

West Africa

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Nigeria and the Commonwealth

Which African Commonwealth countries will follow the example of Australia, Britain, Fiji, and New Zealand in recognising Bangla Desh? The most important country affected by this issue is Nigeria, whose government will probably oppose recognition of a secessionist regime in view of Nigeria's own struggle to preserve unity, even though there is no comparison between the position of the former East Pakistan and the former Eastern Region of Nigeria. It must be remembered, too, that although Nigerian foreign policy is not dictated by feelings of gratitude, Pakistan strongly supported the Federal cause during the civil war. Indeed, so deep was the Nigerian government's sympathy for Pakistan that this is an issue which could make Nigeria reconsider the whole question of her relationship with the Commonwealth, as Pakistan has done — and as Dr. Arikpo has said Nigeria might also do over the Rhodesian issue.

The only other African government whose reaction is known as we write is that of Sierra Leone. At the recent meeting of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Conference, which, never a smooth running affair, was greatly disturbed by the issue, the Sierra Leone representative, an APC militant, joined those of Guinea, Libya and Algeria in opposing the recognition of Bangla Desh, which was being urged by India, the Soviet Union, and the host, Egypt.

New members are admitted to the Commonwealth only by the unanimous consent of existing members. So it seems

possible that Bangla Desh, as well as Pakistan itself, will be outside the Commonwealth, thus reversing the expansion of Commonwealth membership which has proceeded so rapidly since South Africa left in 1961.

In Britain, the departure of Pakistan and the exclusion of Bangla Desh could have very serious complications for large numbers of immigrants and would-be immigrants. But such complications would not worry Mr. Edward Heath. He is so anxious to lay his head in the bosom of mother Europe that he will cut down any other entanglement which he can. He would not lament the diminution of Commonwealth membership.

Admission of Bangla Desh, however, is not the only issue likely to upset Commonwealth relations this year. The British Prime Minister's lack of interest in Africa has probably been strengthened by the removal of Dr. Busia, one of the two or three African leaders with whom he got on. But this lack of interest will not save him or his government from the consequences of concluding an agreement with the Smith regime in Rhodesia. Whatever the findings of the Pearce Commission on the acceptability of the terms of the agreement to the Africans of Rhodesia, nobody now is going to believe that those who understand it and its possible consequences have accepted it.

Both the British Government and the Smith Government had hoped and expected that Lord Pearce's commissioners would find that the "silent majority" were anxious for any sort of

settlement which held out some hope and which returned Rhodesia to normality. Instead the commissioners have given politically conscious Africans an opportunity such as they have not had for many years to express their resentment against the whole Rhodesian system. Their rejection of the agreement does not mean that they dispute the British Government's claim that it offers them a better future than they could expect in its absence. But the future the agreement offers is still so bleak and uncertain that they prefer to escape the accusation which history might make against them, that they willed it for themselves.

So determined, however, does Mr. Heath seem to be to rid himself of the Rhodesian entanglement that he will certainly persist with the agreement, if the Pearce commissioners, or a majority of them, find it "acceptable", and may abandon sanctions or any other effort to end the Smith secession if the commissioners find otherwise. But this time, however little interest the mass of their people may show in the issue, African Commonwealth Governments are bound to attempt some action to show their resentment at British policy. And once again, it is Nigeria which is the key.

Attempts to leave the Commonwealth have often been made, but only Pakistan has carried out the threat. And such is Commonwealth mystique that some believe that even Pakistan will relent. But it is difficult to see how the Commonwealth can survive in Africa if the Rhodesian agreement goes through.



● Gen. Ocran writes on Ghana Coup



● Pompidou Sees Chad for Himself

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Pompidou sees for himself

From a Correspondent

The recent tour of President Pompidou and his wife to Niger and Chad (he spent 48 hours in each) was, as in previous year's tour, the occasion for a number of speeches, and news conferences. The various declarations contained a great deal of meat, and offered a number of perspectives on French policy in Africa at this time.

On arrival in Niamey President Pompidou was welcomed by President Hamani Diori. The French President said that trip was significant in that it gave him opportunity to reaffirm publicly a clearly how important a duty it was all industrialised countries to be developing states. The Niger President said that the visit consecrated privileged relations between France and Niger, which had not only stood the test of time since independence but had grown stronger through new forms adapted to the needs of development. Recalling that French leaders had attended the inauguration of the uranium mine at Arlit in December, President Diori said that the project symbolised future Franco-Niger co-operation in essential industrial and technology sector of tomorrow's world. Pompidou's presence was "striking evidence of the continuity of the French policy of co-operation inaugurated by General de Gaulle of revered memory. On the drive from the airport to the centre of the town President Pompidou was hit by a tomato thrown by a youth (three youths and a girl were arrested).

At a banquet in the evening President Pompidou said that France favoured participation by the third world in creating international monetary policy which brought from President Diori's response, the suggestion that the Economic Council for franc zone countries should be established so that some developing countries should have voice in international monetary talks. French President had said "we shall cease to intervene with all the people with whom we are dealing, and particularly our European partners, make sure that African products have their fair place in world trade." The French government fully recognised injustice in the rise in price of industrial products while primary products stay the same or even fall. France was determined to continue to develop its co-operation with Niger. This development needed initiatives by firms, M Pompidou added, recalling assurances given last year by Niger to French investors. Believing in Niamey, he added, his aircraft had flown over the uranium complex at Arlit.

The Niger President's speech dwelt on the role of the French language in Africa the result of which was that a "new world is being born" on the old continent.

"Grafted on the stem of ancient civilisations, French culture will soon bear new and astonishing fruits. In several generations, tens of millions - perhaps even hundreds of millions - of Africans will be there to perpetuate French culture under renewed forms". He also spoke of the enlargement of the Common Market, saying that it did not concern only Europe, but pointed the way to a new balance of forces in the world, from which Africa "so closely linked to Europe, and so often dragged into its quarrels" could profit. Britain's entry to the EEC would entail profound changes for Africa, he said. Enlargement would draw Africa closer to Europe. Association for English-speaking Africa would also reinforce African unity.

In an address to the National Assembly the French President said that the one-party system could be a viable and efficient way of assuring the stability necessary for economic development in Africa. Leaders of emerging countries who knew the importance of stability had often as not "opted with the agreement of their people for a single party which, in the climate of tolerance which reigns in Africa, makes a democratic government possible while avoiding the inconvenience of partisan struggles".

Later the President told a news conference that he agreed in principle with President Diouf's proposed Franc Zone Economic Council. African states should work out among themselves a minimum degree of consultation and then open discussions with Paris. France could subsequently initiate a summit conference to pin-point precise conclusions and future perspectives. He also said that at the next talks (beginning in 1973) for the renewal of the Yaoundé Convention, France would urge the rich countries to pay adequate prices for the products of poor countries. French policy towards former colonies, he said, was essentially disinterested, and was based on a sense of continuing moral responsibility.

On Francophone and Anglophone Africa, M. Pompidou said: "I think it is only logical that there should be close co-operation between African countries that speak English and French, and that British entry to the EEC would help that co-operation. But of course one must take care that co-operation is not a kind of one way traffic. Nigeria is of such weight by reason of its population and economic importance, that care must be taken that development of relations between the two countries is on a balanced footing. I know that relations between Niger and Nigeria are cordial. French-speaking countries are now teaching English in their schools, and I believe that English-speaking countries have begun to teach French."

The President also said that French aid to the uranium mine at Arlit was currently running at about 1,000m CFA (£14m) annually but this would obviously decrease as the mine became viable.

On arrival in Fort Lamy the French

President said that Chad could count on France's unflinching and unselfish aid. Chad had tackled with obstinate courage the building of a nation from what in 1960 was a vast landlocked state that was largely desert, lacked communications, with no apparent resources, and diverse peoples. The objective was, however, still far from attained. He felt a particularly keen emotion in visiting Fort Lamy because it was the first African capital to respond to General de Gaulle's World War II call to the Free French. If only because of such memories, France had to assist Chad.

President Tombalbaye said that General de Gaulle's name symbolised decolonisation. It was thanks to him that this visit was taking place. Later at a banquet he said that Chad's geographical position had made it the scene of clashes as well as meetings between various civilisations and beliefs, and the confrontations could well continue.



Diouf and Pompidou: The view of Le Canard Enchaîné, the Paris magazine. To his host's enquiry "What would you like to hunt? Lions? Antelope? Buffaloes?" Pres Pompidou replies "Uranium".

President Pompidou said Chad's national unity could only be the work of its own peoples. But France, linked through the Defence Agreement, had at Fort Lamy's request provided "exceptional and temporary" aid in conformity with "France's scrupulous regard for young African states". Chad had had to make a greater effort than some other African countries, but he was convinced that President Tombalbaye fully realised that his basic task was to strengthen the solidarity of the diverse groups. The success of that undertaking was necessary for Chad's stability and for Africa as a whole, since Chad was a meeting place for the black African and Arab worlds, upon whose understanding and co-operation African unity depended. If President Tombalbaye persevered in his chosen path, said the French President, dissidence and agitation still making

themselves felt in certain quarters would be quelled. French military aid to the "legal authorities" in Chad in their fight against "subversion fomented by minorities appealing to racial and religious intolerance" was never aimed at supplanting or over-riding Chad's leadership. The straightforward objective had been to protect the government from violence as it organised its own security forces and built up its administration.

At the National Assembly President Tombalbaye made an urgent appeal for foreign investment to put an end to "stagnation and a depression cycle". Chad, he said, was preoccupied by the economic potential of the African Commonwealth countries, whose future association with the EEC could affect the existing balance of co-operation between the EEC and the existing 18 associated Yaoundé states. He called for "determined" investment from France and other EEC countries in oil and mineral prospecting, the building of a railroad network, modernisation of agriculture and industry, a hydro-electric dam, a solar energy plant and car assembly.

The French President told 5,000 Chad-based French Nationals at a reception at the French Embassy that they were there "in the service of Chad". The fact they they were French imposed many duties upon them, notably in those countries which were linked to France. "You are now in an independent country and you owe respect to the authorities and the laws of this country". They should concern themselves with development as well as with their own companies. At the embassy the President and Madam Pompidou had had to take shelter on the second floor because guests mobbed them.

M. Pompidou told a news conference: "Well, as you can see, I came to Chad. This journey was not desired by everyone, as was proved by certain radio vituperations that reached the limits of impropriety and threats until the Libyan government put a stop to them." He did not attach much weight to these broadcasts, he said. They were not worth spoiling France's relations with Libya. Libya had also called for the liberation of Djibouti, but France was there by the will of the population. Asked about slogans on walls in Fort Lamy concerning neo-colonialism, he said: "Yes, we are neo-colonialists. The proof of it is that we help the development of this country, that we train its administrators and managers, that we help it govern itself. If that is neo-colonialism, then we are neo-colonialists."

A broadcast before the visit from Libya by the leader of the Tripoli based Chad Liberation Front (Frolinat), Dr. Abba Siddick, had urged hostile demonstrations. President Pompidou had underlined the absence of these by making an hour-long tour of Fort Lamy with his wife. On his return to Paris he said that everything had passed off well, and "I didn't succeed in seeing a single rebel."

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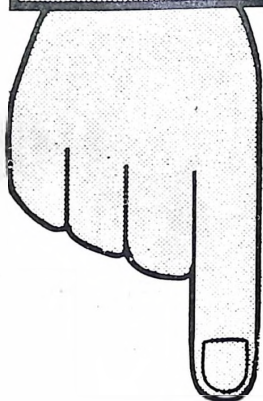
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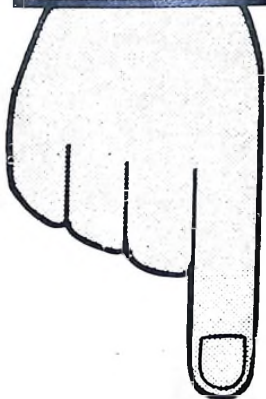
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MATCHET'S DIARY

What happened during Dr. Busia's brief visit to the Ivory Coast after the Ghana coup? A correspondent in Abidjan tells me that there never was any question of Dr. Busia remaining there, and the visit lasted for only 36 hours. Dr. Busia arrived on the night of Friday, January 16, by Air Afrique from Paris. Because of a strike in Rome, the aircraft had to go to Nice for refuelling and this caused speculation that the deposed Prime Minister had left the aircraft before it arrived in the Ivory Coast. Dr. Busia's arrival and his departure, also by a scheduled flight, were shrouded in secrecy. The Ivorian radio, which took more than twelve hours before announcing the coup, made no further mention of it after broadcasting the news that Dr. Busia had left London.

Scores of journalists, says my correspondent, were at Port Bouet airport to await Dr. Busia's arrival. The airport was calm, except for several dozen tourists whose schedule had been upset by the Ghana coup and who were hoping to leave for Accra. Presidential security officers arrived only a few minutes before the aircraft was to land, and although they knew personally some of the journalists, these were not asked to leave the airport. When the aircraft finally touched down, it taxied towards the usual spot opposite the principal entry.

Passengers began descending, and as there was nobody to stop the journalists, they openly advanced onto the runway and surrounded the aircraft. But there was no sign of Dr. Busia. At this point, the Ivorian security men who had so far completely ignored the newsmen, ordered the airport police to remove the intruders. The journalists quietly withdrew. From a distance, some movement could be observed at the aircraft's first-class exit. The security measures were enough to convince journalists that Dr. Busia had indeed arrived. But, continues my correspondent, they were surprised to discover, a few minutes later, that the usually friendly and relaxed police had changed. All newsmen were sent off the airport area and were threatened with the withdrawal of their cards, although one policeman was honest enough to admit that they did not know why. The Voice of America stringer, a Mauritanian, was arrested, and all efforts to release him (said to have taken place at the highest possible level) proved fruitless. He was released, without any further explanation, at midday on Sunday, after the reported departure of Dr. Busia. It is believed that he was held as a warning to his colleagues. There was no representative of the Ghana Embassy at the airport.

