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PRESS EXTRACTS

KENYA

MAY 1953

6th: Allegations that two Mau Mau suspects were murdered in cold blood by Kenya police in a remote part of the Kikuyu reserve are contained in a report submitted today to Sir Evelyn Baring, the Governor of Kenya, by an Irish lawyer, Mr. Peter Evans. The report contains sworn statements by eight Kikuyu witnesses alleging that on April 18th two prisoners were taken to a place on the N'Gong-Kijabe road, on the edge of the Rift Valley and about 25 miles north of Nairobi. It is alleged that the two prisoners were taken behind bushes by native police and in the presence of a European officer, when they refused to admit membership of the Mau Mau.....

Mr. Evans said today that this was the first of several score of incidents which he was investigating for the Kenya African Union. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

9th: The Government of Kenya today declared Mr. Peter Evans, a barrister, a prohibited immigrant and asked him to make immediate arrangements to leave the colony. TIMES

15th: The death penalty in Kenya has been extended to persons trafficking in firearms or committing any act likely to assist the operations of terrorists or impede security forces, Mr. Whyatt, the Attorney-General announced at a meeting of the Legislative Council today. TIMES

20th: "One of the things we have to deliver to the peoples of Kenya is the well-known principle of British justice. That will not be in any way tampered with". (Mr. Lyttelton, speaking to correspondents in Nairobi). MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

21st: The Kenya Government has banned the Labour Trade Union of East Africa, which claims to have a membership of nearly 2,500. TIMES

23rd: Mr. H. L. d'A Hopkinson, Minister for Colonial Affairs, stated in a written reply:

"At the inquest held on Elijah Njeru Gideon on January 30th 1953, the presiding magistrate found that the deceased had died on January 29th from shock resulting from multiple injuries inflicted by beating. It appears from the record of the inquest that the beating was carried out, under orders, by Askari, who were not called as witnesses, with a view to obtaining information as to the whereabouts of hidden firearms used by a Mau Mau gang. There was evidence of past tubercular infection which medical opinion declared to have healed and not to have affected the deceased's ability to withstand shock. There is no suggestion in the records that the fact of this previous infection was known to those who ordered the beating or those who carried it out. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

30th: The War Office announced yesterday that it had been decided to establish an East Africa Command as a separate command with direct responsibility to the War Office, and that the Queen had been pleased to approve the immediate appointment of Lieutenant-General Sir George Deskin as Commander-in-Chief, East Africa, with the temporary rank of General..... These changes will please those who have felt that the situation in Kenya demands a second General Templer to handle the military aspect of the emergency along the lines used successfully in Malaya.

TIMES

- 1st: Sir Hugh Dow, chairman of the Royal Commission on East Africa arrived in London by air last night after a 14 week tour of Uganda, Tanganyika and Kenya. The Commission's report had still to be drawn up, he said. The members had made "a wide and very general approach to the problem. We travelled many thousands of miles and talked with every section of the communities".
TIMES
- 5th: An emergency regulation will be published tomorrow amending the compulsory national service ordinance to legalize the Governor's decision to introduce the call up and registration of Asians of British nationality between the ages of 18 and 23.
TIMES
- 9th: A meeting of the Executive Council today proscribed the Kenya African Union as an unlawful society under the penal code.....
For several months the K.A.U. executive has been passing resolutions condemning violence. Last week it issued an address of loyalty to the Queen. It always claimed to be a faithful constitutional method of achieving the aim of united all Africans in East Africa and eventually of obtaining self-government. Kikuyu land claims, the abolition of racial discrimination, the expansion of social services, and increased political representation were among its main declared objectives.
TIMES
- 9th: The Acting Chief Native Commissioner, Mr. Windley, said in a broadcast to Africans today that the real organisers behind the Union were the Kikuyu - "bad kikuyu, many of whom were leaders of the illegal Kikuyu organisations proscribed in 1939.....
"The Kenya Government can never again allow such an association as the Kenya African Union. Moreover the Government cannot permit the formation of any African political society on the same lines as the Kenya African Union while there is still such trouble in this country."
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 10th: (Bombay) Mr. Murumbi, general-secretary of the Kenya African Union, which was proscribed yesterday by the Kenya Government, said today that the ban "completes the stranglehold of the British imperialists on Africans in Kenya". He said it seemed strange that the ban followed a recent request by the union for a public inquiry into "atrocities committed by Government forces of law and order".
TIMES
- 16th: An official statement issued tonight announced that the greatest successes yet achieved against the Mau Mau terrorists in Kenya were recorded last week, when a total of 125 were killed. By far the greatest number of those casualties were inflicted during "Operation Epsom" which was launched nine days ago..... "Operation Epsom" was a combined action by men of the Lancashire Fusiliers, the Devonshire Regiment, the Buffs, the Kenya Regiment, and the King's African Rifles, supported by police and large numbers of the Kikuyu home guard.
TIMES
- 29th: It is announced that the 1st Battalion the Black Watch is sailing to Kenya from Korea direct to relieve the 1st Battalion, the Lancashire Fusiliers.
TIMES

