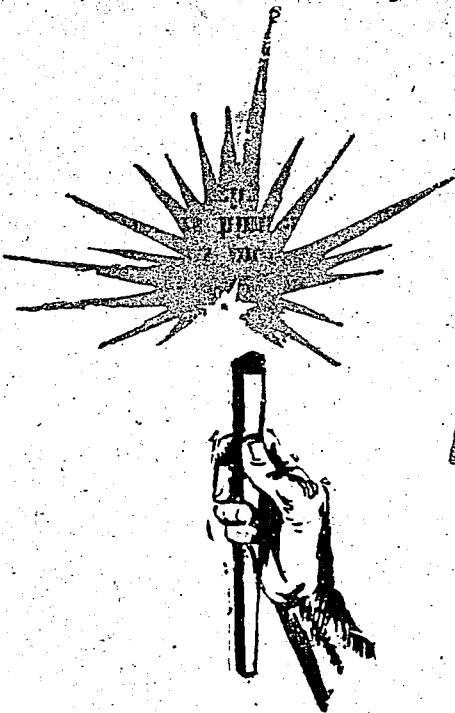


THE SPARK



A SOCIALIST WEEKLY OF THE AFRICAN REVOLUTION

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1964

No. 71 2d.

(Registered at the G. P. O. as a Newspaper)

Front Page Comment

Economic Warfare?

THE January referendum on constitutional issues, sparked off by attempts to use the public service (more especially the judiciary and the police service) to arrest Ghana's progress, has achieved a massive consolidation of the peoples' political power. The socialist society is now the goal of our national endeavours and has been sanctified by constitutional provisions.

The Convention People's Party has been given the constitutional status of the sole political party of the nation whose duty it is to mobilise and direct the efforts of our united people to one supreme goal—the building of a socialist society.

The immediate reaction in imperialist circles to these historic developments has been ill-concealed dismay. And as is usual with imperialism, the attack has been led by the Western press and radio. A veritable barrage of abuse, denigration and calumny has

been fired at Ghana and its Head of State. Distortion of facts and outright falsification have again been the stock-in-trade of Western journalists, editorial writers and radio commentators. In all this, the Western imperialist press has merely acted true to type.

But all who have any experience of fighting imperialism in Africa know that, behind this press and radio barrage, imperialist policy-makers (the financiers, monopolists and investors) in London, Paris and Washington are busy fashioning out a new tactic for coping with the socialist advance here in Ghana. After their ignominious failure in the use of the judiciary and the police, where next will the forces of imperialism strike?

ECONOMIC WAR AGAINST GHANA

Available evidence suggests that imperialism would like to open an economic war against Ghana in an attempt to halt our advance to socialism or at least to slow down the rate at which we reconstruct our economy. The aim is to cripple our capacity to create the economic foundations of the socialist society we have chosen to build. And the speech of Major-General Sir Edward Spears, Chairman of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd., at the 67th annual general meeting of the company held on April 3 in London is a strong pointer to this.

It looks as if the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd. is not only fighting its own battle but even more so anxious to lead the struggle by foreign investors in Ghana against the economic policies of the Ghana Government. It is therefore important to understand the standpoint of General Spears' Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd. And there can be no better source for our investigation than the report presented to the annual meeting of the company's shareholders in London earlier this month by General Spears himself acting in his capacity as Chairman.

The picture given by the annual report is that everything is going on well except in one respect. The Ghana Government, through its fiscal measures, is not allowing United Kingdom shareholders of

the company to drain off all the profits realised. The problem, according to General Spears, is not with the production of gold but rather with the distribution of the profits earned.

THE REAL FACTS

A few facts should be cited to illustrate this point. First, gold production in 1963 was an all-time record. Output was 444,251 ounces. Production target for 1964 is 468,000 ounces of gold which is almost six per cent increase on the 1963 figure.

Secondly, the profits in 1963 were also a record. These stood at £2,067,635 a figure higher than that of 1962 the best year, up to then, in the history of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd.

Thirdly, the cost of production has been lowered. In other words, productivity in 1963 has been higher than in 1962. According to General Spears, "despite increased expenditure, the cost of producing an ounce of gold was 3/11d per ounce less than in the previous year and there was an increase of mining profit of 2/5d per ounce".

All this a happy General Spears referred to as "a remarkable achievement".

When, however, it comes to the distribution of the fruits of the gold mining industry, General Spears is in a very different mood. He is unhappy that "taxes, duties, compulsory savings" take up "no less than 77.3 per cent of our profits in 1963". And because of this "we were compelled to reduce the final dividend by 6d, making 1/6d for the year." It must be pointed out here that the company's expectation was a dividend of 2/- exactly equal to what the shareholders earned in 1962. In plain language, General Spears is angry because U.K.-based shareholders are getting in 1963 barely 75 per cent of the profits they earned in 1962 despite the fact that production and gross profits (i.e. profits before tax) have both gone up.

GHANA'S FISCAL MEASURES

The argument of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd., is that the 25 per cent drop in earnings on shares is unreasonable sacrifice imposed on the company through "increased taxation" and "a step rise in working costs". These "burdens" are the direct result of Ghana Government's fiscal policy.

The company, going by what General Spears says, is accordingly "seeking alleviation", that is a change in Ghana's fiscal measures. It adds threateningly that such alleviation is sought "as much in Ghana's interest as in our own".