My correspondent suggests that Dr. Busia decided to go to the Ivory Coast for three reasons: first, to be near Ghana to get first-hand information; second, to consult his friend, President Houphouët-Boigny; and third, to enter Ghana from

the Ivory Coast if that seemed desirable. "At no point was there any question of Dr. Busia asking for political asylum. This has been clear to all observers of the Ghana-Ivory Coast scene. Dr. Busia's respect for and friendship with the President are such that he would not possibly embarrass the Ivorian leaders, even though the latter is already host to several political exiles. If Dr. Busia ever considers a come-back he must keep his Ivorian base intact. Moreover he speaks no French and life in Abidjan could be quite isolated."

So, speculation that Dr. Busia had been refused asylum is unfounded, because he never asked for it. It is obvious, however, that his request to come to Abidjan, which he made by calling the Ivorian President directly, caused M. Houphouët-Boigny great uneasiness. He knew that Dr. Busia's presence could not be kept secret, and would have grave consequences for Ghana-Ivorian relations. "But the President is a man who will stick to his friends, Dr. Busia was his friend. If Dr. Busia asked to come, he would not be refused. In taking this decision, the President consulted none of his lieutenants, although he kept them informed."

It is interesting that the Ghanaian military leaders were aware of what was happening. They recalled the Ghana Ambassador, Dr. Claud Ennin, as soon as they heard that Dr. Busia had arrived in Abidjan. Dr. Ennin went to Accra, but was allowed to return to Abidjan.

Out of almost £2m collected as income tax in Nigeria's midwest state in 1969-70 only £22,000 came from "self-employed" people. All the rest was compulsorily collected from salary earners under PAYE. The new Commissioner of Finance, Mr. Edwin Clark, told a news conference that he had discovered that a prominent businessman in Benin, from whose supermarket the government alone had purchased goods to the value of over £10,000 in one year, had declared an income of £200 for income tax. A doctor "whose clinic is always teeming with patients" had also declared £200. A lawyer whose practice was known to be unusually successful had declared an income in 1970-71 of only £1,600. Mr. Clark, who said that he himself would now operate as Chief Revenue Collector, warned "dishonest businessmen and unpatriotic professionals" and the revenue officials who conspired with them that the government was determined to shift the burden of income tax from wage and salary owners to the rich men who "infested the state".

As a modest first step, the government would revise its list of invitees to official parties, to exclude those who made no

contributions to the state revenues paid for this hospitality. The government was determined in the next few months to recover the £2m outstanding in tax payments. Contractors who were found to have declared falsely incomes for tax would be given government contracts. The Revenue Division would be drastically reorganised. People like pools would be obliged to obtain licences to have their businesses shut down, same would apply to those operating gaming machines. Even the yield school fees had fallen behind. Of the £300,000 expected last year from the registration fee in primary schools, £90,000 was collected. If all measures failed, the government would consider setting up special courts to deal with tax defaulters and evaders.

Foreign journalists love to accuse African coups to "Sandhurst-trained officers". It is true that one or more officers are usually to be found in the ranks of the coup-makers, but most of the officers concerned have necessarily come up the hard way, from the ranks. That is true of Col. Acheampong no less than it was of General Kotoka. Look through the list of Col. Acheampong's regional commissioners, I find only one Sandhurst man, Col. Iddisa who, northerner himself, is in charge of the Northern Region. The Royal Navy equivalent of Sandhurst, however, appears, for what I believe to be the first time, in an African military regime, in Commander Kyeremeh, who comes from the totally landlocked region of Brong-Ahafo, did part of his training at Dartmouth. Two of the regional commissioners have professional qualifications in addition to their military ones. Col. Bemako is a Legion graduate, who later read for an external L1B and B1C. Col. Agyekum who enlisted in the RAF long ago as 1940, obtained the Certificate of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries when he returned to civilian life, and also a Technical Teacher's Certificate from London University. He was transferred from the Civil Service to the Air Force in 1960 and before becoming a Regional Commissioner, his talents were used by the Ministry of Defence in the office of Military Secretary.

Ghana is the last country where one would expect a chocolate factory to close down because it could not get any cocoa. That is what seems to have happened to the Golden Tree Chocolate Factory at Tema, which, according to *The Pioneer*, has had no cocoa supplies since last October. Customers for Golden Tree chocolate have been complaining that their orders have not been met, but *The Pioneer's* reporter failed to discover why the Tema factory is in this plight.



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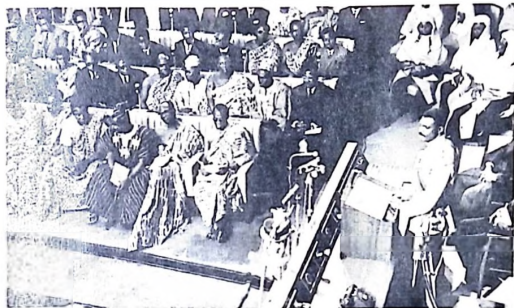


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GHANA AND THE RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE: 2

by Dennis Austin



A historic moment: the soldiers NLC hands over to parliament.

Those of us who commented at the time on Nkrumah's overthrow in 1966 were fairly confident about what had happened. The CPP (it was argued) had forfeited its support and had shrunk to a narrow base of self-indulgence. Far from being a "mobilisational party" within the taxonomy of terms much liked by American writers, the CPP was sitting heavily and (it seemed) irremovably on everything and anyone who disagreed with it. Since, like most new state governments, the party was too rudimentary a structure for total control, it was incapable of fashioning a single *apparat* of power. So it lapsed into an inefficient despotism by which the leaders tried deliberately to limit, rather than to enforce, political action. The charade of the 1965 election, when nearly two hundred candidates were "elected" unopposed, offered a sad example of the extent to which the CPP had become suspicious of its own followers and distrustful of an electorate which had once rallied in considerable numbers to its appeal. The party had achieved its aims; it was in power, and it had no notion of what to do with it other than self-enrichment and public exhortation through the press. Government (it was said) had become a private monopoly of the newly rich, and the single-party had become the newspaper.

It was a sad end, since at its inception in 1949 the CPP had given some promise of being able to reflect the society it governed and of keeping within manageable distance of its problems. It was loosely constructed, popularly based, open to all the disputes which divided local society yet able to use such divisions in order to maintain control. By contrast, at its end, the CPP was struggling to survive not by open competition and the skillful use of its powers as a party in

office but by imprisoning its opponents in the name of "Nkrumahism" or (even) "African Socialism". No wonder, then, that by 1966 the army saw an opportunity to intervene. True, it believed that it had reasons of its own to do so in order to defend (in Geoffrey Bing's useful phrase) its "martial freedom", but the leaders of the February coup also argued (rightly) that they would be welcomed by the population at large which had ceased to see the party as representing anything more than the interests of those immediately dependent on it.

But, surely, it may be protested, the position of the Progress Party at the end of 1971 was very different. After all, it had been in power for only two years. Can distaste for its rule have grown so quickly? It had also been elected by an overwhelming vote in a free election — by a higher proportion of a larger electorate than the CPP had managed to achieve even in the high noon of its existence. Was the electorate really so fickle as to turn away from the party so early? In many ways the rank and file of Progress appeared (at least to the present writer) as the incarnation of what the earlier party might have become under different leaders. That is to say, Progress was perhaps the kind of party that many of the earlier nationalists would have liked the CPP to have become; and the Progress leaders (including, pre-eminently, Busia himself) represented the kind of élite that those who did well out of the CPP, and who hoped to do better out of Progress, were now rather inclined to admire. Was that 1969 alliance of interests really dead by 1972?

Perhaps it was, since the PP leaders had almost gone out of their way to offend those who were most likely to sustain them in office. It was not simply,



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then, that the political market had run out of goods but that the traders had offended the customers. The Progress Party, as it was put together in 1968-9, had exercised a distinct appeal for a number of sectional groups over and above its more general stance as an Akan party, or as representing a return to probity after the rake's progress of the former CPP. It could fairly claim to represent "the new intelligentsia" including the judges, lawyers, university teachers, and senior civil servants; it was also supported by "the new economic class" of Ghanaian businessmen, and by a wide section of the better paid industrial workers. The lawyers and judges had been the architects of the 1969 constitution which had brought about the return of civilian politics. The civil servants had served the NLC under Ankrab and Afrifa very loyally, and might reasonably have expected that the Busia's government would be the continuation of the NLC's rule in civilian dress. The businessmen had similar expectations of a policy favourable to private local enterprise; the trade unions looked not only for a continued improvement in the level of wages but for an influential position *vis à vis* the new government through Bentum as general secretary of the TUC.

Alienating one by one

With remarkable fortitude, however, the Progress government engaged in battle with each section of its supporters. There was more than a touch of the old Intelligentsia in the assumptions which many of the leaders brought to their rule. They seemed almost to believe that they were riding aloof above the partisan battles, protected as much by a righteous display of *amour propre* as by a massive parliamentary majority. Yet very early after taking office in October 1969 they clashed first with the civil service and then with the judiciary in its stubborn pursuit of the Sallah case ending in the Prime Minister's appearance on television to browbeat the judiciary. By 1970 restraints on the economy were already cutting back the privileges of the well-to-do, and by 1971 the hardship was widespread. The trade unions protested, there were strikes and violence, and the government rushed legislation through parliament under a Certificate of Emergency in order to disband the TUC. As if to ensure that there would be no shortage of opponents, the government upset the students by making them pay (by way of loans) for board and accommodation, and the sick and injured by imposing hospital charges.

Meanwhile, those who had believed that Busia and Progress would be a considerable improvement over both the CPP and the military, as a party prepared to defend "Freedom and Justice", watched with some dismay the erosion of those high principles ably defended in Busia's own account of *Africa in Search*

of Democracy. They did not much like the harsh and summary expulsion of non-Ghanaians, nor the Bill (again under a Certificate of Emergency) to forbid the advocacy of "Nkrumahism", nor the proposal to protect the Prime Minister by legislation "from insult", nor the brushing aside of Gen Ocran's insistence that MPs ought not to delay over complying with the constitutional requirement to declare their assets, nor the rough handling of the dismissed civil servants, the universities, the judges, the opposition press, and the TUC acts committed under Kofi the Prime Minister which would certainly have incurred the high wrath of Kofi the writer. There was nothing in the Progress record of the capricious cruelty of the last years of Nkrumah's government, but there was enough done to enable the party's opponents to say, and its friends to wonder whether, it was moving in the same direction. And while the leaders were concerned with the supposed dangers of a revival of Nkrumahism — never a very plausible phenomenon — discontent was gathering among those, including the soldiers, whom they confidently and unwisely assumed to be on their side.

Of course, it is easy now to be wise after the worst has happened, to list the defects of the Busia administration, and to raise a superior eyebrow at the folly of a government which behaved so inexpertly as politicians. It was never likely that a government led by the old intelligentsia opposition, reinforced by a new generation of intellectuals, would be very skilful at the art of the possible. It was also unwise perhaps to expect any government in Ghana not to conform to the general pattern of belief which runs from Accra to Half-Assini and Bawku that power — like justice — needs not only to be used by publicly demonstrated, and used on occasions in full measure, pressed down and running over. But when all is added up in criticism of Dr Busia's government, a good deal remains still on the other side, not only in its favour but in extenuation of its mistakes.

Democracy at work

Freely elected, it was one of the few African governments which held out the very real promise of further elections — a re-registration of electors was carried out in 1971 for local elections this year, a rare phenomenon in any newly independent state. For good or bad, Ghanaians (outside the Volta region) had a government they themselves had chosen, and a large proportion of the electorate was certainly delighted with the nationalist stance adopted by Busia's administration, including the expulsion of the aliens and the Promotion of Ghanaian Business. True, the economic measures introduced after July 1971 were harsh, and fell harshly on farmers, businessmen and trade-unionists alike. But how sad a picture it is to recall not only the political hopes of the return to civilian rule, but the early prospect in 1969-70 of

economic recovery. It cannot be said too often that the newly independent states are far more often the helpless victims of external misfortunes than they are of domestic incompetence. Listen to the howl of protest that goes up from the democratic electorates of the developed world when the rate of growth is insufficient to meet the promises of the politicians, or when unemployment extends beyond what is thought to be bearable. And what, pray, would happen to the democratic institutions of western Europe, or the U.S., or Japan, if the exports of motor cars (but not the import of food) suffered the fall in price of cocoa or sisal or copper?

At this point, however, the careful watcher of the African scene might rudely interrupt. Enough of academic argument. Coups are made by soldiers, and soldiers have the guns. It is in that single fact that coups have their origin and their explanation. Colonel Acheampong's success is the success of power, and power comes from the barrel of a gun. But is it really that simple?

NIGERIA:

Kano's Education Policy

by a correspondent

It is just over two years since the Military Governor, Police Commissioner Audu Bako, well aware of the State's reputation for educational backwardness, launched the Kano State Education Development Trust. The idea of the trust was to fill the gaps in the governments education programme with a mixture of self-help and government aid. The greatest need of the State is for secondary and technical schools, and the Trust is currently building three — Bagauda Boys High School in Kano, Lautai Boys High School in Gumel and Gaya Boys High School, the latter with a farm centre. Buildings are still under construction, but it is hoped to open Gumel this month and Gaya by the end of the year. Bagauda Boys High School in Kano itself is, like the others, housed in temporary accommodation.

Although Kano State inherited some of the richest coffers on the creation of the twelve Nigerian states in 1967, it also received the legacy of one of the highest illiteracy rates in the whole Federation. Current statistics show a primary school enrolment rate of just under 10 per cent. But this is in line with the growth curve envisaged under the Four Year Development Plan and is a great improvement on the 1969 figure of only 6 per cent. The Governor stresses frequently the need for vast improvements in education. He recently urged every boy and girl to attend school to obliterate the reputation Kano State has for backwardness in education. One of the great problems,

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says the Chief Education Officer, Alhaji Shehu Dawaki, is the dovetailing of the traditional Koranic schools into the general education system. These schools take children from the age of three upwards teaching them to recite the Koran and start gradually to read a few simple books, all concerned with Islam. £40,000 has been set aside under the State development plan to develop these schools both physically and academically, to help incorporate them into the educational pyramid.

