



NOW OFFICIAL - The black bear has officially been made the state animal of New Mexico as Gov. Jack Campbell signed a bill giving the bear the title. Several thousand of the animals live in the state's national forests. They live for about 12 years and attain weights of from 600 to 700 pounds. (UPI)



Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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Editor's note: Sylvia Porter is on vacation. During her absence a column by Ralph McGill will be substituted. McGill is doing a series of articles on some of the new nations in Africa, which he is visiting.

NONE OF THE OLD IMAGES

Notes From Guinea: At the airport in Conakry the beer is from East Germany. On the way into town one comes soon to prefabricated houses being erected. They are from Russia. They are of wood, but a plaster is put on the outside. This is painted in either cream, blue, or yellow. A bit further on at the left appears the very long, and agreeable looking, Soviet provided Polytechnic building. It is much too large for a country just beginning to develop its first cadres of technical students, but use will be made of it. Near the school building a sports stadium is about one-third finished. This, too, is a Soviet "impact" project. These are the major Russian aid measures, but there are a number of less pretentious ones, including teachers, and technical assistance on smaller installations.

Few of these provide jobs or produce income. The Soviets take more than 90 per cent of the pineapple and banana crops. They also take a substantial portion of the peanut harvest. But this sort of barter deal butters very little Guinean rice. The crops go, and the stadium and the large polytechnic building cannot yet be used. The balance of payments situation is worsened.

The Guineans are aware of this. They have cooled, in a sense, and the leadership is the more determined this should be, and remain, an independent, noncommitted country. They have asked one Soviet ambassador to depart, because of efforts to influence politics in Guinea. Russian consumer goods have not proved popular. The Russians, having failed in their early efforts to make a satellite of Guinea, nonetheless may be expected to persist. They have a very large investment. The Soviet bloc countries all have embassies here. It is interesting to a western visitor, for example, to see the flag of the embassy of Outer Mongolia.

The Red Chinese also have a large diplomatic operation. They keep very much to themselves. Guineans are amused by the Chinese pick-up of mail at the post office. Two Chinese come. They receive the mail and each checks it. The embassy apparently does not trust one man to handle it. It is an example of the old Communist distrust, even of one another. Foreign observers deduce that the Chinese are playing a patient game. If the Soviets fail in their efforts to subvert or infiltrate the political ranks and thus destroy Guinean independence, they will then have a try.

