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OAU TEN YEARS AFTER



The OAU and Liberation

There are times, no doubt, when one should count one's blessings rather than deploring their meagreness, and tenth anniversaries of great organisations devoted to good ends are certainly among such times. It would be easy to sing a song of woe about the ways in which the OAU has fallen short of the objectives sketched so vigorously in its Charter of 1963. Independent Africa is no more united now than it was then, in some respects it is less united. Vast populations still live under the shadow of foreign rule, and the OAU can be said, without malice or injustice, to have done far less for them than many have reasonably expected. Ardent resolutions have stayed on paper. Promises of aid have remained without fulfilment. All this has been said not once but many times, not least by Africans, and all of it is true.

Yet if one tries to look on the other side of things, there is also a good deal to be said, and this, too, is true. As an all-African forum the OAU not only came into existence, in itself a sufficiently remarkable event, it has also stayed in

existence, and on a plane of rising achievement. To have the assurance of this one would only need to list the number of inter-African disputes that OAU initiatives have helped to unravel or arrange. What other existing organisation, or imaginable organisation, could have done half as much? In the most profound sense, perhaps the OAU has been Africa's means of "getting to know itself" for the first time on a continental scale. It has been Africa's pledge, given at a moment when the work of primary decolonisation was far from finished, that the future of the African lies in achieving the consciousness of underlying unity which can alone defend the cause of independence in the future.

Continental consciousness

How well has the OAU availed to enable Africans to "get to know each other" on a continental scale? Given that the OAU suffers still from being merely

OAU SPECIAL ISSUE



an affair of governments, not of parties or popular movements – but could it have been otherwise? – the answer seems to come out pretty well. A foreign observer cannot but be struck by the degree in which ministers and senior officials, as well as politicians and journalists, are aware of the problems and interests of distant countries in a way quite unthinkable before the early 1960s: in a continent where the main political struggle has been to achieve a national consciousness in some forty states, the achievement of a continental consciousness has obviously to be a question for the future; yet the fact remains that the continental consciousness nonetheless appears upon the scene, and is already a permanent factor in African affairs, even though still a minor one. The OAU and all that its existence has implied can take some credit for this, perhaps a lot of credit.

This appears particularly true when one looks at the situation of the liberation movements in the Portuguese colonies in Rhodesia, in Namibia, and in South Africa. Ten years ago these liberation movements of regions in Africa which add up, in size, to more than most of Europe were practically unknown, some of them, indeed, had scarcely seen the light of day. Yet there is no exaggeration in saying that these movements stand today at the acknowledged centre of continental politics. Their cause is known, understood, approved, even supported. Their leaders are received with interest and honour, even with admiration. Their successes are proclaimed in Africa's press, their difficulties discussed, their arguments rehearsed. All this speaks for a great enlargement of political opinion.

Military mission

It happened to me, walking into the liberated territories of Guinea-Bissau a few months ago, to encounter a military team of the OAU who were walking out: one of their members came from North Africa, and two from East Africa. Who could have imagined such an interchange ten years ago, and how, without the OAU, would it have come practically about? Or when the government of Colonel Acheampong went out of its way, not long ago, publicly to reverse the inward-looking provincialism of Ghana's previous government, who could doubt that such interchanges were not now felt to be natural and necessary to every self-respecting African state? Yet how

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December 1972. One of the last photographs of AMILCAR CABRAL, addressing young soldiers of the Army of the PAIGC at a training camp inside the liberated territories of Guinea-Bissau. Many people ten years before, would have thought them either?

It is perhaps only in ways like these that the really big movements of history can be detected. For they indicate the long term trends and pressures which push through the contradictory surface of everyday events in this case, through the hesitations, doubts and betrayals of this or that 'promised course of action'. They show where things are actually going even when the immediate scene may give a different answer. And in this case they appear to be confirmed by recent shifts

and changes within the organisation and posture of the OAU itself. The OAU, as we all know, is not a unity but an assembly of governments. Not all these governments have felt able to support the liberation movements; not all of them have wanted to; a few of them have actively not wanted to. But it says a good deal, once again, for the enlargement of African opinion over the past ten years that the reasons for these internal disagreements are well understood. Being thus understood, they have become increasingly a matter for political and

diplomatic action, another thing that was practically unthinkable ten years ago. And becoming this, they have begun to be tackled in a systematic and realistic way. One has the impressions, and perhaps it is a little more than an impression, that the effectiveness of the OAU in certain practical ways, including its relations with the liberation movements, is greater than it was a few years back.

If so, it will be just as well. For it seems likely that the struggle for the further liberation of Africans from foreign rule and other handicaps of the past will now be fought on a scale both more demanding and more complex. The Portuguese are on the defensive, casting round for political means by which they can undermine liberation movements whose military strength has defeated them. The white South Africans face the possible twin of their policy of "buy or bully". The Rhodesians stumble from one foolishness to the next. Thus balked, these racist systems will become more desperate than before, more dangerous to their neighbours, more subversive of African regimes, more treacherous in their dealings. Independent Africa's will and ability to act in unity and concert will be tested ever more severely. So to the OAU, now ten years old, good luck and good strength. They will be needed.

Basil Davidson



HIGHLIGHTS OF A DECADE

Above left Africa Hall, Addis Ababa, home of the OAU.

Above right At the height of the Nigerian crisis, Chief Awolowo and President Boumediene of Algeria in Algiers, 1965.

Left Accra 1965, two OAU founding fathers, the late Presidents Nkrumah and Nasser.

Right: Accra 1965, President Kasavubu of the Congo lays a wreath at the freedom fighters' memorial in Black Star Square. President Kasavubu was at the OAU shortly after he dismissed M. Tshombe as Prime Minister.





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OAU FACT SHEET

The Organisation of African Unity was established on May 25, 1963, at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, by 30 African Heads of state and government.

States that signed the 33-article OAU Charter at Addis Ababa were Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo (B), Congo (K) now Zaire, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Upper Volta, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and United Arab Republic (Egypt).

Togo and Morocco though represented at Addis Ababa, signed the Charter later in July and September, 1963.

The 41 members of the OAU are as follows: Algeria, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Peoples' Republic of the Congo, Dahomey, Egypt, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malagasy Republic, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire and Zambia.

The OAU is made up principally of three organs: (1) the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government which is the policy-making body, it convenes once a year, adopts resolutions and makes decisions; (2) the Council of Ministers which meets twice a year in ordinary sessions, adopts the budget, prepares agenda for the summit and makes recommendations; (3) the General Secretariat is the permanent organ, carries out resolutions and decisions of the summit, services meetings, is responsible for information and public relations, and keeps archives; its headquarters is at Addis Ababa.

Diallo Telli (Guinea) first OAU Administrative Secretary-General (1964-72). Born 1925 in the mountainous Fouta Djallon region of Guinea, he comes from the Peuhl people and like his peasant parents, he has remained a devout Muslim who neither drinks nor smokes, and who is proud of his pilgrimage to Mecca. He has attended many schools and colleges in Poreddako, his native village, in Dakar (the well-known William Ponty) and in Paris. In 1948, he was the first African to be admitted to the Paris school for colonial administrators and graduated as head of his class five years later. At the same time, he was also taking a law degree and in 1954, top as usual, he became a Doctor of Law. He married a fellow Guinean, a social worker whom he met in Paris during his six years there. After graduation, he joined the French colonial service. His first post was a legal one in



Diallo Telli

OAU SPECIAL ISSUE



Nzo Ekangaki

Thies, Senegal. Later, he was asked to join the personal staff of the High Commissioner for French West Africa in Dakar and in 1956, he appointed his *chef de cabinet*. In 1957, he was appointed head of the official legal hierarchy of Dahomey but scarcely had time to take up the post before he was made Secretary-General of the Grand Council of AOF, French West Africa's semi-federal Parliament. Following Guinea's independence in 1958, he became his country's first Ambassador and personal representative of the President. In December, 1958, he attended the 13th session of the General Assembly of the UN in New York and was his country's representative when Guinea was admitted to the UN on December 12. Spending six years at the UN he became one of the most senior African diplomats there. In 1962, Telli was elected one of the vice-presidents of the UN General Assembly. As OAU Secretary-General earned a reputation as a tireless and outspoken fighter, but often frustrated by the "administrative" designation of the office. He was re-elected in 1968, but in 1972 was defeated after five rounds of voting. He is now Minister of Justice in Guinea.

Nzo Ekangaki, (Cameroon) current Administrative Secretary-General of OAU. Born March 22, 1934, at Nguti, Cameroon, (Nzo means elephant in Mbo language), son of a Presbyterian cocoa farmer, he was educated locally in Nguti and Besongabang, with secondary education at Bali College, Bamenda, and Hope Waddell Training Institution in Calabar, Nigeria. From 1954 to 1959, he was a student of English at the University of Ibadan graduating BA. He had courses in History and the Arts, University of Oxford, England and in Diplomacy and Political Science, University of Bonn, West Germany, 1960-61. At Ibadan, Ekangaki was a prominent student leader, both among Cameroonian students and in the formation of the ANUNSA, the Nigerian United Nations Students' organisation. He was president of the National Union of Kamerun Students (NUKS). As a tribute to the successful role he played among the students, when he returned to Cameroon in 1961 he almost immediately became a federal MP and deputy Foreign Minister, at the same time as he became the Secretary-General of the West Cameroon party of Vice-President John Foncha. From 1964-65, he was Health and Population Minister, and from 1965 he was Labour Minister. Ekangaki was a full minister for nine years, a deputy minister for two years, a federal deputy, and before his entry into party politics, was Secretary to the West Cameroon Examinations Board. He was envoy

extra-ordinary and plenipotentiary at the head of his country's missions to Japan, Korea, China, India, Pakistan, Iran, Lebanon and other countries during which he negotiated cooperation agreements. He was on the delegation of President Ahmadou Ahidjo to the UN General assembly to present the Lusaka Manifesto of the OAU on Southern Africa. Perfectly fluent in English and French. He also speaks German and a number of Cameroonian tongues. Election as Secretary-General in Rabat came as a surprise - he was not a front runner.

OAU Chairmen. Emperor Haile Selassie I (Ethiopia, 1963-64), late President Gamel Nasser (Egypt, 1964-65); late President Kwame Nkrumah (Ghana, 1965-66); Emperor Haile Selassie I (Ethiopia, 1966-67), President Mobutu Sese Seko (Zaire, 1967-68); President Houari Boumedienne (Algeria, 1968-69); President Ahmadou Ahidjo (Cameroon, 1969-70), President Kenneth Kaunda (Zambia, 1970-71), President Moktar Ould Daddah (Mauritania, 1971-72), King Hassan (Morocco, current chairman).

