

WEST AFRICA

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GOWON VISITS IN STATE

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This week General Gowon is making the first state visit ever made to London by a Commonwealth African leader. And while Heads of State queue up for such invitations to London, on this occasion it is the host rather than the guest who has been the suitor. There can now be no question that in Black Africa Nigeria is politically the most important country and economically the country with the greatest potentiality. And by a happy chance General Gowon's visit takes place just after he has been unanimously elected Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, a recognition both of Nigeria's importance and of his own stature in Africa. He is, too, attached to the Commonwealth ideal and the British Government has had cause to be grateful for Nigeria's constructive role in Commonwealth conferences, and may be grateful again. It is important, also, that this is the first visit the General has made as Head of State outside Africa.

If the invitation to London symbolises Nigeria's new importance, it also recognises General Gowon's personal qualities. No victorious leader in civil war has ever shown more magnanimity, or has stood so firmly by his undertakings to the defeated. The Wilson Government endangered its domestic political position by its support of General Gowon's cause. He never gave it any reason to regret that support.

There will, no doubt, still be those in Britain who, unlike the Ibos whom they claim to champion, believe that General Gowon represents some form of "Northern domination". In fact he represents, if anything, the opposite. In his appointments in the armed forces, in the



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cabinet, in the civil service, in the diplomatic service, and in the statutory corporations, no trace can be found of the domination of any section of Nigerians. The creation of the 12 new states which ended the chief cause of imbalance in the old federation, the domination by the former Northern Region, will be his great legacy as an architect of a new Nigeria. Although when civilian rule returns problems will arise which may overwhelm the first civilian rulers, the new states still offer stability of a kind which under the former civilian regime seemed impossible.

Symbolically, then, the visit is both welcome and likely to be successful. From a practical point of view it may be less important than is a state visit from a ruler whose country is not bound to Britain by the innumerable ties which exist between Britain and Nigeria. General Gowon can himself emphasise to Mr. Heath the importance Nigeria attaches to the ending of the Smith regime in Rhodesia — without the Pearce report his visit could not have taken place. Mr. Heath can mention his government's disappointment at Nigeria's refusal to admit British journalists even when they have valid visas, and the harm that this practise does to Britain-Nigeria relations. As we have previously suggested, the General may have discussions about possible British military assistance.

But this is an occasion not for negotiation or even detailed discussion. It is an occasion for Britain to honour a friend, and to pay respect to one of the world's most enlightened rulers.

General Gowon's Programme

Tuesday, June 12

12.30 p.m. Arrival at Victoria Station to be greeted by The Queen.

12.40 p.m. Carriage procession to Buckingham Palace via Hudson's Place, Wilton Road, Victoria Street, Parliament Square (West and North Sides), Whitehall, Admiralty Arch.

4.30 p.m. Visit to Westminster Abbey to lay a Wreath on the Grave of the Unknown Warrior.

5.00 p.m. Address of Welcome from the Chairman and Members of the Greater London Council and the Lord Mayor of the City of Westminster at St. James's Palace.

5.30 p.m. General Gowon and Mrs. Gowon visit Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

8.30 p.m. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh give a State Banquet.

Wednesday, June 13

10.30 a.m. General Gowon receives at St. James's Palace, the High Commissioners and Heads of Missions, travelling to and from Buckingham Palace in a Carriage Procession.

11.30 a.m. General Gowon visits No. 10 Downing Street for discussions with Mr. Heath.

1.00 p.m. The Prime Minister gives a Luncheon.

2.30 p.m. General Gowon visits the Royal College of Defence Studies, Belgrave Square.

5.00 p.m. Press Reception at Nigeria House.

7.25 p.m. Banquet given by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London in Guildhall.

Thursday, June 14

10.55 a.m. Visit to Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and Staff College, Camberley.

5.30 p.m. General Gowon attends a Reception given by the West Africa Committee and the British Nigeria Association at the Connaught Rooms.

8.30 p.m. Banquet given by Their Excellencies in honour of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh at the Savoy Hotel.

OUA 10th ANNIVERSARY

Unfinished business

From Michael Wolfers

ADDIS ABABA

General Gowon, as stand-in for the OAU chairman, the King of Morocco, has the duty of receiving the title deeds of the OAU's headquarters building and land in Addis Ababa. It is not clear if the Emperor had planned this gesture anyway, but its timing was shrewd: after the Libyan call for the resiting of OAU headquarters in a capital which had no diplomatic relations with Israel, and the Emperor's handing over of the land of the building defused much of the agitation.

Like the OAU ministers' meeting at the anniversary meeting, the tenth OAU assembly of Heads of State and Government was very much a Nigerian show, but it was very nearly so. According to delegates at the annual heads of delegation meeting to elect the new chairman — who was to be General Gowon — there was a rival candidate usual for the election of the secretary-general to be arranged in advance of careful soundings at delegate level in Addis Ababa. Contentious negotiations, particularly between Ethiopia and the Somali Republic and between Ethiopia and Libya, had taken up so much time behind the scenes that some procedural questions had not been settled.

The absence of the King of Morocco put General Gowon, at King Hassan's request, in the chair for the anniversary meeting and on the Sunday morning (May 27) it fell to the heads of delegation to decide on the new chairman. It had earlier been expected that General Gowon would carry on, but the Sudanese nominated President Nyerere, and Niger seconded him. President Tolbert would himself have been a strong candidate, nominated General Gowon and President Hainani Diouf seconded General Gowon, still in the chair was now in a highly embarrassing and potentially awkward situation. He adjourned the meeting for consultation. During the adjournment, a great amount of lobbying went on and the delegation estimated that 28 votes were available for Nyerere out of the 41 that was, however, reluctance to force an election.

The difficulty was that it was felt that it was the "turn" of the English-speaking members to have the chairmanship, and while there was no animosity against General Gowon personally, some delegations were not happy that Nigeria should have chaired the Ministerial Council. Dr. Okoi Aribo, the Commissioner for External Affairs was

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chairman — and should now go on to chair the summit meeting.

After the adjournment, a contest was avoided when President Nyerere stood down, saying that he, too, found the situation embarrassing and was willing to serve Africa in any capacity. He was chosen senior vice-chairman of the current year. Other vice-chairmen were: Togo, Gabon, Mauritius, Lesotho, Mali, Dahomey, Upper Volta, and Tunisia. When the summit meeting was formally opened on the Sunday evening there was scarcely a sign that the chairman's election had not passed smoothly.

President Tolbert initially took the chair. President Diouf proposed General Gowon for chairman, and proposed the nine vice-chairmen. Mr. Tolbert then, without calling for a seconder, ruled from the chair that thunderous applause indicated that the election of the bureau was the unanimous wish of the members. General Gowon then assumed the chair, and to much laughter said, "May I call upon the chairman-elect to take the rostrum please." His speech gave away one clue: he thanked Mr. Tolbert for nominating him: when the audience had just heard President Diouf make the nomination; but presumably he was alluding to the proceedings in the closed session. Later General Gowon extended courtesies to his rival by allowing President Nyerere to take the chair at the first closed session on Monday.

General Gowon's chairmanship was brisk and after a late and unpromising start the conference ended only half a day later than expected, and with a much higher measure of agreement than seemed likely at the outset. At a post-summit press conference, General Gowon spoke of a "blanket of doubt and despondency over our work at the initial stage." He added: "Typically the gathering dark clouds quickly dispersed when the blazing African sun began to shine and reflect on our happy faces." Shorn of rhetoric, this meant that the OAU had found a formula for coping with the Ethio-Somali dispute, had postponed the Libyan challenge on the permanent location of the OAU Secretariat, and had deferred dealing with the Burundi-Rwanda problem. In the margins of the conference, a useful improvement had been made on relations between Uganda and Tanzania with a kind of non-intervention agreement.

The anniversary encouraged the penchant of veteran Francophone leaders for grandiloquent set pieces. President Leopold Sedar Senghor of Senegal, was a model of opaque philosophising. Those who heard his speech at the Addis Ababa meeting two years ago, and at Rabat last year, were able to see the continued thread of argument, as if the three speeches had been planned long ago as a unity. In a delicate flourish he added to his prepared text a citation from a Tunisian intellectual, Dr Aziza, who has recently become head of the OAU Information Division in place of Mr. Abdennour Arrbiou, now at the UN. President Houphouët-Boigny was true to

form, with a careful exposition of economic problems, and even a revival of his notion of dialogue with South Africa.

On the liberation front, the absence of Dr. Amílcar Cabral, assassinated leader of PAIGC, was much commented on and genuine tribute was paid to him. The liberation movement leaders were rather eclipsed by the junketing. It fell to Dr. Aghostino Neto, President of MPLA, to speak for them at the anniversary, after much manoeuvring between the various movements. He was listened to with great respect, but seemed unable to kindle the excitement which followed Dr. Cabral's subtle analyses at past meetings.

A fresh voice came to the anniversary meeting in Major Mathieu Kérékou, the new military leader in Dahomey. He, with all the exuberance and excitement of a new boy, lectured and almost hectorated his colleagues with warnings that their methods were cumbersome and that the same resolutions were passed in meeting after meeting with little real thought and without serious intention of their being carried out. He called for more efficient methods of working. The Heads of State,



Kérékou: A fresh voice

far from taking umbrage at being told what to do by this fairly young man, included the Dahomeyan leader as one of the nine vice-chairmen for the year.

The assembly adopted the key declarations on general policy and on co-operation, development and economic independence (the latter document had been hammered out at Abidjan earlier in May). At summit level the most difficult political question was that of the Middle East. Discussions saw a tendency to polarisation between what are loosely called the African and the Arab states. The Middle East section in the general policy statement is fairly mild, and some African states, as many as half by some accounts, were asking if this was really an African problem. Togo is said to have talked of it being introduced "surreptitiously", and Malawi would have preferred to exclude it altogether. The summit meeting passed a separate Middle East resolution which called for action against Israel, but did not require breaking off relations. African reaction was that the Arab states should not ask for more support than the African states could afford to give.

The ending of the conference left a substantial number of political and

diplomatic tasks to be accomplished many of which will fall on Nigeria. General Gowon has said that he will follow the tradition of OAU chairman and go to New York in the autumn for the UN General Assembly to present the OAU view on the Middle East. Under the Middle East resolution, the current chairman is entrusted with the task of presenting Africa's views to the General Assembly. The foreign ministers of Nigeria, Chad, Tanzania, Guinea, and Algeria, with African Security Council members will be the OAU spokesmen at the Middle East at the UN generally.

Nigeria is a member of the "Committee of Good Offices", set up to deal with the border dispute between Ethiopia and the Somali Republic. The other members are Cameroon, Lesotho, Liberia, Senegal, Mauritania, Sudan, and Tanzania (eight in all). The terms of references are to remove tension and to assist the two parties in settling their dispute peacefully. The committee is to report to the assembly as it feels necessary; its establishment was agreed only after a series of skirmishes through news conferences between Ethiopian and Somali ministers. General Gowon, who has appealed to reporters not to delve too deeply into the matter, expects that the committee will, after soundings, hold a meeting in Khartoum. The Burundi-Rwanda differences, which aroused much less anxiety, are left in the hands of the bureau.

Although General Gowon has always shown himself a staunchly conventional interpreter of the OAU charter — a mark of gratitude for the OAU's largely non-interventionist approach to the Nigerian civil war — he made no attempt, as far as can be judged, to choke discussion of sensitive but material issues at the meeting. At a time when there was some pressure in the corridors to exclude the Libyan and Somali grievances, General Gowon permitted them to be aired under "any other business", which allowed for debate without a battle over their formal inclusion on the agenda. The timing meant that the issues came up for consideration in the hectic last hours of a late night summit session, but after time had allowed for typical OAU diplomacy to take its effect.

In the middle of one evening closed session, General Gowon allowed in photographers to photograph — without explanation — the Emperor shaking hands with General Mohamed Siad Barre, President of the Somali Republic. Reporters also then crowded into the press gallery, and General Gowon had to send them quickly away. He believes strongly in the OAU's by now traditional view that everything is kept secret until the last possible moment, when agreement can be shown. Unfortunately, OAU sessions even behind closed doors provide a constant series of leaks and of partisan statements. The announcement of successes tends to lag behind what General Gowon had termed the "blanket of doubt and despondency".



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Portrait of the General

From a Correspondent

When he suddenly became Nigeria's Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces six years ago, Lieutenant-Colonel Yakubu Gowon was little known even in Nigeria outside the ranks of the army, to which he had gone straight from his secondary school. Within a year, he was leading the Federal forces in the campaign to crush the eastern secession. It was not long before he became an international figure, exalted in some countries by people who knew nothing of him or of Nigeria's problems, but gaining increasing respect among people in Africa and elsewhere who realised how difficult was his task and how high were the ideals he brought to it.

With the end of the war, he could find time to symbolise by visits to other parts of Africa the new importance and power, which Nigeria had gained in the continent. His slight figure and smiling face are now known in capital cities all over the continent. His position, and Nigeria's, are finally confirmed by his election last month as chairman for this year of the Organisation of African Unity. The 38 year old General has gone a very long way since, as a 32 year old Lieutenant-Colonel, he first took the centre of the Nigerian stage.

Yakubu Gowon was born in October 1934 at Pankshin among the Angas people of the northern Plateau. His father, whose fifth son he was, had been one of the first among his people to become a Christian and was an evangelist. After Yakubu's birth the family had to move to the settlement for Christian converts established outside Zaria city walls by Dr Miller. There the General's father recently died and there his mother still lives. At Zaria secondary school, Yakubu obtained his Senior Cambridge in 1953 and the following year carried out the ambition he had formed to join the Nigerian Army.

As a secondary school boy he was at once selected for officer training and in 1955 went to Eaton Hall, Cheshire, before entering Sandhurst. After Sandhurst there was another British army course. He returned to Nigeria to be posted as a second lieutenant to the Fourth Battalion at Ibadan. His first taste of active service came as a platoon commander in 1960, when it was found necessary to use the Nigerian army to patrol the Nigerian-Cameroon border. He was the first Nigerian to be appointed adjutant of the Fourth Battalion, and with it saw service in the UN Force in the Congo. His promotion had been rapid and in 1963, as a lieutenant-colonel, he became Adjutant-General of the Nigerian Army.

He was one of the senior officers whom the majors who attempted the coup in January 1966 would have murdered. But he was not in army quarters at the time, he had just come from a course in Pakistan and had not resumed duty, so he escaped.

The consequences of this for Nigeria have been enormous. When the army erupted again in July 1966, and General Aguiya-Ironsi was killed, it was Gowon, now Army Chief of Staff, and a member of the Supreme Military Council and Central Executive Council, whom the Northern mutineers demanded should take over. Yet they were installing in power, and as Commander-in-Chief, not a Muslim from the far North but a Christian who, although fully understanding and sympathising with the special institutions of Northern Nigeria, was in no way dedicated to their preservation. He was also, in the best sense, "detribalised", and was bitterly disappointed that the army, which he revered as a national institution, had itself succumbed to tribalism.

In the brief period between January and July 1966, Gowon was one of the officers who did much to restore discipline in an army which, it had seemed, had lost its morale. Again, after the July army upheaval, restoration of discipline was the first thing. Although some soldiers participated in the September massacres of civilians, and although there was a long period when relations between civilians and soldiers were very hostile, by the time of the rebel secession in 1967 the still small Federal army was ready to take the field.

During the whole of the fighting one had the impression that the bulk of the Nigerian rank and file, mostly from what used to be called the "Middle Belt", had really heeded the Commander-in-Chief's injunctions to observe discipline and to protect civilians. He was even criticised for "going slow" in the campaign in order to protect civilians. He always hoped that it would never be necessary to pursue the war to an end. He was always confident, too, that if Ojukwu were removed, the Federal High Command could easily come to terms with the senior officers left on the rebel side. This hope was fulfilled when Col



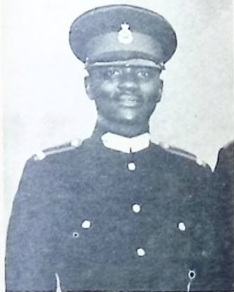
The wedding in 1969

Ehiong, to whom Ojukwu had handed over, said on his arrival at Dodan Barracks for the surrender, "Col. Ehiong, Sir, reporting for redeployment".