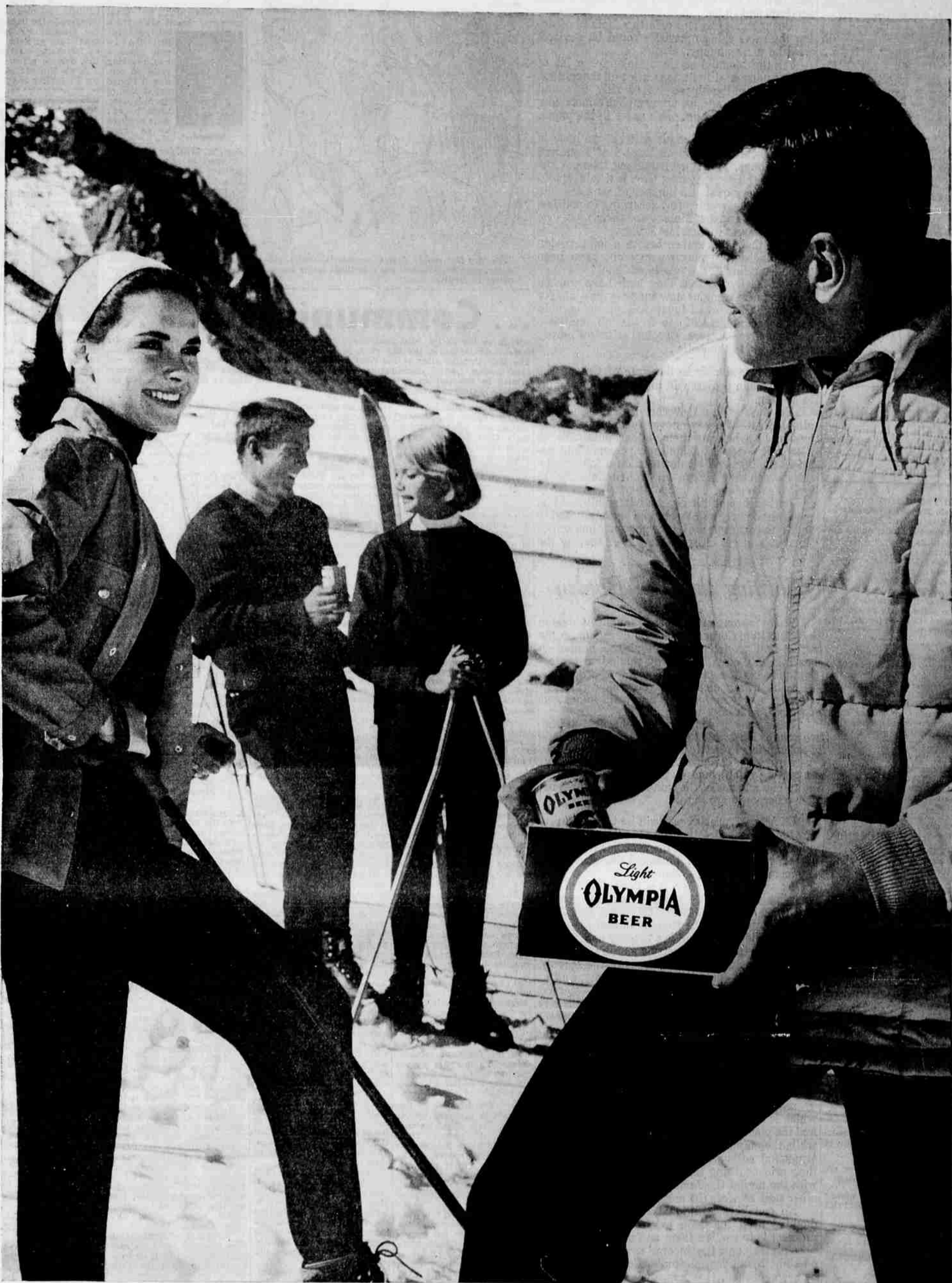
There are not too many Communist bloc consumer goods in the markets which are engagingly colorful and redolent of herbs, peppers, spices, smoked and dried fish, and various fermented goods and seeds. The African red peppers make those of Mexico seem like a mild relish. There is some Soviet sugar and canned goods. Cuba has sent in, and sold out, a supply of Texas-like sombreros. These have begun to vie with the multi-colored turbans, caps, tarbooshes and the party hat. The latter is of real or imitation fur. (The Ghandhi, or Congress party in India also had an official, indentifying cap.) Canned goods from many countries are on sale. Perhaps the most popular is a canned tomato paste from Italy. The average Guinean eats rice three times a day and the sauce is best if it includes tomato paste. Most of these goods are on a barter basis.

The economy is suffering, and only a man such as Sekou Toure could have held it together. He has such an unimpeachable personal integrity, and so vigorously roots out corruption, that he is trusted and supported. A Westerner finds it difficult to accept some of his arbitrary decisions and measures. The one-party system offends some. But none can deny that Sekou Toure is daily, if not hourly, confronted with emergencies growing out of the stagnant economy.

There is some small progress. There is a very real determination to provide education. The lack of trained administrators, technicians and specialists seems impossible to overcome. But, if it can be, then, Communism will not take over. There is almost a mystique about the wish of the African to be African. There will be no miracles. But, the duty of the Western nations to participate seems clear. The penalty for not doing so is equally visible. The Africa of today fits none of the old images. It is fluid, changing day by day, though the pace of change often is so slow as to seem changeless.

Castro Said Burning Both Ends of Candle

Washington - (AP) - Cuban Premier Fidel Castro is burning both ends of the candle in the ideological split between Red China and the Soviet Union, according to a government expert. "One might suggest that his heart is in Peking but his stomach is in Moscow," Edwin M. Martin, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, told a House subcommittee Monday.



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