This veiled threat is made more explicit when the chairman reports that "we were discussing with the Ghana Government our plans to increase production, under certain conditions". We can now see the line of the attack. Production will be increased only "under certain conditions". And what are these conditions? General Spears himself answers: "If the tax burden is reduced, we shall be able to make progress with our plans to increase production. Otherwise, as I have already indicated, we cannot carry out our plans to develop the mine to its fullest capacity..."

Here it is useful to point out that a target of Ghana's Seven-Year Development Plan launched last month is a substantial increase in gold output. The target is a 16.4 per cent increase in gold output. In round figures, production must go up from 945,000 ounces in 1962 to 1,100,000 ounces in 1969.

A THREAT TO GOVERNMENT'S POLICY

But General Spears, whose company handles about 50 per cent of all Ghana's output of gold, is telling us that if the Government's fiscal policies are not changed the Seven-Year Development Plan, as far as it concerns his company, will not be fulfilled.

Suppose for one moment that every private entrepreneur adopts the standpoint of General Spears and the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd.? The result will be the failure of the Development Plan in the private sector. The nation's determination to create the economic basis for a socialist society would have been foiled and the goal of socialism would ipso facto be seriously undermined.

The economic strategy that General Spears has mapped out for the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation thus ends up in the disruption of our drive to a socialist society.

We may examine more closely the specific complaints of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation.

The first complaint is with company Income Tax. This stood at 8/- in the £ in 1962 when there was, in

by
JULIUS SAGO



A CALL TO ACTION

OSAGYEFO the President has sent the following message to the International Conference on Economic Sanctions against South Africa, convening in London from 14-17 April, 1964:—

"I send my greetings and felicitations to all those participating in the international Conference on Economic Sanctions against South Africa. The significance of this conference lies in the fact that this is the first time that the world's moral abhorrence of apartheid has led to a concerted and scientific examination of the practical measures which must be taken to eradicate this abomination from human society.

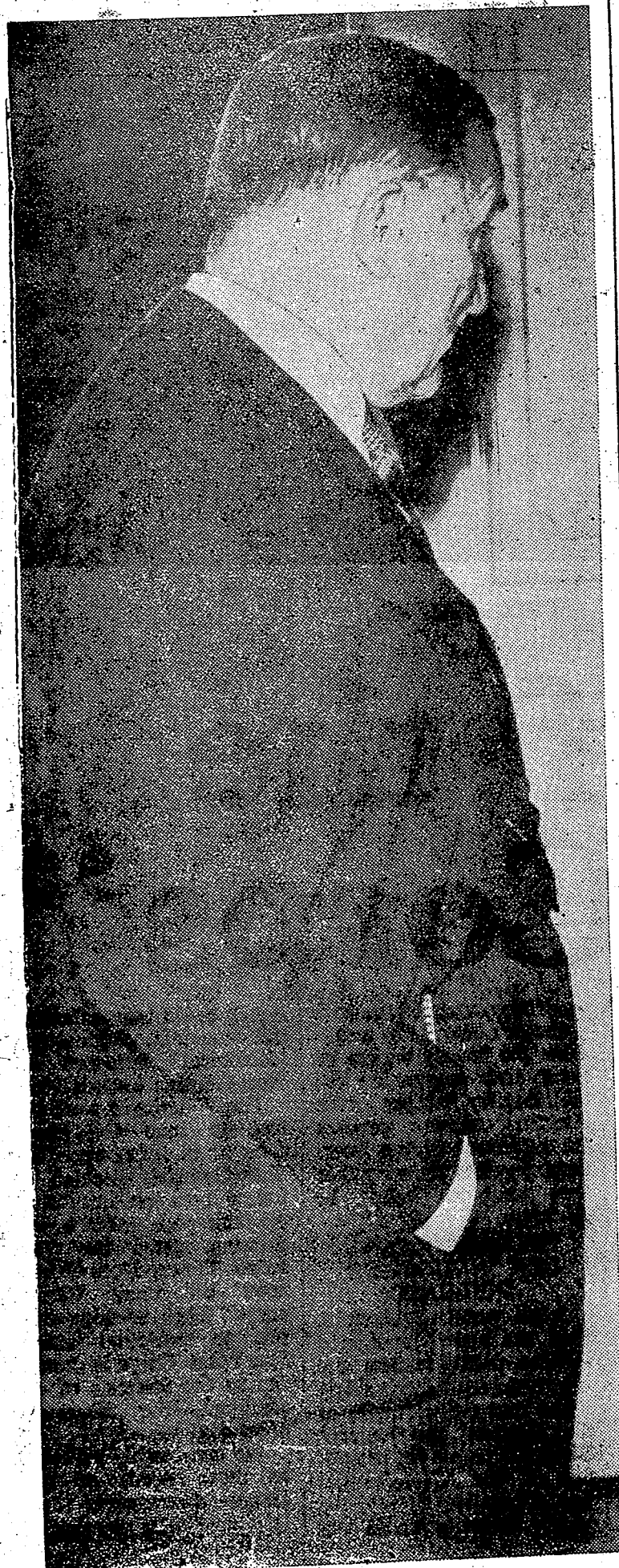
It is my earnest hope that the conscience of humanity will find full expression at your conference, and that the outcome of your deliberations will present the world with a clear call to action on an effective programme acceptable to all who wish to end the practice of apartheid in South Africa.

