AID FOR MARTINIQUE AND GUATEMALA

The Government of the Republic of France has agreed to give full assistance to the French Overseas Departments of Martinique and Guadeloupe in the Caribbean, to enable them to take part fully in the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

This assurance was given at the Festival President, Chief Anthony Enahoro, and a delegation of the International Secretariat during a four-day visit to France as guests of the Government of France.

The delegation was comprised of Chief Enahoro; the Secretary-General; Dr. Alcine Dion; the International Co-ordinator, Mr. Frank Pilgrim; the Deputy Executive Secretary for Exhibitions, Mr. T. Wandale; the Principal Officer to the Secretary General, Mr. Alhineka; Political Assistant, Mr. Adolphus Nwosu and the Secretary to the Festival President, Miss Margaret D. Gondop.

Top level discussions were held between the delegation and the Minister of Overseas Cooperation and the Agency for Cultural, Scientific and Technical Assistance.

Also present was Mr. Rubem-Jehu, the Deputy Vice-Chairman of the European Zone.

The French Government, it was revealed, had already agreed to assist a number of African countries, which are members of the French Community, to take part in the Festival. It was agreed that there would be some assistance for the Black community resident in France to enable them to attend.

The French Government's commitment to present the Exhibition on the Influence of African Art on the Art of Europe was confirmed, and arrangements were concluded for detailed working sessions to be held immediately after the event involving the French organisers of the Exhibition, the Deputy Executive Secretary for Exhibitions, Mr. W. Jouy, and the Nigerian Exhibition Officer for this Exhibition, the world famous sculptor, Mr. Ben Enwonwu.

ASSISTANCE

Several other areas in which the French Government is prepared to give technical assistance were discussed and further announcement about this will shortly be made public.

While in France the delegation took the opportunity to visit the Chulian Institute of Languages in Vichy, where there are about 100 Nigerian graduates and undergraduates taking special courses to enable them to serve as bridge heads, hostesses and programme presenters during the Festival.

Sierra Leone Picks Her Own Artistes

Artists who will represent Sierra Leone at the forthcoming 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture in Nigeria have been selected.

They were picked at Sierra Leone's third National Arts Festival held in Freetown from April 17-29.

The National Arts Festival organised by the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs witnessed an unprecedented influx of artists of diverse disciplines - dance, drama, sculpture, painting, pottery, music, etc.

In his address, at the opening of the Festival at Victoria Park, Freetown, the Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Mr. A. S. Sambia Fornah, said that the National Festival of arts and culture would provide for the nation a cultural window through which the nation could view its stock of cultural forms.

Believing that by this way "we would be better able to assess lakes which take place from one generation to the other", he said that such public demonstration of the nation's cultural resources, would lead to improvement of our assets and the greater endearment of our people to our traditional way of life.

He continued, "our writers and curators, musicians and dancers, painters and potters, dramatists and writers need our encouragement to make them continue to tell our pride in our skills and aspire like any other citizen to the highest standards of honour in our society".

Concluding the Minister stated that "there could be no better way for us to demonstrate our sense of belonging to the great family of black people, than to use our indigenous art types to express and juxtapose them with those of our brothers and sisters from other black communities of the world".

In his own address, the chairman of the Publicity Committee, Mr. J. G. Allen Hyde hoped that the festival would provide Sierra Leoneans opportunity for redefining and reinterpreting various aspects of the culture's extremely rich and cultural heritage.

He was sure, he said, that in the face of the publicity of organised foreign entertainment there was a serious danger that our genuine forms of cultural expression could be stifled.
KADUNA PREPARES FOR DURBAR

Kaduna, Capital of the North Central State of Nigeria, is full-speed ahead in preparations for the Durbar Event. The Durbar will be a spectacular event to be presented by host Country, Nigeria, at the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture. The main venue for the event, Kaduna Race Course, is being provided with facilities at a cost of $10 million (U.S.)

The project consists of provision of a State Pavilion to seat 2,000 guests, two V.I.P. Stands for 3,000 dignitaries and an openable grandstand to seat 5,000 spectators.

The main Race Course is designed to accommodate quite easily the more than 2,000 horses, camels, their riders as well as musicians and dancers who will accompany the horsemen. There will also be sufficient space for spectators to park their cars, lorries and buses.

