

# WEST AFRICA

West Africa No. 2932  
20th August, 1973

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RECORD SECTION

## COMMODITIES BANDWAGON?

After only half an hour's discussion the first conference of the new International Cocoa Council, meeting in Geneva, referred to its executive committee the question of the price range within which the International Cocoa Agreement's provisions are to come into force. Since it is not until next March that the Executive Committee is to report, the Council clearly did not think the matter urgent, even if producers would like it cleared up. World prices of cocoa are at present over twice the top price provisionally named in the Cocoa Agreement. Dollar devaluation and the world cocoa shortage have made this top

price academic, and it is possible that prices will rise even higher next season if the crops are poor. So cocoa consumers, and less enthusiastically, producers, would like a little more certainty in the market before committing themselves to prices which must be maintained. The constant fall in the value of money could even lead to the magic figure of £1,000 a ton for cocoa.

Can present world prices last, or will they deter consumption and encourage use of substitutes, and so lead to heavy price falls? To what extent, in any case, do the prices reflect physical movement of cocoa and not just speculation? More

important, is cocoa an exception or are tropical raw material producers in a sellers' market which gives them a strength unknown since the Korean War, over 20 years ago?

The list of commodities enjoying record prices in recent months is impressive. Cocoa may lead. But tin, copper, cotton and rubber are not far behind, while tropical hardwoods, vegetable oils and oilseeds and sugar are sharing the boom. Regular and significant increases in the prices of gem diamonds seem only to increase the appetite of the addicts. Industrial diamonds are in strong demand, and world gold prices, although



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Nkrumah and Houphouet: A Malian military tragedy

currently uncertain, have reinforced cocoa prices in returning Ghana to solvency. Above all, it is not just swelling oil production, but the new prices negotiated by OPEC, and the ready acquiescence of the oil companies in new financial arrangements, which give Nigeria its present financial strength.

Even iron ore has recovered from its decline, while the aluminium industry is confident that the market will absorb expanding production, and the industry at last faces a capacity shortage so that the prospect for bauxite mining in Ghana and Sierra Leone is now encouraging. Production of the massive deposits at Boké in Guinea has also now begun.

Indeed the prospect for any metal used in industry — rutile, for example — and any protein food is good. Perhaps it is only tea, citrus and bananas which remain in the doldrums, with coffee still "grounded", as a recent review put it, in its perpetual uncertainties.

Tropical producers, however, still complain on every possible international occasion about the "deterioration in the terms of trade" — about the contrast between the earnings of their products in world markets and the cost of their manufactured imports. Are the complaints now out-of-date?

First it must be recognised that the fall in the value of money makes comparisons with past prices misleading. If natural rubber prices, for example, appear to

have quadrupled in three years, the real increase may be only half the apparent figure. The recent rises also follow a period of depression. More important, apart from special cases such as natural rubber, whose price has benefitted from the shortage of raw materials for synthetic rubber, the rise in commodity prices in general reflects the increase in industrial demand in the richer part of the world.

The rise in agricultural prices partly reflects a world shortage, which may easily be overcome before the benefits of the boom percolate down to the farmers and the tropical economies as a whole. Cereal supplies, in particular, are affected by the failure of Soviet and Chinese crops, and the consequent dependence of these countries on the depleted US granary, while US restriction of soya bean exports affects the vegetable oils and oilseeds markets. In some cases the fall in production in Nigerian groundnuts for example, but certainly not cocoa, offsets the world price rise. For some of the poorest countries, shortage of US grains could reduce their American "PL480" food aid.

Yet, if there is a general price increase, partly reflecting, partly causing world inflation, there are for almost all countries, special factors which make generalisation about the future impossible. Petroleum prices can be expected to continue to rise, perhaps

until the North Sea supplies (since the meantime, no tropical producer so strongly organised as the one through OPEC. Demand for luxury, may, as we have said, drive the price of chocolate increases. Other gem diamonds, another luxury, partly, on the other hand, on instability and the urge to hoard, rubber prices may recede as production recovers. Timber competition from other materials, as well as substitutes, can always be found.

Speculation and artificial factors, such as the present policy of the EEC, can affect commodities. The tendency for those who become richer is to consume livestock products, and so to increase demand for oilcake for animals. EEC advocates, particularly in the view that mankind would be served by consuming oilseed directly, and so reducing demand for vegetable oils and other many factors, in short, affect prices that the extent of their rise around a rising or falling trend of tropical producers vulnerable to a record of record prices. These producers serve their cause by complaining, while organising themselves more and marketing their products skilfully. But they must never be by "record" prices.

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## NKRUMAH AND HOUPHOUET

By a correspondent

In April of the year 1957, the Anno Domini of black independence, when Ghana's procession of states towards historic encounter took place between the two West African leaders Dr Nkrumah, then Prime Minister, leaving celebrated his independence on March 6, was the attention onwards towards other countries. He decided that to visit out of Ghana after would go to Guinea, not yet but already led by the like-minded Toure.

On the way, however, for a couple of days in Felix Houphouet-Boigny, political leader of Ivory Coast, the celebrated Democratic African that time a minister in the government of Guy Mollet. It was first contact between the two 1947, when Nkrumah as in London had travelled to Paris Houphouet, already a Deputy Palais Bourbon, and political



Ivory Coast. Since when a great deal had happened. The meeting was not auspicious, the French governor was frosty, the crowds too overtly pro-Nkrumah. The independence of Ghana had posed too overt a question over the whole French colonial set-up. It was at a reception on the second day of Nkrumah's visit to Abidjan, after the two leaders had had a chance to size each other up in conversation, that politics was spoken. This, in fact, was the occasion of the famous wager on the respective futures of the two countries which has echoed down the years.

Houphouët-Boigny, welcoming Nkrumah said: "Your example has not ceased interesting us. Your experiment is very tempting. But, because of the human relations that exist between the French and the Africans, and given the imperative of the century — the interdependence of peoples — we felt that it was perhaps of greater interest to attempt a different experiment from yours, the only one of its kind: A Franco-African Community based on equality and fraternity. France's enlightened self-interest, but especially its keen sense of humanity, have led it to seek with us, actively and sincerely, the achievement of a new community. We felt that we had to respond to its fair and human behaviour with an identical gesture. Just as you, we are persuaded that our experiment will be fruitful."

Nkrumah's reply expressed the wish that even though Ghana had attained independence, cordial relations would be maintained with Great Britain and the Commonwealth. Then he expressed his conviction that all the peoples of Africa would obtain independence, perhaps in different ways, but there could be no differentiation between their principles, goals and ambitions. To this Houphouët added a postlude: "You are witnessing the start of two experiments. A wager has been made between two territories, one having chosen independence, the other preferring the difficult road to the construction, with the metropole, of a

community of men equal in rights and duties... Let each of us undertake his experiment, in absolute respect of the experiment of his neighbour, and in ten years we shall compare the results."

The collapse of the French Community, and the accession of Ivory Coast to full legal independence in 1960 perhaps proved Nkrumah right in the short run, just as the fall of Nkrumah after running into heavy economic difficulties threw the weight on the side of Houphouët-Boigny and his policy of total collaboration with the former colonial power, in the medium term. Indeed, at the time of the expiry of the ten-year deadline, Houphouët was still there, and Nkrumah was not, Ivory Coast was experiencing an economic boom, while Ghana was economically out of joint. But now, in a longer perspective more than sixteen years later, the wager still fascinates, and can still form a subject for argument. Jon Woronoff has made it into a whole book, *West African Wager*<sup>1</sup>, from which the above account is taken and the comparison of Ivory Coast and Ghana is also the subject of a collection of essays edited by Philip Foster and Aristide Zolberg.<sup>2</sup>

## Catching up Ghana?

It is partly, as Zolberg says, that the countries have so much in common, geo-politically, culturally, ethnically, economically, in size, shape, location, population, climate... The main differences were that one was colonised by the French, the other by the British, and that one entered independence under Houphouët-Boigny, the other under Nkrumah. These are sizeable contrasts, for even before the colonial period the European contact with the then Gold Coast was much greater than with the stretch of coast to the West, which had a reputation for hostility, and was lagoon-bound, where the Gold Coast had cliffs suitable for fort-building. The development of economic activity was already more advanced in the area which is now Ghana than further West, so even without certain aspects of French policy which tended to enhance this difference, Ghana had a start over Ivory Coast in certain directions. It can be argued with some force that the fantastic growth rate that Ivory Coast experienced in the years after independence merely paralleled that which Ghana had experienced earlier in the century, that it was to some extent simply a question of Ivory Coast catching up.

Its export boom was partly the result of the opening of the Vridi canal to Abidjan port in the 1950s, and the subsequent bringing into use of unused land. This broaches the whole controversy of the nature of the Ivory Coast's economic success, examined by *West African Wager*, by Jon Woronoff (Scarborough Press, New York). *Ghana and the Ivory Coast Perspectives on Modernisation*, edited by Philip Foster and Aristide Zolberg (University of Chicago Press, £5.25).



Woronoff, and in greater depth in the two chapters by Elliott Berg and Reginald Green in the volume of essays drawing on the seminal criticisms of Samir Amin who found in the Ivory Coast an example of "growth without development".

Without plunging into this particular hornet's nest, one might still observe that if in 1967 the balance was tilted very much against Ghana, there are now points to be made on both sides. The old criticisms of the Ivory Coast — that its development was too exclusively foreign inspired and financed and could thus easily disappear, that it was all too much centred on Abidjan — are less true now than before. The Ivoiriens, it seems, took note of what Samir Amin said, and have pursued a belated programme of opening up the neglected West of the country. And the longer the Ivoirien economic success lasts, the more solid it seems to appear. At the same time, some may now reproach the Ivoiriens for falling into the Nkrumah trap of prestige spending. Houphouët now has a dam, a second port, and, if some reports are to be believed, he now has an international debt burden, and the growth rate is undeniably flattening out.

He always did have palaces, which Woronoff, in his castigations of Nkrumah *vis à vis* Houphouët should perhaps have remembered. However, those who reproached Houphouët for being unlike Nkrumah should not now criticise him for showing that there are more similarities than might be supposed. After all, studying the rise to power of Houphouët and his leadership of a militant mass movement that subsequently became a single party, the analogy is obvious. It was simply that Houphouët broke his early alliance with the Communists, whereas Nkrumah's moderate collaborationist period was never so permanent. Various dynamics in his own personality meant that he could never evolve into conservative leader. But Houphouët's own radical populist past should never be forgotten when trying to understand his real strength in his country today.



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# Commonwealth afloat

from Godfrey Morrison, Ottawa

Once again it was African questions which caused the fireworks at the Commonwealth heads of government meeting. But his year's summit was a very different affair from previous gatherings, particularly compared to the last one in Singapore, two-and-a-half years ago. Then the confrontation between the British and most of the other members was acrimonious and looked as if it might well mean the final curtain for this curious, clubbish association for states as a credible channel for top-level political consultation.

It was partly the realisation, by both the African states and by the British, that their differences could, if pushed to their full logical extent, smash an organisation which has a continuing usefulness over a much wider field, which made this month's meeting a success. Both sides knew that they had much to lose from another debacle. But partly too the changed atmosphere — or the "spirit of Ottawa" as one delegate put it — was due to slight but significant changes in the attitudes of both Britain and a majority of the African states towards the burning questions of southern Africa.

Another factor was the very careful preparation of the host leader, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, had given the meeting. Trudeau is in a delicate political position domestically so he knew that he had much to fear if he did not heed that truism of modern diplomacy: a badly prepared summit meeting will probably cause more harm than good. Hence all that globe-trotting by his special adviser Ivan Head and the meeting of top civil servants last year. And Trudeau, neither British nor African and therefore a leader of what amounts to the powerful "third force" within the Commonwealth, was in a particularly good position to act as chairman of the get-together.

## "Hot" moments

The passages dealing with particular African matters take up only two pages of the fourteen page communique, even if they did cause most of the conference's "hot" moments and produce the most serious drafting problems.

On southern Africa generally the communique read:

*"Heads of Government had a full and frank exchange of views on changes and developments in Southern Africa. The Meeting also gave special consideration to the problems faced by countries in Southern Africa which border on territories and countries still under minority rule. While recognising that there were complex and difficult problems involved, Heads of Government were agreed in their opposition to apartheid and minority rule in Southern Africa. They therefore recognised the*

*legitimacy of the struggle to win full human rights and self-determination.*

*"In discussing conditions in South Africa, Namibia and the Portuguese colonies, it was agreed that Commonwealth members in a position to do so should seek to use their influence to persuade Portugal to grant a negotiated independence to its African colonies. The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and Security Council Resolutions on Namibia were recalled and emphasis placed on international responsibility for that territory. There was discussion on how Commonwealth countries, especially those with economic interests in South Africa and Namibia, might best bring influence to bear to promote change. Heads of Government renewed the efforts of the indigenous people of the territories in Southern Africa to achieve self-determination and independence and agreed on the need to give every humanitarian assistance to all those engaged in such efforts. The British Government reserved its position in relation to the last proposal in circumstances in which assistance might be converted into military purposes."*

Though most public attention has been drawn to the communique's section on Rhodesia it is in fact the above words which are the most interesting because they represent an important change in the British position. The significant points are that Britain agreed to South-West Africa being called "Namibia", to the Portuguese territories being called "colonies", and accepted that the advisory opinion of the world court on Namibia (which Britain does not accept) should be officially "recalled" in the communique. Even the reservation about "military purposes" does not detract from the fact that Britain officially agreed to the passage about the need for humanitarian assistance for those engaged in efforts towards self-determination. In particular the passage recognising "the legitimacy of the struggle to win full human rights and self-determination", could represent a turning point.