Ghana has always given its fullest support at the United Nations, in the Organisation of African Unity, and in all other international organisations to any measures directed towards the termination of the inhuman systems of racial exploitation and discrimination in South Africa. The Government of Ghana is therefore fully in accord with the aims of your Conference, is happy to be associated with it, and is fully convinced that it will succeed in mobilising a dynamic world-wide campaign against Apartheid.

We must, however, not be content to estimate our success only by the strength and cogency of our resolutions. The test, for us, must be what amount of determination we can engender in the world to fight the evil of Apartheid by concrete action. The application of effective sanctions must be our chief aim. These alone will isolate South Africa economically, and bring home to the South African Government and its supporters that the world will no longer tolerate the injustice and inhumanity on which Apartheid is based.

Apartheid has long stood condemned before the eyes of all civilised men. But irresolution and divided councils have so far shielded this wicked system from the retribution of an outraged world. The time has now come to obliterate it, so that men and women everywhere, whatever their colour, race and creed, may live together in sincere brotherhood and peace.

KWAME NKRUMAH



General Spears... economic sabotage?

Continued on page 4

from THE INSIDE..

'ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS'—

A WAVE of military coups has hit Latin America like a tornado. Colonels and generals, who have received detailed instructions from their American advisers, are eager to do their bit in saving "democracy". In the past year and a half, military coups have taken place in Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic and Honduras.

The 136th coup d'etat was carried out in Honduras on October 3 last year. One hundred and thirty-six coups in 142 years of "independent" existence! This is quite a lot even for the people of Honduras, who are used to seeing every US-supported colonel make a bid for the "president's" chair.

Who are these new dictators? And where do they come from?

Most of the members of the military juntas which came into power recently in a number of Latin American republics received their training in military colleges and academies in the United States. Col. Oswaldo Lopez Arellano, for example who spearheaded the overthrow in Honduras, served at US Air Force bases from 1942 to 1945. Major-General Victor Eloy Vinas Roman, who masterminded the coup in the Dominican Republic, finished a course at the Armoured Corps School at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Rear-Admiral Luis Ramon Catro Jijon, one of the organizers of the overthrow in Ecuador, graduated from the US Naval School at Monterey, California, in 1949. Colonel Miguel Ponciano, Chief of Staff of the Guatemala Army, who had a hand in the recent rebellion in his country, received training at US Air Force schools in 1946-47. This list could be continued.

The Pentagon specially trains military personnel for Latin American countries to uphold the interests of US monopolies and the local oligarchy. And the main task of the trainees of the US Intelligence is to combat the national liberation movement. The United States has spent more than two thousand million dollars in the post-war period to suppress the forces of progress and democracy in Latin America.

THE SO-CALLED MILITARY "AID"

The amounts which the USA appropriates for the so-called military "aid" to the Latin American countries are continuously swelling. In the 1962-63 fiscal year, this figure topped the 75 million dollar mark. This "aid" is used for equipping the armies and "feeding" the militarist upper crust in these coun-

tries. However, Latin America needs tractors and not tanks, disinterested economic assistance and not submarines and atomic weapons.

One Colombian politician worded the question uppermost in the minds of all Latin Americans the following way: "Against whom are we arming the Latin Americans? We are building armies which have no weight in the international sphere, but which have a detrimental effect upon the life in our countries. Each Latin American country is occupied by its own army".

MILITARY DICTATORSHIP

In 1954 twelve out of the 20 Latin American countries were under the control of military dictators. By the middle of 1961, Paraguay's "President", General Stroessner, was the only one who managed to survive. Col. Remon (Panama) and Castillo Armas (Guatemala), General Somoza (Nicaragua) and "Generalissimo" Trujillo (Dominican Republic) were assassinated. The colonels and generals who took over the rule in Argentina (Peron), Haiti (Magloire), Peru (Odría), Colombia (Rojas Pinilla), Venezuela (Perez Jimenez), Salvador (Lemus) and Cuba (Batista) were swept out by the mighty national-liberation movement.

Such a turn of events did not please the American imperialists in the least. Feverishly, they started searching for a new line. The White House realized that new forms were needed to disguise the essence of its plundering policy in Latin America. In 1961, the United States put forward a new programme with the loud title "Alliance for Progress". Officials in Washington promised Latin American countries 20 thousand million dollars of aid in the next decade. Half of this sum was to come from the US government and the other half

from American monopolies and other investors. Besides, according to the Kennedy plan, the Latin American countries were to uncover 80 thousand million dollars of "self-aid".

The proclamation of "Alliance for Progress" was accompanied by demagogical talk about social progress, agrarian reforms and the such. Politically, the "Alliance for Progress" has its sights set on stopping, at all costs, the revolutionary process of liberation among the Latin American peoples, inspired by the heroic example of Cuba. Economically, the "Alliance" boils down to the desire of the American monopolies to retain Latin America as the USA's supplier of raw materials. And the main requirement for obtaining this aid is to give unconditional support to America's aggressive political policy.

As the myth about American aid was exposed, Latin Americans came up with more accurate names for the "Alliance". First it was "Alliance without Progress". This was followed by "Alliance, but no Progress". And today, the name "Alliance for Aggression" has received universal recognition. Commenting the results of the "Alliance for Progress" programme, the Mexican newspaper "Siempre" had all grounds to declare: "It is not a case that we shall receive nothing. That much is clear. The main thing is that nothing should be taken from us!"