- 6th: KENYA POLICE: Required by the Government of Kenya for one tour of two years with possible extension. Commencing salary, etc. according to previous experience in scale £767 rising to £1,092 a year. Gratuity (at least £162 after two years' service) payable on satisfactory final completion of service. Outfit allowance £30. Uniform allowance £10 a year. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Candidates, aged 20-30 should be at least 5'7½" without footwear, have normal vision without glasses and be of good education. Candidates with previous United Kingdom or Colonial police experience will be considered up to 35 years of age. Advertisement in SUNDAY EXPRESS
- 6th: Nearly 10,000 Africans were rounded up and questioned by more than 1,000 troops, police and Kikuyu Home Guards, supported by a squadron of armoured cars, today in the most intensive sweep of African and Asian locations ever mounted in the Rift Valley. More than 1,000 of the Africans were taken to a special transit camp on the edge of the town for interrogation by teams of interpreters. About 300 Kikuyu men were said to have confessed to taking the Mau Mau oath under threat of death. TIMES
- 7th: In the closing stages of "Operation Buttercup" in the Fort Hall district the 39th Brigade killed 56 terrorists, wounded four and captured 17. TIMES
- 8th: His own view (Mr. Blundell) was that a solution of the problems of East Africa would be found by making themselves into a larger unit with Central Africa rather than by trying to bring about a limited East African federation. TIMES
- 8th: General Sir George Erskine made a progress report today on the result of "Operation Buttercup" which is now ended. Figures covering the period from June 23 to July 5 show the number of Mau Mau killed in the whole operational area as 241, those captured 193, security forces and other loyalists dead 28, weapons lost five, recovered 14. Included in the Mau Mau casualties are 201 killed in "Operation Buttercup" in the Fort Hall area. TIMES
- 10th: The R.A.F. announced today that in the first ten weeks of operations against the terrorists, four Harvard aircraft transferred from Bulawayo flew 183 sorties against 85 different Mau Mau targets in the Aberdare Mountains. They dropped 1,096 bombs and fired 69,000 rounds of ammunition. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 16th: Mr. Lyttelton stated in a written reply that between the beginning of the emergency in Kenya and June 30, 112,529 persons were taken into custody in connection with the disturbances. Of these 15,834 were released immediately on proving their identity, 53,300 were released after screening, 42,356 had been tried, and 1031 are on remand. Those not considered to be badly indoctrinated were restricted to their location in the reserve, where contact with the growing resistance to Mau Mau was having the desired effect. Those Mau Mau adherents who were deeply committed would pass through special rehabilitation centres before their release. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 19th: The first large-scale operation to clear up Nairobi since General Erskine assumed command began before dawn yesterday and continued today.....The operation, named "Rotencher" resulted in scores of arrests. Those detained include persons suspected of being Mau Mau officials and oath administrators. TIMES

23rd: Of 115,896 people arrested since the emergency started in October, 44,370 had been tried and the rest released after screening. During the two months ended July 15th, 8,725 had been convicted out of 9,450 tried under the emergency regulations. In the area where inhabitants were known to have helped terrorists, collective punishment had been inflicted, Mr. Potter said. In this way 6,477 cattle, 29,451 sheep and goats, and 104 bicycles had been forfeited. Of 161 schools closed, 57 had been declared redundant and 39 re-opened.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

24th: The Legislature has adopted a motion by Mr. C. G. Usher, the European member for Mombasa, that instruction in and the general use of English as a lingua franca be actively promoted by all practicable means.....

Mr. W. W. Awori, an African unofficial member, opposed the motion. He claimed that Swahili was one of the 10 most widespread languages of the world, and it was spoken throughout east Africa. The use of Swahili could not be avoided at the present as millions of Africans could not express themselves in English.
TIMES

25th: Replying to Mr. Blundell's criticisms, the Attorney-General, Mr. John Whyatt, spoke of "the torrent of criminal work pouring through the courts". In the past two months no less than ten thousand Mau Mau cases have been brought before the courts - an average of one case being disposed of every two minutes. He said the adequacy of the emergency regulations could best be judged by General Erskine who had authorized him to say he was "completely satisfied" with them. Mr. Whyatt spoke of the difficulties of getting evidence against the Mau Mau.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

25th: "The problem is one we have had since 1916. Since we brought British administration to this country, for more than 50 per cent of that time we have had reluctance by the Kikuyu to accept the benefits of law and order and our way of life, with the prosperity which can stem from it, except on their own terms". (Mr. Blundell in the Legislature) TIMES

31st: Mr. Eliud Mathu, leader of the African unofficial members in the Legislature, introduced today a motion "that in the opinion of this council the Government should leave Africans to form and operate constitutionally a colony-wide political organisation".

Now, with the Kenya African Union proscribed, it was even more necessary. Since the proscription, African members had held discussions at high level with the Government, but had never been satisfied with the explanations given for the Government announcement that no central or colony wide political organisation would be allowed to be formed or function during an emergency.....

"We think it is our democratic right in a British colony that we should be given permission and encouragement to form and operate an organisation through which we can express our aspirations to the state".
TIMES

11th: Mr. H. S. Potter the Chief Secretary, said in Legislative Council recently that during the past two months 751 terrorists had been killed and 223 captured. In spite of these heavy casualties the terrorists seem to be better armed, more ably directed, and more effective in their tactics than at any time since the start of the state of emergency.....

Clearly the gangs have received and are still receiving a far greater measure of aid from the non-militant adherents of Mau Mau, or other clandestine supporters, than anyone expected would be available to them. It is by no means clear whence all this aid has come.....

A disturbing feature of the Kenya scene is the decline in the relations between the several races during the past nine months.....Nor is this decline of relations solely between the European and the Kikuyu. Africans of other tribes, though disgusted with the foul methods of Mau Mau, have watched and waited and some have thought that there is something to be said for the departure of the Europeans from Kenya. Particularly amongst detribalised Africans in the towns there is discontent, sullen feelings towards all things European, a nursing of grievances, real and imaginary and a disturbing susceptibility to subversive propaganda.

