

NEWS NOTES

STATEMENT ON THE U.S. PACT WITH PORTUGAL
SENT TO THE PRESIDENT SIGNED BY 18 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS (12/15/71)

- (a) That the United States Government must be required, and is herein called upon, to explain the enormous, unprecedented and anomalous commitments which the United States is making to Portugal in connection with the Agreement to extend U.S. base rights in the Azores - an Agreement under which Portugal is to receive in the next two years (the Agreement expires on February 3, 1974) the following quid pro quo: -- \$15 million in P.L. 480 agricultural commodities;
-- the loan of a hydrographic vessel at no cost;
-- \$1 million for educational development programs;
-- \$5 million in drawing rights for non-military excess equipment;
-- the waiver of MAAG support payments (\$350,000) for the MAAG (Military Assistance Advisory Group) to Lisbon;
-- \$400 million of Exim loans and guarantees for development projects.
- (b) That specifically, the government is called upon to address each of the following points:
1. From the point of view of U.S. interests, the new Agreement with Portugal represents an unusual and anomalous commitment. There is no apparent justification for the quid pro quo in the new Agreement.
 - a. The general availability of funds for foreign economic assistance has been diminishing since 1967. In that year, funds for economic assistance totalled \$5,120 million. In 1968, they were \$4,634 million. In 1969, they were \$4,067 million. Last year, they totalled \$4,711 million. The Export-Import Bank is an exception to the rule; its funds have been increasing in the last few years. But the question must arise why loans and credit guarantees to Portugal are rising at a moment when federal funds are so scarce, and when total appropriations for economic assistance are falling.
 - b. The funds projected for commitment to Portugal are out of all proportion to previous development commitments through the Export-Import Bank to either Europe or Africa. The total of Export-Import Bank loans to Africa in the whole period 1946-1970 was less than \$358 million. The total of long-term economic loans to Europe from the same source in that period was only \$753.7 million.
 - c. The projected commitment is also out of proportion to any previous commitments to Portugal itself. That country received less than \$50 million in the whole period from 1946-1970 through the Export-Import Bank. The present Administration is proposing to provide more than four times this amount in the next two years alone.
 - d. The projected new commitments would constitute a tremendous drain on the funds of the Export-Import Bank. They would represent about 10% of the average annual commitments to all countries from the Bank in the last few years; and this does not even take into consideration the \$200 million in Exim credit guarantees.
 - e. The question which remains to be answered, therefore, and it is a most important questions, is why a small nation of 8.6 million people should receive such extraordinary special treatment.
 2. The United States, furthermore, is now going through the worst balance of payments crisis in its history. We now have the largest deficit on record. Unemployment has risen to high levels as a consequence of de-

flationary measures designed to remedy that situation. In this context the Administration has undertaken an Agreement with a small European country which will lead to a substantial increase in the foreign exchange costs of our economic assistance. Again, the question must arise why Portugal should qualify for such special treatment.

3. Total U.S. dollar flows to Portugal and its overseas territories now exceed \$400 million (See Table below). These flows are important to that country's balance of payments. The Administration is now proposing a substantial increase in these flows through the loans provided for in the new Agreement.

Portugal and Overseas Territories:

Gross Flows of Funds
from North America*
(1969, millions of \$)

1. Imports from Portugal and Overseas Territories	\$166 million
2. Freight and Insurance on Merchandise	3 million
3. Other Transportation	11 million
4. Travel	79 million
5. Investment Income	29 million
6. Other government	6 million
7. Other private	24 million
8. Unrequited transfers (pension remittances, etc.)	89 million
9. Non-monetary Sectors: Direct Investment	6 million
Total	\$413 million

Source: IMF Balance of Payments Yearbook, August 1971, vol. 22

* These figures refer to flows from the U.S. and Canada. U.S. funds account for almost the whole of the total.

