hectares of land is now under cultivation. A further 24,000 hectares should become available for irrigated rice cultivation when the salinity barrage is built.

Dutch contribute to food aid

The new Netherlands Ambassador, Mr. J. B. Hoekman, has presented a cheque of D222,222.00 to The Gambia Government as a contribution by the government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to The Gambia's Food Aid Fund.

The money would be used to buy 440 tonnes of rice for free distribution as food aid to the farming community.

● The Gambia is to receive a 2,600-tonne cereals grant from the European Economic Commission under the 1979 Fund Aid Programme.

A consignment of 862 tons received in December 1979 from the 1978 programme, is in Banjul for transport to distribution centres in different parts of the country. 2,065 tons of cereals were received and distributed accordingly in 1977.

Wider bank investment

The Governor of the Central Bank of The Gambia, Mr. Sherif Sisay, told the meeting of West African commercial banks in Banjul earlier this month that governments in West Africa needed to invest in the industrial, transport, communication, power and social sectors.

He said these needs could not be satisfied to any substantial extent by the level of savings now being generated; and reminded his audience of the serious concern expressed last October by Mr. Robert McNamara, the World Bank president, that of all the continents, Africa saved the least.

"In many less developed countries," the governor said, "small savings constituted perhaps only 2 per cent of the national income."

Intra-African trade, Mr. Sisay said, is constrained largely by the existing structures of production and market distribution. Trade stimulates demand and the introduction of new goods and services could reduce the community's needs for working capital and encourage higher work output.

Road tender date

The Minister of Works and Communications, Alhaji I. B. A. Kelepha-Samba, told Parliament that the tender to build the Banjul/Yundum dual carriageway should be early next year. He said work at the Oyster Creek Bridge had been necessary because of the bad road conditions on that stretch of the Banjul-Serrekunda highway. He said the cost involved in this work would be known after completion.

The Minister of Finance and Trade told Parliament that The Gambia had received a grant of D9.215m. from the EEC's Stabex Fund, representing advance payment in respect of groundnut and oil cake for 1979.

At the time of the Stabex payment, government had borrowed substantially from the Central Bank to finance both recurrent and development expenditures, and the Stabex payment was paid into government main account to bring down the level of the overdraft with the Central Bank.

Government, he said, has continually given cash assistance to the farming community as well as material and technical and through the Agriculture and the Cooperative Development Department, the Rural Development Project RDP and the Co-operative Union.

In fact, he said, during the current sitting of Parliament, government has requested approval for supplementary appropriation of D1m. grant to the Co-operative Union.

Groundnut appointment

The Gambia Produce Marketing Board has appointed White Young Project Engineering of Reading in association with Ted Taylor and Associates of Liverpool, as consultant for the overall project management of extensions to the groundnut processing sector — a £3m. capital investment finance by the African Development Bank and the European Investment Bank.

The scheme involves new power generation, and seed crushing facilities, with modernised jetty, wharfage, and bulk handling of groundnuts.

Work has started and is due to be finished by the end of next year.

SUPERFINE GEORGES

NOW! Top Quality Unbeatable Prices – Latest Designs

EXAMPLES FROM STOCK

Akwete George	£15	Executive	£33
Festac Heads	£20	Concorde	£33
Tiger Heads	£20	Volvo	£30 & £33
Mercedes	£24	New Sweet Mother	£33
Ipi Tombi	£24	Motorway	£33
Naira	£24	Plains	£7
Pineapple	£25	Silk	£18 & £20
Flying Saucer	£25	Plus London's biggest range of Jacquard designs all competitively priced!	
Star of Africa	£30		
Barclays	£30		

WE ARE HEADTIE SPECIALISTS

Swiss/Dutch/English

£4, £6, £12, £16

according to quality

PRINTED WOOL (FENI CLOTH)

Now available from stock

FINEST AVAILABLE QUALITY

100% PURE WOOL

including designs not available elsewhere

COMPETITIVELY PRICED

DAMASK

'SUPER DAMASK'

NEWLY RECEIVED!

Latest designs for 1980 in Top Quality Damask — in up to 7 colours

NEW LINE HANDWOVEN "ASHOKE" WRAPPER AND HEADTIE SETS £25 PER SET OF 3

TWILLDENE TEXTILES LTD.

3rd Floor, Circus House, 26 Little Portland St., London W1

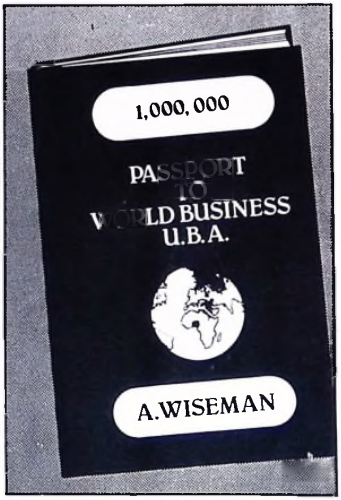
Underground: Oxford Circus

Tel. (01) 637 7385/9 (5 lines)

Business hours 11—6 Mon to Fri Closed Sat/Sun

All prices include VAT — No extras to pay

Personal callers only



UBA is your Passport to world business

Through close links with 200 major banks in over 70 countries we are able to assist you with your business anywhere in the world. Our know-how in international business is built on a solid experience of over 30 years. Many foreign banks and suppliers now prefer to channel their transactions with Nigeria through UBA.

The services we offer include information on prospective suppliers, opening of letters of credit, processing of bills for collection, discount of bills, money transfers, sale of Travellers Cheques and professional advice to help your business grow. In all these areas we employ specialized and seasoned staff to serve you because, like you, we are determined to earn Nigeria a good name in world business.

We understand the importance of prompt payments in promoting good relationship between you and your foreign principals, so we endeavour always to provide you fast and efficient service. The enviable reputation we have to protect means we have to try harder than others. For all your foreign business, remember the name UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA LIMITED, the Wiseman's bank and of course your passport to world business.

United Bank for Africa Limited
Overseas Partners

Banque Nationale de Paris Ltd.
8 - 13 King Williams Street,
London EC4 p1HS
United Kingdom.

Banque Nationale de Paris,
16, Boulevard des Italiens,
Paris, France.

Banca Nazionale del Lavoro
via Vittorio Veneto
119 Rome, Italy.

Bankers Trust Company
16 Wall Street,
New York, USA.

Monte dei Paschi di Siena
Piazza Salimbeni
Siena, Italy.

Branches throughout Nigeria.

and women too!

Wise men bank with UBA

UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA LTD.

97/105 BROAD STREET P O BOX 2406, LAGOS NIGERIA
TEL 637510 637579 637650 TELEX MINDOBANK 21241 & 21580