Inevitably the persistent denigration of the European community and ill-balanced criticism of the Kenya Government, have a great effect on the minds of thousands of Africans. Rightly or wrongly, many Africans believe that there is much sympathy in England, and certainly in India, Egypt and West Africa, for the object, if not for the methods, of Mau Mau.

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

19th: Stock were rounded up and confiscated in the Nyeri reserve, and 3,000 Kikuyu were deported from the Laikipia ward in the European settled area and forcibly repatriated to the reserves. There was justification for these actions, but it is questionable whether they served their purpose in minimizing, as opposed to spreading, violence.

Collective punishment is a two-edged weapon, liable to recoil on the heads of those who initiate it. It can only be effective if presented to the sufferers in such a way that they blame not the authorities who punish them but the terrorists who have forced the action to be taken. Much collective punishment in Kenya has failed to fulfil this condition. Indeed, the Laikipia move probably contributed more than any other action to the worsening of the emergency.

TIMES

21st: David Drew Seton Scorer, aged 35, born at Sale, Manchester, and employed by a Nairobi firm, was today sentenced to 18 months hard labour for perjury in a Mau Mau trial. He was defended by an African advocate, Mr. Argwings, who said that Scorer would appeal. The magistrate found that Scorer gave a complete alibi to one of 15 Kikuyu recently charged with administering the Mau Mau oath, by saying that he had breakfasted with him and had then gone to Nairobi with him. Scorer and the African accused shared a house.

TIMES

22nd: Brigadier Donald Gordon, Commander of the 70th East African Brigade in action against Mau Mau terrorists in the Mount Kenya region, has, it was learned here tonight, been relieved of his command. No reason was given.

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

- 23rd: A resolve to help the Government to combat the anti
27th: A resolution calling for the encouragement of immigration of at least 30,000 Europeans within the next five years and a ban on further Asian immigration except for key men, was also passed, (European Electors' Union delegate conference). The Government was also asked to break down the immigration barrier so as to permit the admission of 50 refugee peasant families from eastern Germany for a pilot settlement scheme in the Ol Kalou District of the Rift Valley province, with Government loans for passages, education and housing. The proposer said they would give the best possible example to Africans of how to work hard and there was no fear that they would bring Communism into the country. TIMES
- 28th: The Kenya European Electors' Union today asked the Government to take away the land of known Mau Mau adherents and retain it for loyal Kikuyu tribesmen. Mr. W. B. Havelock, chairman of the European elected members of the Legislative Council, said at the union's conference in Nairobi, that a bill to this effect was being prepared.....

What appears to be a copy of the letter received last week by the Kenya Government from Dedan Kimathi, the Mau Mau leader, is published today in the Swahili newspaper "Habari za Dunia" in Nairobi. Kimathi claimed that there was no such thing as Mau Mau. He said the poor were the Mau Mau. Poverty could be stopped, but not by bombs or other weapons. He added:

"The policy of the Kenya Government of driving people away without good grounds, and of confining them to their reserves, has resulted in a thousandfold increase in Mau Mau in the forests. Young men and women, and even old persons, are in the forests because they are afraid of being killed, or badly beaten, or confined as they are by the policy of the Kenya Government.... If colour prejudice is to remain in Kenya, who will stop subversive action, for the African has eyes, ears, and brains."

LANCHESTER GUARDIAN

- 30th: Today more than ever before, the white settlers are a bewildered people. The maintenance of special privileges appears to be the touchstone of their policy. While their leaders, no doubt, profess to promote a sense of security for all races, Mr. Blundell did not hesitate to tell the delegates that Europeans in Kenya would endeavour to maintain the "special rights" which they now enjoy under various statutes. From the non-European point of view the settlers' conference did not manifest the slightest change of heart in working towards a common Constitution to meet the aspirations of the two important races in Kenya - namely the African and Asian communities. OBSERVER

- (5) 6496
- 1st: About 1,4000 Kikuyu detained are suspected of terrorist offences, but it has not been possible to bring them before the Court because of insufficient evidence. TIMES
- 7th: Nairobi City Council has now revised its £2 mn programme for African housing; by December 1954 it hopes to have provided adequate housing for all Africans who are without it. TIMES
- 9th: The Government is applying to Embu and Meru tribesmen working in Nairobi the special regulations respecting the possession of identification documents which hitherto applied only to Kikuyu. The decision is to be effective from September 14th, after which it will be an offence for any of these tribesmen to seek work without these history of employment cards, or for an employer to engage them. TIMES
- 8th: A European sergeant and two African NCO's have been remanded by their commanding officers on a charge of murder of two Mau Mau suspects. They are 20-year-old Sergeant Jeremy Allen of the Kenya Regiment, Sergeant Kibiwot Lukwige, and Lance Corporal Lakurian Neikandaro, both of the Kings African Rifles. They were arrested by military police on Saturday after more than three months' enquiry by civil police into allegations of the murder of two Kikuyus in Kiambu reserve last May. Allegations were laid before the Governor of Kenya, Sir Evelyn Baring, by a British barrister, Mr. Peter Evans, who was subsequently deported from Kenya as a prohibited immigrant. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 10th: The edge of the forest is sharply defined by the mile wide strip where the scorched earth policy has been pursued to deny gangs food. TIMES
- 12th: An advance party of the 49th Brigade arrived here by air today.....The rest of the 2,000 troops will be here by September 27th.....About half of the reinforcements are national service men. TIMES
- 13th: Kenya's Member for Commerce and Industry, Mr. A. Hope-Jones, is on the way to the United States in search of American capital for the colony.....Mr. Hope-Jones will place before American business-men a list of industrial undertakings in which investment could be made. These include mining, plantations, engineering, and secondary industry. OBSERVER
- 15th: Another African anti-Government organisation has become active in Kenya; its name is Utsi, meaning "together". A Kenya Government spokesman disclosed in Mombasa tonight that fifty members of the Digo tribe have been imprisoned during the past week for Utsi activities. The 6,000 Digo live in a reserve twenty miles from Mombasa; 90 per cent of Digo males are believed to have joined Utsi. Government measures against the Utsi include the establishment of many new police posts. No violence has been reported and Utsi is believed not to be connected with Mau Mau. TIMES

