

Festac '75 Festival NEWS



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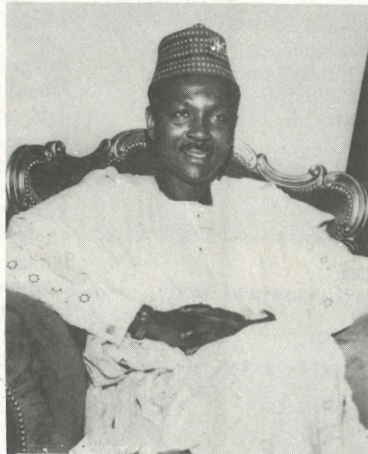
INAUGURAL ISSUE

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VOL. 1 NO. 1



H.E. LEOPOLD SEDAR SENGHOR,
President of Senegal



H.E. GENERAL YAKUBU GOWON,
Head of State of Nigeria

THE PATRONS

DR. Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of the Republic of Senegal and General Yakubu Gowon, Nigeria's Head of State are the two patrons of the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

Dr. Senghor, a poet of world fame, was the patron of the first world festival of Negro Arts held in Dakar in 1966. Nigeria was the star country at that Festival.

Gowon

General Gowon, who believes that the Black man has a lot to offer the world has thrown his weight of support behind the cultural renaissance now sweeping through Nigeria and Africa as a whole.

Born in 1934 in Pankshin Division of Benue Plateau State of Nigeria, General Gowon had his early education at St. Bartholomew's C.M.S. School, Wusasa, and the Government Secondary School, Zaria. When he left Zaria, he went straight into the army in 1954. He moved rapidly through the ranks and various training programmes the climax of which was the course at the Royal Military Academy, in England.

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Senghor

Dr. Senghor, was born at Joal in Senegal on October 9th, 1906. He was educated in Dakar and later at higher institutions in Paris where he studied Philosophy.

He went into politics after the Second World War. He identified himself with the Bloc African. As one of the two deputies for Senegal in the French Constituent Assemblies, Dr. Senghor played an important part in the framing of the new constitution which gave to each territory in French West Africa its own Assembly and increased number of deputies in the French Parliament.

Dr. Senghor was President of the Federal Assembly of the Mali Federation of Senegal and Sudan (1959-1960). During the same pe-

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

AS President of the International Festival Committee and Head of the International Secretariat charged with the responsibility of organising the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, I welcome readers to the first issue of our publication, "Festival News".

The Festival in Nigeria is the second in this International communion of all Black communities all over the globe. As I mentioned sometime ago, there are, unfortunately, not many precedents to guide us. The traditions of these Festivals are yet to be created. By the publication of "Festival News", we hope that we are helping to create one of these traditions.

One of the subjects to be examined

by the Colloquium during the festival seminar deal with "Black Civilisation and Mass Media" Mass Media can become a vital and dependable instrument for communication on Black civilisation. The printed word and the publishing business constitute dynamic assets in this endeavour. "Festival News" is one of these assets.

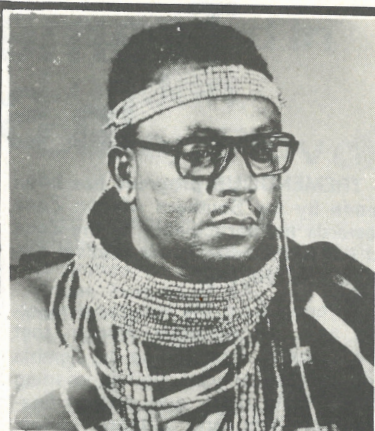
Although our publication is at present programmed to coincide with the Festival in Nigeria, it is my fervent hope and sincere wish that it might, in the future, be a permanent organ and continuing publication not just for one particular Festival but even between Festivals.

In the next few months as we publish every month, "Festival News",

1ST. ENTRIES FOR EVENTS POUR IN

THE first official entries for events at the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture have been received at the International Secretariat in Lagos. They are from the Republic of Cuba, the largest of the Caribbean Islands and the Commonwealth countries of Trinidad and Tobago.

Cuba, is sending among its large contingent two, of its most renowned dance Companies — the Conjunto Folklorico Nacional and the Danza Nacional de Cuba. She is also sending several orchestras to take part in the music event. The orchestras are the Orquestra del Grupo Nacional de Cuba, Los Papinos, Los Braro



CHIEF ANTHONY ENAHORO

we hope to bring to you news on the preparations for the 2nd Festival. We hope to publish news items, information and photographs on preparations in all participating countries and communities.

"Festival News" should also become a link between our artistes and a platform for the exchange of information and opinion on developments on Art and Culture throughout the Black World. Not that alone. We also welcome meaningful discussions and dialogues based on mutual respect for each other's views. Finally, "Festival News" will examine and review the major sections of all the Festival Events.

hope you enjoy reading "Festival News". I assure you that we in the International Secretariat will do our very best to make the publication live up to expectation.

and Los Van Van and the Orquestra Typica.

Trinidad and Tobago contingent to the Lagos Festival will include one of that country's leading steel bands as well as some instrumental and vocal music typical of that part of the world - the calypso. She is already entering a dance company performing traditional Caribbean dances as well as some contemporary dance theatre works. For the drama event Trinidad and Tobago have entered three plays all by the famous playwright and actor Derek Walcott. The plays are "The sea at Dauphin," "Malcochon Land" "Dream on Monkey Mountain."

Both Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago have indicated that they will also participate in the literary events. Mr. Nicholas Guillen, the outstanding Black poet from the Caribbean has indicated that he would be attending the Lagos Festival personally. Mr. Alijo Carpentier, the essayist, has also been named as a participant from Cuba.

In Nigeria, the host country, arrangements have been completed to camp the Artistes who will represent the country at the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

The artistes will be camped in four centres in the country - Lagos Kaduna, Ile-Ife and Enugu. They will number thousands.

The Artistes, dancers and various other entertainers were selected after a two-week National Festival of Arts held in Kaduna and Lagos, late in 1974.

Reports from London show that the U.K. and Ireland Festival Committee, after a successful three-week mini Festival late in 1974, is now engaged in putting together a strong and viable team for the Lagos Festival.

In West Africa, the Francophone Zone recently decided to enter for certain events as a regional group.

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Meanwhile, both in Lagos and Kaduna, the two venue-cities of the Festival, preparations are going on to provide physical structure and facilities for the Festival.

More participating countries have also been sending in their registration fees of 10,000 U.S. dollars each. The first countries which have paid up their fees are:- Australia, Brazil, Congo Brazzaville, Cuba, Cameroons, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Gambia, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Swaziland, Sierra-Leone, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zaire.

News from the Zones

12 Zones Submit Reports

Nine Zones presented written reports to the meeting of the International Festival Committee of the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture held in Kaduna in November. The countries are Southern Africa, U.K. and Ireland, West Africa Anglophone, West Africa Francophone II, South America, Australia, Caribbean and East Africa (Community).

Three other zones, Europe, Central Africa and North Africa also presented oral reports to the meeting.

Chief Anthony Enahoro, President of the Festival advised the participating countries to send the list of their contingents in good time to the International Secretariat of the Festival.

Chief Enahoro pointed out that if the list was received in time it would be possible to make adequate accommodation and other arrangements for the artistes.