Indeed if the programme envisaged under the 1970-74 Plan is kept to (and it is already slightly ahead in certain fields) Kano should be well on the way to losing for ever its reputation for academic illegitimacy. Each phase of the educational programme is closely interrelated — primary education has to be expanded steadily to provide enough students for the next stage — currently about one third of primary school leavers go on to further studies — and post-primary institutions have to avoid creating a surplus of leavers with one skill, whilst there is a scarcity in others.

£3,100,000 has been set aside for the development of education within the plan period. This envisages gradual expansion in primary school enrolment to the target of 15 per cent school age children attending primary institutions by 1975. A 120 per cent increase from 50,000 children attending in 1969 to 110,000 by 1973-74 is expected over the Plan period. The annual increase of primary school leavers should be 46 per cent — from 6,800 to 9,900 by the end of 1974.

Improving primary schools

Responsibility for the development of primary education rests with the local education authorities of Kano, Kazaure, Gumel and Hadejia. Together they are expected to build 536 primary school classrooms in 1971-72, 511 in 1972-73, rising to the dizzy figure of 2,913 in 1973-74. They receive a capital grant towards each classroom. Even with this, the expansion envisaged is well beyond their means, to the State is changing the grant regulations. This way, their contribution is pegged to increase by 3 per cent only per year. The estimated total cost of the primary school expansion programme is £2.76m.

Of the 30 per cent primary school leavers continuing their studies, 10 per cent are expected to go on to secondary schools. This means an increase of 48 per cent over the plan period. Unlike the primary school programme, that for secondary education is the responsibility entirely of the State government. A secondary school is to be built in each of the eight divisional headquarters, and most of the schools, particularly the Government Secondary Schools in Kano, Kazaure and Dawakin Tofa, will be expanded. Equipment is also being brought up to date, laboratories added,

and more accommodation offered. Estimated cost of this project is £1.4m.

From primary school children can proceed to secondary school, teachers training colleges, or technical school. The latter is a comparatively new development, and the Plan aims to spend £300,000 on increasing the intake and introducing higher level courses. If the schedule is adhered to there should be 948 students by the end of 1974 at technical schools.

More teachers

The objective of the teacher training programme is to increase output from 200 per year to 1,000 by 1974. Thus all untrained teachers can be replaced and extra ones provided for the next plan, which will be geared to achieving 30 per cent primary enrolment by 1980. Although Kano does not hope to be able to reach the Federal objective of every child at school by 1983 the task it has set itself of trebling primary school enrolment by 1980 indicates a greater effort and more rapid progress than that attempted by any other state.

How closely has the government kept to these objectives in the first year of the plan? The statistics for 1970-71 (published with remarkable speed) show that since 1968 enrolment in primary education has expanded by 31,884 to 81,464 pupils. Enrolment in Local Education Authority primary schools increased by over 30 per cent to 79,298 in 1970-71, while 235 additional LEA

schools came into operation during the year. Private primary education accounted for 2.7 per cent of total primary enrolment.

Post-primary enrolment is shown to have increased by 100 per cent since 1968 from 4,088 to 8,103. This expansion is concentrated in secondary schools and teachers training colleges. Although there has been a slight increase in the number of places available for girls they seem to have succumbed to a higher drop-out rate after primary school. The percentage enrolment of girls in post-primary establishments has actually fallen from 22 per cent in 1968 to 13 per cent in 1971. Only 31 per cent of girls are of Kano State origin compared with 87 per cent of boys. At 40 per cent, there is also a high percentage of non-Nigerian teachers in both government and private institutions, and the average pupil teacher ratio is better than in England and Ireland.

Another important facet of Kano education programme is the successful adult literacy courses. So popular have they proved that the duration of each course has been extended from 6 to 12 months. The total number of literacy certificate awards in 1970-71 was 18,984-10,072 in the first six months and a further 8,912 in the second period.

The authorities are confident that this progress can be maintained, and rather than seeking spectacular achievements the short run are concentrating on steady, thorough programme which will provide a sound educational structure for the state.

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Books and Publications

PLAYING AT DECOLONISATION

Central African Republic: A Failure in Decolonisation, by *Pierre Kalck* (Pall Mall Press, £3.75).

Jules Ferry, French Premier near the end of the 19th Century, a great advocate of colonisation, once said that to occupy a country by placing a tricolor flag in the hands of two or three Senegalese sharpshooters "was not founding a colony, it was playing at colonisation". Dr Kalck, at the end of this sharply written and instructive book, takes up the phrase a propos of the Central African Republic today, saying that at the moment "it looks very much as if someone is playing at decolonisation and that a true Central African state has still not got beyond the stage of good intentions".

Political life there, Dr. Kalck comments, unfolds like a play, in which only a few of the 4,000 officials and agents have a part, living in white men's villas and aping the colonial administration as best they can, while the mass of the population, that is the peasantry, look on in bewilderment. If Kalck is hard on post-colonial mismanagement and inadequacies (in health, education, administration), which he catalogues in his balance sheet this should be balanced by his massive critique of French colonial policies in the first part of the book. He describes the brutality of the concessionary companies and their exactions in the early years of the 20th century and the terrible colonial neglect of "the least endowed of all the colonies". As a colonial administrator in the years before independence (and adviser in the years immediately after) he was in a position to know.

The scandals of the companies on the Ouhangui were occasionally exposed by the few Frenchmen who cared, such as, to his credit, that unusual imperialist, Comte Savorgnan de Brazza. Kalck's account should be compulsory reading for those who felt that colonialism automatically brought progress. The slaying that existed before was compounded by the labour system of the companies. Echoing the misery of the workers, so exhausted by the system and the ravages of epidemics that they died by the thousand, he quotes Albert Londres, who wrote in *Terre d'Ebène* that the utter desolation of these workers "seemed to have no name. They dragged along the

railway line like nostalgic phantoms. Cries and beatings could not bring them back to this world. As they dreamed of their distant Ouhangui they tried to grope their way to the ground".

The book also chronicles well the events leading up to colonisation (Ouhangui - Chari, the colonial name for the Central African Republic, was carved out in the heyday of the scramble, and became the strategic outpost for the conquest of Chad, after the near-miss at Fashodt in the Upper Nile), and the eventual progress to independence. Dr. Kalck takes in the rise of the nationalist politician Barthélemy Boganda who for a period raised hopes which were dashed when he was killed in an aircraft crash on the eve of independence in 1959. Boganda was already disheartened in 1959, both by the difficulties of the



President Bokassa, told by a chauffeur

badly advised agricultural programme he had launched and by the obstacles to the realisation of his projected United States of Central Africa (the name Central African Republic is a relic of this). Unity with her equatorial neighbours, says Kalck, was and is the only hope for eventual progress.

In the event, both of Boganda's successors, David Dacko and Jean-Bédé Bokassa, (both claimed relationship to him, although Dacko's was apparently not genuine) fumbled unsuccessfully with government. The account of the decline and fall of the Dacko government, and the coup which brought Colonel Bokassa to power on New Year's eve, 1963, is an important piece of original documentation. Dr. Kalck relates the event

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leading up to the *coup* — the growth of corruption in the government and ruling party, the introduction of Bokassa, and the power struggle between Bokassa, then head of the army, and Izamo, the Chief of Police, but discreetly he does not offer what he thinks as the key motivating factor. He relates one story — that Daoko had apparently decided to resign and, on December 31 had burnt all his papers and dismissed his servants prior to handing power to Izamo (all this was apparently relayed to Bokassa by a chauffeur, and Bokassa acted to prevent this) Dr Kalek also quotes an article in a French newspaper which described the coup as a "hoarding of the treasury". Bokassa was greatly worried about the army being deprived of funds. The Chinese factor appears to have been introduced afterwards as justification.

The portrait of the Bokassa regime is an unflattering one, noting his "incoherent" foreign policy and the increasing financial bankruptcy of his government (by the end of 1970 the budget deficit was around 2,500m. CFA francs and the total of unpaid bills had reached the 2,000m mark). The impression is strong, too, that up to the time of the execution of Colonel Banza in April 1969, Bokassa's position was very unstable. The sending of French troops for "acclimatisation" late in 1968 is fitted neatly into this slot. Since the execution of Banza ("the poignant circumstances of his death have never been revealed") the dictatorship appears to have consolidated some-

what, but the general hopelessness of the country's position, the continuing entrée to "fishy businessmen", the troubles that come from diamond deposits, and the unwillingness of the President to accept the limitations of his position, bode ill for the future. Kalek notes that Bokassa's "flights of fancy" are severely judged by a great part of French public opinion and requests for aid are now scrutinised very carefully. "The attitude of Central Africa's head of state has furnished the opponents of the policy of cooperation with African states with plenty of ammunition". Ironically, the French are stuck with Bokassa, the product of their own system. Indeed, the message, implicit in Kalek's book, is that they deserve him. The sadness is that the Central African people, unfortunately endowed by geography and history, deserve something better.

K.W.

What's cooking?

A Smell of Onions, by Peggy Appiah (Longman, 52p).

These sketches of life in an Ashanti village are drawn with the confidence one would expect from an author who can lecture, broadcast, and write with authority on many aspects of the customs and traditions of this part of Ghana. The title of the book is inspired by an Ashanti saying to the effect that "meddlers and onions tell what's cooking". The meddler in this collection of stories, one Kwaku Hoampam, is certainly a dedicated (if likeable) busybody, but however much he stirs things up in his village, somehow what's cooking there doesn't always come to the boil. It is doubtless true of village life anywhere that — to the outsider, at least — nothing much appears to be going on, and *A Smell of Onions* reflects this: indeed there are moments when an incident is so played down that it almost emerges as a non-event. On the other hand, there are times when the feeling of rural tranquillity rudely shattered by the eruption of unsuspected emotions is vividly — and amusingly — conveyed, as for example, in "The Lost Charm".

Found in the road by 35-year-old Koti Asem, son of former Kwasi Ebafo's first wife a lorry-driver's lucky charm is picked up by the little boy, who takes it home, then loses interest in it and hides it under the pillow of his father's second wife. She, on discovering it, imagines it's a rumour put there to harm her by the first wife: the two wives fight and have to be dragged apart, after which the affair escalates and looks like ending up in a major lawsuit until the families concerned find out how much it's going to cost in time and money. In another episode there are echoes of the story of "Whisky galore in the Hebrides" as the Ashanti village policeman, faced with the accidental discovery of an illicit still, demonstrates how, by imaginatively bending the rules, he can retain the friendship of the villagers with a clear conscience, and in a spate of different

mood, in a chapter entitled "Rome Education", the problem of how to win over busybody Kwaku Hoampam's sudden infatuation with a girl half his age — and prevent it happening again — neatly solved by his wife with a great deal of tact and a double church wedding.

Most of the stories in *A Smell of Onions* can be enjoyed on a *pu* narrative level. What gives many of them an added dimension is the author's skill with which the impact of a modern development as new roads, and lorries, a police station and telephone on a village community has been depicted.

Terry Blis

Books for the Multi-racial Classroom
compiled by Judith Elkin
collaboration with Birmingham Public Libraries (The Library Association Youth Libraries Group, Pamphlet 110, price 45p.)

The books included in this bibliography are all published in the UK. I include much material by American West Indians, Indians, Pakistanis, etc. T. books listed range from those for very young children to semi-adult material, as well as a few background books. T. compiler's comments are frank and useful, sorting out the good from the mediocre. Mainly intended for teachers with West Indian or Asian children, their classes, there is also a short section on African fairy tales.



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Letters to the Editor

General Ocran on the Coup

MR — I have read with amusement the statement of Dr. Busia, the deposed Prime Minister, on January 21, on the Ghana coup of January 13. Dr. Busia lamented the death of democracy in Ghana, presumably because once again the military have found cause to overthrow the lawfully elected government. He is also reported to have said that the military responded out of selfishness, because certain of their amenities, such as housing, water and electricity, had been restricted, that the coup would achieve nothing.

What Dr. Busia is telling the world is that he ought not to have been removed because he is the only person who can export democracy to Africa and teach Ghanaians how to use it; more particularly because both the U.S. and Britain are "about to promise certain loans to Ghana". My guess is that now that Dr. Busia is no longer Prime Minister he would wish that no country, especially Britain, should assist Ghana.

because she has rejected the only man who can lead her in the path of democracy at her time of scarcity and need, scarcity and need which I believe were aggravated by Dr. Busia and his Progress Party government.

Although I did not take part in the recent coup I feel obliged to write because I realise that if Ghana falls as a nation I fall with her. I also believe that the coup, which was entirely reactive, was not staged for the reasons given by Dr. Busia. But I am anxious that every possible assistance, moral and otherwise, should be given Ghana, for democracy has not failed there; I would not have written if it had. I hold no brief for the Ghana Armed Forces, whose honesty and integrity I have always held in high estimation, but I consider that Dr. Busia's fall should be seen in the light of the fact that the military in Ghana have always understood and cheshed democracy; otherwise they would not have overthrown Nkrumah.

The military appreciate that government of the people by the people, not necessarily the Westminster type, is preferable to dictatorship. The Military government of the National Liberation Council (N.L.C.), true to Ghanaians' faith in democratic rule, handed over power to Dr. Busia in accordance with the declared intentions of that government not to stay in power indefinitely. The military subsequently returned to barracks and to their regulation forbidding active politics.

If, therefore, within this period of just over two years they found it necessary to take up arms again, against the government which they assisted to elect, then one must entertain some doubt about Dr. Busia's explanation of the coup. But one thing is certain: the military in Ghana have willingly contributed to the national effort, at a lack of amenities alone would not be ground for the coup.

I say once more that it is not democracy which has failed in Ghana but on the contrary, it is Dr. Busia and his government who have failed miserably to measure up to standards expected of them.