- 15th: Mr. Hughes (District Commissioner, Nyeri) in his half-yearly report says that only one-fifth of the narrow based terraces were completed under the soil conservation programme compared with the first half of last year, and less than half the acreage of pasture cleared. Before the emergency pyrethrum was proving a profitable crop for the Kikuyu but this year none had been planted, and one nursery had had to be abandoned. Mr. Hughes says that the story of tea is similar. This is another cash crop the development of which was important to the Kikuyu agricultural economy.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 15th: It is henceforth illegal to carry within the city boundaries in a passenger motor car more than one member of the Kikuyu, Embu or Meru tribes. If more than one is found in a vehicle, moving or stationary, every person in the vehicle will be guilty of an offence and the vehicle can be confiscated.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 15th: The penalty for consorting with terrorists who are in possession of firearms has been increased from life imprisonment to death.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 17th: A preliminary report to the Nakuru county council traces many present ills to the prevalence of the squatter system, by which labourers are given small farms on which to feed themselves and their families. The report says that as the labourers' main income under this system is derived from his shamba (farm) the main interests and endeavours of himself and his family are centred in it; his mental outlook remains concentrated on the land. This leads to a sense of possession of the land, which not being factual leads to resentment and envy.
TIMES.
- 17th: Removal of Kikuyu from settled areas has evidently been effective in quietening those areas. About 100,000 have been sent back to the reserves, the bulk of them being those who refused the order to be photographed in February. Since then African "screening" teams have been at work. These spend up to 14 days questioning batches of Kikuyu labourers. It is calculated that about 60,000 remain to be "screened". About 25 out of every 100 are deeply enough implicated in Mau Mau to merit being sent back to their reserves, and five are charged in court with offences such as oath administration. Repatriation is regarded as a severe penalty because of the hard and unsettled conditions in the reserves.
TIMES
- 17th: In general there is much less tension among European farms on this side of Aberdare than in the Kikuyu reserves on the other side. The farmers have realised themselves well and drive to work in tractors with pistols in their belts, just as the frontiersmen of a former generation tilled the soil with a rifle strapped to the plough.
TIMES
- 17th: Exercise Snowball, in which surrendered Mau Mau are returned to the forest to bring back others, has produced meagre results.
TIMES
- 22nd:disguised taxation is introduced through funds derived from paying the African producer prices below world prices for his crops.....the African farmer finds the system difficult to understand and feels resentful that he is paid less for his maize than European farmers.
TIMES

- 22nd: Nyanza is principally an African area, but mention must be made of the European-owned tea estates round Kericho. These represent many million pounds of investment and provide exceptionally good labour conditions for Africans. Their planned expansion from 20,000 to 60,000 acres is just one more of those benefits to Kenya which are being delayed by the emergency.
TIMES
- 24th: The Masai districts of Narok and Kajiado were today declared special areas under the emergency regulations. District commissioners, sitting as magistrates, can exercise High Court powers for certain offences, subject to confirmation of sentences. The powers are similar to those given to magistrates of the Kikuyu reserve at the outset of the emergency. There is no suggestion that Mau Mau is spreading to the Masai tribe.
TIMES
- 24th: A new police order issued today forbids any Kikuyu, Meru or Embu tribesman to ride a bicycle in Nairobi unless the machine has his name and address painted on it in letters half an inch high.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 26th: A conference of colonial Powers south of the Sahara to frame a co-ordinated policy to improve their security was suggested in the Central Legislative Assembly by Sir Alfred Vincent, an unofficial Kenya member. The Administrator, Sir Robert Scott, agreed that if the metropolitan powers thought the conference should be convened it would be within the scope of the High Commission to make arrangements. The Administrator told the Assembly that 10 employees of the High Commission had been dismissed on conviction of participation in subversive activities.
TIMES
- 28th: Another terrorist wounded by poisoned arrows was captured....
TIMES
- 30th: The Government decided today that the repatriation of Kikuyu to the tribal reserve is to cease because in present circumstances it is impossible to absorb more than the 100,000 who have already been repatriated or who have returned voluntarily or compulsorily. The decision has been taken, says the official announcement, bearing in mind that large areas of the Kikuyu reserve are either prohibited areas or unsuitable to bear a further influx of population. The intention now is that any Kikuyu who fail to pass the "screening" teams now operating in the Rift Valley and Nyanza provinces, and who are required to be removed on security grounds, will be accommodated at camps and employed on public works, on roads, and land rehabilitation. Kikuyu rejected by the "screening" teams will be placed temporarily in transit camps while arrangements are made to direct them to public works projects.
TIMES

1st: Consultations are now in progress between the Kenya and Tanganyika Governments over the disposal of the remainder of the Kikuyu in the Northern Province of Tanganyika, of which Arusha is the capital. They number 7,800 men, women and children.

In Arusha district they are 22 per cent of the African population. The original number was estimated to be about twice that, but many have been deported, or have voluntarily returned to Kenya since the emergency began.