4. The Portuguese are now running a trade deficit of just under \$500 million. This deficit is, to an important degree, the result of the drain on Portugal's economy created by the pursuit of three colonial wars in Africa. Additional, and substantial, assistance to Portugal in this context will have the effect of helping it to continue those wars at the very moment when it is being forced to consider seriously whether it ought to withdraw from its overseas territories.
5. It should be noted that parts of the new Agreement can easily become open-ended commitments. The expanded commitment under P.L. 480 may well be increased still further when the Agreement is reviewed two years from now. The provision dealing with excess equipment is already open-ended. Secretary Rogers' letter clearly states that \$5 million for this purpose is not to be considered a maximum ceiling.
6. Dollar flows to Portugal, from both the private and the public sector, are already on a scale amounting to "economic intervention that might just decide the outcome of the colonial war." The new Agreement increases that indirect assistance by a substantial amount and changes the character of our commitment to Portugal.
7. The political context cannot be ignored. Particularly:
 - the liberation forces control large areas of Angola, east and south of the Central Plateau.
 - in Mozambique the liberation forces control several provinces and operate freely south of the Zambesi River,
 - in Guinea-Bissau, the PAIGG have forced the Portuguese to leave the countryside and to retreat to the urban areas and a few scattered military bases.

The obvious effect of the Azores Agreement is to enable Portugal to continue waging the three wars in Africa.

8. There is nothing to indicate that the military value of the Azores is of overriding importance to the U.S. security so that it merits such an inordinate expenditure. Further, the fact that the base Agreement remained dormant for the past 10 years (since 1962) indicates this.
9. The injection of huge sums for economic and educational assistance, as well as aid in kind, into the Portuguese economy, in the existing internal situation of considerable domestic unhappiness with, and criticism of, wholly disproportionate budgetary expenditures on colonial wars, will greatly assist the Caetano Government in dampening the domestic anti-pathology to the wars and thus to continue their prosecution.

(c) That, if the Administration cannot provide a statement of compelling reasons for making this Agreement, it must be considered as admitting that it is the intention of the Administration to directly assist Portugal in waging these wars against the peoples of Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique.

(d) That the United States Government respond to the following questions:

1. What projects were reviewed, or are contemplated for Exim loans?
2. Are these projects in Portugal, that is in so-called "metropolitan Portugal" as distinguished from Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique?
3. Are similar increases in Exim loans being considered
 - (i) for South Africa,
 - (ii) for majority-ruled African countries?

(e) That, in view of the implications of this Agreement for the United States internally, the Administration explain why this Agreement was entered into by the executive agreement route rather than as a treaty and submitted to the Senate for its advice and consent to ratification.

(f) That the Administration explain the discrepancy between its claimed lack of funds to assist Black business in the United States, with its 23 million Blacks, on the one hand and on the other, its expenditure of tremendous sums to assist the economy of Portugal, a country with only 8.6 million people, and thus to assist the waging of wars against Black people in Africa. According to its reports to the Congress, the Federal Government is now giving only \$213.8 million in loans to minority businesses in this country (including Blacks and Spanish-speaking Americans), whereas the sums projected for Portugal in this Agreement are more than double that amount.

Signed: B. Abzug, New York	W. Fauntroy, District of Columbia
H. Badillo, New York	D. Fraser, Minnesota
J. Bingham, New York	H.F. Hawkins, California
W. Clay, Missouri	R.H. Metcalf, Illinois
G.W. Collins, Illinois	A.J. Mikva, Illinois
J. Conyers, Michigan	C.B. Wrangel, New York
R. Dellums, California	W.F. Ryan, New York
R. Drinan, Massachusetts	J.H. Scheuer, New York
D. Edwards, California	L. Stokes, Ohio

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Hearings took place February 1, 2 and 8 on Senate resolution 214 introduced by Clifford Case stating that any agreement with Portugal or Bahrain for military bases or foreign assistance should be submitted as a treaty to the Senate for advice and consent.

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United Nations - Detroit Congressman Charles C. Diggs Jr. resigned Friday as a delegate to the United Nations in protest against the U.S. policy on Africa.

It was the first time a congressman or senator serving with the U.S. delegation quit an assignment.

Diggs told a news conference the Nixon administration was guilty of "hypocrisy" on many African issues before the United Nations.

He accused the administration of aiding white-minority regimes in Africa.