Secretaries-General: M. Diallo Telli (Guinea, 1964-1972 but Mr Tesfaye Gebre Egzy of Ethiopia acted as Interim Secretary-General from 1963-64), Mr Nzo Ekangaki (Cameroon, 1972-)

OAU Summits: Cairo (July, 1964); Accra (Oct., 1965), Addis Ababa (Nov., 1966), Kinshasa (Sept., 1967), Algiers (Sept., 1968), Addis Ababa (Sept., 1969, Sept., 1970, July, 1971), Rabat (June, 1972); Addis Ababa (May, 1973)

OAU SPECIAL ISSUE



Commissions: There are three specialised commissions: economic and social commission (in charge of transport and communication), defence commission, and scientific, cultural, educational and health commission. (Originally, Article 20 of the Charter created six specialised commissions but these were scaled down to three following an amendment in 1969). Co-operation agreement in economic matters with the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

Ad Hoc Commissions: Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration; some have been created as need arose e.g. Consultative Committee on Nigeria, Committee on Mercenaries, Middle-East Peace Mission.

Liberation Movements recognised by OAU: FRELIMO: Liberation Front of Mozambique; PAIGC: African Party of the Independence of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde; the MPLA: The Peoples'

Movement for the Liberation of Angola; The FLNA: The National Liberation Front of Angola; The SWAPO: The South West Africa Peoples' Union; The ZAPU: The Zimbabwe African Peoples' Union; The ZANU: The Zimbabwe African National Union; The FLCS: The National Front for the Liberation of Somali Coast; The MOLINACO: The National Movement for the Liberation of the Comoro Islands; The ANC: The African National Congress of South Africa; The PAC: The Pan African Congress of South Africa; The LMD: The Djibouti Liberation Movement. The Liberation Movements are given observer status at OAU meetings to enable them put their case.

Staff: There are over 300 members of whom 71 of professional category from 32 African countries work at headquarters and at regional and sub-regional offices.

Large OAU meetings are held in Addis Ababa, the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa.

OAU working languages are Arabic, English and French.

Budget: About three million US dollars

Special Fund: for the Liberation Movements contributed by members according to a scale of assessment based on national income.

First OAU Trade Fair: Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 23 to March 5, 1972. **First African Cultural Festival,** Algiers, 1973.

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Books and Publications

Towards stable boundaries

The Boundary Politics of Independent Africa, by Saadia Touval (Oxford University Press for Harvard University Press, £6.00). **Peaceful Settlement Among African States: Roles of the United Nations and the Organisation of African Unity**, by Berhanykun Andemucel (UN Institute for Training and Research, New York, \$2.50).

It was the All African Peoples Congress (AAPC) in Accra in December 1958 that posed the question of Africa's boundaries most directly. The resolution at the end of the conference denounced "artificial frontiers drawn by imperialist powers to divide the peoples of Africa, particularly those which cut across ethnic groups and divide people of the same stock". It called for the "abolition of

for revival of old claims (such as Morocco's claim to Mauritania) or ethnic irredentism, such as the Somalis or the Ewes. The independence period was probably the only time at which such changes could be effected, at which territories could be enlarged or divided, or federations could form and fall apart.

At that time, too, there were prophecies that because of the arbitrary nature of so many of the frontiers there were bound to be endless difficulties unless they were rationalised. Nkrumah warned against the "legacies of irredentism and tribalism", and conflicts such as had appeared in Europe in the 19th Century, i.e. if you balkanise, you have a Balkan situation.

Mr. Touval's book is essentially a study of why the predicted chaos has never happened, and why the boundaries arrived at on independence have been adhered to with increasing fidelity. He traces through a series of studies of crises over border disputes or secessions (both of which can be said to involve boundaries) how the clarion call of 1958 became progressively muted until today it seems almost moribund. Although in 1958 boundary revision was associated with radical politics (partly because of Nkrumah), with the Congo crisis secession became identified with reaction, a trend which has its repercussions in the Nigerian crisis.

Indeed, boundaries are so related to national interest, that it is hard to give boundary questions ideological tags. Morocco, for example, "adhered to the Casablanca group in part because of the support she was looking for in her claims to Mauritania. Boundary disputes often arise where mineral riches are present, or can simply be a reflection of bad relations for other reasons.

Mr. Touval usefully reminds us of what Dr. Azikiwe said of the difference between the Monrovia and the Casablanca groups — that Casablanca had no "non-interference" clause protecting "sovereignty and territorial integrity". This section was transferred from the Monrovia Charter to that of the Organisation of African Unity in 1963, and has been one of the central features of that body. It was invoked with great success by federal Nigeria when faced with secession in 1967. In part the knowledge that all OAU members needed the protection of this clause helped Nigeria considerably to rally support from the OAU, which was one of the elements in the federal victory.

OAU SPECIAL ISSUE



adjustment of such frontiers at an early date". The resolution specifically linked the boundary question to Cameroon, at that stage working up to reunification, but it could reasonably be seen as an affirmation of a wider principle.

Mr. Touval's study goes into the interpretation of this resolution at some length. The call for the "abolition" of frontiers fitted in with Dr. Nkrumah's ideas of continental unity. The call for adjustment, however, seemed to fit in with Ghana's own immediate preoccupations at that time on her own borders, especially in relation to divided Togoland, and Nkrumah's own view that, to achieve Ewe reunification, Togo should be absorbed into Ghana.

Although boundaries were not something that featured prominently at the conference, the late fifties marked the high point for those who favoured revision of colonial boundaries, even if, as in the case of Cameroon, they simply involved revision to accord with an earlier colonial boundary. As the period in which most states were coming to independence the time seemed fruitful



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All of this does not obviate the fact that Africa's boundaries are chaotic, and sometimes drawn up in arbitrary fashion. He mentions the famous saying that Northern Nigeria's boundaries were dictated by the distances Lord Lugard was prepared to walk before he sat down, and that Mount Kilimanjaro is in Tanzania because Queen Victoria wanted to give a birthday present to the Kaiser ("Cousin Willie"). Against this, however, Touval says that boundaries everywhere in the world are often illogical, that many European boundaries were created by the stroke of a pen and that there are no easy criteria. Also, some of the colonial boundaries did take geopolitical factors into consideration.

He writes: "Had the borders of West Africa been drawn in accordance with ethnic and cultural criteria, the states in the area would have been formed in layers parallel to the coast. While such states would have been marked by larger measure of cultural homogeneity, they would have fared poorly in economic terms." He also notes that some ethnic groups such as the Yoruba were not interested in irredentism, although some Nigerian politicians in the early fifties called for the attachment of Dahomey's Yoruba-speaking areas, it was never an issue. On the difference with the Balkans he says that "in general the concept of the nation-states (i.e. one that is ethnically homogeneous) has been irrelevant to Africa".

Mr. Andemicael's short study is a useful complement to Mr. Touval's accounts of the various mediations in African disputes in the last decade, most of which have been handled directly or indirectly through the OAU. His particular concern is to show how the notion of "try the OAU first" gained wider and wider ground. The UN had been brought into the Congo in 1960, before the creation of the OAU, with results that had threatened the organisation both financially and otherwise. Thus, in the second Congo crisis, when the issue was brought to the Security Council in the lurch after the Belgo-American airstrip at Stanleyville, it was the Security Council itself that encouraged the "OAU first" attitude when there were disputes among African states. The doctrine was fully realised in the Nigerian civil war, when, in spite of a number of pressures, nobody ever succeeded in raising it at the Security Council, although mention was made in General Assembly debates. Not that the OAU's peacemaking efforts were successful, but it seemed to serve as a political buffer. The author adds that the UN Secretary-General and agencies were heavily involved in the humanitarian effort.

"The most significant result of the OAU involvement" says Mr. Andemicael, "was to set up a norm against the recognition of political entities in Africa created through secession. It can be expected that this norm, together with the norms for the prohibition of foreign

intervention, including that by mercenaries, and of subversive activities by refugees, might in future exert a stabilising influence in African countries facing a potential internal conflict". This conclusion fits in neatly with Mr. Touval's thesis on the consolidation of boundaries.

K W

His Worshipful Majesty, by Timothy M. Aluko, Heinemann, London (Ibadan and Nairobi) 60p.

This is the fifth work by the engineer-novelist. He had previously published four in the African Writers Series. These are *One Man, One Matchet*; *One Man, One Wife*; *Knysman and Foreman*; and *Chief the Honourable Minister*. In the present work, Mr. Aluko writes about the impact of the new Local Government Law on the kingdom of Aiyé over which Oba Olayiwola Adegoke presided with unfettered authority.

With the advent of the British and the introduction of their own procedure into the conduct of local government business, there was little Oba Adegoke could do to control the chain of events that followed. The mingling of cultures had eroded his authority anyway. One has the impression that Barrister Morrison did not belong to the normal run of colonial administrators in the way he identified with the people of his division and conducted his business.

Aluko deserves credit for the way in which he conveys traditional Yoruba concepts to the reader. It all testifies to his power of narration. But one wonders whether words like "Oba" and "King", and "Afin" and "Palace", are synonyms which are supposed to be though these words are now used interchangeably. The present work is an exciting addition to his previous works.

F A

The Rise of the Krobus edited by E. O. Aporah (Ghana Publishing Corporation, no price given)

This short book (60 pages) is a translation by the Rev. S. S. Odonkor from an original Ga text by his father Thomas Harrison Odonkor, late chief of Kpong, Many Krobo. He deals mainly with the nineteenth century. That the chief was well placed to observe contemporary events was evidenced by N. A. A. Azu, writing in the late nineteen twenties, who made many references to Odonkor's close relations with the renowned King Sakite, by whom he was made chief of Kpong.

The account of Krobo history given here differs somewhat from that given by Azu, and these are cross referenced in the notes. There are some historic photographs, well reproduced, of Krobo chiefs, and a short appendix explaining some customs. The book is well set out and a useful additional source of reference for the study of Krobo history.

A M

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Matchet's Diary

Freetown

So established a part of life here has diamond smuggling become that it is not even a regular subject of conversation. It is scarcely referred to in newspapers or news bulletins. It gets a single short sentence in the very long election manifesto of the ruling All People's Congress but the report for last year of the Government Diamond Office describes diamond smuggling as by far the greatest immediate concern "to the economy as a whole". Nobody could estimate accurately the extent of the trade but people who have made enquiries at the Antwerp end suggest that something like a fifth of Sierra Leone production may be smuggled - and now mostly smuggled direct to Antwerp and not via Monrovia or Beirut. That would mean that at least £5m. worth of stones are smuggled out each year, but the figure may be much higher.

This would mean direct loss of government revenue of nearly half a million sterling but an indirect loss much higher, both in exchange and in government revenue. For even if the smuggled stones are sold at a good price only part of this returns to Sierra Leone, where it may be spent only on buying other stones for smuggling.