On Rhodesia the communique said:

*"Heads of Government expressed their intense concern for the situation in Rhodesia and the damage consequences of a continued absence of a settlement. They appreciated the efforts made by the British Government with whom the responsibility lay and were united in their willingness to contribute towards a solution. All were agreed on seeking a peaceful settlement and that the objective was majority rule. They took note of the meeting between Ian Smith and Bishop Muzorewa and associated themselves with the British Government's wish for the discussions to be broadened and the necessary steps taken to remove restrictions so as to enable all groups*

*representative of Rhodesian opinion to take part. The British Prime Minister welcomed the constructive suggestions made and undertook to take them into account as the situation developed.*

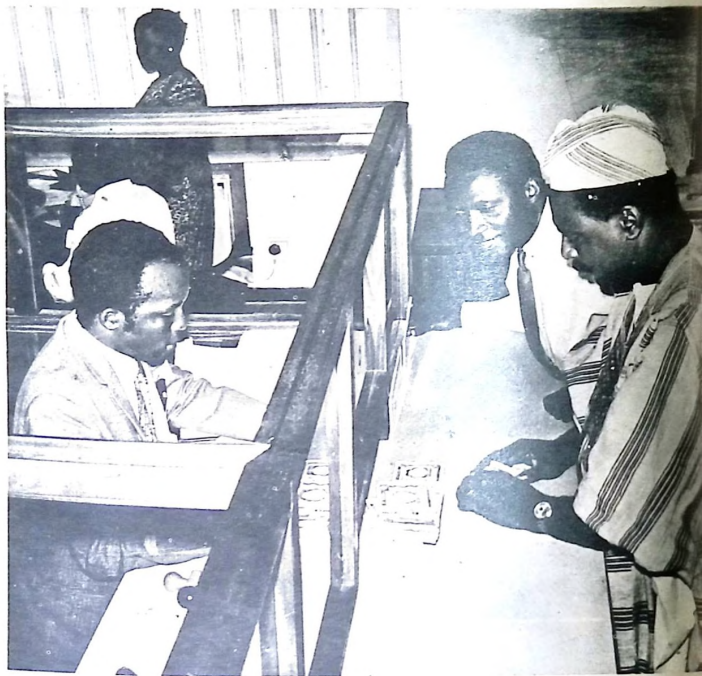
*"Heads of Government considered the Report of the Commonwealth Sanctions Committee and authorised the Committee to continue its work. It was agreed that in the light of the recommendations contained in that Report further efforts should be made to render sanctions more effective pending an acceptable settlement. Heads of Government also took note of the development of the Special Commonwealth Programme for Assisting the Education of Rhodesian Africans and supported its continuation. The Zambian Foreign Minister expressed his Government's appreciation of Commonwealth assistance to Zambia."*

## Africans conciliatory

Here it appears to be the Africans, rather than the British, who have been conciliatory. The communique records the conference's appreciation of British efforts, the desirability of a peaceful settlement, and the hope that the Muzorewa-Smith talks might lead somewhere. Finally there is nowhere any mention of NIBMAR, even though an insistence that there should be no independence before majority rule had been most eloquently urged on the conference by President Nyerere of Tanzania. However some African delegations counted the passage about the need to "remove restrictions" as implying a call for the release of political detainees and therefore a useful gain.

Even if he did not get all he wanted into the communique the Tanzanian leader was once again one of the leading stars of the conference with his spell-binding eloquence, and extempore exposition of his case holding the complete attention of everybody (including Edward Heath).

The other dominant African participant was attending his first Commonwealth summit. Part of the attention paid to General Gowon was due, no doubt, to the simple fact that Nigeria is such an economically important country. But it was also because of what one detached Commonwealth secretariat official described as Gowon's "soldierly commonsense". According to conference sources the Nigerian leader did not impress the other delegates because of his eloquence or debating skills (which are modest) but because he appeared so patently honest and reasonable. The fact that he also acted as a very effective contrast and foil to Nyerere (they had their differences) was also important. The accident of the seating arrangements also



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helped since he sat at the opposite end of the conference table from Nyerere. The fireworks between Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam were similarly augmented because they eyed each other across the table.

As on previous occasions the Commonwealth summit gave many useful opportunities for separate bilateral discussions outside the conference hall.

President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone, who submitted an intriguing paper to the conference on the agenda item on "comparative techniques of government", also used the occasion of his visit to Ottawa for what were said to be useful talks with Canadian Foreign Minister Mitchell Sharp, covering a wide range of topics including aid matters.

Similarly Brigadier Ashley-Lassen, who led the Ghana delegation, had a private meeting with Britain's Foreign Secretary, Sir Alec Douglas-Home. They discussed general African questions as well as the debt question, which remains the main outstanding question in relations between the two countries.

## The Yoro Diakite affair: 1

One day last June, when President Moussa Traore was away from Mali on an official visit to China, the Chief of Internal Security, M. Tiekoro Bagayoko, called Mme. Yoro Diakite and informed her that her husband had died in the prison of Taoudeni, in the Sahara. She was allowed to obey all the traditional rules of mourning, including four months of seclusion, the wearing of dark cloth - and crying. It is said in Bamako that when Colonel Traore heard of Capt. Diakite's death, he, too, wept.

This came to its end the career of the most controversial figure of the post-Modibo Keita era in Mali. There was no need to publish the news in the single Bamako daily, *L'Essor*, or have it broadcast over Radio Mali. By informing the Diakite family officially and by "allowing" it to mourn, the authorities have made a sort of an "official statement", African style. The news raced through the country, and when I arrived in Mali in early July, I found that people were no longer tight-lipped when the subject was raised. From the Head of State down to Malian journalists, foreign diplomats and high government officials, all were willing to discuss the rise and fall of Capt. Diakite when I asked the highest official authority why this was not announced in the usual manner. I was told I could write about Diakite - about his life, as well as about his death.

All who were closely involved in the "Affair" would tell you that it was personal, rather than political. At one point, Diakite was said to represent the pro-French tendency in the new

military regime, as opposed to the socialist pro-Chinese or pro-Russian factions. But although it is true that more than most of the young officers concerned in the November, 1968, coup in Mali, Diakite was a product of French military training and greatly influenced by his time in France, this had no great bearing on his rise and fall. The roots of the tragedy are found in his inability to subjugate himself to the junior lieutenants, on the one hand, and the unwillingness of the lieutenants, who were the true coup-makers, to submit to him just because of his higher rank, on the other. But above all, it was a dramatic and sad story of brotherly love between two men which turned sour. The two men are Yoro Diakite and Moussa Traore.

At an audience with the Malian Head of State, I did not dare begin with a question about the death of Diakite. Yet, as the subject came up, it became clear that Col. Traore was marked, even haunted by it. It should be noted that Capt. Diakite was not the first, nor the only, casualty since the military take-over. Although the coup itself, on the night of November 17-18, 1968, was a bloodless one, there have been several deaths since, notably those of some of the plotters of 1969 and of a few political detainees. The Commander of the Segou District, Djibi Syllas Diarra, was implicated in the 1969 plot. He and some of his colleagues were taken to the same desert prison, Taoudeni, near Tessalit.

In what the President had to say about the "Affair", two phrases stand out: "In order to understand what happened to Cap. Diakite", said Col. Traore, "One must go far back, long before the coup took place". And the second phrase he repeated several times, with a motion and force, almost pain, "Yoro Diakite was not only my superior and then closest collaborator; he was, above all, my friend, my brother".

The two men first met in 1950, in France. Moussa Traore was then a youth entering the Preparatory Military School, and Yoro Diakite was a young man just graduating from it. In 1956, they met again, and again in France, when Diakite and another French instructor frequently visited the Western Sudan (as Mali was then called) cadets at the Officers School.

In 1960 came independence, and, soon after, the breakdown of the Mali Federation. The Black French officers found themselves members of the Malian Armed Forces.

It was then that the old friendship turned into a close collaboration. In 1962, Diakite was appointed Commander of the Inter-Army Officers School at Kati. He asked the young Traore to be his deputy. The first group of officers "produced" in Mali graduated in 1964. From this class of 47 came the principal coup-makers; they were the main partners in the power-struggle which ousted Diakite and amongst them could be found his bitterest opponents (such as Capt. Tiekoro Bagayoko, a tough, no-nonsense type of soldier).



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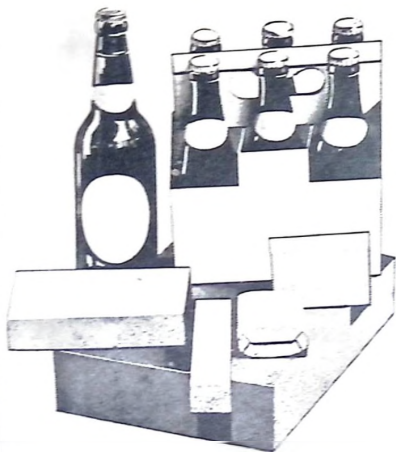
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Diakite was placed at the disposition of Lt Youssouf Traore, his inferior in rank. Moussa Traore clearly said to him: "From now, you will be given your instructions from Lt. Youssouf Traore". The roles were thus reversed.

After the coup "was consummated", to borrow the term used by Col. Traore, the comrades met to celebrate — and to elect their head. They were surprised at the ease and the smoothness with which their operation had been carried out. There and then the group decided that all major decisions taken by the new regime should be unanimous. The group proposed that Moussa Traore become Head of State. Timid and unassuming, Traore refused, and had to be persuaded to take the job. He asked his comrades that his former superior, the more worldly Capt. Diakite be appointed Head of Government (Prime Minister). This suggestion met some opposition, since certain officers felt that Diakite should not be given such a prize because of his persistent refusal to share in the risk and because, they felt, he jumped on the band-wagon only when success was assured. The CMLN (Military Committee of National Liberation) was soon to be divided between the pro-Diakite and anti-Diakite factions, with the President himself heading the pro-Diakite one for a long time.

Diakite and not Moussa Traore was the first personality of the new regime to go to Paris. He was the one to do the talking and to introduce the new government to a suspicious world. It was quite difficult

for anybody to replace the looming personality of M. Modibo Keita, the country's first President. Lt. Moussa Traore hardly left Mali during the first years of his rule, never spoke to a foreign journalist, and rarely delivered speeches to his people. It was difficult to determine what the political orientation of the new regime was and whether it had the support of any major power. As a result, a period of observation and even passivity ensued. Internally, the strongly indoctrinated civil service was suspicious, hostile and uncooperative.

## Stalemate

The young officers were acutely aware of the situation. Some thought that a major reason for the stalemate was "bi-cephalism", and proposed to get rid of the two-headed monster and concentrate all powers in one hand, that of Moussa Traore, but he did not consider himself equipped for increased responsibility. His suggestion that Diakite should take over was rejected by the CMLN. In the first Government reshuffle, the post of Head of Government was abolished and Diakite became Minister of Transport. Traore insisted that Diakite should at least be given the title of State Minister to super-minister in the French system) in view of the fact that he had been a Head of Government. Later on, Diakite was promoted to become Minister of Defence and Internal Security.

The difficulties of the first years were

clearly expressed by the frequent changes in the distribution of portfolios and the restructuring of the government. In 1970 came a new proposal — the creation of the post of Vice-President. The candidate — Yoro Diakite. But he was worried that this title would be a purely honorary one. Moreover, he found it hard to swallow such a complete reversal of roles, and to agree that the man who had been his direct subordinate in the Office School and whom he has "created" should now become his direct superior in the Government. The temperamental and proud Fulani, the boy who grew up as an orphan and who never received love and thus did not know how to give it, rejected the new arrangement.

At about the same time, a distant relative of Capt. Diakite, who was serving in the army with the rank of Sergeant-Major, was given transfer orders. The man refused to obey and was placed in custody. Diakite felt that the arrest was part of a campaign against him or, alternately, that the Sergeant-Major was severely treated because he was in relation of his. The affair was brought before Moussa Traore who said he could not interfere in a matter which was of strictly disciplinary nature. The army must follow regulations and its soldiers must obey orders. The Sergeant-Major must first accept the transfer orders, and then the matter could be taken up. The Sergeant-Major persisted in his refusal and was discharged from the army.

Tamar Golan, Bamako

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Great Zimbabwe by Peter S. Garlake  
(Thames and Hudson, £4.75)

THE unalloyed pleasure of recommending a book from every point of view, whether of form or content, can seldom come one's way: it does so on this occasion. Here is a volume that ought to be on the shelves of everyone who cares for history, above all for African history, and for every sort of good reason. The subject is a great one. The author is a master of his material. The illustrations are excellent. The book itself is a delight to handle. And in all the circumstances its price is very reasonable. A rare combination indeed.

The general story of the southern African ruins of Great Zimbabwe, and of many other more or less related ruins on the plateau between the rivers Zambezi and Limpopo, is well enough known to readers of *West Africa*. At about the same distant time as the Yoruba were building their ancient kingdoms and forming their civilisation, the people of that plateau country were doing the same. But where the early civilisation of the Yoruba has become famous throughout the world for its sculpture, that of the ancestors of the Shona people of today specialised in granite masonry: they built large and small stone residences for their rulers and places of worship, and the largest and most remarkable of these was Great Zimbabwe, not far north of the modern frontier between South Africa and Rhodesia.

When European hunters and explorers first saw these massive walls, about a hundred years ago and somewhat less, they refused to believe that Africans could have built them. They preferred to believe that Zimbabwe and other sites were the long-abandoned work of non-African immigrants of long ago. To support this belief they invented a great many theories about who these non-African immigrants might have been. The most popular of these myths was that Zimbabwe was the land of King Solomon's mines or the kingdom of the Queen of Sheba. Amateur archaeologists moved in and helped to complete the ransacking of ruins that gold-hungry adventurers had already begun, and the consequence is that a vast amount of archaeological and artistic evidence has been lost for ever. Even today the rebel settlers, led by Ian Smith go on repeating these myths, shutting their ears to all the contrary evidence, while Great Zimbabwe

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traders. From July 1964  
1970 he was senior in  
historical monuments in  
Southern Rhodesia, a post  
him to carry out a great deal  
digging and examination of a  
of inland archaeological sites  
this kind of work was  
impossible. The settlers hated  
that could question their racist  
call attention to the African bot  
this African country.  
Garlake writes without bitterness  
the official censorship and obstruct  
which the Smith government has  
out to those who want to tell  
historical truth. He and his profession

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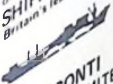
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colleagues had their findings attacked in the Rhodesian parliament, and these attacks were "supported and reinforced by Ministerial directives designed to prevent archaeologists from interpreting their findings or presenting them to the public in a popular form". A leading Smith man called Hartley set the tone in a speech, which Garlake quotes, that deserves its place in the records of settler racism. "There is one trend running through the whole of the presentation of the image of the ruins," said Hartley amid the applause of his fellow settlers, "which is apparently being directed to promoting the notion that these ... buildings were originally erected by the indigenous peoples of Rhodesia ... but I wish to make the suggestion that this notion is nothing but sheer conjecture". When that was said, a year or two ago, it was about as wise and well based as affirming that the faith was flat.

