

# For And About You

By Harriett Muhammad

Dear Harriett: My husband and I have made up our minds to move to Africa, but we know very little about making such a move and would like you to give us information concerning the following:

- Prospering countries
- Political details
- Cost of living
- Social conditions

Both of us are professionals and hope to gain employment in our fields. I'm an educator and he is an engineer. Thank You

**MRS. F.V.  
RENO, NEVADA**

**DEAR MRS. V.:** West Africa is prospering—especially countries like Nigeria and Liberia. Ghana is a prosperous nation, but right now has a fairly shaky political situation since Nkrumah is in exile, threatening to return by force if necessary. North Africa is progressing, but many of the better positions are occupied by qualified citizens of these countries.

I think East Africa would be more fruitful grounds, especially countries like Tanganyika, Kenya and Uganda. These three countries are tied together with common languages, common monies, and common commerce laws. English is their official language. There are already some Afro-American professionals working for their governments.

**AS FAR AS** climate is concerned, it is similar to California weather — sometimes cool and never real hot. This region is mostly agricultural in nature—not much indus-

try yet. Their major cities are quite modern and beautiful. I have seen residential sections in both Nairobi, Kenya and Kampala, Uganda that compare with Beverly Hills, Calif. The people are very friendly and you wouldn't be there too long before you find your own little social group.

I have cousins living in Kampala now and they are really enjoying themselves. One is an instructor at the Makerere College, which may merit some deliberation if you're interested. It would be best for you to get more information from your main library.

As far as political details are concerned, you can write to the consulates of your

choice either in Washington, D.C. or New York for more personal information and residence requirements. Also check on luxury taxes as they might be high enough to merit bringing all your luxury items with you by ship — things like cars, a washer and dryer, a refrigerator, etc.

**IF THE** electrical system is the same as the European system, you can purchase a transformer to remedy this situation. Never use American appliances on the European system without the transformer as you will ruin the motor. Clothes and furniture are no real problem—you can bring them with you or buy them there at similar prices.

The food is most delicious in East Africa—you can get every item you get here along with fresh, local items, so don't think about shipping "certain" items of food.

Africa is an exciting frontier for those black people who are skilled or highly trained and have something to offer. But you must think black to be acceptable. Africa has no use for Uncle Toms, either.

Something on your mind? Write and tell me about it.

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**India Gets U.S. Loan**  
NEW DELHI, India — The United States has granted India a 33-million-dollar loan to help build a dam in western India and irrigate more than 3,000,000 acres of semi-desert land.

The dam will be built on the Beas river in Punjab state and will hold back a vast lake. A canal will be constructed to run through sparsely inhabited desert areas in Rajasthan state.

The loan will be used to purchase equipment such as shovels, tractors and trucks from United States manufacturers.