In 1969, during the war, the General married in a quiet ceremony Miss Victoria Zakari, who came from Wusasa, near Zaria. She too, was an Anglean, who completed her secondary education at Queen of Apostles Secondary School in Kaduna. She was admitted to the School of Nursing, University of Ibadan, in 1965, from where she qualified as a nurse. She is the third child in a family of 10, and her father, Mr. W. H. E. Zakari, was a civil servant in the Ministry of Works. The Gowons now have two children, a son, Ibrahim, and a daughter, Saratu. Mrs. Gowon, who accompanies her husband on the State visit, maintains her interests in nursing, in Girl Guides and in the St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

Throughout the war and the momentous events of the peace, the General has remained his calm, confident and modest self. Throughout he was convinced that the secessionist leaders had not only tried to establish a dictatorship over the non-Ibo peoples of the former Eastern Region, but kept the Ibos themselves in line through terror. "They must not be allowed to learn that there are now more Ibos on our side of the line than on theirs", he said during the war "and that these are happily setting about restoring their lives with our help".

During and after the war General Gowon spoke passionately of his desire to welcome Ibos back into the Federation. He was always certain that they would become full and happy citizens of a united Nigeria. He was particularly pleased by the good relations between the Federal and the rebel soldiers. "I have been most impressed by the happy almost joking, relations which you find between the rebel boys and our own when they lie side by side in our hospitals. If they can get on so well after having wounded each other, why must it be assumed that the sad events of 1966



Col. Gowon at Sandhurst

was typical of a permanent situation? "He did not allow the rebel soliders, much less the civilians, to be referred to as the enemy. "They are fellow countrymen, misled by a clique."

What is the General's future when Nigeria returns to civilian rule, as he has undertaken, in 1976? Few Nigerians can imagine their country not offering an important role for General Gowon. But whether he "returns to barracks" to continue his work for Black Africa's biggest army or whether he is persuaded to fulfill a political or ceremonial role, his legacies to Nigeria are already significant.

First he has symbolised the remarkable reconciliation between the Ibos and the rest of Nigeria, and no Nigerian is now more popular among the Ibos. Although the propaganda stories about the Federal Government's intention of "genocide" were always baseless, it was above all General Gowon who ensured that during and after the fighting the army should be seen not as the enemy but as the benefactor of the Ibos.

The army itself, although much re-training and re-organisation remains to be done, is in far better shape than anybody had expected it would be at this time. As head of government some people have found him indecisive and slow to make decisions. In fact, the remarkable thing is that this young soldier, who before had no experience of political or civilian affairs, has been able to perform a remarkable balancing act in a country where rigid control and an absolutely clear cut chain of command are impossible.

General Gowon has to his credit another military achievement, little recognised. Although he himself was made Major-General during the war, that was a lowly rank for the Commander-in-Chief of a quarter of a million men, and all promotions were held back so that the Nigerian army finished the war with one General and a few Brigadiers. Even since then, although he himself has become a full General, only four other officers have become Generals, so that the Nigerian army probably has the lowest proportion of Generals to other ranks of any army in the world. This policy has applied to all ranks so that when the war ended, Nigeria was not left with a huge surplus of officers who either had to drop their ranks or leave the army, and it still can offer plentiful promotion to the ambitious.

His great political legacy, however, will always be the creation of the twelve States out of the four former Regions. Not only have the new states been more successful administratively and economically than was thought possible; they seem likely to ensure that when civilian rule returns, the greatest weakness of the old federation is avoided. No single state, or single group, will be able to dominate the whole federation as the former Northern Region used to do. Creation of the states was the General's own policy, and the details were drawn up in his own office in close consultation with him. The states could only have been created by military decree and in their creation he showed complete decisiveness. They are a worthy memorial.

WESTERN STATE BUDGET

Cocoa leaves a gap

from a correspondent

Because the Western State has inherited a relatively highly developed social service from the former Western Region, its rate of current expenditure is very high. This makes it difficult to find a budget surplus for capital expenditure. Moreover, in the last financial year the low world price of cocoa, meant, in the Commissioner of Finance, Mr. T.M. Akpan, pointed out, that the government had lost its "traditional source" of financial support. Moreover in 1972, 224,000 tons of cocoa were exported as against 284,000 tons recorded in the previous year. The Military Governor, Mr. Rotimi, pointed out in his budget speech.

Although the capital programme was reasonably small it was not even wholly carried out due to lack of executive capacity and shortage of construction materials. The Government estimates that the 1972-73 budget envisaged revenue of 75 bn. naira and expenditure of 62.2 bn. naira leaving a surplus of 12.8 bn. naira was to be transferred to the Capital Expenditure and Development Fund. This year

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figures showed that estimates of recurrent revenue had been revised to 74.6m. naira while expenditure rose to 76m. naira. Underpending on capital account, said the Governor, was therefore likely to be more than matched by overpending on current account.

The recently announced budget for 1973-74 is the Western State's largest to date. Indeed it could well be the largest in the Federation. A total of 106.53m. naira is budgeted for recurrent services and capital projects, an increase of about 25 per cent on the previous year. Recurrent revenue will be 72.5m. naira and, says Governor Rotimi, "recurrent expenditure has been tailored, with considerable difficulty, to correspond to this". Estimated capital receipts are 34m. naira and are expected to be spent on capital projects of an equivalent amount.

Because "it is becoming increasingly difficult to find recurrent budget surpluses to finance the capital programme" the Western State "has to rely on Federal loans and grants and external borrowing, both of which must necessarily be small in size because they are shared by all state governments". Just over 52 per cent (17.7m. naira) of 34m. naira capital expenditure is allocated to the economic sector as opposed to 44 per cent in the previous year. 41 per cent goes to the social sector compared with 47 per cent and the remaining seven per cent goes to administration.

Governor Rotimi noted that the reform in the Marketing Board system agreed by all state governments meant that sales tax and export duty had been replaced by a single produce tax of 10 per cent *ad valorem*. He called for sacrifice because "under the new arrangements, the amount claimable as subsidies from the Federal Government in lieu of export duties will be lower than what would have been collected if the duties had not been abolished". Furthermore the reform would make it unlikely that the Marketing Board would be able to continue to make grants for capital development.

Of money allocated to the economic sector the largest slice goes to transport - 8m. naira or 24 per cent. The Western State is placing a high priority on the construction of roads and bridges to provide infrastructure for development.

Agriculture has stagnated in the Western State. This the Commissioner for Finance blames partly on regular crop smuggling, bad weather and the "continued deserting of the rural areas by the younger members of the potential farming population". The Government has, therefore, allocated 637,130 naira for food production this year and, so that cocoa production does not drop further, 1,480,000 naira has been provided to improve the yield of and rehabilitate cocoa. The Western State is also exploring the possibility of a new agreement with the World Bank for an expanded cocoa development project in view of the "reasonable success" of the first phase of the existing World Bank project.

Governor Rotimi said that he was satisfied that farmers in all Divisions were taking full advantage of loans for the promotion of food and cash crops, which was being administered by the Western Nigeria Agricultural and Industrial Investment Corporation. He also hoped that palm oil and palm kernel production, which had shown a similar decline, would increase.

Because of the lack of infrastructure and the absence of feasibility studies, the industrial sector of the Western State Development Plan has lagged behind. The Governor said that there had also been difficulties in "identifying genuine foreign technical partners" and an inability on the part of Nigerian entrepreneurs to form partnerships with the government. The Western State has begun a general industrial survey. It also plans to reorganise the Ministry of Industry and is studying recommendations,

some of which have already been implemented, of the Economic Intelligence Unit which investigated the activities of some corporations and state-owned companies. On the I.I.U.'s advice the Western Nigeria Development Corporation and the Western Nigeria Agricultural and Industrial Investment Corporation will be dissolved and three new corporations - the Agricultural Investment Corporation, the Agricultural Credit Corporation and the Industrial Investment and Credit Corporation - will be set up. The EIU also recommended re-organisation at the National Bank of Nigeria. "In this connection, swift and prompt action has been taken to remove a number of corrupt senior employees and to mete out to them the punishment they deserve". The Government also "rescued" the Western Textile Industries Company of Ado-Ekiti, with a loan of 945,552 naira. This company had not been investigated by the Economist Intelligence Unit.

One important point in this year's budget is the 7.6m. naira allocation for construction of roads and bridges. Some 158 miles of existing roads will be reconstructed and another 92 miles rehabilitated. Contracts amounting to nearly 17m. naira have been awarded for bringing up to international standard 112 miles of road, with World Bank assistance.

Lion's Share

Education continues to take the lion's share of Government's allocative resources. 21,762,610 naira, over 30 per cent of total recurrent budget is allocated to maintenance of existing educational services. Of this 16m. naira goes in grants to voluntary agency schools. On the capital side education takes 4,983,240 naira. The sub-allocations show 2,455,200 naira going to the University of Ife and 594,360 naira to the Polytechnic at Ibadan. "The present and future financing of our education services, particularly primary education, continues to be a source of grave anxiety to Government," said Mr. Akko, the Finance Commissioner.

3.7m. naira is to be spent on water supply to rural and urban areas. "But for the financial constraint which the government is experiencing it would have been possible to supply all the 25 administrative divisions with adequate water supplies", said the Governor.

The financial position of most local government councils has been bad for a long time. Governor Rotimi recalled that the 114 local authorities were regrouped into 39, and this took effect from April. Tenement rating has long been a subject of discussion, and the Governor thought that the time had come for it to be introduced. All revenue collected under the scheme will go to local government councils. The Federal Government has also made 1.5m. naira available as a revolving loan for local councils for commercial projects.

Commercially-oriented statutory corporations will be given a freer hand and a special unit set up in the governor's office. It will not be part of the civil service but will be directly responsible to the Governor. Because of this the Statutory Corporations Service Commission will be abolished.

But perhaps the last word should remain with the Commissioner of Finance who told a press briefing, "We know our people would have wished to see us do more, to build more roads, more hospitals and more water supplies. But unfortunately, what we have put in this programme is all that our proven financial resources can support at this time. At the same time we continue to extend the tax net to embrace the less patriotic members of our community who evade tax". He urged businessmen, "Help us mobilise public opinion against the big spenders and corrupters of our society who also are also the big tax evaders."



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GHANA

Search for the third partner: 2

If a partner can be found to take up the holding in the Bascol consortium abandoned by the American firm of Reynolds, development of Ghana's vast bauxite deposits at Kibi could become a practical proposition. In last week's issue a correspondent examined the project from a commercial viewpoint, but explained that even if the new partner could be found to take up the 30 per cent Reynolds holding in the 70 per cent of the enterprise held by private firms (30 per cent is held by the government), there would still be a number of local problems to be solved before production could begin. These problems our correspondent discusses in this article.

The estimated cost of opening up mining and establishing an alumina plant is some \$150m. The external partners could find that. But they would have to justify the project to banks or institutions from whom they would have to borrow. Here the world market prospects, not for bauxite or alumina but for aluminium, would be crucial. There are, too, costs which might be essential for the project's success but for which the partners may feel that they should not be entirely responsible.

The amount of these costs would depend mostly on the location of the alumina plant. In keeping with the policy of dispersal of industry, which most African governments follow, the Ghana government might wish the alumina plant to be located at Kibi itself. But an appraisal of economic factors might indicate that the best site was at Tema port, near the Valco smelter. If the government still insisted that the plant should be at Kibi — a very natural policy — who would compensate the consortium for the extra cost? Kibi is less than 100 miles by rail from Tema, which must be the main port for the project. The bauxite deposits are just under 20 miles from the existing railway, so that there is no crippling expensive new railway line to be built. But the existing line to Tema is incapable of carrying the heavy traffic of bauxite from the new mine (if the alumina plant is established at Tema) or even the lesser volume of traffic (three tons of bauxite make about one ton of alumina) if the plant is at Kibi, to which essential imports will also have to be carried. Who will pay for the rail extension and the strengthening of the existing railway to Tema? In theory Ghana's Railway Corporation should welcome the increased traffic, and pay for development. In practice there is no prospect of this.

Precedents suggest the World Bank or its affiliate, the International Finance Corporation, as sources of funds. Recent World Bank loans for sugar production in Ghana show that the Bank might still put money into the country. Finding funds for the railway should not be an obstacle to development of the project.

That, however, is not the end. If the alumina plant was at Tema there would be housing problems for the staff. But this is a city of over a hundred thousand people which can absorb and house, somehow, the construction workers, and the regrettably much fewer workers who

would operate the alumina plant. If the plant was at Kibi, the problem of housing the miners (since the bauxite is near the surface it would really, however, be a transport operation) would be much more serious.

Nor is this the end. Alumina production needs relatively little electric power compared with aluminium production. But it requires vast quantities of water. These would be available at Tema. Are they at Kibi? And if not, who will pay for bringing water there if the government decides that the plant must be at Kibi?

Alumina production results in enormous quantities of waste, of a kind which cannot easily be turned into productive soil. Kaisers themselves in Jamaica have produced dairy cattle pasture and marketing gardening areas on land reclaimed from bauxite mining. But they have still had to dispose of the inert waste. The obvious dumping place for this is the unhappy sea, which is expected to solve so many of industrialised man's problems. If the plant was at Tema, its waste could be piped way out to sea, to a point where, in theory, it would settle down and harm nobody. If the plant was at Kibi, there would be a more serious problem, since the waste from perhaps three million tons of bauxite a year would amount to almost some one million tons — a frightening amount of inert material to distribute.

A complex "Master-Agreement" between all parties to the project would be necessary, covering a fairly long period. In the end it might still be more profitable for Valco to import alumina and for Ghana to leave its bauxite in the ground until world supplies run out, making Ghana's bauxite infinitely valuable. In the meantime, however, one feels that fiendishly ingenious scientists — and there is a hint of this already — will have found a substitute for bauxite for the production of aluminium. Press on with the bauxite and alumina project, seems to be the best advice to the present regime. Ghana has already lost too many years, and this is trade, not aid, and a development of self-reliance. The news that agreement has been reached with British Aluminium and Reynolds (which has a major holding in British Aluminium) over the government take-over of the British Aluminium mine, is no guarantee that outside investors will now look more favourably on Ghana. But it is at least a sign.

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CAN AFRICA DEVELOP?

It is nowadays almost a commonplace among many of the younger generation of economists concerned with the so-called (but not by them) "under-developed countries" — of Africa, Latin America, much of Asia, some peripheral parts of Europe such as Portugal — that growth is not by any means necessarily the same thing as development. "More" may, he better. But in these countries, on a long view of things, "more" is far likelier not to be better, and even worse. The decision in any case will turn upon the nature of the overall economic system within which a country is placed by history at any given period.

Placed within the world capitalist system by colonial rule, and then retained within it after political decolonisation, the mere growth of their existing economies cannot, on this view, solve the problems of development of Africa's countries, or of others in the same general posture. If Ghana produces far more cocoa every year than during the 1950s, not to speak of the 1940s, this "more" has not solved the problems of Ghana's development as a balanced and

progressive society. On the contrary, growth here has gone together with a deepening economic crisis, general to most "primary producers", that is seen most obviously in the growing weight of foreign debt.

