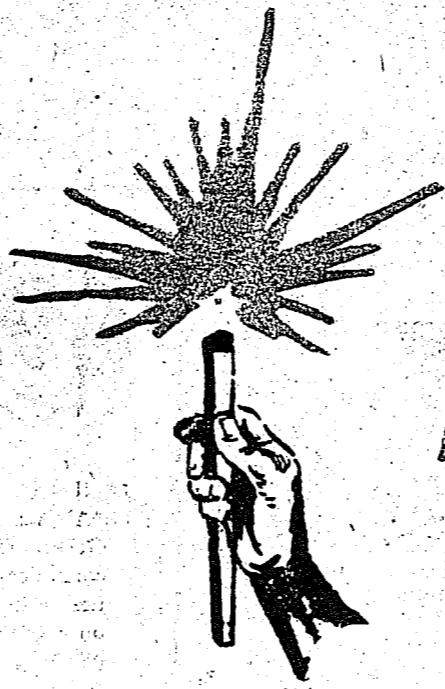


YOUNG  
FARMERS LAY  
THE BASIS FOR  
ADVANCE  
(See page 3)

# THE SPARK



Notes of  
the Week  
Munich and  
After 4  
Soviet Moon  
Rocket 5

A SOCIALIST WEEKLY OF THE AFRICAN REVOLUTION

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1966

# PURCHASE OF V.C. 10

## EDITORIAL

### THE BUSY IDLERS

THE Presidential speech to the National Assembly constitutes a challenge to every state enterprise and corporation, and to everybody working in them.

The challenge 'to take stock' means that we have to examine our work critically, spotlight weaknesses and eradicate them. This is the only way to ensure that we overcome inefficiencies and maximise the efficiency of our industry and agriculture.

There are many weaknesses to be overcome in our methods of working but we want here to deal with only one.

This is the problem of 'the busy idlers'. These are the men and women who go through all the motions of being terribly busy, of being engaged in work of vital national importance, who put up a smoke screen of bustling activity, but who, strangely enough, never get any results.

We all know this type of character. They are to be found not only in key sectors of our economic life, they are to be found, even among Party activists.

They think that if they shout loudest, make a big song and dance, and beat the biggest drum continuously the people will fail to notice that they are not producing any results.

These are matched by those who think that if they rush round from office to office, carrying important looking brief cases, they will be accepted automatically as important people doing a worthwhile job.

Perhaps for a short time, it is possible to work this kind of confidence trick but soon harsh reality will catch up with us all.

It is the essence of scientific socialist methods that past work should be carefully examined in an objective way, and that on the basis of the lessons drawn from the examination of our experiences we make changes and improvements. It is one of the profts of the resilience of a new forward looking society, that it can be subjected to rigorous scrutiny and that such criticism and examination are a powerful means of assisting its further advance.

Self criticism is not 'for the other chap'. Self criticism is for each one of us. It means that every worker, at whatever level, should be prepared to examine the quality and quantity of his own day's work. He should be able to say that he has worked conscientiously, made the most of his time and the materials and machines placed at his disposal and added to the sum total of our national wealth. Every man's day's work should be a stage in the advance towards the successful completion of our Development Plan.

The Presidential address calls for maximum efficiency. Machines cannot guarantee efficiency, plans on paper cannot guarantee efficiency, only men and women devoted to the cause of socialism, understanding it and prepared to work hard for it can achieve maximum efficiency.

Our people are hard working. Their hard work has made it possible for us to reach our present stage of development. Now we stand on the verge of a breakthrough in our national development. This means that the quality of our life will change; it means that qualitatively new demands are to be made on us; it means that a new socialist attitude to work is now vitally necessary if we are to bring the full fruits of their past work and sacrifice to the people.

Quiet systematic application to the job in hand, is the keynote of the real socialist worker. Understanding of the long and short term aims of our society, coupled with a determination to overcome all problems and to ensure that the job is carried through accurately to the last detail is the hallmark of the true socialist worker.

In Ghana we have the example of such a worker in our own President, Kwame Nkrumah who works for 18 hours a day, solving a multiplicity of problems.

Continued on Page 2

It is reported that Ghana Airways is planning to purchase a third VC-10 long range jet airliner, at a cost of over £2 million.

Three questions arise:

1. Is the purchase of a third VC-10 really necessary and economically justifiable?
2. Is the purchase of a third VC-10 in the best interests of Ghana Airways?
3. Is the purchase of a third VC-10 in the best interests of Ghana?

There are those who argue that it is "unnecessary" for Ghana to have its own air line, and who argue that we should rely on foreign companies, thus saving ourselves, they claim, a great deal of money, both in Cedis and hard-to-get foreign currency.

When peddled by foreign critics, such a view is at least understandable; it is prompted by vested interest, by the desire to maintain the dominant position of the air lines of our former colonial rulers—by the desire, in other words, to maintain a sort of 'neo-colonialism of the air'.

#### MALICIOUS

But when peddled by Ghanaians, it is at best mistaken, at worst malicious.

To rely on foreign air lines would save us neither Cedis nor foreign currency. Foreign air lines are not charitable institutions; they expect to be paid for the services they provide. Reliance on them could indeed in the ultimate analysis cost us more.

Furthermore, to rely on foreign air lines would mean placing the control of a key means of transport, both within our country and to and from other countries, in the hands of those who have little or no regard for the interests of Ghana.

It would constitute a serious erosion of the economic independence which we are trying to build up.

Ghana has rightly ended its dependence on foreign air lines, just as, by the establishment of the Black Star Line, we have ended our dependence on foreign shipping lines which would otherwise have been able to hold us to ransom.

We must have an air line which is efficient, safe and reliable, an air line which pays its way and earns us much-needed foreign currency.

### Strict Economy, Strict Business

It is important for us now to examine all our Corporations and State Enterprises in the light of Kwame Nkrumah's speech to the second session of the National Assembly. One of the important principles which he outlined for our immediate future guidance was that of 'consolidation'. It means that we have to avoid any unnecessary expenditure and that we have to turn our attention, not to new and extended investments, so much as to making our present investments begin to pay off.

"We have now reached a point in our national development," Kwame Nkrumah said, "where we need to pause for a while, take stock of what we have achieved so far, which by any standard is remarkable. We shall then be ready to move ahead with increased momentum".

Those who sneer at Ghana Airways' temporary financial difficulties should be reminded that such difficulties are an almost inevitable feature of the early days of any undertaking.

They should be reminded, that even the long-established foreign air lines upon which they would have us rely suffer from the same difficulties.

Deficits are a recurring feature in the balance sheets of the world's major air lines; there is not a single air line in the world which can boast that every seat on all its planes is occupied and paid for. On many of the world's major routes, operators consider themselves fortunate if their planes are half full.

Ghana Airways has in recent months been making significant progress towards the self-sufficiency which is one of its aims. That progress must not now be jeopardised by ill-considered steps which, while seeming to represent progress, may in fact impose a grave financial burden.

#### PRESTIGE

The fact that we question the timeliness of the purchase of a third VC-10 does not mean we share the views of those who claim that the purchase of the first two was a mistake prompted primarily by considerations of prestige.

It was essential that Ghana Airways should have aircraft able to hold their own, particularly on certain of its most important and competitive routes.

The VC-10 fulfils this need. In purchasing the VC-10 Ghana was not prompted by considera-

We suggest that it is the duty of every State enterprise and every Corporation to take this principle seriously and examine their own operations, so that they will be able to conform with the demand, made in the speech, for active economic co-operation between all sections of our economy, and for strict economy and the highest level of efficiency. It is for this reason that we propose to examine here, one of the problems facing one of our most successful enterprises, the Ghana Airways Corporation. We select this, not to suggest, that the Corporation is the only one, which needs to make changes in its immediate future policy, but because this is a most urgent immediate problem which entails a vast amount of capital.

tions of "prestige" than was, for example, British Overseas Airways when it took the same step.