The design and execution of the project will make it more convenient for all规格 Gers to watch events at the main bowl of the Race Course.

(DURBAR CAMP)

Work is also progressing fast at the Durbar Camp which is just a few kilometers from the Race Course. The six Administrative Blocks to be built by the Camp administration are almost complete. The Administrative Complex will have stores, a Police Post, a Veterinary Unit and a Medical Unit. Storable accommodation is being built for horsemen and their donkeys as also arID. A large open ground is reserved at the eastern side of the Camp to accommodate all the horses and camels. The ground is opposite the Kaduna River.

(HOTEL DURBAR)

Accommodation for visitors to Kaduna during the Festival has also been made a subject of top priority. New buildings under the Federal Government Housing Scheme (for the North Central State) will be used for guest events, officials’ etc.

In addition to the Hamdala, a new hotel appropriately named the Hotel Durbar Li, with a 200-bed capacity to house special guests. The Hotel Durbar Li will accommodate 635 million (U.S.), and provide 303 bedrooms. It consists of two units, a Commercial Unit and the Rental Unit.

The Commercial Unit will be a single-storey with dining room, cocktail lounge, large conference hall, a casino and tea-shop. It will provide venue for entertaining guests.

The 5-storey-rental Unit will have 303 bedrooms equipped with all modern gadgets and conveniences. Two lifts will serve the guests and lodgers. The premises will have two tennis courts, a modern swimming pool and 300 acres of land as parking space.

The Hotel Durbar Li is situated along Independence Way and bounded by W состок Roads. It also faces the Race Course which is in front of Hamdala Hotel, Kaduna. Its Excellency, Brigadier Abba Kyari, Military Governor of North Central State on May 19, 1975 toured the site of Hotel Durbar Li. At the site, the Governor was shown round to see what progress has so far been made and was reassured that the construction would be completed on schedule.

WINNERS AT THE FIRST FESTIVAL

AT the Dakar Festival, known as the First World Festival of Negro Arts, literary prizes were awarded in two languages categories, English and French.

A jury was also set up to help in spotting the best in any of the events at the Festival.

In that Festival, Cyprian Ikemwesti and Obi Wali of Nigeria, Gerald Moore of Uganda; Clifford Simmonds and Rose N. Port of England and Davidson Nicoll of Sierra Leone were among the jury of experts.

Details of the awards are listed below:

NOVEL

Honorable Mention: The Children of Syrachus, by Orinado O. Patterson of Jamaica; and Other Leopards, by Denis Williams of Guinea.

POETRY

Winner: A Ballad of Remembrance, by Robert Hayden.
Honorable Mention: In a Green Night, by Derek Walcott of St. Lucia; and Limits, by Christopher Okigbo of Nigeria.

DRAMA

Winner: The Road, by Wole Soyinka of Nigeria.
Honorable Mention: The Slave, by LeRoi Jones; and The Reft, by John Pepper of Lagos, Nigeria.

ESSAY

Winner: Othello’s Countrymen, by Eldred Jones of Sierra Leone.
Honorable Mention: Shadow and Act, by Ralph Ellison; and Home and Exile, by Lewis Nike of South Africa.

ART

Honorable Mention: Kalamari Sculpture, by Robin Horton of England; and African Mud Sculpture, by Uli Bar of Nigeria.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Winner: Dark Ghetto, by Kenneth B. Clark.
Honorable Mention: The Urban Complex, by Robert C. Weaver.

REPORTAGE

Winner: No Easy Walk to Freedom, by Nelson Mandela of South Africa.
Honorable Mention: The Negro Revolt, by Louise E. Lomas; and The Colle People, by Nene Jabeu of South Africa.

FRANCOPHONE LITERARY PRIZES

Winners are as follows:

Poetry: Edouard, by Thioub; Novels: Veiri Clemine, by Duatome Sembene; Art: Les Civilisations, by Jacques Mouquet; Reportage: Le Livre Noir du Congo, by Henri Tourniaire; and a special prize to Cheikh Anta Diop for best work on traditional African art.

Audio Visual Sub-Committee

The President of the Festival, Chief Anthony Enahoro, has approved the setting up of an Audio Visual Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee will review the problem of coverage of the Festival as it involves Radio and Television and make recommendations from time to time to the Main Publicity Committee.