Speaking on the issue of commo-

morative stamps, the President suggested that copies of the various denominations of the stamps should be sent by respective countries to the International Secretariat for custody.

Chief Enahoro also spoke at the meeting about registration for the Festival by participating countries. He explained that the amount being paid as registration fees was merely to show the commitment of the countries to the Festival.

U K Government pledges support

The United Kingdom Government has pledged its support for the fund raising efforts of the U.K. and Ireland Committee of the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

Addressing about 500 guests of the U.K. Committee of the festival Lord Coronwy-Roberts, Minister of State in the U.K. Foreign Office, said that the participation of the United Kingdom at the Festival will be rewarding experience.

Lord Coronwy-Roberts was one of the many important personalities who attended the opening ceremony of a three-week Zonal Festival at the Commonwealth Institute, London in the second half of last year.

Mr. Earl Cameron, Chairman of the United Kingdom Zonal Committee of the festival explained the objectives of his committee at the gala reception.

He said that the zonal festival was arranged to give the committee the opportunity to pick the artistes to represent the Zone at the World Festival in Lagos.

Apart from this, he added, the Zonal festival was designed to bring the Black Artistic Community under one roof.

Already, the Zone had mounted large-size posters throughout the underground stations, buses and other important locations in London and other parts of the country. All these are in addition to the Newspaper and radio announcements put out about the Festival at regular intervals.

The Zone is planning other events soon for artistes so that they can continue to nurture their skill in readiness for the Lagos Festival and to stimulate the interest of both Blacks and Whites throughout Britain in the Festival.

Local gin for sale at Festival

The East African (Community) Zonal participants, will come to the Lagos Festival with local gin for sale at their pavilion. This was part of their report to the 5th Meeting of the International Festival Committee held in Kaduna.

Their three Universities — Makerere (Uganda), Dar-es-Salam (Tanzania) and Nairobi (Kenya) are running individual workshops to direct research on their participation in Colloquium. They are also conducting research on the Black Contribution to Science and Technology.

Except exhibition on "Traditional Chieftaincy," the Zone will participate in all events as a team. All efforts have been made and are in fact being made to propagate the aims and objectives of the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture. The Kenya Agricultural show, the Uganda 12th Anniversary of Independence were venues for such wide propaganda.

Commemorative stamps depicting East African Culture and bearing Lagos Festival dates are being processed to start circulation coming October.

THE ZONAL HEADQUARTERS

THERE are 16 principal Zones participating in the forthcoming Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

They are: South America, the Caribbean Zone, North America, United Kingdom and Ireland, Europe, Australasia, Eastern Africa, South Africa, East Africa (Community) Central Africa I, Central Africa II, West Africa (Anglophone) West Africa (Francophone) I, West Africa (Francophone) II, North Africa, and Liberation Movements recognised by the Organisation of African Unity.

In addition to these zones, all the Anglophone non-independent territories in the Caribbean form part of the Caribbean Zone.

Festival Zonal Secretariats are located as follows:-

1. SOUTH AMERICA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazilia, Brazil.
2. THE CARIBBEAN ZONE Ministry of Information Culture and Youth Georgetown, Guyana.
3. NORTH AMERICA, Department of Art Howard University, Washington DC USA.
4. UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND, 46 Kingsway, London WC 2B 6EN
5. EUROPE, 67 Avenue Victor-Hugo, 75783 Paris, France.
6. AUSTRALIA/ASIA, Ministry of Culture, Port-Moresby, Papua, New Guinea
7. EASTERN AFRICA, Ministry of Information Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
8. SOUTHERN AFRICA, Cultural Affairs Department, Prime Minister's Office, Lusaka, Zambia.
9. EAST AFRICA (COMMUNITY) Ministry for Community Development, Co-operatives & Social Sciences, Nairobi, Kenya.
10. CENTRAL AFRICA II Ministry of Art and Culture, Yaounde, Camerouns.
11. CENTRAL AFRICA I Ministry of Art and Culture, Kinshasa, Zaire.
12. WEST AFRICA (ANGLOPHONE I) Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism Monrovia, Liberia.
13. WEST AFRICA (FRANCOPHONE) I Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Dakar, Senegal.
14. WEST AFRICA (FRANCOPHONE) II Ministry of Information and Cultural Affairs, Abidjan, Ivory Coast.
15. NORTH AFRICA, Ministry of Culture, Cairo, Egypt.
16. LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, OAU Liberation Committee, P. O. Box 15274, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.

Brazil sets up Panel

THE Cultural Department of the Ministry of External Relations of Brazil has set up a four-man Commission of Experts to organise an Exhibition with the theme-impact of Black Culture in Brazil embodying Photos, Religion, Dance, Cinema, Literature, Folklore, Visual Arts, Culinary, Books and Explanatory Note.

The experts are Mr. Valdoir Rego (Ethnologist); Mr. Aloisio Magadhaes (Visual Arts); Mr. Giselia Magadhaes (Architect) and Mr. Pierre Verger (Ethnologist).

The Vice-President for the South American zone, Mr. George de Assumpcao Alakija, said the experts reported that an area of 10,000 squares metres would do for the exhibition and a period of occupation should be six months before and two months after the festival.

Tremendous progress in Southern Africa

TREMENDOUS progress has been made by the Southern African Zone towards the participation of the Zone at the forthcoming great Festival due in Lagos - Nigeria.

A report from the last zonal meeting said, among other things that the General Post Office in Zambia will release special stamps reading "2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture Lagos, Nigeria 22nd November to 20th December 1975" together with the Festival Emblem on it.

The Coca-cola company is erecting sign posts (on all the main roads linking one town to the other) reading "2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, Lagos Nigeria 22nd November to 20th December 1975" Specially headed papers with "2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture and Southern Africa Zone were also to be printed. TV and Radio commentaries are still going on in the air.

It was decided that each member state in Southern Africa Zone be given the opportunity of selecting a woman who had contributed enough to the glory of black womanhood in their communities. This was sequel to the fact that it was difficult to select one woman who could truly represent the entire states of Southern Africa. Lesotho was asked to nominate a representative to sit on the Cultural Council of the Inter-

national Festival Committee in Lagos to represent Southern African Zonal Committee. Swaziland reported that a group of 60 people was being got ready for the great Festival. Their costumes were being prepared and a transport plane was being hired for their transportation.

Lesotho reported having organised a Cultural Committee, singing and dancing competitions of various groups and had selected exhibits and works of arts and crafts. The Lesotho Government was looking into the payment of subscriptions and transportation of teams and exhibits to Lagos.

The Zambian delegation reported great progress. A dance group the

best the country selected will join its contingents to Lagos. Two crafts exhibitions were held and selections made. Hair plaiting competitions were organised and same has already created a wind of change in the country especially among the girls who are returning to the appreciation of their natural hair as against wigs.

Zambia even organised exhibition of their national dishes and diplomats who tasted and enjoyed them have demanded that their dishes be added to Hotel Menus. Each participating state in the zone was asked to declare the number of its participants and to make arrangements for air-lifts from their states to Lagos far in advance to avoid disappointments.