METHOD OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM

In order to put the "Alliance for Progress" into effect, there had to be governments capable of estimating its merits. It turned out that military dictators were the most reliable instruments for the "Alliance". That is how another wave of militarism engulfed Latin America. The instigation of military coups is a time-tested method in the arsenal of American imperialism. The Pentagon, the Central Intelligence Agency and the State Department—these are organizers of the coups. Edwin Lewin, a prominent American historian, points out: "Whether

we wanted to or not, the "Alliance for Progress" has caused a new wave of militarism in Latin America."

The American propaganda machine is trying to convince public opinion that the instigators of the recent military rebellions are progressive people, unlike the old military dictators, Batista, Perez Jimenez Trujillo... Nothing could be more cynical. The coups in Guatemala, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Honduras in 1963 were accompanied by a hitherto unheard of rampage of reaction. The Mexican magazine MANANA was correct when it wrote: "The military men behind the coups claim that they are for progress; but in reality, the only result of the military coups is bitter poverty, in the countries of Latin America"

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION

The most far-sighted representatives of bourgeois science advise the leaders of the USA to draw realistic conclusions from the latest events in Latin America. Prof. Dudley Seers of Yale University, recommends the US statesmen to learn how to retreat elegantly like Britain and France.

One can only wonder whether the US statesmen will really have the courage and common sense to soberly evaluate the new balance of forces in the world today.

Scores of scholars and statesmen in the capitalist world are trying to unearth the reasons for the Cuban revolution in order to avert many more cases. His discourse is interesting from another angle. In "fitting" his nine points to the present situation in different the inevitable catastrophe. Prof. Seers, in fact, enumerates several reasons for the Cuban revolution.

THE SIX POINTS

This article is hardly the place for arguing with the Yale professor about the nine reasons, which in his opinion, caused the revolution. But this much can be

said—if he is right in certain instances, then he is extremely naive in a great Latin American countries, he comes to the conclusion that six points causing revolutions are present in Venezuela, Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico and several other Latin American countries. And there are five such points in countries like Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Chile. Prof. Seers knows the real situation in Latin America and his conclusions are, undoubtedly, of some interest.

Moreover, Prof. Seers does not stand alone. The apologist for American monopolies, John Plank, says that "Latin America is ripe for revolution. In this connection, we must remember that Latin America's position in the world has changed and admit that if this region ever was a

reservation of the USA, it is no longer."

THE ADVANCE OF HISTORY

The American magazine "LIFE", laments that the whole of Latin America feels the threat of the on coming revolution. And this is quite correct because there is nothing in the world today that can hold back the advance of history. The reasons which led to

the revolution in Cuba exist in many other Latin American countries.

New mighty forces are awakening in the giant continent. The peoples of Latin America are taking an active part in the struggle. Latin America is becoming one of the most revolutionary regions on our planet. To counter the "Alliance for Progress", the Latin Americans have come up with an "Alliance of the Oppressed against the Oppressors".

—S.A.G.

AND LATIN AMERICA



FIDEL CASTRO,

A New Version of the "Peace Corps"

SOON after Washington, searching for new forms and methods of infiltration into the newly freed countries, established its Peace Corps, Bonn decided to found a similar organization. The matter was entrusted to the Ministry of Economic Cooperation. The association of private companies vaguely called "Studies and Assistance in Foreign Countries" was invited to participate in the project in order to camouflage, at least partially the role played by the state in this undertaking.

Considering the difficulties with which the US Peace Corps met the ruling

quarters of the Federal Republic of Germany did not dare fully to imitate the American pattern. Drawing upon US experience, brought from the other side of the Atlantic by a number of Bonn "aid" experts, the Bonn Government gave to its new neo-colonialist tool the name of German Development Service.

LARGE-SCALE EXPANSION IN AFRICA

The monopolistic circles of the Federal Republic, which are launching large-scale expansion in Africa of late, were active in establishing the German Development Service. The entire activities of the volunteers of the German Development Service—West German engineers, technicians, doctors, agronomists, teachers, etc.—are subordinated

to the interests of the West-German monopolies.

Through their version of the Peace Corps, they hope to indoctrinate a certain part of the population of the African countries and make them future champions of their influence.

Defining the tasks of the Bond Peace Corps the West-German "Der Tagespiegel" declared that it is above all necessary to promote the transformation of ideological principles of people in the under-developed countries. All efforts of the German Peace Corps are concentrated on changing the so-called infrastructure, which is considered

the most difficult and important problem.

"AID" WITH STRINGS

While the leaders of the Federal Republic spare no efforts to advertise the Bonns which the German Development Service will bring to Africa, State Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Co-operation, Vialon, openly declared that West-German assistance to the under-developed countries should be rendered with greater account for political considerations for before. Herr Vialon emphasized that "assistance should be granted only if it promotes the preservation and development of West-

ern ideals."

What sort of ideals they are can be seen from the events in the Portuguese colonies in Africa where West-German sub-machine-guns are used in a bloody colonial war for expanding and consolidating the positions of the imperialist monopolies, West-Germany including. Thus, Vice-President of the West-German Bundestag, Jaeger, who visited Angola at the invitation of Dictator Salazar, claimed that "peace and order reign in the Portuguese colonies". He impudently declared that he had gained a "favourable impression" of the regime in Angola which, according to him,

was "absolutely harmless".