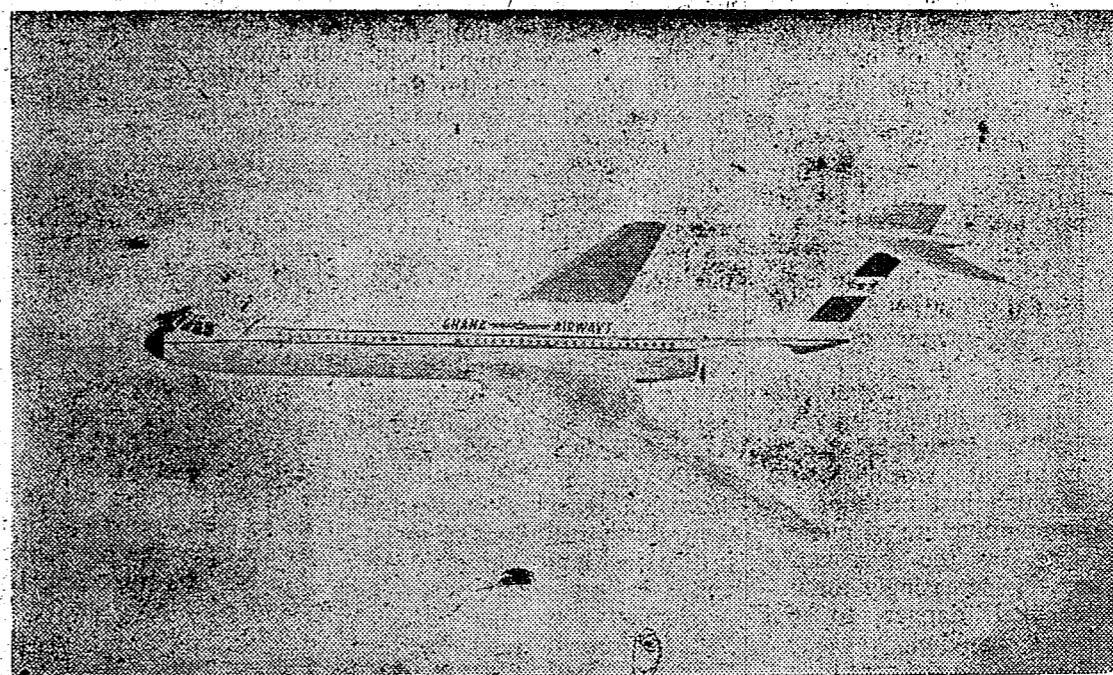
But the fact that the purchase of two VC-10s was a justifiable step does not necessarily mean that the purchase of a third is equally justifiable.

The first point is the cost. A VC-10 costs more than £2 million cash—but nobody pays cash down for luxury jet air liners.

#### CREDIT

They are bought on credit. These credits are subject to interest and other charges, which frequently bring the final cost to well over double the cash price—all payable in foreign currency.

Furthermore, the opera-



Ghana Airways VC-10, a long range jet air liner.

### Emulate This Spirit

THE Nation this weekend celebrates the fifteenth anniversary of the release of Kwame Nkrumah from prison. He was jailed by the British colonial administration for declaring the Positive Action campaign which won freedom and independence for Ghana.

He was released after receiving the largest individual pool ever before recorded in the history of the Gold Coast, as Ghana was then known—22,780 out of a possible 23,122.

On the day after his release he was invited to Christiansborg Castle by the British Governor. He left to form a Government.

Kwame Nkrumah had traversed the road that was to become almost traditional for the leaders of the newly-independent states of Africa—the road from the prison cell to the seat of power.

It is a road which gives the lie to those who claim that the former colonialist rulers "granted" independence.

Far from being "granted", our independence, like that of every other newly-independent country, was won by struggle—struggle in which the mass of the common people played the decisive role.

Today, having won our political independence, our struggle has entered a new phase—the phase of achieving economic independence and building a society free from exploitation.

In this phase, too, the decisive role is played by the common people for, as Kwame Nkrumah has declared, "out of the simple man is ordained strength."

In this phase too the spirit of self-sacrifice so vividly demonstrated by Kwame Nkrumah during the months he spent in a colonialist prison has its role to play.

Each of us at his or her place of work can emulate this spirit, speeding the day when we shall have laid the basis for a fuller, richer life for all.

bring in a third VC-10 will bring it its train a considerable increase in insurance, servicing, crewing and other costs.

All of this will place a heavy burden of new charges on Ghana Airways just at a time when it is beginning to make progress towards paying its way.

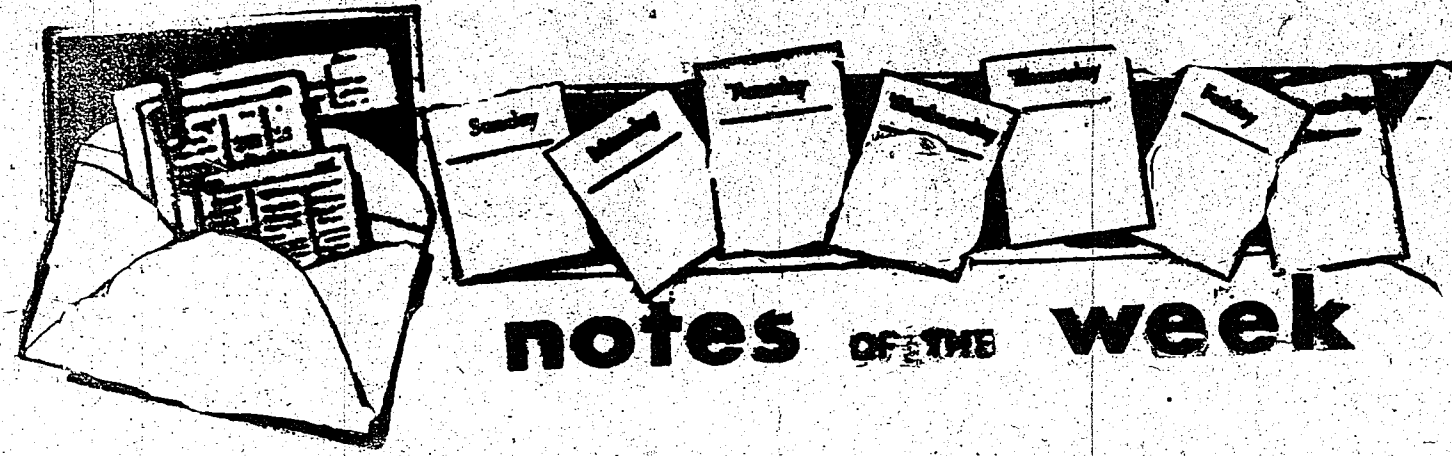
Normally, air lines calculate the economic expediency of the purchase of a new aircraft on the basis of whether it will pay for itself during the credit repayment period.

It is questionable whether a third VC-10 can do this.

In a statement issued in October last year, Ghana Airways noted with justifiable satisfaction that its fleet had in the year ending June, 1965 returned a total revenue passenger load factor of 42.6 per cent, compared with 34.1 per cent during the previous year.

These figures for its fleet (which at the end of June,

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# notes of the week



WITH the inauguration of the Ghana Council last week at the Pioneer Centre in Accra, Ghana has once again demonstrated her support for world peace.

Since her political independence in March 1957, Ghana has strongly voiced at international forums, her opposition to the mass production of nuclear weapons and support for the control of general and complete disarmament.

The stand Ghana is taking in pursuit of world peace is exemplified by the convening of the World Without the Bomb Assembly in Accra in June 1962. This was a dramatic stage in the commitment of Ghana to the cause of peace. The Assembly was attended by hundreds of distinguished scientists of diverse fields of human endeavour from all over the world.

Ghana has been represented at various peace conferences and gatherings to advance world peace, including the 1962 Moscow Congress for Peace and Disarmament, and that held in Helsinki in July 1965. Both Congresses were sponsored by the World Peace Council.

The newly formed Ghana Peace Council has among its aims:

- i. to initiate and sustain action aimed at mobilising world opinion against war and on behalf of peace;
- ii. to expose and condemn all actions and practices which threaten or harm world peace, wherever they may occur, including the practice of colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism;
- iii. to support all actions which are taken anywhere on behalf of world peace;
- iv. to co-ordinate and direct all activities in Ghana which are exclusively concerned with the promotion and maintenance of world peace;
- v. to establish and maintain liaison with all national bodies elsewhere which aim at world peace through just methods.

The manufacture of nuclear weapons by the big world powers is increasingly an unprecedented danger to the future of mankind.

The growing dangers of nuclear war and a developing awareness of their character, are accompanied by relentless political tensions and armed conflict which prevent the growth of the pre-conditions for disarmament agreement.

## G.D.R. Press Conference

MR. Karl-Heinz Kern, head of the Economic and Trade Mission of the German Democratic Republic has outlined the proposal of the Government of the German Democratic Republic for the solution of the German problem and the recovery of European security.

- The six points are that:
1. Both German States renounce atomic armament and participation in power of decision over atomic weapons in any form;
  2. Both German States recognise the existing borders in Europe;
  3. In the interest of European peace and security the G.D.R. and the West German Federal Republic take up diplomatic relations with all states of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty respectively;
  4. Both German States declare their readiness to enter into negotiations on disarmament in Germany;
  5. Both German States renounce laws and regulations blocking German re-

large parts of their national budgets for the manufacture of deadly weapons. At the same time two-thirds of the world's population is seriously menaced by starvation. This shows how necessary world peace is.

The unstable world situation of tension and political hostility among nations is developing at great tempo because of the aggressive attitude of the imperialist powers. They refuse to heed the good proposals from peace loving elements.

The aim of supremacy by the imperialist countries is a danger which is rapidly eating into the fabric of mankind's existence thereby thwarting world peace and progress.

It is this element of danger now facing the world today that Kwame Nkrumah in his message to the Ghana Peace Council stressed:—

"We in Ghana, like other progressive and peace loving nations, desire peace, harmony and understanding with our neighbours. We believe that only in conditions of world peace can the ingenuity and skill of man be utilized for the promotion of the welfare of man.