Just as serious is the apparent decline in the output of the licensed alluvial diggers who used to be responsible for more of Sierra Leone's output than was Diminco, the enterprise in which the Government has majority control and which took over the leases and working of Sierra Leone Selection Trust which owns the rest of the shares. The GDO report explains that whereas in earlier years the diggers were working over a "fairly extensive area" the richer and more accessible deposits have been exhausted or abandoned and licensed digging is now restricted to "certain pockets", many diggers preferring to engage in illicit digging on these rather than in the more arduous and expensive job of looking for new areas to work. Whether such areas exist is uncertain. They probably do, but they would need for their development far more capital and perhaps a much more elaborate technique than the licensed diggers normally provide.

Diminco's own leases are not inexhaustible and the illicit diggers are helping to exhaust them. Indeed it is likely that but for illicit digging on Diminco leases the purchases of GDO, which cannot discriminate in its buying between stones lawfully and stones illicitly won, would have declined even further than they have. It cannot therefore be said that whatever happens to Diminco the country would still profit from the output of the licensed diggers since so much of this comes from Diminco leases.

Prophecies of the diamond industry's doom have been made in this country ever since the "wild west" days of the early fifties before the licensed digging scheme was introduced in the hope of controlling illicit digging. Yet as recently as 1969 GDO recorded its highest purchases since it was established in 1959. Diminco's results this year are also expected to look good in spite of the problems illicit digging causes for the company. But this will partly be due to the inclusion in the figures of the proceeds of the sale last year of the Star of Sierra Leone, the diamond said to have fetched nearly £1m. sterling, and of other stones unusually big. Last year, too Diminco sales, even without the "Star" exceeded alluvial diggers' sales to GDO - but certainly not the diggers' output if illicit mining is included. Figures of earnings can however be misleading, since prices earned by Sierra Leone diamonds have been rising steadily. There are mostly gem stones and last year the GDO price was on average some ten per cent up on 1970. All we can know for sure is that in the end the inevitable sometimes happens even in Sierra Leone.

One of the tasks of the new government and parliament is to ensure that the diamond industry outlives them.

Lonrho and Sierra Leone

London newspapers carrying the long reports of the court tussle of the Lonrho directors are read with some detachment here. For, as a recent editorial in this journal explained, this was one African country where the Rowland-style of management, which "Tiny" Rowland's fellow Lonrho directors have been criticising, was deployed to the full and yet achieved nothing. After the Sierra Leone Government announced in 1969 that it would take 51 per cent of the shares in the four big mining companies, Mr Rowland and Lonrho's then chairman, Mr Alan Ball, were frequent visitors here in the company's famous executive jet. It was thought that Mr Rowland saw an opportunity of getting into the diamond business at a time when this might add a little lustre to Lonrho's depressed shares. In return for a stake in diamonds, it was reported, Lonrho would develop the uneconomic Tonkolili iron-ore deposits, whose low grade, Mr Rowland thought, would be no obstacle to their sale overseas through the Lonrho world-wide network.

Such negotiations were conducted at the very top. Nothing, however, came of

the projected joint company with the government, the textile or timber industry, iron ore mining, or diamond marketing and it is a long time since the Lonrho executive jet was seen at Lungu airfield. It is believed that President Stevens, then Prime Minister, was impressed by President Mobutu's 1970 warning to African leaders to avoid dealings with the company. Certainly Sierra Leone is well out of any connection with the current boardroom affair.

Who are the MPs?

There is much discussion here about the calibre or lack of it of the new parliament, which has 19 more ordinary members than the old. The President, as I reported last week, thinks that he now has more talent on than before. Others are not so sure. I haven't a complete list but the fullest one I have shows the MPs to be what is called "a cross-section". There are over a dozen who describe themselves as farmers, some adding another occupation. There are a number of teachers and ex-teachers. Some ten call themselves traders. The half-a-dozen who call themselves businessmen include the Vice President and the Minister of Finance, although the latter adds politician.

There are transport operators, druggists, an accountant and a journalist. One Minister described himself as a diamond valuer while another Minister, Mr. Barthes-Wilson, is

among the MPs calling themselves frankly politician. Equally frank is Mr. Goba of Bonthe who says he is unemployed. For Mr. Conteh of Tonkolili this is not good enough. He is an unemployed gentleman just as Mr. Mansaray of Port Loko is a gentleman farmer and politician. There is a university lecturer from Njala. There are, I think, only four lawyers, including the Foreign Minister and the victorious Independent, Mr. Desmond Luke. Mr. Luke does not mention that he is also an Ambassador but Alhaji Gborie, who has come back from Cuba, calls himself Ambassador and politician. There are two medical practitioners, of the skill of one of whom the President has personal experience. All these labels, however, tell us little about the calibre of the men.

There is speculation, too, about the number of ministers in the new government. Can the President appoint fewer this time even if he has many more expectant MPs? Ministers are paid £3,150 and their allowances and housing add considerable sum to this bill. There have been over twenty ministers and a number of junior ministers. MPs are paid just over £1,600 for their unexact work and also have allowances. Now that the election is over, with the great majority of MPs returned without contest, this kind of thing interests people greatly. It seems likely however that the salary of Leader of the Opposition, just over £2,500 can be saved.

Bill Leigh's retirement — and new job

In the latest *Gazette* there is a small but satisfactory announcement. Under "Police" this appears: "Leigh, I.W., Commissioner, retired on pension, 30.4.73." This means that Mr. "Bill" Leigh, who was Commissioner of Police when military rule was established in 1967 and who joined the military government has been completely reinstated and retired on full pension. With other members of the military government he was charged with treason and was one of those sentenced to death after a trial which the Appeal Court found null and void. In the end the APC government decided to free all the accused and to give those in government service their back pay. In Mr. Leigh's case the restoration of his rank as Commissioner is a gracious act, since four officers have held the rank since he was arrested after the overthrow of the military regime. At a time of some bitterness here the move is very welcome. Mr. Leigh, still a young man and professionally highly regarded, is now assisting, with the complete approval of this government, to train the police in Liberia, from where his family comes.

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The Deniau Memorandum

PART 5

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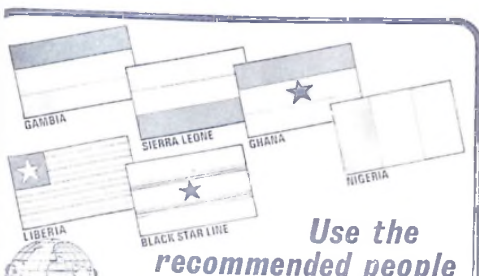
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There should thus be an improvement of industrial information about the associates, lack of which checks initiative from the private sector. The Community with the European Investment Bank could take general measures, such as organising contacts between associates and investors (only at the request of the associates), or providing better support for small and medium-sized concerns through financial and technical support for institutions in the associated states concerned with industrial promotion.

In view of the gradual reduction of tariff preferences on products of the associates, and the competition these products meet on external markets, the memorandum says it is important to support efforts made by associates to boost sales and diversify outlets. Yaoundé provides aid for marketing and sales promotion. The main objectives of this should be to improve information to buyers, and reinforce the associates' competitive trading position.

Article 20 of the Second Yaoundé Convention provides for "special aid" in the event of natural disasters (drought or epidemics), which have been applied for several times, more effectively through the flexibility of the measures, which can take the form of cash payments. Owing to the conditions of implementation, says the memorandum, "no Associated state has so far asked for them in connection with a fall in the world prices of a major export product". This measure will have to be adapted to avoid overlapping with the proposed export receipts guarantee.

Technical assistance must be for a brief period as possible but must leave a well adapted legacy of completed projects, says the memorandum. The concern of the associates to "depend less on assistance which is sometimes difficult to control" is justified. To meet the associates' wishes, it will be necessary to



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The memorandum also stresses the need for increased support for regional co-operation. Aware of the problems of individual states (too small, landlocked or poorly endowed), the Yaoundé Convention has already expressed the need for Community aid to regional projects, and has always tried to promote the regionalisation of development. With the enlargement of association, the indispensable task of pooling national resources and extending markets "in short, of regional co-operation" takes on a new importance.

Thus three new measures should be introduced into the Convention, the plurinational programmes drawn up by the associates for implementing EEC aid should be harmonised in sectors where regional action is in the common interest (transport and telecommunications, energy, stockbreeding, technical and advanced training and trade promotion), to facilitate regional undertakings, there should be compensation for states which open their markets to the products of such undertakings not located on their territory, finding methods of financing and charging the cost of regional projects that would not diminish the total aid allocated to the participating countries.

"Least developed"

On recent international moves in favour of the least developed states, the memorandum says the EEC is entitled to see in this a further justification for the special effort it has been making to help particularly handicapped regions of the world, and some consideration has been given to the least advanced of the associates. But more could be done, by technical assistance to enable them to absorb a greater volume of outside aid, by favourable financial conditions, by flexible application of aid rules.

The EEC's emphasis on rural development has already contributed to improvement of labour conditions in agriculture and slowing down the movement away from the land. Among the EEC's criteria already is whether a project adds to or lessens labour problems. The memorandum also stresses

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Another issue raised is that of the participation of associates in the guidance of financial and technical co-operation, especially with the association institutions. Likewise the role of the associates in carrying out financed projects should be "strengthened as much as possible with the Community's help". The memorandum says "the programming, evaluation and conduct of the investments financed by the Community have enabled a permanent dialogue to be established with the Associated states. This practical co-operation has lent exemplary significance and reality to the Association. However, since the joint institutions were set up, the Association Council has never discussed in sufficient depth the general guidance of financial and technical co-operation, a matter about which the commission annually reports to it". The means of extending this co-operation can only come from a joint effort, however, the Community should thus propose that the Commission's annual report should give fuller details of the conditions in which aid is put into effect and used, and the EEC could organise regular discussions with the associates on the problems arising from the implementation of financial and technical co-operation, not "to reach decisions" but "jointly to seek a fuller understanding of the realities".

Implementation of the EEC finance projects must contribute to the development of firms in the associates. The EEC may already grant in particular cases a price preference of up to 15 per cent to supplies from firms in the country concerned or in other associated states in the same region. This cannot be extended beyond certain limits without an evident risk of raising considerably the cost of the projects and reducing the overall efficiency of the aid.

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Lonrho and Africa

By a correspondent

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland has lost his High Court action to prevent eight Lonrho directors from sacking him as chief executive and managing director. But the board has agreed that he should retain his posts pending the extraordinary meeting of shareholders on May 31.

Dismissing Mr Rowland's application the judge, Mr Justice Plowman said "It is settled law that the Court does not substitute its own view to that of the directors so long as they exercise their powers in what they honestly consider is the best interests of the company."

Certainly in view of Mr Rowland's extravagant claims about his relations with African leaders and his knowledge of Africa business methods, African reactions deserve examination.