Membership of the Sub-Committee will include representatives of the International and National Secretariats, Broadcasting Organisation of Nigeria (BON), Nigeira External Telecommunication Company Limited, Post and Telegraph Department of the Federal Ministry of Communications and the Nigerian Union of Journalists.

A nominee of BON will chair the sub-committee.

Body to lay down guidelines

A Committee has been set up to supervise arrangements for the Durbar Event at the coming World Arts and Culture Festival in Nigeria. Known as the Durbar Committee, it is charged with laying down general guidelines for the Durbar. The Committee is under the Chairmanship of Chief Anthony Enahoro with Alhaji Umar Dikko, Commit- teeman for information in the North Central State of Nigeria as Vice Chairman.

Other members of the committee are the Commissioners for information in the Northern States of Nigeria, the Ennas of Kanu, Yauri and Daura as well as the Mi-Raddison, the Esu Peregi and Chief of Angas; Mr. Francis Pilgrim, the International Co-ordinator and Brigadier I.B.M, Haruna, the National Co-ordinator.

Alhaji Gidado Idris is the Secretary of the Committee. The Administrative Headquaters of the Durbar Committee is the Durbar Secretariat based in Kaduna, Capital of the North Central State of Nigeria. It is headed by Alhaji Umar Dikko who is also the Durbar Supervisor. Apart from the Durbar Committee other sub-committees are due to be set up in all the six Northern States soon. These sub-committees will be assigned to work with the Natural Resources in their areas.

They will organize, select and control the horses, camels and their riders. They will also have responsibilities for the traditional attire, dances and drummers who will accompany the Contingents to the Durbar.

It is expected at least at 2,000 horses, camels and their riders will take part in the Durbar which takes place in Kaduna. The event promises to provide the best in pageantry.

This is the model of the Nin, 5 storey 303 bedroom hotel Durbar being built in Kaduna in readiness for the forthcoming festival.
COMMENT
Laudable Aims

THE 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture taking place in Nigeria is, as its title rightly suggests, the second in this communion of Black and African Artists and Art Patrona. The aim of the 2nd Festival, and of those which would follow in future years, is to present Black and African culture in its highest and widest conception. The objectives are general for intellectual, spiritual and human fulfillment and in particular—

(i) to ensure the revival, resurgence, propagation and promotion of Black and African culture and Black and African cultural values and civilization;
(ii) to present Black and African culture in its highest and widest conception;
(iii) to bring to light the diverse contributions of Black and African peoples to the universal currents of thought and art;
(iv) to promote Black and African artists, performers and writers and facilitate their world acceptance and their access to world outlets;
(v) to promote better international and intercultural understanding and;
(vi) to facilitate a periodic “return to origin” in Africa by Black artists, writers and performers uprooted to other continents.

The President of the Festival, Chief Anthony Enahoro, adequately summed up these aims and objectives in one sentence: The survival, the revival, the resurgence and the propagation of Black Culture and Black Cultural values.

These are laudable aims worthy of any people who cherish their heritage, as well as their contribution to thought and civilization. The African and Black race cannot but uphold these envious objectives. The whole concept and continued success of this Festival cannot but do honour to all generations of the Black and African race.

The “Festival News” supports these aims and objectives and commends them to all African and Black peoples, wherever they may be. In subsequent issues, the “Festival News” will be examining these aims and objectives as far as they affect not only the Festival in Nigeria but future ones.

Ghana to feature in Dance, Drama, Music.

Entries for the Events involving live performances have now been received from Ghana. Ghana will be represented by four dance companies under the aegis of the National Dance Association. The dance groups are the Festival Dance Company, the Ghana Dance Ensemble which has made several successful overseas tours in recent years, and two folkloric groups.

They have indicated that they will be presenting in the Traditional African Dance section — Ritual and Ceremonial Dances, including dances associated with initiation ceremonies and Chieftancy. They will also present dances under the category of War dances and others in the creative, popular entertainment and youth category.

In the category for Contemporary Dance theatre there will be contributions by Dancers from Ghana.

Ghana will also be represented over wide spectrum of the musical events — the Ghana Festival Choir, Ghana Variety and Instrumental Ensemble and the National Symphony Orchestra under the aegis of the Music Association.