"The people of the world have the right and the power to abolish causes of war forever. To do this, we need an effective machinery through which all ideas for the promotion of world peace could be channelled. That is why an Organisation like the Ghana Peace Council should enjoy our fullest support.

"It is my fervent hope that the Ghana Peace Council will play its full part in the fight for peace and be fearless in exposing and condemning all actions, practices and systems which threaten world peace and work for the solution to the problems in the world today which threaten universal peace."

Kwame Nkrumah exhorted the Council to do all in its power to aid our oppressed brothers in Southern Rhodesia, Angola, Mozambique, South Africa, the so-called Spanish Guinea and ensure for them those conditions of social justice without which real peace is impossible.

Messages to the Ghana Peace Council read by the Secretary, Rev. J. S. A. Stephens, at the meeting came from far and near. With its motto of "PEACE BE UNTO YOU" the Ghana Peace Council will play a great part in co-operating with similar peace organisations to save mankind from annihilation by modern destructive weapons.

such as atomic armament, emergency legislation etc.;

6. The Governments of the two German States enter into negotiations with the aim to normalise relations. These proposals were put forward, during his New Year Message, by the Chairman of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic, Walter Ulbricht.

The most fundamental principle of the proposals for both German States is the renunciation of atomic armament and participation in the power of decision over atomic weapons in any form.

The G.D.R. was the sixth state to sign the Geneva Treaty banning nuclear tests in the atmosphere, in pace and under water.

The international Security and peaceful reunification of the German nation can only be achieved if the real existing situation in Germany is recognised and if normal diplomatic relations are established with and between the two German States and the NATO States.

The G.D.R. has altogether made more than 150 proposals to the Government and Parliament of the German Federal Republic in an effort to solve outstanding problems, being of the opinion that such problems can only be solved effectively by negotiations.

All nations must try to live together in peace or risk total annihilation. In the view of the G.D.R. Government everything should be done to prevent the tragedy of another

## Lubke - Revelations!

PROFESSOR Albert Norden of the GDR has held an important press conference in Berlin, asking all progressive people to mobilise their forces against the resurrection of fascism in Germany.

The over 1,800 seriously incriminated Nazis hold some very big posts in West Germany. For instance, Bonn has fixed up Nazi criminals in the armed forces, the diplomatic service, the machinery of justice and the police. Some are ministers, state secretaries, admirals and ambassadors. These are not only nominal Nazis but have massacred numberless communists, socialists, trade unionists, Jews, slave-labourers, Russians, Poles and Czechoslovaks etc. One of the murder generals like General Trelnner commands the Bundeswehr. Likewise, Oberlander and Hans Kruger, war criminals who ran away from the GDR, are now in West Germany Parliament as Christian Democrat members.

On the contrary, from 1942 to 1964, 12,807 of the 16,572 people charged with war crimes in the GDR, were found guilty and were deservedly punished.

The Press Conference dealt especially with Heinrich Lubke President of the Federal Republic of Germany.

As a member of the Nazi group, he is not able to bring the West German war criminals to trial and see to it that they get their due punishments. He has the appalling background of a very active Nazi

## The Labour Conference

THE five-day African Labour Ministers Conference ended in Accra at the week-end. From the report submitted by its two main working committees, i.e. the International Labour Organisation Committee and the Technical Matters Committee (which were approved by the Conference), it can be said without doubt that a good job has been done by the African Labour Ministers.

By its decision to render whole-hearted support for the cause of freedom to the people of Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique and all freedom fighters elsewhere on the African Continent, the Conference has restated the unbreakable alliance between freedom fighters and the general struggle for African political unity.

In as much as the ultimate aspiration of African freedom fighters is to seek first political freedom as a pre-condition to better their material standards, the plight of freedom fighters cannot be isolated from the general problems confronting the role which labour plays in the economic reconstruction of the African Continent.

The Ministers did not hesitate to support the decision adopted by the governing body of the International Labour Organisation for prohibiting all co-operation between that Organisation and the

world war befalling mankind. The two German States should therefore, pay the maximum attention to strengthening Co-operation and friendship on the basis of equality of rights.

By gradual relaxation of tension in Europe and by agreeing upon armament restrictions, especially through the renunciation of atomic weapons in any form by all European States not in possession of them, can mankind enjoy World peace.

member. Present at the press conference were eye witnesses who saw the documents revealing the terrible activities of Lubke in the Hitler Germany and others who have personally eye-witnessed the war crimes of Lubke. As a confidential agent of the Gestapo and a concentration camp manager, he directed the construction of the Leau concentration camp as a branch of the Buchenwald concentration camp in 1944. He is responsible for the death of hundreds of Poles, Frenchmen, Italians, Soviet citizens and Germans through slave labour. Many documents prove as truthful, these accusations against the Federal German President. Nor is he able to prove his innocence against the accusations poured on him, as millions in West Germany request.

Otto Winzer, the GDR foreign Minister has said if the security and co-operation of all European states is guaranteed, Europe, from where the two world wars were started, could become a peaceful continent.

The question is how can this come about when Bonn still plans a third world war, when the ruling class of West Germany regards the GDR as a lost territory to be recovered with much of Poland?

All peace loving men throughout the world, must consider the statement of Professor Norden at the Press Conference and must find the means of putting to an end the activities of the West German war criminals.

racist regime of Rhodesia. On Portugal, the Conference urged all governments, dedicated to peace and justice, to withhold co-operation with Portugal as long as it continued with its obnoxious policy of colonialism.

Portugal, under dictator Salazar, is a menace to Africa. The argument that Portugal's connection with Africa was a "historical moral mission" is untenable.

with its political doctrine of *assimilado* by which Africans under Portuguese rule are compelled to forced labour, the freedom fighters of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea Sao have suffered the crudest barbarism of colonialism under Portugal in recent years. Portugal must leave Africa alone.

The Conference Committee urged: "all African States to examine the possibility of initiating a programme for the mobility of labour on a Continental basis to offset the imbalance in the supply of labour in certain parts of the Continent."

This is a recognition of the essential need for the creation of the Union Government of Africa. In his message to the Labour Conference, Kwame Nkrumah reiterated: "If the ultimate objective of our endeavours is to achieve social justice and

JANUARY 31: GHANA: Africa needs a Union Government by which Africans could co-ordinate their activities and resolve all difficulties on a continental scale. President Nkrumah emphasised in his message to the opening session of the current Conference of African Labour Ministers in Accra.

\* President Nkrumah has accepted an invitation from President Ho Chi Minh of North Vietnam to visit Hanoi.

SENEGAL: President Leopold Senghor of Senegal has said that his Government and party had chosen socialism to bring Senegal to economic and cultural independence.

FEBRUARY 1: GHANA: President Nkrumah described as "unfortunate", the recent military intrusions into the political life of several African States, saying: It is not the duty of the army to rule or govern because it has no political mandate and should not seek one.

TANZANIA: The Organisation of African Unity's Liberation Committee meeting in Dar-es-Salaam has declared that it would not view independence to the British High Commission territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland as genuine if the countries are to be tied in one way or another to the apron strings of the fascist Verwoerd regime of South Africa, the Tanzania newspaper the "Nationalist" urged the Organisation.

U.A.R.: The African continent had every means to achieve progress and development in all fields, President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic said in Cairo, when addressing a delegation heads from 24 African countries, attending an African industrial development conference.

FEBRUARY 2: SOUTHERN RHODESIA: Indications that many white Rhodesian settlers, who having lost faith in the Smith rebel regime, are secretly forming themselves into a government so as to take over if requested by the British Governor, Sir Humphrey Gibbs, came to light today.

CENTRAL AFRICA: The dark clouds obscuring the New Year's eve military coup in the Central African Republic were cleared today by a statement from the new Head of State, Colonel Jean Bokassa, who told a press conference in Bangui that the army takeover was to avoid progressive coup d'etat then in the making.

\* Former President David Dacko who was himself present at the press conference said: "The coup d'etat in fact saved my life. For several days I had been receiving anonymous letters and telephone calls warning me that I was going to be assassinated."

CONGO (LEOPOLDVILLE): The former Congo (Leo) Prime Minister Cyrille Adoula has been appointed the country's Ambassador to Belgium.

TANZANIA: The Organisation of African Unity's Liberation Committee has unanimously re-elected its chairman, Mr. Oscar Kambona, for a third one-year term. Mr. Kambona is Tanzania's Regional Administration Minister.

U.A.R.: The trial of 14 men accused of plotting to assassinate President Gamal Nasser of the United Arab Republic and

overthrow his Government has been ended in the Supreme Security Court in Cairo.

FEBRUARY 3: LIBERIA: The Liberian military riot squad was hurriedly moved in today, with orders to fire warning shots to quell alleged violence and arson at the giant American-operated firestone Rubber Company in Monrovia, where over 10,000 workers are on strike over pay claims.