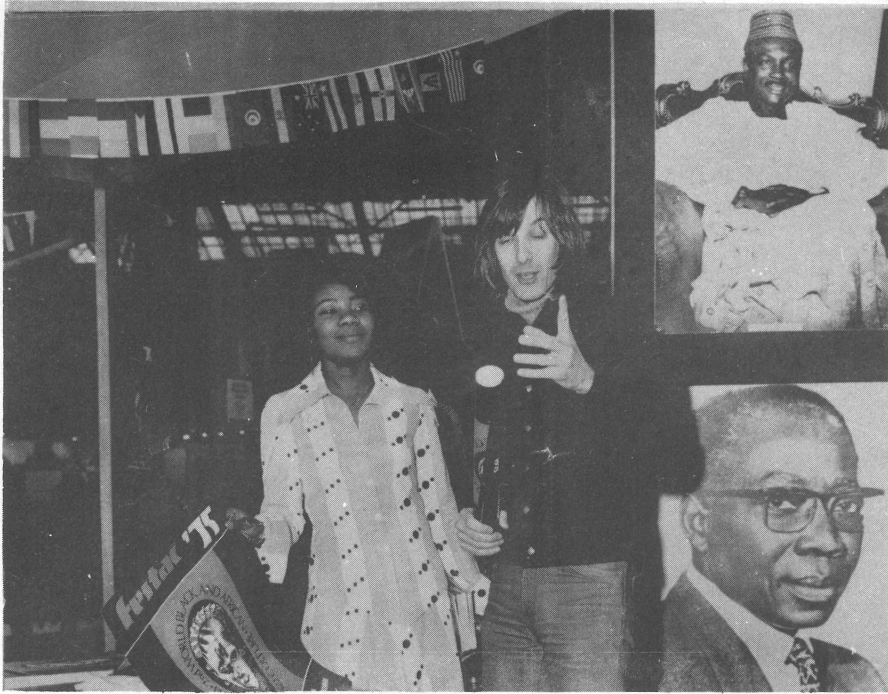
Ghana on the Alert

ELABORATE preparations have been completed in Ghana to select artistes and participants in the various events for FESTAC. The Ghana Dance Ensemble of the African studies Institute of the University of Ghana is ready also.

Sierra Leone also held a big festival which brought all sections of the country to Freetown. Dances, dramas and ballets were featured in the festival. Sierra Leone exhibits for the Lagos Festival are being assembled.

Next month the Liberian National Festival of Arts and Crafts will be held and final selections for the Lagos festival will be made. The National Commission responsible for co-ordinating the activities of Liberian participants has been hard at work throughout the country.

The West Africa (Anglophone) Zone has also recommended Professor N. Opoko of the University of Ghana, Legon, to represent the Zone on the Cultural Council.



Picture above left: Receptionist at FESTAC Stand at the London Holiday Exhibition displays Festival posters to a visitor. Above the President of West Germany, Mr. Walter Scheel (second from right) goes through FESTAC Information Folder presented to him by Mr. Smart Ebbi, Information Officer at FESTAC Stand during the Frankfurt International Books Exhibition.

FESTAC Stand at the Frankfurt International Trade Fair 1974. Hundreds of visitors called at the Stand during the Trade Fair.

★ Turn to page 7 for more pictures from the World Fairs.



FESTAC '75 AT WORLD FAIRS

The Patrons

Gowon

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He had an outstanding service at the Congo where he served with the United Nations troops from November 1960 - June 1961.

General Gowon became Nigeria's Head of State in August 1966. This was at a time when the country faced a crisis of major proportions.

He rectified the great imbalance in the structure of Nigeria by the creation of twelve states in 1967, saw the country through her critical period of civil war and put into effect a constructive programme of rehabilitation and reconciliation.

Married with children, General Gowon is a keen sportsman. In spite of his heavy state responsibilities he still finds time for lawn tennis and squash.

Senghor

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riorid he also served as Minister-Councillor for Cultural Affairs, Education and Justice in the French Government.

In 1960, he was elected first President of the Republic of Senegal after the split of the Mali Federation. He has been re-elected into office ever since.

Apart from being a world renowned poet, Dr. Senghor is an eminent representative of "Art Noire". He is also well known as the greatest protagonist of Negritude, a philosophy which influenced the emancipation of the Movement for the promotion of the world festival, first of the Negro Art and now of the World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

Dr. Senghor has been described, and rightly so, as the moving spirit behind these festivals.

Stands mounted in London, Dakar, Plovdiv

THE International Secretariat on behalf of the International Festival Committee of 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture participated in a number of Trade Fairs and Books Exhibitions in some European and African countries with the sole objective of propagating the forth-coming Festival.

The venues were Plovdiv in Bulgaria, Zagreb in Yugoslavia, Frankfurt, West Germany, Dakar in Senegal and London in the U.K.

At the Frankfurt International Trade Fair, visitors from all parts of Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America mixed with German leaders of thought in Government and business to obtain information from the Festac Stand about the forth-coming Festival.

At the Frankfurt International Books Exhibition held in Frankfurt on the Main, West Germany in October 1974, the President of West Germany Mr. Walter Scheel, accompanied by his officials and aides visited the Festac Stand where they were presented information materials on the Festival. The President showed keen interest, not only in the highly decorated stand but in the Festival itself.

In Plovdiv, Bulgaria, the Prime Minister accompanied by some of his Ministers and aides visited the Festac Stand and there, information



Festival Patron, President Senghor of Senegal (first left) meets International Secretariat delegation to Dakar International Trade Fair at FESTAC Stand. From right: Abiodun Sogunle (Publicity Officer), Olu Adebajo and Oumar Ly (Heads of Publicity and Cultural Divisions), Dr. Alioune Diop (Secretary-General) and Frank Pilgrim (International Co-ordinator).

materials were made available to them.

The same was true in Zagreb where the Head of State General Tito and his aides were also physically present to learn about the Great Festival, its aims and objectives.

In the United Kingdom, the International Festival Committee in conjunction with the United Kingdom and Ireland Festival Committee mounted a publicity campaign in London to draw attention to the Festival.

This was at a conspicuous Holiday Exhibition held at the Olympia

London from where information was relayed to all visitors.

A number of guests including Ambassadors and High Commissioners of several participating countries called at the stand to obtain literature and information materials.

At the Dakar International Trade Fair, Festac also mounted a stand and among the distinguished guests who visited the stand was His Excellency Sedar Leopold Senghor, President of Senegal and Patron of the Festival. During the Fair, thousands of information materials were distributed to visitors who showed keen interest in the festival.