The Tanganyika Government is in somewhat of a quandary over what to do with the remainder. It does not seem that they are an immediate threat to security. TIMES

5th: Sir Clutha Mackenzie, the distinguished blind veteran of the New Zealand expeditionary force in the 1914-18 war, has completed a survey of the blind population of British East Africa, undertaken six months ago at the request of the British Empire Society for the Blind. He estimates that about one in every 200 of the inhabitants of the area is blind. The condition of blind children.....was generally appalling, many of them having not even been taught to walk. TIMES

6th: The agreement reached in principle in June that Unilever Ltd. would take up a substantial shareholding in East Africa Industries, Ltd., and would be responsible for the management of that company, has been signed in Nairobi by representatives of the Industrial Management Corporation (Inc) (Kenya Government Corporation), the Colonial Development Corporation, and Unilever Ltd. Unilever will ensure managerial control of East Africa Industries as from October 1.

Unilever recently sent a technical mission to report on the company's factory in Nairobi and the board of East Africa Industries have agreed to early expenditure on new plant and machinery at a total cost of over £75,000. It is emphasised that immediate results, such as increased employment, cannot be looked for, but suitable plant is being designed for the manufacture of margarine from local raw materials, and this will be the first step in an expansion programme.

It is believed that the market can best be developed by drawing on the resources of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika for such raw materials as are available in the territories, and by distributing the products of the East Africa Industries' factory wherever in those territories they can be sold economically. Within the partnership the Industrial Management Corporation will represent the Government and consumers of Kenya; the Colonial Development Corporation will provide specialised knowledge of management and manufacture and experienced staff. TIMES

6th: Two companies of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers this afternoon cordoned off two areas of Nairobi as part of an operation to evict fifteen thousand to twenty thousand "illegal" Africans from the capital.....

The newly appointed head of the Nairobi police, Mr. John Timmerman, said....."We must get these people out. We are blowing out the chaff, then we can get down to the job of finding the Mau Mau terrorists". MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

14th: Full details of the United States loans for the development of the port of Mombasa in Kenya and the port of Tanga in Tanganyika were published yesterday in a White Paper. The Mutual Security Agency is to loan to the U.K. Government from the United States portion of the Counterpart Account, £2,020,000 for the port of Mombasa and £370,000 for the port of Tanga. FINANCIAL TIMES

9th: A detailed sociological survey is to be carried out in the Mombasa area on behalf of the Royal Dutch Shell group as a preliminary to the proposed establishment of a new oil refinery in Mombasa.

FINANCIAL TIMES

9th: The cost of the emergency in Kenya during the first ten months ended August last, amounted to a little over £2 mn. The figures show that over half the emergency expenditure was spent on the Kenya police.

FINANCIAL TIMES

16th: It remains a puzzle why so many ordinary Kikuyu continue to shelter and feed the Mau Mau gangsters, as they undoubtedly do. Intimidation plays a big part, but another potent influence seems to be a firm belief that Mau Mau will win in the end.

TIMES

19th: A leading United States oil company, the name of which has not been disclosed, is to carry out an oil survey in Northern Kenya with a view to taking up development licences there.

This is a result of four weeks' visit to the United States by Mr. Arthur Hope-Jones, member for commerce and industry. He said that Mr. Eugene Black, president of the International Bank, would visit Kenya next year, and Mr. David Rockefeller, head of the Chase National Bank, hoped also to come.

Another result of Mr. Hope-Jones' visit is the likelihood that two big American concerns will establish factories in Kenya. They are a motor company, planning for the assembly and part manufacture of vehicles at Mombasa, and a clothing manufacturing firm.

TIMES

19th: Kikuyu women in Tanganyika are to be registered in the same way as Kikuyu men. This was announced in the Tanganyika official Gazette, published today in Dar es Salaam, in an order called "registration of persons order 1953".

The registration of Kikuyu women has been found advisable by the Government to stop possible contact with Mau Mau, or the passing on of information through the wives of Kikuyu already deported from the territory.

TIMES

(11)

6496

Press Extracts
Kenya

October 1953
(Continued 3)

- 21st: It had been decided to institute closer policing and build new police posts in other areas besides Kikuyuland.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 21st: The presence of Kenya police in the African areas is a permanent and not a temporary measure.
TIMES
- 21st: Sir Evelyn said...."A bill will shortly be introduced providing for the forfeiture of land held in Kikuyuland...
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 21st: The Government believes in the future of European farming. In fact it considers that the greatest asset Kenya possesses is the soil of its upland country on which are most of the European farming areas as well as the whole of the Kikuyu land unit, and to the west the Nandi, the Kisii, and the Kipsigis.....It is the Government's intention to develop European agriculture to the greatest possible extent and as quickly as possible.....Big companies have been prepared to investigate and in fact to start, industries right in the middle of the emergency. I hope that once security returns this industrial development will be enhanced.
TIMES
- 22nd: As a result of the dismissal of their petition for leave to appeal to the Privy Council, plans are being made for a resumption of the appeal to the Kenya Supreme Court by Jomo Kenyatta and the five others convicted with him for offences relating to Mau Mau.
TIMES
- 22nd: The cutting off of food supplies to the Mau Mau gangs - by clearing a mile-wide strip around the forest and intensive patrols and ambushes at the fringes, and by removing maize crops and closing markets - has been most effective.
MANCHESTER GUARDIAN
- 27th: A new emergency regulation empowers the administrative officer in charge of the Nairobi district to impose economic penalties in order to maintain the resistance of loyal Africans to intimidation. The administrator is empowered to suspend hawkers' and pedlars' licences, order hotels and shops to be closed, and suspend taxi licences.
TIMES
- 28th:A start has been made with the erection of wire fencing in the African locations to give better control, and with segregating the Kikuyu from other tribesmen. The groundwork for a new system of close administration of the locations on the "village" system, similar to that in tribal reserves, has been prepared.
TIMES
- 29th: On European farms the Kenya Government is to set on foot a more secure system of employing Kikuyu labour; labour will be employed on contract and housed in compact villages. In land questions successful efforts are being made in North Nyeri to reform the system of land tenure and to discourage land fragmentation.
TIMES