ETHIOPIA: The Technical Subcommittee of the proposed Pan-African News Agency (PANA) has begun a three-day meeting in African Unity House in Ethiopia, Addis-Ababa, official headquarters of the Organisation of African Unity.

SOUTH AFRICA: The former militant leader of the Pan Africanist Congress in South Africa, Mr. Robert Sobukwe, is reportedly receiving medical treatment for prostate gland trouble.

SUDAN: The President of the Sudanese African National Union, Mr. William Deng, has appealed to the Sudanese Government to lift the state of emergency in Southern Sudan, and restore political freedom for the four million southerners.

FEBRUARY 4: KENYA: Imperialist powers have brought tragedy to his country and they are determined to see the whole of Africa aflame and would therefore not rest until they have their puppets in power all over Africa, the Foreign Minister of Congo (Leo) revolutionary Government, Mr. Thomas Kanza, told pressmen in Nairobi.

ZAMBIA: Twenty leading European residents in Zambia, including the Anglican and Catholic Archbishops, have invited rebellion Rhodesian whites to visit Zambia to acquaint themselves with life in an inter-racial society.

GHANA: The people of Ghana, like other progressive and peace loving people, desire peace, harmony and understanding with their neighbours. President Nkrumah stressed this in Accra in a message to the

MOROCCO: A number of Moroccan students studying in France demonstrated at the Moroccan Consulate in Paris today, shouting slogans against the Moroccan Government and the Interior Minister, Mohammed Oufkir.

FEBRUARY 6: U.A.R.: Japan has offered the United Arab Republic about 43,200,000 Cedis (nearly £18 million) loan as well as technical aid. Japanese sources revealed this in Cairo.

ALGERIA: Algerian Prime Minister, Colonel Houari Boumediene warned the numerous enemies of his military government that the army had full powers to deal with them. It was the Prime Ministers first indirect reference to a recent students' strike and demonstration social and economic development of the country.

ANGOLA: The Chinese People's Daily has praised the armed struggle of the Angolan people against fascist Portuguese autocratic colonial policy in Africa.

FEBRUARY 7: SOUTHERN RHODESIA: The British Government has urged those countries still trading with break-away Rhodesia to sever links so as to make the worldwide trade boycott against the illegal Smith regime a success.

## EDITORIAL

Continued from Page 1

creatively applying his knowledge to the jobs in hand. What is good enough as a method of work for him is good enough for every other worker, from Cabinet Minister downward, in our country.

Nobody can build our socialism for us. Wealth will not fall down from the skies. We cannot pass the problems of social reconstruction onto anybody else. This is why a sense of personal responsibility, a pride in the quality of work done, a creative and dynamic attitude to new problems and to exploring new methods of work which will improve efficiency, is so vital for our success.

Our people know that it takes time for economic plans to mature, they understand that only hard work will bring them the fruits of their national independence and that we have great problems of national reconstruction to overcome. They do not expect miracles, they know there are no easy short cuts, but they do expect to see honest conscientious work being carried through by everybody working in a state enterprise, government office or corporation. Let anyone else they demand value for money and they have the right to expect that in our stockfaking we set about the systematic improvement of the quality of work and the elimination of the "busy idlers".

equality for all our peoples, then we must see in the sufferings of our workers and peasants, the imperative need for unity."

In economic reconstruction, labour decides everything after planning. In Africa unlike other developing and developed countries, the peculiar problem facing labour is trained manpower which presently the Continent is in great demand.

To achieve mobility of labour, the central pre-requisite is the creation of a central political authority in the form of a Union Government, which alone can effectively channel and control the flow of labour more equitably.

The need to render more support to the All-African Trades Union Federation was given prominence by the African Labour Ministers.

The need for massive support for the A.A.T.U.F. stems from two basic factors. The first is the need to champion the cause of African workers under the aegis of the Organisation of African Unity.

Secondly, the All-African Trades Union Federation must more vigorously resist the neo-colonialist manoeuvres of the imperialist-controlled International Confederation of Trades Unions.

The I.C.F.T.U. with the direct support and assistance

of moribund imperialism, has stepped up into activities on the Continent to the highest ebb. Western capitalism is actively behind the I.C.F.T.U. in Africa because of the fear of the inevitable growth and triumph of scientific socialism.

The recent trade union frictions in the Kenya and Nigeria are pointers to the dangers which the I.C.F.T.U. could subject Africa to.

The Conference of African Labour Ministers called for a fundamental revision of the structure of the International Labour Organisation which would increase African representation on its Governing Body.

# Young Farmers Lay the Basis for Advance

## Advance

by Kwasi Sappong Kumankumah  
(National Organiser, Ghana Young Farmers' League)

**THE position of the Ghana Young Farmers' League is complex. There is need for a thorough analysis and study of the factors that have led to the establishment of this all-important Rural Youth Organization by our leader Kwame Nkrumah.**

Cocoyams (inter-cropping)	
Cassava	1,350
Plantain	2,000
Tobacco	1,850
Cotton	1,100
Kenaf	450
Sugarcane	1,000
	<b>44,220</b>

The Young Farmer in Ghana today is proud. Unlike the colonial days when our school leavers sought white collar jobs, rural youth, conscious of the fact that modern farming can only be tackled with the basic knowledge and application of science and technology, is taking to the hoe and cutlass to tap the riches of our soil.

This year the League has plans to build 10 Settlement Farms and on each of these an acreage of at least 1,000 must be maintained with poultry, pigs and the production of both beef and dairy cattle and sheep.

Farm machinery have started coming in, together with implements.

Negotiations are in progress with the Ghana Investment Bank for assistance to our young farmers.

The Irrigation Department of our Ministry, is exploring avenues whereby we can get water facilities for effective and continuous planting on our Settlement Farms.

The Ministry of Animal Husbandry will soon come out with a plan after approval has been sought from our Ministry whereby a sound approach to Animal Husbandry would be effected.

\* \* \*

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations is also negotiating with the League through our Ministry for a few projects with the League and it is hoped when this has been successful, we shall benefit more effectively from this all-important international body.

The League is planning to assist its members in all the Boarding Schools in the country to embark upon the establishment of Poultry Farms as well as cash crop farms to feed their respective schools.

This experiment will solve the food problems of these schools. Here, too, negotiations are in progress with the Ministry of Education.

Between this year and the end of the plan period, we plan to cover over 44,000 acres with the cultivation of Permanent Crops as well as Annual Crops.

Permanent Crops		Acreage	
Oil Palm	...	3,300	
Coconut	...	3,100	
Citrus	...	4,600	
Mangoes	...	2,100	
Cashew nuts	...	1,500	
Vegetables	...	2,500	
Annual Crops		Acreage	
Legumes	...	7,000	
Vegetables	...	2,050	
Cereals	...	7,000	
Potatoes	...	100	
Yams	...	3,170	

We look forward to the day when all our young farmers will be well versed in agricultural techniques to tackle this all-important assignment.

We look forward to the day when our present Settlement Farms will become self-supporting and more will be established.

\* \* \*

Apart from the 10 farms on which we intend building houses for accommodation and other essential needs, we shall also develop 10 other farms to the same level—the only difference being provision of buildings on the former.

On such farms we intend increasing the number of settlers to 100 each. This has become necessary because we have observed that on a 1,000-acre plot of mechanised farming, 10 acres can be manned by a settler.

The remaining 20 farms will be maintained and we shall concentrate mostly on tree crops with the transplantation of cash crops to justify retention during the early stages.

It can be seen from the above that we shall have to recruit 500 more young farmers this year into the farms, since the 20 farms mentioned above will take the whole 2,000 settlers who are presently engaged on our 40 farms.

During the year under review, there was a slight shortage of certain food items in the country and our Ministry was asked to remedy the situation.

I am happy to report that even though the League had not the means to contribute effectively towards the solution of this problem at that moment, we were able to contribute something from our limited resources. Sales of such items as yams, plantain, cassava and others are still going on in the Regions, including the Head Office in Accra.

Ambassadors and other Officials from foreign embassies and other countries visited our farms last year. The Soviet Embassy, the Economic and Trade Mission of the German Democratic Republic, the Czechoslovak Embassy, the Chinese Embassy, the Rumanian Embassy and others presented books to the League and made a contribution by film shows, exhibitions and the supply of sporting and recreational equipments to our last conference held at Sunyani.

We have also welcomed delegates who visited our country on other errands to our Head Office and Regional

**THIS IS WHAT  
GHANA IS  
DOING**

Offices as well as to some of our farms.

All these guests, including the diplomats, showed their appreciation of the noble role we are playing in the face of difficulties and gave us words of encouragement.

Turning to our Settlers, I wish to reiterate that the Party and Government are very eager to see them achieve their objectives. This is the reason why the Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture, is exploring means of supplying the League with a considerable number of farm implements, tractors and garden tools as well as other basic needs to help make this scheme succeed.

\* \* \*

The Welfare Department which is responsible for the welfare of our club members in schools, through activities both recreational and cultural, will also be strengthened to meet with the present needs.