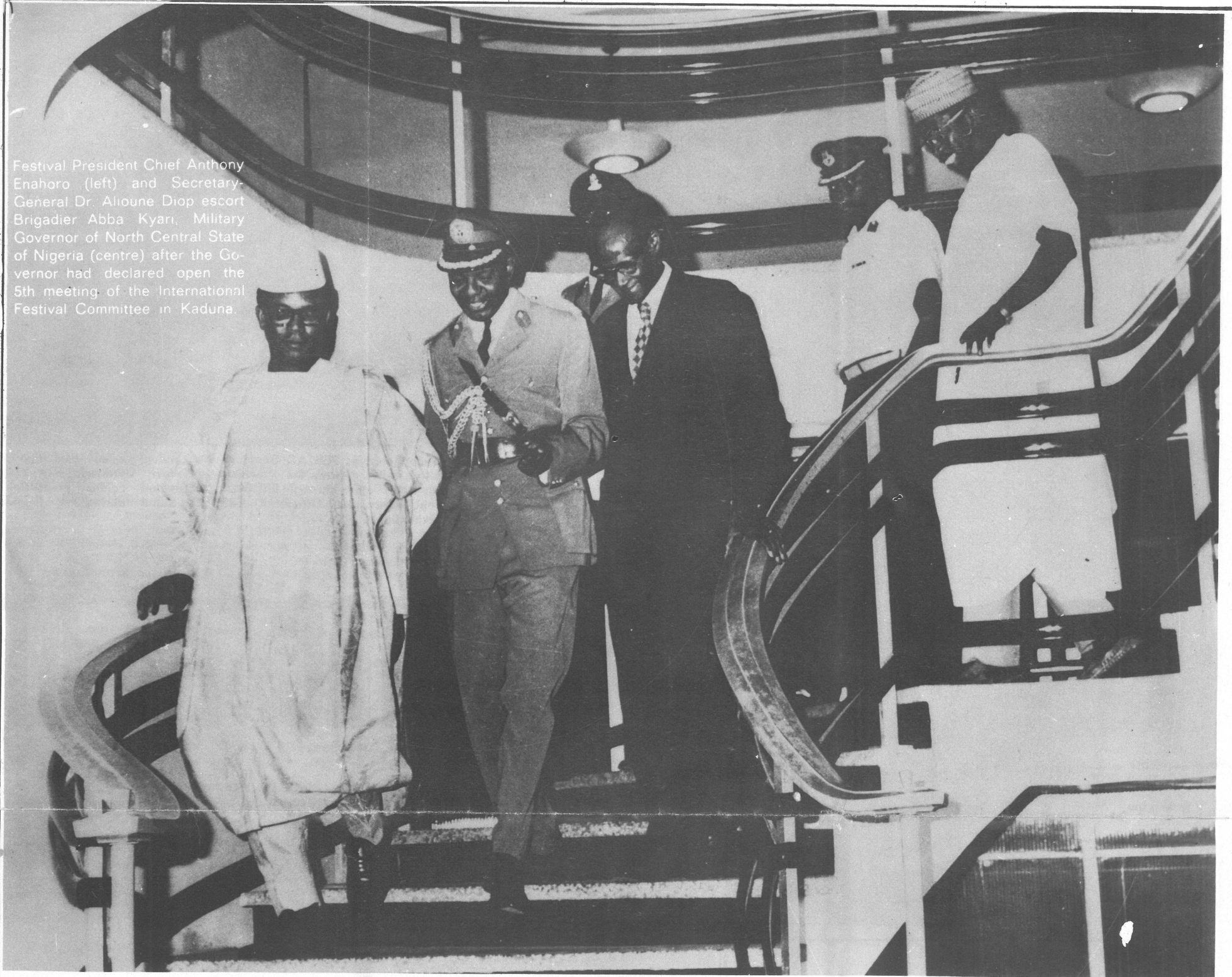
Traditional Regatta

All the participants for the traditional Regatta will be accommodated at a Regatta Village to be established during the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture in Lagos.

A report by the Regatta Committee

disclosed that eight Nigerian State Commissioners for Culture and eight traditional rulers have been charged with the responsibility of handling the Regatta.

The Regatta will feature racing and ceremonial display.



Festival President Chief Anthony Enahoro (left) and Secretary-General Dr. Alioune Diop escort Brigadier Abba Kyari, Military Governor of North Central State of Nigeria (centre) after the Governor had declared open the 5th meeting of the International Festival Committee in Kaduna.

Cultural Council stresses quality

THE high quality and technical preparation of the events of the forthcoming Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture has been stressed upon.

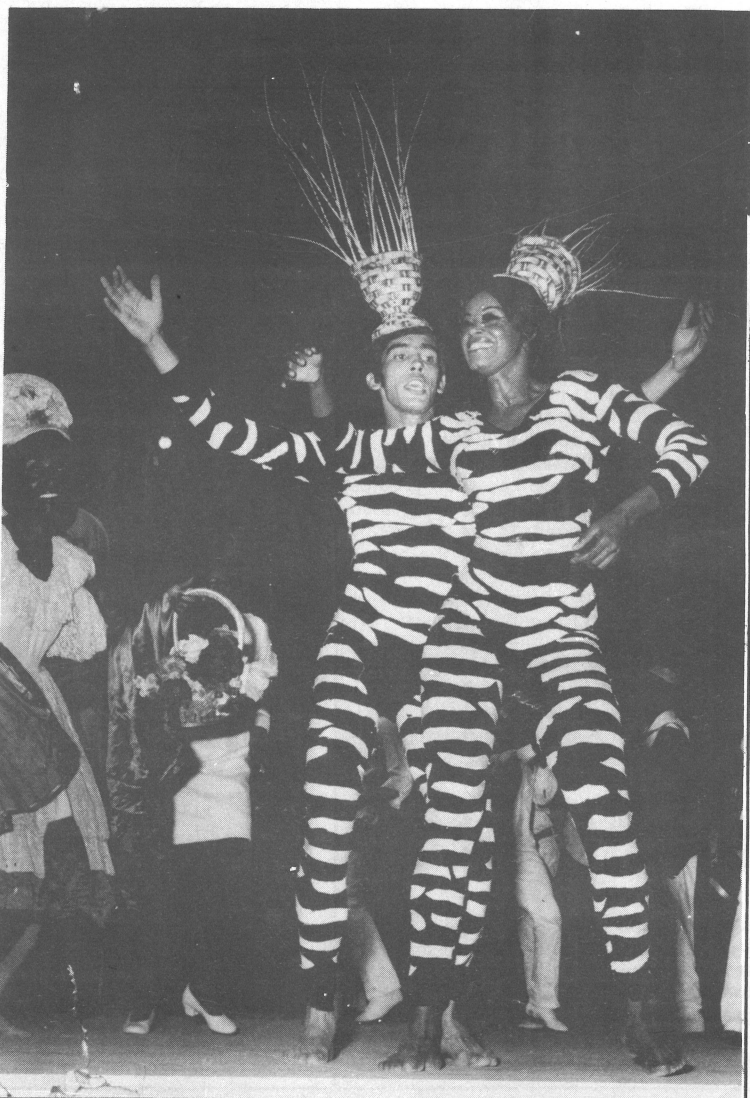
The first meeting of the Cultural Council of the Festival which took place at the University of Ibadan early in the year recommended to the International Committee measures bearing on the Cultural Programme. It specially recommended on the organisation of and preparation for the Colloquium Exhibitions and other events.

Emphasis was laid on the need to widen the knowledge of our cultural patrimony and to extract from it some experience for the education of the youth and the training of the "New Man in the Black

World".

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Dr. Alioune Diop, Secretary-General of the International Festival Committee. He was assisted by Father Mveng, Supervisor of the Colloquium and Professor Babalola, the Nigerian officer for the event.

Other participants in the meeting included Mr. E. S. Motapi from Southern African, Mr. Djibril Tamsir Niane from West Africa (Franco-phone) Zone I; Dr. I. K. Katoke of the East Africa (Community); Mr. Citoye Vianda-Kioto Luzolo from Central Africa Zone I; Dr. Rene Piquion of the Caribbean; Mr. Bankole Timothy representing the U.K and Ireland and Mr. Jacques Rabenanjara of Europe Zone.