Jaeger's attempt to whitewash the bloody regime of terror and suppression established by Salazar in the African colonies exposes the assertions of the Bonn propagandists claiming that they want to "help" the Africans.

"PEACE CORPS"—NOT IN AFRICA'S INTEREST

Small wonder, therefore, that the more far-sighted African public leaders are becoming increasingly aware that the maintain of the German Development Service is an all-out promotion of the West-German neo-colonialist plans in the young sovereign states de-

signed to subjugate them to the economic, political and ideological influence of West-German imperialism.

The Americans were the first to send the Peace Corps to Africa. The West-Germans decided to follow their suit, but dished up their plan under a new dressing, stated the Ghanaian Times. Does Africa need all these foreign corps? Their invasion gives rise to profound alarm. The Peace Corps is created not in the interests of our continent, the newspaper concluded.

We can readily subscribe to these words of the Ghanaian newspaper.

—Y. ETINGER

AFRICA AND ITS 'FRIENDS' FROM THE BANKS OF RHINE

DELEGATIONS from Western Germany have since long been visiting one after another the capitals of the young African states under various pretexts. The faces of the envoys of Rhine and Ruhr monopolies beam with smiles, their cheque-books rustle and promises of generous and disinterested aid are given.

The colonialists were forced by the history to arrive at certain conclusions. Outright calls for a forced seizure of colonies are becoming more and more rare. Only here and there, very seldom though, voices demanding a "Lebensraum" are heard. The fact that old colonialism has collapsed is now acknowledged even by inveterate German colonialists who have pocketed millions by mercilessly exploiting the peoples of Togo and Camerouns.

But the collapse of colonialism does not mean at all that West German monopolies have given up their intentions. They have adopted different slogans, leaving unchanged their old aim which they are trying now to achieve through roundabout ways. This is the aim of subjugating Africa, and making it to serve their political and economic ends.

Not an easy task, indeed, for today the young African states have become a mighty anti-imperialist and anti-colonial force. Their voices resound and more louder for the world to hear. Together with the socialist countries, these states come out against war, for the strengthening of peace and easing the international tensions. The signing of the Moscow partial nuclear test-ban treaty which became possible, thanks to the wise and peaceful initiative of the Soviet Union was hailed by the African peoples with approval and was justly appraised as the first step to be followed by still further measures aimed at preserving and consolidating world peace.

SYMPATHY FOR THE SOVIET UNION

New Africa feels ever growing sympathy for the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic and the other countries of the socialist camp which render a truly disinterested and friendly assistance to the young developing states supporting in every way possible their striving to get rid for good of the colonialist yoke and to gain genuine freedom.

Losing their influence on the African continent with every passing day, the West German monopolies are therefore making such efforts to keep their positions and penetrate ever deeper into Africa.

The main guiding principle in Western Germany is

the flesh of African countries. Siemens, Ferrostaal AG, Dedierwerke AG, Stabakbau AG is a far from complete list of West German Firms quite active, for example, in Ghana, Luebenwerke Oberhausen AG is engaged in gold and bauxite mining, the Krupp is busy with iron ores and the Deutsche Bank—dia-

efforts of Western Germany aimed at making the African countries follow the ill-famed Hallstein doctrine and give up any contacts whatsoever with the German Democratic Republic furnish the most vivid proof. As soon as Kwame Nkrumah, the President of Ghana, stated that "there are two German states with diametrically different political and economic systems, and that these German states should live in peace, if the world wishes to avoid a catastrophe", the biggest West German newspapers came out with demands of immediate discontinuation of any aid to Ghana. At

POLITICAL EVOLUTION IN AFRICA

As to Western Germany, wrote the *Ghanaian Times*, "its leaders are interested not in the development of Africa itself but in the development of events in Africa, i.e. in what degree is the political evolution of

African countries profitable or not profitable from the viewpoint of imperialist aims of Western Germany. The newspaper appraised quite rightly the real objectives of the West German policy in Africa, the "disinterestedness" of the West German monopolists who did not feel embarrassed to declare in *Suddeutsche Zeitung* last January that "before giving Ghana another 20 million marks (for the construction of a bridge across the Volta River) its policy in relation to Germany (of course, Western) should be verified."

What about the West German policy towards

Togo? Early this year such newspapers of West German monopolies, as *Industriekurier* and *Deutsche Zeitung* and *Wirtschaftszeitung* openly demanded a unification of Togo with Western Germany as its 12th land, referring to the fact that up till 1918 Togo belonged to Germany.

One should not be surprised of such a nonsense. After all West German ambassadors in most African countries are the people with a nazi past and a great experience in carrying out the imperialist colonial policy which is now pursued by the leaders of Western Germany.

by A Special Correspondent

that nothing should remind the old colonial policy. However, the new, neo-colonialist policy of the FRG is being planned and carried out by the same organisations and sometimes even by the same persons who were engaged in this earlier. Today the West German colonialism, as aptly put by *Suddeutsche Zeitung* of Munich, appears in the role of a "Rich auntie with a cheque-book and a basket with presents."

ECONOMIC INFILTRATION

In Bonn the preparation for a wide-scale penetration into the African continent had started shortly after the second world war was over. The West German financial and industrial monopolies were the initiators of this new expansion, and the former Chancellor, Konrad Adenauer, was the herald of their will. Back in 1927, Adenauer declared for everyone to hear that "the German Empire must aspire by all means for acquisition of colonies."

