

# OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES  
by Kathryn Hall Bogle



The Association of African Students, in their fourth annual celebration of African Cultural Night at Portland State University, centered public interest around the Honorable Oladapo Fafowora, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria who came to give the principal address in an evening's program at the University's ballroom on Saturday evening, June 18.

Fafowora, educated at the University of Nigeria in Ibadan, received a master's degree from the London School of Economics and earned his doctoral degree in Literature from Trinity College at Oxford. At 42, Fafowora has been a career diplomat for his country for several years. Speaking several languages, he has served in London, at the Hague, in Peking, in Kampala and is now stationed in New York City representing Nigeria at the United Nations.



Owen Owen, Attorney Marcia Little, Ambassador Oladapo Fafowora of Nigeria, Dennis Daniel and E.C. Ogboubiri at welcoming dinner for the Ambassador.  
(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

While stationed in Peking, Fafowora said in an interview, he had been Counselor for Political Affairs and had traveled extensively throughout China for the 18 months of his 1971-72 assignment there. During his stay he had come to know Chou En Lai and had found him to be a "fascinating personage." Fafowora pointed out that Nigeria had maintained an embassy in China as early as 1960 before the United States had established an embassy there.

When questioned about the recent exodus of Ghanaians from Nigeria, Fafowora said that he thought that "too much has been made of that situation." He said, "Our government acted quickly for security reasons. Approximately five million immigrants had come into the country without visas — they came (on permits) to stay 90 days but had not renewed these permits. Our economy was getting into bad shape and the oil glut was adding to the problems. Now 60% of our oil revenue had been lost. Formerly we were pumping 2.3 million barrels a day and now we are down to one million a day. Along with a price cut from \$34.00 a barrel to \$30.00 a barrel..."

"Another factor in Nigeria's situation, economically, is that we have acquired a ten billion dollar debt, compounding that, (because Nigeria has had to curb imports), the foreign exchange loss has affected our own production."

The Ambassador paused for a moment, and then said reflectively, "Right now we are trying to raise a loan, about two billion dollars, from European and American banks. I expect to attend a conference in Boston soon to discuss the matter. The United States Secretary of Commerce will be there, and so will be the Secretary of Agriculture, to discuss the economic relations between the United States and Nigeria. The First Bank of Boston will also be represented," the Ambassador said. "Bankers realize the Nigerian resilience and that our financial system is rather sophisticated. The whole world is in too bad a financial situation and it has a resounding affect on Third World countries."

"Internally, our extended family system will help us. We, in Nigeria, are responsible not only for our immediate household, but for our relations as well. Where there are no relatives, the villages take the responsibility for their own."

"We in Nigeria are especially interested in blacks in America. A mutuality of interests can be enhanced by our working together."

We are impressed with the progress you have made here. Did you know," Fafowora asked academically, "that one of every five Africans is Nigerian?"

"We try to attract black Americans in business. Andrew Young continues to be valuable in this direction, and we would like to continue the progress Young has made in his personal influence. If any persons want to know more, they can contact our consulates in New York, in Atlanta or in San Francisco. They will be delegated to help. There's a 25% profit return for business. This is not matched elsewhere in Africa — we do have flexible inducements."

For the audience Fafowora spoke from his printed text on "The Current Situation in Southern Africa."

Urging major reforms "to end the apartheid philosophy of the South

African regime," the Ambassador said, "There is a serious and imminent danger of a catastrophic racial conflict in Southern Africa from which the rest of the world will not be able to stand aside."

"Race," Fafowora said, "is an emotive issue, and a racial war in S. Africa is bound to have serious ramifications throughout the world, including this great nation, the United States, which has made tremendous progress in recent times in ending discrimination among its own citizens."

"As Fafowora continued, he brought out, "What is so uniquely abhorrent about S. Africa is that racism and racial discrimination have been totally institutionalized, enshrined in law, and made all pervasive... Many blacks have been shot for protesting against the unjust laws... A rising tide of violence now seems to engulf both white and black... As the circle of violence widens on the African continent, even far away countries will be subjected to strong conflicting pressures to support one side or the other... a crucial dilemma... may well lead to a conflagration from which the Western world will not be able to escape. Prospects of such a conflagration have been made even greater by South Africa's development of nuclear weapons capability... We know that at least three African states are now within the threshold of achieving nuclear weapons capability. The danger, which a proliferation of nuclear-weapons states in Africa presents to world peace and security, is obviously, serious."

The Ambassador's speech, copies of which were given out on a limited basis, ended with his observation, "The greatest tragedies of human history have occurred, not so much because of what was finally done, but because of what had earlier foolishly been left undone. Time is running out."

Countries represented in the Association of African Students at PSU include: Azania, Egypt, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Cameroon, Kenya, Ethiopia, Senegambia, Somalia, Zimbabwe and Uganda.

The evening's opening remarks were by Owen Owen; Dr. N. Toulan, AAS Advisor, also spoke; Ambily Etekepe read his poetry; Rolia Manyongai led African dancers; closing remarks were by Dupeh Joiner, AAS president.

(Please see page 5)

"Time is the greatest innovator."  
Francis Bacon

Imperial Commandress of the Daughters of Isis, Idee W. Dodson, accompanied by Imperial Recordress Grace T. Brooks, were accorded a royal welcome to Portland when they paid a brief official visit to the local Imperial Court this week.