To ensure economic operation and proper administration, there has been established a department known as the Planning and Economic Department which will co-ordinate the activities of all other Departments in the League to check waste and to ensure proper organization as well as economic feasibility.

The Agricultural Department, which is responsible for the maintenance and care of all our farms both in the schools clubs and the settle-

ments is expected to be strengthened by the secondment of staff from the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Internal Audit Department did very well during the last year, and we have plans to bring it in line with our aim of properly checking to ensure adequate protection of State property.

The Administration Department, which has a dual responsibility will, I am sure, shoulder these responsibilities

the essential needs of the League and to control all our operations.

And now to the question of committees. The committee in a Settlement Farm exists to see to it that the farm is properly run, that it caters fully for the well-being of its settlers and offers a varied and balanced programme of activities.

The committee is responsible for upholding the best traditions on the farm, and must carry out a programme for development and improvement. It is the responsibility of the committee to see to the general upkeep and repairs of equipment and any other property. It must see to it that the farm is well organised and that settlers are conscientious in their work.

The committee must ensure that the farm and its activities are well known in the district and command the respect and goodwill of the community. The activities of the farm should be related to the community from which it draws its settlers and should work in closest co-operation with other bodies in the area.

The committee, through its Treasurer, should receive all



- (a) the maintenance of discipline amongst Settlers.
- (b) the establishment of good and healthy relations and co-operation between settlers, Officers and other people in the locality.
- (c) to see to the proper execution of work in the

(males)  
We have included a Visual Aids Section into the Publicity and Public Relations Department, in order that our members will have the opportunity to see films depicting what is being done both on our Settlement Farms and in our School Clubs.  
I shall be failing in my



The richness of our soil and the hand work of our rural youth have resulted in the thousands of the maize plants above.

better than it did last year.

The Accounts Department, which is the most important department in the League, is being streamlined to cater for

monies from the sale of farm produce, issue receipts to customers and make necessary entries on the Farm Cash Book before paying such monies to the Regional Office for transmission to the Bank.

The committee must ensure that its work is not handicapped by shortages or misappropriations and must energetically supplement the efforts of the settlers themselves, by way of exhibitions of farm produce, leisure activities like handicrafts etc.

The committee must keep in close touch with the settlers and from personal observation, must know the general behaviour and activities of each settler and be ready with encouragement and advice.

It is essential that the committee meets regularly to deal with cases that will soil the good name of the settlement concerned.

It is also useful to co-opt two or three persons in the area whose specialised knowledge, experience and interest will enable the committee to be more effective in advising and helping the development of the activities in the farm.

The success of a farm depends on wise, sympathetic, strict and far-seeing management.

The functions of a Farm Committee are:—

farm to promote maximum productivity.  
(d) to arrange for the provision of adequate facilities for the welfare and health needs of Settlers on the advice of the Senior Welfare Officer through his regional representatives.

(e) the organisation of Ideological education classes for Settlers on the advice of the Ideological and Liaison Officer in Headquarters through his regional representatives of the Party Education Secretary in the Region.

(f) the organisation of literacy classes (including women's work) for illiterate settlers in the farm.

(g) the assessment of individual Settlers activities including general behaviour, etc. and keeping of accurate records on same

(h) to keep accurate accounts on all financial transactions in the farms.

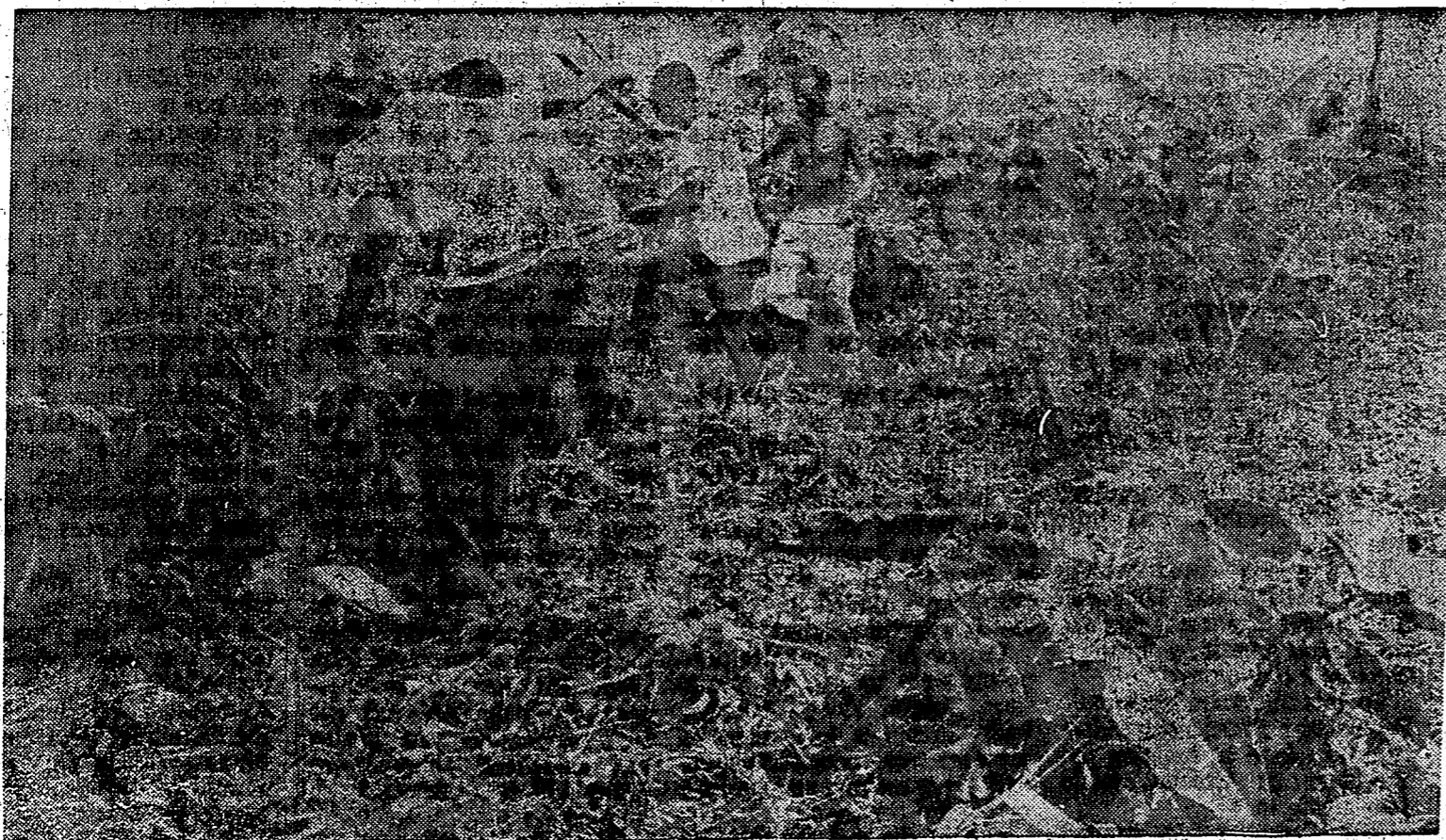
The committee should comprise of:

- A Farm Leader
- A Secretary
- A Treasurer
- Two ordinary members (males)
- Two ordinary members (fe-

duty if I do not mention a gesture made to the League by an expatriate who can aptly be described as a good Samaritan — Mr. Hotado, popularly known as Langa Langa, a merchant who, after having stayed in the country and at Tamale for 40 years, before leaving Ghana presented to the League through the Ministry of Agriculture the largest kapok and mango plantation in the country free of charge.

Although Mr. Hotado is not in the country at this time, he can assure him and members of his family who are still in Ghana that the League will hold aloft the banner of our great Party and that this gift will be treasured and maintained properly. I shall seek the approval of my Minister to name the farm after this progressive merchant. The farm, which has also got buildings erected by the same merchant, will be developed as a first class settlement farm this year.

The League, apart from being a young organisation, is dealing with youth, which in itself is a difficult task.  
What is needed is co-operation and support from all sections of our people. I can assure the people of Ghana that the young farmers will never fail the Party and Government.



Young Farmers seriously working on one of the farms.

# MUNICH AND AFTER

... story of the behaviour of the British ruling-class and Government in its relations with Germany and the U.S.S.R. in the period from the middle of 1938—straddling the start of the Second World War in September, 1938—May, 1940, illustrates very clearly the true nature of imperialism and should be as interesting to Africans, who have had to deal with imperialism for over a century, and have still to deal with its "last stage", Neo-colonialism as it is to Europeans.

The story has four "highlights": the Munich agreement of September, 1938, the Moscow negotiations of the summer of 1939, the "Phony War" of September, 1939, to May, 1940 and the First Finnish-Soviet War of November, 1939 to March, 1940.

Before I come to the first of the incidents, I must look shortly at the history of Europe in the years preceding it.

From about 1929, there was a long and profound slump in capitalist Europe and the U.S.A., which brought every capitalist country into deep crisis and reduced their workers to misery, starvation and despair.