Members of the Conjunto Folclorico Nacional de Cuba, one of the troupes being entered by the Republic of Cuba at the Festival.

IN SESSION

The 5th Meeting of the International Festival Committee was opened and addressed by the Military Governor of North Central State, of Nigeria Brigadier Abba Kyari, Chairman of the Committee's President, Chief Anthony Enahoro for Special Duties.

Representatives of participating countries were present. Progress being made in their respective countries was discussed. The meeting, after reviewing progress, was satisfied that every effort was being made for success.

The President, Chief Anthony Enahoro gave progress report on internal arrangements covering the National Theatre, Venues of Festival events, Accommodation for participants, guests and visitors, hostess training, durbar events in Kaduna and Regatta events in Lagos.

The committee adopted a number of progress reports, documents on programmes and approved various measures for fund raising to defray cost of the Festival expenses.

Members of the Committee paid a 2-day visit to Kano during which they watched the grand finale of the Kano State Festival of Traditional Dances. They also paid a courtesy call on the Military Governor of Kano State, Alhaji Audu Bako, Commissioner of Police, and were guests at a Reception and Buffet Dinner hosted by the Government of Kano

Festival
UK F
Kadu

IFC GOES TO NORTHERN NIGERIA



Minister for Cultural Affairs, Alioune Sene invites Mrs. Jumoke Debayo, Treasurer, International Festival Committee, to the floor for a dance at a reception for the IFC in Kaduna, organised by the Durbar Supervisor, Alhaji Umaru Dikko.

Mr. Alioune Sene, Minister for Cultural Affairs, Senegal and Festival Vice-President (centre) receives a gift from the late Emir of Zaria, during a courtesy call on the Emir by members of the IFC.



A group of trumpeters and drummers entertaining members of the I.F.C. at the Grand Finale of the Kano State Festival of Dances in Kano.



AT KADUNA

The International Festival Committee held in Kaduna a courtesy call on the Military Governor of North Central State, Brigadier Abba Kyari and presided over by the Commissioner, Alhaji Umaru Dikko, Nigeria's Federal Commissioner for Cultural Affairs.

Members of the Committee from various countries and zones reported progress made towards the staging of the festival. It was noted that the progress was being done to achieve success in the various areas.

Later they paid a courtesy call on the Emir of Kano and were treated to Cultural Reception at the Palace.

In Kaduna, members of the Committee paid courtesy call on the Military Governor of the North Central State, Brigadier Abba Kyari, and were also guests of honour at a luncheon hosted by the Governor and a reception by the State Government.

The Members then paid a courtesy call on the late Emir of Zaria, Alhaji Muhammadu Aminu who entertained the Committee to Traditional dances.

There was also a reception in honour of the Committee by the Durbar Supervisor of Durbar Event, Alhaji Umaru Dikko, Commissioner for Information, North Central State.



Members of the International Festival Committee photographed with the late Emir of Zaria Alhaji Muhammadu Aminu (3rd from right front row) outside the Emir's palace in Zaria.

FESTIVAL THEATRE RIGHT ON TARGET

NIGERIA'S new national theatre will be the centre of activities during the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture. The Ultra-modern 40 million dollar National Theatre stands like a jewel-like colossus over what was known as the lilipond. It is the largest and most beautiful of its kind on the African Continent.

The Bulgarian Project Manager, Mr. Pancho Kadiysky told the "Festival News" that his men were putting finishing touches to the building and would complete the furnishing of the theatre on target.

The 31 metres high National Theatre, patterned after the Palace of Culture and sports in Verna, Bulgaria, covers some 23,000 sq. metres of ground.

A team of Bulgarian architects and engineers, with the aid of local manpower, is in charge of its construction.

The round structure, set between a major network of recently built highways, adds another touch of majestic elegance to Nigeria's booming capital of over one million inhabitants.

The theatre complex comprises a Theatre Hall with seating capacity for slightly over 5,000 persons; a Conference Hall (1,600 seats); two large Exhibition Halls and two Cinema Halls (800 seats each).

The futuristic, centrally air-conditioned structure will accommodate interpreters' booths (equipped for simultaneous translation into six major languages); a closed circuit T.V. system; radio, T.V. and journalists; booths; VIP rooms and garage; 80 offices; projection booths; four snack bars; a buffet... A modern kitchen block will be equipped to service 2,000 persons at a time.

The theatre Hall, with its modern system of stage and spotlights, is designed for instant conversion into a venue for film shows, meetings, variety concerts and indoor sports competitions (basketball, tennis, Volleyball, etc).

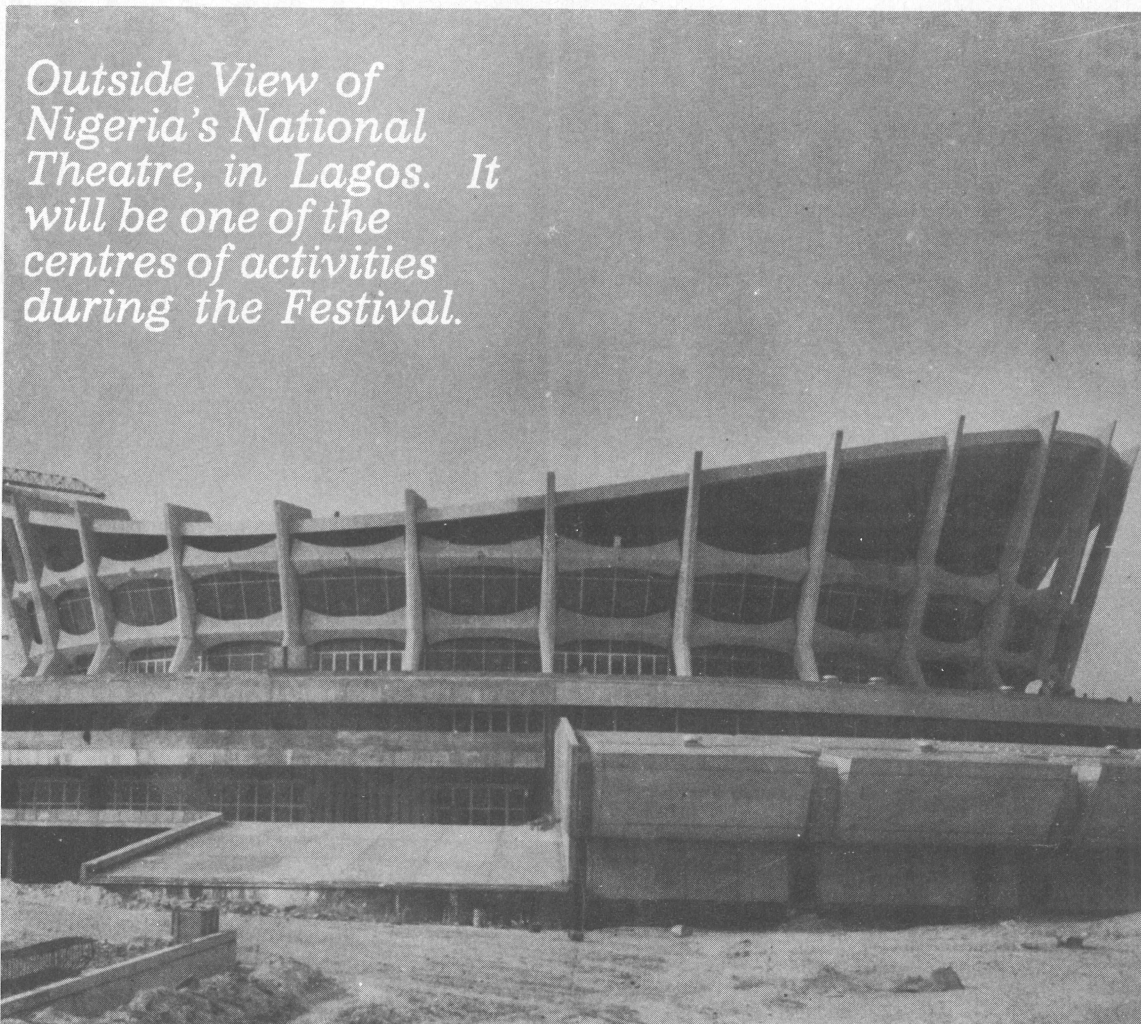
The 1,600-seat Conference Hall will also be multi-purpose and serve as well for relaxed cocktail parties and banquets.