"As a first-hand witness, I have found stifling the hypocrisy of our government which, while uttering its abhorrence of apartheid, unflaggingly votes in opposition to any attempt to act, rather than orate, with respect to apartheid and the minority regimes of southern Africa," Diggs said.

He said the new Azores Pact between the United States and Portugal left him no alternative but to resign. The pact provides for continuing U.S. bases in the Azores.

Portugal, which owns the Azores, has been fighting African guerrillas in the Portuguese African territories of Angola, Mozambique and Bissau.

Diggs also expressed fear that the meeting next week in Bermuda of President Nixon and British Prime Minister Edward Heath will result in U.S. support for Britain's settlement with Rhodesia's white-minority government of Ian Smith.

(Detroit Free Press 12/18/71)

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The first organized effort by American Blacks to use their political muscle to change U.S. policy in South Africa was announced in Washington, D.C. by Rep. Charles C. Diggs Jr. (D., Mich.) chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Diggs said that his organization will hold a spring conference to bring together representatives of Africa's liberation movement, political leadership and American Blacks to develop a workable program. Diggs, who is chairman of the House Subcommittee on Africa, also told a press conference that he was "opposed to the Nixon Administration's relationships with the minority rule and the colonial powers of Africa."

He charged that the President made "the enormous, unprecedented and anomalous commitments" to Portugal for continuous base rights in the Azores and called for a downgrading of diplomatic relationships with the colonial countries. Meanwhile, Dahomey President Hubert Maga, during an unofficial visit to Washington, D.C. to chat with President Richard M. Nixon, said he would welcome representatives from the Black Caucus at meetings of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Leaders of major African countries meet regularly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to discuss joint problems but have never accredited an American Black group in such a capacity. At a press conference, Maga stressed that "American Blacks and Africans must get to know one another a lot better. Unless we know one another and know something about our own problems," he said, "we don't know how or when to help one another."

The Dahomey president said that he was confident that other African leaders would join in the move to accept Black Caucus members and delegates at OAU meetings. Asked about such a possibility, Diggs said that such an invitation would not violate diplomatic regulations, since the OAU is an ad hoc group.

(Jet 12/30/71)

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Barranquitas, Puerto Rico - Many black Americans are mobilizing to exert a greater influence on America's foreign policy toward Africa.

They reason that adversity affecting Africans will eventually affect black Americans, that there is a universality of racism and oppression and that there is

much that can be done inside the United States to affect Africans' lives because of the economic links between the two continents.

Blacks in the United States have taken a serious interest in Africa for almost 200 years. Now, however, with the increasing numbers of blacks in government, education and business, many feel they must use whatever power and influence they have to help mold America's African policy.

To do this, 27 black Americans, prestigious and influential in schools and foundations, recently gathered at a mountain resort in central Puerto Rico.

For three days they worked to design a campaign to enable black Americans to play a greater role in framing national policy toward Africa. They met, they said, on the premise that blacks must assert themselves to help shape America's attitude toward Africa the way Jews have helped shape American policy toward Israel.

"We can't make American foreign policy," said Dr. John Davis of the College of the City of New York, "but we can help influence it."

Meeting in a conference room of the Hotel Barranquitas, the group focused on South Africa, South-West Africa and the Portuguese territories of Angola, Mozambique and Portuguese Guinea.

The group could not agree that any one of those areas should have priority for its attention but it decided that the following activities would begin:

--The Congressional Black Caucus would be assisted in its scheduled hearings later this spring on American-African relations.

--Appearances by black experts on African affairs before Senatorial and Congressional committees discussing African-related issues would be increased.

--Attempts would be made to coordinate activities of black groups interested in Africa - such groups as the Congress of African People, the Congress of Racial Equality, black workers' organizations, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and People United to Save Humanity.

--Through black news media - black magazines, newspapers and television programs - education would be conducted on Africa, the southern Africa liberation movements and the impact of African developments on black Americans.

Most participants had visited Africa and some had worked there. The older members had been involved in African affairs before the "winds of change" brought independence to more than three dozen African countries.