## SLUMP

The slump and the crisis were particularly acute in Germany. The German ruling-class—ruthless, highly concentrated, and frightened of its three powerful opponents, the Communist Party, the Social Democratic Party and the trade unions—saw that it could not maintain itself in power if those opponents were allowed to keep their freedom of organisations, assemblies, printing, publishing and voting.

It realised that it must either lose its power or resort to open terrorist dictatorship. As any ruling-class would do in such circumstances, it decided on the latter course.

It picked a half-mad demagogue called Hitler as a "front", and moved straight into Fascism (called in Germany "Nazism"). It was the second major country to do so, the first having been Italy.

By 1933, Hitler was installed in power under this ruling-class, the three working-class forces mentioned above were destroyed, and a demagogic success was achieved by "curing" unemployment; this was done by carrying out vast public works—at miserable wages and conditions, but naturally preferable to starvation in idleness.

These works were all part of the preparation for aggressive war (for the colossal pro-

fit of the ruling-class). For the moment the Fascist domination was secure.

What was the reaction of the major non-Fascist European countries, and in particular in Britain?

It would be wrong to think of the British ruling-class as honestly opposed to the advancement of Fascism; this ruling-class with its particularly narrow and bigoted government was primarily interested in fighting against its own workers, seeking to break their industrial strength.

## THE SPOILS

It was also busy fighting or preparing to fight other ruling classes for the spoils of colonialism, and even more in struggling to thwart and weaken the U.S.S.R. and to destroy those Communist and other elements in its own population which supported the U.S.S.R. and aimed to secure greater strength for their own working-class.

The British ruling-class was also greatly affected by the slump. It feared the same three progressive forces. It could not be as openly ruthless as the German ruling-class, and certainly could not resort to dictatorship; it indeed felt confident that it could maintain power without any such drastic measure.

Without actually daring to welcome German Fascism openly, it used its great influence with the press and other channels of publicity to persuade the public not to be alarmed by it.

Secretly, of course, it was delighted with Fascism; not only did Fascism suppress forces which in itself would have liked to suppress, but—far more—it saw in the Nazis a force which would be built up into a formidable enemy of the U.S.S.R., and could be brought to make war against that Socialist State.

Still, one may wonder why it did not fear that the new aggressive dictatorship would make war against Britain. It certainly did not want to entertain any such fear, still less to have to act on it, for it wanted to encourage the Nazis, to build up their strength, and to use them against the U.S.S.R. and to those ends it did all it could, with considerable success, to quieten and fool public opinion.

But ought not some force to have stopped it, and have made the public realise the true position?

What of the three working class forces? I can take the Social-Democrats in Britain (called the Labour Party) and the trade unions together for

they were very closely associated.

The truth about them was that their leaders were so anti-Soviet and so anti-Communist that they were easily bamboozled and were extremely reluctant to take any steps that would be in line with what the U.S.S.R. and the Communists generally wanted.

They were, moreover, so instinctively afraid of what that they would adopt any policy that seemed to avert war for a moment even if it made it more certain and more terrible in the near future.

The only other working-class organisation was the Communist Party. It could see the position clearly enough, but it was so small that it could not influence public opinion to any significant extent.

There were, of course, a few people in the Labour Party itself who saw the danger, and spoke and wrote of it, and tried to rally public opinion.

I was prominent among them, and I was a member of the Executive Committee of the Party. They dealt with me quite simply by finding a pretext to expel me from the Party.

There was one interesting exception to this general support of our acquiescence in Nazism, namely Winston Churchill.

## BITTERLY HOSTILE

He was, of course, bitterly hostile to the working-class and to the Soviet Union (in the later stages of the Second World War he risked prolonging and even losing the war by his many manoeuvres to alter its strategy in the effort to achieve a victory which would leave the U.S.S.R. too weak to have any influence on post-war developments).

But he was at the same time passionately devoted to the maintenance of the military strength of the British Empire, and was less ready than the rest of his class to sacrifice everything to its class interest.

He was thus more willing to face the military danger of an aggressive and Fascist Germany, and was determined if he could to make the government stand up to the Nazis, and even to go to war if necessary.

In the recent adulation of him, in Britain, it is difficult to remember that for many long years the ruling-class and its political weapon, the Tory Party, did all they could, in Parliament and outside, to destroy him as a political force.

They even kept him out of all office for many years and

he only came back into office after the war began.

That was the setting in which there came the first of the episodes which I have to describe, the "Munich agreement".

By the summer of 1938, Hitler had already seized and taken over Austria and was demanding various other territories from several European states.

The British Government did not protest, excusing itself by saying that if it made any resistance Hitler would go to war against it.

## SUPINE

In fact, he was not then nearly strong enough to do so, but each new surrender to him made him a little stronger, and the net result of the supine attitude of the British Government was to convince him that it would never stand up to him or fight him, so that he could continue to do as he liked.

The British Government he noted, at this time, and even much later, was even negotiating to "give" him some colonies.

The grim story of Munich, which takes its name from the town in which the sordid story of bluff, blackmail, and cowardice-plus-complicity played out its final act, started in the summer of 1938, and ended on the 30th September of the same year.

It turned primarily on Sudetenland, the Western region of Czechoslovakia which was inhabited by people of German race and language who had never in history belonged to any German state (except Austria).

It was strategically of vital importance to the defence of Czechoslovakia against attack from the West.

Agitation, provoked by Sudeten Fascists with encouragement from Hitler, and greatly helped by a British politician, Runciman, (sent out there ostensibly as an adviser and reconciliator) had been carried on for some months demanding some form of "home rule" for Sudetenland (but, oddly enough, not its incorporation in Germany).

Czechoslovakian territory was the subject of a guarantee given jointly by the U.S.S.R. and France.

## IN EUROPE

Hitler began by a demand for the transfer of Sudetenland to Germany, describing this—as he described every such demand—as "his last territorial demand in Europe" (the words "in Europe" being inserted in order to maintain his demand for colonies to be given to him by Britain and France).

There was good deal of opposition to this demand in England, but the government headed by Chamberlain, which had already convinced Hitler that it would never stand up to him, was once again in a mood to take everything lying down.

Chamberlain paid several visits in quick succession to Hitler in Germany, being blackmailed a little more fiercely each time, and the matter came to a climax in the meeting at Munich, attended by the Italians, the British, the French and Hitler.

The Czechoslovaks were allowed to go to Munich not to attend the meeting but to wait in an ante-room whilst the fate of their country was decided, and then to be ordered to surrender.

The agenda was very simple; Hitler said: Give me Sudetenland at once; if you do not, I shall take it by force of arms in a day or two.

To this infamous blackmail, Britain and France surrendered, and joined in bullying the President of Czechoslovakia into giving in.

The Czechoslovaks wanted to fight, and the U.S.S.R.

offered to intervene and fight with and for them, notwithstanding the French defection.

Had they fought, Hitler would have been defeated, and the Second World War would probably have been averted; but the last thing that the British and French wanted was that the U.S.S.R. should increase its prestige in Europe by helping to halt Fascism.

They accordingly forced Czechoslovakia to give in there and then.

Hitler thus got Sudetenland without a blow not only rendering Czechoslovakia indefensible, but also making it almost mathematically certain that he would take the whole of the country within six months (as he in fact did), thereby adding enormously to his war potential and equipment for the Second World War which he was to start less than twelve months after Munich.

It was a minor incident of Munich that the British Government joined in guaranteeing what was left of Czechoslovakia. When the time came to fulfil this guarantee six months later, it produced a cheap lawyer's excuse for refusing to do so.

## MOSCOW TALKS

The next episode was the "Moscow negotiations", which followed on the seizure of the whole of Czechoslovakia by Hitler on March 15, 1939.

By now, it was clear to everyone that the danger of a Second World War was both very great and very urgent, and the U.S.S.R., which had understood the dangers of Fascism from the start, and even broken into its current Five-Year Plan to increase its steel production to meet the invasion of its territories by Hitler, took steps to try to rally opposition against Hitler.

It saw clearly that nothing but force or a clearly genuine and immediate threat of force would stop Hitler. On March 18th, it proposed that Britain, France, Rumania, Turkey and itself should hold a conference to consider how his aggression might be halted.

It did not suggest the inclusion of Poland, presumably because the Fascist rulers of that country—obviously Hitler's next victim—were so bitterly hostile to the U.S.S.R. that they would never allow any Soviet troops on their territory, not even to defend Poland even after it had been invaded.

In this attitude the Polish Government was supported by the British right up to the actual invasion, although Poland was so weak that Hitler destroyed it militarily speaking in ten days.

How did Britain react to this proposal, which showed at least a possible way out of war, and a possible way of halting Hitler?

## GUARANTEES

All it had done up to then was to give a unilateral guarantee to Poland—a guarantee which it plainly could not fulfil unless it could both make an agreement with the U.S.S.R. and persuade the Poles to accept the help of Soviet troops if it were attacked.

It is now known that all through that terrible summer the British Government went on supporting the Polish refusal.