Categories entered for in these events include African Traditional Songs, solo (accompanied and unaccompanied), with Ensembles, and African Traditional Instrumental Music. They have also entered in the section for African Indigenous Modern Orchestra and the Atevitch Orchestra will perform in this category. Highlife will also be featured and there will be contributions of contemporary Ghanaian Gospel Music in the Spiritual and Gospel Idiom.

Entries will also come for the two competitive sections of this Event — the Documentary. Recording of African Music in its natural environment; and for the competition for Contemporary Musical Composition on an African Theme.

In the Drama Events, four plays have been entered, but they have specified that they will not be competing. The plays are: “The Third Woman” by J.B. Dzamah, “The Blinikards” by Kofo Sejeyi; “The Marriages of Ananse” by Elii Sutherland and “Yaa Asantewa” by Ohyama Bb Odo. The first two plays will be presented in English, and the third will be in English and Twi while the fourth will be entirely in Twi.

The groups presenting the plays will be the National Drama Company, the Studio Plays and Kaum Aspirations and the Otorho players. All the groups are sponsored by the National Drama Association of Ghana.

In the film events the Ghana Film Corporation and the Ghana Broadcasting & TV Corporation are presenting several films in the Documentary, Feature and Entertainment Categories.
LINE UP OF EXHIBITIONS AT TESTAC

Twenty great exhibitions are expected to be mounted during the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture taking place in Nigeria later this year. Details of the exhibitions are listed below.

EXHIBITIONS

1. EXHIBITION ON "AFRICA AND THE ORIGIN OF MAN":
   (i) Archaeology
   (ii) Antiquity

2. EXHIBITION ON "TRADITIONAL DOMESTIC ARTS":
   (i) Culinary Art
   (ii) Hair-dressing
   (iii) Cosmetics
   (iv) Tattoos

3. EXHIBITION ON "CRAFTS":
   (i) Pottery
   (ii) Leather-work
   (iii) Metal-work
   (iv) Wood-work
   (v) Embroidery
   (vi) Textile Crafts (Weaving, Dyeing, Printing etc.)
   (vii) Carvings and other fruit-shell carvings
   (viii) Weaving (Raffia, coconut, cane and other natural fibres)
   (ix) Jewellery
   (x) Ivory Work

4. EXHIBITION ON "VISUAL ARTS":
   (i) Drawing
   (ii) Exhibition of Children’s Drawings and Paintings
   (iii) Paintings
   (iv) Sculpture
   (v) Photographic Exhibition on "The Black Race"
   (vi) Ceramics
   (vii) Posters
   (viii) Montage work and others
   (ix) Tapestries and others

5. EXHIBITION ON "TRADITIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS":
   (i) Wind
   (ii) Strings
   (iii) Percussion
   (iv) Others

6. EXHIBITION ON "BOOKS": dealing with the History, Works, Achievements and Culture of Black and African peoples, and books on any subject written by Blacks.

7. EXHIBITION ON "TRADITIONAL COSTUMES":
   (i) Apparel
   (ii) Jewellery
   (iii) Headgear (including Beaded Crowns)
   (iv) Accessories

8. EXHIBITION ON "TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE"

9. EXHIBITION ON "BLACK CONTRIBUTION TO SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INVENTION"

10. EXHIBITION ON "TRADITIONAL CHIEFTAINCY"

11. EXHIBITION ON "RELIGION"

12. EXHIBITION ON "LIBERATION MOVEMENTS"

13. EXHIBITION OF "MOUNTED ANIMALS"

14. "STAR COUNTRY" EXHIBITION BY ETHIOPIA

15. EXHIBITION OF "INFLUENCE OF AFRICAN ART ON EUROPEAN ART" BY FRANCE

16. EXHIBITION OF "CANOE REGATTA" ON LAGOS LAGOON BY NIGERIA

17. EXHIBITION OF "IMPACT OF BLACK CULTURE IN BRAZIL" BY BRAZIL

18. EXHIBITION OF "DURBAN" IN KADUNA BY NIGERIA

19. "NATIONAL EXHIBITION" BY NIGERIA

20. "AFRICAN GAMES"

From left: Mr. Tom Johnson (New York Times), Mr. Sven-Erik Larsson (Sweden) and Mr. K.B. Brown (Ghana)

IPI CONFERENCE FETED

The International Secretariat of the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture held a Cocktail Party for the delegates of the International Press Institute held in Lagos in May.