In the first place, it is very strange that, despite the seven years he spent in exile as virtual successor of Nkrumah, and his impatience at the N.L.C. for not handing over to him personally almost immediately after the military take-over of 1966, Dr. Busia in 1972 has only his empty hands to show Ghanaians as testimony of his leadership, as a result,

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Ghanaians have to wait indefinitely for the fulfilment of a "promise of a promise" by the U.S. and Britain. The Ghanaian is angry because he has seen only a deterioration of his living conditions since the coming to power of Dr. Busia's government; and who can blame him if the only sign of progress the Government can show is a Guinness Brewery — at a time when the government itself was deploring the excessive drinking by Ghanaians?

There is no denying that the Busia administration would not have lasted beyond a second election. After their experiences under the Nkrumah regime, Ghanaians wanted a leader who was dynamic but a father at the same time. Unfortunately, Busia and his government were vindictive at a time when unanimity was needed — the sacking of almost 1,000 public servants can hardly be reconciled with "I am my brother's keeper", often preached by the doctor himself. His government was tribalistic at a time when national unity was called for — its treatment of the Ewe and other tribes can hardly enhance unity. Busia's government was condoning bribery and ostentatious living at a time when it was politically unwise to do so — how does he explain the houses built by his ministers and other party activists at a time of scarcity, barely 18 months after their coming into office? Dr. Busia's government was prepared to ride roughshod over the very constitution which he and his colleagues helped to draw up — how does he explain the threat of my arrest because I asked his government to abide by the constitution by declaring their assets? The Busia administration was interfering with the internal administration of the military — his followers were openly boasting that they placed their men in key positions.

In the face of this shameless return to the Nkrumah era it is not surprising that the military should rejustify the coup of 1966, because they saw very little difference between the Nkrumah and the Busia administrations. So it is not surprising that Busia was ousted in the name of the very democracy which he accuses the military government of having thrown overboard.

I know from experience that a military government can be more democratic than an elected civilian government. But democracy will have no meaning if Ghanaians do not learn to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps but continue to depend heavily on outside assistance even for such commodities as rice, fresh fish, flour, etc. The Busia administration failed to appreciate the critical situation and could have worked harder to lay a solid economic base for the future. Men with the necessary expertise were available both within the government and outside, but they could do nothing, due mainly to lack of planning, while Ghanaians had no stimulus to which to respond.

The failure of Busia and his government has cast a slur on the Ghana intellectual which it will take ages to

rectify. To my mind the only guarantee of freedom in Ghana today is the military; the present military government must not fail for the results of failure would be very tragic. The present leaders may not be men of letters, but they are sincere men, genuinely concerned about their country's welfare. They must be shown every sympathy and help because genuine help must be given to those who need it without regard to the colour of their skin or whoever happens to be ruling at the time. I would rather give aid to a military government which knows what it is about than to a civilian government that has no aim or plans.

To the Ghanaian, however, I must in conscience say that it is time he realised that manna would not fall from Heaven nor from Britain or America. He must be prepared to put his back to the wheel in support of the government of the day. And he must be prepared to starve just a little and even die a little for the future good of the country. The so-called manna must first be planted, harvested and cooked in Ghana before it can fall.

I wish the present government well.

A. K. Ocran

Lincoln College, Oxford

General Ocran, a member of the N.L.C., was formerly Chief of Defence Staff in Ghana. EDITOR

Troubles at Ibadan

SIR — Mr. Sam Momoh's arguments (*West Africa* December 24 1971) just do not stand up. The fact that religious denominational schools (as indeed private secular schools) exist in England and are subsidised by the State, is totally irrelevant to the question of whether they are desirable for Nigeria at this stage of her development. In fact, he betrays an example of the kind of mentality which he says he does not understand, i.e. "what is good for England is good for Nigeria!" — however different the historical, economic and cultural milieu of the two countries' educational systems and their aspirations.

Equally beside the point is his comment on my example of Ulster; the point is not that sectarian schools in Ulster created the social bitterness and strife there but that they tend to compound and perpetuate the unhappy situation — and that we cannot afford this, particularly now. His comparison of Mr. Asika with Lord Lugard is inapt, since secularisation of the school system does not necessarily diminish the number of schools and, if anything, would probably result in more and better-equipped schools being built.

Lastly, I am grateful to Mr. Omotayo Akpata (*West Africa* December 31 1971) for his additional quotation from the Adebayo Commission report, which is very apt and with which I wholeheartedly agree. The reason I did not use it was that I did not have it at the time of writing.

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People

When Osibisa started in Britain two years ago, their major problem was that of getting across to their European audience. It was only at places such as the Cue Club which are patronised largely by Africans and West Indians that the group were able to establish a rapport with their audiences. But today, with the release of their second long playing record, the story is different. They are among the pace-setters of Western pop - with a coffee bar named after them in Amsterdam, Osibisa tee-shirts and badges selling like hot cakes all over the world and a second visit to the United States planned for the Spring, as well as bookings for tours of Japan and Australia.

They generally open their concerts with 'The Dawn', which was the first track of their first LP, with Teddy Osei the band's leader, explaining to the audience that they are "starting the happy vibes right from the root, and the root is early one morning in the heart of Africa". Osibisa clearly get tremendous pleasure out of performing, and their enthusiasm is infectious. This is what they mean when they say they are "spreading happy vibes". At every concert, European audiences accustomed to remaining seated while listening intently stand up to shake and shuffle to the rhythm. For once a record sleeve is not indulging in more bombast when it recalls "suddenly audiences everywhere were responding to a real physical need in themselves which, at last, was being satisfied." At a recent concert in Aylesbury borough hall, the excitement was such that several fans were carried away by the music and stripped completely.

"We are schooling our European audiences in our sound and they are learning fast" declares Teddy Osei who came to England from Kumasi in 1962. The more they see us, the more they understand. The more they dig the sound, the more

they get into the various African languages we use. Every act we perform tells a story - that's why we always begin from 'The Dawn'. You have to follow the story from the beginning to understand the end. By the time we are finished many Europeans will be speaking a few choice African phrases. But although our sound is westernised to capture our audiences in Europe, it never strays far away from its roots in Africa. Antiguan guitarist Wendell Richardson is adamant however that they are not playing what has become known as Afro-rock. "I've never been to Africa and neither has my mist Robert Bailey (a Trinidadian) or Spartacus R (a Grenadian). We're not playing rock and roll and we're not playing African music. We're playing Osibisa's music and that's a combination of Western and African things - but it's our music." Their first LP sold 250,000 copies, but failed to capture the excitement of their live performance. The second LP, *Woyaya*, comes nearer to achieving this, although there is too much chanting by "the Osibisa choir" of "friends and lovers", and one or two disturbing indications that they want - quite unnecessarily - to "prove" to their critics that they are capable of all kinds of technical tricks. Changes are inevitable. Osei found the music scene in Ghana, where he also had his own band, too limited. "Because musicians aren't respected there, the music scene doesn't develop." But Osibisa must never forget that their strength is their natural raw sound. As they say on the LP "We give you our treasure. Please be happy."

● Mr. Mennen ("Soapy") Williams has been in Ivory Coast and Ghana as part of a private visit to Africa. The journey, he says, has a sentimental flavour. "I love this continent, and when I can rediscover it I don't hesitate. It allows me to follow the development of different states in an unobtrusive way."

● President Nguirabi is due to pay a private visit to France in the spring, according to well-informed sources.

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Osibisa: Robert Bailey, Wendell Richardson, Spartacus R, Teddy Osei, Loughty Aman from Nigeria whose "mouth percussion" is featured on the new LP, Mac Tontoh and seated, Sol Amarfo (the last two are from Ghana).

WEST AFRICA

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Commercial News

HACKMAN REAPPOINTED

Ghana's National Redemption Council has appointed Mr U K Hackman as executive chairman of the Cocoa Marketing Board. Mr Hackman was dismissed as managing director of the Board in October 1969 after he had refused to allow cocoa buying agents who had defaulted in their obligations to the Board to continue as licensed agents. A *Financial Times* correspondent in Accra claimed: "It was felt the probable reason why the newly-installed Progress Party Government under Dr Busia did not want the licences of the defaulters revoked was that some of them had gone into the campaign funds of the Progress Party."

The Council said that Mr Hackman would be required to recommend measures to make the Board and its subsidiary companies more efficient, and to investigate the indebtedness of licensed buying agents in order to advise the Council on steps to be taken to recover the funds.

Mr Hackman, whose appointment is for three years, has been working in Europe as a commodity consultant. He announced that he intended to restore confidence in the industry, which had been shaken as a result of interference by politicians. Sales agreements made with sales representatives abroad would be reviewed. "If on the facts of the operations so far these agreements have not operated in the best interests of Ghana, I shall have to cancel them forthwith."

As reported last week, the assets of Mr J G Amofo, former Chief Executive of the Cocoa Marketing Board, have been frozen, as have those of Mr Akwasi Adjarko, managing director of the Produce Buying Agency.

An editorial in the *Daily Graphic* urged that foreigners should not be allowed to hold cocoa agencies abroad for Ghana. It also called for the elimination of middlemen in the purchasing system.

- Cumulative cocoa purchases in Ghana after 16 weeks of the main-crop season totalled 390,377 tons compared with 342,777 tons at the same time last year. Marketing Board sales amounted to 375,150 tons, including 40,000 tons for local processing.

- The UNCTAD-sponsored cocoa conference will meet again on March 6, when it is expected to establish a

negotiating committee "for the purpose of agreeing on a draft text of an International Cocoa Agreement for consideration at a resumed session of the cocoa conference in June-July 1972." This was announced by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Mr Perez-Guerrero.



During a seven-week visit to England on a programme designed to broaden his knowledge of the company's buying and shipping operations in Britain, Mr S. R. Ukanwoke, a manager in G. B. Ollivant's merchandise marketing in Nigeria, examines a sprayer widely used by Nigerian cocoa farmers.

- World cotton consumption in 1971-72 (August-July) is expected to be around 54.3m bales, up slightly from the previous year. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has estimated Production is estimated at 53.9m., 5 per cent more than the previous year. Stocks this season are expected to be reduced only .6m bales, compared to a decline of 2.4m. during the 1970-71 season.

World coffee production for 1971-72 is forecast at 71.1m bags. After allowing for consumption in the producing countries, about 52.2m bags should be available for export markets. With world import demand estimated at between 53m and 54m. bags, there may be a very small drawdown on world stocks, which would be the sixth consecutive year in which production has fallen short of demand.

UN mineral exploration fund discussed

Discussions about the possibility of establishing a UN Natural Resource Exploration Fund have been held by the world organisation's Committee on Natural Resources, meeting in Nairobi. The fund, suggested by former Secretary-General U Thant, would be financed by governments and by revenue from UN-assisted projects.

As a basis for discussion, it was suggested that industrialised nations should contribute a minimum of \$100,000 each or that contributions should be based on the size of the donor population, perhaps one US cent per person. Beneficiaries should contribute one per cent of the annual yield of natural resources produced as a result of the operation of the scheme or of a UN-aided mineral project. Equipment and services for projects financed by the Fund would as far as possible be derived from "firms, corporations or suppliers established in participating states".

The UN estimates that mineral resources worth \$13,000m have been located in 12 countries in the last decade as a result of \$100m worth of investment expenditure. Copper has been the most commonly found metal through these schemes, which have included location deposits in Upper Volta, Limestone in Togo has also been found by UN exploration teams.

Addressing the opening of the Nairobi meeting, Mr Robert Gardiner, Executive Secretary of the ECA, said it was expected that in 1980 between 20 and 25 African countries would be oil or gas producers. "Given close co-operation between the neighbouring countries, the import of crude or petroleum products from non-African sources will not be necessary in 1980 and about 500m. tons a year of crude and a large amount of liquefied gas will be available for export."

The most spectacular developments in energy source exploration in Africa in the last six years had been in petroleum resources. Three countries were producing more than 45m tons a year and, therefore ranked in the first 11 producers in the world. Indications of new commercial sources of oil have been reported in Ghana, Zaire and Congo as well as in existing producer countries. A "vast programme of exploratory work was beginning in Mauritania, Mali, Chad, Niger and on the Continental platform in the Atlantic and Indian Ocean waters.

Africa's reserves of natural gas, including North Africa, now accounted for 23 per cent of world reserves and could be expected to increase substantially. The commercialisation of these reserves was a problem yet to be solved.

Looking at the harnessing of electricity from hydro-power sources, Mr Gardiner noted that its production represented only about one per cent of the potential.

US aid bill approved

Three months after its surprise rejection by the Senate, the United States foreign aid bill covering expenditure in the year ending next June 30, has now been approved. After weeks of bargaining and compromise, the bill set a spending limit of \$2,750m — compared with the \$3,600m requested by President Nixon. Development assistance funds have been allocated since October on a temporary basis.

Earlier, President Nixon announced that extensions of US economic assistance to countries which expropriated American private investments would depend on how such expropriation was handled. Confiscation without prompt and adequate payment would be met with retaliatory measures, which would include cutting off US aid and opposing loans to the governments concerned from international development banks.

A principal objective of foreign economic assistance programmes President Nixon said, was to assist developing countries in attracting private investment which, as a carrier of technology, of trade opportunities, and of capital itself, in turn became a major factor in promoting industrial and agricultural development. Expropriations without adequate compensation "are wasteful from a resource standpoint, shortsighted considering the adverse effects on the flow of private investment

funds from all sources, and unfair to the legitimate interest of foreign private investors. Expropriation in one country, he noted, could harm prospects for private investment in other developing countries.

Mr. Peter Peterson, Presidential assistant for International Affairs, pointed out that in 1970 the book value of U.S. private investment abroad was about \$78,000m of which \$20,000m was in developing nations. But the developing nations' share of U.S. private investment had fallen in recent years from over 35 per cent in 1960 to 28 per cent in 1970.

The United States has invoked its authority to suspend bilateral aid only once in the past, and then only for a two-year period. The Government has abstained from four votes in the multilateral lending institutions when it felt the nation involved had not provided adequate compensation for expropriated private investment.