The two Cinema Halls will provide a quiet, intimate setting for conferences as well as for the enjoyment of chamber music.

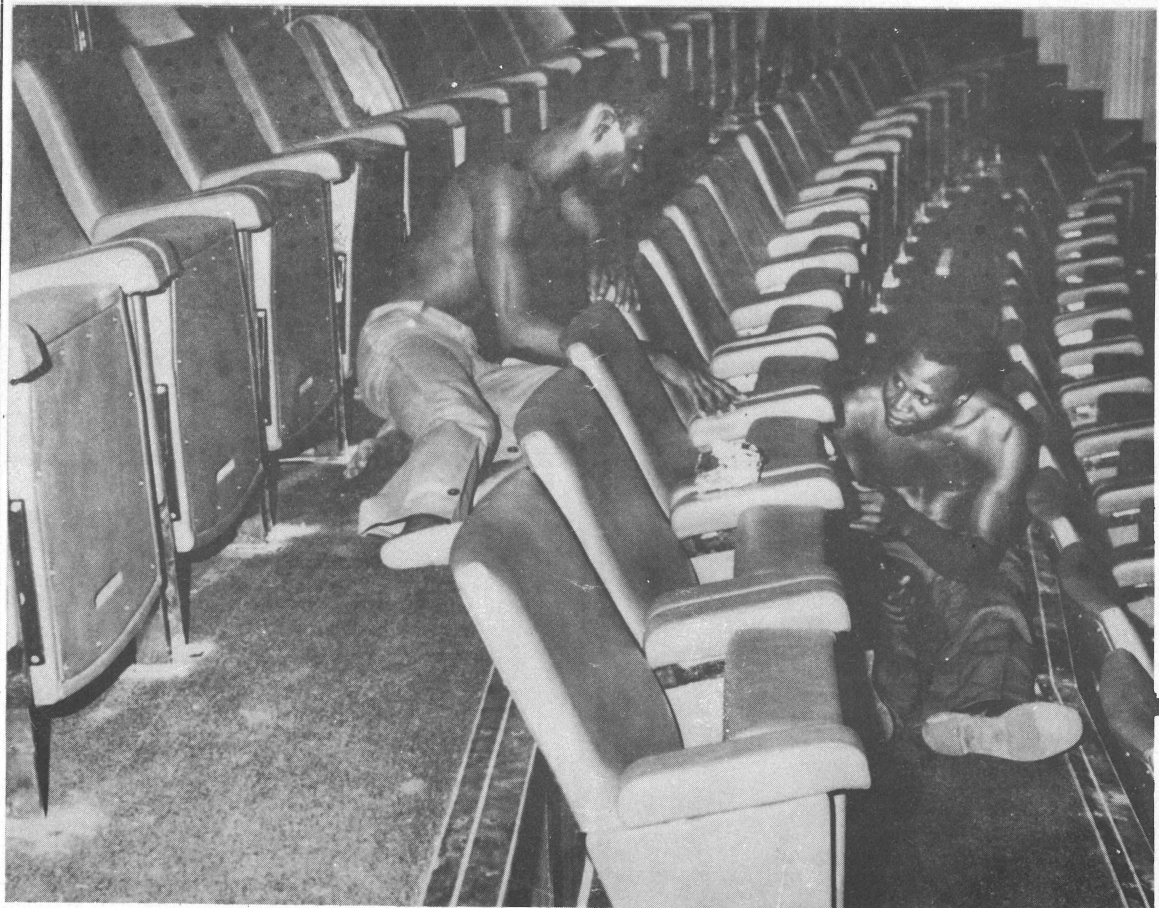
The movable, rotative stage (33 x 14 metres) is formed by a rostrum floor above ground level and further extended by an orchestra stand.

Six large dressing rooms are designed to accommodate 100 persons each. In addition, there are ten "Star Dressing Rooms". All are equipped with the last cry in toiletry.

Power supply will come from the city's main circuit lines, but the Theatre is equipped with its own high-powered generator, just in case of power failure.



Outside View of Nigeria's National Theatre, in Lagos. It will be one of the centres of activities during the Festival.



SEVEN THEMES FOR COLLOQUIUM

The Colloquium on "Black Civilization and Education" which will precede the second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture will focus attention on seven themes. It will last 11 days. Each of the themes will be handled by a Committee which will produce conclusions and proposals expected to improve the knowledge of the world on the Black race.

The programme of the Colloquium will spell out specific areas around which participants will focus their discussions. On Black Civilization, five themes are being suggested for study. These are languages, spiritual conscience and the Black man's spiritual heritage, his historical awareness; scientific and technical experience; experience, concepts and his traditional political and socio-economic institution bearing in mind the modern problems of government administration.

On Education, two other themes are billed for close study. They are (a) traditional methods of education and modern pedagogic problems (b) appropriate use of mass media for the diffusion of our culture and for the awakening of feelings of cultural and artistic solidarity amongst our people.

MINISTERS MEET

A meeting of all the Ministers of Culture and Education of the countries taking part in the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture will be held for two days starting from December 9, 1975.

The meeting is expected to examine the report of the Colloquium expected to complete its eleven-day session on November 27.

It is hoped that UNESCO experts will also attend the meeting of the Ministers. The meeting will announce its decisions and recommendations to the World Press when it winds up on December 10.

also stands for the non-Black peoples associated with Black People in the Festival.

Two types of contributions will be acceptable for the Colloquium, these are prepared survey and written papers which must be at least thirty typed pages or 6,000 words. The paper must deal with one or more aspects of the theme and the author must draw conclusions and make recommendations that will provide new elements for a programme of action. It is hoped that Universities in the Black World will make invaluable contributions to the Colloquium in all its aspects.

The official languages for the Colloquium will be English and French and participants will be experts in matters relating to the Culture of the Black World. A final report and resolutions will be prepared by a coordinating committee that will be set up after all the discussions at the sessions.

Festival Emblem and Flag

The Festival Emblem:- A 16th Century ivory mask from Benin, has emerged through the years as one of the finest examples of known African and Black Art. It was worn as a pectorial by Benin Kings on royal ancestral ceremonial occasions and the last Benin King to wear it was King Ovoramwen who was dethroned at the fall of Benin Empire in 1897. That year, it fell into the hands of the Consul General of the Niger Coast Protecto-

rate Sir Ralph Moor. Today the mask is resting at the British Museum.