The delegates who came from six countries were taken round the National Theatre which will be the main venue in Lagos for the events of the Festival.

The Secretary-General of the Festival, Dr. Allaine Diop said that the international Press Institute should be in Lagos at a time when arrangements for the Second World Black and African Festival were at its peak.

Dr. Diop said that the Festival would give the world the opportunity to see what had been preserved in Black Civilization through the arts, dances, and other events that will be staged in Lagos and other venues during the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts, and Culture.
A MESSAGE TO BLACK PRESS OF AMERICA

CHIEF Anthony Enahoro, Federal Commissioner for Special Duties and President of the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, has called on the Black Press of America to use their media in forging unity among Afro-Americans, through their common cultural heritage.

In a message to the Annual Convention of the Black Press in San Francisco, California, on June 12, 1975, Chief Enahoro said: "the theme of this year's Summer Convention focuses on assuming new challenges and creating greater opportunities for the Black Press in the social, political and economic mainstream of American life. However, I wish with respect to contrast you that while achievements in the social, political and economic fields are indispensable to progress, there is equally a reversion enterprise in forging the necessary unity among Afro-Americans through their common cultural heritage.

"It is the awareness and the determination to preserve such unity on a global basis that has led us to the preparations for the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, 1975."

Chief Enahoro's message was read to the Convention in San Francisco by Mr. S. S. Wenko, Special Assistant to the Festival President. The message continued: "the Black community in the United States is the second largest national Black community in the world. We therefore have the duty and obligation to ensure full and constructive participation from our community at the World Black Festival in Nigeria. Such participation will be a tribute to unity of purpose through a common cultural heritage among Black Americans. But the Black Press also has a duty, in fact, an obligation to propagate this common cultural heritage."

Chief Enahoro said that "our common cultural heritage is something to be proud of. We have to understand in order to make the future. Santanyi was quite right when he said: 'people who cannot remember their past are condemned to repeat it'. The cultural heritage of the Black people is the centre of their unity and their claim to a vital contribution towards civilization."

"This cultural heritage encompasses our arts and crafts, our songs and rhythms, our dances, our customs, our manners, our behaviours to one another, the respect from the young to the old, the protection of the young by the old, our communal efforts, our humanism, our 'brotherkeeping' through our system of extended families, etc."

Chief Enahoro reiterated again the six principal aims of the Festival in Nigeria. He assured the Black Press that the organizers of the Festival were working hard so that all the amenities, the physical structures and the Festival programme would be worthy of our common cultural heritage. He invited as many of the Editors at the Convention to find time to come to the Festival. He also enjoined the Editors to give publicity to the Festival in their newspapers and publications so that; "thousand of our brothers and sisters will be more aware of this Festival so as to attend in large numbers."

Full text of Chief Enahoro's address will be published in the next issue of the "Festival News".

WHAT IS A DURBAR?

What is a Durbar? Chief Anthony Enahoro, President of the Festival, answered this question in his message to the maiden issue of "The Durbar", a newsletter launched in May by the Durbar Secretariat in Kaduna, Nigeria.

Chief Enahoro said that Durbar is a Ceremonial gathering. He went on: "It is a display of horsemanship, Colour, pageantry and pomp. It is usually a royal reception. The Durbar has been associated with India, but it is now almost exclusive to our part of the World."

DANCES AND COLLOQUIUM TOP EVENTS

Various forms of Dances peculiar to the Black World are being planned for the forthcoming Second World Black Festival taking place in Nigeria. Apart from these, there will be Drama and Films. It will also feature literary works and Modern Dancing. In addition to these, a day will be set aside during the Festival to honour World Famous Blacks. Details of the events are listed below.