The group included Robert Brown of the Black Economic Research Center; Walter Carrington of the African-American Institute; John Henrik Clark of Hunter College and Cornell University; Dr. Johnetta Cole of the University of Massachusetts; Dr. Adelaide Cromwell Hill of Boston University; Dr. Leonard Jeffries of San Jose College and Dr. Tilden LeMelle of Hunter College and the American Committee on Africa.

From Brooklyn College came Dr. Herschelle Sullivan Challenor; Dr. Inez Reid and Dr. Hugh Smythe, former United States Ambassador to Syria.

Foundations were represented by Haskell Ward of the Ford Foundation and the Rev. James Joseph of the Irwin-Sweeney-Miller Foundation and the head of an organization of black foundation executives.

Senator Edward W. Brooke, Republican of Massachusetts, was not present but he sent a paper in which he advocated "pressure here at home" as a means of "moving" American companies operating in southern Africa.

"I have been in politics long enough to know that some strategic and economic interests can be subordinated to domestic and political considerations," Senator Brooke said.

"One need look no further than the Middle East and South Asia for confirmation of this fact," he said. "But domestic interests must be mobilized and articulated before they can be felt and become effective. If pressure is not brought to bear, American policy will not change," he said.

During the sessions, led by Dr. James Turner of Cornell University, it was also decided to approach Presidential candidates and platform committees of the major parties for commitments.

(The New York Times 2/13/72)

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Lusaka, Wednesday - The vice-president of the Mozambique Liberation Front said yesterday that the guerrillas had effective control over one-quarter of Mozambique.

Mr. Marcelino Dos Santos was speaking to journalists covering a conference here between a group of American Congressmen and representatives of African opinion.

He had earlier put his case to a closed session of the conference together with fellow freedom fighters from Angola and Guinea-Bissau.

Mr. Dos Santos said after the session that as well as having effective control of 25 per cent of Mozambique, Frelimo was strengthening its influence among the people throughout the territory.

It also sought to block communications with the site of the multi-million-dollar Cabora Bassa dam which the Portuguese are throwing across the Zambesi River.

Mr. Dos Santos said his force as part of his effort, had sunk 14 Portuguese military vessels on the Zambesi since last July.

Frelimo, he added, had defeated a major Portuguese offensive last year "both in military tactics and because of the political consciousness of the masses."

The conference Mr. Dos Santos had participated in is one organized by the York-based African American Institute and sponsored by the Ford Foundation and Carnegie Corporation.

It brings together nine Congressmen with ministers and officials of 11 African nations and spokesmen of liberation movements.

The aim, one of the organizers explained, is to "broaden the constituency for Africa in Congress."

The freedom fighters from the Portuguese colonies were bitterly critical of the recent agreement by which Portugal extended the United States' lease on military facilities in the Azores in exchange for more than 3,000 million/- on loans and grants.

(Standard (Tanz.) 1/20/72)

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A panel of prominent Americans called yesterday for the United States to discourage new American investments in South Africa and criticized economic and social policies of American businesses in the white-minority-ruled nation.

The group issued a series of recommendations on American policy toward southern Africa in a study sponsored by the United Nations Association of the United States of America, a private American organization.

The report* urged the United States to suspend military assistance to Portugal and impose an arms embargo on the country until it withdraws its troops from African territory.

The 14-member panel, which presented the report at a press conference, was headed by William M. Roth, a former U.S. trade negotiator, and William T. Coleman who was a member of the 1969 U.S. delegation to the United Nations.

Former deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus R. Vance wrote a preface to the report.

The strongest criticism is aimed at South Africa's system of racial segregation. It said the United States should promote policies helping to achieve basic human rights for all South Africans.

It added, however, that there was no one "right" course to achieve this, saying that in some cases, like sports, boycotts were effective but in other areas, such as cultural exchanges they might not be.

The report said the nearly 300 U.S. companies in that country "are not now in the forefront of the effort to improve the economic and social lot of their non-white South African workers."

* Southern Africa: Proposals for Americans. December 1971. 93 pp. Copies available from: United Nations Association of the United States, 833 UN Plaza, New York City, New York 10017.

It added that there appeared to be a tendency, dictated by the U.S. headquarters of the companies, "to lean over backwards not to offend the South African government."