Fortunately Garlake moved to life and went on with his work unhampered by settler obscurantism. He can be congratulated on achieving so well what he set himself to do at presenting the true story of Great Zimbabwe, in so far as archaeology and history can reveal it, in a form that is both popular and professional, highly readable as well as highly reliable.

Basil Davidson

Defeat of an Ideal by Shirley Hazard  
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South West Africa and the United Nations: An International Mandate in Dispute by Solomon Slonim (John Hopkins University Press, £6 10).

For those who want a serious, workman-like background to the whole legal aspects of the Namibia (South-West Africa) question, this book would seem to meet the need. Although the book does not tell us about the author, his formation is apparently from internal evidence in his preface) that of International Law at Australian universities and at Columbia University, and he has clearly probed deeply into his subject.

He begins with history, going back to the 1919 introduction of the League of Nations Mandate system (where the original South African control over the territory was established), and takes us through to the establishment of the trusteeship system, and the subsequent abortive efforts of the UN to convert the territory into a trust territory. From then on we plunge into a labyrinth of opinions from the International Court of Justice, and resolutions of the United Nations, up to the judged judgement in The Hague in 1966, which marked, as Slonim says "the end of the struggle for international accountability", and the beginning of the attempts to achieve outright independence, always through the world body.

If it may seem sometimes that Namibia is simply an issue for resolution-mongering, this book makes clear that the issue is still a crucial one for the UN for its symbolic nature. The credibility of the UN is tied up with the issue, which is why the present Secretary-General has tried to be seen to be doing something, especially as the internal situation there becomes more acute. But the author's hope that something may be achieved by what he calls "real diplomacy" (which unfortunately links to the ill-fated "dialogue" policy) and the notion that South Africa's apartheid solution may be tempered by "a form of more equitable partition" seems in itself unrealistic. Nevertheless, this is a work of real scholarship, that many will feel obliged to refer to on this issue.

K W

A Dictionary of Famous Quotations compiled by Robin Hyman (Pan Books, 60p).

This is a revised and up-to-date edition of the *Modern Dictionary of Quotations*, published in 1962. Mr. Hyman says that it is planned as a comprehensive work of reference and also "as a book which I hope will give pleasure to readers who use it as an anthology." The number of quotations selected from an author is not to be taken as an indication of the author's popularity or merit. The criterion is "what is likely to be familiar to the general reader whose mother tongue is English". A few quotations are included from French, German, Greek, Italian, Latin and Spanish sources which

seem likely to be known to many readers and in all cases a translation is given. Among Latin quotations is Pliny's "always something new out of Africa". As well as quotations over 1,000 proverbs are included.

Many quotations from the twentieth century are included, but most current television and radio sayings, advertising slogans and political phrases are excluded.

Quotations are arranged alphabetically by author. A comprehensive index with over 25,000 entries is provided.

A. M.

The Ethiopians, by Edward Ullendorff (Oxford University Press, £1 50)

This is a third, paperback, edition of this general introduction, originally published in 1960. It is still the best book for the non-specialist. Professor Ullendorff, who is Professor of Ethiopian Studies in the University of London, while modestly pointing in his preface to some defects in the book, such as its treatment of the Gallas, says that although he has corrected some errors and greatly enlarged the bibliography, he still stands by its "impressionistic picture".

The book concentrates on "historic Abyssinia" and the culture of its Semitized peoples. It begins with a chapter on the history of the exploration of Ethiopia and of Ethiopian studies. Subsequent chapters cover the geographical background and ethnic groups, religion and the church, language and literature art and music, daily life and customs. The final chapter, extensively rewritten, deals with present-day Ethiopia, where an ancient civilization still continues, even if 20th century stresses are experienced in the towns. There is little attempt at political analysis.

P. N.

Investment Promotion Newsletter Volume 1, Number 1 (Published by the Industry and Housing Division of the Economic Commission for Africa, P. O. Box 3010, Addis Ababa).

The ICA has launched this quarterly newsletter to meet the need for up-to-date information on investment potential and development in Africa, says the Executive Secretary, Mr. Robert Gardner, in his foreword. It is designed to "serve as a useful reference tool for the Government officials, African entrepreneurs and foreign investors seeking investment opportunities in Africa." This first issue includes articles on Trends and Prospects of Japanese Investment in Africa for the 1970s, the Export Potential of the Pulp and Paper Industries in Africa and Guidelines for Successful Entry into the African Scene by Foreign Investors. There is also a page of Industrial and Development News and a section on Industrial Indicators which details the production trends of iron and steel, sandwood and plywood, and beer, cement, cotton, woven fabrics and soap. The Editor invites readers comments and suggestions.



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# Letters to the Editor

## Lagos "Master Plan"

SIR, It was interesting reading about the Lagos Traffic "Master Plan", by the Nigerian Planning Commission, to rid Lagos of traffic congestion (West Africa, July 2). It will be more interesting some time that "Master Plan" is put into effect.

It is time that the authorities recognised the solution to the traffic problems of Lagos is a direct political-administrative one.

Serving as capital to two government headquarters of all their agencies, and foreign missions and agencies, chief port of call of most industries and commerce, these with their employment capacities are potentially no traffic or highway engineering problem. Helicopter use in traffic control, not to mention the proverbial efficiency of the Nigerian Police, can solve the problem of Lagos traffic.

The way is clear. Move out one of the government headquarters to the Lagos State or the Federal Government from Lagos. With this, solve the employment and employment potential.

Again, the Federal Government industrialisation policy has hitherto been not to attract the industry into Nigeria, but to regulate or direct it to specific geographical locations. With all its geographical advantages, Lagos has almost certainly attracted a disproportionate share of the industries. It is time a Federal industrial location policy is made with regard to geographical direction or at least to restrict further industrial expansion in Lagos.

If the only novel content of the "Master Plan" is the use of helicopters to "see both ways", surely, Mr. Adejo and his colleagues, the police are invariably at the scene of a traffic jam but helpless.

Permanent treatment of an ailment is to treat the cause rather than the effect.

DONATUS OAPU

## 1976 and all that

SIR, While not necessarily supporting the present Nigerian regime, I would like to refer to the points raised by Afari Lewis (see reported August 6) as follows: "What are we waiting for until 1976?" by the end of 1976, suppose he means the Nigerian year.

However, 1976 in my own opinion, is too late to return to political "gangsterism" and undermine the authority of the present government and the consequent economic "Old Political Parties". What Afari Lewis did not tell us exactly what is meant by "spreading the wings" could it not be the "NDP debacle" "Multi-Party system"?

Not realised up to now the stipulations of an alien system, which we have neither the nor the temperament to operate successfully. Surely it is not beyond our capabilities to have a system, uniquely African, meet our own needs. In my opinion a mass movement is the only solution. Now, however, Nigeria is set out for a radical change, shall the government, provide employment to the masses.

We have had so much diverse political recent years, that until we provide a permanent cure, for God's sake, let the government offices, at least they are not doing so well in foreign affairs!

## Sir James Robertson

SIR, I notice two mistakes in the first six lines of your "Matchets Diary" paragraph "Sir James' testament", in the issue of August 6. I was Governor General of Nigeria from June 1955, not 1959 as you state, and I am 73, not 74 till late October.

JAMES W. ROBERTSON

## Students' pledge

SIR, I have read with interest the University of Ibadan students' pledge of active service to Mozambique to topple Portuguese rule in the territory. But if the past is anything to go by, can we really take these students seriously?

In the 1960s students of University of Ibadan were in the forefront of students' agitations for National Youth Service for all students in Nigeria. The NUNS (National Union of Nigerian Students) under the leadership of Solaja and Uchendu (both from U.I.) ratified this. When this was finally implemented by the Federal Military Government in 1972, students of University of Ibadan led an attack on the idea. They even threatened lives and property in their demonstrations.

I hope, it and when the time comes for Africa to rise and liberate our brothers in Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, South Africa and Rhodesia, University of Ibadan students will remember their pledge of 1973 and not resort to violent demonstrations which will not only threaten but damage properties and claim lives.

A R OLAJIDE

## Maltreated journalist

SIR, It is heart-rending to understand that in Nigeria's Rivers State, Governor Diere-Spiff's recent 31st birthday was highlighted by stripping and coming of a Nigerian journalist for allegedly writing a distasteful article which happened to coincide with the occasion.

If this unhuman treatment was a gubernatorial order - and as yet no evidence to gubernatorial order - and as yet no evidence to prove otherwise - the Governor has not only overstepped the bounds of his authority but has also made a mockery of the "codes of conduct" of General Gowon's Supreme Military Council, of which the Governor, is a member. Hence the Governor should be automatically removed.

If, on the other hand, the Governor did not personally authorise such barbaric and uncivilized behaviour but the orders were carried out by one or some of his aides, the Governor would still not be able to exonerate himself. For one thing, such an act could not have been carried out, in peace time, without some blessing from the top, more so that the article was said to have embarrassed the Governor.

In such circumstances, the Governor should be immediately replaced and a high power instituted by the Federal Government. But if the Rivers State authorities were allowed to get away with this sort of act, unknown during the civilian regime, the effect would no doubt boomerang.

May I further point out that in a democratic and orderly society where there is due respect for courts of justice, if a journalist writes, and his newspaper publishes, an article likely to be libellous or distasteful to any person or persons, the offended complainant would think it more rational to go to a recognised court of law for redress rather than to a lynch court under which the journalist, Mr. Mmere Amakiri, has ignominiously suffered.

As the removal of the Governor has nothing to do with the continued existence of the Rivers State as a State, this journalist must be heavily compensated for the unjustified physical injuries inflicted upon him.

General Gowon is highly respected internationally, and unless he quickly acts against this barbarity the reputation of his administration may be tarnished and regarded as a curate's egg which is only good in parts.

JIMOH GBADAMOSIII

## Roy Lander

SIR, Many friends in West Africa, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Ghana in particular will be very sorry to hear of the death recently in London of Roy Lander, the successful Artiste de Coiffure. He was from Kingston, Jamaica, and the son of The Hon. Wilks Isaacs, M.P., Minister of Trade in the present Jamaica Government.

Roy Lander came to England some 25 years ago, and eventually managed a successful salon in Victoria, and later developed a Hair Dressing School. A number of African and West Indian Ladies were taught their art by him.

Later, he went to West Africa, and set up hair-dressing salons and schools. He took a deep interest in West Africa where he had so many friends at all levels. He mastered French and for the past two years had managed an establishment in Cotonou.

He was proud of the fact that a number of his ex-pupils particularly in Nigeria had established salons and hair-dressing schools. He was one of the first of his race to be really successful in his profession in England, which was due to his considerable talents application and hard work.

I. G. C.

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# Matchet's Diary

In the Cass Africana Modern Library, which was edited by Professor E.U. Essien-Udom until he entered the service of Nigeria's South-East State, the first book published was *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey*. Professor Essien-Udom explains in his introduction that Mrs. Amy Jacques Garvey, who has just died in Jamaica, had edited and published *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey* originally in 1923. In 1925, while her husband was serving a five-year prison term in Atlanta, Georgia, a second volume bearing a longer title, *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey or Africa for the Africans*, was published. Both volumes were printed at the expense of the Garveys because, according to Mrs. Garvey, most publishers "did not want to handle 'that stuff'".

In addition to *The Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey*, which consists of early speeches, writing or aphorisms recorded by Mrs. Garvey, she also edited and published two volumes of his poetry, *The Tragedy of White Injustice and Selections from the Poetic Mediations of Marcus Garvey*: she also wrote a pamphlet *United States versus Marcus Garvey: was Justice Defeated?* published in 1925. Her more recent book,

*Garvey and Garveyism* (1963) which is dedicated to "truth and better understanding between races", is essential for understanding Garvey. It also provides glimpses into his family life.

Mrs. Garvey had almost single-handedly to raise and train Garvey's children. Marcus and Julius Marcus graduated at London where he took his B.A. and LL.B. Later he changed to Civil Engineering, believing this would enable him to "better the needs of his people in a scientific age". Julius studied at McGill where he took his B.Sc. and M.D. Professor Essien-Udom notes, however, that the optimistic and energetic Mrs. Garvey at last came close to suggesting some disillusionment when she wrote: "It was difficult after his death to teach them (her sons) to be proud of a race, which had 'let them down', and a father who had left them on its charity, believing: 'I have devoted my life to my people, surely if anything happens to me they will look after my boys.'"

## Help Maspero

Good publishers can suffer for their virtues of honesty and courage: of recent years none more deplorably. It seems to me, than the distinguished French publishing house of François Maspero. Africans and Africanists have many reasons to be grateful to Maspero, who has consistently published "difficult" books without the least regard for the "difficulties" which

their publication has entailed, at a high rate in Gaullist France. No publisher anywhere, perhaps, has had a greater regard and care for the need to tell the truth about Africa, whether in relation to official attitudes to South Africa and Portugal, or to other "awkward" aspects of the French position. In this, of course, Maspero has only acted according to the light of French intellectual tradition, but it is not an approach to publishing that has made him popular, except of course among his readers.