A Lonrho executive has been reported as saying "He is the only white man in Africa the black politicians will go to hell and back for. Only Rowland could get Kenneth Kaunda to threaten to nationalise Lonrho in Zambia."

Both Ghana and Zambia have issued statements which were used by the plaintiff to support the contention that his dismissal would be a "catastrophe" in Africa. Ghana's statement said the Government had noted with interest the "struggle for power and control" going on in the London boardroom.

"While the Government concedes the right of directors and/or shareholders of any limited liability company at home or abroad to engage in internal wrangling for power and control, it wishes to state unequivocally and categorically that it will not tolerate any attempt by any such group to interfere with the sovereign interest of the Republic of Ghana.

"Ghana's decision to capture the commanding heights of the economy remains unalterable and irreversible. No threats from any quarter will make the Government and people of Ghana rescind their irrevocable decision to participate fully in the extractive industries of Ghana. The Government, ever mindful of its solemn obligations to the people of Ghana, would like to warn all concerned that it will not hesitate to take measures to protect its interests in any appropriate circumstances."

The statement added that Ghana supported the "stand taken by our brother countries of Zambia, Kenya and Sudan" and warned that it would not be party to any decisions taken unilaterally in London that might be detrimental to the smooth running of Ashanti Goldfields.

Counsel for Mr Rowland described this statement as "another example of a mailed fist in a velvet glove. There is an unmistakable threat there". But Ghana appears merely to be saying that she will take any measures necessary to safeguard the Government holding in Ashanti. In December 1972 Ghana announced that it would take a 55 per cent holding in

Ashanti.

Zambia certainly appears to support Mr. Rowland. But why the assumption that he is supported by black Africans, especially after the disclosures of his own and Lonrho's interest in a Rhodesian copper mine?

Mr Rowland claimed that if he had been dismissed Zambia would have acted against the company. Both Sir Basil Smallpeice and Mr. Gerald Percy denied that Zambian threats had persuaded them not to sack Mr Rowland. It had been "the best thing to do in the interests of the company."

The Zambian threat had been disclosed on the day of the judge's summing up. Mr. Rowland said that the Governor of the Bank of Zambia, Mr. Bitwell Kiwuna had visited Lonrho's offices and told the company that he believed Lonrho's assets would have been nationalised if the eight directors had sacked Mr Rowland. He put it bluntly "If they sacked me today all of Lonrho's assets in Zambia would have been taken over tonight and the rest of independent Africa would have followed tomorrow. Lonrho would have been out of business." Mr Rowland added "and a few minutes ago the High Commissioner for Ghana was here to back my claim that this would spread across Africa."

A government investigation into the activities of Lonrho, was urged in the

Kenya Parliament by an Assistant Minister for Tourism, Mr. J.M. Karuki. He produced papers which he claimed showed that Lonrho had borrowed about £15m. to buy out several firms in Kenya.

Listing companies already bought by Lonrho and those which he claimed the company planned to buy, the Minister remarked that Lonrho would soon be applying for permission to export profit made from companies acquired from capital borrowed locally.

His allegations were refuted by Mr. Udi Gechaga, the group's managing director, in Nairobi, who said the firm's record in Africanization was in many ways more ambitious than that required by the Government. The local borrowings and remittances were made after Government approval and the accounts were submitted to the Registrar of Companies.

Press reaction in Ghana, too, has been far more concerned with the company's operations than with trying to "save" Mr. Rowland (see page 682).

At press conferences after the hearing both sides had harsh things to say. Mr. Rowland gave abrasive word portraits of some of his co-directors, while the eight confined themselves to less personal remarks. Mr Rowland described Sir Basil and he as "complete opposites... I find it hard to be with him for more than five minutes at a time", of Mr Gerald Percy "he would not be acceptable to the countries of independent Africa" Maj. Gen Sir Edward Spears, said Mr. Rowland, held the balance of power. "He

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Letters to the Editor

WAEC and regional groupings

SIR, In his letter (April 23) Mr. J. Modupe Kwao-Paul writes:

"The mere fact that WAEC is the only surviving inter-territorial institution is about the best reason for a change"

Mr. Kwao-Paul's advocacy of the dismemberment of the West African Examinations Council would have carried greater conviction if he had taken the trouble to adduce convincing proofs in support of his views. Surely the readers of this journal are entitled to expect cogent arguments for or against a particular proposition and not dogmatic assertions such as that quoted above and this:

"West African countries must no longer be grouped for no reason in spite of the colonial philosophy".

It is one to inter that the colonial past of West African countries disqualifies them from coming together of their own accord? If it is so then the institutions to be dismantled would not only include the West African Examinations Council but also: (1) The OIRS (Oceania, Mauritania, Senegal, Mali and Guinea); (2) The Conseil d'Entente which includes The Ivory Coast, Niger, Upper Volta and Dahomey; (3) The East African Economic Community; (4) OCEAM which comprises nearly all the formerly French territories in Africa and

Mauritius. (5) The Organisation of African Unity itself.

Such a development would certainly discourage all those who are engaged in preparing the ground for the eventual establishment of a West African Economic Community; furthermore, it would run counter to the trend exemplified by the call made recently for the setting up of a Panfrican airline which you, SIR, reported in your issue of April 23.

It is impossible within the limits of a Letter to the Editor, to deal adequately with the implications of Mr. Kwao-Paul's letter as well as furnish him with the essential facts concerning the West African Examinations Council. Suffice it to say that this organisation has its own School Certificate/Ordinary Level GCE Examinations as well as its Higher School Certificate/Advanced Level GCE Examinations. The Certificates it awards are recognised by Ministries of Education in West Africa; by examining boards overseas and lastly by universities and institutions of higher education in Africa and elsewhere. These are valid achievements which parents will wish to set against the doubtful advantage of their children receiving "diplomas issued by the schools they attend with endorsement by a local university". Whether this idea is, in fact, practical can be safely left to the Ministries of Education in each of the countries concerned.

It is true that the times are changing; however, one would like to think that as far as West Africa is concerned, the change is in the direction of greater inter-territorial co-operation. Perhaps I may be permitted to blow the trumpet of the West African Examinations Council by saying that it is an example of harmonious and fruitful co-operation at the inter-regional level.

S. H. M. JONES
London Representative,
WAEC.

Snakes at Ibadan

SIR, I am on study leave but just before I left Nigeria recently my attention was drawn to an article in *West Africa* (April 16) referring to me and entitled "Herpetology for All".

Although I have given a number of interviews to reporters from known newspapers or journals, I have not been interviewed by anybody writing (to my knowledge) for *West Africa* and I cannot recall meeting anybody with the name Innocent Breadfruit. Also, I was in no way informed that this article was to appear in your journal and I would have appreciated notification and a chance to go through the text for accuracy before publication.

I should make it clear, however, that I have no objection in principle to the appearance of such an article, indeed I welcome it. I am simply objecting to circumstances.

There are a number of inaccuracies in the article, but the one which is most in need of correction is my alleged recommendation of cobras as being "nice to keep as pets for Nigerians". I wish to point out that Nigerians, or any other nationalities for that matter, should certainly not attempt to keep, or even handle, cobras, unless, that is, they wish to meet an early and violent death.

ROBERT F. GOLDING

Ibadan Zoo Curator

We apologise to Mr. Golding for any distress the article may have caused him. We accepted the article in good faith several months ago from a contributor. Innocent Breadfruit is a pseudonym.



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Commercial News

LONRHO ACTIVITIES 1972

Rowland optimistic report

For the year to September 30, 1972, Lonrho made £19.30m pre-tax profit on sales of £215.90m. This compares to pre-tax profit of £15.09m on sales of £191.88m the previous year. The chief executive, Mr "Tiny" Rowland, stresses in the annual report that the amount of remittable profit to the UK increased from £2.40m to £3.56m. The amount of remittable income varied from time to time but remittable profit is "used locally to the best advantage until freed for transfer". Lonrho's West Africa turnover (from Ghana, Nigeria and Ivory Coast), second in value only to that of its East and Central African interests was £73.63m, compared to £57.48m in 1971. Profit before taxation was £7.50m, £3.40m more than in 1971.

The auditors made two qualifications to the accounts. Their first referred to the board split (see pages 673-4) and the other to Ghana's decision to take a 55 per cent holding in Ashanti Goldfields. The auditors say they "are unable to express an opinion on the effect which these post-balance sheet events may have on the Group". The Report also shows that in 1972 Lonrho advanced £3.05m to a subsidiary of HCC Investments (Proprietary) Ltd, (HCC). Lonrho has a 50 per cent share in HCC, the rest being held by a company in which Mr. Rowland, Mr. Ball and Mr. Angus Ogilvy, the husband of Princess Alexandra, directly or indirectly, own all the shares. The subsidiary has turned out to be a Rhodesian company operating a copper mine called Nyascher. During the year, says Mr. Rowland, he contracted to dispose of his indirect interest.

Gold remains the most important aspect of the mining division continues the report. Commissioning of the expanded ore production facilities at Ashanti coincided with the dramatic rise in the 1972 gold price. The Group is now milling over 50 per cent more ore than four years ago. For the first time in the 75 year history of the mine the ore reserves at Ashanti have increased to over 4m metric tons of ore from less than 3m metric tons last year.

The chief executive's review (there is no chairman's statement) recalls that in December 1972 the Government of Ghana promulgated a decree transferring the assets of Ashanti Goldfields Corporation in Ghana to a new company in which Government will hold 55 per cent. The Ghana Government previously held 20 per cent in Ashanti, together with an option to purchase from Lonrho at cost a further 20 per cent. "Discussions are still in progress on the subject of compensation".

Lonrho also has an important involvement in sugar in the Ivory Coast, where the sugar scheme it manages is nearing completion. It has a planned total annual output of 60,000 metric tons, and Lonrho has recently been requested to extend the capacity to 100,000 metric tons.

Lonrho has also been asked by Dahomey to survey, develop and manage on its behalf a 30,000 metric ton solar scheme. "This project would represent the most important single economic development in that country since independence and is being accorded high priority by the Government". It is hoped to employ up to 2,000 people and to support

ancillary industries such as alcohol.

The Holt Group, wholly owned by Lonrho, earned a record profit before taxation of £4.4 million this financial year. "In Nigeria, despite a set-back in general trading in the early part of the year, turnover later showed a steady recovery and excellent results were achieved".

"The production units of ground-nut crushers and vegetable oil mills in Nigeria again did well during the year. The palm kernel crushing mill in the East Central State in which the Group is in partnership with Nigerian citizens, is under construction and should be in production by the middle of 1973. The Group is also in partnership with the North Central State, agreements having been signed to go ahead with a ground-nut crushing mill. Construction work should begin during 1973. Another palm kernel project, which is to be a joint operation with the South Eastern State, is going ahead, and here again construction work will also begin during 1973.