Yet the growth of indebtedness, quite aside from any particular blunders in borrowing (and Dr Busia's short-term borrowing spree was one of the more egregious) is only a symptom of the crisis that afflicts Ghana and countries in her position. The origins of this crisis have to be sought elsewhere. They lie, essentially, in Ghana's relationship with the world economic system in which history has placed her — a relationship that has induced an enduring and even heroic effort to increase her exports of primary produce. This maximisation of exports was preached by all the most influential of Ghana's economic advisers both before 1957 and after that date, and their argument was a misleadingly simple one. Let an "under-developed country" only maximise exports. Then there would appear the means of capital accumulation. This would modernise the country and so, by degrees, achieve that

most desirable "take off" into the era of all-round industrial expansion such as the "metropolitan countries" have achieved long before. The problem of development would be solved.

The essence of this siren's song was that a maximalisation of exports could induce conditions under which an independent capitalist system would emerge. Reliance on the growth of existing exports, it was affirmed, could thus transform a country's system from dependence to independence, so that Ghana, for example, could "overtake" the poorer Europe's countries, Portugal, and then proceed to "overtake" the rest. The argument was attacked at the time, but mainly on an intuitive or ideological basis. Now, with the work of "Third World" economists who stand outside the framework of existing orthodoxies, the attack is far more securely founded. But this attack is made, moreover, at a moment when every situation shows so blatantly that the "sermon on profit" was a false one. Does anyone any longer believe — unless it be Dr. Busia — in a further maximisation of exports to transform Ghana into an economically independent country?

Among these economists there are perhaps none working on African themes who deserves more attention than Professor Samir Amin, an Egyptian who has long been director of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning in Dakar. Two years ago he published a book called *L'Afrique de la "Blonquie"* (West Africa Jammed), and one is glad to learn will be published shortly by the indispensable Pan-African Library, Samir Amin explains the reasons why West African economic growth, along present lines, does not will not mean West African development in any general and progressive sense in the term.

Running to stay in the same place

He now goes further with a new book, *Le Développement Inégal***, repeating and rephrasing some of his earlier arguments but carrying them to new points of clarity within a system concerned with the whole question of "Third World" development. In African development in particular, most African economies are only able to stay in the same place — or to prevent themselves from actually going backward, this is because they are integrated within a world system designed for the benefit of non-Africans. Must these countries therefore wait until the moment when the "metropolitan countries" emerge from capitalism to find a new system for their own use?

* Les Editions de Minuit, Paris, 1971.
** Samir Amin, *Le Développement Inégal: Essai sur les Formations du Capitalisme Périphérique*, Les Editions de Minuit, 7 rue Bernard-Laton, Paris, 1973, n.p.

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development, and with that, at last permit the true development of the "Third World"? The wait would be a long one. As Ghana's debts and other such "misfortunes" are enough to show, the world capitalist system may not "work" for the benefit of "the periphery", but it still works very well for the benefit of "the centre", and there is sound reason for thinking, as things stand now, that it may go on doing so for all the foreseeable future.

Egyptian eye for history

It is Samir Amin's thesis, as brilliantly and readably argued in this new book as were the theses of his book of 1971, that great changes of economic system do not emerge at "the centre" in this case, in the "metropolitan countries". They emerge at "the periphery" in this case, in the countries of the ex-colonial (or still colonial) world whose work and produce may be essential to "the centre", but whose well-being and progress are not. With a truly Egyptian eye for the long perspectives of history, he points out that the greatest change in system of the last millennium — the origin and growth and consummation of the capitalist system — did not emerge in the "central countries" of the Ancient World, such as China or Egypt, but in "the periphery" of backward and for long barbaric Europe.

And he goes on to show that this phenomenon of peripheral change is now in course of repeating itself, whether in Asia or Latin America or Africa, where, from vast countries such as China to small countries such as Cuba, and through the gamut of a now evolving African experience, the signs of change and crisis, actual or potential, are no longer in doubt. The centre may stand firm, otherwise, it seems, things fall apart. Sternly analytical, Samir Amin does not indulge in sentimental or romantic dreams. He thinks that the existing system may be able to win fresh life for itself in the African "periphery", for example the "centre" may now promote classical industrialism while itself entering on a second industrial revolution concerned with electronics and automation.

If so, the relationship of African dependence may change in degree but not in kind. If not, the achievement of a new system — necessarily, in the long run, a socialist system — must still be extremely difficult. For it will depend not only on the winning of a real degree of organic unity in Africa, but also, beyond that, of securing a line-up with like-minded allies among the populations of the advanced capitalist countries. Yet no mere sketch can do justice to this remarkable book. It is a book to be read — one of the most provocative and illuminating of its kind, perhaps, that anyone concerned with Africa's future may be likely to read for a long while.

Basil Davidson

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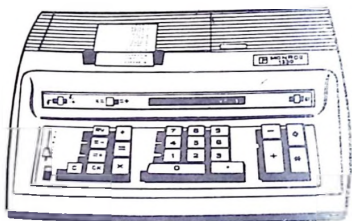
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Books and Publications

Who's that?

Ghana's *Who's Who*. Editor-in-Chief, Charles Bartels (Bartels Publications (Ghana), New Times Corporation, 23 cedis or £8.50)

How does one start to compile a "Who's Who" for a country? Charles Bartels, who is chiefly responsible for the first attempt at producing a "Who's Who" for Ghana, did the obvious thing. He sent forms to all the prominent people he could think of and asked them to give biographical details. The details he has collected cover over 150 pages and much of the information is fascinating.

One learns, for example, that among Colonel Acheampong's recreations is "listening to rebelling music", and that "soocer" is the recreation of Miss Mamata Yakubu-Tali, daughter of the Tolon-Na, who is acting Manageress of Accra's Star Hotel. Mr. Ralph Quist, it seems, was the first Ghanaian to have constructed a television set which picked up transmissions from Nigeria, the Canary Islands and Europe. And although he is best known as an electronics engineer, he was also a member of the All-Stars Band, which accompanied the late Louis Armstrong on his tour of Ghana.

Who would have thought that Henry Ofori so well known as "author and satirist" (the description he gives of himself) began his working life as a soil analyst? One is impressed, too, by the Ya-Na, Paramount Chief of Dagomba, who cultivates a 200-acre farm, by the Zuarungu-Naboo, who recalls that many years ago he acted as clerk to Dr. Meyer Fortes, when the great anthropologist was doing his research in Northern Ghana, by the unexpectedly wide international experience the spent five years at the Royal Army Medical College in London and worked both in Belfast and Australia of Major Ankrab, one of the army's senior physicians.

Nor are expatriates, whether diplomats, businessmen, or scholars, serving in Ghana, forgotten. There is Dr. Chinyanya, a lecturer in the Ghana Medical School who comes from Rhodesia, was trained in Israel, and Dr. Miller, the German Ambassador, whose degrees are in "English and French".

Unhappily, as inevitably of all such "drat's" a number of criticisms can be made.

Mr. Bartels has been too kind as an editor, and has allowed some entries to

remain far too long in relation to the importance of the person covered. It would be invidious to mention names but clearly few ordinary teachers or traders deserve as much space as the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

There are also some surprising omissions. For example, as I have noted, the Tolon-Na. Nor does the Asantehene, Otumfuo Opoku Ware II, appear. No doubt in Ghana it will be assumed that anybody who fails to fill in the biographical details requested of him does not wish to appear in the *Who's Who* and that for the editor to fill in details himself might be thought to be in bad taste. But if the job is to be done thoroughly this is what the Editor must do. At least Mr. Bartels and his associates have had the courage to start the job. In future editions they must have the courage to finish it.

As well as biographical details, the book contains a substantial amount of general information about Ghana - its people, its history, its flora and fauna, its emblems and institutions, its festivals. There is miscellaneous information covering newspapers, banks, diplomatic missions, foreign exchange rates and similar matters. Strangers will be particularly grateful for the guide to Adinkra cloth symbols and their meaning.

The book carries a number of advertisements. It is to be hoped that the number will increase in later editions so that the price can be reduced.

D. W.

The Combat by Kole Omotoso (Heinemann Educational Books, 45p. UK)

This well-written novel is among the immediate publications in the African Writers Series which includes books out of post-war Nigeria. Significantly, it is dedicated to the memory of the late Chris Okigbo, a Nigerian poet who died in the war.

The plot centres around two friends: Ojo Dada and Chuku Debe who between them sleep with one up-country girl, Mont, who becomes pregnant. The child is born and both friends claim it. This results in palaver and it requires a court to determine the rightful claimant. The court rules that Ojo Dada is the father and that Chuku Debe can marry the "unmarried mother". Neither chance is possible, for, by a curious circumstance,



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26 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT NIGERIA

Moni has become a business woman in Lagos (Dec-Madam). And true to type, she feels "she was too large now to belong to just one man. Yesterday, she was just their plaything".

Then, there must be a personal confrontation to decide the issue. Presently, passion overruns reason lending a tragic note to what otherwise is essentially a comedy.

The book is a satire dressed in the toga of fiction and Nigeria fittingly provides the setting for the social/political and moral evils exposed therein. The political system, the church, the youths, the police and belief in the native doctor - all provide the rack on which to hang the story. Society problems are discussed, even though superficially in some parts, but with such simplicity and perception that a Nigerian or African reader can be both amused and slightly teased.

Take, for instance this passage from the book "As soon as you or me or the man next there can write his name, he thinks that he must never use his hands to work. He must use his brain. Instead of his brawn. And how many of us have the required brain?"

The author devises a peculiar method of book-writing by arranging the chapters to fall under the weekdays and like the artful creator, Sunday is blank.

The story ends rather abruptly in a feast "presided over by the mangled dead body of a ten year old, whom the two men both claim as their child".

The author has some other publications to his credit. These include 'Pitched Against the Gods', (a play) and 'The Edifice'. A scholar in modern Arabic Literature, Dr. Kole Omotoso has a rosy future in the literary world.

Titus Ogunwale

People and Land in Africa South of the Sahara: Readings in Social Geography
Edited by R. Mansell Prothero (OUP £2.40).

The twenty-five papers presented here illustrate the diversity of relationships between people and land in contemporary Africa. They also show some of the ways in which indigenous agricultural systems have responded to internal and external stimuli. They discuss the establishment and continuing influence of large non-indigenous agricultural systems, particular in southern Africa.

As the editor himself points out, the majority of the papers are by geographers, but the book will be of interest and relevance to social anthropologists, scientists, political scientists and others.

One result of European contact, says the volume, has been the growth of indigenous population. And as a result, medical services, though inadequate have profoundly affected public health. Of special importance is the practice of preventive medicine which has lowered death rates, while birth rates have remained high. Consequently, it is now forecast that Africa will have the highest

rate of population growth in the world by the end of the century.

On the other hand, such growth will make it difficult even to maintain present standards of living. To alleviate existing and potential problems of population/land relationships in Africa, then, factors to be considered are population control, changes in crops, the adoption of new production techniques. So are improvements in transportation and storage methods as well as means of livelihood other than agricultural.

That academic interest was stimulated by the active research work of geographers in Africa, can be seen in the six groups in which the papers in the volume are arranged. For example, R. Mansell Prothero, the editor, in Part One of the volume write a very interesting paper on "Desiccation in North Western Nigeria". The field work on which the paper is based was undertaken when he was a research fellow of the West African Institute of Social Economic Research.

Three chapters in Part Two of this volume will probably be of tremendous interest to West African readers. M.J. Mortimore discussed Land and Population Pressure in the Kano Settled Zone, Northern Nigeria, while W.B. Morgan in his paper deals with Farming Practice, Settlement Pattern and Population density in South-Eastern Nigeria.

John M. Hunter's paper was based on "Cocoa Migration and Patterns of Land Ownership in the Densu Valley near Suhum, Ghana. His paper in Part Three also deals with Population Pressure in a part of the West African savanna, using Nangodi, Ghana as a case study.

Other papers in the volume by other eminent geographers deal with population land relationships in other parts of Africa south of the Sahara.

The essays, says the editor, are of considerable individual merit, many of which are difficult to obtain even in comprehensive library collections. He is Reader in Geography at the University of Liverpool, and has taught in Ibadan, Nigeria. He is the author of *Migrants and Malaria in Africa*, and editor of *A Geography of Africa*. This is a very scholarly volume.

Adeyemo Adekeye

Only One Earth by Barbara Ward and René Dubos (Andre Deutsch, £2.95)

This report was commissioned by the Secretary-General of the UN Conference on the Human Environment to provide a "factual background and conceptual framework" for the Conference's meeting in Stockholm in June 1972. It is unusual in having had expertise provided by a committee of almost 150 corresponding consultants from 50 countries and all branches of learning, who were available as advisers and commented on the text. But the work is still very much that of the two authors, and encapsulates all the current preoccupations with environment, ecology, pollution, etc.

K.L.

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Benue Plateau: Anatomy of a State: 1

New roads to development

"*Mun gode Allah, sabon hanya ya kawo namu cin gaba*"
 "We thank God, the new road has brought us progress".

The words of the Emir of Lafia, traditional ruler of a once almost lifeless town 150 miles south of Jos, reflect the sentiments of people throughout the 12 divisions of Benue Plateau State, Nigeria's third largest state in area.

There is no doubt that the development priorities of the Military Governor, Police Commissioner Joseph Dechi Gomwalk, have been successfully focused on setting up an efficient system of roads in the state and establishing a solid infrastructure for the future.

The six-year record of the energetic, 38 year-old Governor, who was appointed on May 27, 1967 (he heard the news of his appointment over the radio whilst stationed at Ibadan) is an impressive one.

"When the states were created", the Governor told me, "we literally had to start from scratch. There was no money and we had no offices. We also inherited the worst system of roads in the Federation and an almost non-existent infrastructure. My priority was to open up the state and form a basis for development".

The state also inherited the greatest tribal diversity of any of the 12 states in the Federation. There are over 50 different tribes in the state ranging from the largest, the Tiv, with a population of over 1½ million, down to the dozens of smaller tribes on the Plateau, some, such as the Ganawuri, with estimate populations below 20,000.

In this sense, the state has in microcosm the same problems of achieving unity as the Federation as a whole, and the need to open up the state has been a critical prerequisite of success.

Since its creation the state has unobtrusively forged ahead with elaborate and all-embracing programmes of road construction and improvement, rural electrification, pipe-borne water supply schemes, and agricultural development.

In the first progress report of Nigeria's 2nd National Development Plan (issued May 1972) Benue Plateau stood out as the surprise bright spot, coming second to Mid-West State in its performance in executing state projects.

But some critics of the state government have alleged that too much attention has been focused on developing the Northern Divisions of the state — more particularly the Plateau region — while ignoring the region south of the Plateau.

At the Governor's initiative I made an extensive tour of all 12 state divisions and was afterwards left in no doubt that such criticisms have little justification.

The overall current picture is one of balanced, blanket development covering the whole state, with basic amenities taking priority: good roads, electricity and water supply.

The state government has to date spent over 30m. naira on road building 500 miles of state roads have been tarred (24 feet carriageway) and all remaining state laterite roads have been improved by a big programme of widening, grading and bridge building. In addition the Federal Military Government has tarred 300 miles of Federal roads in the state.

Of this Federal mileage, 270 miles made up of the strategic Trunk "A3" highway to the South, running from Jos through Akwanga, Lafia, Makurdi, Oturkpa, into East Central State and on to Port Harcourt. Apart from a few short stretches this road is now entirely tarred.

Two years ago the Benue Plateau section of this route was reputed to be the most treacherous laterite road in the country and it was impassable during the height of the rains. Its tarring has brought immeasurable benefits to the state by linking the Southern and Northern Divisions as well as opening a fast

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all-season link to the Southern and Northern Divisions.

Throughout the state the picture is the same, with tarred roads bringing a new tempo to rural life. Seeing the opportunities presented by a new tarred road local authorities have encouraged districts around the road to levy community development taxes to finance the construction of feeder roads, using community labour, along existing bush paths and dry-season tracks.

At Shendam, the end of the recently completed 6m naira, 140 mile state road from Jos (which links up the Eastern Divisions of the state) the Divisional Officer said that the people in his Division have collected 32,000 naira over the last year from special tax levies.

development in Benue Plateau. The development of good roads is even more important when viewed in the national context, for it now appears that the future of transport in Nigeria is in fast and efficient heavy road haulage on a similar pattern to that in the US.