It seems now that he is threatened with closure. Only the other day *Le Monde* was noting that between 1970 and 1972 alone he has had to meet legal fines and costs amounting to some 200,000 new francs (about £20,000 at current rates of exchange). One of the reasons it appears that his famous books on the Left Bank in Paris have become a scene of organised pillage on a massive scale, the theft of books being said to have run at the equivalent of some thousands of pounds a year. One can only hope, even so, that he can overcome these blows, and continue. To this I learn, a large group of French writers and artists, ranging from the actress Simone Signoret to the historian Fernand Braudel, have formed an association aimed at helping to save the Maspero publishing house. They appeal for help of all kinds, not least financial. Their address is Amis des Editions Maspero, auprès de Monique Hervé, 49 rue Gay-Lussac, 75005 Paris.



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## Cuisine at the Calabash

I must commend to readers' attention the fact that the Calabash restaurant at the Africa Centre in London has received a boost with the employment of a Senegalese cook, who is lending a new vitality to the menu. Among the standard Nigerian dishes such as Egusi soup and dodo, you now can find such specialities of the house as Yassa de la Casamance (chicken and rice with a powerful and tasty sauce) and Dem Fari (baked fish stuffed with herbs and vegetables), both strongly to be recommended. The chef, Lamine Diop Ngor, trained for four years at the hotel management school at Cap Manuel in Dakar, where he obtained a diploma in what the French call "restauration", one of those untranslatable words which covers administration, cuisine etc.; but cooking, he says, has been his "passion". For the last three years he has been working in the Italian town of Genoa, as cook, barman and disc-jockey. He earned the extra name there of Paolo. His full repertoire (which the Calabash has not yet begun to sample) includes such enticing-sounding dishes as "Dehce de Calabash", (a cocktail of palm-heart, avocado, egg and tomato), "Assiette tropicale", (shrimps presented in the African manner with coconut and avocado Boulettes Keur Thuane (fried fish balls with tomato sauce and rice), N'Djibi Dakarou ("bee", liver, onions and tomatoes grilled on skewers as they do in Dakar)". Steak marmite à la St

Louisenne (steak marinated in vinegar, pepper, onions and then sauté in oil and served with sweet potatoes), and many others. Would we could have them all!

## Praise - songs

The *Nigerian Tribune* has prescribed for Nigeria a recent measure of the Dahomey government, where the Minister of Information, Maj. Pierre Coffi, has announced a ban on any songs or programmes on the radio which praised the head of state or ministers of the revolutionary government. It was "painful", said the minister, to see how far artists, composers and musicians went in their works to sing the praises of the head of state and ministers, especially when the nation was faced with problems of reconstruction, he said. He was not questioning the creative talents of his compatriots, but he invoked them to devoted themselves more to themes of unity, work and "revolutionary commitment to freeing the country from foreign domination". Perhaps the "cult of personality" under other skies, was a positive element which acted as a catalyst in a society, but for Dahomey it had to be seen as something which distracted the people, and hid essential problems from daily view, said the minister, adding modestly that the military government had done nothing yet to merit this kind of eulogising.

The *Tribune's* comment endorses this saying: "a nation of boot-lickers and chorus boys is not the ideal. More so when the nation is supposed to be ruled by disciplined men". It also extends the lesson to other Nigerian citizens apart from the military, referring to the "uninspiring fate" which befell "those who allowed their worth to be measured by the number of records waxed in their praise".

## Demonstration in Monrovia

The tireless Mr. H. K. Yang, Formosa's deputy Foreign Minister, I learn from an account of his recent unit to Liberia, has now visited Africa 28 times in the cause of promoting friendly relations between the Chinese Nationalist regime and African states. Thirteen of these visits have included Liberia, which still recognises Formosa, one of only a few African states to do so. However his departure from Monrovia was not too friendly.

Members of the recently-formed Movement for Justice in Africa (MOJA) started a demonstration at the airport describing Taiwan as an "agent of apartheid". They followed Mr. Yang through the airport lounge and took up positions at the entrance to the airstrip, singing "God bless native Africa", and "Down with Taiwan".

Other placards read, "Formosa is not Africa's friend", and "Africa must be free".

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## BRAZZAVILLE

# 10 years of revolution: 2

By a correspondent

Last week's article described the fall of the Abbé Youlou in the three "glorious days" of August 1963, and began to trace the development of the revolution in the subsequent ten years. The question was posed, how far has the revolution in Brazzaville maintained its purity and authenticity?

When the military eased themselves into power in 1968, it could reasonably have been speculated that the regime was taking a rightward turn. The first head of state, Major Alfred Raoul, made a good impression on French businessmen, and the general reputation of the military in Africa was one of moderation verging on conservatism. But in January 1969, Nguouabi, who had been the prime mover in the fall of Masmamba-Debat, decided to take over the reins of power.

From August 1968 he had held the key post of Chairman of the Council of the Revolution, and he now increasingly asserted himself as the real power in the regime. And with him, curiously, the revolution maintained its pristine condition. Of all the army officers who have taken up politics in black Africa Nguouabi, product of a French military academy, has been the most consciously the revolutionary intellectual, in a state of constant debate with his party militants, always ready to deliver long harangues to rally the faithful. Some attribute this fact to the Marxist convictions of his French former wife, but it seems much more likely to have been a genuine response to the powerful political climate of Brazzaville to survive at such a time you had to know the revolutionary jargon, at the very least so it was Nguouabi who brought in the Labour Party, and the Red Flag.

Nevertheless, the overthrow of Masmamba-Debat left a lot of bad blood. The subtle accusation that the last-ditch resistance of Masmamba-Debat's loyalists in the *jeunesse* was based on Bakongo ethnic loyalties, led in turn to the counter-accusation that Nguouabi, in his rise to power, had recklessly used his own ethnic power base among the Mbouhis in the army. And while revolutionary militants from the *jeunesse* like Ange Diawara, Ange Pongui, and Claude Ndalla were prepared to associate with the military (and in the case of Diawara actually join up) because they believed that it might be easier to use a military regime for their revolutionary ends than the cautious regime of "Papa" Masmamba-Debat, Nguouabi's position was still suspect. This doubt had the paradoxical effect of pushing Nguouabi into more left-wing policies than he might otherwise have been inclined to take. For example, Nguouabi has a lot in common

with President Mobutu over the role of Zaire. Mobutu has expressed previous considerable satisfaction with the fall of Masmamba-Debat, but soon after he was to power the affair of the dubious killing of Pierre Mulele, who had been a political exile in Brazza so offended opinions that Nguouabi was forced for the next three years to maintain a hostile line towards his neighbour. It was only on the dismissal of Ndalla and Noumouabi in December 1971, and their arrival in February 1972 that the resistance in Brazzaville to a reconciliation with Kinshasa really began to melt.

In other directions, however, the split between Nguouabi and the military left exacerbated his problems and seemed to force him into more politically positive attitudes than he might otherwise have taken. In the past eighteen months, for example, some of the more obvious illogicalities of the Brazzaville regime have been ironed out. Nguouabi has, for example, taken the Congo out of OAU, asked the French for removal of cooperation agreements, taken over the famous relay station of the French radio (ORTF) in Brazzaville, and also pursued reform of certain organs of the franc zone.

Not, perhaps, a revolutionary programme, but nevertheless signs of a awareness by Nguouabi of his position. Moreover, if Masmamba-Debat did push over a take-over of church schools in the state, there was little else he did to circumscribe the French sphere of influence.

The fact that a country had close relations with the Eastern bloc and the Cubans was a matter of indifference in Paris in the mid-sixties, and the 1965 break in relations with the US (which was caused by a cause for positive satisfaction).

What then, was the cause of the trouble Nguouabi has faced on his own? It was symbolised by the rebellion of the *jeunesse* Diawara? Nguouabi branded Diawara an opportunist and traitor; there is no doubt that Diawara's doomed year-long *maquis* before his capture and death in April this year depended on the ethnic solidarity among the *Lan* that Youlou had so expertly used. But Diawara's support among students was not just ethnic. Whatever the reality of the strange amalgam of ideology and traditional loyalties, the elimination of Diawara's guerrilla movement has put the Nguouabi regime a new confidence that it has proceeded with reform to legitimise the regime, by electing a popular assembly, which will choose a Prime Minister. At the same time, the increase in revenue likely to come from expanding oil production could transform the tight financial situation, and help lubricate an economy which has suffered from bad calculations on the part of capitalists and communists alike. The atmosphere, then, ten years after the *trois glorieuses*, is more optimistic than for some time but whatever happens, given the political climate of this most specialised of African capitals, some form of revolution will continue.

# Commercial News

## Cocoa quotas fixed

The International Cocoa Council completed its two-week inaugural session by fixing export quotas for its 14 producing member countries for the crop year 1973-4.

Mr Hackman, of Ghana, elected first Executive Director of the Council, described the first session as extremely successful. Details of the export quotas will not be published because "they are only academic in the present market situation," he said.

The fixed export quotas would apply only if and when the market price currently very high, were to fall to 77½ cents a pound the price in the Agreement for the introduction of 100 per cent annual export quotas.

The quotas are automatically suspended because of the world market situation, under an article of the Agreement providing for this action when the price is above 29 cents.

The world's major cocoa producers and consumers — except the US — are participating in the Agreement, which runs for three years and was brought into force provisionally last June 30. Its aim is to stabilise world market prices for cocoa and to ensure supplies to importers at fair prices to producers.

Council sources said the Executive Committee of eight producing countries and eight importing nations would meet at the Council's London headquarters next October. The next Council session is due next March.

One of the Executive Committee's first tasks is to consider whether the price range for cocoa fixed in the Agreement for October should be revised upwards in the light of recent upheavals in the world's monetary system and depreciation in the value of the dollar and sterling. The Council referred this issue to the Executive Committee after agreeing to shelve immediate discussion of it.

Producer countries brought the prices question on to the Council's agenda under an article of the Agreement empowering the Council to take "necessary corrective measures" when certain changes occur in the value of the dollar or sterling.

A document prepared for the

council by the UNCTAD secretariat estimated that recent exchange rate changes had raised the dollar costs of imports by cocoa-producing countries by about 11 per cent informed sources said. The report was understood to have recommended an upward revision of the price range to take account of these increased costs.

Herr Hans-Joachim Fritze, Managing Director and partner of a Hamburg cocoa trading company has been chosen as the buffer stock manager of the Agreement.

The buffer stock of about 250,000 tons will play an important role in the functioning of the Agreement. The buffer stock manager, operating from the Cocoa Council's headquarters in London, will buy cocoa for the stock when prices drop, and sell when they rise so as to keep prices relatively steady.

Creation of the buffer stock is likely to be extremely difficult since world cocoa stocks are low at present, and supplies are expected to fall short of demand by about 200,000 tons this year.

New Zealand has applied to join the Agreement.

## Cocoa market comments

The freer availability of nearby physical cocoa appears to have disturbed market confidence and heavy selling brought near September down to £650 a ton, a fall of over £200 since August 1. Says the *Guardian*: "Dealers also ascribed the fall in this position to the substantial increase in the deposit rate on the two nearest months and it certainly seems as if this move has tended to curb speculative activity."

"The rest of the market was progressively less affected. The pressure to sell there was far less market, especially in view of the uncertain prospects for new crops, estimates of which should give traders a fresh lead quite soon."

"In view of the fact that there has been no major change in fundamentals, the recent declines seem to be largely of a technical nature — a period of adjustment was to be expected after the phenomenal rise in values. There

is also the fact that the covering in of "short" positions has been more or less completed, making the market even more vulnerable to withdrawals of support."

• The Gambia, Lesotho and its latest Commodity Review that whether the present behaviour of the market has anything to do with cocoa is still a matter of conjecture. Certainly the activity in September 1973, position ought to reflect the degree of shortage in the near position.

However, as the current price level and premium should attract every spare ton of tenderable cocoa available anywhere in the world, particularly as it is being suggested that nearby actuals no longer command any worthwhile premium over the terminal market, "we are doubtful whether the September premium can continue to be maintained."

For the rest of the market, Bache says, no major move should now be anticipated until more news is received from West Africa, and with doubts overhanging consumption trends, "we prefer to stand aside for the time being".

## UN petroleum aid

Suggestions for assisting developing countries to develop their petroleum industries are set forth in the report of the UN Interregional Seminar on Petroleum Refining in Developing Countries, held in New Delhi this year.

The suggestions stress the importance of the UN role in providing technical assistance to the developing countries, including the training of personnel, as well as advice on such matters as the possible use of international financial agencies to obtain funds for oil, natural gas and related sectors.

The UN, the report states, should assist developing countries in conducting intensive exploration for oil and gas and in establishment of refineries. The UN should study the world energy situation, investigate new sources of energy and provide advice and guidance to developing countries in planning their energy development programmes, particularly those based on oil and natural gas.

Another suggestion is for creation of an information bureau to serve developing countries through the collection, analysis and dissemination of information. Mechanisms should also be developed to encourage regional and sub-regional co-operation among developing countries with a view to ensuring supplies of crude oil for their essential requirements.

The Seminar urged governments to exercise "close scrutiny and control over the repatriation of earnings by foreign oil companies

in order to ensure that an undue drain of funds does not occur in respect of technical services fees, consultations with head offices, consultations on research and development aspects, and royalty and licence fees."

## Lonrho appoints Dahomey sugar consultants

Lonrho has appointed Howard Humphreys and Sons, consulting engineers of Reading and Epsom, to study the civil engineering aspects of a proposed sugar complex in Dahomey.

Lonrho is examining the feasibility of growing sugar cane under irrigation near Savé, about 250 kilometres north of Cotonou. The project would include the construction of a factory to produce sugar, an irrigation system, roads, a railway link and housing.

SOGREAH, French consulting engineers, are advising on pedological matters. Hunting Services are responsible for mapping.