1. CATEGORIES OF DANCES
   (a) Ritual
   (b) Masquerade (c) Ceremonial
   (d) Birth
   (e) Child Naming
   (f) Circumcision
   (g) Marriage
   (h) Initiation
   (i) Chaffering
   (j) Funeral
   (k) War
   (l) Acrobat
   (m) Vocational (Hunters, Farmers, etc.)
   (n) Creative
   (o) Popular Entertainment
   (p) Youth
   (q) Medics
   (r) Boys
   (s) Elder
   (t) Child
   (u) Traditional Afro-American
   (v) Traditional Caribbean
   (w) Traditional Australian
   (x) Contemporary Dance Theatre

2. MUSIC:
   (a) Traditional Songs (Solos)
   (b) Traditional Songs (Ensembles)
   (c) Traditional Instrumental Music
   (d) Indigenous Modern Orchestre
   (e) Documentary recording or piece of reporting on Africa
   (f) Jazz and Blues (Ensembles)
   (g) Jazz and Blues (Solos)
   (h) Negro Spirituals and Gospel Songs (Ensembles)
   (i) Negro Spirituals and Gospel Songs (Solos)
   (j) Afro-Brazilian or Afro-Cuban Music (Ensemble)
   (k) Instrumental and Vocal Music of the West Indies (Ensembles)
   (l) Instrumental and Vocal Music of the West Indies (Solos)
   (m) Contemporary Musical Competition on an African theme (duration: 20 to 30 minutes)
   (n) “Julu” and “High Life”

3. DRAMA:
   (a) Modern (for plays written in the official language)
   (b) Traditional (for plays written in any other national language)

4. LITERATURE:
   (a) Poetry
   (b) Essays
   (c) Novels
   (d) Short Stories etc.

5. MODERN DRESSING Reflecting Black Culture (Creative for competition)

6. CELEBRITY DAY: To honour World Famous Blacks in the fields of Arts and Culture.

7. "Tribute to Black and African Womanhood"
GENERAL Yakubu Gowon, Head of the Nigerian Federal Military Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces is one of the two prominent figures to the Festiv­al, the other being Dr. Leopold Senghor, President of Senegal. General Gowon, who was born in 1923 in Pankan District of the Bamisu Plateau State of Nigeria, had his early education at St. Bartho­mew’s C.M.S. School, Wusasa, and the Government Secondary School, Zaria.

At the completion of his second­ ary education in Zaria he went straight into the army in May, 1945. He was immediately sent to the Regular officers Special Training School in Teesie, Gold Coast (now Ghana).

From Teesie General Gowon proceed­ ed to London for a brief period at the Eaton Hall Officer Cadet Training School there, before joining the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He also at­ tended a Young Officers Course at Hythe and Warmminster before returning to Nigeria in July, 1947.

One of his first major military assign­ ments was to be a Battalion Com­ mander in the operations in the Nigerian-Cameroon border from January to May 1960. General Gowon was one of the first officers to be appoint­ ed adjutant of a unit (the Fourth Battalion, 1st Nigerian Regiment) where he served with the United Nations forces in the Congo from 1960 to June, 1961. Immediately following this brief period in the Congo he was quarters in Lagos as a staff officer.

Gowon was one of the first officers to be appointed Chief of Staff to Brigadier W.R.O. Ojukwu, 1st Nigerian Division, in 1963. He was once again posted to the Congo on duty with the Nigerian troops as Brigadier Major of the 3rd Nigerian Brigade, Luka­ baro. Back to Nigeria in 1963, he was appointed Assistant Adjutant General of the Nigerian Army, once again the first Nigerian to hold that post.

In May, 1965, he went on another course of instruction at the British Joint Services College -now known as National Defence College, Lettermore. He returned to Nigeria from that course on 13th January, 1968, a few days before the Civilian Governor­ ized hand over power to the military.

General Gowon was considered to be one of the most promising officers of the Second Battalion of the Nigerian Army. He was among many that were appointed Adjutant Chief of Staff in August, 1966, he became the Head of the Nigerian Federal Military Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. He was promoted to the rank of Major-General in June, 1967 and to Full General in October, 1968.

General Gowon rectified the great imbalance in the structure of the Federation of Nigeria by the creation of the two States of 12 States in 1967, saw Nige­ ria through her critical period of Civil War and put into effect a con­ structive programme of rehabilitation and reconciliation.

In May, 1973, General Gowon was elected Chairman of the Organisa­ tion of African Unity and African Festival of Arts and Culture. We must avoid repeating the sorry spectacle we gave the world at Al­ jazeera. These are the days of no question of stifling discussion. On the contra­ ry, we have the opportunity to reinforce the essential goal, which is unity, the common heritage of the African Civilisation and Education.”