(13)

6496

- 1st: On paper, the hot war is an unequal battle. Twelve British and African battalions, an R.A.F. bomber squadron, 12,000 police and almost 20,000 Kikuyu Home Guards (70 per cent of whom, incidentally, had at one time taken the Mau Mau oath) are ranged against fewer than a thousand men; the total effective fighting force of Mau Mau. Less than half of them have firearms. (Colin Legum) OBSERVER
- 1st: Mr. Blundell, leader of the European elected members, has been having preliminary informal talks with the Hindu and Muslim groups, and his reputation and liberal outlook are standing him and his colleagues in good stead. It is generally accepted among a widening circle of Europeans that a real share of responsibility for the direction of affairs must be provided for Asians and Africans if the constitutional plan is to be supported by them. But equally it is necessary to gain the acceptance of the European community, who insist that Kenya must continue to be British in character and that the European must continue to guide and rule. They also want assurances and safeguards, however difficult to provide, that Africans, while accepting the offer of partnership and cooperation, will not continue to think in future in terms of self-government on the West African model. TIMES
- 4th: About 2,000 Mau Mau terrorists have been driven from the jungles and forests of the Aberdare mountain range in the past three months by concentrated sweeps by British and African troops and almost continuous RAF bombing and machine-gunning. TIMES
- 7th: In his budget speech in the Kenya Legislature last week, Mr. Vasey said that, because of the emergency, the deficit for 1953 was likely to amount to more than £2mn. By June 30 next year it was estimated that the general revenue balance will have dropped from nearly £9m to £4,750,000. The annual contribution from general revenue to development funds had to be discontinued this year, and it was unlikely that it could be resumed for "some years to come". If a development programme at the present level were to be proceeded with, more loan money would be needed. Mr. Vasey made it clear, then, that he was going to seek financial assistance in London, "either by grant or by loan, or both". TIMES
- 7th: Mr. E.A. Vasey, the Member for Finance in the Kenya Government, has arrived in England to put before the British Government a grim equation. Only on three conditions could Kenya keep afloat until mid-1955 without completely exhausting its reserves. These are that the costs of the emergency do not increase; that the revenue does not fall; and that no fresh development schemes are initiated. The first two of these conditions will not be fulfilled. It is already possible to foresee increases in the actual costs of measures to meet the emergency. The present high revenue will begin to fall when any decreases in productivity caused by the emergency - now rather more than eighteen months old - begin to be reflected in the tax returns. Customs receipts have already started to decline, but so far this is due to general causes rather than to the emergency.

Probably it is with the third condition, the possible pace of future development, that Mr. Vasey will be chiefly occupied, for here the British Government can reasonably decide to give some aid.....

Any requests for such aid deserve a more than sympathetic hearing. It is as well, however, to understand clearly the principles of the relationship between Britain and Kenya which such requests imply. They are an illustration, which should not be forgotten in Kenya by those who still demand total freedom from Colonial Office control, of the extent of the colony's necessary dependence on the home country. Already there are five badly needed battalions of British troops on duty there, and if monetary aid is now to be given the British

eyewitnesses between 12 and 14 years of age, and the judge accepted their evidence, in spite of some discrepancies, as sufficiently conclusive to satisfy him that the case was proved. **TIMES**

14th: A constituency meeting here last night adopted by an overwhelming majority a resolution approving in principle the statement of policy submitted by Mr. Michael Blundell and expressing full confidence in him as member for Rift Valley and as leader of the European elected members of the Legislative Assembly.

Only eighteen votes were recorded against the motion, mainly by members of the newly formed White Highlands party, which seeks self-government in the Highlands. **MANCHESTER GUARDIAN**

14th: The Uganda electricity board is to export power from the Owen Falls to Kenya. This has been agreed on in principle by the Governments of Kenya and Uganda; the details have still to be settled. **TIMES**

15th: The statement of policy made by the European elected members' organisation made public over the week-end marks a personal triumph for Mr. Michael Blundell, the European settlers' leader. He has emerged triumphant over the extreme White settlers. Mr. Blundell and his colleagues have now demonstrated once for all that the idea of European self-government for Kenya, or, for that matter, a Government elected exclusively by Europeans, is out of the question. To that extent, the policy statement has given comfort to the vast majority of non-Europeans.

The statement has had a mixed reception. The extreme settlers who are now organised into a "White Highlands Party" are already questioning even the limited reforms supposedly designed to meet the aspirations of all races. On the other hand, there are indications that the scheme will not meet the aspirations of both Africans and Asians. Already the leaders of the Asian community have made it known that they will not accept any constitutional changes which do not assure equality of representation not only to them but to all races.

The statement of policy marks a climb-down in the attitude of the European community, but at the same time reflects their desire to maintain the status quo. Many non-Europeans have expressed the view that the maintenance of separate schools for Europeans, the demand for the transfer of more power to organs of local government with which the settlers are mostly associated, and the encouragement of European immigration to the exclusion of the immigration of coloured nationalities are attempts designed to strengthen European domination. **OBSERVER**

15th: The trial of 11 members of a Kenya screening team, who came to Tanganyika in search of Mau Mau suspects among the local Kikuyu settlers, has roused public interest. While there is general public satisfaction in Tanganyika that prompt action was taken, there is some feeling, especially among Africans, that the sentences are not commensurate with the seriousness of the crimes.