• Output of crude oil in Nigeria averaged 1,876,523 barrels a day in May, 12,825 more barrels a day than the figure for April, according to the Standard Bank Review for last month. But production for May was lower than 1,932,603 barrels a day for February. Export of crude oil for the month was 7,590,831 net tons. A total of 53,571 barrels a day were delivered to Port Harcourt refinery. The review confirms second oil discovery by Japan Petroleum Company off Bonny BP Statistical Review just published in London, says that output of crude oil increased by 42 per cent between 1967 and 1972, representing the largest increase during the period of oil producing countries in the world.

• A meeting of the world's coffee producers is to take place in London on August 23-30 to discuss marketing strategy for the 1973-74 coffee year beginning October 1. A private meeting of the big four producers — Brazil, Colombia, Portugal and the Ivory Coast — will take place on August 20.

• UTA, the French airline, has declared a 12 per cent increase in its turnover with a net profit of 8,729,000 francs for 1972, an increase of 7.7 per cent over 1971.

Compared to 1971, the passenger kms flown increased by 11.6 per cent to 2,100 million, the ton/kms by 18.1 per cent to 127 million and postal freight by 5.6 per cent to 13 million tons/kms.

In 1973 UTA received 3 DC10-30s with future deliveries of 2 more in 1974 and 1975 respectively, 2 more being an option.

Although recognising that it is too early to make a firm forecast, the latest Barclays Bank Review suggests a figure of 200,000 tons for the 1973-74 Nigerian cocoa crop as the maximum which can be exported. Only negligible quantities of cocoa from the current light crop were expected to be offered to the marketing boards and a rise in producer prices was hoped for.

The Review notes the World Bank FAO "Project identification" at present being carried out in the Mid-West State concerning the prospects of setting up a small holdings rubber project. In the East Central State, investigations continue as to the feasibility of establishing 15,000 acres of oil palm.

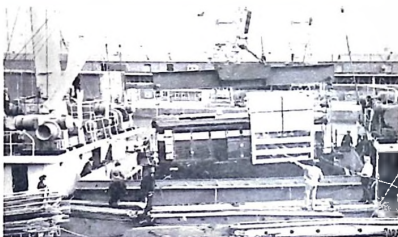
## Road contracts in Nigeria

Nigeria has awarded new road construction contracts worth 37m naira under the Second National Development Plan. A Cabinet Office statement in Lagos said the contracts would cover road projects in the North-Western State and be undertaken by two construction companies. The statement explained that the construction of the road had been divided into five sections to accelerate the execution of the project which formed part of the proposed highway stretching from Lagos to Sokoto, North-Western State capital. The road would continue to the boundary between Nigeria and the Niger Republic.

The Overseas Development Administration are making a grant of £60,000 to the East African Agriculture and Forestry Research Organisation in Kenya. The grant will be spent over three years and will support investigations into virus diseases in groundnuts, maize and legumes.

The characteristics of several groundnut rosette viruses will be examined and searches will be made for field resistant varieties. The virus disease of other grain legume species will also be evaluated in relation to the viruses of groundnuts.

In April, the ODA made a research grant of £12,650 to Reading University for research on groundnut breeding. Last year a number of wild plants related to the groundnut were collected in South America and it is hoped that some of these "new" species may be resistant to diseases such as leaf spot and the rosette virus which infect the cultivated groundnut. Reading will attempt to transfer any resistance characteristics to the cultivated groundnut by involving hybridisation techniques.



The picture shows the fourth of 22 diesel shunting locomotives provided by Britain for the Nigerian Railway Corporation being loaded on the Lagos Palm. The locomotive is part of a contract worth £2m, awarded to Brush Electrical Machines Ltd. of Loughborough under an Overseas Development Administration Aid Loan, and administered by the Crown Agents.

Investigations carried out by the Commonwealth Development Corporation, CDC, show that there are good prospects being undertaken in Nigeria by the CDC in co-operation with some State Governments. The CDC is also assisting the North-Eastern State Government in investigations on the technical aspects of mechanised production of wheat and rice. Other projects being undertaken by the CDC in partnership with the East-Central State Government include the development of an oil palm estate

and associated factory in Owerri. The Corporation's annual report for last year says it made new investments in Nigeria up to about 3,000,000 naira. This brings to 19,000,000 naira the amount of the Corporation's investments in the country.

The Electro-Mechanical Industry Group of Milan (GIE) is to supply electricity to several towns in the Ivory Coast under an agreement signed with the Electricity Corporation of Abidjan. The contract is believed to be worth 11m CFA francs.

## Gardiner's Mboya lecture

Prior to independence, Africans were generally consumers rather than producers said ICA executive secretary, Mr. Robert Gardiner, when delivering the fourth Tom Mboya Memorial Lecture entitled "Localising Professional Education and Training" at the Kenya Institute of Management. They were clients who received the end products of the administration as well as the articles of traders. Thus they did not take part in administration and commerce and had little opportunity to gain experience. The emphasis of colonial administration was on the maintenance of law and order, rather than the development of a modern economy. "For this reason," said Mr. Gardiner, "wide professional gaps exist in newly-independent African states in accountancy, costing, budgeting, marketing, revenue raising, material purchasing and supply, real estate administration, development and maintenance, records and information systems, insurance and valuation, public relations and personnel management".

Mr. Gardiner contended that courses given in universities which touch on these services provide theoretical and basic training, but they do not cover all the

disciplines required for running modern services.

If African countries are to tackle the problem of providing administrative personnel, it would seem desirable to set up a permanent Council in each country for the registration of professional bodies and associations, stated Mr. Gardiner. The Council would regulate, among other tasks, examination standards, evaluate certificates and diplomas and generally advise governments on standards of professional codes and ethics. Under such an arrangement, professions, trades and services could be clearly defined and those who qualified would be encouraged in their efforts to promote training of personnel.

Mr. Gardiner said that each country needed qualified men who could negotiate contracts and agreements on their behalf. This is all the more important because what deters a foreign investor is not a tough bargain, Mr. Gardiner emphasised. What the investor wants is an agreement in which essential points are clearly spelled out and mutually understood. He said that the lack of trained and experienced men often leaves the feeling that an unequal agreement has been entered into and is likely to be denounced in later years.

Unilever's edible fats has begun to be in the cost of raw materials for Interim Palm. "The many important raw materials have reached appropriate levels. This, together with control in some countries, is expected to have the profit later in the year offset by continuing raw sales." UAC continued its recovery statement.

The Commonwealth Executive Commission for the Council of Ministers tariff preferences given to cotton textile imports from developing countries at the end of this year.

The preferences, which September 30, should be extended in view of Interim Trade talks under the GATT Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) later this year, Commission said.

A long term agreement on textiles, under which preferences are given to developing countries, will be renegotiated after the talks.

A conference on Development in Africa has taken place in It was arranged by a group of organisations concerned with economic development, including the Council for Development of Learning and Social Research in Africa (CODLSRIA), and an organisation for Co-operation and Development (OECD).

A communique published by CODLSRIA before the meeting said the aim was to examine territorial and largely which caused duplication of effort and the use of limited, contradictory methods demographic research. The conference also reviewed present methods and had research into African population problems and made proposals for future fields of research.

## New ODA head

Mr. R.M.B. King, Interim Secretary in the Overseas Development Administration, has been appointed Secretary. He was Sir Michael Walker, who was appointed British Commissioner in New Delhi, will take up his new post on November 1.

Mr. King, who is 53, has been associated with British programmes since 1961 when he joined the Overseas Development Department of the Foreign Office. He was also Secretary for Africa in the Ministry of Overseas Development when it was formed in 1968. He is Deputy Secretary in the

## FED proposals

The EEC Commission is proposing that the European Development Fund, which channels financial aid to the Community's African associates, be brought within the scope of the Common Market's overall budget from 1975 onwards. The fund would then be financed out of the Community's "own resources" (receipts from customs duties, farm import levies and a proportion of value added tax), and no longer by contributions from member governments as at present.

The Commission says there should be no trouble in finding sufficient resources for the fund, which from February, 1975, will also be providing financial aid to those Common-wealth countries that negotiate association agreements with the Community on the lines of the present Yaoundé convention. It also gives a series of arguments for incorporating the fund in the overall budget for both political and economic reasons.

One important reason, the Commission says, is that this would avoid wrangling between the member states over a new "key" for governmental contributions when the fund is renewed. The present fund is still financed exclusively by the former six, and if the present system is continued there would have to be potentially difficult negotiations to work out the shares of the UK and the other new members.

Secondly, the Commission says that the fund would be the only Community financial activity still to be carried out on the basis of national contributions if it is not incorporated in the budget in 1975, and would thus be outside the powers of control of the European Parliament.

A further argument is that inclusion of the fund, which is currently spending around 200m. units of account (pre-Smithsonian dollars) a year, would help to tilt the balance of the overall budget away from agriculture, now accounting for over 80 per cent of the total. The proposed new system would also help to ensure that an aid gap was avoided each time the fund has to be renewed.

The proposal has already been included in the memorandum published in April on the EEC's future relations with African countries.

A presidential decree in Brazzaville granted ELL-Congo permission to search for oil and gas on the high seas. The five-year permit is renewable twice. It is hoped that ELL-Congo will spend about 6m. CFA francs on the search during the first period and another 300m. CFA francs later.

• The European Development Fund is to give aid worth \$2,619,000 to Zaire to help it to finance a programme for agricultural development in the Eastern Kasai Region. Senegal will receive \$972,000 to build up risk capital for investment projects in the Maritime Construction Sector.

The International Development Association will assist a telecommunications project and an education project in Upper Volta. A 4.5m. credit will help finance a \$5.6m. equivalent rehabilitation and modernisation of local and long-distance telephone facilities to improve the quality of service and meet anticipated demand. The second credit for \$2.85m. is for a \$3.6m. equivalent education project aimed principally at rural areas.

• A loan agreement which will provide 1,000m. CFA francs for the Ivory Coast Maritime Transport Society (SITRAM), has been signed between the National Canadian Bank (BNC) and the International Bank for West Africa (IBAO). The loan will assist purchase of two refrigeration ships. It follows a similar loan earlier this year to SITRAM for three cargo ships.

## Shagari on SDRs

Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) will become the principal monetary reserve asset and gold will be "phased out", the Federal Commissioner for Finance, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, said on his return from the IMF meeting in Washington. The role of gold would diminish to the extent to which SDRs replaces it over the years, he explained.

Alhaji Shehu said that the less-developed countries were disappointed by the "not very sympathetic" attitude of some major countries over the demand that a link be established between SDR's and development assistance. The less developed countries had also suffered considerable losses because of floating exchange rates.

• Farm buildings in temperate countries represent a new market for tropical hardwoods, according to UAC Timber Referring to a brochure issued by Holmes (Wragby) the company says that there is increasing use of tropical hardwoods, particularly West African, in structural members of these buildings. It is expected that existing use of softwoods will be accompanied by greater acceptance of the new scientifically tested tropical timbers.

The Gambia, Lesotho and Mauritius joined the African Development Bank this year, leaving Guinea and Malaysia as the only OAU members who do not belong to the bank.

## Shipping News

**ELDER DEMPSTER LINES**  
SOUTHBOUND - From Liverpool: FOURAH BAY due Appapa Aug. 27, DUNKWA slg. Aug. 31; MANO slg. Aug. 23, EGORI due Port Harcourt Aug. 22, FIAN due Abidjan Aug. 17. From London: FULANI slg. Aug. 23, BHANO slg. Aug. 23. From Newport: DALLA slg. Aug. 17.

From N. Continent: MACHAON due Appapa Aug. 18. NORTHBOUND - To Liverpool: PEGU due Aug. 21. To London: FALABA slg. Appapa Aug. 20. To Avonmouth: EBOE slg. Lobito Aug. 18, IRINI due Aug. 25; KOHIMA slg. San Pedro Aug. 19. To Le Havre: FREETOWN due Aug. 18. To Hull: DIXCOVE slg. Appapa Aug. 17.

To N. Continent: KABALA slg. Freetown Aug. 17. To Poole: CLEARWAY due Aug. 19. To Southampton: AUREOL slg. Appapa Aug. 17. EASTBOUND - From USA/Canada: DARU due Dakar Aug. 17, DUMBAIA slg. New York Aug. 24.

**WESTBOUND** - To USA/Canada: DEIDO slg. Labreville slg. Aug. 15, DONGA due New Orleans Aug. 26, DUMUKRA due Freetown Aug. 18.

Eastern Service to West Africa: ERNEBANK due Lobito Aug. 20. **BARBER LINES**  
OUTWARDS - BARBERBROOK due Tema, thence Lagos/Appapa, Douala; BARBERGATE slg. New York Aug. 24 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Appapa, Douala. **HOMEWARDS** - BARBERGATE due New York Aug. 20, BARBERBROOK Idg. Lagos S. Douala Aug. 22, Sapele Aug. 24, Broua Aug. 26, Abidjan/ Monrovia early Sep.

**'K' LINE**  
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Luanda, Port Harcourt, Lagos, Abidjan. **MUNESHIMA MARU** slg. Japan Jul 19 due Lagos Aug. 23. **EASTBOUND** - From Lagos, Abidjan: **MUNLISHIMA MARU** slg. Lagos Sep. 1, Abidjan Sep. 6 due Japan Oct. 7.

**BLACK STAR LINE/USNIH/WEST AFRICA**  
WESTBOUND - BENYA RIVER Ghana Aug. 21, Abidjan Aug. 22, Philadelphia Sep. 4, thence Gulf.

**BLACK STAR LINE/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA**  
SOUTHBOUND - PRA RIVER Rotterdam Aug. 4, Rouen Aug. 9, Dunkirk Aug. 7, Bordeaux Aug. 11, AFRAM RIVER London Aug. 17. **NORTHBOUND** - OFFIN RIVER Bremen Aug. 9, Hamburg Aug. 12, Rotterdam Aug. 15, LAKE BOSOMTWE London Aug. 10.

**DAFRA LINES**  
WESTBOUND - FRANKRIG slg. Lobito Sep. 13 due Douala Sep. 17, Takoradi Sep. 19, Abidjan Sep. 21. **FASTBOUND** - ESSEX slg. Houston Aug. 30 due Monrovia Sep. 21, Abidjan Sep. 23, Tema Sep. 25.