The tiara formation at the crest of the mask is made of 10 Stylised heads and symbolises the King's divine supremacy and suzerainty. The two incisions on the forehead which were originally filled with iron strips are royal tatoo marks. Round the neck, the artist has carved the coral bead collar which is a common feature of the king's paraphernalia.

The flag of the Festival is a tricolor flag of three equal perpendicular rectangles.

The two outside rectangles are in Black and the central rectangle is in gold. Over the gold is superimposed centrally the Festival Emblem.

The Black colour represents the Black People of the World. The Gold colour represents two ideas. It represents the wealth of the culture of the areas and peoples embraced by the Festival. It

The International Festival Committee

THE governing body for the 1975 Festival is the International Festival Committee.

This Committee technically includes the two Patrons of the Festival—His Excellency, Dr. Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of SENEGAL and His Excellency, General Yakubu Gowon, Head of State of NIGERIA.

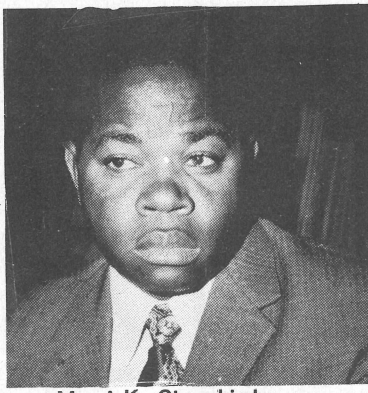
Their Excellencies do not participate in the meetings of the Committee but full reports are forwarded to them by the President of the Committee, Chief Anthony Enahoro, Nigeria's Federal Commissioner for Special Duties.

The full Working Committee is as follows:-

Chief Anthony Enahoro, Federal Commissioner for Special Duties, Nigeria—President.



Hon Taitta Towett (MP)
East Africa (community) States



Mr. A.K. Simuchimba
Southern Africa



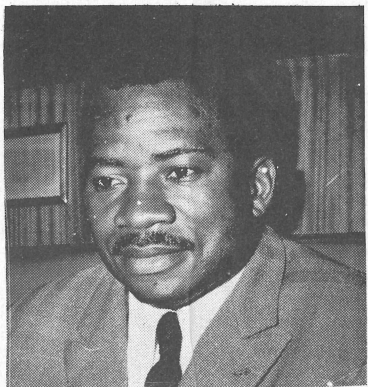
Dr. G. Alakija
South America



Mr. Earl Cameron
UK & Ireland



Mr. Alicune Sene
West Africa (Francophone) I



Mr. Jules Hie Nea
W.A. (Francophone) II



Dr. Alioune Diop Secretary-General

ZONE	VICE—PRESIDENT
South America	Dr. G. Alakija (Professor) Brazil
Caribbean	Miss Shirley Field-Ridley (MP), Minister of Information, Culture and Youth, Guyana.
North America	Dr. Jeff Donaldson, Artist, Head of Art Dept. Howard Uni. Washington DC, USA.
United Kingdom & Ireland	Mr. Earl Cameron, Actor and Produ- cer, United Kingdom.
Europe	Mr. L. Boissier-Palun, Barrister & Jurist—Paris.
Australasia	Mr. Moses Sasakila, Minister of Recreation and Culture, Papua, New Guinea
Southern Africa	Mr. A.K. Simuchimba, Minister of State for Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Education, Zambia.
Eastern Africa	Minister of Information—Ethiopia.
East Africa (Community States)	The Hon. Taitta Towett (MP), Mini- ster of Housing and Social Services, Kenya.
Central Africa I	Dr. Bokonga Ekanga Botombele, State Commissioner for Culture and Arts, Zaire.
Central Africa II	Minister of Culture, Republic of the Camerouns.
West Africa (Anglophone)	Dr. Edward Kessely, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism Liberia.
West Africa (Francophone) I	Mr. Alioune Sene, Minister of Cul- tural Affairs,—Senegal.
West Africa (Francophone) II	Mr. Jules Hie Nea, Secretary of State for Cultural Affairs, Ivory Coast.
North Africa	Mr. Yussuf EL Sidai, Minister of Culture—Arab Republic of Egypt.
Liberation Movements	Mr. Jossie Monterio of FRELIMO
Secretary-General	Dr. Alioune Diop of Senegal.

Enthusiasm still high in America

Mrs Rosalie Carter, Liaison officer at the International Secretariat of the Festival, who has just completed one month tour of the North American Zone, found great activities and enthusiasm about the Festival everywhere she went in the United States and Canada.

Her tour took her to Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., New York, Nashville, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, California, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

In Canada, Mrs. Carter reported that the Government had provided funds for the Canadian National Black Coalition to handle the preparations in the country for the world Festival.

She discovered also that the Universities in the United States showed keen interest in the Colloquium.

Work has already started in the country in putting together exhibits for the Lagos Festival.

Among exhibits that will be presented from the United States are;

- (a) One on "Black Contributions to Science, Technology and Invention".
- (b) There will also, be a method of making cheaper replicas of sculpture, that could develop into a new industry for Nigeria.
- (c) A planetarium has already been assembled with final stages about to begin. This will later be a permanent fixture at one of Nigeria's Universities.

Mrs. Carter predicted a record turn out from the United States and Canada especially among those who are looking forward to seeing Nigeria and indeed Africa for the first time.



AUGUST VISITORS TO FESTAC STAND AT THE LONDON HOLIDAY EXHIBITION 1975.

Dr. Taha Nour, Minister Plenipotentiary for Sudan in the United Kingdom, being received by Mr. Earl Cameron, Chairman of the UK Committee of the Festival. Chief Olu Adebajo, FESTAC's Deputy Executive Secretary for Publicity, is at the centre.

The High Commissioner for Sierra Leone in U.K. Dr. R.E.K. Taylor-Smith, is introduced by Mr. Cameron to Mr. Effiong Uloh, 2nd Secretary (Information) at the Nigeria High Commission, London.

FLATS TO BE READY AT THE FESTIVAL VILLAGE

A large number of flats of different types are expected to be completed at the Festival Village by Mid-November 1975.

Seventy of these flats will each have four bedrooms, a guest room, sitting and dining rooms as well as other modern amenities.

The Village, is being put up by the Federal Government of Nigeria to provide the main accommodation for participants at and visitors to the World Black and African Festival.

Five hundred and seventy-five of the flats will have three bedrooms sitting and dining rooms and other amenities.

There will be 2,120 flats of three bedrooms, sitting/dining rooms and the rest of the flats will have either two or three bedrooms sitting/dining rooms and modern amenities. In all, about 10,941 flats will have either four, three or two bedrooms and other facilities but all will have sitting/dining rooms.

More than 20 contractors handling different assignments at the village are confident they would complete their jobs in time for the festival.

Mr. Enini Antonio, an Italian Site Manager of Novacoke Builders, one of the building firms on duty at the village, told "FESTAC NEWS" that with 517 workers at his command he was sure of completing his by August 15, 1975.

The site Manager of Decoral Nigeria Limited, another building firm, Mr. S. Olayiwola, told "FESTAC NEWS" that he had eighteen buildings of 368 flats to handle and with 1,050 workers there was no problem.