Brian Hayward, the 19 year old leader of the team was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and fined £100,.....Hayward, who pleaded guilty, accepted full responsibility for what had happened. Medical evidence corroborated stories told of the suspects being tied up with leather thongs round their necks and of some who claimed that their ear drums had been burnt with cigarettes. **OBSERVER**

16th: In a statement on policy, issued 48 hours after a declaration of principles announced by European Unofficial (elected) members of the Council, African members declared that the Mau Mau emergency must be given "the highest priority possible to bring it to a successful

conclusion as speedily as possible." Six African Unofficial members, led by Eliud Mathu, said that they found themselves in agreement with some of the European members' views but differed from them in certain others. They pledged themselves to support the Government "fully" to bring the Mau Ma u emergency to an end. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

18th: It was announced today that heavy pattern bombing of the prohibited areas of the Aberdare and Mount Kenya forests was planned to "smash the hard core" of Mau Mau gangs who continue to defy British and African troops. A spokesman for the East Africa Command Headquarters said today that a decision to use heavy Lincoln bombers against Mau Mau terrorists had been taken at British Cabinet level.

It was disclosed from headquarters that four Lincoln bombers had arrived in the Colony from Aden and would begin bombing "almost immediately" on the thick forests and jungles of the two mountain areas.

A new emergency regulation issued yesterday provides for the death penalty for acts of sabotage designed or likely to endanger life. For other acts of sabotage the regulation provides for a maximum sentence of fourteen years and a fine of £1,000. Another new regulation extends to the Meru and Embu tribes the restrictions on movement already imposed on the Kikuyu tribe. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

18th: General Sir George Erskine's headquarters announced today that four Lincoln bombers of Middle East Command which have arrived in Kenya to take part with Harvards in air operations against Mau Mau terrorists in the prohibited areas of the Aberdare mountains will go into action immediately.....

It is explained that the decision to use heavy bombers against the Mau Mau was made at Cabinet level.....

The 4th (Uganda) Battalion, the King's African Rifles, which has been operating in Kenya since the beginning of the emergency, has been ordered back to Uganda, military headquarters announced today..... When the 4th Battalion was brought to Kenya at the outset of the emergency Uganda was left without troops and this position apparently is not considered desirable. TIMES

22nd: A Nairobi city councillor, Mr. Ambrose Ofafa, a member of the Luo tribe and an outspoken opponent of Mau Mau, was shot yesterday. He is in hospital and his condition is stated to be critical..... Mr. Ofafa was one of several Africans who took over shops previously tenanted by Kikuyu in the Kaloleni location, when the policy for segregating the Kikuyu in Nairobi was put into effect. TIMES

26th: A British Army captain accused of murdering an African forestry worker was alleged here today to have told a company sergeant-major that "he could shoot anybody he liked - providing they were black". Captain Gerald Selby Lewis Griffiths, 43, a Regular Army officer of the Durham Light Infantry attached to the King's African Rifles, pleaded not guilty before a general court-martial to the murder of an African named Ndeegwa on the Nyeri-Mweiga road on June 11. He was said to have fired a Bren-gun burst into the backs of two African civilians and told them: "You can scream, you bastards! When you killed my horse in Nanyuki he screamed for a damn sight longer." MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

26th: Opening the case for the prosecution, Lieutenant-Colonel R.H. Cowell-Parker, assistant director of Army legal services, East African said that Captain Griffiths's company was engaged in an operation in the Nyeri district..... On the day before Company Sergeant-Major W.P. Llewellyn, of the 7th (Kenya) Battalion, the King's African Rifles reported to the accused with a platoon for order. He asked the

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accused specifically what were the orders with regard to shooting on the road. The answer that he got, said Colonel Cowell-Parker was that "he could shoot anybody he liked so long as they were black". The object of this was that Captain Griffith's company was shortly going to Malaya and he (Griffiths) "wished to increase his score of kills to 50".

TIMES

27th: Captain Griffiths in evidence said that he held a briefing the day before, and had told C.S.M. Llewellyn that he could shoot anybody coming from the forest, even if they were P.W.D. (Public Works Department). That was a figure of speech. Describing the incident he said that he examined the passes of the three Kikuyu. Those of the old man were in order and he was sent away. The passes of the other two men were old and out of date. There was nothing about the forestry department on their cards. He thought that they had come from the forest. He handed them back their passes, and told them to go and sit down on the left-hand side of the road. "They did not go to the left-hand side, but went on at a shambling trot heading for cover. I called out "stop" in Swahili. As they did not, I opened up with the Bren gun. I think I fired a burst of six to eight rounds. Both fell down badly wounded."

Griffiths told the court that the attitude of his battalion commander with regard to Mau Mau kills was the same as that of others. There was a lot of competition, and his commanding officer had told him that their battalion had to beat the record of the 23rd Battalion, King's African Rifles, before their battalion went to Malaya. Griffiths said that he personally had given askaris 5s. reward for terrorists killed, and some company commanders gave 10s. This practice was known to his commanding officer and approved. The 23rd. Battalion had a scoreboard barometer of kills.