The panel said American concerns should provide equal pay and benefits for blacks for equal work.

(Washington Post (U.S.) 12/9/71)

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Addis Ababa, Feb. 5 UPI - The U.N. Security Council moved back to its New York headquarters today after a weeklong session on Africa which left bitterness behind it but produced few surprises.

The council held 12 meetings totaling about 35 hours at Africa Hall here. In addition to its own debates, it heard officials from more than 20 African countries and representatives of a dozen African liberation movements.

The focus was on the four major problems of southern Africa - Rhodesia, apartheid in South Africa, Portuguese territories and South Africa's continued control of Namibia (South-West Africa) despite international rulings on its right to independence.

The Council adopted resolutions on all these problems with the exception of Rhodesia. The council's non-Western members regarded lack of action on this question as the greatest failure of the session.

Britain vetoed an African resolution urging it to abandon last November's Anglo-Rhodesian proposed settlement, intervene effectively to protect Rhodesia's African majority and call a constitutional conference with adequate African representation to consider the former colony's future. The proposed settlement would legalize Rhodesian independence without guaranteeing majority rule by Africans.

From the start of the session Jan. 28, Africans were under no illusions that it would achieve much. Somali Foreign Minister Omar Arteh said any such notion would be naive.

As soon as the session began it became clear that Britain, the U.S., and West European members were widely at variance on Rhodesia with the Africans, supported by the Soviet Union, China, Yugoslavia and India.

Britain tried to get the Africans to water down their resolution, but they refused and each side stuck to its position throughout. The Africans knew in advance Britain was going to use the veto.

Arteh immediately took the floor to accuse Britain of showing "ill will" towards Africa. China chimed in to accuse Britain of "sabotaging the meeting."

U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said before leaving Addis Ababa today that he regretted "very much, very much indeed" that it was impossible for the council to produce a resolution on Rhodesia. But he said the council did make "some headway" on Namibia.

The council adopted two resolutions on Namibia. One, proposed by Argentina, directed Waldheim and a council group composed of representatives of Somalia, Argentina, and Yugoslavia to approach South Africa and all other parties concerned to prepare the way for Namibian independence. The other introduced by the Africans called on South Africa to withdraw troops, police and civilian officials from the territory.

(The Washington Post 2/6/72)

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Upon drafting the formula for possible eventual majority rule that it intended to end Rhodesia's rebellion, Britain sent a commission to its erstwhile colony to determine whether the terms were acceptable to the people: both to the quarter-million whites and the five million blacks. The Pearce commission's explicit mandate was to explain the terms, which are complex, and to learn the

people's views on them. Its unavoidable implicit mandate was to sell the settlement, by indicating - fairly, in our view - that the most likely alternatives were, for the Smith regime, further world ostracism and economic pressure; and for the Africans, the conversion of the Smith government into a fully hardened apartheid state like South Africa. Working against the commission were, of course, the Smith regime's rigidity and its hopes of further breaking the economic and political embargoes slapped on it in 1965; and the rising political consciousness of Rhodesia's blacks - their demand for, in effect, freedom now.

Clearly, Mr. Smith admitted the Pearce commission in the expectation that African opposition to the settlement would be modest, or at any rate contained. Precisely the opposite occurred: the commission's arrival touched off perhaps the most genuine democratic exercise in Rhodesia's history. In urban areas where tribal ways have weakened, large popular demonstrations broke out and a dozen or more Africans were killed. Even in the rural tribal trust lands where the newly formed black nationalist African National Council was not allowed to operate, the chiefs - who are paid government hands - failed to muster shows of support for the proposed settlement. Eight supposedly tame Africans sitting in the lower house rejected the settlement terms. How the Pearce commission will interpret these expressions is uncertain. It is to remain in Rhodesia another month before filing its report.

There is a fair consensus now that the only certain way to prevent a white minority from fastening its hold on Rhodesia indefinitely would have been for Britain's then-Labor government to have used force when Rhodesia first broke away in 1965. But that moment passed, and with it, one might add, Labor's moral authority to urge any like course today. In 1972 it is inconceivable that a Conservative government could consider the use of force; indeed, it has tried to make the deal which is undergoing its "test of acceptance" in Rhodesia now. Its own powerlessness is the central theme of the contemporary British lament.