● Mr. John Hannah, Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, has announced a "comprehensive" reorganisation of the Agency, designed to achieve better work with fewer personnel. The Agency has already reduced its staff by 30 per cent since mid-1968. He pointed out that the United States now provides less than half the total of worldwide foreign aid. One of A.I.D.'s tasks would be to encourage a broad international system for sharing this responsibility. It would, for instance, encourage U.S. universities and other private groups to take more part in the assistance programme, and was already experimenting with direct grants to developing countries to hire U.S. non-profit organisations to help in development programmes. It is also providing grants directly to such non-profit groups to help reduce A.I.D.'s personnel and administrative costs. The aim "is to place the developing countries at the centre of the process." Recipient nations would be expected to do more of the programming and project management themselves. A new Bureau for Population and Humanitarian Assistance will be established to combine the programmes of family planning, food and disaster relief.

● The World Bank has been urged to work out a plan for supplementary financing for developing countries to deal with unexpected shortfalls in export proceeds which cannot be remedied by short-term balance of payments support. Making the appeal, the Group of 77 expressed the hope that a report on the suggestion would be prepared by the Bank in time for submission to the UNCTAD 3 meeting in Chile next April.

WORLD BANK SUPPORTS RICE PROJECT

A rice-irrigation project aimed at producing a fourfold increase in the cash income of some 2,800 farm families in Cameroon has been backed by a \$3.7m credit from the International Development Association.

Explaining the background to the project, the I.D.A. recalled that a feasibility study for the project was prepared, financed by the French bilateral aid agency and assisted under the FAO/IBRD co-operative programme for increased rice production in northern Cameroon, where 70 per cent of the country's rice is produced. It is hoped that, as well as the primary aim of increasing production for local consumption, the project will permit the export of 20 per cent of the extra production to neighbouring countries.

The project includes provision for reinforcement of the 30 mile Logone dike and improvement of a parallel road, construction of four pumping stations, rehabilitation of 3,200 acres of existing irrigation and drainage networks, the construction of new networks to serve about 7,400 acres, on-farm development works, and the construction of a rice mill with an annual capacity of 10,000 tons of paddy. Farm machinery and the expansion of management and extension services will also be provided for the project, which is located on the west bank of the Logone River, in the Yagoua district. Responsibility for implementation will be with SEMRY (Société d'Expansion et de Modernisation de la Riziculture à Yagoua).

The I.D.A. credit is to the Federal Government for a period of 50 years including a 10-year grace period and is interest-free except for a three-quarters of one per cent service charge to cover I.D.A.'s administrative expenses. SEMRY will receive a grant from the Government of approximately \$500,000 with the remaining \$3.2m. loaned on special terms.

● Emergency food aid valued at £600,000 is being shipped by the World Food Programme to Mauritania to avert famine. The first shipment is expected to reach there by early March. FAO's early warning system on food shortages showed that crops over vast areas had been destroyed by a severe drought, threatening thousands of people with starvation between March and August this year. WFP will ship 12,100 tons of sorghum and maize to feed 500,000 people.

● Three US firms are to combine with the Zaire government to build 1,000 low-cost houses annually. A mixed company is being set up with a \$100,000 capital half of which will come from the Zaire National Housing Office.

● A Spanish delegation visited Senegal to discuss economic co-operation and technical aid to the fishing industry.

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ICFTU plans its programme

A representative of the I.C.F.T.U., Mr. Enzo Friso, will be visiting trade union centres in East and West Africa this month in connection with the organisation's education programme for the coming year. After studying farming and fishing cooperatives which the trade union movement has established in Madagascar, will meet union leaders in Tanzania, Kenya, Zaire, Gabon and Dahomey. He was scheduled to take part in the I.C.F.T.U.'s Pan-African Educational Seminar in Lagos from February 7-11. The aim of the seminar, the first of its kind on a Pan-African level, was to formulate recommendations to stimulate trade union education in Africa. Representatives from national trade union organisations in Dahomey, Gabon, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Upper Volta and Zaire were among those expected to attend.

• GEC-AEI Telecommunications of Britain is supplying Nigeria's Ministry of Communications with orders worth over £500,000. This increases the value of GEC-AEI's current work on step three of the Nigerian national telecommunications development plan to over £10m. Equipment will be supplied to extend the capacity of eight existing telephone exchanges to convert them to STD working and to connect them into the £9.6m nationwide microwave-radio trunk transmission network currently being installed by GEC in the north, exchanges at Kano, Zaria and Jos will be patented on the exchange at Kaduna.

• Although there are signs that groundnuts are now coming forward in Nigeria, notes the January issue of *Barclays International Review*, the purchasing season got off to a very slow start and while reliable sources indicate the total output will probably reach 400,000 tons, there has been reluctance on the part of the farmers to sell at a what they consider to be a poor price (£N33.16sh a ton).

• The first batch of logs from the Midwest will be delivered to Kano for processing by the newly-formed Kano-Midwest Timber Company "in a few weeks' time," it was announced in Benin.

• A newly-designed tree plucker is to be tested in The Gambia in the next few months. The plucker is attached to an ordinary tractor and grips the tree in a powerful pair of hydraulic jaws. Using the power of the tractor engine, it pulls the tree from the ground with enough force to lift a small tank. The probable cost of the machine will be between £600 and £800. Dr. B. M. Willis of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, Newcastle University and leader of the team which developed the machine, will accompany it to The Gambia together with two student engineers.

WEST AFRICAN SHIPPING NEWS

ELDER Dempster Lines
SOUTHBOUND - From Liverpool: AUREOL sid Feb 4, DUMBALA sid Port Harcourt Feb 5; EBANI slg Feb 10, KOHIMA slg Feb 22. From London: FALABA due Tema Feb 6; EGORI slg Abidjan Feb 5; FIAN slg Takoradi Feb 5; PATANI due Bathurst Feb 4; FREETOWN slg Feb 9; EBOE slg Feb 17. From N. Continent: KABALA due Lagos Feb 5; DUMURRA due Antwerp Feb 4; FORCADOS slg Hamburg Feb 4. From Glasgow: DUNKWA slg Glasgow Feb 6.
NORTHBOUND - To Liverpool: FOURAH BAY due Feb 6, DEIDO due Freetown Feb 4; OTI due Feb 4, OWERRI due Feb 7. To London: FULANI due Feb 13. OBUASI due Feb 8. To N. Continent: BIAMO slg Abidjan Feb 4; PEGU slg Monrovia Feb 5. To Belfast: KUMBA due Feb 7.

EASTBOUND - From USA/Canada: CALCIAS due Abidjan Feb 5, DONGA due Tema Feb 5.
WESTBOUND - To USA/Canada: DLGEMA due Baltimore Feb 4.
BARBER Lines
OUTWARDS - FERNGATI, slg Baltimore Feb 8, New York Feb 11 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Apapa, Douala; FERNBROOK slg New York Mar 3 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Apapa, Douala.
HOMEWARDS - FERNLAND due Savannah Feb 15, thence to Norfolk, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York; FERNGATE idg Lagos 5 Bound about Feb 27, Ghana 1st half Mar. Abidjan/Monrovia mid Mar. for U.S. North Atlantic.

"K" Line
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown etc. TEXAS MARU sid, Japan Dec 30, due Lagos Feb 10.
EASTBOUND - From Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown, etc. to Japan via Hong Kong: TEXAS MARU slg Lagos Feb 17, Tema Feb 20, Freetown Feb 25, due Japan Apr 8.
WORMANN Line
 MALAGA slg Bordeaux Feb 25 due Lome Mar 7, Cotonou Mar 3. CALANDA due Pointe Noire Feb 26, Matadi Feb 28, Luanda Mar 1.
DAFRA Line
EASTBOUND - FRANKRIG slg Monrovia Feb 29 due Warri Mar 4, Port Harcourt Mar 8. WESTBOUND - ARIKA slg Sinoe Mar 2, due Houston Mar 18, New Orleans Mar 24.
GOLD STAR Line
WESTBOUND - BEERSHEVA Durban Mar 6, Cape Town Mar 11, L. Marques Mar 16.
EASTBOUND - TSFDEK Kpeme Feb 3, Singapore Mar 7, Mobj Mar 19.
BLACK STAR Line/USNH/WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND - KLORIT LAGOON Ghana Jan 21, New York Jan 31, Philadelphia Feb 6.
BLACK STAR Line/U.K./CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA
SOUTHBOUND - OFFIN RIVER London Feb 10.
NORTHBOUND - AFRAM RIVER Rotterdam Jan 24, Bremen Jan 26, Hamburg Jan 30, OFFIN RIVER Avonmouth Jan 22. London Feb 2.
DELTA Line
DELTA PARAGUAY due Abidjan Feb 20, Lagos/Apapa Feb 23, Port Harcourt Feb 25.
DELTA ARGENTINA slg Abidjan Feb 25, Takoradi Feb 26, Tema Feb 28.
PALM Line
SOUTHBOUND - From London: LAGOS PALM due Tema Feb 21.
 From Continent: ENUGU PALM due Las Palmas Feb 23.
NORTHBOUND - To London: LOBITO PALM slg Port Gentil Feb 13.
 To Continent: ILESIA PALM slg Abidjan Feb 8.
N.Y.K. Line
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Lobito, Matadi, Lagos, Abidjan etc. SHIMANE MARU sid, Kobe Dec. 30 due Abidjan Feb 16, Takoradi Feb 18,

EASTBOUND - From Lagos, Tema, Takoradi, Abidjan, Lome etc. to Japan: SHIMANE MARU sid, Kobe Dec. 30 due Abidjan Feb 16, Takoradi Feb 18.
CHARGEURS REUNIS
HOURGAINVILLE due Monrovia Feb 17.
GRIFULLEN slg Kobe Feb 28.
MITSUI OSK Line
HOKONESAN MARU slg Kobe Feb 4.
LAGOS MAR 8, BRUNOS AIRIS MARU Kobe Feb. 20 due Lagos Mar 22. **HIONO MARU** slg Kobe Mar 4 due Lagos Apr 9.
MAERSK Line
INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan: MARIN MAERSK Kobe Feb 5 due Luanda Mar 3.
OUTWARDS - From Matadi, Lagos, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan: SUSAN MAERSK slg Abidjan 5 due Takoradi Feb 6.
FARRELL Lines
HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN PLANET Lagos/Apapa Feb. 6 for Douala, Abidjan, Monrovia, U.S. Ports; AFRICAN MOON Matadi Feb 15 for Luanda, Lobito, Abidjan, Monrovia, U.S. Ports.
OUTWARDS - AFRICAN LIGHTNING Dakar Feb 7 for Freetown, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Feb 21 Lagos/Apapa Feb 23, Douala, AFRICAN STAR Monrovia Feb 24 for Abidjan, Tema Matadi, Luanda, Lobito.
KONINLIKE NEDLOYD NV EUROPEAN WEST AFRICAN SERVICES
 BALONG Hamburg Feb 25, Antwerp Feb 26, Rotterdam Mar 1, HOOIG SVOLDE Rotterdam Mar 13, Rotterdam Mar 13, Bordeaux Mar 20.
NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING Line
SOUTHBOUND - RIVER BENUE slg Lome Mar 2.
NORTHBOUND - ODUUWA due Midebout Feb 19.
SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA Line
SOUTHBOUND - HOOIG SVOLDE Scan early Mar for discharge WA end Mar early Apr. BATU slg Scan mid Mar discharge WA early Apr.
NORTHBOUND - HOOIG HIRON slg end Feb/early Mar for discharge Scan Mar/early Apr. VIKAREN slg WA 2nd Mar for discharge Scan end Apr.
HOOIG Lines
HOOIG GUNVOR due Freetown Feb. Monrovia Feb 27, Takoradi Mar. 2; HOOIG BISCAY slg Rotterdam Feb 22 due Dakar Mar 1, Abidjan Mar 5.
ROYAL INTEROCEAN Line
INWARDS - STRAAT FRANKLIN tr Japan sid Jan 17 due Luanda Feb. Monrovia Feb 18, Freetown Feb 20, Tema Feb 23, Port Harcourt Feb 26, Lagos/Apapa Feb 28, Cotonou Mar 3, Takoradi Mar. Abidjan Mar 8, STRAAT VAN DIEMEN fr Hong Kong sid, Jan. 2 due Lagos/Apapa Feb 10, Cotonou Feb 16, Lome Feb 17, Feb 18, Abidjan Feb 19, Monrovia Feb 21, Freetown Feb 25, Dakar Feb 29.
OUTWARDS - STRAAT FRANKLIN fr Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt. Hong Kong and Japan early Mar. STRAAT VAN DIEMEN fr Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt. Hong Kong and Japan second half Feb.
EAL EUROPE - AFRIKA Line GMBH
 GERDA SCHNELL slg Rouen Feb. 29, Bordeaux Mar 1 due Las Palmas Mar 6, Dakar Mar 9. CHRISTEL VINNEN slg Bremen Feb 26, Antwerp Feb 28, Dunkirk Mar 1.
NOPAL Lines
WESTBOUND - NOPAL LUNA slg Luanda Jan 26 due New Orleans Feb 28; NOPAL VILGA slg Luanda Feb 14 due New Orleans Mar 16.
EASTBOUND - NOPAL TELLUS slg New Orleans Feb 6 for WA ports; NOPAL SUN due New Orleans Feb 14 for WA ports.
WESTWIND AFRICA Line
WESTWIND slg New Orleans Feb. 4, Houston Jan 31 due Tema Feb 15, Lagos Feb 26. **SOUTHWIND** slg New Orleans Feb 11, Houston Feb 14 due Lagos Mar 8.
EDWARD NASSAR Lines
HOLSTEN due Certe Feb 17, Rijeka Feb 21, Famagusta Mar 3, Beirut Mar 4.