**PALM LINE**  
SOUTHBOUND - ENUGO PALM due Tema Aug. 22, IKORIN PALM slg. Appapa Aug. 22. **NORTHBOUND** - IBADAN PALM slg. Appapa Aug. 29; IKEJA

PALM due San Pedro Aug. 25.

**N.Y.K. LINE**  
WESTBOUND - SADO MARU Tema Aug. 12/13, Lagos/Appapa Aug. 14/19, Douala Aug. 20/22, Abidjan Aug. 24/27. **EASTBOUND** - Lobito Aug. 31/Sep. 6, Singapore Sep. 24/25, Japan first port Oct. 2.

**MITSUI OSK LINE**  
LA PLATA MARU slg. Kobe Sep. 6 due Lagos Sep. 26. **HUSTON MARU** slg. Kobe Aug. 19 due Lagos Sep. 26. **HAKONESAN MARU** slg. Kobe Sep. 4 due Lagos Oct. 6.

**MAERSK LINE**  
INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matsai, Lagos, Abidjan: SUSAN MAERSK slg. Kobe Sep. 5 due Luanda Oct. 2. **OUTWARDS** - From Matsai, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Takoradi: MAREN MAERSK slg. Lagos/Appapa Aug. 25 due Tema Aug. 26.

**SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA LINE**  
NORTHBOUND - ARIZONA slg. W.A. Sep. for discharge Scan. Oct; ALABAMA slg. W.A. Sep. for discharge Scan. second half Oct.

**ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES**  
INWARDS - STRAAT FRANKLIN slg. Japan, 18 due Monrovia Aug. 3, Freetown Aug. 5, Abidjan Aug. 8, Tema Aug. 9, Port Harcourt Aug. 12, Lagos/Appapa Aug. 14, Tema Aug. 21. **STRAAT MAGELHAEN** slg. Hong Kong Jun 12 due Monrovia Aug. 4, Freetown Aug. 6, Dakar Aug. 9, Conakry Aug. 13, Abidjan opt., Takoradi Aug. 20.

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

**FARRELL LINES**  
**HOMEWARDS** - AFRICAN MERCURY slg. Lagos/Appapa Sep. 2 for Port Harcourt, Douala, Abidjan, Monrovia, US ports. **AFRICAN COMET** slg. Lagos/Appapa Sep. 27 for Matsai, Luanda, Oct. 4, Abidjan, Monrovia, US ports. **AFRICAN COMET** due Monrovia Sep. 15 for Buchanan, Abidjan, Tema, Sep. 21, Lagos/Appapa Sep. 23, Matsai, Luanda; **AFRICAN NEPTUNE** due Monrovia Oct. 3 for Abidjan, Tema, Oct. 9, Lagos/Appapa Oct. 11, Matsai, Luanda, Lobito.

**WESTWIND AFRICA LINE**  
EASTWIND due Tema Sep. 9, Lagos Sep. 14, Pointe Noire Sep. 13, Abidjan Sep. 18. **SANTA MAJA** slg. Houston Aug. 21, New Orleans Aug. 24 for Tema, Lagos, Calinda.

**THE E.A.C. LINES**  
SOUTHBOUND - SIENA slg. Hamburg Aug. 21, Bremen Aug. 23, Antwerp Aug. 25, Rotterdam Aug. 29, Rouen Sep. 23, Dakar Sep. 8, Monrovia Sep. 11, Abidjan Sep. 14, Lome Sep. 16, Lagos/Appapa Sep. 19. **NORTHBOUND** - DOGATA slg. Lagos/Appapa Aug. 26, Abidjan Aug. 29, Monrovia Sep. 1 due Hamburg Sep. 12, Bremen Sep. 22, Antwerp Sep. 24, Rotterdam Sep. 26.

**THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE**  
SOUTHBOUND - HERBERT MACAULAY slg. Amsterdam Aug. 27 due Las Palmas Sep. 1, Lagos/Appapa Sep. 10. **NORTHBOUND** - ELENA M. due Hull Aug. 20, Middle-strength Aug. 24.

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of our Dearly Beloved Father  
CHIEF PETU (AIYEDEBINU)  
of ARAROMI-AYEKA OKITIPUPA  
who slept in the Lord on August 18, 1971  
It seems like a dream when we remember your affection  
and your love for others  
We can never forget you and we shall continue to  
mourn your death in silence as long as we live.*  
B.A.B.I. SURE O

CHILDREN: Mr. J.A. Aiyedehinu (Nigeria)  
Mr. A. Aiyedehinu (Nigeria)  
Mr. I.O. Aiyedehinu (London)  
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## DANCES, Cont.

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Date: Sunday 26th August, 1973

From 7 p.m. - 7 a.m.

Place: Coventry Club (Iroko)

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Tickets: £1.25 each at the gate

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Tube: Belsize Park Station

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Chief Kayode Akinsanya, Tel: 01-539 2949

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Organiser: Tel: 01-986 2575

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The African Brothers Band from Ghana  
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Tel: 01-228 4163

## DANCES Cont.

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in an All-Night fashion

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Saturday 25th August, 1973

commencing at 7 p.m. until dawn

Under the distinguished Chairmanship of

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ALSO AT

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Saturday

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Under the distinguished

Chairmanship of

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Music by

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# Dateline Africa

## NIGERIA

### Gowon has little faith in Ian Smith

Gen Gowon said on his return from the Ottawa conference on Commonwealth heads of government that detention of African nationalists in Rhodesia would not solve the territory's constitutional problems. Gen Gowon urged Mr Ian Smith, Rhodesian Premier, to adopt a more conciliatory attitude and pave the way for fruitful discussions on the country's future. Asked if he had faith in Mr. Smith, the OAU chairman, said: "As far as faith is concerned, I have little or none in Mr. Smith." Gen. Gowon said that the Ottawa meeting was a huge success. "The meeting has reinforced my belief in the present and future existence of the Commonwealth organisation".

But in an editorial, the Western State-owned *Daily Sketch* describes the conference as a failure. The newspaper says that "a close examination of the outcome of the Ottawa conference itself would reveal the hollowness of (Mr.) Heath's (British Premier) claim that the meeting had been a positive one". The *Sketch* says that "it would be nearer the truth to describe it as a sterile jaw-jaw exercise which has not resolved any issue nor offered any hope of solution to the burning issues surrounding Zimbabwe, Namibia, apartheid and Portuguese brutality in Africa". The newspaper hopes Gen. Gowon has learnt that "the Commonwealth has outlived its usefulness and that the salvation of African nations lies in their

own hands". The *Sketch* adds that "as a chairman of the OAU, Gen. Gowon should use his Ottawa experience as a catalyst for setting Africa on a path of industrial and economic development which is the surest way of ensuring true freedom of all parts of the continent in due course".

Gen Gowon said in Ottawa that he would not accuse Gen. Amin of racialism following his expulsion of 40,000 Asians. "I find it very hard to interfere in what is an internal matter. I suppose that (Gen.) Amin found this the only way to solve his problems". Restating aspects of Nigeria's foreign policy, Gen. Gowon noted that the OAU "has a greater chance of survival than any regional organisation in the world" in spite of problems facing it. He told newsmen that UN should "exert its might" to wrest control of Namibia from South Africa. "The world body is in a position to force South Africa to give its child back", he said. Gen. Gowon said that Nigeria "accepts the reality of the new state of Bangladesh" and hoped that Bangladesh and Pakistan would soon resolve their differences.

Turning to domestic issues, Gen Gowon hoped that conditions would improve to the

point where the military go back to barracks and rule over to civilian. Asked whether Nigeria would be a one-party state, Gen. Gowon said "that will be up to you to decide. Let us stay away with the Westminster of parliamentary system. What got us into the present are in now".

### Youth Corps deployed

Members of the Nigerian Youth Service Corps are now being deployed to the State, some of them to be posted to teach in senior schools, others are to be posted to ministries either as advisers or agricultural officers. In the Western State, corps members have reported to the state which they were around 100 members had also been deployed in the East Central State. The corps members will be in charge of teaching because of shortage of teachers in the country.

The Nigerian Navy will establish a dockyard for the repair of naval and mercantile ships. It will be the first of its kind in the country.

## DANCES Cont.

MECCA EMPIRE BALLROOM, LEICESTER SQUARE  
(nearest Tube: Leicester Square)

# AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

ALL NIGHT DANCE

Sunday 26th — 12 Midnight — Monday 27th — 6 a.m.

AFRICA — CARIBBEAN NON STOP DANCE

FEATURING

**THE AFRICAN BROTHERS** (GHANA)

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Also ALL-NIGHT DANCE at Africa Centre, 38 King Street, W.C.1 on FRIDAY 24th AUGUST from 11 p.m.—3 a.m. Tickets £1.00.

K.D. FRIMONG

## Journalist caned

There has been a public outcry against alleged maltreatment of the chief correspondent of the *Nigerian Observer* in Rivers State, Mr. Minere Amakiri following a report by him of a news conference addressed by teachers in the state over their conditions of service. The report was described as "embarrassing" because the report coincided with the Governor's 31st birthday. Mr. Amakiri was alleged to have been stripped and given 24 strokes of the cane and put in detention for 27 hours on Governor Diere-Spiff's orders. His head and beard were shaved. Commenting on the incident, the *Daily Times* in a front page editorial notes that the treatment meted out to Mr. Amakiri had cast grave doubt on the truth of the claim that the Nigerian press was the freest in Africa. The Western State-owned *Daily Sketch* says "It is the type of tameness which makes seasoned journalists afraid to speak out frankly and to give opinions that may be of immense benefit to the nation in the long run".

In its comment, the *Daily Express* calls for dismissal of the governor. The *Nigerian Tribune* notes that "The Port Harcourt affair has created the impression that the tendency now is for people to feel that living being chosen as the lesser evil to rule the country, rulers, civilian and military", arrogate to themselves right to command the allegiance of the Press. The Secretary of the Nigerian Guild of Editors, Mr. Tony Momoh, said "We are not impressed by the argument that because the Governor of the state was celebrating his birthday, a news item based on a press conference by aggrieved teachers will no longer be true". He added that "the action of the Governor's ADC was a most serious departure from the process of the Law".

Addressing a news conference, the chairman of the Nigerian Newspapers Proprietors Association, Mr. Lateef Jakande, described the ADC's action as "a barbaric act and a primitive assault on the dignity of man and the freedom of the press. I cannot understand why small men in the corridors of power should embarrass the Federal Government just when the head of state is trying to promote the image of the country abroad", he said.

The North Central State Council of the NUJ has described the action as "savage and callous" and has called on newspapers to recall their representatives from the state until "those responsible for the cruel act have been brought to book".

Gabon's first Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Georges Akoma has

arrived in Lagos to open his country's mission Mr. Akoma, 37, was accompanied by two officials. He said that his first task would be to re-establish fruitful relations between his country and Nigeria. Gabon was one of four African countries that recognised secessionist Biafra during the civil war. All four countries have restored relations with Nigeria broken off following recognition of Biafra by them.

Preliminary construction work has begun at the site at Iganmu on Lagos mainland on the N24.5m National Arts Theatre. The Bulgarian firm, Techno-Exportstroy is carrying out the work.

The Ibrau organisation has signed an agreement with Sekisu Chemical Company of Japan for the manufacture of PVC pipes.

The first and only indigenous nail and washer manufacturing company in West Africa, Junfit (Nigeria) Ltd., has been opened at the Oshodi Industrial Extension, Lagos.

The Kwara Investment Company is to build a N2m office block in Ilorin.

The N2m fibre factory in Jos is to be expanded at an estimated cost of N4m, to increase the production of sacks and bags from 12m. to 20m. annually.

## Livestock export banned

Nigeria has banned the export of livestock to counter a meat shortage. An official announcement said cattle, goats and sheep had been decimated because of the current drought in West Africa.

Holland will contribute nearly 2,500m Guilders (about £358,000) towards the construction of a trial polder - reclaimed land - for rice cultivation in Nigeria. Dutch Vice-Premier, Andreas Van Agt, announced.

About 360 alien firms will have to sell their businesses to Nigerians under the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree. About 95 per cent of these firms have notified the Nigerian Enterprises Promotions Board that they were already engaged in useful talks with would-be Nigerian buyers.

Jaemy West Africa Limited is to establish a N400,000 factory to produce ice blocks, ice cream and allied products in Ibadan in September. Six similar industries are to be established in the North-West, the North-East, Mid-West, Kano, Kwara and East-Central States at a cost of N2.7m.

## Equato-Guinea plot alleged

Hundreds of Equatorial Guinea nationals are in detention because of their alleged involvement in an opposition plan to overthrow the government of President Francisco Macias, a Nigerian deportee has disclosed in Lagos. Dickson Akpan, 30, who claimed to have lived in Equatorial Guinea for ten years, said he was deported from there for alleged involvement in distribution of secret documents which spelt out details of a planned coup by opposition elements.

Mr. Akpan said he was working as an office assistant with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Malabo (formerly Santa Isabel) when he was detained for five days before being deported. He said the UNDP office itself had been closed down, and its four foreign workers, including the Ilati-born resident representative, deported on the same pretext. But Mr. Akpan denied knowledge of the alleged opposition plot. He said he had left his wife behind in Malabo. Mr. Akpan flew to Lagos with emergency travel documents given him by the Nigerian Embassy in Equatorial Guinea.

The Mid-Western State Food Production Company has invested 647,752 naira in production of maize and rice on its farms covering 2,833 acres. A 2,000-acre farm at Algbette in Etsako Division, is planted with rice, while the 883-acre farm at Mbini in Ika Division is planted with maize.

In an attempt to improve Nigerian Airways, Mr. Francis Obi, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport, until recently part-time chairman of the Airways, has now been appointed permanent Chairman.