"The Nigerian enamelware factory, in which the Group has a 50 per cent interest, had a difficult year which resulted in reduced profits. This was due, in the main, to reduced margins resulting from surplus production in the industry. New executive management has now been installed and a complete overhaul of products, designs and range is beginning to show improved results.

"In Ghana, due to the Group's special expertise in agricultural equipment, it has been successful in obtaining a fair portion of the import licences granted, but remittances remain temporarily unsatisfactory."

Zaire operations

Lonrho also has a holding in Comiere, which has local subsidiaries in Zaire where, in the year under review, they continued under Government surveillance. "In February 1973, however, the Government announced that control measures had been lifted from all companies in the Comiere Group with

the exception of Comiere which generates and distributes electric power in Kinshasa. The Zaire Government has expressed the wish that this company should be controlled by State and cordial discussions are in progress."

"Despite the recession in textile trading in Nigeria throughout the year continues the Report of an associated company, Kaduna Textiles, continued to operate profitably. During the year in which many textile mills either stopped production completely or seriously curtailed output, Kaduna Textiles were able to bring their No. 4 mill into operation and maintain spinning and weaving at 100 per cent capacity. The labour force increased by some 10 per cent during the year, when many other mills laid off labour. The polypropylene factory, established to produce baling cloth and for agricultural production, started up in April and is now working three shifts. Its products have been well received as a replacement for jute andessian, and the Group plans to expand this unit. Kaduna Textiles currently produce 762 million metres (83.3 million yards) of cloth a year."

In addition to the operations of the Holt Group and Comiere, Lonrho's franchise are also held by other African companies covering General Motors, Ford, Mercedes Benz, Ferguson, Kenworth, Renault, Peugeot, Volkswagen, Honda, Yamaha, Land Rover and BLMC.

• The Rivers State has commissioned a pathology laboratory at Harcourt, involving combined efforts of Nigerian and British consultants. The two-storey building will include separate laboratories for microbiology, serology, virology, haematology, biochemistry and histology. Facilities are also being provided for the study of tuberculosis, along with a blood bank, and an academic block.

Architects are Nigerian Consultants of Lagos and British consulting engineers Abstar McCrean Associates (Nigeria).

Concorde for Lagos?

Concorde will be permitted to fly services to South Africa the Civil Aviation Authority has said. It rejected objections by the independent British Caledonian airline to BOAC's using a West African airport for refuelling.

The authority said BOAC can stop at either Lagos or Accra, but not both, on its route to and from Johannesburg, and it must only use Concorde, thus encouraging airport authorities to improve runways.

BOAC had sought rights to use either Kano, Lagos or Accra, despite the fact that those destinations had been passed over to British Caledonian Airways under the Government's plans to set up the latter as Britain's second-force flag airline.

BOAC still has to get the approval of the West African and South African authorities, however, before it can fly the Concorde into their territories.

Developing countries needed economic growth and population control. Dr. Ernest Woodroffe, chairman of Unilever, the parent company of UAC, told the Annual General meeting of his company. To obtain growth they needed "all the help in technology and capital and enterprise which they can get from the developed countries. It is sad that the spirit of narrow nationalism, and distrust of foreign private investment which is showing itself in many of the less developed countries is tending to strangle this flow not only of capital, but most importantly, the development of the management and technological skills they so desperately need. I see no system in sight that is better able to cope with feeding, clothing and housing these extra millions of the developing world than the free enterprise system.

"None of this means that free enterprise should be untrammelled. Governments have to set the overall economic pattern of their countries. Moreover, they

have both a right and a duty to act in the general interest. Where they do harm is when they attempt to interfere with the working of the market without proof that the market is operating against the common good."

Scottish Aviation has announced a contract from the Nigerian government for 20 training aircraft.

Twenty single-engines planes, known as the bulldog, will be sold to Nigeria, delivery of the aircraft, worth more than £770,000, will start in October.

Bulldog trainers have also been bought by the Malaysian, Kenyan, Ghanaian, Swedish and British governments.

World Bank criticised

The World Bank in recent years has not proved a significant factor in the "net transfer of resources to developing countries", according to a report submitted to Congress by the General Accounting Office, the US official auditing agency.

The report calculates that in the five-year period from 1966 to 1970 the World Bank disbursed an average of \$535m a year to 72 less developed countries.

Repayments of principal and interest during the same period averaged \$427m a year, leaving an average net transfer to the borrowers of \$108m, about £44m a year. "During this period, 21 of the 72 less developed countries had negative net transfers of bank funds".

The report emphasises that these findings exclude the International Development Association, the soft-loan affiliate of the World Bank which lends money to the poorest of poor countries.

The US Government auditors are critical of the way the rapid growth in the World Bank's annual loan commitments is not matched by comparable growth in the distribution of these loans.

A meeting of an interim committee of the countries which have signed the International Cocoa Agreement will be held in London from June 20 to 30 to draw up rules or procedure

for the International Cocoa Council. The agreement is expected to be in operation by October 1.

Meanwhile Bulgaria has ratified the agreement. Other countries that have approved or ratified it are: Australia, Canada, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Romania, Russia, Sweden, and Trinidad and Tobago.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has authorised members of the International Cocoa Agreement to receive credits for stabilising cocoa prices. The credits will be used to finance stock-building interventions.

After tin, this is the second commodity to benefit from the IMF facilities set up in June 1969. Since 1971, members of the Tin Agreement have received credits totalling about 27 million dollars to finance purchases for stocking. Each IMF member-country can obtain credits up to 50 per cent of its contribution to the Fund.

Finance ministers from 32 Commonwealth countries are expected to attend a conference in Dar Es Salaam opening on September 20. The meeting will precede a five-day World Bank and International Monetary Fund conference in Nairobi.

\$25m loan for Ivory Coast

An international banking consortium has signed a 25m Eurodollar loan agreement for Ivory Coast with Finance Minister, Konan Bedie. The consortium of 17 British, Canadian, American, Japanese and European banks is headed by a French state bank, the Banque Nationale de Paris.

M. Bedie said it was the first time that Japanese, Canadian or British banks had participated in a loan to Ivory Coast. The cash will be used for general agricultural and economic development purposes. The loan would be notably used to set up rubber plantations in South-West Ivory Coast in the San Pedro area, to finance rice-growing in central Ivory Coast and to pay for a sugar project, Mr Bedie said.

Other members of the consortium are Japan's Fuji, Matsui and Sumitomo banks,

the Bank of America, the Chase Manhattan Bank, the Morgan Guarantee Trust, the Banque Européenne de Tokyo, the Banque Societe Financiere Europeenne, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, the Banque Provinciale du Canada, the Bank of Montreal, Rothschilds Bank of London. The loan is repayable in ten years and the interest rate is linked to the London market inter-bank rate.

Nigeria is to produce air-conditioners at a state-owned company to be established in Lagos, with technical help from Japan, the Sanyo Electric Company of Osaka has announced. The Nigerian Company plans to assemble air-conditioners in knock-down form, with component parts shipped by Sanyo. A joint venture between Sanyo and the Ghana government is also contemplating production of air-conditioners and refrigerators. The joint company, "Ghana Sanyo Electrical Manufacturing Company", has been producing television and radio receivers since 1965.

UNCTAD's Preferences Committee has backed a demand by developing nations that countries should include all processed and semi-processed agricultural and primary products in their preference scheme.

A resolution adopted without a vote by the Committee invited the preference-giving countries to consider this request and also the demand for duty-free and quote-free entry of imports.

The demand was submitted by the Philippines on behalf of the Asian and African members of the group of 77 developing countries.

Demnax (Nigeria), a West German oil company has made its second oil strike off Port Harcourt. An official announcement said oil had been hit at a depth of about 7,870 feet at Bilabri. The well has a potential of 3,250 barrels a day.

Demnax, one of five companies granted offshore licences in 1971 in partnership with the Federal Government, made its first strike in the same area. The Nigeria Petroleum Company, a Nigerian-owned firm is in partnership with Demnax.

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UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

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Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the following vacant posts:

1. Department of Arabic & Islamic Studies

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer:

Applicants should be well-qualified in the twin areas of Arabic language and literature on the one hand and Islamic Studies on the other but with more stress on Arabic language and literature. Both a Ph.D. degree in the field and a high degree of competence in the use of Arabic both spoken and written, as a literary medium are highly desirable.

Appointment will commence in October, 1973.

2. Department of Library Studies

Lecturers/Assistant Lecturers in:

- Science Literature Documentation
- Public Libraries
- School and Education Libraries

Candidates for (a) must have good university degrees in Science and relevant professional qualifications, preferably the Diploma in Librarianship, or M.L.S. or its equivalent and post-qualification experience. Candidates for (b) and (c) must have good university degrees and relevant professional qualifications, preferably the Diploma in Librarianship, M.L.S. or its equivalent, and post-qualification experience in the relevant area of specialisation.

3. University Health Service:

Pharmacist Grade II

Candidates should be holders of Diploma in Pharmacy obtained from recognised institutions and should be registrable in Nigeria. Applicants with considerable hospital experience will be given preference.

4. Computing Centre – Administrative Data Processing Unit.

Programmer:

Applicants should possess at least three year's programming experience in Administrative or Commercial applications. Possession of a certificate in Accounting, Inventory Control or other related subjects and previous practical experience in an IBM installation will be an advantage. A knowledge of one or more RPG, Cobol and Assembler programming languages is essential.

5. Salary Scales

Senior Lecturer	–	N5030 x 150 – N5750
Lecturer	–	N2760 x 150 – N3660/N3810 – N4830
Assistant Lecturer	–	N2140 x 100 – N2560 (or if holding an approved higher degree – N2460 x 100 – N2660)
Pharmacist	–	N2140 x 100 – N2240 x 220 – N2460 x 100 – N2660
Programmer	–	N2140 x 100 – N2240 x 220 – N2460 x 100 – N3060

(Applicable salary scale and placement within the scale will depend on qualifications and relevant experience).

6. Condition of Service

Except where it is otherwise stated, appointments are to commence as soon as possible and for three years initially subject to review thereafter. Passages are paid for family on appointment, approved overseas leave and termination where applicable. F.S.S.U (N.U.J.S.S.), children and car allowance. Part furnished accommodation or housing allowance provided.