The penetration began with the "modest" participation of West German monopolies in the capital investments of French and Belgian firms in Africa, which were, as a matter of fact, in great need of money. The *Ferrostaal AG* and the *Haniel* concerns became deeply rooted at Colomb-Bechar (Algeria). West German petroleum joint-stock company made its appearance in Libya and the commonly undertaken exploitation of ore mines started in Mauritania.

As a result the tactics of West German monopolies penetrated in some places rather deeply into

monds, of course.

Then a new and suitable shield—the European Economic Community—appeared which, as it soon became evident, was the economic basis of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc. As a result of the efforts made by the West and by West Germany in a no smaller degree, seven African states with their population numbering 22 per cent of that of the continent, joined the Common Market as its integrated members. The remaining countries, as noted by *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, an influential West German newspaper, feel growing distrust for the EEC.

It is quite understandable since the Western powers want with the aid of the Common Market to force the African states to give up their industrialisation policy, driving them to the development of small and middle-size enterprises which would engage themselves in initially processing the local raw materials. As a result of such an "unselfish policy, the young countries would find themselves in direct dependence on the industrial goods deliveries. These deliveries, as the financial and economic aid in general, are placed by the West already today in dependence on the degree the policy of one or another African government meets with the interests of the imperialist powers.

POLITICAL EXPANSION

Here is one of many facts to illustrate it. Last May the Bonn Bundestag changed the order of granting aid to the young developing states which existed up till then, and resolved that in future the aid "will be given only in case the wishes of Western Germany are reckoned with" and that the sphere of application of this "aid" will not be determined not by African states themselves but by the Federal Republic of Germany. This is how the new "purposeful" plan of Scheel, the West German Minister for Economic Cooperation Problems, was created. This plan may justly be called a plan of depriving the African countries of their economic and political independence.

Investing their money into the development of some African countries the neo-colonialists' intentions are far from unselfish. By the very nature of imperialism, they cannot give up their unseasing attempts of interfering into the internal affairs of the independent states and their tendency to influence the foreign policy of these states and their relations with the other countries.

In this connection the

'White Africa' and 'Mad Hares'

THE light-minded hares, who divided the bearskin before they caught the bear, have long since been ridiculed in popular children's fairy-tales. However, the American "mad men" seem to have poor knowledge of folklore and of present day reality. Only this and boundless hatred of the peoples' national-liberation movement can explain their recent projects or plans for the establishment of what the press called "White Africa".

The ill-starred John Birch society was the initiator of these plans. Inebriated by their ingenuity, the Birchists started to demand that a "white state" be set up on the African continent, which would include the British, Portuguese and South African territories with more or less large white populations. This mad idea was hastily supported by Senator Goldwater, leader of the American "ultra-rightists." He suggested that the new federation be called the "African Protectorate" and stressed that it should be under the aegis of the United States. The representatives of the native population, whom Goldwater graciously consents to admit

to the territory of the protectorate, are to enjoy only a deliberative vote.

GOLDWATER SUPPORTS MAD IDEA

On what grounds do the colonialists intend to make free use of a foreign territory? It appears that obscurantists have invented a "theoretical substantiation" for their wild undertaking. Pittman, Chairman of an extremist organisation called

"Christian Anti-communists", declared with unheard of impudence that the African people are allegedly "indebted to imperialist powers" and must pay for the foreigners' kindness by giving them a part of their native land.

It is common knowledge that the ten-year-long colonial rule in Africa has brought its peoples nothing but privations and sufferings. Did not the American press announce that over half of the United States' gold reserves were plundered in Africa? Almost 50 million Africans were annihilated by the colonialists in the last 50 years alone—this terrible figure has come down to history.

If one is to speak of Africa's debt to the colonialists, it should be paid only by driving them from African soil once and for all. This is how it will be no matter what the "mad hares" overseas are planning.

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AFRICAN DIARY

6th APRIL, MONDAY:

ALGERIA: President Ahmed Ben Bella announces in Algiers that a congress of Algeria's ruling party, the National Liberation Front, will be held on April 16.

President Ben Bella invites all leaders of the Algerian Revolution to attend the conference.

SOMALIA: The Government party, the Somali Youth League has won 69 of the 123 seats of the recent elections, the first since Somalia's independence.

SOUTH AFRICA: The United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid announces its decision to send a seven-member team of observers to the international conference on economic sanctions against South Africa, to be held in London from April 14 to 18.

* Sir Edward Asafu-Adjaye, Ghanaian member of the United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid, leaves Accra by air for London to attend a meeting of the committee.

U.A.R.: Lieutenant R. C. Kwaku Hewlett, secretary-treasurer of the Ghana Legion, addressing a conference of African Veterans' Organisation in Cairo calls on Veterans' organisations in Africa to adopt a common charter.

NIGERIA: The infamous Pretoria and Portugal have been expelled from the International African Institute following a resolution passed at this year's three-day meeting of the institute's executive council which has ended in Ibadan.

7th APRIL, TUESDAY:

ZANZIBAR: President Abeid Karume of Zanzibar, says that the American "Project Mercury Station" must be removed from Zanzibar before the end of this month in the interests of the defence and security of the country.

SENEGAL: President Leopold Senghor of Senegal arrives in Lagos tomorrow to begin an eight-day visit to Nigeria. During his visit he will lecture on "Democracy and Socialism" at Ibadan University.