Chief Dennis Osadebay, former Mid-West Regional Premier, has returned to Nigeria after a prolonged stay in Europe for medical attention. He was met at Ikeja Airport by Dr. Kingsley Mbaduwa, a former Federal Minister.

The Commissioner for Trade and Industry and Cooperatives in the North-Western State has announced that his government intends to sell to indigenous businessmen all its shares in the North-West Trade Development Company, Sokoto Tannery, Gusu Oil Mill and the Sokoto Furniture Factory.

The Federal Government has spent N224,000 on a series of workshops organised by the Faculty of Social Sciences of Ibadan University on the third development plan, 1975-1980. The World Bank sent 13

experienced specialists to take part.

In the North-Eastern State uncultivated farm lands are to be acquired for use by the Government. The State Commissioner for National Resources, Alhaji Muhammadu Mai, said that the move was another effort to provide food to combat the threat of famine posed by drought. In Kano State over 7,000 hectares are to be irrigated as part of the State Government's emergency measures.

Jos, in Benue-Plateau State, has been selected as the headquarters of the Nigerian Mining Corporation.

Protracted strike action since March by labourers in a rubber plantation in the South-Eastern State to back up a payment of 13 kobo increase has caused a loss of N5.4m.

Brig. Oluwale Rotami has restuffed his permanent secretaries. The new postings take effect from September 1.

The Kwara State has contributed 123,000 naira to recurrent expenses of 250 members of the National Youth Service Corps in the state, Governor David Bumigboye, has announced.

Employees of insurance companies are now to enjoy new benefits covering leave travel allowance and medical scheme. This followed recommendations of the Industrial Arbitration Tribunal over a dispute between the Nigerian Union of Bank, Insurance and Allied Workers and the Nigerian Insurance Employers Association. The union secretary, Mr. N. F. Pepple, said that workers were enjoying the benefits for the first time.

## Government takes over Nsukka

The Federal Government has taken over the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, with effect from April 1, the Cabinet Office has announced in Lagos. The take-over followed consultations between East Central and South Eastern state governments and the Federal Government. The take-over was in the interest of the states and the nation and was without prejudice to management of universities by states, but the Federal Government would willingly consider request by state to take over a unive under its management.

More than 150,000 ton foodstuffs are lost each because of pests, the de

director of the Institute of Agricultural Research, Ahmadu Bello University, Alhaji Ibrahim Yazidu, has said. He told a 10-day post-harvest crop protection course participants in Zaria, that the need to protect harvests had become more urgent in view of current drought.

• The Nigerian tailor, Mr. Joseph Balogun, who was deported from Britain, has arrived in Lagos. Mr. Balogun who said he had lived in Britain for eight years was refused entry into the country because he had no valid visa. He had travelled to Nigeria for the funeral of his father. Mr. Balogun was alleged to have come to Britain in 1965 on a visitor's visa but failed to leave the country when this expired. He said that he had been detained for two weeks before his deportation. He left an expectant fiancée and property in Britain. Britain's immigration law, which has prospective effect, provides for deportation of illegal immigrants.

The Nigerian Petroleum Company has resumed all supply of petroleum products. This followed completion of repair work on one company's plants which had been down six weeks ago. As a result of the breakdown there was a shortage of petroleum products. The company said that it has now returned to full operation to supply adequate petroleum products for use throughout the country. It thanked the Federal Government for ensuring the continuity of the supply of such products during the period of the breakdown.

## Benefits for workers

The States Interim Liabilities Agency will now pay benefits to 500,000 naira to workers dismissed in 1976. The workers' union of the Eastern Mineral Corporation is celebrating Rev. House, and the Corporation and the States Information before the war, but up at end of cover areas and former region states in 1967.

es may not be bers in some because of vices. The P the South Ukpung Ministry of spent ce stolen or weld in Ministry to replace

## IVORY COAST Houphouët's Japanese model

President Felix Houphouët-Boigny has said that the Ivory Coast has taken Japan as its model, and hopes to be able to follow Japan's example. The President, speaking in a nationwide radio and television broadcast on the eve of the Ivory Coast's 13th anniversary of independence said: "Japan, a country with very limited raw materials, has leaped ahead prodigiously in world competition, reaching the top, thanks to the quality of its people and to an exemplary political stability. Japan has realised, all the while keeping intact and even enhancing its own thousands of year-old culture, that competition with the most developed countries is on another level science, technique and technology. Thanks to the quality of its work, carried out under a freely-accepted discipline, and unshakable in its destiny, Japan is hard on the heels of the American giant in the economic field — the field that determines the real independence of countries," he said.

The President added it was necessary to follow strictly the Ivory Coast's development programme, and to Africanise private enterprise. He warned private business to "understand the will for legitimate Africanisation and to turn over to the Ivory Coast citizens the jobs they can hold competently — the sooner the better". The President spoke of help for the underprivileged, so that every Ivory Coast citizen could feel he was living in a "society of justice", and he called for increased steps for African unity, mentioning in particular "broaderening the ties which bind us to the European Economic Community", adding that "our English-speaking friends" ought to be included in new plans for cooperation.

• The National Assembly has approved the 3-year extension of an iron ore prospecting licence granted in 1968 to the US company, Picklands. Mather (Cleveland, Ohio) officials said that full exploitation of deposits discovered at Mount Kibonyo in the Moin region of Western Ivory Coast was not now expected to begin until the end of 1976.

The company's original plans for starting mining of iron ore in the region this year had to be postponed because of reduced demand from European steelworks. Budget Secretary

Abdoulaye Kone told the National Assembly's Economic and Financial Commission. Annual export of 10 million tons of iron had been forecast. The US company's original 1968 prospecting licence expired last March.

• The Ivory Coast has in principle agreed to hold a trade fair in Taipei next October, with a view to increasing trade between the two countries. The decision follows the signing of a trade agreement between Ivory Coast and Formosa last December, which mentioned the holding of a trade fair in Taipei with the aim of selling more Ivory Coast goods there. It will be the first trade fair to be held in Formosa by an African state. Formosa exports products to Ivory Coast valued at ten million dollars annually, but Ivory Coast imports from Taiwan are minimal.

## DROUGHT

### Trade Unionists attack press

Trade Union leaders from Mali, Mauritania and Senegal met in Mouakchoh to issue a joint statement criticising "the commercial exploitation that the sensational part of the European press has made over the suffering endured by the drought-stricken sub-Saharan peoples". The leaders were members of the inter-trade union committee of the Senegal River development organisation (OMVS). The committee announced its full support of those governments helping the drought areas and stressed the "derisory nature of the aid supplied by certain developed countries" and the "charitable appearance of some of the aid". The committee rejected "all forms of aid with an appearance of charity destined to satisfy the conscience of well supplied countries".

The committee also stressed the "disastrous effects of the drought and the erosion on the ecological balance of the sub-region". It launched an urgent appeal to the Mali, Mauritania and Senegalese governments for "super-priority" to be given to building dams on the Senegal River delta and at Mambatih by mobilising all national resources. The committee saw the possibility of the three countries adopting the Chinese "leap forward" process by bringing all their workers in to build the dams. In its general declaration the council recommended the promotion of an industrial policy "as a decisive factor for achieving the mastery of economic power".

The committee, referring to its withdrawal from the Organisation of African Trade Unions in Addis Ababa last April, justified this move because of "interference from non-African international organisations".

## THE GAMBIA relief for essentials

• The House of Representatives passed the Development Levy Act 1973, which provides for relief from purchase tax and import duty on essential imports such as agricultural implements, cement, building materials and processed food.

• Dr. J. Ayo Langley has been appointed Acting Commissioner to the High Commissioner of Education. He was formerly in the Ministry in Banjul. He obtained his doctorate at the Institute of Studies Centre in Edinburgh.

• A new General Manager of the Central Bank has been appointed. He is Mr. M. Nangia, an Indian who was recently to take up his duties following the departure of Tim Tun, Mr. Nangia was in The Gambia from 1968 where he had been Assistant under IMF auspices to the Government of Somalia.

• Lady Chiel Javon, former Gambian goodwill ambassador to Guinea, inaugurated the international airport at Banjul. Lady Chiel has also been a Senegal on a goodwill visit.

## IN BRIEF

The Republic of Cameroon has been granted two loans worth \$4,050,000 for a telecommunications project linking Yaoundé with Douala, Fouereau, on the Cameroonian border. Half of this sum was loaned by the US Export-Import Bank, and the other half by a private interest which has been named. The loan will cover 90 per cent of the cost of the equipment, which will be purchased in the United States. Total expenditure is \$4,500,000.

• Libya has provided a \$25 million CFA credit to Chad as the first instalment of a larger sum offered under the Tombalbaye's visit to Libya. The money is to be spent on projects as a dam at Ndioum Sah, a hospital in Fort Lamy, a hospital centre in Moundou, colleges in Fort Lamy and Lareau.

• The death of a 2,000m CFA credit to Niger, after a loan of 2,000m CFA to Chad was announced by the Foreign Minister and Ambassador to the EC.

• Albania and Cameroon have established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

The Arabs belong to the League as well as the Commonwealth; fight, our Anglophobia become and stay in Commonwealth. Not service of capitalism. What legitimised neo-colonial British groups by the continent south of the Sahara have black blood, even and Indians of Mauritius. We all share culture of trans-phonemes. The Members should not sit in Ottawa, he said at conference.



## MAURITANIA

## Libyans to build power station

The Libyan electricity organisation will set up a central power station in Mauritania costing £600,000. The station will be built in Nouakchott. The organisation will also establish a power network in the city and dig some water wells. It will train a number of Mauritians in the running of the power station. Agreement for the project was reached during the visit of the Libyan leader, Col Muammar Gaddafi, to Mauritania in January last year.

Several cholera cases have been registered at Rosso, near the Mauritania-Senegal border, the Ministry of Health has announced. Medical teams have been sent to Rosso and a vaccination campaign has been started in Nouakchott. The cholera outbreak is the first in Mauritania for a year.

Juvenile delinquency and drug-taking are on a sharp increase in Nouakchott but the number of thefts has dropped in the last two years, according to Police High Commissioner Oual Ould Louled. In the first half of 1973, 44 cases of juvenile delinquency were booked, against 24 in 1971. Drug-taking, mostly hashish and pharmaceutical products, is increasing: 18 cases so far this year, against 16 in 1971. Robbery had dwindled, because of more patrols and some special measures, the Commissioner said—24 thefts during the first half of 1973, against 5 in 1971.

The upsurge of juvenile delinquency should be blamed on the rural exodus due to drought, more freedom among the youngsters, and the bad influence of the cinema, the Commissioner declared, adding that the problem of drugs was an essentially human one, and that addicts should be reeducated into society after being cured of their addiction.

## TOGO

## Talks on university

American, Canadian and Togolese experts in secondary education have met in Lomé to discuss Togo's education and the entry of students from Togo into North American universities. After the seminar, American and Canadian representatives said they had been very satisfied by the results and would do all they could to facilitate the studies of Togolese students in their universities.

Canada has signed an agreement with Togo under which the Canadian International Development Agency will finance an \$800,000 study on a water-supply project for Lomé and neighbouring villages.

A North Korean mission has arrived to open an embassy in Togo. Togo and North Korea agreed five months ago to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level following Togo's recognition of North Korea. South Korea has also just opened an embassy in Lomé.

## GHANA

## "Selfish and greedy" Ghanaians

Ghana has many qualified people to rule her, only most of them are selfish and greedy. Brigadier Ashley-Lassen, told a meeting of Ghana nationals in Ottawa. The Brigadier said that aspect of Ghanaian life should be changed. Persons misusing their positions or misappropriating funds must be severely punished to serve as a deterrent to others, he added.

On the self-reliance policy of the NRC, the Brigadier said it was aimed at resuscitating the economy and improving the living standard of the people. He said the government was placing emphasis on housing and agriculture, at the moment to build more cheap houses for the people and produce more food and raw materials for home consumption and export. Every encouragement was being given to farmers, by way of loans and provision of fertilisers and guarantee of ready market, for their produce so that they could step up production.

The Brigadier disagreed with a questioner that lack of jobs at home had prevented Ghanaians abroad from returning home and said that attractive salaries and better working conditions abroad were the main causes. Brig. Ashley-Lassen reminded them that Ghana was a developing country and for it to take its rightful place in the comity of nations all her citizens must think of what "we can do for our country instead of what it can do for us".

Commissioner for Education, Culture and Sports, Lt-Col Paul Nkagbe, on his return home from East Berlin where he attended the 10th World Festival of Youth, said the award of a medal to Ghana at a special international cultural competition at the festival would serve as an impetus to improve Ghana's culture since all nations were now seeing culture as a means of national development. He said there would be a major attempt to give prominence to those rare tenets of Ghana's culture, which had hitherto not received much attention, at the forthcoming national festival of arts in Kumasi. He said that this opportunity would be used to prepare for the

Second World Festival of Black Arts and Culture in Lagos in 1975.

A subsidiary of Ghana Airways Corporation, Ghana Airways Air Tours Ltd, has been set up to operate inclusive tours and air cargo services. The company has been set up in conjunction with the—Ghana Tourist Corporation. Maj. Asante, Commissioner for Transport, announced.

He explained that henceforth the Tourist Corporation would inform Ghana Airways in advance of tourists it intended bringing to Ghana so that the airline could provide aircraft to carry them. Similarly the State Hotels Corporation would inform Ghana Airways about facilities.

Maj. Asante said that he was studying proposals for the liberalisation of visa requirements to promote tourism, as overseas managers of Ghana Airways had complained of difficulties encountered by potential tourists in obtaining them.

## Volunteers criticized

Commenting on the surge of volunteers to work on the Dawhena irrigation project, the independent *Echo* commented: "It is traditional that chiefs do not dig or weed, wives of dignitaries and their husbands do not use the hoe, the pick-axe and the shovel as normal implements of their daily vocations. It is, therefore, ridiculous for certain people of a particular class in our society to put up the pretence of being casual diggers only to catch the eye of the unwary section of the public."

