

Monthly Beating Of Native Drums Not Alarming

Rodenkirchen, Germany — When the native drums start beating in this quiet Rhineland village, the locals don't turn a hair.

They know it's just Alois Liesenfeld and his friends up to their old tricks. Liesenfeld, a 62-year-old drugstore owner, runs what he claims is the only authentic "jungle club" in Western Europe.

Once a month, between 20 and 30 soberly dressed Germans — bank clerks, businessmen and white collar workers — meet in Rodenkirchen's Inn. There, they shake off the trappings of everyday Western civilization and become African tribesmen.

Dance To Tom-Toms

Dressed in loin cloths and feathered head-dresses, they dance to the beat of tom-toms and the rattle of authentic African instruments.

Liesenfeld says he formed the African club more than seven years ago "to pay back the enormous debt the white man owes to his black brother."

Liesenfeld, who goes under the name of "Ali" in club affairs, said the purpose of the group is to study centuries-old African tribal customs and to spread the information in Europe.

Now his home is a virtual museum, with souvenirs from every part of Africa decorating the walls. The place of honor is given to a letter from Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia acknowledging the "fine work" the club is doing in bringing Africa to Europe. African Backgrounds

Eleven of the club's members boast some African backgrounds. Liesenfeld himself as a young man lived for 15 years in East Africa, and was named an honorary chief by one of the local tribes because "he was a white man who learned the magic of the black people."

Liesenfeld still keeps in touch by mail with his "fellow" tribesmen in Africa. He said their descriptions of current African rites helps protect the club from "Hollywood influences."

Americans Abroad Should Register

Washington — (Science Service) — Americans traveling abroad at the time of the 1960 Census in April should fill out a census form available at the nearest U.S. consulate or embassy.

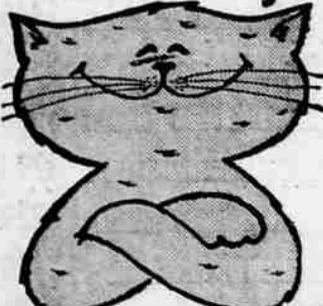
A representative of the Bureau of the Census told Science Service that this move, though not required by law, later could prove to be valuable to the persons involved.

Census records, he said, have been used repeatedly to establish citizenship and age in the absence of birth records. Since 1935, nearly 3,000,000 Americans have used census records to prove their age to qualify for pensions or social security benefits. These persons could not produce a birth certificate or old family Bible record.

During the war, census records were used by other Americans to establish citizenship so they could get jobs in defense plants.

Servicemen stationed overseas and sailors at sea will be counted through Department of Defense machinery. This count of soldiers, sailors and airmen will be broken up and added into the proper state to tally.

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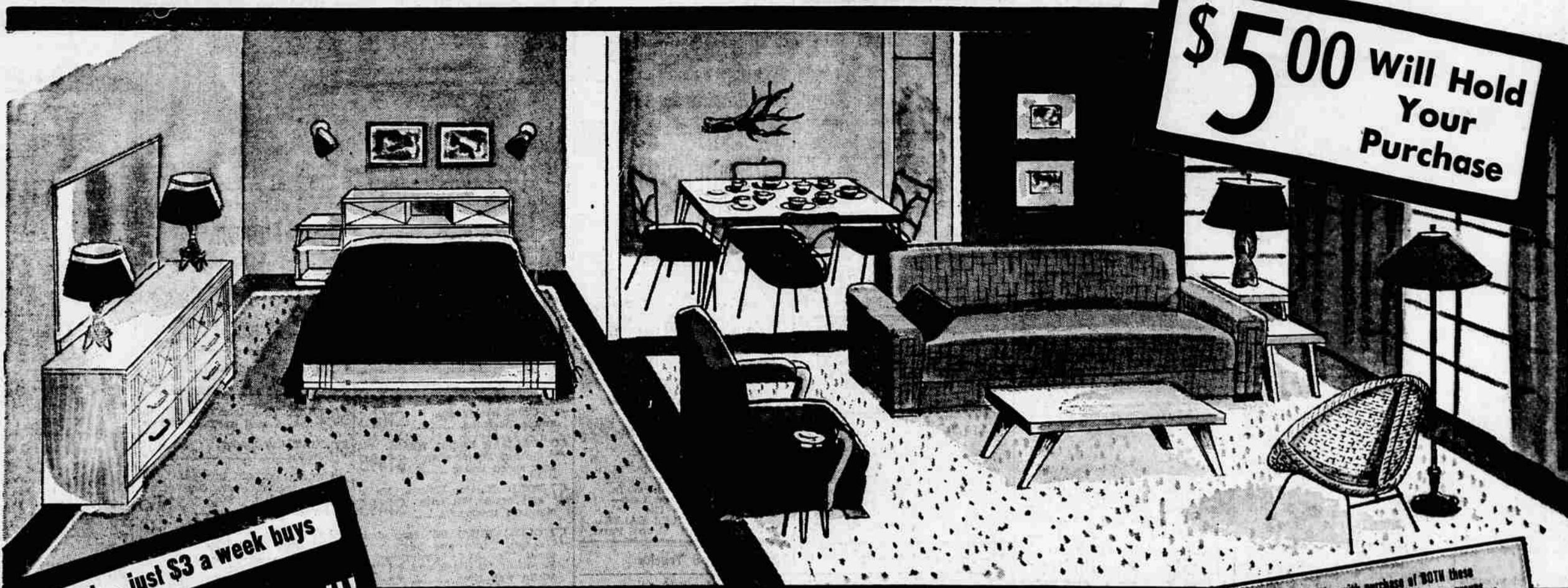
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