7. Method of Application

Detailed application (4 copies) stating age, full qualifications, experience and naming three referees by Saturday, 16th June, 1973 to the Registrar, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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Dateline Africa

SIERRA LEONE

APC walkover

When the official day for Sierra Leone's general election came - May 11 - all but five of the 85 seats for ordinary - that is non-chief - members had gone unopposed to the ruling APC party. The 12 paramount chiefs had also all been elected unopposed and had declared for the APC. Of the five remaining seats - three in the Freetown area and two in the provincial capital of Bo - voting was held in four on May 11 and, for technical reasons, in the remaining, a Freetown seat, on May 15. Of the four fought on May 11 four went to the APC and one to an independent. The independent was Mr. Desmond Luke, the Cambridge educated lawyer, whose father is Speaker, who left his post as Sierra Leone Ambassador in Bonn for the contest. It was generally believed that he had been invited to do this by people in authority as he had been a close adviser to the President and had been very active in Bonn. He failed, however, to secure party backing in the Freetown West Three constituency, where his opponent, who gained the party symbol, was a "pre-payment metre cashier". His vote was just under 4,000 and that of his opponent over 1,000. This represented a turnout of about a third of the registered voters, but the

registration itself is low. Mr. Luke in his vigorous campaign claimed to represent the APC.

The Mountain constituency, won by Mr. Solomon Pratt, the Foreign Minister, is unusually small and Mr Pratt's 900 votes secured it for him against an APC rebel, Mrs. Esther Coker, with a bunch of oranges as symbol. In one of the Bo seats Mr. M.S. Mustapha, the Opposition SLPP leader and former Minister of Finance, polled over a thousand votes against the APC's 7,500. But he did not campaign and tried to withdraw his nomination in line with his party's decision to withdraw even those nominations which they had been able to make in protest against the conduct of the election. In the other Bo seat a dissident APC man made a good showing against the official candidate.

Finally in the remaining Freetown seat, where Mrs. Nancy Steele, leader of the APC women, but denied party support, faced the Minister of Housing, Mr. Buck, feelings ran high. Mrs. Steele was defeated by Mr. Buck, who polled 6,324 votes, to Mrs Steele's 3,675. In both the two Freetown urban constituencies attempts were made to interfere with voting and the electoral procedure.

A correspondent writes: little idea of the state of



Posters of the two contestants in Freetown's Central One Constituency. Mr. Buck who holds the APC symbol, and Mrs Nancy Steele who stood as an independent.

opinion can be gained from the election results, since in even the contested seats the contest was really between APC people with Mr. Mustapha as a passive spectator. It is very important that the President himself was not up for election since his term runs from his becoming President in 1970 check. Since the election of so many MPs is being questioned his unassailable position is essential for stability. The question is whether such an overwhelming majority for his party strengthens or weakens his?

- The Government-owned *Daily Mail* has advocated a "non-party system" in the light of the election results.
- The President has said that sessions of Parliament would be held in the provinces if this proved administratively possible.

- Once again the President has assured the army that there is no intention of disbanding it. He has also promised the army and the police better conditions.

- After inspecting other sites the Chinese team responsible for providing the capital with a new sports stadium have chosen the site of the existing Brookfields Stadium. They are also to build two bridges in the north.

- Prospects for rice, Sierra Leone's staple food, have been described as grim by Sierra Leone's permanent representative at FAO, Mr S.A. Jabat.

- Addressing young people engaged on voluntary road work the chairman of the Freetown City Council Management Committee said that they were helping his committee to execute its programme without strain.

- Freetown, with her deep natural harbour, could be an ideal port for ship repairs, Mr W.A. Cook, marketing manager of Lloyds Register of Shipping, said in Freetown.

- Dr. Ronald Krost, consultant to the government controlled diamond mining firm Diminco, has retired.

- The country's oldest lawyer, Mr. C.D. Hotobah-During, has died at the age of 87.

GHANA Comment on Lorho

The independent *Pioneer* has urged the Government to take over completely Lorho operations in Ghana without further delay if the present trend of affairs in Lorho boardroom continues. "There is absolutely no point in looking over its shoulders before taking this logical action immediately the occasion demands". The *Pioneer* reiterated its warning to the Government not to overlook the possibilities of sabotage by foreign interests who were being adversely affected by Ghana's present economic policies. "One thing we can assure the Government about is that the nation is solidly behind it on the Lorho issue".

In another editorial the state-owned *Daily Graphic* urged the Government to re-examine the whole basis of foreign capitalist participation in the national economy in the light of the Lorho rumpus. The *Graphic* said Lorho came to Ghana "falsely swearing" that it came with the singular purpose of helping to develop the nation's economy. "But now we know that the company's aim is only to make all the money it can out of us, and damn whatever happens to the nation in the exploitation". The behaviour of Lorho directors must be a serious warning to Ghana in particular against some of "the economic measures we have been taking recently". One must admit that "we cannot totally reject foreign investment, but we must be careful to differentiate between genuine ones and those which constitute part of the dangerous offensive against us", it said.

Commenting on the stand taken by Zambia and Zaire on the Lorho boardroom crisis, the *Graphic* said there is the pressing need for all African countries to establish economic co-ordination so that they can present a united front against pressures from neo-colonialist interests. "For no African country can consider herself at present strong enough to fight any successful single-handed battle against infiltration and pressures from outside". The

Graphic urged the Government to be resolute on its present stand on Lorho, "and we must henceforth be more circumspect with offers of so-called economic co-operation".

- Counsel for the Taylor Assets Committee, which is probing the assets of former Ministers, has recommended that two of Dr. Busia's four houses should be forfeited to the state. He alleged that monies for their construction were unlawfully acquired.

- Mr. M.F. Ribeiro said the houses were a building occupied by the Standard Bank (Ghana) Limited at Dr. Busia's home town at Wenchi and an uncompleted building in Accra in the name of his wife, Naa Morkor Busia.

- Counsel, however, urged the Committee to hold that two other houses of the deposed Prime Minister were lawfully acquired and should be released to him.

New poll for TUC

The Trades Union Congress will hold an extraordinary general meeting for the election of a Secretary-General early next year, the acting Secretary-General, Mr. A.M. Issifu, is reported as saying. The TUC holds leadership elections every four years.

Last May the NRC cancelled the extraordinary congress scheduled to elect a new Secretary-General. The last congress was in 1970.

- The wives of Dr. J.H. Mensah, former Finance Minister, Mr. Theophilus Brodie Mends, former Information Minister and Mr. N.Y.B. Adade, former Internal Affairs Minister, were among those at a press conference called by Ministers' wives to deny that they had received aid from Amnesty International as claimed by its Secretary, Mr. Ennals in an interview with the *Weekly Spectator* (see *Dateline Africa* last week).

The group said "we would welcome any assistance to alleviate the hardships we have been compelled to bear for so long regardless of where such help comes from. If any such help is intended by any person or persons or is on the way it has yet to materialise".

Yendi skin riot

Nineteen people were injured, four seriously, when fighting broke out between the two factions in the Yendi skin dispute at the end of the Damba festival Yendi police said that fighting broke out when a group of people accompanying chiefs and elders home after paying homage to the Ya Na, Muhammadu Abdullahi, diverted their course to the Andani compound. The police had to fire three warning shots and use tear gas to disperse the crowd.

- Students of Adansi district in which Adansi Goldfields Obuasi mine is situated, have urged the Government to resist any pressure from Lorho for a change in the Government's controlling interest in Adansi Goldfields Corporation. A statement the students said that any attempt to blacken Ghana would put Lorho's investments there at risk. They continue "We will support the policy of participation under which the NRC acquired 55 per cent of the equity shares in Adansi Goldfields and are convinced that the Government will resist any pressure, overt or covert, to undermine this resolve".

- Mr. S.K. Amoah, who has been banned from practising as a lawyer in Ghana for one year following allegations of professional misconduct in the subversion trial last year, asked the Appeal Court to reverse the judgement.

- Ghana has banned the import of gambling machines without the approval of the Commissioner for Internal Affairs. The decree makes an offence to sell, hire or dispose of gambling machines without authority. It is also an offence for a person under 18 years to use a gambling machine or to enter any place in which a gambling machine is used.

- Ghana and Tanzania have agreed to accredit their High Commissioners in Nairobi and Lagos respectively to each other's capital.

- A new Volta Regional House of Chiefs is to be built. At present the House here is a private building for 75 cabinet members as offices.

SENEGAL

Riots over student's death

Senegalese students (both university and secondary school) held a 24-hour strike on May 14 following the death in prison of Omar Diop Blondin, a 25-year old former pupil of the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris. During the day police took action with teargas, following demonstrations in which shop windows were broken and cars and buses were burnt. Army vehicles patrolled the streets of Dakar in support of the forces of law and order.

According to Information Minister Dr Dawda Sow, Diop Blondin hanged himself with a bedsheet in prison on the island of Goree on May 11. He had been sentenced to three years jail on March 23, 1972, following his extradition from Mali, in connection with the arson attempt on the French Cultural Centre prior to the visit of President Pompidou in January 1971. The Minister said he did not know the reason for the suicide, but an autopsy had confirmed the cause of death. However, other reports say that the student's father, Dr. Diop Blondin, was of the opinion, after seeing the body of his son, that he had been severely beaten up prior to death. The autopsy had been carried out at the request of Dr. Diop.

The demonstration came a week after another student strike in the Faculty of Letters of Dakar University, in protest at the continued detention on a number of students following disturbances earlier this year.

MAURITANIA

"Clandestine opposition"

The Interior Minister, Ahmed Ould Mohamed Saleh, has said that an armed underground political movement exists in Mauritania with the aim of overthrowing the government. The group, called the National Democratic Movement, started in 1968 and has the support of several

Mauritanians living in exile. It consisted, said the Minister, of students, unemployed, and Communists, and was supported by funds from outside the country and from "certain agents of the state". He showed a collection of weapons, including Molotov cocktails and iron bars, collected by security forces from the revolutionaries.

● Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Arabian Gulf states have pledged financial backing for the new independent Mauritanian currency, to be launched later this year. Foreign Minister Hamdi Ould Moukknass announced on his return from a three-week tour of the Gulf. Mauritania negotiated its withdrawal from the franc zone last February, and is scheduled to launch its new currency in July. M. Moukknass also said that the Gulf States and Saudi Arabia had promised to finance a number of Mauritanian development projects.

The minister said genuine monetary co-operation was to be launched between Mauritania and Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and that a cultural agreement similar to the one already reached with Saudi Arabia would shortly be signed with Kuwait. Mr. Moukknass added that the Heads of State of the Union of Arab Emirates, of Kuwait, of Qatar, and the Saudi Foreign Minister, would soon pay official visits to Mauritania.

THE GAMBIA

Jawara ill-flies to London

President Dawda Jawara who has been confined to bed for several weeks has arrived in London for medical treatment on his doctors' advice. Sir Dawda, who is 49, was accompanied by his wife, two doctors and Gambia's High Commissioner in London, Mr. Bucar Semegajanneh.

Opening the current session of Parliament in Banjul earlier, Sir Dawda said Gambia believed in the Senegambian idea as an inevitable and necessary development, but noted that "this development cannot at present include political integration of the two states".