"It is the opinion of *The Echo* that the volunteers derive much encouragement from visits and words of praise and enthusiasm than from such tawdry displays of manual labour as if they could continue if the volunteers laid down their tools".

The Government is to take delivery of 175 tractors following negotiations by Col Bernasko during his visit to UK. 20 combine harvesters have also been promised "provided we are prepared to open letters of credit". The Commissioner for Agriculture said on his return to Accra.

The Government is to reintroduce its cheap tractor hire service to farmers to help increase food production as soon as the 175 tractors and 20 combine harvesters arrive, Col Bernasko added.

The Ministry of Agriculture is reported to be mapping out certain areas for the large scale cultivation of plantain to prevent further shortages. Areas with adequate water like the banks of the Volta River, the Western Region and some parts of the Central, Eastern and Brong Ahafo

Regions are to be included in the schemes.

A housing scheme for Ghanaians, including those abroad, to own houses in Lomé and villages has been launched. The Commissioner for Housing, Col. Victor Coker Appah, said the scheme anyone who would own a house would make a deposit and pay the rest over years.

The National Executive Council of the Maritime and Dockworkers Union has called for the immediate abolition of the Prices and Incomes Board. The Government's announcement of a Salary Review Committee led the board superfluous said the Union.

Twenty Canadian medical officers and agricultural officers for a three-year assignment in Ghana. The volunteers are being sponsored by the Canadian University Students Organisation (CUSO).

Chief Kwaku Biney, and W. Biney and Co. who are now were the managing agents of Ghana Cargo Handling Company on President Tolbert's visit to Monrovia to discuss the establishment of a shipping and cargo handling company in Liberia.

Nicholas Dimitris, a former football coach who was in Ghana last May, said that Ghana-Rumania cultural agreement, is to take full charge of training of Ghana's national football team, the Black Stars.

Togo has ratified agreements with Ghana on health, sports, information and trade. The agreements also include the creation of a permanent committee to meet last March.

A Rumanian delegation left for home after a six-week tour of Ghana to make a feasibility study of the rubber industry. The leader said the team had discussed the establishment of timber estates complexes and would report to the Ghana Government within three months.

## Pact with Bulgaria

Ghana and Bulgaria have built a solid foundation of cooperation in all fields. Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Major Kwame Baah, said at a luncheon yesterday for Mr. Tchorbadjiev, the Bulgarian Ambassador. He said he visited Bulgaria last year and had laid a foundation for better relations between the two countries.

Major Baah said Mr. Tchorbadjiev that Ghana has benefited considerably from the experience of Bulgarian agronomists and geologists working in the country.

• The Logistics Committee has been suspended and a new body appointed to take over temporarily the distribution and sale of foreign foods and commodities. Ministry of Trade sources are reported to have said. Mr. Kwame Karikari, head of the Special Action Unit had earlier said that the NRC had decided that sale and distribution of foreign foods and commodities should revert to the old system whereby government bodies and private concerns could import commodities. He said that import licences were being issued to major commercial concerns, including GNTC, UAC, Union Trading, G.B. Ollivant and specified indigenous commercial concerns.

Mr. Karikari said that the NRC had decided that the Logistics Committee should be phased out because it was not a permanent institution.

The Committee has recently been criticised because of what seemed to be "unfair allocation" of foreign commodities to traders, and was recently "taken to task" for allocating several thousand items, more than half the consignment for a region, to one woman.

## More money

Ghana's foreign reserves increased from C18.7m in 1971 to over C142.4m in 1972. Dr. Amosko Mensah, Research Officer of the Bank of Ghana, who revealed the figures, said "the trend during the first few months of this year seems to demonstrate that the favourable situation in 1972 might be repeated." He was speaking on "Ghana's economy - the financial aspect" at the sixth annual conference of the Ghana Association for the Advancement of Management (GAAM). The rate of the economic growth, the officer said, would depend largely upon the rate of savings and the way in which these savings were utilised. He cautioned that both

• The Ann Commission has presented its second and final report on the Ghana Supply Commission to Col. Acheampong.

• Lt. Col. Bando, Ashanti Regional Commissioner, has ordered the mass transfer of all sorting clerks and the postmaster in charge of the Kumasi Central Post Office after allegations of "tampani" stealing of letters and parcels.

• Middle East Airlines (MEA) has offered 20 scholarships to Ghana Airways for airline operation study. This was announced by Maj. Kwame Asante, Commissioner for Transport, on his return from Brussels with MEA officials in

• Work on the 6m cedi Kumasi-Sunyani truck road is to begin before the end of the financial year.

• A staff college to train prison officers is to be established. Arrangements are underway to acquire a site at Madina, near Accra.

• More than 40 people are believed to have drowned when a boat in which they were travelling on the Volta Lake caught fire and capsized.

• Mr. C. K. Mawunyeah, Commissioner for Police, has been appointed Ambassador to Algeria in succession to Mr. Y.A. Osebre.

• The Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board has released 5m. cedis to the Ghana Co-operative movement for the purchase of cocoa during the mid-crop season.

• Six Chinese agricultural experts who have been conducting feasibility studies for irrigation canals and dams have returned to Peking.

• Mrs. Faustina Acheampong led wives of some of the Commissioners for several hours work with volunteers at the Dawhenya irrigation project.

• The Eastern Regional Development Corporation is to undertake a large scale irrigation scheme in the Kwahu area of the Afram Plains to boost farming.

• All freehold lands in Accra and Tema are to be converted into leasehold, the Gbese Mantis said at a Ga Traditional Council.

• The Upper Region has set up a sheep and goat farm near Navrango.

• Mr. Gordon Cedric Nuku Cudjoe has been appointed ambassador to Pakistan.

• A high yield tomato seed is to be introduced into Ghana by the Merry Morse Seed Co. of the US.

• The committee appointed to probe chieftaincy affairs in the Volta Region has begun its hearings.

• Work is to begin in August on a 1m. cedi supermarket at Aflao.

• Ajumako Teachers Training College is to be converted into a college for the study of Ghanaian languages.

• Thirty-nine defaulters of the Small Business Loan Scheme in the Western Region are to be placed in military custody.

• A small scale sugar industry, one of many proposed for Ghana is being established at Mankessim, near Cape Coast.

• Ghana is to manufacture standardised spare parts for imported agricultural machinery in an attempt to reduce the amount spent on importing them. Col. Agyekum, Northern Regional Commissioner, has announced.

• Volta Regional Development Corporation is to acquire about 55 per cent of shares in the Duna Lime Industries Ltd.

## SIERRA LEONE

### Civil servants for parliament

President Stevens suggested civil servants should be allowed to run for Parliament, during a discussion on comparative techniques of government at the Commonwealth Conference.

"Gone are the days when the role of the civil servant was to collect taxes, to play a merely supervisory role and to leave our people to their own devices in the matter of choice of Parliamentary representation," he said. "The compelling consideration at the present time is a total involvement of the people in the task of Parliamentary representation".

Mr. Stevens said that in one East African country, civil servants were being allowed to stand as candidates for election to Parliament. "Now, more than at any other time, civil servants would have to assume more than ingrate seats in the pages of history of their respective countries," he added. He said systems of government established in older nations of the Commonwealth could not always be prescribed for the newer republics.

## Public report

For admission to the Administrative Service should preference be given to graduates "over seasoned and experience" serving officers? The question is raised in the latest report, that for 1970, of the Public Service Commission. Graduates with, e.g. the BA General who enter the Civil Service cannot in fairness be without induction, says the report, and sometimes the techniques are "slowly grasped". The Civil Service Training College trains graduate entrants into procedures, regulations, and "the peculiar style of officialdom". In this cadre "supply seems to outstrip the demand".

Recruitment into the graded clerical service and parallel posts however presents some difficulties as candidates with the qualification and skill, such as typists, stenographers and clerks with accounting knowledge, are scarce.

The engagement of retired officers is being discouraged, says the report, as the number of school leavers increases.

A total of 2,464 applications were received in 1970, 637 applicants were invited to interview, and 213 appointments were made, against 523 appointments in 1969 and 103 in 1968.

The Commission continues to draw its appointments mainly from the University of Sierra Leone for

the upper echelons of the Civil Service. "Thus in the professional and technical fields the service stands to benefit immensely from expertise".

In considering recommendations for promotions, concludes the report, the Commission is guided primarily by the principle of merit and ability and secondarily by seniority, experience and official qualifications. Heads of departments are also requested to bear these principles in mind in making recommendations. The Commission ordered 707 promotions during the year.

• A German firm is to study the marketing and milling of rice to help in the bid to make the country self-sufficient in its staple food. Experts of the German firm, Agrar-UND Hydrotechnik, GMBH (consulting engineers) are already in Sierra Leone. Mr. Burney-Nicol, consultant mechanical engineer, is resident representative of the German firm in Sierra Leone.

With German Government assistance the experts will also investigate rice seed multiplication.

• Eighty-nine replacement Peace Corps teachers have arrived in Freetown. This is the 11th year in which the Peace Corps has provided teachers and other professionally qualified persons at the Government's request. There are 32 primary and 57 secondary level teachers in the first group. All but eight will be assigned to town and village schools in the provinces.

Of the 200 Peace Corps Volunteers in Sierra Leone 145 are teachers in classrooms, teacher training colleges and in primary in-service teacher training workshops.

• "If tax dodgers, officials collecting graft and, most important, diamond smugglers, could all be brought to justice, revenues would be swelled enormously, and with easy money more scarce, more enthusiasm for the back-breaking business of agricultural extension might be generated. The government is well aware of this, and, in the meantime is anxious to move ahead with a reasonable amount of foreign private investment backed by a liberal investment code, and official aid. If one accepts the dictum that diamonds are not a developing country's best friend, then the future for Sierra Leone has never looked better", concludes an article on Sierra Leone's prospects by Jane Bergerel in the *Financial Times*.

• The Chinese team working on the proposed hydro-electric power scheme called on the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Works, to report on the recently completed preliminary survey. The team carried out intensive research on

the Sewa River and other areas connected with the scheme.

The team also informed the Permanent Secretary about progress on the preliminary survey of the sugar cane plantation in Kono district.

■ A Sierra Leonean has been appointed Associate Scientist at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Ibadan. He is Dr. Eugene R. Terry, until recently a lecturer at Njala University College.

Dr. Terry, a plant pathologist, will be one of four scientists engaged in research on all aspects of roots and tuber crops.

■ Miss Bamidele Resil Nicol Cole, daughter of Mr. Nicol-Cole, former governor of the Bank of Sierra Leone, and now an executive director of the IMF, was one of two women placed in the second class of the final bar examination. She has since married Dr. Llewellyn Jarret.

■ An administrative officer in the Civil Service, Mr. John Moody, has been called to the bar at Gray's Inn. He was proposed by Sir Dingle Foot, QC, and seconded by Sir Elwyn Jones, the former British Attorney-General.

■ Sierra Leone's first Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN, Dr. Gershon Collier, paid a call on the Chief Justice, Justice C.O.E. Cole, to acquaint him with his resumption of legal practice in Freetown.

■ The Minister of Agriculture, Mr. S.A.T. Koroma, has said in Kenema that the International Development Association project in operation in the Eastern Province, Sierra Leone would be self-sufficient in rice within two years. He expressed great concern at the rising cost of rice and the need for concentration on rice production.

■ Parliament has approved a total of Le 17,018,275 for development in 1973-4.

■ Thirty-two people are feared drowned after a launch, travelling from Kairi to Yehboya in Kambia District capsized in the Great Scarcies River.

■ Sierra Leone's new ambassador to West Germany, Dr. S.H. Kuru, formerly Deputy High Commissioner in London, has presented his credentials.

■ Sierra Leone's Ambassador to Guinea, Mr. Lloyd Koko Randall has also been accredited to Mali.

## LIBERIA

### Price control

The Minister of Commerce, Industry and Transportation, Mr. William L. Dennis, has been empowered by the President to regulate the prices at which imported and locally produced goods can be sold. The President said the world currency crisis had

resulted in substantial price fluctuations in essential commodities.

Everybody had been affected by firms exploiting the crisis and world market conditions through unfair mark-ups on imported commodities bearing no relationship to these conditions. Artificial scarcity of essential commodities was created through hoarding and other practices. "No wholesaler or retailer may hoard, that is to conceal or refuse to sell goods, and commodities so as to create or cause to be created a shortage of such essential goods and commodities on the market", the President warned.

Any wholesaler or retailer violating any provisions of the Executive Order will be subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000, or be imprisoned for a period of not less than one month or more than one year or both in the case of hoarding, the goods will be confiscated. If the violator is an alien, he will also be subject to deportation.

■ The Agriculture Minister, Mr. James T. Phillips, Jr. has denied rumours that rice imports have been diverted to neighbouring countries to be sold at higher prices. Mr. Phillips also asserted that there was no shortage of rice, but "we do not have the quality of rice that the people have been used to".

Instead of protesting against the shortage of American par-boiled

rice, people should save more rice to satisfy their needs. "Those who have money should re-invest some of their money in agriculture thereby helping to increase production", the Minister declared.

■ West Germany has given \$400,000 to the Corporation for American Relief Development (CARE) for use in Liberia for a number of years. The agreement is between the German Government and the Sasstown-Buah territory and the rest of the country.

The Director of CARE, Dr. William P. Schellman, presented to President Tolson a booklet of photographs illustrating CARE's activities in Liberia. The people of Sasstown-Buah territory have already raised about \$100,000 towards the road and an irrigation project to provide the labour.

■ Mr. Lafayette Digg has been named Liberia's new Ambassador Extraordinary and Permanent Representative to the Federal Republic of Nigeria. He replaces Mr. Dudley Lawrence who has been recalled from the Liberian Diplomatic Service. The new Liberian Ambassador to Nigeria will be appointed with First Secretary and Counsellor at the Liberian Permanent Mission at the United Nations in New York.

■ Liberia has given \$100,000 to Zambia to assist her in developing alternative routes for her exports and imports.

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