To cover all the fields of the problem, we must provide a brief historical account of it. This is all the more necessary because no historical account must be given by every nation, no country, no English or French, against all the others. Having reached the civilisation of the black race, we begin the first to do so. As everyone knows, it was in the eighteenth century that the other European nations, particularly the Germans, Scandinavians and Slav, began to react. And the Napoleon era nearly ac­ cumulated the cultural opposition of movements for freedom, and even ethnic identification. It is no mere accoutrement. These cultural movements among black people have been accompanied by certain technical movements with the first of them developing in the 19th and 20th centuries, and the the Beverley and Scandinavian peoples.

To the Romanesque and the great discoveries which spread the influence of the African art. There was the North and East of the white contin­ ent, the Far East, Africa, Asia, America and Oceania.

Bedecked with glory, the Nigeria of the New World suffered a dreadful fall. Their achievements and their civilisations almost vanished. Our own destiny was hardly less

Anthony Enahoro Festival President

Chief Anthony Enahoro, Nigeria’s Commissioner for Special Duties who is also the President of the International Committee of the Fest­ ival is a new man on the Internation­ al scene.

Formally the Federal Commis­sioner for Special Duties, Chief Enahoro was born at Uriligbo, Nigeria in 1923, and succeeded to the traditional chieftaincy of “Adolor of Enahoro.”

He completed his secondary education at King’s College, Lagos in 1942, and embarked upon a highly successful career as a journalist. However, he left his job to enter politics in 1957, when he was elected to the Western House of Assembly and the Federal House of Representatives. In 1957 he was appointed Minister of Home Affairs, Western Region. Chief Enahoro who was one of the leaders of the celebrated Nige­ rian Action Group for independence, soon became the vice President, and he represented Nigeria at numerous international conferences.

He was Nigeria’s member on the all important African National­ ism Standing Committee.

As a member of the Federal Parliament as Action Group Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Food Pro­ duction and Rural Industrialisation, it was his duty to ensure the survival of the Nigeria economy, committed and stated on text of imprisonment.

When the then Lieutenant-Colonel Gowon came to power as head of the Federal Military Government in 1966, he appointed Chief Enahoro as the Minister for Information and appointed to serve on the Com­ mittee on Nigeria language which is a work­ able constitution for the nation.

At the time of the appointment of the member of the Federal Executive Council and Com­ missioner for Information and La­ bor in 1967.

Married with children, Chief Ena­ horo has been described by many man and negotiator during the civil war, and was responsible for the successful Second All Africa Games which came off in Nigeria in 1973.
Religionists coming in full force

Traditional religionists will participate at the 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture and have opened a new chapter in the history of the continent this year.

This was announced when the religionists comprising IJA, Sango, Odu, Ogun Osunke, Oluon, Arobo Owu of the River State, Ijaw, Igbo, Nsukka, South of the State, Okun and Osile met on Thursday, May 25, 1975 at the City Hotel, Lagos.

The High Priest of Godian religion, Chief K.O.K. Onyiosa spoke at the meeting on behalf of the President of the Festival, Chief Anthony Enahoro, to take part in the Festival.

He explained that the Conference where all traditional religionists from all over the Country were represented, was summoned in unprecedented fashion.

Condemning the branding of traditional religion as paganism, the Chief suggested that traditional religionists should be called God-fearing and could not therefore be called paganism.

Traditional religionists believe in the supremacy of the Supreme Being, and it was contemptuous to tag their religion pagan, he added.

Chief Onyiosa said the new name which all must call Africa, and perhaps the world at large, the level of teaching has dropped with the level of education, it is certainly because of a general neglect which is not understood, but renders the educational system useless.

It is not merely because people have forgotten the ancient teachings and have failed a science, at least a technician. Therefore, the world from 1973 that in Senegal, every primary or secondary school teacher, before beginning his career as a teacher should do a year's study in the art of teaching in a "teacher training school".

Personality

That said, should the habits of refection be developed, or should spontaneously be encouraged by the principles of educational techniques? Here, too, let us guard against permanent and transient elements of the question of time and circumstances. However, we should not be content with the reasoning and teaching system from Europe or America. What we should do is use as our point of departure our collective personality and the values of Negro-African civilization, and from them derive new forms and methods of the art of teaching. And, here again, is to be found the reason why, in Senegal, have launched the experiment of "Enseignement moyen pratique", which might be described as the "technical middle schools experiment".