8th APRIL, WEDNESDAY:

MOROCCO: The Moroccan Ministry of Agriculture has announced that Morocco has doubled its taxes on all alcohol, wines and spirits.

NIGERIA: The Nigerian Federal Government accepts a private member's motion calling for the creation of an African Common Market.

SIERRA LEONE: The Sierra Leone Prime Minister, Sir Milton Margai, has told Parliament that his Government has decided to set up a ma-

chinery to sound public opinion on a republican constitution for the country.

9th APRIL, THURSDAY:

ANGOLA: More than 12,000 refugees from Northern Angola, where Portuguese forces are fighting Angolan nationalists, have crossed into the Congo during the past five weeks.

ETHIOPIA: Ethiopia's Defence Ministry has announced their withdrawal from all frontiers in the disputed area bordering Somalia.

ALGERIA: The Ghanaian Ambassador in Algeria, Dr. J. E. Bossman, has presented to President Ben Bella of Algeria, Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah's book "AFRICA MUST UNITE".

Following the presentation, President Ben Bella has placed an order for 1,000 copies.

GHANA: Mr. Bishop Mpete, representative of the Basutoland Congress Party in Ghana in a press conference in Accra says, free Basutoland will surely join the Organisation of African Unity (O.A.U.) and help eliminate colonialism and imperialism from the continent forever.

10th APRIL, FRIDAY:

GHANA: Ghana's High Commissioner in the United Kingdom, Mr. Kwesi Armah, will launch Osagyefo Dr. Nkrumah's latest book, "CONSCIENCISM" at a cocktail party at the Hilton Hotel in London next week.

TANGANYIKA: The banned South African National Congress Party announces a "week of protests" against the Apartheid South African Government from next Monday.

The Party also intends to send resolutions to the arch-racist "Prime Minister", Hendrik Verwoerd.

11th APRIL, SATURDAY:

MALI: President Modibo Keita of Mali on a pre-election speech accuses some foreign diplomats in Mali of attempting to spread uneasiness among the population and discrediting the country's stand of socialism.

NIGERIA: The Congolese (Leopoldville) Charge d'Affaires in Nigeria, Mr. Gervais Bahizi, denies a report that his country wishes to set up security forces on the Nigerian pattern.

* Armed Nigerian riot police with shields surrounded the Supreme Court as the hearing of an appeal by the Action Group Leader, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, against a 10-year prison sentence for treasonable felony and conspiracy.

addition, a compulsory savings of 2/- in the £. The company complains that the company income tax went up to 9/- in the £ in 1963.

The correct position, however, is that Ashanti Goldfields Corporation paid less tax in 1963 than in 1962. In 1962 its tax plus compulsory savings stood at 10/- in the £. But in 1963, with the abolition of compulsory savings and the increase in the rate of company income tax, the tax paid came to 9/- in the £. The company is better off to the tune of 1/- in the £.

MARGIN OF PROFITS

The second complaint is with the margin of profits that should be re-invested in Ghana. Last September, the President announced that foreign companies will no longer be forced to invest in Ghana 60% of their profits after tax. The result of this policy has been to encourage foreign companies to take all their profits out of the country to the detriment both of new investments and the expansion of existing concerns in Ghana. This trend was anticipated and had to be arrested.

The Government accordingly gave the foreign companies two alternative lines of action through the imposition of a 4/- in the £ tax on all profits going out of the country. Foreign investors could avoid this tax by investing their profits here in Ghana. Should they, on the other hand, decide to take all their profits out of the country, they are called-upon to pay a tax of 4/- in the £. In short, 20% of all profits earmarked to leave the country is held back through this measure.

THE ROLE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

This tax brings out the point which Dr. Nkrumah has off repeated when discussing the role of foreign investments in Ghana's economic reconstruction. It would be wrong—and indeed this would be a policy that leads into a blind alley—to allow all profits earned in Ghana to leave Ghana. On the other hand it would be simply impos-

Continued from page 1

sible to insist that all profits earned by foreign investments in Ghana should remain in Ghana. There is obviously the need for a reconciliation of these diametrically opposed trends.

A formula had to be found whereby part of the profits earned on foreign investments accrues to the overseas investors while part remains in Ghana for the further development of this country. At the moment the ratio is 4 to 1 in favour of the foreign investor. But judging from the high rate of company tax in advanced countries (48% in U.K. and 52 per cent in U.S.A.), the high rate of excess profits tax (33% to over 50 per cent in U.K.'s recent experience and only 10% here in Ghana), there is a strong case for making this ratio less unfavourable to Ghana.

The important point to emphasise, however, is that the foreign investor should contribute to the continued well-being of the community out of which he makes his profit. If he appreciates this point, the foreign investor would have understood the kernel of Dr. Nkrumah's view on the role of foreign investments in developing economies.

ASHANTI GOLDFIELDS' INGRATITUDE

We may now briefly dispose of the third complaint of Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Ltd. This is that a high rate of personal income tax is robbing the company of "skilled and highly trained men". The company's Chairman breezily adds that he hopes "the

Ghana Government will realise that to discourage highly qualified technicians from working in this country is not a wise policy".

We shall not belabour the point that the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Limited could not have shown much confidence in Ghanaians if after 67 years of activity in this country it still has to depend to heavily on expatriate technicians.