There are those who would counsel Africans to reject the admittedly imperfect compromise offered by Prime Minister Heath. They must accept, however, a responsibility to offer a viable alternative. Strong as the Vietcong myth may be, it has yet to be proven out on the ground in Rhodesia. Black insurgents have proved no particular problem for the Smith regime, which in any event can and does call on neighboring South Africa for aid. At the least Americans can avoid undermining the African cause by making gestures of support for Rhodesian white rule. Just such a gesture was made recently when Congress opened the way for Rhodesian chrome to enter the United States legally for the first time since 1965. Some American citizens have announced they plan to demonstrate at the docks when the first shipments of Rhodesian chrome arrive. They will be demonstrating for human dignity.

(The Washington Post

2/6/72)

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The Ruling Rhodesian Front party's virtual ultimatum to the Pearce Commission has increased the unlikelihood of a "Yes" for the settlement, writes Ronald Legge. But if the deal does fall through, the outlook for Rhodesians of all races is a grim one.

Many Rhodesians believe that the lifting of the US embargo on the importing of Rhodesian chrome and other minerals presages a total collapse of sanctions. But this is illusory. Britain would have to maintain only a few, very selective sanctions, and to withhold recognition of Rhodesia's sovereignty, to keep a stranglehold on the country's development.

For example, maintenance of the Beira blockade could now begin to place a perhaps intolerable strain on the already overworked internal transport system, and keeping the London market for Rhodesian tobacco closed would effectively rob agriculture of its only chance of restored viability.

Most important of all, continued denial of access to the London money market would deprive Rhodesia of the foreign investment she desperately needs both to stem the rising tide of African unemployment, with its accompanying drift to the overcrowded townships, and to allay unrest over inadequate health and education services.

It does not take much imagination to realise that, unless capital is found to remove the economic causes of African discontent, the seedbed of the "bloody revolution" foreseen by the African National Council leader, Bishop Muzorewa, will be well fertilised.

(The Sunday Times

2/6/72)

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Portuguese forces in Mozambique were reported to be on the alert in frontier areas as violence erupted again in the Rhodesian frontier town of Umtali.

No one in Lisbon or Mozambique imagined the degree of pent-up political frustrations in Rhodesia, and the bloody events of the past six days have caused profound shock, particularly in view of their possible long-term effects on the war situation in Mozambique.

(Daily Tel. (U.K.)

1/22/72)

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Doubts about the success of the Jan. 13 military take-over in Ghana seem to be fading.

A major sign of support for the new government has come from the 340,000-member Ghana Labor Union Confederation.

Further, police have reported that more than 70 arrested supporters of the disbanded Progress Party of ousted Prime Minister Kofi Busia have been released.

Dr. Busia was out of the country at the time of the coup. He is now in Britain where he will stay indefinitely, according to informed British sources.

But Lt. Gen. A. Afrifa - a leader of the 1966 anti-Nkrumah coup and a friend of Dr. Busia - was arrested Jan. 15 on the charge that he had plotted to stage a march on Accra by rebel army units. Another army commander and a former regional chief executive were also arrested.

Although such action seemed to show that some military units support the ousted government, it now appears that these units present no challenge.

The country is reported calm with people going about normal business.

Ghana's new government, headed by Col. Ignatius K. Acheampong, has announced:

- A policy of nonalignment, which it terms "positive neutralist adherence to the United Nations Charter."
- Rejection of dialogue with South Africa and moral and material support for African independence movements.
- Its pledge to hand over power to a democratically elected government "as soon as circumstances permit."
- An increase in membership of the National Redemption Council, the new military ruling council, from 10 to 12.
- A civilian Cabinet being formed which would be supervised by the Army.

On Jan. 19, Colonel Acheampong said that former president Kwame Nkrumah is free to return to Ghana as a private citizen. He has been in exile in Guinea since his overthrow in 1966.