As the Governor himself put it to me: "With our new road network and proposed bus service we have succeeded in our most difficult task of forging a complete unity and identification in this State. This enforces my absolute faith in Nigeria's destiny as one".

With the successful implementation of his top priority, attention is now being focused on completing other essential infrastructure developments in the state.

Thus, by the end of the current



300 miles of tarred roads since 1967

"These funds are being used to construct good latente feeder roads to link up previously isolated bush villages with the tarred road. Farmers here now find it much easier to evacuate their cash crops and this has added big incentives for them to increase output", he explained.

Several big state and federal road projects are still in progress. Two federal roads linking Jos with Zaria (150 miles, via Pambegua) and with Kaduna (200 miles, via Kaporu and Kachia), should be completed by the end of the year. This will connect the state to the main Kano-Lagos highway.

Work is now in progress on the tarring of two more strategic state roads. One runs south from Shendam, via Yelwa and Katina Ala, and will link-up with a federal road from Calabar now under construction. The other from Keffi, via Nasarawa and Abaji, will connect with a trunk federal road (also under construction) from Warri, via Benin, Okeni and Koton Karifi.

In telecommunications the Jos telephone system, since January this year, has been linked to Lagos and other major centres by an automatic direct trunk dialling system. The telephone system will soon cover other parts of the state and telex links are also proposed.

It is difficult to imagine the complete revolution that new roads, better communications and transport facilities have brought to the fabric of

Four-Year Plan there will be a comprehensive and all-embracing network of roads linking all the Divisions of the state. The state will also be linked by major tarred roads too all six neighbouring states as well as to the ports of Calabar, Port Harcourt and Warri.

The Governor is aware that to maximise the value to the masses of these new roads there must be an efficient public transport system in the state. In 1970 the 100,000 naira Jos City Bus Service was launched and this became the first city bus service in the Northern States. The service has provided a cheap and reliable form of transport in and around Jos, especially for the growing population of factory workers. The service has been so successful that the State Government has ordered 24 Mercedes Benz buses, due to be delivered in July. The City Bus Service will be renamed the Benue Plateau Bus Service and the fleet will ply between all Divisional Headquarters and major towns in the State.

The subsidised fare (less than 1 kobo per mile) offered by the service should help to lower the tariffs of private operators in the state and in the next Development Plan there will probably be provision to extend the service to provide regular inter-city links with other state capitals.

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The Gambia's priorities

From our Correspondent

Agriculture was the centrepiece of President Dawda Jawara's address on domestic and foreign policy at the state opening of Parliament. This was because "with no known commercial mineral resources which can readily be tapped as an alternative or supplement to our agricultural products, the development of the economy will to a very large extent and for the foreseeable future continue to depend on the development of our agricultural sector". Sir Dawda's address separated unusually from the Finance Minister's budget speech, to allow members opportunity for full discussion, came before he left for London for medical treatment.

Sir Dawda said that low rainfall last year had rendered the last buying season "one of the most disappointing" for groundnuts, the main cash crop, and had affected food crops adversely. He noted, however, that with purchases by the Gambia Produce Marketing Board in excess of 100,000 tons, the drought conditions, which had also affected other West African countries, were not too critical. Purchases totalled 124,034 tons last year. Agricultural policy would continue to be aimed at increasing the earning capacity of farmers, and providing more and better employment in rural and suburban areas by setting up agro-based industries. Production of cash and food crops would be stepped up to earn more foreign exchange and reduce food imports. The government subsidises imported food prices by 38 per cent.

Several schemes are being executed under the agricultural development programme. They include the Agricultural Training Institution at Yundun College to train extension workers, training of farmers at mixed farming centres, the "groundnut package deal", the scheme for hand-picked confectionery groundnuts in Western Division, cattle marketing and onion growing. The Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources will improve experimentation facilities at Sagu and research on rain-fed crops, swamp rice and alternative crops for cultivation under irrigation. Priority is being given to the 3m dalasi rice development project in MacCarthy Division being financed by the World Bank.

On social services, the President said that long-term health and education plans were being formulated with much greater emphasis on the rural areas. A comprehensive paper on educational policy covering the next 10 years has been produced and is being examined by the Advisory Council on Education. Curriculum of junior secondary schools will be expanded and improved, while post-secondary education will be centralised to facilitate use of staff and equipment.

The Social Welfare Unit of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Social Welfare is to

be reorganised and raised to a government department with responsibility for youth, sport, social welfare and cultural affairs.

Sir Dawda noted that unemployment continued to be a problem. Investment in industrial projects would be guided to create more jobs. Tourism, the largest employer of labour in the private sector on a seasonal basis, would be further developed. Last season, it employed about 1,000 people in hotels. About 16,000 tourists would have visited the country at the end of the season. Next season 24,000 tourists were expected.

A National Trading Corporation is to be set up to handle export-import trade and fill gaps created by closure of foreign firms, notably UAC. Shares in the company will be owned by the government, the CCooperative Union and the Gambia Produce Marketing Board. A Business Registration Bill will be introduced to prepare the way for Gambianisation of the private sector. The President said that the Central Bank has now taken over management and control of external reserves. Revaluation of the dalasi against sterling and restoration of its position in terms of other currencies had minimised the effects of dollar devaluation on real national incomes.

Reviewing the third development plan, Sir Dawda said that the rate of investment had been slow because projects had not been formulated in detail and it had taken considerable time to get them ready for implementation.

Turning to external affairs, the President said that Senegambian relations formed "the key and touchstone" of the government's African policy which had been its main focus of external policy. He noted that while the Senegambian relationship "an inevitable and necessary development" this development at present include political integration of the two states". He said that the development would be gradual and would be within the context of technical and economic cooperation between the states. The Gambia's African policy had been defined more clearly with particular emphasis on trade, transportation, joint research facilities. Cordial relations had been established with Senegal, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea.

The government would do all in its power to encourage intra-African trade, especially in the West Africa sub-region, and to create conditions to attract foreign investors. An Ambassador had been appointed to Brussels for this purpose. The President reaffirmed the Gambia's support for the Organisation of African States, the UN and the OAU. His government had given full recognition to the Organisation of African States, Guinea-Bissau, in view of its interest in the West African sub-region. And in keeping with its policy on non-alignment, the Gambia had recognised North Korea and East Germany, although it maintains friendly relations with Taiwan.

Letters to the Editor

Those Deniau proposals

SIR, From your series on M. Deniau's new plan for association with the Common Market it seems that you favour African association under this plan. However, you have been quick to point out at least one of its weaknesses; that the EEC should give not as a loan but as a "gift" to African associates amounts given to help stabilise export earnings from primary products.

Besides this snag there is another danger in respect of preferential treatment; while the EEC would give preferential treatment to primary products from African associate states, no reciprocity for such treatment is demanded from the associated states, though each associated member could give voluntary tariff concessions to LEC. This is where the trap lies. In the long run there is likely to be competition between the African associates to give tariff concessions to EEC countries in exchange for certain "benefits".

The point is illustrated by the unhealthy "beggar-my-neighbor" competition in less-developed countries in the offer of concessions to foreign capital. Thus, though any particular country stands to gain by the offer of special tax concessions, since the various countries are competing in getting a larger slice of such investment, any concession offered by any one will be copied by the others, in the end they are all deprived of the revenue and the competing concessions largely cancel each other. This is the picture I visualise arising from the acquiescence by African states in this new plan of no mandatory "reverse preferences".

In addition, and if the EEC were to abide by GATT regulations, whatever special treatment is given to products of the African associates, the EEC is bound to extend it to similar products from non-associated states. So why the African enthusiasm for association? Though the association is accompanied by "generous" aid, performance of such aid so far does not justify the contemporary enthusiasm for associate status.

So if African countries have to have an association with the EEC in one form or another and if for any reason the associated states find it necessary to offer tariff concessions to the EEC both individually and severally, then it is important that all agree between themselves to limit such concessions.

IMAMW USUI

We do not advocate M. Deniau's proposals, but feel that they deserve publicity. EDITOR.

Lonrho's enterprise

SIR, I had a few shares in John Holt's before Lonrho took the firm over. I then became an involuntary Lonrho shareholder. Holt's was, no doubt, an "old-fashioned" firm. But I believe that it was honest, respected in Nigeria, and had a sound programme both of Nigerianisation and of diversification into industry and technical services.

Lonrho also took over the well-established Kaduna Textiles, when it took over the parent company, Whiteheads.

What I want to know is what Lonrho has done for Nigeria since these takeovers. You have explained (April 23) that its effort to enter the oil-tanker trade failed. It is still, no doubt, trying to get into oil. But has it done anything except use the firms it took over to boost its general earnings - perhaps at my, and Nigeria's, expense?

There have been new Holt enterprises in Nigeria, notably in oilseed processing. But did Lonrho's London management have anything to do with these? Would not Nigeria, and I, have been just as well off if Lonrho had never been heard of? Is it not a fallacy that Mr. Rowland is an entrepreneur? Is he not beneficiary of other people's enterprise?

I was at the shareholders' meeting. God save us from "shareholders' democracy", hundreds of greedy and ignorant little people, drooling at the prospect of the African loot Tiny would bring them because of his "unique" relations with African leaders.

Happily, most of these leaders have disclaimed, directly or by inference, such a special relationship. They should still be more definite about this in the interest of their reputations. And in practice it has not helped Lonrho shareholders in Ghana, where the government has taken over 55 per cent of Ashanti, or in Nigeria, where Lonrho enterprises are, rightly, subject to the Indigenisation Decree. Nor can Mr. Rowland ever do anything about exchange control liberalisation, the shareholder's main concern.

Surely Lonrho now relies on enterprises well-established before Lonrho was ever heard-of? We who were shareholders in these have seen our dividends dissipated on the abortive Sierra Leone enterprise you have reported, and on crazy enterprises such as

paying fabulous sums to Mr. Duncan Sandy, from whom no British Minister concerned with Africa was ever less popular.

Mrs. P. L. WILLIAMS

Gowon's visit

SIR, In support of Mr. Olutola Oke's letter on General Gowon's visit (May 28) it would be illusory to think that Nigeria's Head of State's visit to London is a corollary of his acquiescence of Britain's policy in South Africa and Rhodesia. Such a belief would be a great disservice to those at diplomatic level who have spent time and money to make the visit of the leader of Black nations to Britain a reality.

Those who understand these things would know that it cost Britain a great deal to arrange the General's visit. I seize this opportunity to urge the BBC and all other information media to avoid any act that would frustrate the efforts and hopes of those who want Nigeria to be on good terms with Britain.

While Nigeria is traditionally, educationally, and linguistically committed to Britain, Britain also needs Nigeria, apart from economic reasons, to retain her influence in Black nations.

What Mr. Olutola Oke must realise is that General Gowon is a leader of principle. He is a leader whom coercion has failed to influence, let alone any diming, winning and dancing or anything else Britain may adopt in influencing other leaders.

He has built an unparalleled reputation in Nigeria in particular and in Africa in general. He is the accredited leader of the former and the latter. It is axiomatic that he would not go back on his word.

It is our hope, therefore, that he will propagate throughout the world irrevocable support for the freedom fighters.

J. A. ARIBIGBOLA

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Matchet's Diary

o the Lonrho shareholders decided that they knew better than all the financial journalists and leader writers in London. Against the virtually unanimous advice of these experts they confirmed Mr. "Tuny" Rowland as the company's Chief Executive and got rid of eight directors who had attempted to get rid of Mr. Rowland on the ground that his style of management was damaging the company. These eight include General Sir Edward Spears, former chairman of Ashanti Goldfields, now 86, whose long association with Ashanti thus ends in a painful manner. It is not even certain whether the dismissed directors will receive compensation.

People who were at the shareholders' meeting tell me that they are sure that the small shareholders (although only a minority of these took part in the voting, whether directly or proxy) are convinced that Mr. Rowland has a magic touch in Africa and were, no doubt, impressed by the Lonrho African executives, including particularly Mr. Gil Olympio, whom Mr. Rowland had brought along for this purpose.

I still don't believe in this magic touch, at any rate in West Africa. There Mr. Rowland failed to get his ambitious plans off the ground in Sierra Leone, failed in Ghana to protect Ashanti from the Government take-over, and in Nigeria, so far at any rate, failed to get into the oil tanker business and probably into the oil business itself. In the Ivory Coast alone, has he started something new; but the success of the enterprises there has yet to be proved. And I question the judgment in African matters of a man who could appoint, at an enormous salary, Mr. Duncan Sandys as an adviser.

Cornerstone at Addis

During the OAU Conference in Addis Ababa the Emperor laid the cornerstone for an extension to the ECA building, where OAU itself was meeting. The plans comprise a ten-storey office block designed to provide a total of 800 additional offices, a five-storey library building and a three-storey cafeteria building. The complex will be interconnected to the existing ECA headquarters buildings. An estimated area of 30,000 square metres will be provided by the new building which will also house UN specialised agencies wishing to be accommodated at ECA Headquarters. Construction is expected to be completed within two and a half years. The whole project is estimated to cost around \$6m.

One person who viewed the laying of the foundation stone with some misgiving

Michael Wolfers tells me, was Afewerk Tekle, whose stained glass windows are such an important feature of African Hall. Not only will the planned building extension cut off a major light source for these windows, but the architect also plans to cut doors into the side panel windows, automatic doors incorporating the existing stained glass. Afewerk Tekle, a distinguished Ethiopian artist, is thought to be worried about the long term effects on the glass, which recently escaped damage in an earth tremor. The glass was on the fault line, but was saved by the two inches of play allowed for east winds.

Michael Wolfers has also recorded a few "snapshots" from the Addis meeting of the OAU's birthday cake, five decks, white icing inscribed in English, French, Arabic and Amharic, ten candles and an OAU flag. . . . President Senghor leaving the anniversary banquet clapping to catchy music. . . . President Marien Ngouabi of Congo, leaving the same banquet almost lost to sight between two of the most beautiful women guests. . . . fairy lights festooned all over Addis Ababa provided by Irvine Martin Plastics Limited of Ipswich, Suffolk, after the Emperor had admired the company's decorations for the 2,500th anniversary of the Iranian monarchy.

Ostensibly in Hell

There are still plenty of signs of activity on the African cultural front in London. After the two plays noticed in this journal last week, we have the launching of a lunchtime theatre season at the African Centre. The first play is *Life Everlasting* by Yulisa Amadu Maddy. Although by the time this appears the run will be finished (as is often the case), it is to be hoped the play will get further exposure, at the African Centre or elsewhere, for it is a neat 40-minute imaginative exercise performed with accomplishment by a small cast. Ostensibly in Hell, three people (a married woman, a CID superintendent, and an old pastor) examine their lives and their feelings, and find a release from mental torment which enables them to discover paradise. The players (masked for much of the play) actively try to involve the audience in their arguments and harangues which can be disconcerting for members of the audience they choose, but fits in with the mood of the play.

One of the players, Taiwo Ajai, as well as Maddy himself, featured in the "Window on Africa" show at the Commonwealth Institute, in connection with Commonwealth Day (now celebrated on 11). This was the second concert in the "Window on the Commonwealth" series produced by the Association of Commonwealth Teachers in association with the Institute. Taiwo gave a humorous monologue from *Song of Lawano* by the Ugandan writer, Okot p'Bitek, and Maddy, alongside the ever-bullient Jello Edwards, took a look at Sierra Leone as it was yesterday in the eyes of

those who had lived and died and as it is today, through Susu song, and poems and works by a number of Sierra Leoneans, including himself and Mukhtarr Mustapha. The evening also included a display of African fashions and jewellery, Kenyan folk-songs by Arthur Kemoli, and rhythms songs and dance by the Ghana Cultural Society, led by Emmanuel Pobee. The comper was Jumoke Debayo, rapidly becoming one of the leading African stage personalities in London. Her Yoruba folk-blues at the end, in which she was joined by the West Indian George Browne, made a pleasant finale.