SITUATIONS VACANT

GOVERNMENT OF THE RIVERS STATE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS 1972/73

Applications are invited for Government of the Rivers State Post - Secondary Scholarship and Bursary Awards. These scholarships and bursaries are offered to enable young men and women of Rivers State origin with suitable qualifications to take a university course or to acquire professional skills in institutions of higher learning.

2. **Fields of Award:** The fields of study for which scholarship will be awarded are as follows:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Medicine | 19. Chemistry | 37. History |
| 2. Dentistry | 20. Mathematics | 38. Languages (a) English (b) French |
| 3. Public Health | 21. Geology | 39. Mass Communication/Journalism |
| 4. Radiography | 22. Bio-Chemistry | 40. Drama |
| 5. Radiology | 23. Zoology | 41. Economics |
| 6. Pharmacy | 24. Geography | 42. Sociology |
| 7. Nursing | 25. Statistics | 43. Banking |
| 8. Laboratory Technology (Medical) | 26. Botany | 44. Accountancy |
| 9. Mechanical Engineering | 27. Agriculture | 45. Business Administration |
| 10. Civil Engineering | 28. Animal Science | 46. Public Administration |
| 11. Electrical Engineering | 29. Forestry | 47. Political Science |
| 12. Marine Engineering | 30. Fisheries | 48. Law |
| 13. Chemical Engineering/Technology | 31. Veterinary Medicine/Science | 49. Librarianship |
| 14. Aeronautical Engineering | 32. Estate Management | 50. Music |
| 15. Petroleum Engineering | 33. Land Surveying | 51. Education |
| 16. Electronics | 34. Quantity Surveying | 52. Religious Studies |
| 17. Industrial Engineering/Technology | 35. Architecture | 53. Printing |
| 18. Physics | 36. Fine Arts | 54. Road Transport |

The number of awards in each field of study will be determined by the man-power needs of the public and private sectors of the State.

3. **Value of Awards:** Scholarships will usually cover Board and Tuition fees in all institutions. Equipment allowance is also payable.

4. **Qualifications for Award:** Applicants are advised to acquaint themselves with the conditions of admission to fields of study which they wish to undertake in order to ensure that they hold the requisite entry qualifications.

(a) **Higher School Certificate Courses:**

Candidates who wish to be considered for Higher School Certificate Awards must have obtained the West African School Certificate Grade I or II, or the equivalent at the General Certificate of Education, and must have been admitted into the Sixth Form. Candidates for these awards should indicate the subjects they propose to take.

(b) **Undergraduate Studies:**

(i) Applicants must have the Higher School Certificate or the West African School Certificate Grade I or II, or the General Certificate of Education in five subjects at the Ordinary Level and must have been accepted in a university for undergraduate or equivalent studies.

(ii) Applicants who hold the General Certificate of Education at Advanced Level or the Higher School Certificate at Principal Level in at least TWO subjects together with the West African School Certificate Grade I or II, or their equivalent, will be considered.

(c) **Technical Courses:**

Applicants for awards for Technical Courses must hold one of the following - (i) West African School Certificate; (ii) City & Guilds (Finals) or (iii) City & Guilds (Inter) and must have satisfied admission requirements for the relevant course in an approved institution.

5. **Other Qualifications:**

(a) Applications for scholarship may be submitted by candidates of either sex of Rivers State origin who are not above 30 years of age on January 1, 1972.

(b) Successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination of fitness which will include a tuberculin test and an X-ray examination of the chest.

6. **Application Forms:** Post Secondary Scholarship Application Forms are obtainable from:

- The Secretary, Rivers State Scholarship Board, Ministry of Education, Port Harcourt.
- The Academic Registrars of all Nigerian Universities.
- The Federal Ministry of Education, Scholarship Division, Lagos, Nigeria.
- The Permanent Secretary, Office of the Military Governor, River State, 24 Queens Drive, Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria.
- The Nigerian High Commission, (Education Section), Nigeria House Annexe, 178/202 Great Portland Street, London, W.1.
- The Consulate General of Nigeria, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, U.S.A.

Candidates who wish to be sent application forms by post from any of the above addresses should forward a stamped self-addressed foolscap envelope marked 'RSG/PS/72/73' on the left hand corner when applying for the forms. Applicants are advised to complete only ONE copy of the application form. Candidates are advised in their own interest to comply with the instructions for the completion of the application forms contained in the form. Application forms which are not properly completed will be rejected.

7. **Submission of Application Forms:** Completed Application Form together with a passport size photograph and photostat copies of certificates (NOT ORIGINALS) should be forwarded to the Secretary, Rivers State Scholarship Board, Ministry of Education, Port Harcourt, so as to reach him not later than 30th April, 1972.

8. Late applications will NOT be entertained.

Secretary, Rivers State Scholarship Board, Ministry of Education.

SITUATIONS VACANT cont.

Vacancy for Chief Accountant

The Federal Statutory Corporations Service Commission invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for the post of Chief Accountant in the Nigeria Airways Limited.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Candidates must be between 35 and 45 years of age and must be Chartered, Certified or Cost and Works Accountants with at least 5 years post qualification experience or a good honours degree in Accountancy with 7 years post qualification experience in a business Organisation. Experience in the Airline Industry will be an advantage.

SALARY:

SAP. 6 EN3,080 per annum (Consolidated)

METHOD OF APPLICATION:

Application forms are obtainable from:—

- The Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer, Statutory Corporations Service Commission, 30 Marina, Lagos, Nigeria
- States Public Service Commissions.
- The Nigeria High Commission, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London W.C.2.

CLOSING DATE:

Completed application forms with photostat copies of certificates must be returned to the Secretary at the above address not later than 25th February, 1972.

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UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, Ibadan University Press. (Post of Publishing Director). Duties: The Director will be responsible for the overall supervision and development of the Publishing House. The Director will also act as the liaison between the Publishing House and the Publications Committee in his role as Secretary of the Publications Committee. In this capacity he will be expected to formulate policy devised by the Publications Committee for the development of the Press. He will also function as the main search editor and representative of its University Press Qualifications. The candidate should have a good university education, wide academic interests and extensive knowledge and experience in the various aspects of book publishing. Salary: Appointment will be for three years in the first instance at professorial level (EN3,080 per annum). Passages are paid for appointee, wife and five children on termination, approved overseas leave and termination where applicable. Successful candidate is also entitled to children's and commutation or housing allowance. Details of qualifications and experience and naming three referees by 25th February, 1972 to the Acting Registrar, University of Ibadan, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, Faculty of Arts. Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the posts of 2 Senior Lecturers, Lecturers/Assistant Lecturers in the Department of English, Faculty of Arts. Successful applicants should be prepared to teach at the Jos Campus of the University which will become operational in January, 1972. Applicants should be interested in either of the following fields: (a) English Language (ability to teach the grammar of English on modern linguistic principles essential), (b) Use of English and Study Methods (ability to teach Remedial English as a Second Language and Reading essential). Appointments to commence as soon as possible, are for three years initially and subject to review thereafter. Salary scales: Senior Lecturer: EN2,275 x 75 - EN2,375; Lecturer: EN1,200 x 75 - EN1,650; EN1,725 x 75 - EN2,175; Assistant Lecturer: EN950 x 50 - EN1,100. (if holding a higher degree EN1,050 x 50 - EN1,150). Passages are paid for appointee, wife and five children under 11 years, on appointment, approved overseas leave and termination, where applicable. F.S.U./U.N./U.S.S. Children's and car allowance are also paid. Part-furnished accommodation is provided. Detailed applications (6 copies), stating age, full qualifications and experience and naming three referees by 24th February, 1972 to Acting Registrar, University of Ibadan, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL, IBADAN - NIGERIA, Division of Pathology. Appointments of Medical Laboratory Technologists. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced Nigerians for the post of Medical Laboratory Technologist in Haematology, Medical Microbiology and Chemical Pathology in this Hospital. Applicant must possess the A.I.M.L.T. or equivalent qualifications. Successful candidate must be registered with the Nigerian Institute of Medical Laboratory Technology. Salary - (Pensionable) - EN1,070-EN1,350 per annum. Point of entry into the salary scale depends on qualification and experience in a teaching hospital. Applications should be submitted not later than 24th February, 1972 on the appropriate forms which will be forwarded on receipt of an addressed foolscap envelope by the Adviser on Staff Recruitment, London Office, (U.C.H., Ibadan), 91 Regent Street, (3rd Floor), London, W1R 7TB.

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SITUATIONS VACANT cont.

GOVERNMENT OF THE RIVERS STATE OF NIGERIA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

RIVERS STATE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES 1972/73 ACADEMIC SESSION

Applications are invited for the Rivers State Government 1972/73 Scholarship Awards for Postgraduate Courses from suitably qualified candidates of Rivers State origin.

2. Fields of Study:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Agriculture | 13. Micro-Biology |
| 2. Animal Science | 19. Paediatrics |
| 3. Architecture | 20. Pathology |
| 4. Anaesthesia | 21. Pharmacy |
| 5. Bio-Chemistry | 22. Physics |
| 6. Biology | 23. Physiology |
| 7. Botany | 24. Surgery |
| 8. Chemistry | 25. Surveying |
| 9. Ecology | 26. Town Planning |
| 10. Economics | 27. Veterinary Medicine/Science |
| 11. Education | 28. Zoology |
| 12. Engineering | 29. Political Science |
| 13. Fine Art | 30. Library Science |
| 14. Forestry | 31. Laboratory Technology |
| 15. Geology | 32. Nutrition and Food Science |
| 16. Literature | 33. Other fields of Medicine |
| 17. Mathematics | |

All awards are tenable in Nigerian Institutions and applicants are requested to indicate whether or not they have secured admission for their courses. Candidates who have gained admission into Institutions must show evidence of such admission. Awards for studies not available locally will be given special consideration in Overseas Institutions. It is important that applicants must confine themselves to courses related only to their primary degrees or diplomas.

3. Candidates who are carrying out scientific research into specific aspects of life or problem in the Rivers State and who wish to be assisted in such a research may apply for financial assistance. Full details of the research programme must be submitted.

4. Application forms are obtainable from:

- (i) The Scholarship Division of the Rivers State Ministry of Education,
- (ii) The Academic Registrars/Secretaries of Nigerian Universities,
- (iii) The Scholarship Division of the Federal Ministry of Education, Lagos;
- (iv) Office of the Military Governor, Rivers State, 24 Queen's Drive, Ikoyi - Lagos.

Candidates who want application forms sent to them by post should forward self-addressed stamped envelope marked "POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS PG72" on the top left hand corner to any of the above-named centres.

5. Fully completed application forms must be accompanied with:

- (i) Photostat or copies of certificates,
- (ii) A passport size photograph duly signed at the back by the applicant;
- (iii) Photostat or copies of letter(s) of admission where available.

6. All applications MUST be submitted to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, (Students & Scholarship Division), Port Harcourt, through Heads of Departments in Universities/Institutions, or through present employer, so as to reach him not later than 10th March, 1972.

7. Late applications will NOT be considered.

Daniel W. Ekebura, for Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education

SITUATIONS VACANT cont.

THE NIGERIAN PETROLEUM REFINING COMPANY LIMITED

PORT HARCOURT—NIGERIA

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Nigerian accountants for the position of

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT AND COMPANY SECRETARY

AGE: 35-45 years.

Applicants should be holders of a recognised accountancy qualification (i.e. Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Association of Certified Accountants, or Institute of Cost and Management Accountancy). They should have at least ten years post qualification experience, preferably in industry and at least five years experience in the Petroleum Industry. Experience of management accountancy techniques, including the use of computer will be required.

The position will be based in Port Harcourt with occasional visits to Lagos. No accommodation will be provided but there is a housing allowance. The salary is negotiable and applications should be addressed to

THE REFINERY MANAGER,
THE NIGERIAN PETROLEUM REFINING CO. LTD.,
P. O. BOX 585, PORT HARCOURT.

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for posts of Junior Research Fellow in the Institute of African Studies to carry out historical, linguistic and cultural studies in the Rivers State. Candidates must possess good honours degrees in the Arts or Social Sciences, know at least one Rivers Language and be willing to work for long periods in the field.

Appointment is for three years initially but it may be extended for a further period of one year. Salary scale: EN1,070 x 50 - EN1,120; EN1,230 x 50 - EN1,330 per annum. Passages are paid for appointee, wife and five children under 11 years, on appointment, approved overseas leave and termination where applicable. Successful applicants are also entitled to children's and car allowances. F.S.S.U./N.U.J.S.S. and part furnished accommodation.

Detailed applications (6 copies), stating age, full qualifications and experience and naming three referees should be addressed, before 30th February, 1972 to the Acting Registrar, University of Ibadan, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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I formerly known as Mrs. Alake Fadulola wish to be known as Mrs. Alake Ogundiran.

I, formerly known and addressed as Mr. Adedjoja Adedjo wish to be called and addressed as Miss Adedjoja Ajan from this date Friday 28th January 1972. All previous documents remain valid.

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SITUATIONS VACANT cont.

ENGINEERS WANTED

East Central State Projects Development Agency (PRODA) requires the services of engineers to be appointed to the following posts:-

- Principal Engineer (Chemical)
- Principal Engineer (Civil)
- Senior Engineer (Mechanical)

Candidates must possess recognised engineering qualification, backed by relevant industrial/research experience of not less than five years after graduation. Those with proven ability for innovation and inventiveness will be at an advantage.

Conditions:

Posts (a) and (b) are graded at the Agency's Scale B2 with the salary currently fixed at EN2,540, Post (c) is graded at Scale C1 with a current salary range of EN2,040 x 75 to EN2,400. Fringe benefits are provided while opportunities for challenging work are assured.

Method of Application:

Applications, accompanied by curricula vitae of candidates and the names of two referees, should be addressed to:

The Secretary,
Projects Development Agency,
P.O. Box 609, ENUGU.

Applications received after 1st March, 1972 will not be entertained

CHIBUZO AJUKA, AG SECRETARY TO THE AGENCY

NOTICES cont.