OCAM

After Mauritius

After the OCAM heads of state meeting in Mauritius, President Senghor visited Kenya (prior to the summit he had visited Tanzania for talks with President Nyerere, and then went on an official visit to Mauritius). An appointment arranged with President Kenyatta in Mombasa was cancelled, however, because of the latter's indisposition. Kenya Foreign Minister, Njoroge Mungai, welcoming President Senghor in Mombasa said that African countries should work out a common front for negotiating with the EEC on an equal basis. A new approach should be worked out irrespective of language lineages and cultural ties. President Senghor said that a series of talks he had had recently with anglophone leaders was with a view to working out a common position vis a vis the EEC.

In Port Louis, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, Mauritius Premier, told newsmen that he had not given up hope of convincing Commonwealth African countries to set up trade links with the EEC alongside Yaounde states.

During the conference it was also announced that Mauritius would be joining the OCAM Sugar Agreement, which attempts are being made to revive for its official renewal in September. Senegal left the agreement in 1970, but the new "enlarged and renovated" agreement could be rejoined by Senegal. The new set-up will be, according to OCAM Secretary-General Fallou Kane, a kind of OCAM sugar producers' association, to protect OCAM sugar producers at an international level. The previous agreement, signed in Tananarive in 1966 obliged members to export quantities of sugar from Madagascar and Congo-Brazza. Senegal left when she wanted to launch her own sugar production.

President Bokassa of CAR paid an official visit to Mauritius after the conference. The two countries agreed to exchange ambassadors.

Dahomey's Foreign Minister Major Alladaye, on his return to Cotonou described the conference as "truthful and showing faith in OCAM's future". The organisation had been founded by men who had studied and struggled together and this prompted a special feeling of camaraderie and generosity within it. Now that new men had come to power, a certain lack of understanding had grown up between different states. Problems had however not been eluded and certain fundamental problems discussed.

(In our report on OCAM last week we incorrectly stated that Major Alladaye had not led the Dahomey delegation to OCAM).

DAHOMÉY

Kerekou and France

President Kerekou has said Dahomey does not want to reverse its good relations with France, even though it is studying revision of co-operation agreements. Revision would be through a "frank dialogue" based on mutual advantage and sovereignty. Dahomey had been "nourished" by French culture, its citizens spoke French and relations with France on the whole did not present any problems.

The President also said that all West African states should join the West African Economic Community (CEAO), formed with six states in Abidjan last month. "For us the CEAO will be pointless if all the states of the region do not take part". He also said that he believed OCAM was "sick".

LIBERIA

Plot trial

The conspiracy case involving a former Assistant Minister of Defence, Prince Brown, and two lieutenant-colonels, Moses Kpadeh and William Saydee is to begin on May 21. Two lawyers, both former Attorney Generals, had consented to defend the accused who were arrested on March 15 for allegedly conspiring to subvert the Liberian Government, says ELWA radio station quoting the *Liberian Star*.

Shipping News

ELDER Dempster Lines
SOUTHBOUND - From Liverpool: MARON sld. May 17; DUNKWA sld. May 18; MANGO sld. May 31.
 From London: FALABA due Apapa May 14.
 From Middlesbrough: DALLA sld. May 18; EGORI sld. May 25.
 From Glasgow: DEGEMA due Lobito May 12.
NORTHBOUND - To Liverpool: FOURAH BAY due May 13; BHANO sld. Abidjan May 12.
 To London: FULANI due May 20; FEGU due Sine May 11.
 To Avonmouth: DIXCOVE sld. Apapa.
 To N. Continent: KABALA sld. Tema May 12; KADUNA sld. Takoradi May 14; MACHAON sld. Apapa May 14.
 To Belfast: KIRSTEN SKOU due Belfast May 10.
 To Dublin: KOHIMA sld. Apapa May 16.
 To Poole: CLEARWAY due May 13.
 To Southampton: AUREOL due Palma May 12.
EASTBOUND - From USA/Canada: DEIDO due Freetown May 14.
 Eastern Service to West Africa: MAPLEBANK due Freetown May 11; TESTBANK due Apapa May 11.
BARBER Lines
OUTWARDS - BARBERBROOK sld. New York May 25 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Apapa, Douala, Abidjan, Tema, New York. J. Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Apapa, Douala.
INWARDS - BARBERBROOK due Jacksonville May 19, thence Norfolk, New York. BARBERGATE Idg. Ghana/Abidjan fourth week in May, Monrovia. Freetown first week in June.
'K' LINE
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Lobito, Luanda, Matadi, Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan. BAHAMA MARU sld. Japan Apr 6 due Lagos May 14.
EASTBOUND - From Lagos, Abidjan, Freetown, Tema, BAHAMA MARU sld. Lagos May 23, Tema May 24, Freetown May 28, Abidjan Jun 1, due Hong Kong Jul 4, Japan Jul 8.
BUCK STAR LINE/USNH/WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND - AFAM RIVER Ghana Jun 25, Abidjan Jul 2, Philadelphia Jul 11.
BUCK STAR LINE/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA
SOUTHBOUND - NAKWA RIVER Antwerp May 23, Rotterdam May 26, OFFIN RIVER London Jun 4, KORLE LAGOON London Jun 1.
NORTHBOUND - LAKE BOSOMTWE Bremen May 20, Hamburg May 23; NASIA RIVER Avonmouth Jun 7, Middlesbrough Jun 25; OFFIN RIVER London May 17.
DAFRA Lines
WESTBOUND - HOLLAND sld. Luanda Jun 4, Matadi Jun 7, Douala Jun 12.
EASTBOUND - ARIZONA sld. Montreal May 25 due New York May 30, Baltimore Jun 3.
'L' LINE
SOUTHBOUND - FLORIN PALM sld. Tenerife May 22. LOBITO PALM sld. Apapa May 26.
NORTHBOUND - ANHONIA PALM sld. Takoradi May 23, ILESHA PALM sld. Dakar May 23.
N.Y.K. LINE
WESTBOUND - SHIMANE

MARU Tema May 2/4, Douala May 6/8, Takoradi May 10/12, Abidjan May 13/14.
EASTBOUND - SHIMANE MARU Douala May 6/8, Takoradi May 10/12, Abidjan May 13/14, Lobito May 18/21, Tema First Port Jun 16.
MITSUBISHI OSK LINE
HOUSTON MARU sld. Kobe Apr. 24 due Lagos May 26; HAWAII MARU sld. Kobe May 19 due Lagos Jun 24.
MAERSK LINE
INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Abidjan. JOHANNES MAERKS sld. Kobe Jun. 5 due Luanda Jul. 2.
OUTWARDS - From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Takoradi. SUSAN MAERKS sld. Lagos May 21 due Tema May 27.
SEAN LLOYD AB
BANDA sld. Boma/Matadi Jun. 22, Lobito Jun. 27, Luanda Jul. 1, CUMULUS sld. Oslo Jun. 11, Hamburg Jun. 15, Antwerp Jun. 18.
SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICAN LINE
NORTHBOUND - ARIZONA sld. W.A. Jun/early Jul for discharge Sean, Jul. ALABAMA sld. W.A. Jun./Jul. for discharge Sean Jul./early Aug.
ROYAL INTER-OCEAN Lines
INWARDS - STRAAT FORCADOS sld. Japan Apr 18 due Monrovia May 22, Freetown May 24, Port Harcourt May 29, Lagos/Apapa Jun 1, Tema Jun 10, Takoradi Jun 11, Abidjan Jun 15; STRAAT VAN DIEMEN sld. Hong Kong Apr 6 due Abidjan May 25, Monrovia May 28, Freetown May 30, Dakar Jun. 2, Luanda Jun. 15.
OUTWARDS - STRAAT FORCADOS from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong, Japan early Jun. STRAAT VAN DIEMEN Nigeria/Ghana to Hong Kong, Shanghai, Japan mid/end May.
FARRELL Lines
HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN MOON sld. Lagos/Apapa Jun 4 for Port Harcourt, Matadi, Luanda Jun 18, Lobito, Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports; AFRICAN MERCURY sld. Lagos/Apapa Jun 15 for Douala, Matadi, Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports.
OUTWARDS - AFRICAN MOON due Conakry May 17 for Freetown, Monrovia May 21, Abidjan, Tema, May 28, Lagos/Apapa May 30, Port Harcourt, Matadi, Luanda, Lobito; AFRICAN MERCURY due Dakar May 26 for Freetown, Monrovia Jun 2, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Jun 9, Lagos/Apapa Jun 11, Douala, Matadi.
WESTWIND AFRICA LINE
NORTHBOUND sld. New Orleans May 20, Houston May 25 for Tema, Lagos, Pointe Noire, Abidjan, Freetown; SANTA MAJA sld. Houston May 28, New Orleans Jun 2 for Tema, Lagos.
THE E.A.C. Lines
SOUTHBOUND - BAGOTA sld. Hamburg May 21, Bremen May 23, Antwerp May 25, Rotterdam May 28, Rouen Jun 1, due Dakar Jun 8, Monrovia Jun 11, Abidjan Jun 14, Lome Jun 16, Cotonou Jun 18, Lagos/Apapa Jun 19.
NORTHBOUND - SHINA sld. Lagos/Apapa May 25, Abidjan May 28, Monrovia Jun 1, due Amsterdam Jun 10, Hamburg Jun 13, Bremen Jun 22, Antwerp Jun 24, Rotterdam Jun 26.

OAU

Gaddafi's campaign

There has been a number of reactions from other OAU members to the call sent to all African leaders by President Gaddafi of Libya to boycott the 10th Anniversary celebrations of the OAU in Addis Ababa, unless all African states broke diplomatic relations with Israel. Col. Gaddafi has said that while Libya was deeply committed to the cause of African liberation, but she "believes that the Zionist entity undeniably represents a racist colonialism which is attacking Africa and the Middle East, a base for colonialism and capitalism and a danger graver than the racist regime in Africa - such as the Portuguese, South African and Rhodesian regimes - for it is based on colonisation and destruction". He also called for the transfer of the OAU headquarters from Addis Ababa to Cairo. His reasons were that it was the largest African city, a major centre of communications; that its geographical location provides a better climate for holding conferences; that the OAU's presence in Cairo would foil colonialist attempts to drive a wedge between the north and south of Africa; there are many African embassies in Cairo, and it is the seat of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organisation, as well as the Arab League.

Support for the transfer of the OAU to Cairo has come from Mali and Niger, but a statement from Emperor Haile Selassie, said Ethiopia had fought the colonialist in the battlefields, and her history showed that at no time had she shrunk from helping African freedom fighters. Ethiopia has long had close and friendly relations with Arab states and has always supported the OAU and UN resolutions calling on Israel to withdraw from the territories she occupies. Ethiopia is one of many countries which has relations with Israel, said the Emperor, but she never let them influence her international decisions. He reminded Col. Gaddafi that the OAU was founded to

create cooperation between an organisation of equal sovereign African countries. "Any member state cannot force another to fulfil its desire".