The vision of Egonu

An exhibition of new work by Uzo Egonu is also on at the Commonwealth Institute until June 17. Of this Emmanuel Jegede writes:

The vision of Egonu travels deep into human emotional problems not only of his own society but of the entire world. The strong colours of the work reminds me of the burning sun of Africa. The bold designs and fine lines remind one of traditional African textiles. The paintings are full of symbolism, as traditional African art dictates, where a human mask of fear, joy, sorrow and struggle, in different styles and forms, represents the spirit of the ancestors.

In Egonu's vision birds, animals and people, in fact all things that fulfil the meaning of life, are used as a story. One particular example is a painting which brought tears to my eyes. This is entitled "Exodus" and shows people fleeing on bicycles, on horseback, with mothers running with their children clasping to their backs. The painting expresses the Nigeria-Biafra war of unity, and shows Ibo's living in the Northern part of Nigeria fleeing for their lives. Egonu finally concludes the painting with eleven full circles and one fading circle: these circles I believe represent the twelve states into which Nigeria is now divided.

As this world is a place of war, especially for those who happen to have black skins, Egonu's series of four paintings, "War and Peace", has something for us. In this he uses parrots singing, but singing can also hide a feeling of hate beneath which is likely to explode at anytime. Those with eyes for beauty cannot fail to notice two master-pieces based on the coming 2nd World Festival of Black Arts to be held in Nigeria in 1975. In one of the paintings the artist asks - "Where do we go from here?"

I do not doubt Egonu for asking such a question. So many "festivals" have passed without much benefit to the artist or to the progress of our suppressed culture. I only hope that this coming festival will not end like scattered sand lost in the sea. I hope it will lead to constructive plans which will benefit black artists and other black people without creating an art only for the elite.

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Commonwealth Development Corporation

Capital commitments exceed £202m

CDC's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for 1972 is summarised below

Operations in 1972

At year-end there were 216 projects with a group commitment of £202.4m. Group investments had risen to £164.7m. Gross trading income rose to £12m and the operating surplus was £10.6m, from which interest on Treasury loans, provisions against possible losses overseas, taxation and other miscellaneous charges have to be met.

Agriculture

HMG's agreement to make loan funds available at concessionary interest rates for the development of renewable natural resources has opened up prospects for CDC investment in many worthwhile agricultural projects which could not previously be entertained. Developments in the rural sector increase exports from developing countries, reduce expenditure on imported foods and make a real contribution to the raising of the living standards of the rural poor.

In 1972 CDC mounted 38 agricultural missions, of which 23 were in pursuit of new projects, the remainder were supervisory visits to existing projects.

Housing

There is an insatiable demand from developing countries for housing finance. CDC funds for mortgage finance companies help to attract

matching local savings. Housing finance is spread over as many would-be home owners as possible, particularly in the lower income groups. CDC has also entered into the business of building houses where other developers are not forthcoming.

In 1972 CDC approved additional commitments of some £9.9m for housing projects, bringing the total committed to £49.2m or 24.3% of all commitments. The number of people already housed by projects in which CDC has invested is now to be counted in hundreds of thousands.

Management and Training

CDC is directly involved in host countries in the planning, execution and operation of projects. CDC staff resident overseas are able to pass on

experience of management and technology to local people. CDC regards the training of people as a vital force in development. Its projects provide local citizens with training on the job and external courses and attachments prepare them for management and professional and technical posts up to top levels.

Export Earnings

CDC's associated projects were responsible in 1972 for some £60m worth of exports from host countries without taking into account the large import savings attributable to local industries which CDC has supported. These earnings, the greater part of which is retained in the host countries, comfortably cover the servicing of the foreign capital involved.



Sir Eric Griffith-Jones, Chairman of CDC

The report pays tribute to the late Lord Howick of Glendale, CDC's Chairman from 1960-72, who died on 10th March 1973.

It also records appreciation of the leadership, enthusiasm and exacting standards of performance of Sir William Rendel who retired on 31st January 1973 after nearly 20 years as General Manager.

CDC's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts 1972 is available from Government Bookshops and HEBB Government Publications Agents. Price £1.00



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Commercial News

CDC & Indigenisation

All Nigerian investments in the Commonwealth Development Corporation have been vested in a new body, Commonwealth Development Corporation (Nigeria) Limited, (CDC/N) Limited.

Announcing this the Corporation's report for 1972 explains that the Indigenisation Decree, which reserves many types of enterprises for Nigerians from March 31 next year, and restricts alien enterprise in other ways, will not affect CDC/N's existing investments directly. Negotiations have been opened however, to obtain exemption from the decree for Northern Nigerian Investments, based in Kaduna, which might otherwise be unable to participate in certain projects.

Capital in Northern Nigerian Investments is held equally by CDC/N and New Nigeria Development Company, which is owned by the governments of the Northern states. The report says the company's activities were restricted during the year because of doubts about the effect of the Indigenisation Decree. Its total investment commitment, in 30 projects, is nearly £20m and, in spite of the problems of the textile industry, in which the company has invested heavily, it made a profit of over £1m during the year.

In Enugu, CDC is a partner in Development Finance Company, which is not seeking exemption from the Indigenisation Decree since the Eastern States' Interim Assets and Liabilities Agency is buying out CDC's interest. But Development Finance Company, too, has suffered from the uncertainties arising from the Indigenisation Decree. It made a small profit during the year.

The report records gross new investment in the West

African region during the year of over £2m, net new investment was just over £1m., bringing total actual investment at the year-end to £14½m.

Restrictions on transfers of capital repayments and of current interest and dividends continued in Ghana and Nigeria, and were introduced in Sierra Leone, says the report. At year-end, no less than £14m. was awaiting remittance from Nigeria, representing sums required for service of CDC capital or for settlement of accounts for management and other services rendered by CDC and associated companies, in Ghana, there were signs that the backlog of CDC remittances might be reduced in the first half of 1973.

The report notes that service of CDC's loan investment in Ghana has been suspended and that no new investment has been made. In Sierra Leone, the climate for investment "showed little significant improvement". CDC has three enterprises in Sierra Leone: Guma Valley Water Company, a controlling interest in the Paramount Hotel, and in Sierra Leone's Investments Limited. In The Gambia CDC participates in the hotel industry and in Cameroon it is managing agent for the Cameroon Development Corporation.

CDC is also investigating further activities in Cameroon and, for the first time, in the Ivory Coast.

(Full details of CDC's West African operations will appear in next week's issue.)

Cocoa prospects

UK imports of cocoa beans in the year October 1971-September 1972 came to just over 105,000 tons. Of this, 62,500 tons came from Nigeria and 32,700 tons from

Ghana. Almost another 2,500 tons came from other parts of West Africa, and there were no imports from Brazil. The average price per ton was £235 compared with £296 in 1970-71, and £357 in 1969-70. UK imports of cocoa butter in 1972 were 23,700 tons. Nigeria supplied 2,700 tons and Ghana 4,150. The average price was £511 per ton. Brazil was the biggest supplier followed by Holland.

The annual report of the Cocoa Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance for 1972-73, in which these figures appear, also reported British exports of chocolate and chocolate confectionery in 1972 of almost 40,000 tons and other cocoa products of some 18,000 tons.

Referring to the International Cocoa Agreement the report says that the British Government, while acknowledging that there were differences within the industry about the necessity or advisability of such an agreement, considered that, if the procurers wanted one, and a workable form could be found, then Britain should support it.

Support for research

The report notes that the study of a Marketing and Distribution of Cocoa prepared under UNCTAD auspices by Miss P. Ady, Mr. Sherwood Fine, and Dr. H. M. A. Omirri, had been discussed in draft by individual companies. The report also notes that the Alliance continued support for ^{card} research at the University of Ibadan. It also notes that instead of the proposed International Cocoa Research Centre in Trinidad, there would now be established, in agreement with the University of the West Indies, a centre for research into cocoa genetics.

Final agreement was reached during the year on the proposal to set up an international project on black pod disease at the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria. Two British scientists were appointed to conduct the research under the supervision of an international committee.

A warning that price increases in chocolate and sugar confectionery are on the way was given by Dr. Aubrey A. Houghton, president of the Alliance, at the annual lunch. Mr. Houghton said that manufacturers' costs had been going up very steeply, particularly the cost of cocoa, sugar, and milk. "I cannot imagine a single firm without a price increase in the pipeline".

The price of cocoa had gone up in a most alarming way, Mr. Houghton declared. He was not referring to the "froth in the market" resulting in present prices see-sawing between £500 and £600 a ton, but to the difference between present fluctuating levels and a price of only £300 a ton as recently as last December. The whole world now thought that cocoa consumption was outstripping supply, even though experience had shown that in the long run present price levels would lead to a fall in consumption, which was not in the interests of either users or producers.

Mr. A. Norton, Deputy Chairman, Rowntree Mackintosh, has been elected president of the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance in succession to Dr. Houghton (Mars, Ltd.) who becomes vice-president. Mr. D. G. Johnson (Geo. Bassett & Co.) has been re-elected honorary treasurer.

● In a speech marking celebrations of the 11th anniversary of International Cocoa Day at Ho, Colonel Frank Bernasko, Commissioner for Agriculture said that since the second half of the 1960's Ghana's share in total world production declined from 40 per cent to less than 30 per cent. The Commissioner told the gathering, mainly of cocoa farmers, chiefs and experts from consuming countries, that one reason for Ghana's relatively poor performance was that productivity was extremely low. The national average yield per acre was about 200 lbs, whereas research at the Cocoa Research Institute had indicated that if proper practices were pursued, productivity could be increased several times.

"It is the aim of the Government that all efforts should be made to increase the yield of the existing acreage", Colonel Bernasko declared. The Commissioner expressed the hope that integration of the various sectors of the cocoa industry under the Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board would make it possible to work out ways of ensuring increased productivity. He urged the Board to find ways of attracting youth into the industry. The Government had decided that the price of gamelin, the insecticide, should be reduced from four cedis per quart tin to two cedis. The Marketing Board had also ordered 7,500 spraying machines for cocoa farmers, the Commissioner added.

EEC and Africa

EEC Foreign Ministers agreed to invite 38 African Caribbean and Pacific countries to a two-day meeting in Brussels on July 25 to discuss their future relations with the EEC. The letter inviting the countries

says that participation in the Brussels conference does not necessarily involve any commitment as to future relations with the Community. Uncertainty is still reported from Brussels as to when the "associables" will have to make the choice as to what form of agreement they want with the EEC. The three options mentioned in Protocol 22 on British entry (full association, limited association or trade agreement) still officially apply. The recent Deniau memorandum recommended more flexibility, and the British have reportedly been pressing in this direction, but French sources are quoted as maintaining that the Commonwealth countries will have to make the choice between the July conference and the start of the negotiations, officially due on August 1, but now forecast for some time in the autumn.

● Agreement on the price of crude oil has been reached between the world's major oil exporting countries, including Nigeria, and the western companies. The countries will now be protected against currency devaluations. This



m/s Alameda (see story below)

ends a dispute which has dragged on for three months.

● A three month specialist course in financial and business journalism is to be organised for Commonwealth journalists.

● Two mobile medical units built by Ibis M3 of Kendal, to help treat ophthalmic and dental cases in outlying areas of Nigeria, have been shipped to Lagos. They are fully tropicalised mobile treatment rooms based on Opel (peugeot) vans, powered by six cylinder petrol engines.

● An order from Nigeria for more than £100,000 worth of mineral water bottles has been won by United Glass.

● E.A.C. Lines announce that *m/s Alameda* will be transferred to their service between Europe and West Africa, in place of *s/s Bona*. *Alameda* was built in 1967 and has a total deadweight of 11,530 tons. Cargo capacity is 640,355 cb./ft. including 103,700 cb./ft. refrigerated space. *Alameda* left on her first voyage to West Africa in June.

● Ghana is to enter into trade agreements with Uganda and Swaziland this year, the Trade Commissioner, Major Reginald Felli has announced, he said in a news conference that Ghana already had agreements with Mali, Togo, Egypt, Libya

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ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

WEST AFRICA - AUSTRALIA
NEW ZEALAND - THE FAR EAST

Volta, Senegal and Nigeria. His ministry had launched an aggressive export drive aimed at earning foreign exchange to pay for Ghana's imports.

Major Felli said that sale of yams abroad earned Ghana 1,200,000 cedis. Ghana could not, for instance, meet Liberia's yam orders since the government had to ensure that there was enough for local consumption. The government was interested in yam exports because foreigners had developed a taste for the crop and Ghana must try to meet their demand so that future market was not lost.

Major Felli also announced that Ghana was currently receiving food rebates from timber sales due to "the strategy" of the Ghana Timber Marketing Board. Receipts from sales abroad had almost doubled in the last trade year and if the trend continued, the Government hoped to get more by elimination of malpractices formerly associated with timber sales.

No more "cut throat" competition

Coffee producers are considering a plan to eliminate cut-throat competition. They are also trying to determine how the dollar crisis will affect their foreign currency earnings. Nineteen of the 41 coffee-growing members of the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) and members of the International Coffee Agreement, accounting for about three-quarters of the world's coffee exports, have agreed on these steps. The four major producers are Brazil, Colombia, the Ivory Coast and Portugal (for Angola).

Producers, now that export quotas and export controls regulating the flow of coffee reaching world markets are in abeyance, feel that an "international marketing corporation" would improve marketing and avoid cut-throat competition.

At the 50th International Association of Seed Crushers Congress, Mr. J. F. Th. M. Randj (Great Britain) was re-elected President for the coming year. Vice-Presidents

elected were Mr. W. von Seifert (Austria), Mr. A. Mergell (President of FEDIOL - the Federation of Seed Crushing and Oil Processing Industries of the EEC), Mr. Y. Sakaguchi (Japan) and Mr. J. R. Spicola (USA). Mr. H. D. Howard (Great Britain) was re-elected Secretary. The next Congress will take place in Vienna in May 1974.

Cargo charter in Nigeria

The Nigerian Air-Cargo, formerly Air-Lift Nigeria, has applied to the Federal Ministry of Transport for permit to operate charter services in and outside Nigeria, using Canadair 44-6 and DC 8 aircraft. The company would operate on Lagos-Kano-Chad-Cameroon-Niger-Upper Volta, France-Germany-Luxembourg-Belgium-Italy-U.K.-Canada-U.S., Lebanon-Saudi Arabia-Hong Kong-Japan. Equatorial Guinea-Ivory Coast-Ghana-Liberia-Sierra Leone-Mali-Senegal, Gabon-Zaire-Central African Republic, and Algeria-Libya-Egypt routes. A federal gazette notice invites objections, if any, to granting of permit within 28 days of its publication.

At a conference of chambers of commerce from France and 12 francophone African countries in Dakar, President Senghor said that businessmen from the US, Germany, Holland, Denmark and Italy were showing dynamism in their African investments where their French counterparts were being cautious and timid. The conference set up a permanent organisation grouping the various chambers.

Guinness (Nigeria) has offered for sale two million ordinary shares of 50 kobo each at one naira payable on application. According to a report just published, the company made a net profit of ₦2,764,000m. for the year ending August 1972, compared with ₦2,376,000m. for 1971.

Nigeria's external reserve which stood at ₦191,577,986m. on December 31, 1972, has risen to ₦200,716,298m. at the end of April according to the Central Bank.