TIMES

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1st: Four Royal Air Force Lincoln bombers dropped 500 lb. and 1,000 lb. bombs on Mau Mau hiding-places in the Aberdare Forest, west of Fort Hall for several hours to-day. Three Lincolns also attacked targets in Eburru Forest, north-west of Naivasha. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

5th: Church leaders in Kenya headed by the Bishop of Mombasa, the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Methodists, the Salvation Army, and the Christian Council of Kenya which is an organisation of all Protestant bodies in the Colony, today expressed "grave concern" at the situation disclosed by recent court-martial evidence that monetary rewards were offered for the killing of Mau Mau men. In an open letter to the press they said:

"We record our abhorrence with which we read published records of evidence given before a civil court and a recent court-martial. We know our feelings are widely shared. We know that stern directives have been issued by his Excellency the Governor and the commander-in-chief. We believe that in certain quarters there have been signs of improvement. We are, however, still gravely concerned at the situation and we shall continue to bring to the notice of those in authority the need for a radical change of attitude and action on the part of many of those responsible for the re-establishment of law and order."

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

5th: The Kenya Indian Congress, which exercises considerable influence among non-Muslim Asians and is usually closely linked in outlook with India, has issued a statement of policy.....The Congress statement of policy when compared with European declarations, reveals wide differences, especially in political aims, which will make a general settlement difficult to achieve but will probably provide less difficulty in reaching agreement on the specific problem of sharing portfolios among races which is at present the main objective of the European elected members.....

The statement of policy declares that the ultimate form of society envisaged by Congress is based on three main principles - first, self-government within the Commonwealth and a Government composed of Ministers responsible to a popularly elected Legislature; secondly, a common roll based on adult suffrage without the reservation of seats in the Legislature for any race; and thirdly, no discrimination on grounds of race, religion or colour.....

The reservation of the Highlands settlement area for Europeans should be abolished, the Order in Council repealed, and any African allowed to buy, sell, own and occupy any land outside the African reserves. On immigration, the Congress is convinced that the absorptive capacity of the colony has not reached anywhere near saturation point. The needs of the colony, instead of the race of the applicant, should be kept in view. The last item in the long statement is that no political union with other East African territories should be considered until Kenya gets away from the racial basis of politics.

TIMES

10th: The Government announced in the House of Commons yesterday that it had decided to give £11 millions in financial aid to Kenya. This was the result, said Mr. O. Lyttelton (Colonial Secretary), of a review he had made with the Governor of Kenya, Sir Evelyn Baring, and the Member for Finance, Mr. Vasoy. MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

11th: Terms of reference (of Court of Inquiry) will be:

To inquire into and report upon the allegations which were made at the trial of Captain Griffiths in regard to:

- (i) the offering to soldiers of monetary rewards for Mau Mau "kills".
- (ii) keeping and exhibition of scoreboards recording official and unofficial "kills" and other activities in operations against Mau Mau;
- (iii) the fostering of a competitive spirit among units in regard to "kills" in anti-Mau Mau operations.

TIMES

12th: The Kenya Legislative Council today approved legislation authorising the forfeiture of land belonging to Mau Mau organisers and leaders of gangs. This measure cannot become law until it is approved by the British Colonial Secretary, Mr. Lyttelton. It contains provision for an appeals tribunal. The Legislative Council also approved a bill authorising the raising of a loan of £2 million from the Colonial Development Corporation for African housing. Another bill approved imposed a special tax on the Meru and Embu tribes because of the spread of the Mau Mau movement in their areas in Central Kenya.

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

12th: The Legislature today approved legislation authorising the forfeiture of land belonging to Mau Mau organisers and gang leaders. The measure has to be approved by the United Kingdom Government on the advice of the Secretary of State.....Several African and Asian unofficial members criticised and opposed the proposals. An African, Mr. J. Jeromiah, said that what the Council was being asked to do was to enhance the court sentences, and he wanted to know whether British justice allowed a person to be punished twice for one offence. Land forfeiture would also punish innocent persons. Mr. W. W. Awori pleaded that what he called the "spirit of vengeance" be not entertained.

TIMES

13th: Mr. D. N. Pritt, Q.C. the leading counsel for the defence, completed his submissions in the Kenyatta appeal after addressing for eight days two judges of the Supreme Court sitting in an appellate role. He submitted that the case against Kenyatta failed because "there was too much foreign matter in it, and after that foreign matter had been struck out the case was trivial in the extreme".....The hearing will be resumed on Monday but the court has intimated that judgment is unlikely before early in January.

TIMES

14th: Land policy in Kenya, if settled satisfactorily, could bring the Colony's troubles, including the emergency, nearer to final solution, African unofficial members of the Legislative Council say in a statement issued here today. Commenting on the recent statement of policy by the European elected members organisation, they agree that Kenya must continue to develop constitutionally under the Colonial Office, but state that Africans in Kenya should have direct elections to the Legislative Council on a basis of one member for each quarter million population. Short of that, half the unofficial seats on the Council as at present constituted should be filled by Africans.

There are many points in the European elected members' policy with which African members agree, but they add that "there are a few points of major importance on which we differ fundamentally." First, they list land policy, which, they say, has been and will be the principal bone of contention in Kenya politics. While existing "disproportion" in land holdings remains neither the highlands Order in Council nor the native lands trust ordinance should be regarded as final or sacrosanct. "It is our view that all good lands in Kenya should be immediately developed to the highest peak of their capacity to produce with a view to achieving a quick increase in the national wealth and raising the standard of life of all inhabitants of this country." Africans cannot be a party to a policy which merely seeks to protect them as a community in their "already highly congested areas" and gives no scope for their playing a part in the development of the "rich lands now lying vacant in the highlands..."

TIMES

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RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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