Arriving from Denver the distinguished visitors were met at the airport by a phalanx of Portland lodge dignitaries. Welcoming them were: Daughters of Isis of Mina Court #142, Frances Odom, III Commandress; the Nobles of Mina Temple #68 Shriners, James W. Calvin, III Potentate; Thomas J. Brown, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons of Oregon; and Helen E. Riley, Grand Worthy Matron.

The Daughters of Isis were named for Isis, an important woman in early Egyptian history and mythology. Their own history dates back to 1907 when a group of distinguished women petitioned the Nobles for permission to form auxiliaries to the Order of the Mystic Shrine.

Focusing on the needs of the black communities they have worked, wherever they are, with local and national charities, and have made contributions to medical, health and research foundations, such as Special Olympics for the retarded, March of Dimes, Jewish Hospital, Sickle Cell Anemia and charities for the elderly.

In this city Commandress Dodson attended to official duties with Mina



Illustrious Commandress Frances Odom of Daughters of Isis, Mina Temple 142, (right) greets Imperial Recordress Grace Brooks and Imperial Commandress Idee W. Dodson to Portland.  
(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Court #142 at Prince Hall Masonic Temple with a social hour following. The visitors also were entertained at brunch at the Cosmopol-

itan Airtel Motel, and at dinner by Mina Court and Mina Temple aboard the River Queen.



## LAWRENCE E. CALDWELL Caldwell graduates

Lawrence E. Caldwell recently graduated from Stanford University with an A.B. in Human Biology. He will attend the University of San Francisco Medical School or Harvard University Medical School next fall.

Caldwell is a 1979 graduate of Grant High School, where he was student body president.

Parents and family attending the graduation were: Gwendolyn and William Gerald, Edward and Donna Caldwell, and his brother Kris who is in Portland during his summer vacation from Northwestern University.

"Truth is rarely pure and never simple." Oscar Wilde

# sears

## SUMMER CLEARANCE Misses', Juniors' and Budget Apparel

### 30% to 50% OFF Misses' and Juniors' Sportswear



- Pants Reg. \$11 to \$28 **6<sup>97</sup> to 18<sup>97</sup>**
- Jeans Reg. \$15 to \$20 **9<sup>97</sup> to 12<sup>97</sup>**
- Blouses Reg. \$12 to \$28 **7<sup>97</sup> to 18<sup>97</sup>**
- Shirts Reg. \$9 to \$12 **5<sup>97</sup> to 7<sup>97</sup>**
- Sport tops Reg. \$6 to \$18 **3<sup>97</sup> to 11<sup>97</sup>**
- Coordinates includes:  
Essentially Separates™ and selected Cheryl Ties™ fashions  
Reg. \$12 to \$46 **7<sup>97</sup> to 30<sup>97</sup>**

### 40% to 45% OFF Cotton Knit Tops **7<sup>99</sup>** Reg. \$14 to \$15

### 30% to 50% OFF Misses' and Juniors' Summerwear



- Swimwear includes a special selection at 50% off and the remainder of our 1983 line at 30% off **9<sup>97</sup> to 22<sup>97</sup>**
- Shorts Reg. \$7 to \$13 **4<sup>97</sup> to 8<sup>97</sup>**
- Sleeveless shirts and tops Reg. \$9 to \$15 **5<sup>97</sup> to 9<sup>97</sup>**
- Activewear Reg. \$9 to \$12 **5<sup>97</sup> to 7<sup>97</sup>**

### 50% OFF Misses' and Juniors' Selected Swimwear **8<sup>99</sup> to 17<sup>99</sup>** Reg. \$18 to \$35

### 25% to 60% OFF Budget Shop Apparel



- Pants Reg. \$6.99 to \$12.99 **4<sup>97</sup> to 8<sup>97</sup>**
- Shirts and Blouses Reg. \$4.99 to \$12.99 **2<sup>97</sup> to 8<sup>97</sup>**
- Swimwear Reg. \$9.97 to \$17.99 **6<sup>97</sup> to 11<sup>97</sup>**
- Dresses Reg. \$12.99 to \$19.99 **8<sup>97</sup> to 12<sup>97</sup>**

### 60% OFF Long Sleeve Blouses **4<sup>99</sup>** Reg. \$12.99 to \$14.99

Quantities limited to stock on hand. Not all styles, sizes and prices in all stores. Styles shown are representative of Sears assortment.

Sale prices throughout this section will be effective Wed., June 29 thru Sat., July 2, unless otherwise specified. This offer good at Sears retail stores. Sears has a credit plan to suit most any need.

### 30% to 50% OFF Misses', Half-size and Juniors' Dresses



- Reg. \$20 to \$59
- Group I Reg. \$20 to \$29 **12<sup>97</sup> to 18<sup>97</sup>**
- Group II Reg. \$30 to \$39 **19<sup>97</sup> to 25<sup>97</sup>**
- Group III Reg. \$40 to \$49 **26<sup>97</sup> to 32<sup>97</sup>**
- Group IV Reg. \$50 to \$59 **33<sup>97</sup> to 39<sup>97</sup>**

Our entire stock of summer Dresses has been reduced 30% to 50%. Above are only a few of the dresses available at the reduced prices.



Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back

PORTLAND - PHONE 238-2311 - WASHINGTON SQUARE - PHONE 628-1610  
N.E. GRAND at LLOYD BLVD. - PARK FREE HIGHWAY 217 at GREENBURG RD. - PARK FREE  
Monday and Friday 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. - Sunday, noon to 6 p.m.