Shipping News

ELDER Dempster Lines
SOUTHBOUND - From Liverpool: MAJO s/s. Jun. 14. IRO s/s. Jun. 14. DIXCOVE s/s. Appa. Jun. 8. MARON s/s. Appa. Jun. 8. From London: PALABA s/s. Jun. 14. FULANI de Appa. Jun. 14. PEGU s/s. Jun. 18. FIAN s/s. Port Gent. Jun. 13. From Middlesbrough: BIAMO s/s. Jun. 14. DALLA de Abidjan. Jun. 10. From Glasgow: DEGEMA de Port Gent. Jun. 8. **NORTHBOUND** - To Liverpool: IGORAH BAY s/s. Appa. Jun. 10. To Dublin: KOHIMA de Jun. 17. To Belfast: EBOE de Appa. Jun. 10. To N. Continent: KABALA de Amsterdam Jun. 8. KADUNA de Bremen Jun. 10. To Poole: CLEARWAY de Poole Jun. 13. To Southampton: AUREOL s/s. Appa. Jun. 8. **EASTBOUND** From USA/Canada: DEIDO s/s. Lagos/Lobito Jun. 15. DONGA de New Orleans Jun. 8. DUMBAIA de Freetown Jun. 11. DUMUKRA de Hamilton Jun. 8. To WITBOUD USA/Canada: DARU s/s. Lobito Jun. 6. **EASTERN SERVICE** - TESTBANK s/s. Dakar Jun. 8. TWIEBANK de Tema Jun. 8. **BARBER LINES**
OUTWARDS - BARBERBROOK de Monrovia Jun. 18. thence Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema, Lagos/Appa, Warri, Douala. BARBERGATE s/s. New York Jun. 22 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Appa, Douala. **INWARDS** - BARBERGATE de Jacksonville Jun. 13, thence Norfolk, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York. BARBERBROOK s/s. Lagos S. Bound Jun. 25. Sapie Jun. 29. Douala Jul. 1. Ghana Jul. 5. Abidjan/Monrovia Jul. 7/9. Freetown Jul. 10. **'K' LINE**
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Lobito, Luanda, Matadi, Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan. TENNESSEE MARU s/s. Japan May 9. de Lagos Jun. 14. **EASTBOUND** - From Lagos, Abidjan, Freetown, etc. - TENNESSEE MARU s/s. Lagos Jun. 22. Tema Jun. 23. Freetown Jun. 26. Abidjan Jul. 5. de Hong Kong Aug. 3. Japan Aug. 7. **BLACK STAR LINE/USNII**
WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND - AFRAM RIVER Ghana Jun. 29. Abidjan Jun. 30. Philadelphia Jul. 15. **BLACK STAR LINE/JUK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA**
SOUTHBOUND - KLORTE LAGOON Hamburg Jun. 19. Bremen Jun. 14. Antwerp Jun. 22. Rotterdam Jun. 26. OFFIN RIVER London Jun. 13. KORLE LAGOON London Jun. 8. **NORTHBOUND** - KLORTE LAGOON Rotterdam Jun. 13. Hamburg Jun. 16. NASIA RIVER Middlesbrough Jun. 25. **DAIFA LINES**
WESTBOUND - FRANKRIG s/s. Matadi Jun. 23. de Abidjan Jun. 30. Monrovia Jul. 2. Houston Jul. 18. **EASTBOUND** - DAIFA PAUL s/s. New Orleans Jun. 23. de Monrovia Jul. 15. Abidjan Jul. 18.

PALM LINE
SOUTHBOUND - ELMINA PALM de Victoria Jun. 13. KATSINA PALM de Lobito Jun. 17. **NORTHBOUND** - KANO PALM s/s. Takoradi Jun. 13. ENUGU PALM s/s. Dakar Jun. 15. **N.Y.K. LINE**
WESTBOUND - SAIKYU MARU Tema Jun. 15/17. Lagos/Appa Jun. 18/27. Douala Jun. 28/30. Abidjan Jul. 3/4. **EASTBOUND** - SAIKYU MARU Cotacoua Jul. 1/2. Abidjan Jul. 3/4. Takoradi Jul. 5/6. Lobito Jul. 10/11. Japan First Port Aug. 4. **ITSUI OSK LINE**
HAWAII MARU s/s. Kobe May 23. Lagos Jul. 6. ARIZONA MARU s/s. Kobe Jun. 5. de Lagos Jul. 10. **MAERSK LINE**
INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Abidjan. JOHANNES MAERSK s/s. Kobe Jun. 5. de Luanda Jul. 12. **OUTWARDS** - From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Takoradi. NOVIA s/s. Luanda Jun. 11. de Matadi Jun. 12. **SCAN LLOYD AB**
BANDA s/s. Rouen Jun. 15. de Boma/Matadi Jun. 30. Luanda Jul. 7. Lobito Jul. 4. CUMULUS s/s. Douala Jul. 2. de Boma/Matadi Jul. 16. Luanda Jul. 20. **SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA**
NORTHBOUND - TORONTO CITY s/s. W. A. Jul./early Aug. for discharge. Scan. Aug. CIRRUS 111 s/s. W. A. Jul. for discharge. Scan. **ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES**
INWARDS - STRAAT FORCADOS s/s. Japan Apr. 18. de Tema Jun. 10. Takoradi Jun. 11. Abidjan Jun. 15. STRAAT VAN DIEMEN s/s. Hong Kong Apr. 6. de Luanda Jun. 16. **OUTWARDS** - STRAAT FORCADOS from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt. Hong Kong. Japan early Jun. STRAAT VAN DIEMEN Nigeria/Ghana to Hong Kong, Shanghai, Japan mid/Jun. **FARRELL LINES**
HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN MOON s/s. Lagos/Appa Jun. 6. for Port Harcourt, Matadi, Luanda, Lobito, Abidjan Jun. 28. Monrovia, Freetown, AFRICAN MERCURY s/s. Lagos/Appa Jun. 20. for Douala, Matadi Jun. 27. Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports. **OUTWARDS** - AFRICAN MERCURY s/s. Freetown Jun. 7 for Monrovia Jun. 9. Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Jun. 16. Lagos/Appa Jun. 18. Douala, Matadi, Tema Jun. 23. de Monrovia Jun. 23 for Abidjan, Tema Jun. 29. Lagos/Appa Jul. 1. Matadi, Luanda, Lobito. **SOUTH AFRICA LINE**
BURNA FORTUNA s/s. New Orleans Jun. 22. Houston Jun. 27 for Tema, Lagos, Pointe Noire; WESTERN s/s. New Orleans Jun. 26. Houston Jun. 28 for Tema, Lagos, Pointe Noire. **THE E.A.C. LINES**
SOUTHBOUND - SARGODHA s/s. Nouen Jun. 9. de Freetown Jun. 17. Abidjan Jun. 20. Lagos/Appa Jun. 22. Douala Jun. 24. **NORTHBOUND** - WIMBA s/s. Abidjan Jun. 6. de Antwerp Jun. 16. Copenhagen Jun. 21. Aarhus Jun. 24. Oslo Jun. 27. Rotterdam Jul. 4.

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Application: Applications which should include the following details: (1) Full names, (2) Place and date of birth, (3) Permanent home address, (4) Institutions attended with dates, (5) Academic qualifications and certificates held, (6) Present (a) Employer (b) Position (c) Responsibilities (d) Officer to whom reporting (e) Length of service (f) Basic salary (g) Allowances (7) Previous employers and positions with dates and (8) Names and addresses of two referees should be addressed to:

The Administrative Controller & Secretary (Ref. TECH/WA) Nigeria National Supply Co. Ltd., P.M.B. 12662, Lagos to reach him on or before 20th June, 1973.

Only the applications of those selected for interview will be acknowledged.

Alhaji Adebayo Ogunyemi
Administrative Controller & Secretary.

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NOTICES Cont.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, FORMERLY KNOWN as Joseph Babunde Aderonmu of 8, Mornington Crescent, N.W.1, has been known and called Joseph Babunde Ade since February 1973.

I, FORMERLY KNOWN as called Niskan Edward Udo, wish to be known and called Niskan Abane. Inoken Documents bearing former name remain valid.

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY, ENUGU EAST-CENTRAL STATE OF NIGERIA

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following vacant posts existing in the Institute of Management and Technology, Enugu.

1. ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

| | Salary Scale |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| (i) Deputy Registrar | SG 4 |
| (ii) Senior Assistant Registrar | SG 6 |
| (iii) Assistant Registrars | SG 7 |
| (iv) Senior Accountant | SG 6 |
| (v) Maintenance Officer | SG 8 |

QUALIFICATIONS:

- (a) **Registrars:** A good honours degree from a recognised university with at least seven years post-graduation administrative experience, in the case of the Deputy Registrar. For the Senior Assistant Registrar and Assistant Registrars the period of post-qualification experience is 5 and 3 years respectively. Previous experience in a post-secondary institution will be an advantage.
- (b) **Senior Accountant:** Membership of Chartered, Certified or Cost and Works Accountants, with at least three years post-qualification experience, or a good honours degree in Accountancy with at least five years post-qualification experience.
- (c) **Maintenance Officer:** The candidate must possess the West African School Certificate or equivalent, and the H.N.C. or B.Sc. in Building and/or Civil Engineering or equivalent qualifications with at least five years post-qualification experience in the supervision of building and civil engineering constructions and maintenance, including roads, water supply and sewage. Experience in structural and architectural draughtsmanship will be an advantage.

DUTIES

- (a) **Registrars:**
The Institute's Registrar will be responsible to the Rector for the day-to-day administration of the Institute. In addition, he will be the Secretary of the Governing Council and the Academic Board of the Institute. In these duties, he will be assisted by the Deputy Registrar, the Senior Assistant Registrar and the Assistant Registrars.
- (b) **Senior Accountant:**
The successful candidate will in the interim be in charge of the Accounts Branch of the Institute's Administration.
- (c) **Maintenance Officer:**
The successful candidate will be responsible for the supervision of building constructions and the maintenance of buildings and fixtures as well as other services, namely, roads, water supply, sewage disposal etc. in the Institute.

2. THE LIBRARY

| | Salary Scale |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| (i) Sub Librarian | SG 7 |
| (ii) Assistant Librarians | SG 12 |

QUALIFICATIONS

- (i) A good university degree in any discipline plus a recognised professional library qualification, with at least three year's experience in a comparable library.
- (ii) A good university degree and/or a professional library qualification. Previous experience will be an advantage.

3. ACADEMIC STAFF

- (a) In each of the Departments named hereafter vacancies exist for:
- | | Salary Scale |
|------------------------|--------------|
| (i) Principal Lecturer | SG 4 |
| (ii) Senior Lecturer | SG 5 |
| (iii) Lecturer Grade I | SG 6 |
| (iv) Lecturer Grade II | SG 7 |
| (v) Assistant Lecturer | SG 12 |

DEPARTMENTS

- (i) Secretarial Studies
- (ii) Management and Public Administration
- (iii) Accountancy
- (iv) Modern Languages (English and French)
- (v) Mathematics and Statistics
- (vi) Technical Education
- (vii) Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- (viii) Mechanical Engineering
- (ix) Civil/Building Engineering
- (x) Applied Science
- (xi) Fine Art

- (b) **Instructors/Demonstrators (SG.12)** are required in the following departments:

- (i) Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- (ii) Mechanical Engineering
- (iii) Civil/Building Engineering

- (c) There are vacancies for:

- | | Salary Scale |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| (i) Senior Laboratory Technologists | SG 8 |
| (ii) Laboratory Technologists | SG 12 |
- in the Department of Applied Science.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- (a) **Instructors/Demonstrators**
A good basic degree or an equivalent professional qualification in the particular discipline.
- (b) **Assistant Lecturers**
A good basic degree or professional qualification in the relevant discipline. Post-qualification teaching or professional experience will be an advantage.
- (c) **Lecturers, Senior Lecturers and Principal Lecturers**
A good basic degree or an equivalent professional qualification in the appropriate field together with the following minimum teaching/industrial/research experience in the same field:
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Lecturers Grade II | - 3 years |
| Lecturers Grade I | - 5 years |
| Senior Lecturers | - 7 years |
| Principal Lecturers | - 9 years |

Post-graduate degrees and/or additional qualifications will be an advantage. Applicants to the post of Principal Lecturers will be expected to give academic leadership in their respective departments, apart from teaching courses.

(d) Additional Requirements

- (i) In addition to the qualifications required above, evidence of leadership and organizational ability, as well as previous experience in extra-mural work or continuing education services, will be an advantage in the case of applicants for posts in the Department of Technical Education. Candidates should indicate their interest, which should be in methods areas, educational psychology, educational philosophy or related fields.
- (ii) Applicants for posts in the Department of Applied Science should indicate their area of interest which should be physics, chemistry, biology, biochemistry or laboratory techniques.

SALARY SCALES

| | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| SG 4 | - N6,100 |
| SG 5 | - N5,030 x 150 - N5,750 |
| SG 6 | - N3,810 x 150 - N4,830 |
| SG 7 | - N2,760 x 150 - N3,660 (bar) |
| SG 8 | - N3,060 x 150 - N3,960 |
| SG 9 | - N2,760 x 150 - N3,810 |
| SG 10 | - N2,810 x 150 - N3,660 |
| SG 12 | - N2,140, N2,240, N2,480, N2,560 |

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE:

Appointments will be made on permanent or contract basis. Other conditions include a superannuation scheme, passages for appointees and their families up to three children under eleven years; free medical care, car allowance. Furnished accommodation, if available, will be paid for at the rate of 8% of salary.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Ten copies of type-written application, giving details of educational background, institutions attended, qualifications obtained, post-qualification experience, marital status, etc. and the names of three referees, should be sent under registered mail to the Administrative Secretary, Institute of Management and Technology, P.M.B. 1079, ENUGU, East-Central State of Nigeria.

All applications should reach him not later than June 30th, 1973.

J.O. UWASOMBA,
Secretary to the Provisional Council,
Institute of Management and Technology

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

THE NIGERIAN COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING

VACANCIES

The Centre for Management Development, the operating arm of the Nigerian Council for Management Education and Training, invites suitably qualified Nigerians to apply for the following positions. These openings represent an unusual opportunity for personal growth, advancement, and service to the country for results-oriented Nigerians who are willing to work hard to achieve vitally important objectives. Successful candidates will work, initially, as counterparts to a team of international experts, and will be given appropriate training here and/or abroad.

- 1 **3 MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS** (1 Senior Consultant) to work primarily with indigenous and small business entrepreneurs, guiding them in establishing, maintaining and nurturing the enterprise. Focusing especially on Nigerian businessmen who are taking over expatriate companies under the indigenisation programme, and with emphasis on the training and development of the entrepreneurs, the consultants will help them assess business opportunities; prepare financial information and projections; organise the enterprise, marketing, designing and implementing simple budget planning and control systems.
Qualifications: The major prerequisite for these positions is successful experience as a small business owner manager, senior level general management experience, or previous consulting experiences. A university degree would be desirable, though not absolutely essential.
- 2 **1 RESEARCH OFFICER** to design and implement a wide variety of research projects on all aspects of management theory and practice in Nigeria. He will be responsible for identifying research needs, designing, directing and monitoring research projects, and guiding the work of his assistants.
Qualifications: An advanced degree from a recognised university and practical research experience; a lively curiosity coupled with a high tolerance for detail work; ability to teach and guide others and to see a job through to completion and within deadlines; willingness to travel when necessary; some practical business experience would be a definite asset.
- 3 **1 STATISTICIAN** to work with researchers in the original design of research projects and in the handling and processing of raw data.
Qualifications: A university degree with substantial concentration in mathematics and statistics; ability to work independently and with others; ability to work under pressure and against time deadlines.
- 4 **1 MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (Education and Training)** to identify management training needs and design, implement and evaluate formal management training programmes. Initial emphasis will be on the design and conduct of a one two week programme for Trainers which is to be offered on a regularly scheduled basis. Subsequently, the officer will be expected to design and conduct formal programmes on a variety of management subjects as the need for these is established.
Qualifications: An appropriate university degree and substantial practical business experience - including training work.
CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: Attractive.
SALARY: Negotiable according to qualifications and experience - but fully competitive.
METHOD OF APPLYING: Each application should include the candidate's curriculum vitae stating age, marital status, institutions attended, examinations passed with grades, employment experience and salaries earned, and three references. Applications should be addressed to:

The Director, CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT, P.O. Box 7648, LAGOS, Nigeria.

