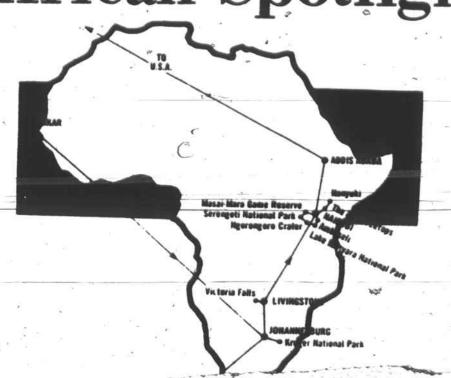
African Spotlight



Ethiopia - The Passing of Amother Ruler!

The recent overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia by a group of Army officers marks yet another stage in the forceful removal from office of an African ruler. This type of change is familiar now in Africa where many countries have military dictatorship as their government.

The ripples of the events in Ethiopia have sent some waves of concern to many countries of Africa where one man has been in power too long. One of the many reasons for Emperor Haile Selassie's overthrow is said to be that he has occupied the throne of Ethiopia too long - over 50 years. Some people believe that he has stayed too close with the problems of Ethiopia that he no longer recognized them as problems. Many say that he would have retired ten years ago and that in 20 years time Ethiopia may be one of the progressive countries in Africa but that today Ethiopia is 20 years behind when African countries in terms of progress and achievement.

The question is, do the soldiers have a better answer? From the records of other countries where soldiers are in charge, the prospect is not very bright. Soldiers seem to lack the kind of experience necessary effective administration of young and developing nations. Even when some of them seem to be sincere and willing to bring about some good changes, they soon fall into the same trap that caught the politicians they overthrewmoney and wealth. To maintain their hold to power they soon found that they most rely heavily on people from their own ethnic group and by the time they knew it, their mamas and papas are running the country. Then comes

the cry of tribalism.

Since the press is often the most vocal in pointing out the shortcomings of military dictatorship, the press is often the first to suffer in such a situation. With a controlled press,

all the makings of dictatorship is born. Removed from the thinking of the masses, a military ruler becomes isolated and the football of those that feed his ego with false news and incomplete information of the many events taking place in the country.

The prospect of stability in Ethiopia is very dim. Emperor Haile Selassie is a pro in the art of mass organization. In his more than 50 years rule he has enough followers who will probably stage a violent protest on his behalf. Ethiopia contains enough ethnic groups to make appeal on ethnic line a catching and sympathetic war cry. Alive or dead, the Emperor is a serious problem for the military that overthrew him.

Should the old man die in detention, the people of Ethiopia will probably assume that their ruler, who, weeks ago was considered by many in Ethiopia a god, is murdered. As a martyr, he will probably provide a rallying point for those in that compared with many other country that will like to settle some old animosity. Alive, allegiance to the soldiers will probably be minimal since some Ethiopians will probably feel that the old man will sooner or later make his usual come back. To side with the army now will be to suffer later.

The overthrow of the Emperor will probably not answer Ethiopia's many social and domestic problems. Honeymoon has a way of lasting too short and the ills that face a nation surface again when promises of quick result do not materialize. In such a situation, the people often ask, why go out to look for another devil instead of living with the devil they know since all the devils are the same?

At the present time, no one leader has emerged in Ethiopia to take the reigns of power. In the event that this vacuum remains unfilled, the chances are that the people of Ethiopia will neither solve their many problems nor have a government to make the necessary decisions for change.

Student In African Trip

WINSTON-SALEM CHRONICLE

GREENSBORO, N.C. - After a five-month stay in Africa, A & T State University student Ronald Penny returns still attune to the latest soul music and dances.

Penny, a senior Economics major, spent the last five months working, learning, and socializing in Accra, Ghana, a metropolitan area of about a million people.

Along with the soul music of the U.S., Ghanians also listen to their

and highlife.

Penny was sent to Africa under the African Interns Program which is administered by the Agency for International-Development, a state Department Agency which administers aid to less developed countries. The purpose of AID is "to recruit and train young black economists in developmental Economics."

Penny's job was economic researcher for the Science Education Program, an Inter-African Organization. He received the salary of a government employee with the status of GS-4.

Other schools such as Hampton, Florida A & M, Spellman, Jackson State, and Clark College participated in the program, sending students to places such as Kenya, Zair, and Senegal.

All of the representatives came first to A & T for an orientation course which lasted for a month. From here they went to Washington, D.C. for further training and to receive their country assignment. While in Africa, Penny visited Toka and Upper Volta.

Penny's reaction to Africa was, "I was impressed by the people and the entire environment. I was treated very well and accepted immediately."

He expressed regret and disappointment with the treatment of foreign students here at A & T. "It was totally different there," he says.

Penny plans to return to Ghana after graduation to pursue a Master's Degree in Economic Development. He advises others who have the chance to definitely go, "It's a real experience."

Pest

Continued From Page 3

broad-leaved weeds. However, it is poisonous to both birds and mammals, and can remain in the soil for years or run off to contaminate water or other soils. Dandelions and plantain can be pulled by hand; high-mowing controls crabgrass by allowing the desirable grasses to crowd it out.

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