Mr. Michel Ibrouchene of the C.I.F. (Les Constructions de L'ile de France) said his Company would have no difficulties in completing its share of 47 flats.

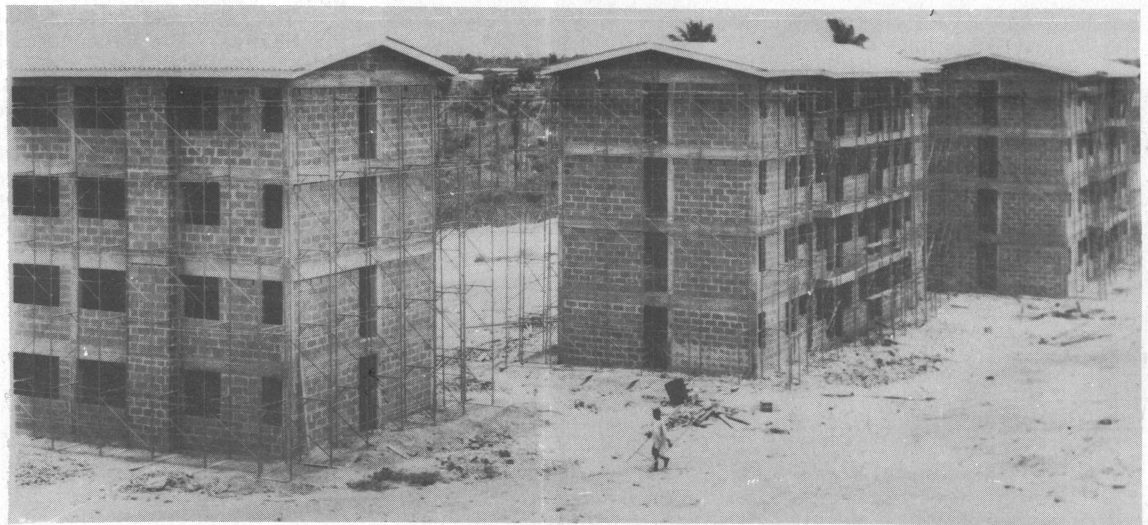
Mr. Sulis, a spokesman for Mercury Builders told "FESTAC NEWS" "Our assignment is small — just nine buildings and with 250 workers we see no reason why we should not complete our work in five months that is around July 1975".

Separate contracts have been awarded for other facilities in the

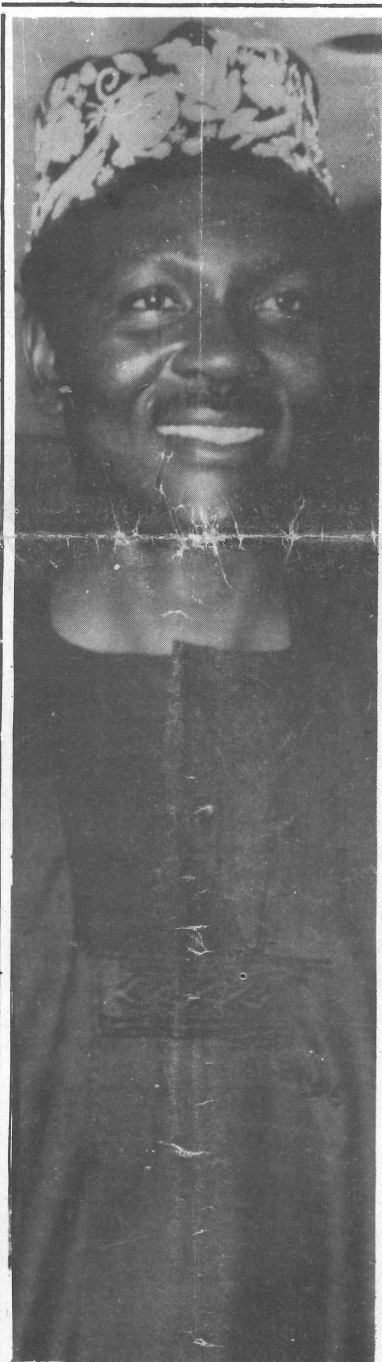
village. They cover medical, health facilities and electricity and water supply as well as access roads. The same priority is being given to these as to the actual buildings. At the same time, stand-by or emergency arrangements are planned in particular, with respect to electricity and water supplies.

In addition to the programme in Lagos, work is also going ahead, according to schedule, on the 4,000 other units of housing which will be available in Kaduna for the Durbar.

Additional accommodation for guests and/or participants will be available in a number of luxury liners which are expected to be put at our disposal by some participating states and other organisations.



Some of the houses at the Festival Village nearing completion.



H.E. General Yakubu Gowon
Head of State of Nigeria and
Patron of the Festival.

President at Vichy

The President of the International Festival Committee and Nigeria's Federal Commissioner for Special Duties, Chief Anthony Enahoro, accompanied by the Secretary-General, Dr. Alioune Diop, and other senior officials of the International Secretariat, paid a visit to France mid-April.

In Vichy, the President and his entourage met about 100 Nigerian undergraduates undergoing training as hostesses for the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture. Fuller report will be published in next issue of "Festival News".



Workers on duty at the construction site at the Festival Village.

Ingredients of Unity

By Gowon

GENERAL Yakubu Gowon, Head of State of the host Country, has described Nigeria's national Festival of Arts, as a unique event which has brought out the ingredients that form the bases of Nigeria's identity as a Nation.

Speaking at the grand finale of the Festival in Lagos, General Gowon, who is also Patron of FESTAC, added.

"It is the firm belief of my Government that these common ingredients can and should be exploited for the purpose of forging National Unity."

General Gowon also mentioned that the funds being expended on the promotion of arts and Culture were worthwhile because, apart from knowing one another better

as Nigerians, exercises such as this will also enable foreigners to have a fuller understanding which is the greatest instrument of peace in a world bedevilled by tension and conflicts.

"Some interesting questions have often been asked concerning our goal on methods of approach in our efforts to revive and promote our ancient art forms. Some people have wondered whether the aim is to abandon all modern amenities and conveniences and return to pre-historic times, while others doubt whether a new religion which would replace the existing one is in the offing. I wish to seize this opportunity to say without any equivocation that these questions do not arise.

Cultural renaissance is not synonymous with cultural bigotry. While

admitting and even embracing what are good in other culture, it is the belief of the Federal Military Government that the Black man also has much to offer the world. We believe that the world would be a richer and a more enlightened place to live in if it recognized the debt it owes Africa and the Black race in general.

"As has been said quite often, the Festival we are about to bring to a close has been organised as a trial run for the 1975 Second World Black and African Festival. Judging by the standard of performance at this festival, I am confident that Nigeria's prospects at the world festival are good. I wish therefore to appeal to all patriotic Nigerians to give our national teams the support they richly deserve"

Francophone Zones

Consequent upon the decision of the International Festival Committee, West Africa (Francophone) Zone has been divided into two - West Africa (Francophone) I Zone and West Africa (Francophone) II Zone.

West Africa (Francophone) I Zone comprises Senegal (co-ordinating country), Mali, Guinea Bissau and Mauritania.

West Africa (Francophone) II Zone comprises Ivory Coast (co-ordinating country), Niger, Togo, Dahomey and Upper Volta.