President Abidjo of Cameroon has said that it hopes African leaders will support the 10th anniversary celebrations en masse to demonstrate their confidence in the OAU. His stand was not directed against President Gaddafi. "A military committee to the service of uncompromising African nationalism and to an eminently positive and courageous venture". He added, "besides, the message sent me contains permanent analysis". However, President Abidjo considered it pointless to transfer the OAU to Cairo. It had been born in Addis Ababa, and was "developed there normally and harmoniously". Ethiopian relations with other countries have never had any influence on OAU decisions. The immediate effect of provoking a crisis in the OAU on the Middle East would be to compromise the defence of the rights of the Arabs, he concluded.

Among those heads of state already committed to attend the summit are Presidents Houphouët Bouvié (Ivory Coast), Amin (Uganda), Nimeiry (Sudan). The Ethiopian Emperor, who will of course be there, put an unexpected visit to President Sadat of Egypt reportedly to try and counter Col. Gaddafi's campaign. Both Libyan and Ethiopian emissaries have been visiting a number of African countries.

Abidjan meeting

The meeting in Abidjan of OAU Ministers of Finance, Trade and Development ended with the adoption of a "charter for economic independence" to be forwarded for approval to the OAU heads of state meeting. A report of experts on the question of Africa's relations with the EEC was adopted, though some Associates' reservations on a section which said that African states should make no tariff concessions ("reverse preferences") to Europe. A full report on the conference will appear next week's *West Africa*.

NIGERIA

Diori in Lagos

President Hamani Diori of Niger, accompanied by his wife and ranking government officials, has paid a two-day official visit to Lagos. He was welcomed at the airport by Gen Gowon and greeted with a 21-gun salute. He also inspected a military guard of honour.

The Niger President had talks with Gen. Gowon on the forthcoming OAU summit in Addis Ababa, the EEC and bilateral cooperation between their two countries. Both countries already have excellent relations, but new areas of cooperation were being explored. For example, talks have been held between them on improving the navigability of the River Niger to provide cheaper and faster means of transport from Nigeria to Niamey.

President Diori is current chairman of the newly launched six-member West African Economic Community (CEAO). But Nigeria favours a broader West African grouping incorporating French and English-speaking countries.

Commenting on the role of Nigeria in Africa, *Journal de Geneve*, a Geneva newspaper, said Nigeria's survival of a 30-month civil war without serious damage to its economy underscored its capacity to assume the role of "a veritable citadel of Black Africa". The newspaper noted that the Nigeria-led opposition to association of African countries with the EEC was not negative because those countries would prefer a commercial agreement compatible with current conditions of international life.

Nigeria's attitude, the newspaper said, was dictated by its enormous economic and political potential. With 60m consumers whose economic life was based on oil extraction — and soon also an exploitation of natural gas — Nigeria is in the position to undertake wide action for national development and achieve true decolonisation.

The journal noted that Nigeria should be able to assure itself a key role in forming a powerful market necessary for regional and

inter-regional development of commercial exchange and cooperation in Africa. The newspaper added that Nigeria was not alone in turning its back on all "neo-colonial" forms of association with the EEC. Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Ghana were not enthusiastic about submitting their development to an association with the EEC.

The Federal Government "is, as a matter of policy, committed to the dispersal of industries all over the country to ensure even development and provide gainful employment to citizens in all parts of the federation". General Gowon has told the people of Ikorodu in reply to an address of welcome. He said distribution of industries would discourage current tendency by youths to migrate to cities in search of work.

Mr. Femi Okunnu, Federal Commissioner for Lands and Housing, has said that the Federal Government would not allow expatriate firms to develop property or hold estates. He said government's intention was to encourage commercial firms to embark on housing schemes for their workers.

Chief Abdul Eke, Federal Commissioner for Education, has opened a three-day workshop for about 30 workers of the Standard Bank (Nigeria) in Lagos.

Wey moves up

Vice-Admiral Akinwale Wey, Federal Commissioner for Establishments and Chief of Naval Staff, has been appointed Chief of Staff Supreme Headquarters, while Maj.-Gen. Hassan Usman Katsina, Deputy Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, becomes Federal Commissioner for Establishments and Service Matters. Gen. Hassan was governor of the former Northern Region and he became chairman of the Northern States Interim Common Services Agency till his appointment as Army Chief of Staff. He undertook a year's advanced military course in the UK last year.

Admiral Wey has been Head of the Navy since 1964. Succeeding him as Naval Chief is 44 year old Rear-Admiral Nelson Soroh who was commissioned in 1958.

Defence budget

Defence vote of 309m naira (about £193m.) is the biggest item of recurrent expenditure in the budget recently announced by General Gowon for the current financial year according to the Federal Government gazette.

Finance commissioners in the federation have met in Lagos to discuss state governments' finances, personal income taxation, sales tax, share of revenue from stamp duties and treasury loan assistance.

Seven officials of the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) have been interdicted for alleged misappropriation of about 44,000 naira, the authority has announced.

The Federal Commissioner for Education, Chief Abdul Eke, has told the visiting Soviet Minister of Education, Mr. V. P. Elutin, that Nigeria was no longer keen in sending its students overseas for undergraduate courses. Rather "we will appreciate help in the field of higher education especially post-graduate courses."

Mr. Elutin said Russia was prepared to increase its scholarship awards to Nigerians to strengthen friendly relations between the two countries.

The Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Board has refuted a newspaper editorial suggesting that the Federal Government would buy up businesses not acquired by Nigerians by the end of next March. The Board said although it will assist prospective buyers, it will not interfere in sale of foreign business before April 1, 1974.

A four-man Mongolian goodwill mission, led by a member of the country's Presidium, Mr. Namsrain Luvsanavdan, has arrived in Lagos to discuss bilateral relations with the government. The team had earlier visited Cairo and will later visit Algeria.

The Federal Commissioner for Trade, Mr. Wenke Briggs, has described the Abidjan meeting of African trade and finance ministers just ended as successful. He told newsmen in Lagos that the meeting had set up a council of finance ministers to formulate

financial relations between African states and the rest of the world. He added that the decisions at the meeting will be forwarded to the summit of in Addis Ababa.

Chief executives of broadcasting organisations in Nigeria have formed the Broadcasting Organisation of Nigeria (BON) to ensure cooperation among them without interfering with the authority of members. The formation followed a meeting held at Benin. BON will organise exchange programmes and coordinate research and training. Its headquarters will be in Lagos.

Watergate echo

The chairman of the *Daily Times* of Nigeria, Alhaji Babatunde Jose, has said in a radio interview at Enugu that the Nigerian Press was free but could be freer. "Most of the things we publish cannot be published in other countries under military regimes", he said. He noted that the country had not reached a stage at which the press could report incidents like the Watergate scandal in the US.

It was therefore necessary that the Press should make use of the relative freedom at its disposal to report on government activities, he said. He noted that contrary to what some people thought, the press had the basic task of nation-building adding that absence of newspapers in a country would mean total darkness.

Nigeria is among 10 countries participating in an eight-week course for senior administrators of broadcasting organisations sponsored by British Overseas Development Administration. The course is being held at the Central London Polytechnic and the BBC.

The director of American department of the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Alfred Babalola Ayodele, has been named High Commissioner to Botswana. He succeeds Mr. I. C. Olesimeka who had been reassigned.

Mr. Christopher Olaiyiwola Hollist, director of the Asia department of the External Affairs Ministry, has been named Nigeria's Ambassador in Liberia.

General Gowon has named Mr. Lake Salisu Momodu Osobase as Nigeria's High Commissioner to Kenya.

From the States

The Rivers State Ministry of Lands and Housing has blamed delay in handing back abandoned property to their owners on failure to produce relevant papers. Replying to allegations of deliberate delay made by the Central State Administrator, Mr. Ukpabi Asika, the ministry noted that a number of property owners on communal lands had no documents to establish their claims.

The ministry said some progress had been made in solving the problem by sale of property by their owners. In case of occupied houses, the landlords had access to collect rent. "It may surprise the public to hear that a good number of the owners of the released houses have not yet come forward to collect their transfer documents from Abandoned Property Authority in spite of gazette and newspaper announcements", the ministry added.

• Cdr Diète-Spiff has said that commissioners and other

public officers "have no right to remain in office for eternity". Commenting on the dismissal of Mr. Tsaro-Wiwa as Rivers State Commissioner for Home Affairs and Information, Governor Diète-Spiff said that "since Mr. Tsaro-Wiwa, like any other public officer was not conscripted into office, I, as the governor, have the authority to relieve any of my commissioners of his post if I so wish."

• The Benue Plateau State will spend N27,153,430 for its services in the 1973-74 financial year against a revenue of N27,679,890 leaving its recurrent surplus of N526,460. Governor Joseph Gomwalk announced that capital expenditure will be N41,736,712 against capital receipts of N17,544,510, leaving a deficit of over N24m. Over N7m. is allocated to education, while N3.5m. is allocated to health. The Governor said that more primary schools will be opened this year.

• Addressing newsmen at the end of an official tour of Western State, the Federal

Commissioner for Economic Development and Reconstruction, Dr. Adebayo Adedeji, warned Nigerians against being used as agents of foreign industrialists to frustrate the aims of the indigenisation decree. He hoped no patriotic Nigerian would go into an alliance with foreigners to undermine an important milestone in the nation's history.

• The Commissioner of Police for Western State, Mr. Hausa Brisibe, has attended a security and intelligence administrators' course in the UK.

WAEC criticised

Headmasters of secondary schools in the South Eastern State have criticised the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) for not publishing all results of the West African School Certificate examinations held last December at the same time. A statement by them said that by publishing certain results while withholding others, the council had put many

candidates in suspense and had caused them to lose jobs.

• The Midwestern Nigeria Government-owned New Nigeria Bank has made a profit of N480,000 in its 22 months of operation, the chairman, Mr. Walter Anukpe, has announced. He noted that Nigerians would not now hesitate to buy "our shares". The bank with an authorised share capital of N4m, of which over half has been paid, has eight branches. A new one is to be opened in Jos soon.

• The life of the Inter-Common Services Agency for the six northern states has been extended for another year by the Head of State. The ICSA was set up in 1966 following creation of states to administer certain assets of former regional governments on behalf of the states. Its life has been extended five times.

• The University of Lagos is to offer courses leading to award of masters degree in business administration beginning in October.

• The former London representative of the University of Ibadan Miss Marjorie Chappell, has died.

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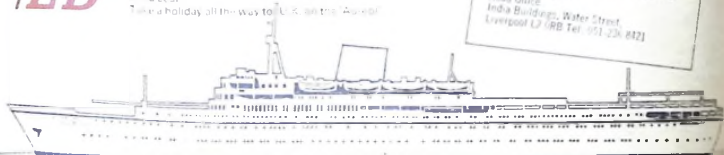
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