It is sadly true that the British ruling class and government were still so blindly anti-Soviet, and to a great extent so blindly pro-Fascist, that they answered this one ray of hope for an honourable peace in Europe, at a time when every day counted, by saying that it was "premature"!

Proposals and counter-proposals went to and fro for a time, Britain always hanging back, taking a long time to answer any communication, and never making any positive or helpful proposals.

But in the end the growing danger and the increasing

pressure of public opinion, strengthened by the growing danger of Hitler's increasing demands on Poland and his savage Press propaganda against it, forced Britain and France to agree to send delegates to Moscow to negotiate as to the steps to be taken to halt aggression and prevent war.

This was about July. Even that did not mean that Britain's obsessed government was at last going to look after the true interests of Britain—and of the world as against the narrow class interests of itself and the Nazis.

On the contrary, as can now be clearly seen, the British Government was never serious, and its participation in the discussions was a sham.

It sent a quite unimportant group of people, not including any Ministers, as delegates.

It gave them no credentials and no defined authority; it sent them not by air but by a slow boat, so that they actually took ten days to get from London to Moscow, at a time of the most terrible urgency.

When the negotiations actually started, it moved as slowly as it could. It is now known that, all the time it was pretending to negotiate in Moscow, it was also negotiating with Hitler and was offering—as we forced it to admit in Parliament—to lend him £1,000,000,000.

It knew moreover, that Hitler was trying all the time to reach some kind of agreement with the U.S.S.R.

The upshot of all this was that, in August, the U.S.S.R., finally and irrevocably convinced that the British did not seriously intend to make an agreement to resist Hitler, and rightly apprehensive lest it might at any moment be confronted by a British-German combination against it, or at the least by a clear "free hand" given by the British to Hitler to attack it (and in the first instance Poland) without any opposition from Britain, did what it could to avert the danger to itself by making a non-aggression pact with Hitler, which it estimated would deter him from attacking it for about two years.

In the event, his attack came in three months less than two years.

## SAVAGE ATTACK

The British then launched a savage propaganda attack on the U.S.S.R. for "betraying" Britain—as if the U.S.S.R. owed some duty of fealty, to a country which had always been hostile to it and had been helping and building up Hitler against it!

The next important event was the invasion and conquest of Poland by Hitler. Because of the guarantee it had given to Poland, Britain had to declare war, but it was of course totally incapable of giving any help to Poland in time.

France, too, had to declare war, although she delayed for some days, for her ruling class was even more closely linked to Hitler than the British.

It might have been thought that, at long last, now that it was actually at war against Hitler, the British Government would take the war seriously, and fight it.

If Britain and France had immediately attacked Hitler from the West when his best troops were tied up in Poland, the results might have been important.

But nothing of the sort happened: what followed was some eight months of what was called rightly "Phony War", in the midst of which came the strange and revealing episode of the first Finnish-Soviet War.

The "phony war" can be described quite briefly. From the outbreak of war until May, 1940, Britain and France—apart from dealing with Hitler's submarine war against out merchant shipping—sat down and in substance did nothing.

When the "phony war" was brought to an end, it was not



Prof. D. N. Pritt

the British but Hitler who ended it, by his tremendous invasions of France, Holland, Belgium, and other countries. The war then indeed became a real one, in which we had to fight for our lives.

The Finnish-Soviet War, from November, 1939, to March, 1940, was one which—looked at technically and narrowly—had nothing to do with Britain.

But it was, in fact, so strongly supported by the British and French, with materials and ships and men, that it gave the impression that they had forgotten that they were at war with Germany, and were proposing to launch a war against the U.S.S.R.

## MANNERHEIM

How did this war arise? What happened after it arose is more important than how it arose; but one cannot understand the one without understanding the other.

Finland, anti-Soviet and ruled by a bitterly reactionary ex-Tsarist General called Mannerheim, was so situated geographically that Germany or anyone else who could occupy a short stretch of its coast could completely blockade Leningrad, leaving the U.S.S.R. with no ports between the White Sea and the Black Sea, and that big guns could shell the important munition works in Leningrad from Finnish territory.

The U.S.S.R. in the circumstances, asked the Finns for the temporary cession of part of Finnish territory both inland and coastal, to protect itself from these dangers, which could of course be made real and urgent not only by the Finns but by any other country that chose to use Finnish territory, with or without Finnish permission.

The Finns were urged and encouraged by the British, and to some extent by the French and the Americans, to resist these demands.

They had a very formidable defence line named after Mannerheim in front of Helsinki which had been built for them jointly not very long before by the British and the Germans.

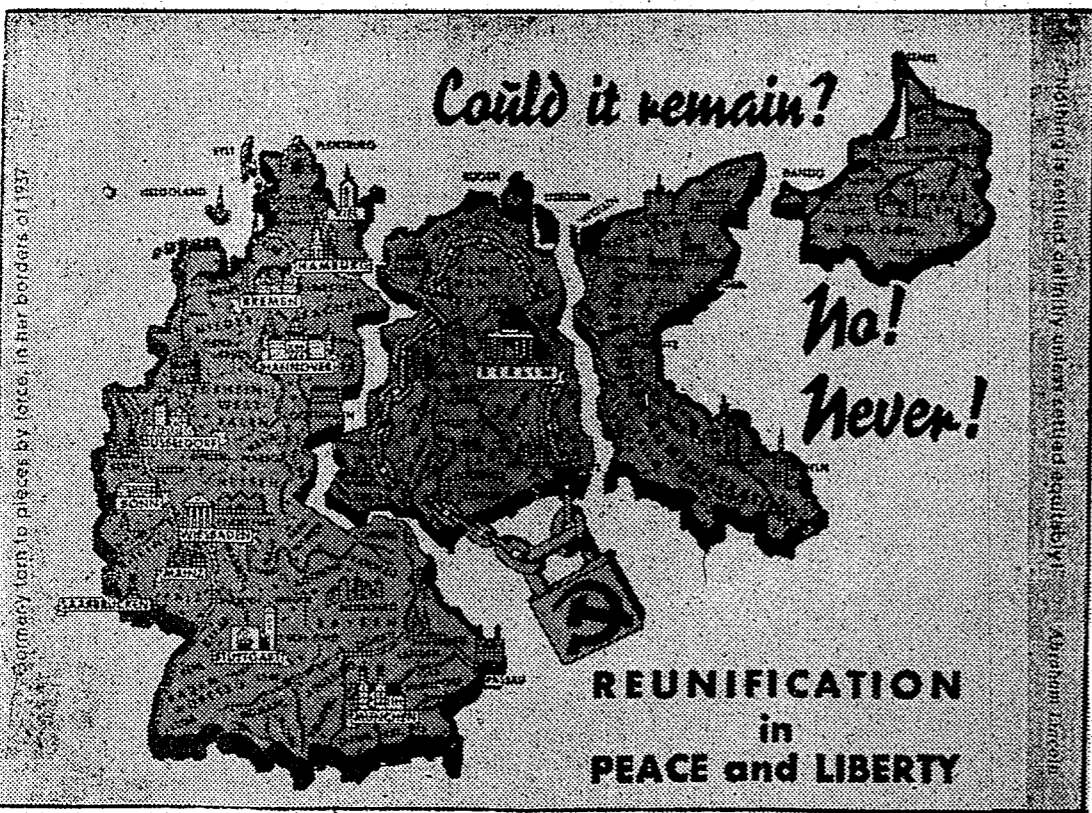
The British and the French, although they were not too well supplied with war material, not merely urged Finland to refuse the Soviet proposals but promised that, if she resisted and a war started, they would send an expedition of 100,000 men to fight side by side with the Finns against the U.S.S.R.

The British, in fact, sent them most of their first-class military aircraft, as a result of which, when the "phony war" ended and Hitler attacked France, they were almost without good planes.

What happened to the proposed land forces I will say in a moment.

The U.S.S.R. after waiting most of November, 1939 in the hope that the Finns would make some concession, whilst the British and French and Americans, to the delight of the Germans, were urging the Finns to make no concession at all; finally went to war on November 30th.

Continued on page 6



This postcard published in the West German city of Munich and circulated in many parts of the world, including Africa, provides vivid evidence of Bonn's desire to restore the frontiers of Hitler's Germany of 1937. By reunification in peace and liberty Bonn means the annexation of the German Democratic Republic and the seizure of territory which, under the terms of the post-war Potsdam Agreement became part of Poland and the U.S.S.R. Such claims coupled with Bonn's attempts to get a finger on the nuclear trigger, constitute a threat to peace.

SAYS SOVIET SCIENTIST—

# 'Moon's surface is firm; it is possible to land on it'

**THE "soft" landing on the Moon of the Soviet space ship, Luna IX, and the pictures and other information about the Moon's surface which it relayed back to Earth mark the opening of a new era—the era of man's actual exploitation of the planets.**

There can be no doubt that the success of Luna IX marks a major step towards the day when man himself will set foot on the Moon.