Dateline Africa

GHANA

CPP assets defrozen

The NRC has defrozen the assets of 16 former members of Dr. Nkrumah's Convention Peoples Party. A Government statement said commissions of enquiry set up by the National Liberation Council made no adverse findings against some party officials, including Dr. Emmanuel Ayeh Komi, former Economic Consultant to Dr. Nkrumah, and Mr. Osei Owusu-Afryie, a former Minister.

The statement said six former party functionaries had paid the judgement debts awarded against them.

Mr Kwame Karikari, head of the NRC's Special Action Unit, has called for Ghanaians to work longer hours to achieve the Government's planned economic targets. "We must develop new attitudes to work" he told a symposium of teachers at Cape Coast.

The traditional self-reliance of communities in Ghana had been eroded by past policies which "depended on money and emphasised money alone for national development". But Ghana's history had shown that it was misleading to rely on money and external aid as the major instrument of development. Aid was useful if it stimulated the country's own efforts.

Mr Karikari thought that industrialisation should be a long-term goal for "unless we can first, through our own self-reliance, increase our wealth, we cannot have industrialisation which will be of Ghanaians, by Ghanaians and for Ghanaians".

Education should be brought into line with the realities of Ghanaian life. "What the country needs is practical agricultural knowledge and passing it on to our peasant farmers is much better and of much greater benefit to the country than the great amounts of

time and money that have been spent on the present educational system".

● Ghana prefers trade to aid, Commissioner for Trade and Tourism, Major R. Joseph Felli, told a news conference in Washington.

Major Felli said that one of Ghana's aims was to pay for all its imports and to export as much as it could. Emphasising that Ghana's policy was to place its economy in the hands of Ghanaians, Major Felli said the country still sought outside help when local experience was not adequate.

Many foreign firms were interested in going to Ghana and they were told what fields were open to them, added the Commissioner. Their investments in those fields would be protected.

Major Felli said he felt that Africa would one day be able to speak with a single voice on economic matters. Such a move was important in the face of groups like the European Common Market.

He was visiting Washington at the invitation of the US Government.

Asante's warning

The Commissioner for Transport and Communications, Major Kwame Asante, has warned politically ambitious individuals not to confuse the Government with "bogus ideologies and theories" as Ghana's revolution had no room for politics.

Major Asante was commenting on a recent speech by Dr. S. B. Arthur, a lecturer in engineering at the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi.

Dr Arthur had suggested among other things that a revolution should be backed by an ideology.

Major Asante described Dr. Arthur's speech as "subversive, un-nationalistic and political" and stressed that the country was in a revolution and if anybody wanted to practice politics he should wait until such time that the economy of the country had been rebuilt. "If Dr. Arthur wants to do marxism, leninism or democracy or whatever he calls it, he will be given a chance but right now we are Ghanaians and our policies must be Ghanaian," Major Asante declared.

The NRC has stated that it will not tolerate party politics unless the country's economy improved.

Firestone compensates

The Firestone Rubber Company has begun paying compensation to Stools on whose land it is operation. So far, Firestone has paid 108,000 cedis to six Stools in the Western Region - Bamiankor, Nsein, Nsuæm, Lower Axim and Lower and Upper Dixcove.

In 1971 the chiefs and people on whose land Firestone was operating asked the Government to review concession agreements as it was claimed that 118,000 acres had been leased by the Government without the knowledge of chiefs and people.

● Mr Nicholas Akou, Togo's Ambassador to Ghana, has warned his countrymen in Ghana not to smuggle goods.

Mr Akou told Togolese nationals at a meeting in Sedonki that a recent Togo ban on the illicit exchange of Ghanaian currency in Togo was meant to help resuscitate the country's economy.

Mr Akou also advised them to honour Ghana's immigration laws by obtaining resident permits.

Togo banned illicit exchange of the cedi in April. ● On his way back to Britain after the OAU tenth anniversary celebrations, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr. Arnold Smith, paid a three day visit to Ghana, during which he held talks with Col. Achepong. He was accompanied by Mr. Emeka Anyioku, Director of the Secretariat's political division.

● A Polish delegation has held talks on a proposed wood complex to be established in Ghana by June 1976.

The visit is a follow-up to one by a Ghana Government delegation to Poland last September to discuss the possibility of Polish participation in the Ghana Wood Industry.

● Australia's "Special Minister", Senator Donald Willesee, is to visit seven African countries to demonstrate a new Australian interest in Black Africa. The Prime Minister, Mr. Gough Whitlam, who is also Foreign Minister, has said that Australia had paid too little attention to more than 200 million black Africans; it was time to show a more positive interest in African affairs.

Senator Willesee will arrive in Ghana on June 13, and then visit Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Mauritius.

● The NRC has appointed Colonel J.E. Barnor, Ambassador to Italy, to serve concurrently as Ambassador to Turkey.

The Council has also made three other concurrent appointments: Mr W.L. Tsitsiwu, Ambassador in Togo is also accredited to Dahomey, Mr P.B. Duah, High Commissioner in India to Sri Lanka, and Brigadier H.D. Twum-Barima, Ambassador in Zaire as Ambassador to Rwanda.

● The rate of sickness benefit to be paid to contributors to the Social Security Fund has been announced. A worker receiving under 99 pesewas a day will receive 40 pesewas, a worker receiving not more than 1 cedi 29 pesewas a day will receive 50 pesewas, and a worker receiving over 1 cedi 30 pesewas a day will receive 60 pesewas a day.

● Farmers in the Northern Region have been warned against buying rice seedlings meant for planting to sell as food.

● Land around the 700 foot high Wu Water Falls, Hohoe, is to be developed into a tourist resort.

● The Brong Ahafo Chieftancy Committee has resumed hearings in Sunyani. It adjourned to Accra in March, to hear evidence on neutral ground.

SIERRA LEONE

Customs union with Liberia

A United Nations mission has proposed a detailed scheme for setting up a customs union between Liberia and Sierra Leone, according to the *Liberian Age*. The newspaper said the mission had also recommended establishment of joint industrial ventures in selected products and joint development of agriculture. The first phase of the proposed customs union would be complete liberalisation of trade in goods of local origin.

• A further 36 political detainees have been released. This brings the total number released since the general election to 57.

• Israel is giving the Ministry of Agriculture 30,000 bags of citrus. An Israeli citrus expert has also been appointed to the Ministry. Announcing this, the Ambassador said Israel intends to increase technical aid to Sierra Leone.

The first consignment of orange budwood material ordered from Arizona University by the Israeli Government has also been received in Freetown. The Israeli citrus expert said that the budwood material was of the Washington navel variety which when successfully budded with local oranges would produce fruit without seeds. This would compete favourably with any first-class product in world markets.



Madam Honoria Baikor-Caulker, a Paramount Chief member and Sierra Leone's only woman MP, sworn in

• The Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board has made a shipment of 600 tons of palm kernel oil to the UK. The oil was processed at the reactivated palm kernel oil mill at Wellington.

• Dr. Siaka Stevens has praised mining companies for their valuable contribution to the economy through their apprenticeship systems and training schemes both locally and overseas. He said that there was hardly any important works one could visit in the country where one would not find artisans who had been trained at Marampah, Yengema or Pepel.

• A delegation of Sierra Leone journalists has arrived in Pyongyang on a visit to North Korea. It is led by Mr. Herbert Johnson, General Manager of the *Daily Mail*.

LIBERIA

Treason trial evidence begins

Almost all the 60 jurors in the conspiracy trial, concerning a former Junior Minister and two army officers, were dismissed because they lacked a "basic understanding" of their duties, the *Liberian Star* reports. About three-quarters were said to be illiterate. New jurors were selected.

Mr. Prince N. A. Browne, formerly Assistant Minister of Defence for Coastguard Affairs, and Lieutenant-Colonel William Saydee and Moses Kpardeh are facing charges of plotting to assassinate Liberian President William Tolbert.

The first of nine State witnesses alleged that the plan had been to turn the Government over to Senator Harrison Grigsby. The *Liberian Star* said the witness, Major Jimmie K. Freeman, had said the plan included killing President William Tolbert and his brother Senator Frank Tolbert, while the President's other brother, Finance Minister Stephen Tolbert, was to have been arrested and brought to account for "money he was collecting from the people".

Major Freeman went on to claim that Lt. Col. Moses Kpardeh had asked him to join the plot but that he had refused because he had been accused before of trying to overthrow the Government during the Tubman administration. Col. Kpardeh allegedly said that they

decided to postpone the operation because President Tolbert was a very close friend of Presidents Sekou Toure and Siaka Stevens, and any attempt would have brought intervention by the two.

Laughter greeted the evidence of a star prosecution witness, Colonel John Howard, as he recalled asking one of the accused, Prince Browne, for money for "the boys" because they were hungry. Colonel Howard said Prince Browne gave him \$10. He also claimed that the plotters planned to ask Senator Harrison Grigsby to head the Government. Senator Grigsby, however, was only to be a figurehead.

Describing the plot to kill President Tolbert the colonel alleged that he was to have been shot in the VIP lounge at Roberts International Airport, where he was due to inspect Concord.

Colonel Howard said he had initially agreed to join the plot but his wife advised him to reveal it to the Minister of Defence. He added that he asked his Minister to be allowed to continue associating with the plotters in order to discover their identity.

Tolbert in the US

President Tolbert, on a 20 day visit to the United States, has criticised American investors for being more interested in profit than in helping his nation become prosperous.

"The corporate people came to Liberia primarily to extract - to take something away - rather than to work with us creating something that will become a real part of Liberia," he said in a speech at San Francisco State University.

When foreign corporations did not show social responsibility his government was forced to react. "We insist - and we have not always in the past - on management's responsibility for the security and well-being of all workers," he said. "We insist - and we feel it is only reasonable that we should - that our corporate enclaves be run as viable and wholesome communities."

"We insist that the pollution that accompanies

some production be kept within a clear minimum so that the Liberian government derive its rightful and properly-computed share of the benefits of our partnership in development."

President Tolbert later said President Nixon, who pledged continued US economic support for Africa during a White House discussion, Mr. Nixon was also reported to have reaffirmed his wish to become the first American President while in office to make a visit to Black Africa.

The Bishop accuses

Bishop George D. Brown, in a sermon at Trinity Cathedral in Monrovia, attacked the Legislature for granting the President emergency powers. He declared that with enactment of this law he was afraid that we are once again returning to the status quo - strengthening the hands of the security agents."

The act grants the President power to suspend the *Police Corps* for one year and to arrest and detain law-abiding and have them tried before a commission.

Bishop Browne said he was not questioning the authority of the Legislature to give these powers, but he felt that the legislators did not refer to their constituents in their quest for investing the President with such powers. Quoting the *Liberian Age*, the well-known editorial "Yes Again", the Bishop said that by the law Liberians were returned to the very thing they condemned less than two years ago. The essence of national security lay in mutual respect for the fundamentals of human rights, for democracy and human dignity.

• The *Liberian Age* has condemned what it called the erosion of freedom in Liberia. In an editorial the newspaper said President Tolbert was certainly not responsible for the present situation in which almost once more covered in his whispered in the distance looked over their shoulders before speaking. The newspaper claimed that newsmen were harassed and questioned about publishing facts which are already common knowledge about town.

NIGER

Diori's West African tour

President Hamani Diori has said that the newly created West African Economic Community (CEAO) of which he is chairman, should be regarded as a "first step" towards the creation of a "virile all-embracing economic union" which would incorporate 14 English and French-speaking countries in West Africa. Defending the formation of CEAO at a news conference at the end of his two-day visit to Nigeria, he said an all-embracing economic union for West Africa could develop "on the same gradual lines as the OAU" through the fusion of many groups.

President Diori notes that any economic union which left out Nigeria and other English-speaking countries in West Africa "will be unrealistic". An enlarged West African community would have the advantage of a market of 105m people instead of 25m in CEAO, but the President pointed out that no one should expect a West African Economic Community to be formed "overnight", saying that it took Europe more than 10 years to form the EEC.

Both the president and Gen Gowon said in a communique that they would work "in concert and in cooperation with other countries in the sub-region towards the early achievement of a broad African community cutting across all barriers".

President Diori who also visited Dahomey, Togo and Ghana to explain the aims of CEAO, said in Lome that "infrastructures for the free circulation of people and goods" should be developed. "We must create cheap power and organise agriculture on new bases so that Africans can be partners that the world will take seriously". He said the main objective of CEAO should be "complementary" and designed to provide basic infrastructures like roads, rail, ports, power houses, dams and nuclear energy for rapid development of the region.

Speaking in Accra, President Diori said he did not see what help it would be to Palestinians if the OAU headquarters were anywhere else instead of Addis Ababa. He saw no reason why African States cannot overcome all barriers to form a united economic community. He told African diplomats in Accra that Niger had decided to join several African organisations as a step to end its isolation. African countries should trade more with one another. Ghana could sell cocoa anywhere but he wanted West African children to eat chocolate too.

Later in Abidjan, the Niger head of state noted that there seemed to be widespread understanding in West Africa that CEAO would one day include all countries in the region. He also visited Ouagadougou where he had similar talks with President Sangoure Lamizana.

CHAD

Libyan money arrives

Libya has provided a subsidy of 2,000m CFA francs (about £3.5m) as the first slice of a larger sum offered* after President Tombalbaye's visit last December. The money is to be spent on such projects as a slaughterhouse in Sahr, a hospital in Fort Lamy, a hospital centre in Mao and colleges in Fort Lamy and Largeau.

• Following President Tombalbaye's Middle East tour, Iraq is to lend Chad \$12m.

All the Arab countries visited on the President's tour are reported to have agreed to open embassies in Fort Lamy.

The Chad budget, with the slogan "austerity, realism and prudence", has been fixed at 17,018m CFA francs (just over £3m).

M. Marcel Lallia, a French businessman, who was detained in March this year accused of being a "mastermind" of Frolinat (the Chad National Liberation Movement), has died in prison. The authorities said his death was due to a heart attack.

DROUGHT

More aid from EEC

The EEC Commission has proposed new measures to step up the flow of aid to drought-stricken areas of West Africa. Member states are to be asked to earmark a further 10,000 tons of wheat for emergency food aid, and provide more transport aircraft to airlift supplies to the worst hit areas. Most of the additional aid will go to Upper Volta. Commission officials say a serious problem has been caused by the arrival in Upper Volta of refugees from Niger and Mali. The Commission is also concerned at the difficulties of transporting the food to remote areas and at port congestion.

• The FAO has made a further appeal for airlifts of seeds and foodstuffs. Dr Boerma, Director-General, speaking to some 110 representatives of governments and non-governmental organisations in Rome, stressed the urgency of action before the seasonal rains are due to arrive in mid-June.

• President Mobutu Sese Seko has sent 25m CFA francs (£44,000) to aid parts of Niger hit by drought. In a message to President Diori, President Mobutu said Africans were duty bound to make what contribution they could in view of the aid coming from outside the continent for the drought. He also sent 25m CFA to Senegal.

Ivory Coast has sent a cheque for 5m CFA francs (£17,600), and Algeria and Morocco have also provided relief.

• The Zaire Press Agency has called on the OAU to organise effective aid to West African drought victims, and has criticised the "silence and culpable inaction" as well as "egoism" of African countries.

• The World Food Programme has said that it has now committed all the aid (55,000 tons of cereal) it can this year to the six drought-affected countries. Any additional emergency aid would now be too late.

• Senegalese Premier Abdou Diouf has appealed

for all public and private transport to be put at government disposal to speed up distribution of food given by international bodies and other countries. Planning and Cooperation Minister Ousmane Seck said that by the end of May 23,000 tons of food had arrived in Dakar, of which 20,000 had been distributed. A further 23,000 tons was expected by the end of August. Denying suggestions by reporters that Senegal had been unprepared for the drought, M. Seck said the government had included a water policy in each of its four year development plans since 1961, and had been preparing for the present situation since last August.