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Dateline Africa

GHANA

Acheampong chooses his cabinet

The office of the National Redemption Council (NRC) has announced the appointment of Commissioners for the Ministries. They are: Agriculture - Maj-Gen. D. K. Addo; Education - Lt-Col. P. K. Ntegbie; Defence, Finance and Economics - Col. I. K. Acheampong; Foreign Affairs - Maj-Gen. N. A. Aferi; Health - Col. J. C. Adjetey; Internal Affairs - J. H. Cobbina; Inspector General of Police to be assisted by Maj. A. H. Selormey; Attorney General, Justice - Mr. E. N. Moore (the only civilian); Labour, Social Welfare and Co-operatives - Maj. Kwame Asante; Lands, Mineral Resources - Maj. R. M. Baah; Local Government - Col. Victor Coker-Appiah; Trade, Industries and Tourism - N. Y. Ashley-Larsen; Transport and Communications - Maj-Gen. D. C. K. Amenu.

A few days before the appointments were announced, the *Daily Graphic* counselled the NRC to temporarily shelve the appointment of civilian commissioners because of the shattered state of the economy. It would augur well for efficiency, discipline and promptness, as well as making a saving for Ghana, if the soldiers themselves assumed direct responsibility for the various ministries said the editorial.

• Before leaving for Accra Maj. Gen. Aferi, newly named as Ghana's Foreign Affairs Commissioner by the NRC, called on Ghana's creditors to write off their debts. Alternatively, he said, interest on the foreign debts should be waived for 15 years or more to enable Ghana to stand on her own feet. "Otherwise any talk of friendship would be a sham. What we need are genuine friends and aid without strings. Those creditors who are our friends and who want to show sympathy can easily do something. It is not beyond their capacity."

He said that foreign policy would be non-alignment and positive neutrality. For stable government Africa needed statesmen, not necessarily politicians.

• Representatives of some foreign missions in Ghana have assured the new government of their hopes of improved relations. "Some have also asked for early endorsement or revision of programmes which were started during the previous administration. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would like to inform the public that many governments in fact recognise states and not governments. Since all the

countries represented here have continued to maintain normal relations with the new government, this is taken as implying recognition of the National Redemption Council," said an official release.

• The NRC has released the text of a message from Guinean President Sekou Toure assuring the Council of its "total support in the fight between you and the internal and external reactionary forces".

President Toure's message extended "brotherly congratulations and encouragement for the development of an African policy completely anti-imperialist".

• Any Ghanaian wishing to travel outside the country will now have to obtain an exit permit no later than one month before he wishes to travel abroad. Anyone not complying with this order is liable on summary conviction to a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding 500 cedis or both.

• All non-career heads of missions abroad are being recalled to Accra for consultations. Of the 39 foreign missions, only 11 are headed by career diplomats, who have been asked to stay at their posts for the time being.

- Col. Acheampong described Lt. Gen. Afrifa as "a man of unbridled ambition" in an interview with Mr. Polycarpe Johnson, Director-General of *Togo Presse*. "He wanted to kill me as well as Major Baah", said the Chairman of the NRC, although he was "a personal friend. He served under me when I was a Major and he was a Captain." The General's case - he is accused according to GNA of "having conspired with other Ashantis to lead a march on Accra in an attempt to restore Busia to power" - was now "in the hands of justice".

• The Ministry of Trade Industry and Tourism has announced the transfer of certain essential commodities from open general licence to the restricted imports list. They are: corned beef, evaporated milk, stock fish, sardines, pilchards, mackerel, rice, baby foods, sugar and soap bars. Import of wheat flour and matches have also been placed on the restricted list and the bulletin says that on no account must they be imported. The measure was in line with the NRC decision that a permanent body should be set up to import essential commodities.

• Finance Ministry sources, says GNA, have indicated that debts incurred by the Busia administration in only 1 year were relatively higher than debts incurred by the Nkrumah regime and the National Liberation Council.

According to the sources, short term debts incurred by the deposed regime comprising arrears on 180-day credit import credits and service payments amounted to well over £110m. Arrears on 180-day credits alone reported to be £55m, arrears on import credits £23m, and arrears on service payments about £32m.

In addition, the deposed government contracted long-term loans of about £50m.

Total suppliers' credits obtained by the Busia administration were reportedly about £6m, including re-financing loan of £2.8m.

The agency quoted experts as saying most of the debts were largely incurred on the importation of consumer and luxury goods which contributed little or nothing to the Ghanaian economy. It had been reported that the deposed government spent nearly £1.1m on the importation of furniture, furnishings and decorations in 1970, at a time when the country was running a balance of payment deficit of nearly £40m.

Cedi to be revalued?

The NLC is understood to be seeking to reduce the 44 per cent devaluation of the cedi, carried out by the Busia regime at the end of December. This would mean a revaluation of the cedi in terms of gold. Approaches have been made to the International Monetary Fund, and the matter has been discussed with them. An IMF mission is expected to visit Ghana very soon.

• The army and police are continuing their campaign against hoarding and profiteering. In Accra they impounded large quantities of essential items such as sugar, tinned fish and milk and sold them to the public at pre-devaluation prices. Fifty aliens engaged in petty trading in the timber market contrary to the Aliens Compliance Order were also rounded up. Col. Acheampong has directed that seized contraband lying unclaimed in depots throughout the country be collected by the armed forces and sold to the public.

• Three men, including an assistant merchandise manager of UAC, have been put into military custody pending investigations into allegations of hoarding made against them. Maj. Selormey, Assistant Commissioner for Internal Affairs, has said that the exercise against hoarding would continue until the NRC was satisfied that the hoarding would stop.

• The NRC has frozen the assets of 14 more private firms. The businesses include the Attack Fisheries Company, Aboasa Agencies (a cocoa buying agency), Ghana Agricultural Machinery Company, Alpha Shipping Lines and Speedway Travel Tours.

● Gazette notice restricting the transfer of assets of some companies do not imply their confiscation, the NRC has announced. It explained that the government wanted to "keep an eye" on the expenditure of the companies and to satisfy themselves that any monies transferred or withdrawn are for legitimate business. It asked the companies to continue operations but to refer for prior approval any expenditure or withdrawals to the Attorney-General.

▲ The NRC does not intend to abandon the rural development schemes initiated by the Busia government, but will consider plans for amendments in relation to available finance and priorities, the Upper Region Commissioner, Lt. Col. Minyila told a meeting of chiefs at Bawku. The NRC was reviewing the whole rural development scheme and projects already started would be continued.

● Regional Commissioners in cocoa growing areas have been promising stern action against buying agents who misused funds advanced to them for cocoa purchases, as well as measures to discourage smuggling of cocoa across the

borders. In particular, farmers have been promised that in future they will be paid in cash and not be given "chits", and that more feeder roads would be built to facilitate the sending of cocoa to official buying points.

● Market women in Sekondi-Takoradi have appealed to the City Council not to re-allocate stalls to aliens. The women allege that after the coup some aliens, mostly Nigerians, had claimed that the new military government was backing their attempts to recover stalls they occupied before the Busia government's move against aliens. The army has also intervened in a quarrel in Kumasi between Ghanaians and Nigerians who were trying to reclaim market stalls.

● Asantehene Otumfuo Opoku Ware II told a meeting of the National House of Chiefs in Kumasi that he was grateful that the coup had been bloodless, but people taken into protective custody should be released if they were not security risks. He appealed to his fellow chiefs to present a united front to help solve Ghana's economic and social problems.

● Col Acheampong has assured a delegation from the National House of

Chiefs who came to pledge the Council support of the new regime, that the NRC would not interfere in any way with chieftancy matters.

● Public officers dismissed in February 1970 by the Busia regime have formed an association - "Apollo 568" - to fight social injustice in Ghana. The name "Apollo" refers to the U.S. Apollo moonshot, which took place at the time when the newly installed Busia Government dismissed 568 public officers.

● Ex-servicemen carrying placards which read "Coup is 100 per cent", "Busia, Lion in sheep's skin", have demonstrated in support of the military takeover.

● Three former junior ministers of the three former Progress Party MPs believed to be still in hiding as they have not yet reported to police, said spokesmen.

● Koforidua police have begun to arrest certain members of the present Progress Party who had earlier been free

SITUATIONS VACANT cont.

THE NIGERIAN PETROLEUM REFINING COMPANY LIMITED

The Company has vacancies for Nigerian Nationals at its Refinery near Port Harcourt in the capacity of

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They should be about 35-45 years old with H.N.D. in Mechanical Engineering or First Class Ministry of Transport Certificate. They must have had five to seven years experience as Engineers in Petro-Chemical Complex or Heavy Engineering Maintenance. They must also possess ability to train local staff.

The starting salary is negotiable and conditions will prove attractive to the right applicant. When applying for the post, please give age, qualification, brief outline of experience to date indicating present position and salary.

Applications will be treated in strict confidence. Only written applications can be considered at this stage and should be sent to:

**THE ADMINISTRATION MANAGER,
THE NIGERIAN PETROLEUM REFINING CO. LTD.,
P. O. BOX 585, PORT HARCOURT.**

SIERRA LEONE

At the official opening of the offices of the new National Insurance Company (NIC) the Vice President, Mr. S. Koroma, said that this government-owned company would enter into healthy competition with existing expatriate-owned companies. He added that the companies had shown goodwill towards the establishment of the National Insurance Company. The Minister of Finance later said that the formation of the company was an attempt to break expatriate monopoly. It would reduce overseas payments while its assets could be used for local development. The insurance would be undertaken by the Swiss Re-Insurance Company. At present the Sierra Leone company would underwrite all insurance cover except life.

Pakistan consultants helped to set up the company.

● Mr. Howard Mace, nominated last year as U.S. Ambassador, did not confirm by the Senate before it adjourned in December, has withdrawn from nomination. According to an official statement, he felt that the long delay in the assigning of a new Ambassador in Freetown might adversely affect the relationship between the two States. It was understood that the nomination of Mr. Mace, who was State Department Director of Personnel at the time of his nomination, was delayed because of the opposition of members of the Department.

● Mr. Kamara-Taylor, Minister of Finance, who is an ex-serviceman, led a party of ex-servicemen, which included another Minister, past the President during the celebration of Myohang Day. West African troops, including the 1st Battalion of the Sierra Leone Regiment, participated in the critical three-week battle of Myohang against the Japanese.

in Burma in January, 1945. The Sierra Leone battalion was awarded eleven decorations for gallantry and 24 "mentions in despatches".

• The final report of the Constitutional Review Commission, which began its sittings in June, 1969, has been presented to the President. The Commission was set up to sound public opinion about changes in the then constitution and the need for any changes. Since then, Sierra Leone has had two constitutional changes, first to a "constitutional" presidency and then, almost immediately, to an "executive" presidency.

• An Israeli Computer Consultant is spending four months in the Central Statistics Office, assisting in appraisal of present data processing facilities and investigation of expanded use of computers in government and the private sector. He will also advise on professional and technical training for computer operation.

• In an editorial, the *Daily Mail* claims that many foreigners are able to continue operating in retail trade by using Sierra Leone nominees to buy for them commodities which the national trading company has a monopoly.

• A Sierra Leonean clergyman, Bishop Aspasia Johnson, who has lived in the U.S. for fifty years, has died in New York at the age of eighty-two. Bishop Johnson was a former Principal of the West African Methodist Collegiate School in Freetown.



Outside St. George's Cathedral, Freetown, the Archbishop of West Africa, the most Rev. M. N. C. O. Scott, who is also Bishop of Sierra Leone, presents the Right Rev. Jean Rigal Elisee after consecrating him as Bishop of the Diocese of the Gambia and Rio Pongas. Mrs. Elisee is seen behind the two prelates. The service was attended by Anglican Bishops and clergymen from all over West Africa and the Bishop of Ibadan gave the sermon. The new Bishop was born in Haiti, but has served in Liberia where he was a Canon of Holy Trinity Cathedral. His diocese was established in 1855 and covers Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, and the Cape Verde Islands, as well as The Gambia.

TOGO

In a government reshuffle, two ministers have been dropped. They are the Interior Minister, Chief of Battalion James Assila, who has been in a Pans sanatorium for two years, and Paulin Eklou, Minister of Rural Economy. The main feature of the reshuffle was the creation of a new Ministry of Youth, Sport, Culture and Scientific Research, to be under Koffi Mathieu, New Minister of the Interior is a civilian, M. Barthelemy Lambony, and no new military men have been introduced into the government. The new Rural Economy Minister is Louis Omega. Also new in the government are two ministers of state, Laurent Gaba, at Works Posts and Telecommunications and Henn Dogo, at Trade, Industry and Planning.

• The Council of Ministers has adopted a balanced national budget for 1972 of 12,283,268,000 CFA francs (£17,547,525) — an increase of almost 23 per cent in Government receipts on the current year. The information minister, M. Frederic Ali Dermame, said that the new budget reflected the favourable development of the Togolese economy and several programmes under way. He said there would be no changes in fiscal legislation nor any new national taxes, but that local taxes would be imposed on

such goods as tyres and fabrics. The Minister said the budget would increase the revenue available to the ordinary Togolese citizen and raise the standard of living. He said new taxes had been avoided by a successful control of rising prices during 1971, and he thanked industries and commercial concerns which had helped in the fight against inflation. But he repeated his call for a continuing battle against rising prices. M. Dermame said that as in previous years, indirect taxes would provide the major part of Government revenue — 8,265,000,000 CFA francs (about £11.8m) but direct taxation would next year provide 17 per cent of the revenue, compared with only 10 per cent this year.

• Shell-Togorex, subsidiary of the Anglo-Dutch Consortium, has signed an agreement with the Togolese Government of oil prospecting and exploitation. It gives Shell rights over 1,050 square kilometres to a depth of 200 metres (about 700 feet) and over an area of 2,120 square kilometres to a greater depth, considered up till now as difficult or impossible to work. Togolese Public Works Minister, Alex Mivedor, who signed on behalf of his Government, said poor results up to present had not discouraged Togo.