But Colonel Acheampong said he was not inviting Dr. Nkrumah to return and that the deposed leader could face court charges on his return.

Meanwhile, speculation continues as to the measures the National Redemption Council might take to solve Ghana's pressing economic difficulties.

One line of speculation suggests that Colonel Acheampong may repudiate the

crippling external debt. The debt acts as a brake on Ghana's development prospects and is said to have worsened since Dr. Busia took office in October, 1969, due to the need to find new money to service debts inherited from the Nkrumah regime.

There also are reports that Colonel Acheampong is considering an upward revaluation of the Ghanaian cedi. The cedi was devalued by more than 40 percent against the dollar less than a month ago.

The devaluation is reported to have caused financial chaos in the capital. Some merchants have doubled their former prices. But an upward revaluation at the present moment might only compound the chaos.

(The Christian Science Monitor 1/24/72)

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Accra - Ghana's new military head of state nullified a recent 48 percent devaluation of the country's currency, the cedi, and announced his government would not pay a \$94.4 million debt to British companies.

Col. I.K. Achaempong revalued the cedi making it equivalent to 78 U.S. cents effective today. Ousted Premier Kofi Busia devalued the cedi from 98 to 55 cents in December.

In a nationwide radio and television broadcast, the colonel said his government rejected debts of \$94.4 million owed to British companies, incurred under the government of former President Kwame Nkrumah who was ousted in 1966. Achaempong, who overthrew Busia Jan. 13, said this was done because the debts were "fraught with corruption, fraud and other forms of irregularities."

He said his government also rejected \$72 million of accrued interest on the debts up to February 1966 when Nkrumah was overthrown.

(The Washington Post 2/7/72)

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Agreement has been reached between Tanzania and Uganda on a series of problems affecting the East African Community, Kenya's Minister at the organization's Arusha headquarters, Dr. Robert Ouko, announced recently.

The news came only a few hours after he had seen President Nyerere in Dar after a meeting in Kampala with Gen. Amin.

Dr. Ouko has been quietly commuting around East Africa at a time when relations between Tanzania and Uganda had been pushed to the brink by renewed border fighting and Gen. Amin's threat to invade Tanzania.

The terms of the agreement are that President Nyerere will sanction Ugandan nominations to the Community including that of a Minister to be based at Arusha for which Mr. W.W. Rwetsiba has already been named.

At the same time, Gen. Amin will sign the Appropriations Bill which he has hitherto refused to do although both President Kenyatta and President Nyerere have done so.

The Bill provides for the annual budget for the Community. In addition he has agreed to rescind a number of unilateral acts against the Community.

These include banning the Tanzanian Community Minister, Mr. John Malecela, from entering Uganda; refusing to allow the Tanzanian head of the East African Development Bank, Mr. Simba, to resume his post at the Kampala headquarters, and banning direct flights, subscriber trunk dialling and the Lake Victoria steamer service between the two countries, all of which are Community services.

The Community's Secretariat has been working for some time to resolve these problems.

"This is a victory for East Africa and it gives the Community additional strength with which to continue," Dr. Ouko stated.

However, the agreement does not touch on bilateral relations nor does it in any way imply that President Nyerere will recognise Gen. Amin and his Government in the near future.

(Newsletter, Kenya Mission to the U.N., No. 53 11/71)

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Idi Amin said today that if the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) accepted Uganda's offer to provide training facilities of an all-African liberation army, it would have to pay for the army's equipment and maintenance.

Amin denied that he was acting from imperialist motives in putting forward his offer, as had been alleged by the official news agency of the Congo.

Uganda suggested last month that an all-African army be formed to combat the threat posed to independent African states by South Africa, Rhodesia and the Portuguese African territories.

Amin's offer to provide training facilities for the army was formally presented to the OAU's Defence Commission in Ethiopia but the commission reportedly referred it to OAU heads of state.

(Standard (Tanz.)

