



## Our Editorial on Nigeria

### “VERY GOOD”

IN YOUR EDITORIAL NOTE *Reflections on Nigeria* (AFRICAN COMMUNIST, No. 24) you wrote that you were prepared to suspend judgment on the military government until the new constitution comes out. I enclose an attempted social and economic analysis which might interest you for publication.\* However, I think the rest of the Editorial was very good. I am translating the Editorial into Hausa and will pass copies of it around for people to read. In your publication there are a few articles which I feel I can translate into readable Hausa and which will make some impact if circulated widely.

YUSIFU USMAN,  
Katsina, Nigeria.

### “MOST UNFORTUNATE”

In the recent issue of your magazine THE AFRICAN COMMUNIST number 24, First Quarter 1966, the following occurred under your editorial note *Reflections on Nigeria*:

General Ironsi has announced that he and his colleagues are preparing a new constitution. Most Nigerians will doubtless feel that whatever emerges from these deliberations, it can hardly be worse than what went before. Like them, we are prepared to suspend judgment until we see what is proposed, although the first announcement he made, there reassuring foreign capitalists that there would be no nationalization of industry, hardly gives the impression that the Sandhurst-trained Nigerian military men have any deep understanding of political affairs, or are inspired with the patriotic, socialist spirit of the African Revolution. And why should we expect them to be?

\* See page 58 of this issue.—Editor.

It is most unfortunate that you can write in this vein knowing fully well that a preponderating majority of the people of Nigeria gave and still give full support to the Army because Nigerians know that these men were imbued with patriotic zeal when the reins of government were handed over to them in January, 1966.

It is time we tell you to stop all the meaningless doctrines you have always been instigated to write about Nigeria and her leadership. Those who gave you the impression know very well in their heart of hearts that the activities of the military men have met with acclamation because we Nigerians know that they are men with understanding and patriotism.

Do you want them to plunge Nigeria into the same pit into which your darling Dr. Kwame Nkrumah plunged Ghana before his deposition? Do you want Nigeria to drive away genuine investors just as Nkrumah did only to find to his regret that your people, Russians and Chinese, were interested only in ideological warfare and not the development and welfare of Ghanaians? When Ghana had no milk, when Ghana had no matches, your people did not help her, rather your people were planning how they can get themselves entrenched in Ghana only for the purpose of propagation of communist ideology.

Please leave the Nigerian military men alone, whether they were trained in Sandhurst or not does not matter. They are doing fine work in our own country and they have the support of all patriotic Nigerians.

Yours faithfully,

ALHAJI H. P. ADEBOLA

President,

United Labour Congress of Nigeria.

## **SOL DUBULA'S ARTICLES**

The articles that appeared consecutively in the *African Communist*, by Sol Dubula, are not only of continental importance, but also of world significance. They will undoubtedly clear up the foggy political atmosphere in which the P.A.C., since its breakaway from the A.N.C., managed to hide its demagogic opportunism, characterized by the political bankruptcy of the worst type.

The lucky are those of us, who have come across the articles in the *African Communist*. We are now put in a position where we shall not only be able to know the truth about P.A.C., but shall be able to put it in its right place—the political scrap-yard.

Most unlucky are those who deserve to read these articles but through no fault of theirs or that of the publishers, will not be able to see them. I have in mind, among others, the people of the country like Bechuanaland (my country), where the *African Communist* is one of the banned publications.

These are the most essential type of writings that the new generation of Africa need for the solution of the continental problems facing them, because the articles give the youth the how and why of things; thanks to the papers like the *African Communist*, which are making this possible, by advancing to the front line as a true guide out of the present continental political labyrinth.

Wishing you good health and all the success in all your true writings for the mental emancipation of mankind.

Yours fraternally,

KLAAS K. MOTSHIDISI.

### **A READER IN ZAMBIA**

I am very grateful to you that despite all the odds you have kept on sending me those educative magazines—the *African Communist*. May I again take this opportunity to thank you and all the members of the Editorial Board for the splendid work you are doing. Keep up the work. Victory is on our side. Long live the South African Communist Party! Yours in the struggle for the liberation of Mother Africa.

P. CHAMUNDA.

### **RAJANI PALME DUTT IS SEVENTY**

DEAR COMRADE DUTT,

The Editorial Board of the *African Communist* sends you warm brotherly greetings on your seventieth birthday.

We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge that our journal and our Party are deeply beholden to you. And this is not only because of the valuable contributions you have made to our columns—and we hope you will continue, from time to time, to make.

It is also because your theoretical work—we may mention particularly *India Today* and *The Crisis of Britain and the Empire*—have helped us in very important ways to clarify our thinking; and because for very many years your Notes of the Month and the general tone and style of the *Labour Monthly* have set a standard of original and profound Marxist analysis and literary excellence for all Communist publicists, especially in the English-speaking world.

We know that advancing years have occasioned your retirement from the centre of political activity—another very good example, we think, for Communist and other elder statesmen. But we hope that for a long time still your wisdom and mature experience will continue to enrich our movement.

Very sincerely yours,

A. LERUMO,  
Editorial Board,  
*African Communist*.

DEAR COMRADE LERUMO,

Permit me to thank you and all comrades of the Editorial Board of the *African Communist*, for your generous message of greetings and good wishes on the occasion of my seventieth birthday.

You can be sure that it is a source of great joy and pride for me to receive these greetings and good wishes from the journal which is today performing such an outstanding vanguard role in spreading the glorious message and teachings of Communism to light forward the path of African liberation.

The work and progress of your journal is followed with growing appreciation by comrades and all fighters for national freedom all over the world.

With all good wishes for further success in the advance of your work.

Yours fraternally,

R. PALME DUTT.