DAHOMEY

Finance Minister Pascal Chabi K told newsmen in Cotonou that the 1972 budget deficit was provisionally being estimated as 1,367,491,000 CFA franc (about £2.1m). The total budget expenditure is estimated at 11,829m. CFA franc (about £18.2m), and revenue at 10,441m (about £16.1m). This estimation was keeping with previous years, said the minister. The estimate of receipts has been minimised, and that of expenditure maximised, in the hope that the year might end with a surplus. This had in fact happened in 1970, when an estimate deficit of 1,486m. (£2.25m) was converted to a surplus of 429m. CFA francs (£680,000), and in 1971 when a estimated deficit of 1,300m (£1,970,000) was turned into a surplus of 570m. (£850,000).

The estimated income is more than 12 per cent up on 1971. This will be achieved without levying more taxes but through rigorous control of public funds and improved tax-gathering. Capita raised from customs duties accounted for more than 50 per cent of receipts — over 6,000m. CFA. The government was conscious of the precariousness of such income, and was looking for more stable sources of revenue. All debts from 1971 had been taken into account in this year's forecast. State debts had in general been considerably reduced, particularly those abroad. Imports and exports were both expected to show a slight fall. The economic situation in neighbouring countries would cause the drop in imports (This is thought to refer to the level of smuggling to Nigeria from Dahomey which is known to be declining as Nigeria liberalises her import controls).

M. Chabi Kao stressed that the increase in expenditure over 1971 was partly due to the cost of reforming the educational system. This included the cost of building a new university at Abomey-Calavi and an increase in the number of state bursars. The raising of family allowances by 300 francs per child would cost the country an extra 256m. CFA francs (£400,000).

• A national consultative assembly has been set up to make suggestions to the government on economic, political and social problems. M. Paul Barbour, a former minister under President Maga before 1963 is to be its President. Members will receive no pay apart from expenses.

• A 48-hour strike by employees of the Agency for Air Safety (ASECNA) ended after the government told them their pay demands would be met, at a meeting of ministers, union leaders and ASECNA. During the strike Cotonou airport was paralysed, and passengers diverted to Lome.

• The Ministry of Finance has introduced a new section of "financial gendarmes", qualified to baccalaureat level and with "high morality" to control tax collectors.

CAMEROON

Army manoeuvres

Cooperation between civil and military authorities was successfully tested in four days of military manoeuvres codenamed "Barraucada" from January 15 to 19. Aim of the manoeuvres, set by Head of State Ahmadou Ahidjo himself, was to study for the first time the participation of the civil population alongside the armed forces in a joint defence action. An official announcement said the manoeuvres had been a complete success. Inhabitants of the regions concerned, grouped into vigilance committees set up by the ruling Cameroonian National Party, had played an effective role. Aided by this people's action, backed by elements of the Navy and Air Force, security forces comprising the Gendarmerie, Army and Police had successfully fulfilled their mission. The Head of State personally attended certain phases of the manoeuvres, accompanied by Armed Forces Minister Sadou Daoudou and senior civil and military officials.

Seven fishing businesses in Douala have expressed their severe anxiety at the coming into force on January 1 of a Nigerian government decree extending Nigeria's territorial waters to 30 nautical miles. Fisheries sources said that only bilateral agreements between Cameroon and Nigeria on the one hand and Gabon on the other could save Douala fisheries, which employ 1,000 people, from closure. Cameroon's waters are too poorly stocked with fish to provide the fisheries with business. Last February, three Cameroon fishing boats were seized in Gabonese waters, and since then Douala boats have concentrated on Nigerian waters, particularly for shrimping. Douala fisheries have 23 trawlers and 15 shrimp boats. From July 1970 to the end of June 1971 they fished 15,700 tons of fresh fish and 800 tons of shrimps. Shrimp exports to the US brought in 1.5m.

Cameroon Airlines are to receive a loan of \$10,400,000 from the US Export-Import Bank. The money will go towards the \$26m cost of two Boeing 737 and a 707. The Bank has also authorised financial guarantees from private sources amounting to \$9,360,000. The sources are yet to be named. The first Boeing is due for delivery in July and the other two in October. The loans are repayable in 20 half-year instalments starting February 15, 1973.

GABON

President Bongo is to take personal command of Gabon's Air Force on April 1 to ensure that it is equipped to carry out its main task — defending the country against both external and internal threats. Making the announcement, M Bongo explained that he was making the move in his capacity of Chief of the Armed Forces.

He also announced that five men jailed for plotting against the State had been

freed on probation. Top of the list was ex-paratrooper commando Lieutenant Jean Essone, who received 20 years' hard labour in 1964 as a leader of an abortive coup d'etat against M. Bongo's predecessor, the late President Leon Mba. M. Bongo said 1972 would be "the year of justice and pardon — firm justice for the guilty and clemency for those who have paid for their offences, expressing regret and wishing to rejoin the national community".

- The Minister of Finance, M. Augustin Boumah, put out a statement refuting "uncontrolled rumours" that the CFA franc was going to be "unlinked" with the French franc. The minister recalled that the African members of the franc zone had reaffirmed to the International Monetary Fund their will to retain the present parity of their money with the French franc, and threatened any such rumour mongers with severe penalties.

- To secure respect by foreign fishing boats of the new 30-mile limit to territorial waters, Gabon is acquiring gunboats and a coastguard vessel equipped with torpedoes.

MAURITANIA

Following his visit to Senegal, President Ould Daddah said he was highly pleased with the visit, which took him to Thies and Ziguinchor as well as Dakar, and that existing bilateral relations would be strengthened. He also said that President Senghor's proposal for "dialogue on dialogue" with South Africa might be placed on the agenda for the next OAU summit. At the end of the visit a cooperation committee was set up to study common problems, providing for regular ministerial meetings.

President Ould Daddah also said that Spanish Sahara might be decolonised on a regional basis after the agreement reached in 1970 by Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania, all of which had claims on the territory. If Spain sincerely wanted to negotiate, it would be dealing with a single African spokesman, said the President. His statement came a week after a meeting of foreign ministers of Mauritania, Algeria and Morocco in Algiers to hasten the "action programme" for decolonisation of the territory. Heads of State from the three countries are to meet in Rabat in the second half of March.

During the Algiers meeting, the Canary Islands Independence Movement (MPAIAC) put out a statement that Madrid would never accept a pacific solution to the Sahara question, and that it was necessary to regroup "Canarian and Saharan" forces. The party called for the creation of a federation between the two territories.

Subsequently the Mauritanian President received the Spanish Foreign Minister Sr Lopez Bravo. The talks dealt with cooperation between the two countries, but the Spanish Sahara question was also mentioned. The Minister then went to Morocco before returning to

Spain. According to the government in Rabat, *El Anbaa*, the visit was an opportunity to discuss the Spanish Sahara question, and help "define the stage of an urgent solution". Morocco hoped Madrid government would "reaffirm Moroccan claims into consideration regard to the recovery of its Sahara, reestablish its sovereignty over a part forming part of its national territory".

SENEGAL—GUINEA

The meeting of the OAU Council of Heads of State to reconcile Guinea and Senegal due to meet in Monrovia January 31, was postponed. No new date was fixed, but President Touré is understood to be willing to organise a meeting at short notice. This was the second postponement: it had originally been to start on January 24, but Empress Haile Selassie had asked for it to be postponed so that he could speak at the opening meeting of the UN Secretary General Addis Ababa.

The postponement followed a statement by President Sekou Touré, which he dismissed the meeting as "pointless". He had sent telegrams to seven Heads of State concerned, asking them to adopt a different tactic. The meeting was pointless because President Senghor in an interview with AFP reiterated his refusal to hand over Guineans resident in Senegal who had been involved in the abortive invasion of Guinea in 1970. Replying to President Senghor's argument that to hand over exiles would be contrary to the UN's OAU statutes, President Touré said this would not, however, contravene the resolution of the emergency meeting of the OAU in Lagos in December 1970 following the Guinea invasion. He added that the dispute with M. Senghor was personal, and suggested that before setting up its conciliation commission the OAU should reach a clear decision on the dispute. The OAU could then appoint a commission to apply the decision.

President Senghor, in his interview, said that he would never hand over Guinean refugees in Senegal to Guinea. "On the other hand I am ready to hand over to Guinea the Guineans accused by the courts here of espionage, and I accept that a Guinea embassy continues to meet in Senegal".

ZAIRE

The Minister of Justice has initiated legal proceedings against Cardinal Malo Archbishop of Kinshasa, who has been the subject of a prolonged radio campaign. He is accused of inspiring an article in *Afrique Chretienne* in which a change of name by the President Mobutu-Sese-Seko, was criticised. Pope Paul VI sent an envoy to Switzerland to discuss the issue, and the Zaire ambassador in the Vatican had an audience with the Pope on the subject. General Mobutu has also received the Co-President of the Belgian Socialist Party, Edmond Leburton, for three hours of talks.

NIGERIA:

Asika attacks élite

Rumours were being circulated by "highly placed individuals" in East Central State in an attempt to discredit the State's education policy and so cause disaffection and disorder, the Administrator, Mr. Ukpar Asika, has claimed. Warning that the government would deal ruthlessly with anyone hampering the reconstruction policy, he dismissed as "sheer nonsense" rumours that some parents were sending their children to schools in other states. Those spreading the rumour were annoyed because there were now no segregated "Grade A" schools for their children. "Because they found their children attending the same schools with those of truck-pushers and lowly-placed citizens, they think that the heavens will fall." One of the objectives of the new system was to eradicate class differences — it was these differences that had caused the intelligentsia of the former Eastern Nigeria to lead the people into the tragedy of secession and civil war. Mr. Asika said that about 60 per cent of children in the State were attending schools in their own area and an increase of 100 per cent in the school population had been achieved.

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Mr. Gilbert Nonyelu, former Federal Director of Public Prosecutions, has died in Enugu. A delegation from the Nigerian Bar Association attended the funeral.

Dr. Femi-Odeyemi, a lecturer in Lagos University's chemistry department, has been appointed manager of the Nigerian Distillers Company.

FRANCOPHONIE Mauritanian

Minister for Youth and Secondary Education M. Ba Mamadou Alassane has announced a delay in the start of the school term until February 7, and the banning of "student agitators and flowering politicians" from schools. Demonstrations, strike meetings and sit-ins have also been banned until further notice, and any acts of indiscipline towards teachers or administrative staff will be heavily punished, the minister said. Before living in boarding houses of secondary schools pupils will have to agree to abide by new internal rules.

The measures followed a partial strike at the National lycee which had threatened to turn into a major confrontation. Students had demanded the freeing of a pupil who had been arrested and charged with carrying "subversive

literature". The authorities advanced school holidays and set the pupil free. Alassane, who became Minister 1st April has been attempting to conduct a long term "dialogue" with secondary school children. He said on the radio that some of them had given irrefutable proof that their motives were political.

Following talks with President Ahmad in Yaoundé, President Senghor said his bid to settle the dispute between Cameroon and Air Afrique had had "positive results". He had been appointed by a summit of Air Afrique member states last December to intercede with Cameroon, which had left the airline in January 1971.

President Senghor went on to Bangor for talks with President Bokassa, who the same Air Afrique summit had agreed to return to the airline. In an interview with Centrafrican radio he called for the creation of a Central African Community to take over from the present Economic and Customs Union (UDEAC).

The UN Middle East negotiator, Dag Gunnar Jarring, has been in Senegal and Nouakchott for talks with President Senghor and Ould Daddah. Both were members of the OAU Middle East peace mission which met last November, and President Senghor chaired the sub-committee which visited Egypt and Israel. Reports from Dakar suggest the President Senghor hopes the mission may yet achieve the reactivation of the Jarring mission.



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NORTHBOUND: PORT GENTIL/DAKAR RANGE TO SCANDINAVIA

SOUTHERN ROUTE

SOUTHBOUND: SCANDINAVIA-ANTWERP-BORDEAUX TO POINTE NOIRE/LOBITO RANGE

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• A cargo handling company with a share capital of £750,000 is to be established by the Federal Government to work alongside private companies.

• Mr Gilbert Nonyelu, former Federal Director of Public Prosecutions, has died in Enugu. A delegation from the Nigerian Bar Association attended the funeral.

• Dr Femi-Odeyemi, a lecturer in Lagos University's chemistry department, has been appointed manager of the Nigerian Distillers Company.

FRANCOPHONIE Mauritanian

Minister for Youth and Secondary Education M. Ba Mamadou Alassane has announced a delay in the start of the school term until February 7, and the banning of "student agitators and flowering politicians" from schools. Demonstrations, strike meetings and sit-ins have also been banned until further notice, and any acts of indiscipline towards teachers or administrative staff will be heavily punished, the minister said. Before living in boarding houses of secondary schools pupils will have to agree to abide by new internal rules.

The measures followed a partial strike at the National lycée which had threatened to turn into a major confrontation. Students had demanded the freeing of a pupil who had been arrested and charged with carrying "subversive

literature". The authorities advanced the school holidays and set the pupil free M. Alassane, who became Minister 1st April, has been attempting to conduct a long-term "dialogue" with secondary school-children. He said on the radio that some of them had given irrefutable proof that their motives were political.

• Following talks with President Ahidjo in Yaoundé, President Senghor had agreed to his bid to settle the dispute between Cameroon and Air Afrique which had had "positive results". He had been appointed by a summit of Air Afrique member states last December to intercede with Cameroon, which had left the airline in January 1971.

President Senghor went on to Bangui for talks with President Bokassa, who, at the same Air Afrique summit had agreed to return to the airline. In an interview with Central African radio he called for the creation of a Central African Community, to take over from the present Economic and Customs Union (UDEAC).

• The UN Middle East negotiator, Dr Gunnar Jarring, has been in Senegal and Nouakchott for talks with Presidents Senghor and Ould Daddah. Both were members of the OAU Middle East peace mission which met last November, and President Senghor chaired the sub-committee which visited Egypt and Israel. Reports from Dakar suggest that President Senghor hopes the mission may yet achieve the reactivation of the Jarring mission.



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