1/21/72)

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The OAU's Defence Commission worked late into the night drawing up a three-point programme to strengthen Africa's hand against external aggression and reinforce the struggle on the continent against apartheid and colonialism. Military experts from 30 African states were winding up four days of talks, against the background of the abortive invasion of Guinea in November 1970, drawing up a series of recommendations to be submitted to the OAU summit next June in Rabat. The Commission's plan of action calls for: 1) Creation of regional defence systems comprising one or several units of national armed forces from states in the various regions or sectors, linked by bilateral or multilateral defence agreements. 2) Creation of an "Office of the Military Defence Advisers" within the OAU General Secretariat. This office would ensure not only coordinating all questions concerning the security of OAU member states, but also "the gathering of military information and intelligence" likely to interest the Dar-es-Salaam based OAU Liberation Committee which directs operations by African "Freedom Fighters." 3) Creation of a "permanent defence committee" which could meet every six months or when called into session by the chairman of the Commission's Bureau.

(AFP No. 48

12/18/71)

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The U.N. Decolonization Committee adopted by 86 votes in favour, 7 against (Portugal, South Africa, Belgium, Canada, U.S., France and Britain) and 13 abstentions (Australia, Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Spain, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Italy, Malawi, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden) a resolution condemning the construction of the two big dams of Southern Africa: the Cabora Bassa dam in Mozambique and the Cunene dam in Angola in the border region with South-West Africa.

(Diario de Noticias (Port.) 12/16/71)

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Algiers - Eldridge Cleaver has resigned as head of the Algiers-based international section of the Black Panther Party to join the Afro-American Liberation Army. A party statement said that Cleaver would be replaced by Mr. Peter O'Neal, founder of the Kansas City branch of the Black Panther organization. Cleaver established the international section of the party in Algiers in September 1970.

(The Washington Post

1/20/72)

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By Paul Dold - Cape Town - As South-West Africa uneasily waits for signs that the 13,000 Ovambo strikers are satisfied with the Grootfontein labor pact, attempts are being made to forge blacks into a solid front to reject South Africa's administration of the territory.

South-West Africa's blacks are reported to be planning a national convention to discuss the future of the disputed territory now run by South Africa. The meeting, scheduled for early February, will be the first real move to unite black political views.

Representatives of the Hereros, Rehoboth Basters, Damaras, and Namas are likely to attend the talks to be held at Rehoboth - and invitations will be made to other black South-West African groups. At this stage, it is too early to say whether the talks will represent black nations as well.

(The Christian Science Monitor 1/24/72)

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Khartoum, Sudan Feb. 4 - George Bush, the United States permanent representative at the United Nations, is scheduled to arrive tomorrow for a two-day visit at the start of a seven-nation African tour.

Informed American sources said Bush would be carrying personal messages from President Nixon to the heads of state of Sudan, Kenya, Zambia, the Zaire Republic, Gabon, Nigeria and Chad.

(The Washington Post 2/5/72)

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Kinshasa, Zaire Jan. 1 (Agence France-Presse) - Gen. Joseph D. Mobutu Saturday announced new changes in well-known place names in Zaire, the name he bestowed last October upon the Congo, a former Belgian colony.

The copper-rich province of Katanga will be known as Shaba, which means copper in Swahili, and Stanley Pool on the Congo River and Mount Stanley will be renamed Malebo Pool and Mount Ngaliema, President Mobutu said at a meeting of the political bureau of the ruling Popular Movement of the Revolution.

Last night all statues in Zaire raised in the memory of foreign - mainly Belgian - personalities were removed from their pedestals. They will be handed over to a national museum, which is under construction.

(The New York Times 1/3/72)

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South Africa is back in the Davis Cup after a break of two years, and has been seeded in the European B Zone for the 1972 tennis competition. The decision, taken in London at the Lawn Tennis Association headquarters by a seven-nation special committee of the Davis Cup nations, was hailed by officials and players in South Africa. Mr. Alf Chalmers, president of the South African Lawn Tennis Union, immediately promised that the Springbok team would be chosen on merit.

(News from South Africa, No.2 1/28/71)

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Monday this week, Dr. William Tolbert was sworn in as the 19th President of Liberia. In a major policy speech during the inauguration ceremony, he rejected completely the idea of a dialogue between independent Africa and the fascist regime of South Africa.

(Standard (Tanz.) 1/6/72)

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