Orientation

I shall say a few words about this before I conclude. Having built up our education on the principles of orientation and selection, we have decided that, at the beginning of their primary or secondary education, pupils should, at the end of their primary or secondary education, enter general middle schools or general technical schools, and from there into practical middle schools. The pupils of these schools have a four-year course, are intended for pupils from 12 to 16 years old. Therefore, after a one-year training, the aim being to prepare prospective agriculturalists, fishermen, artisans and workers, for their respective occupations; and the preparatory level is to turn them into men with their own little business, men who can speak the basic language of education, and a good means of receiving the universe of the spirit in all its manifestations.

The originality of this move lies in the fact that education in the African sense, is largely acquired in open settings, very often, in the open air rather than in a classroom. But its chief claim to originality is that the programmes are drawn up in the participation of the rural communities, and are based on the realities of Negro-African life, of Senegalese life. Furthermore, the theory is not a negation, no hesitancy whatever in borrowing from the old Negro-African art of teaching, whether the matter taught is languages or techniques of a gymnastic or oral character, animating, invigorating the communal spirit of black Africa.

In conclusion. The Symposium, as its name implies, is the symposium due to take place in a year's time in Lagos. It will prepare the ground for that symposium. Exploiting the elements of the problem we have set ourselves, we believe that these exercises and themes of future discussions will throw some light on the frame of mind and each discipline which has been opened.

The symposium held during the First World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture was a success. I am sure that with the epidemic we are now doing, the Symposium to be held at the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture will be a greater success. At a time when foreign ideologies are intensifying their attacks against the black world, the reaffirmation of imperialism are whetting their appetites because they think that we are disoriented, it is essential to re-affirm the importance of refusing to debate, on the contrary, of developing discussion on what is vital, namely, Negro-African Christian missions and the cultural problem, which is now being discovered, enriched and prolonged. It is evident that the contributions of the present inalienable contribution to the survival of Negro-African men, and this is more humane and human world, because it is so important to be considerate in its diversity.

(1) "habituas" in the French text.
Accreditation forms go out

Deadline to world Press
July 31

Registration and accreditation forms for the coverage of the second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture have been sent out by the International Secretariat to the World Media Press, radio and television stations. Replies should reach Lagos by July 31st this year.

According to the forms, a start-off Press briefing will be held for all media representatives on Wednesday, November 19th, 1975 at the Festival Press Centre in Lagos. Other materials dealt with in the document are Press and Photo Credit for facilities and Photo services, accommodation, travel arrangements and facilities for television, radio and film coverage.

Festival documents will be available in French and English which are the Official Languages approved by the International Festival Committee.

There will also be assistance to journalists, television and film crews at the Airport for the clearing of their equipment and sending films back to any part of the World.

Accreditation forms go out

Deeper aspect of the FESTAC

Ethiopia coming

Ethiopia will take part in the forthcoming Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture in Nigeria later this year. This has been confirmed by the New Military Government in the country.

There were fears that Ethiopia, designated "Star Country", might not be able to participate in the Festival because of a change of Government.

The visit has been approved by the Government. It is expected to take place in late November.

Traditional Religionists

Continued from page 7

In his address, Chief Fagbenro Bayolu, the Araba Ipto, Osulie of Lagos, had introduced all the participants including the Secretary-General of the Arts Festival, Dr. Allone Dibb who represented Chief Enahoro at the Conference.

He had pointed out that the purpose of the Conference was to study and learn about the indigenous religious concept of Nigeria and Black race, how they exist and how they are practised. He declared that two traditional rulers, the Ooni of Ife and Obasanje of Benin are the Chief Patrons.

Papers were delivered on some of the 15 traditional religions represented at the Conference. Two were by Professor Aniads, Professor of Buddhist studies, College of Oriental Studies, Los Angeles and Professor Peter Evans, Professor of Religion, Professor of English and Chairman, Department of Learning Skills, Oakland University, Michigan, U.S.A., respectively.

A WARM HANDSHAKE

Published by the International Secretariat, 2nd World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, 13, Hawnsworth Road, Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria and Printed by Skyway Press Limited, Ikoyi, Lagos. All correspondence should be addressed to the Publicity Division, International Secretariat, P.M.B 12568, Ikoyi, Lagos.