• Pope Paul VI has called for an unprecedented mobilisation of all Catholic charities for drought relief in West Africa. The appeal came in a letter to Cardinal Villot, head of the body, Cor Unum (one heart), prior to a meeting in the Vatican to work out concrete projects to aid the drought victims.

Further aid measures announced include £10,000 from Australia, provision of a C-130 and 15 army trucks with 30 armed forces personnel from Belgium, and \$200,000 from UNICEF for digging wells and piping water.

• Heavy rain is reported to have fallen in Mauritania at the beginning of June, breaking the drought in one of the worst affected areas, where there has been continuous drought for seven years. Reports suggest that in some areas the country's livestock population has been reduced by as much as 90 per cent. The drought has been accompanied by a serious rise in cases of malnutrition and scurvy, especially in the Bouillimit area, where access to wells is reportedly made difficult by the piled up bodies of dead cows and camels. The population of Nouakchott has suddenly increased from 70,000 to 100,000 and the influx continues. Agricultural production, in the south, by the Senegal River, has also been seriously affected. Cereal crop has fallen by two thirds of what it was two years ago.

SENEGAL

Senghor on Diop's death

Following a statement in Paris by President Senghor that the student Oumar Diop Blondin had "hanged himself with the sheets of his bed", the student's father, Dr Ibrahim Diop Blondin, issued a statement saying that he was present at the autopsy on his son (which he had called for), and had produced an autopsy report which differed from the official one. His report stated that there was proof that his son died, following several "violent traumatisms" on the body which had caused a "severe cerebral disturbance", at 8.30 a.m. on April 21. Dr Diop also said he had precise and irrefutable evidence of the authors of "physical brutality", it was a travesty to call this a suicide.

The Senegalese Embassy in Paris repeated that the autopsy performed by Dr. Quechum showed that the cause of death was hanging, and that Dr. Diop's counter-report had not been mentioned before. Nor had he brought any official complaint to the police.

In his news conference in Paris, President Senghor had said that it was precisely because Diop was a political prisoner, "in the most gentle conditions of detention we have", that he was able to hang himself with bed sheets. Asked why Diop had committed suicide, President Senghor said "I believe (and it is my profound conviction) that he had the feeling of failure, the feeling that he was being used". The President also said, "I am ready to meet anybody, anywhere, even over the air and on the screens of the ORTF. Oumar Diop was the friend of my son, and it was following my personal intervention with President Pompidou that the expulsion order placed on him after the events of May 1968 was lifted". Asked about the bomb attempt at the Senegalese Embassy, the President said that he didn't understand why the intellectuals had to use bombs.

The Senegalese President also participated in a debate in Paris on "A Modern Approach to Negro Art".

The Senegalese Embassy in Paris was damaged by a violent night-time explosion caused by a plastic bomb placed on a window sill on the first floor. No-one was hurt.

• Mr. George Ter-Gazaryants has been appointed USSR Ambassador to Senegal and The Gambia, in succession to Mr. Dimitry Nikiforov.

CAMEROON

Air Force commander

Thirty-four year old Captain Paul Unaka has been appointed Commander of Cameroon's Air Force in succession to Commandant Courgees, a Frenchman serving under France's technical assistance programme. He is the first Cameroonian to command the Air Force, although the Army has had a Cameroonian commander. Colonel Semengue, for a long time The Navy is still commanded by a French officer.

• Cameroon Airlines (CAMAIR) has extended its operations in West Africa and plans to move into the East African market, said M. Samuel Eboua, Camair Chairman at the official inauguration in Douala of the airline's new fleet of Boeings. Camair now operates five Boeings and one Conqair aircraft, and carried more than 175,000 passengers last year.

• The United Republic of Cameroon took two full page advertisements in *The Times* of London to mark the first anniversary of its establishment.

• A "Douala evening" is being held at the Africa Centre in London on June 21.

GABON

Bongo on railway

It is reported that the Commission of the EEC is recommending the allocation of almost £10m from the European Development Fund for the Trans-Gabon railway. This follows the visit of President Bongo to Brussels for talks at the Commission. At a news conference the Gabon President predicted that the final decision of the

railways prospective backers in June would be positive, and that work would soon get under way. The cost of the first stage from Owendo to Booué would be about \$150m., he said (the World Bank, in rejecting assistance for the railway has put the cost at nearer \$250m.).

President Bongo has also been in Paris, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. In Paris he said that Gabon was ready to mortgage its production of manganese, oil and uranium to help pay for the railway. Asked about the Libyan President's plan to transfer the OAU headquarters from Addis Ababa, President Bongo said "why to Cairo and not to Gabon?"

GUINEA

Sekou Toure on Foccart

President Sekou Toure has said that M. Jacques Foccart, Secretary-General for African and Malagasy Affairs in Paris, was the obstacle to Franco-Guinean rapprochement, and "the number one enemy of Africa and of the real France". M. Toure alleged that M. Foccart had sent mercenaries to Guinea-Bissau, and to two other "brotherly neighbour countries", and had also had the majority of his secret documents transferred to a neighbouring African country. The French government had refused to deal with the Guinea government because "an individual named Foccart" constantly led it to believe that there were men in Africa and in Guinea "capable of transforming the revolutionary order".

President Toure went on: "If Foccart can make and unmake governments, that is elsewhere, but not in Guinea. In any case he will be a disservice to France for a long time and unfortunately to the French people who remain the first victims". President Toure also attacked the "thousands of French soldiers and technical advisers who have more power than the ministers they serve in certain neo-colonial countries". He also paid tribute to Mauritania and Madagascar for leaving the franc zone and to Madagascar for "showing the door" to 4,000 French

soldiers. He congratulated Guinea which had just affirmed its determination not to accept a "neo-colonial" but however subtle it might be.

• The Japanese engineering firm of Nippon Kon signed an agreement with the Guinea government to carry up detailed plans of the Trans-Guinea railway, a new port and other facilities in Conakry. The scheme forms part of the Guinea government's five-year development programme. The railway will be from the ore deposits at Mount N'Zou to Conakry (540 miles). The facilities are to be provided by Conakry to accommodate up to 250,000 tons a year. The cost of the railway and harbour facilities at N'Zou (In April an agreement was signed between the Guinea government and a Japanese consortium, including Japanese companies, for the exploitation of Guinea's iron ore deposits. By the exports of 15m tons of ore are planned).

• Following the resignation of the delegation of the Communist Party to Guinea, it was decided to suspend relations.

In brief

A tripartite agreement was signed between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The agreement concerns feasibility studies for road-building plans which will cost an estimated 200 CFA francs (£25,000). The road building project will cover some 300 km and be part of the "East-West Axis" running from Mali to Chad.

• The next meeting of heads of state meeting will be held in Algiers on September 5 to 8. It will be preceded by a meeting of Foreign Ministers on September 2 to 4. It was decided by the preparatory committee of 17 meetings in Kabul, Afghanistan.

• The Gambia is preparing to make a financial contribution of £250,000 to the setting up of an industrial park in Banjul.

GERIA

relations

with Israel

Gen Gowon has arrived back home after attending the summit and 10th anniversary celebrations of the OAU in Addis Ababa. He had acted as chairman for the celebrations and the summit and was elected chairman for the year. Gen Gowon told newsmen at Ikeja Airport that the three major problems facing Africa now were liberation of colonised parts of the continent, the Middle East, and economic independence of each state.

On Israel, the head of state said that there was no question of Nigeria severing relations with her. But the OAU strongly urged Israel to return Arab territory occupied by her since 1967. Gen Gowon described as "mischievous" certain foreign news media which engaged in deliberate distortion of facts about Africa. He then appealed to the Nigerian Press to continue to seek the truth in the interest of the country and Africa. "It is only by an accurate projection of the truth that the Press could help to build a nation and enhance harmony among people of different political, economic and cultural backgrounds".

Addressing newsmen before leaving Addis Ababa, Gen Gowon said that the eight-nation "good offices" committee set up by the summit to resolve differences between Ethiopia and Somalia would meet in Khartoum soon but he did not indicate the time. On OAU's headquarters, he said that Libya had the right to raise the issue even though Addis Ababa was selected by acclamation at the 1964 Cairo summit.

The head of state was accompanied to the summit by his wife; the governor of North West State, Alhaji Usman Faruk; the External Affairs Commissioner, Dr. Olon Arikpo, who was elected chairman of Council of Ministers; the Federal Commissioner for Information and Labour; Chief Anthony Enahoro, and senior government officials. He was welcomed at the

airport by a 21-gun salute and he later inspected a guard of honour of the Brigade of Guards.

The National Youth Service Corps programme will begin on July 2. Gen. Gowon has announced while formally inaugurating the directorate of the corps. Corps members should be at their state capitals by that date.

Dr. Adebayo Adedeji, Federal Commissioner for Economic Development and Reconstruction, has been named chairman of the directorate of the National Youth Service Corps, while Col Amadu Ali was made corps director. Col Ali is a doctor and was commissioned into the army in 1963. A statement from the Cabinet Office in Lagos said both appointments took effect from May 22.

Graduates over 30 years of age would be offered "tentative" appointments until they produced certificates of exemption from the Directorate of the National Youth Service Corps. Others would take up jobs on completion of their service. This was announced at the end of a recruitment exercise at the University of Ibadan by both the Federal and Lagos State Public Service Commissions. About 710 graduates were interviewed.

Airport fight

Soldiers and customs officers were reported to have engaged in open fight at Ikeja Airport following alleged refusal by a soldier in mufti to leave the baggage hall when ordered out by a senior customs officer. The soldier was alleged to have said he was interested in seeing a passenger pass through customs formalities. There is in force an order forbidding unaccredited persons entering the baggage hall. Fighting broke out when soldiers allegedly prevented customs men from checking a traveller suspected to have evaded examination.

Following the incident, the military commandant of the airport, Capt. Bernard Banfa, has said full investigation would be carried out and culprits punished.

Three newspapers have

commented on the incident. The *Daily Times* called the incident a national disgrace and suggested that customs men be left to carry out checks on persons and goods while soldiers should handle security. The *Nigerian Observer* expressed concern over the bad picture which the incident had painted of the country. The *Daily Express* said the incident brought to a head the recurrent clashes of personalities between government's security agencies at the airport.

Landlocked neighbours

The Federal Government is to dredge Rivers Niger and Benue to ease transport between Nigeria and neighbouring countries, the Federal Commissioner for Transport, Dr. Russel Dikko, has said. He noted that this was in keeping with the government's policy of providing outlets for landlocked neighbours. The commissioner also said that a modern airport would be built in Port Harcourt.

Overseas-trained accountants may be barred from practising in the country, the President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, Mr. M.P. Anibaba, has indicated at the eighth annual general meeting of the association. Admission to membership of the institute will depend on passing examinations prescribed by the body.

A 37-man Nigerian National Cultural Troupe, led by two chiefs and officials, has begun a two-month goodwill tour of Europe and Asia. The troupe will perform in Italy, France, Britain, Bulgaria, East Germany and Yugoslavia. An official announcement said that the trip was intended to strengthen relations with countries to be visited.

Chief medical adviser to the Federal Government, Dr. S.L. Adesuyi, has been awarded a gold medal by the World Physician Day Committee as one of the world's top 12 public health physicians.

The Federal Government has established a capital issues commission to fix prices of company shares and debentures. The Federal Commissioner for Finance, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, said at the launching that the commission would go a long way in stabilising the economy.

Mr. Lateef Jakande, chairman of the International Press Institute, has presided over a meeting of its executive board at Istanbul, Turkey. He and his colleagues on the board later flew to Tel Aviv, Israel, for the 22nd Annual General Assembly of the IPI. Two other Nigerian journalists also attended the assembly, as special delegates. They were Mr. Henry Odukumayya, former editor of the *Daily Times*; and Mr. S. Labanji Bolaji, general manager and editor-in-chief of the Sketch group of newspapers.

Construction of Kainji Dam has no unpleasant environmental effects, Prof. A. M. A. Imevor of the University of Ife, has said in his report on "Environmental and Ecological Status of Kainji Lake", read at the inauguration of the Nigerian Committee of Large Dams (NICOLD).

Prof. Imevor said that man-made lakes could be a curse to the people they were meant to serve "where precautionary measures are not taken". He commended the Federal Government for financial and moral support given to the study on Kainji.

The Federal Ministry of Works and Housing has announced award of five building contracts worth N5.6m. They included three blocks of multi-storey flats at Surulere, Lagos; Federal Government College, Jos; mobile police buildings at Jos and Kano, and extensions to cargo sheds, at Ikeja Airport.

Nigeria is one of three African countries to be visited by the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, Mr. Milos Mincic, to discuss with government leaders the next summit of non-aligned countries, planned for Algiers in autumn. Other countries are Guinea and Zaïre.

Chief Obafemi Awolowo and Chief Chris Ogunbanjo, both legal practitioners, have been named directors of the American International Insurance Company (Nigeria).

Lagos Wharf extension

The third major extension of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) at Lagos will be financed by a loan of 37m naira from the World Bank. Mr. F. A. Osundero, a chartered accountant and retired chairman of Federal Board of Inland Revenue, has been appointed new chairman of the authority. He succeeds Mr. Andrew Wilson who has been posted to the Midwestern State public service.

• Mr. D. Dafinone and Malam Adamu Ciroma have been re-appointed directors of the Central Bank for three years with effect from July 1. Both first became directors of the bank in July, 1970. Mr. Dafinone is a chartered accountant while Malam Adamu is managing director of the New Nigerian Newspapers.

• Two companies, the National Salt Company of Nigeria and Allied Chemical Industry, are to begin production of salt and other products at Iloko, near Abeokuta, and Sapele

respectively soon. An official announcement in Lagos said the Federal Government would hold 55 per cent equity in the two companies. It is understood that the permanent secretary in the Federal Ministry of Industries, Mr. A. L. Ciroma, has been made chairman of the companies in addition to five directors representing the government.

Production of salt, animal feed and other products will begin in the next 12 months. Nigeria salt import rose to over 297,000 tons in 1971 costing over \$8m.

From the States

Mr. F. C. O. Coker, permanent secretary in Lagos State Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, has been named new secretary to the government and head of civil service in succession to Mr. A. E. Howson-Wright, who has retired after 30 years' in public service.

• The Universities of Lagos, Ibadan and Oxford are to carry out a joint research into tetanus which is one of the

10 major causes of death in most developing countries. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) there are about 20,000 tetanus cases in Nigeria each year. Shell-BP has donated valuable equipment towards the project.

• The Western State Commissioner for Justice and Attorney-General, Dr. Lateef Adegbite, has said that the success of the new local government structure introduced from April 1, depended on the cooperation of everybody. Reorganisation of local government has reduced local councils from 114 to 39 to make them viable.

Dr. Adegbite noted that management committees and council managers should exploit sources of revenue to the fullest to improve the financial position of councils. He said the new councils were set up on the principle of viability, unlike the old ones which were created for political expediency. Dr. Adegbite was Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs when the reorganisation was made.

TV station

The Rivers State is to set up a \$6m. radio-TV station next April, the Commissioner for Information, Dr. W. T. Wakama, has announced. He said that engineers and consultants had been employed and personnel were being trained by Radio-TV Kaduna. He said that the government attached importance to publicity and had therefore posted information officers to ministries. The government was considering attaching information officers to private firms in future. One of the film production department had been sent to the 18 divisions of the state.

• The police have warned people of Abakaliki against carrying matches to markets and drinking places. The warning followed "mass killings" of people in the area.

• An \$800,000 court house is to be built at Madagadi. The Commissioner for Justice and Attorney-General, Mr. Bibba Ardo, has said it will house high courts and courts, the independent division of the judiciary and the Sharia Court of Appeal.

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