"The landing of Luna IX on the Moon marked the next step in the programme for the landing of spacemen on the Moon," says Dmitri Shchegolev, a Soviet scientist now visiting Ghana.

An astronomer, Dmitri Shchegolev plays a key part in the Soviet space programme as head of the Tracking Division at one of the Soviet Union's leading observatories at Pulkovo, near Leningrad.

"Before man can land on

the Moon, it was first of all necessary to find out about the structure of the surface of the Moon, to find out whether it was indeed possible to land and move about on it," said Mr. Shchegolev.

"There was a theory that the Moon was covered with a thick layer of fine dust, in which a spaceman would inevitably sink," he went on. "Observation of the Moon from Earth or even from automatic inter-planetary stations could not provide the answer to this question.

"Now we know the answer: the surface of the Moon is firm, and it is possible to land on it. The programme for the exploration of the Moon will continue in accordance with

*In an interview, Soviet astronomer DMITRI SHCHEGOLEV, in Ghana on a lecture tour discusses the significance of successful landing of a Soviet space vehicle on the Moon.*

this data," he said.

But, he continued, the exploration of the Moon represents only a small part of the programme for the exploration of space.

At the end of this month, he pointed out, we may expect reports from the "Venus 2" and "Venus 3" rockets which are now approaching the planet Venus.

**OBSERVATORIES**

Also, "new launchings of weather, physical and communications satellites, the establishment of manned orbital observatories and many other undertakings are on the way," he declared.

Mr. Shchegolev, who is himself only 38, underlined that the success of the Soviet Union in space research—and also its successes in other fields of science—are above all the result of the successes which have been achieved in education.

"A widely developed network of free-state schools, institutes and universities has made it possible for everyone to get an education in accordance with their abilities, and has brought to light and developed a great number of gifted engineers, research workers and scientists.

"They, in their turn, have been able to apply their knowledge in practice on the basis of a rapidly and purposefully

developing industry and technology.

All this," Mr. Shchegolev underlined, "became possible only after the October Revolution has put my country on the Socialist road of development."

Before the October Revolution of 1917, the Russia of the Tsars was in many respects what would today be called an "under-developed" country.

It had few industries—and those which it had were in many cases foreign-owned. The overwhelming majority of its people were illiterate, and a bureaucratic and hide-bound autocracy ignored or treated with contempt the work of men like Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, now hailed as the father of space flight.

Today, a bare fifty years later, thanks above all to the heroic efforts of its people who in 1917 resolved to take the Socialist road, the Soviet

Union is blazing the trail into space.

It is one of the world's foremost industrial powers, and leads the world in many key branches of science and technology; it is each year training more engineers and scientists than any other country in the world.

Some take the view that when many problems on Earth still remain unsolved, it is a waste of money to spend enormous sums on space research which, it is sometimes claimed, has no practical value.

Mr. Shchegolev vigorously rejects this view, emphasising that Sputniks are above all intended to help solve practical problems which it would be difficult or even impossible to solve by any other way.

**ADVANCE TV**

"Take, for example, the relaying of television programmes," he said. "At present the only people who can use T.V. sets are those who live close to T.V. stations.

"But the development of T.V. satellites—the further development of the existing Soviet 'Molniya' and the American 'Early Bird' series—will make it possible to make T.V. accessible to the whole world, and bring knowledge and culture to the most remote village."

He went on to point out that weather, navigational and geophysical Sputniks have a no less practical significance—that is why, for example, the Soviet Union has launched 106 'Kosmos' Sputniks which study the Earth's atmosphere, but only nine in the 'Luna' series.

**RESEARCH**

"The work is being conducted," he underlined, "not under the sporting slogan of a 'race to the Moon', but in accordance with a purposeful research plan.

"Incidentally," he added, "the exploration of the Moon will also give mankind not only 'pure' knowledge. It will be of practical value too.

"The Moon can become a convenient relay station and observatory, and even possibly a source of rare and precious minerals.

"Of course, in the early stages of research it is necessary to spend more than you get back—but this is an unavoidable feature of any development," said Mr. Shchegolev.

During his two-week stay in Ghana, Mr. Shchegolev is to lecture at the Ghana Academy of Sciences, at the University of Ghana, as well as at Cape Coast and Kumasi, in secondary schools and to the Young Pioneers.

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# V.C. 10 PURCHASE

# MUNICH AND AFTER

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1965, consisted of fifteen aircraft: 4 VC-3s, 3 Vickers Viscounts, 4 Mystère IIBs and 2 VC-10s compares satisfactorily with those for other comparable air lines.

But the same statement makes it clear that the figures for the VC-10s are in fact less satisfactory than those for the fleet as a whole.

While the revenue load factor for the fleet as a whole was 42.6 per cent, that for the VC-10s was only 31.9 per cent.

In other words, the two VC-10s are not being utilised to the full, or even to the level of the other aircraft in the fleet.

We have no wish to belittle the immense efforts that Ghana Airways management and staff are making; we realise that this situation is in some measure due to factors beyond

their control. But the hard economic fact remains: third VC-10 will not pay its way. It will merely constitute a burden on the air-line's resources and a break on its development in more profitable directions.

It will also constitute a serious drain on the country's foreign currency sources at a time when it is vital that these resources should be carefully husbanded.

Ghana Airways has already had an instructive experience regarding the serious consequences which can flow from ill-considered purchases of too many aircraft too soon.

The Second Report of the Public Accounts Committee of the National Assembly published in November, 1964, recalls how the air line bought eight Ilyushin air liners which made a loss which the Committee estimated at

almost £870,000 a year. This was not because the aircraft were inefficient (though some, ever ready to make anti-Socialist propaganda, claimed that this was the case).

It was because, as the Committee put it, "the average number of passengers per flight was 114 out of a seating capacity of 78."

It seemed obvious to your Committee, the Report went on, "that at least four of the Ilyushins were redundant and we felt that, if possible arrangements should be made for these to be returned."

Thanks to the understanding shown by the Soviet authorities, agreement was reached on the return of four of the Ilyushins and substantial losses averted.

There is a risk that a similar mistake may now be made in relation to VC-10s—but this time it is unlikely that the supplier will

prove so understanding. The aircraft industry of the major capitalist countries is Big Business—very Big Business indeed. It uses every kind of high-pressure sales technique.

Reports of cent deals have clearly hinted at the use of bribes, both open and disguised, as a means of winning friends and influencing customers, while men have become rich almost overnight from commission on sales.

The aircraft market is a jungle, and he who ventures into it needs a clear head, unclouded by any considerations other than the real interests of his air line and his country.

These considerations clearly point to the conclusion that the purchase of a third VC-10 at this time is unnecessary and economically unjustifiable, and would run counter to the best interests of Ghana Airways and Ghana itself.

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There then followed in Britain a most fantastic propaganda campaign of abuse against the U.S.S.R. in which that country was not only branded as an aggressor—a word scarcely used so far against Hitler—but its troops, destined in the next five years to extricate Britain from its difficulties by unparalleled feats of courage, skill, and endurance, were described as incompetent and ill-equipped cowards, who would easily be defeated by the Finns.

It was arranged, as I have mentioned, to send a joint expedition to Finland in the following spring to help the Finns to defeat the Soviet Forces.

What might have happened if Britain and France had actually sent those troops to Finland shortly before Hitler started his formidable Western invasions is not pleasant to contemplate.

To our great good fortune the supposedly "incompetent" Soviet troops, in terribly cold weather, cut through the supposedly impregnable Mannerheim line in three or four days, and the Finns sued for peace.

The British, true to their falsity, spent some time trying to force the Finns to continue the struggle—as one critic put it, "the European sharks will fight to the last Finn" promising them copious military and other aid if they would do so.

But the Finns were not prepared to bleed to death, and the war was over. The whole episode, including this last effort actually to prolong the war, and with it the danger of the British being caught by an attack by Hitler when their troops were tied up in Finland, is one more striking illustration of the length to which a ruling-class will go in imperilling a whole nation to serve its own narrow class interests.

To study the following five years of the war would teach us a great many more lessons; but the story as I have related it gives us quite enough.

One of the main lessons, especially for Africans, is that the enemies of the working class in the so-called "developed" countries, the imperialists, colonialists, and neo-colonialists, are equally the enemies of the African peoples. They exploit their own workers for profit, and fight

them for power when the workers develop strength to resist.

They exploited the Africans for super-profit, and fought against them when they too developed strength enough to fight for their own liberation.

Now they exploit them indirectly and seek to dominate them and draw profit from them by the operation of neo-colonialism.

They in many countries resorted to Fascism when they could no longer fight their workers in any other way.

When they did not need themselves to resort to Fascism, they encouraged endless hostility against the Socialist world, and above all against the U.S.S.R.

That brings for all of us one particular and direct lesson, that we should never be led into accepting anti-Soviet stories, or even into talking or thinking or acting in any anti-Soviet fashion.

That is what these hereditary enemies of ours and yours want us to do, and we must not play their game. We must fight these enemies, everyday and every night, and not fight our friends.

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