Two points could be mentioned on this score about high rates of personal income tax. Firstly, both expatriates and Ghanaians pay the same rate of income tax. But to encourage the expatriate workers, the Ghana Government allows a salary differential which in some cases runs to several hundreds of pounds per annum. Surely no Government that carries out such a policy of wage differentiation in favour of expatriates could be rightly accused of driving away expatriate technicians.

The second point to note is that the rate of income tax in Ghana, admittedly gone up since 1963, is still far below the rate in Britain. Wherein lies the fairness in General Spears' argument which chastises the Ghana Government over rates of personal income tax much lower than what is imposed by his home government. (Incidentally, the present U.K. Government is run by the Conservative Party to which General Spears belongs!).

FUEL OIL TAXATION MORE JUSTIFIED

The complaint about the tax on fuel oil is hardly

more justified. It applies to all business homes and is a revenue source generally accepted in all countries including Britain. Further the rate of the tax in Ghana is still comparatively low.

Now that we have gone into all the arguments raised by General Spears, we are in a better position to assess his threat of holding back production in the goldfields. Has General Spears made out a strong enough case to support his threat of a production hold-up? We do not think so. And no one, except he belongs to the small privileged group of shareholders, will think he has. The Government of Ghana will do well to resist General Spears' pressures. To give way would be to open the door for an avalanche of claims for similar treatment by all foreign investments to the detriment of the Seven-Year Development Plan.

A TAKE-OVER

However, in standing up to the pressures of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Limited, the Ghana Government must be prepared in the last resort to take over gold production in the country. For this is the only way to eliminate the threat, which has been made and will from time to time be made, to hold up gold production except certain terms dictated by the present producers are accepted.

The Government no doubt knows that it is impossible to restrict any financial concessions to the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Limited. It must be clear to all that any financial concessions to that company must immediately

be made applicable to all companies operating in Ghana.

The problem posed by General Spears' report to the 67th annual meeting of his company—Ashanti Goldfields Corporation Ltd.—is a serious one. And it must be taken seriously. For it threatens to undercut policies which are fundamental to the success of our programme for economic reconstruction. To this extent, it is a challenge to our decision to build our country into a socialist state.

IMPERIALISTS ON A NEW MOVE

Could it be that General Spears is acting simply as an individual? Could it be that he is giving expression to a line of action agreed among foreign investors in Ghana? I doubt this.

It will be nearer the correct position, I think, if we say that General Spears is flying a kite. He is putting out a line which he hopes all foreign investors in the country would endorse and pursue. Accordingly, we have to recognise the fact that imperialism is now gearing up for a major economic battle against our Seven-Year Development Plan. And the storm troopers in this offensive are the foreign investors (or shall we say SOME foreign investors) operating in the country.

AT SEVENTY



A man who before the age of 15 tended calves, sheep, and cows, and after worked at a factory owned by Germans, then coal-pits owned by Frenchmen, and Belgian-owned chemical plants and now Prime Minister of one of the two biggest powers in the world—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—is 70 today. All men and women of goodwill the world over join the people of the Soviet Union in wishing Mr. Nikita S. Khrushchev the best of health and good luck for many more years to come.

3rd Anniversary of Pig Bay Incident

ON April 17th 1961, at 2.30 a.m., a brigade of mercenaries numbering approximately 1,500 men trained, armed and directed by the Government of the United States and proceeding from Puerte Cabezas, Nicaragua, landed on the Southern coast of La Villas province in the area known as Gienaga de Zapata (the Zapata Swamps) invaded Cuba.

The mercenary fleet was composed of 5 armed merchant vessels, 2 LCI boats, 3 LCY barges for transport and 4 LCYP barges for landing of troops. The brigade was made up of 5 infantry battalions, one heavily armed battalion (with mortars, bazookas and anti-tank cannons), one tank company, one parachute battalion, one under water demolition team and an air force consisting of 16B-26 bombers, 8 C-46 transports and 6 C-54 transports.

In spite of the heavy strafing by mercenary planes, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba encircled the battalion and the invasion was smashed in less than 72 hours. Most of the mercenaries were captured and their air force was destroyed.

The incident at the Bay of Pig has gone down in history as the first military defeat suffered by imperialism in America.

It emphasised to U.S. imperialism that it could not curb the socialist revolution in Cuba. It also stressed to U.S. imperialism that the destructive power stored away in the nuclear bombs is no march for the forward march of nations to socialism, which is the future of America, as it is of the whole world.

KWAME NKURUMAH IDEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE WINNEBA

In view of the heavy demand for application forms and the fact that many forms which have been collected are still outstanding it has been decided to extend the closing date for the submission of application forms to the 9th of May, 1964.

All interested persons are hereby informed that no application will be considered for entry into the 1964/65 academic year.

The Entrance Examination will be held on Monday the 25th of May 1964 at the following centres:—

1. Winneba — All applicants from Greater Accra, Volta and Eastern Regions
2. Kumasi — All applicants from Ashanti and Brong Ahafo Regions
3. Tamale — All applicants from Upper and Northern Regions
4. Takoradi — All applicants from Central and Western Regions.

The exact places in these centres and the time table for the Entrance Examination will be announced later. Candidates are advised to look up the daily papers or to consult their District Commissioners.

The Entrance Examination will be conducted in a general paper made up of three parts. Candidates will be expected to show proficiency in Nkrumalism and current Affairs.