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## AFRICA in Today's World

#### By DR. CHARLES I. WEST

WESTERN OBSERVORS in Brazzaville, capital of the Congo Republic, have been somewhat puzzled by the singular success of Communist Chinese diplomats in the former French colony. Brazzaville lies just across the Congo River from another, more important (Republic of the) Congo, a former Belgian colony that has stood as a bulwark against Red penetration of Africa under Premier Moise Tshombe, whose capital is Leopoldville.

(For the purposes of this discussion, we shall refer to the former French Congo as Brazzaville and the former Belgian Congo as Leopoldville.)

There seems little doubt that the Communist Chinese, through their embassy in Brazzaville, exert a dominating influence on the country. This is not entirely surprising in view of the Brazzaville regime's adherence to "scientific Socialism" based on Marxist doctrine. What puzzles the Western observors is the "way" the Chinese have been able to impose their will on the native regime. They seem to use reverse psychology to attain remarkably favorable results.

In the first place, the Chinese do not attempt to converse with French-speaking Brazzaville officials in that language. Ambassådor Chou Chiuyen and his chief aide, Col. Kan Mai, apparently do not speak or understand French. Their embassy employs a large staff of interpreters for communicating with the natives. For another thing, the Chinese have striven

For another thing, the Chinese have striven to depict themselves as natural allies of black Africans because of mutually non-white complexions, which they try to project as the hallmark of pure, down-to-earth Marxism. Yet the Chinese diplomats make no attempt to live simply or play on the image of revolutionary austerity.

They dress in Western style, live in big villas and travel even short distances in expensive, chauffer-driven limousines. Unlike the Russians, they do not indulge in comradely back-slapping and joke-swapping. Nor are they ever seen in the open-air dance halls with other diplomats, who drink the local beer, dance the cha-cha and mix freely with the Africans.

Almost all the other diplomats in Brazzaville employ African servants, but not the Chinese. They brought along their own cooks, laundresses and even gardeners.

Africans find it impossible to strike up friendships with the Chinese, who make every effort to discourage fraternization. All members

### VOICE READERS COMPRISE a \$30,000,000 MARKET

# EDITORIAL Here's a Name to Remember

GERALDINE TYSON. We suggest that West Las Vegas voters remember that name for future reference. Especially those who helped send this political accident to the State Assembly in last fall's elections.

Mrs. Tyson, who cashed in on the reputation of her late husband to gain political prominence, was the only member of the Las Vegas delegation to the 1965 Legislature who voted in favor of the infamous Wood-Palludan joint resolution to amend the state constitution. Fortunately, this atrocious proposal to legalize discrimination in the disposal of private property, was defeated.

The Wood-Palludan resolution was specifically designed to "guarantee to each owner of

#### Churchmen Commended

(From the Omaha Star) By WHITNEY M. YOUNG JR. National Director, Urban League

AMERICA'S CHURCHES are forging ahead in the quest to achieve equal opportunities for Negro citizens. Despite a steady assault on this progressive program by right-wing elements, integration and social justice have become the first duty of today's clergy.

The influential National Council of Churches this year abandoned its annual "brotherhood" message in favor of impressing its membership with the need for ongoing programs. The Rev. Alfred S. Kramer, who heads the Council's racial and cultural affairs, has declared, "the Negro revolution as part of the social upheaval and change taking place in our society, should be sufficient stimulant for Christians in most communities to plan and create appropriate social action in the areas of human rights and justice."

In parallel developments, the United Presbyterian Church's Commission of Religion and Race has earmarked \$60,000 for improving race relations. The Catholic Archdiocese of New York has also been working to achieve racially balanced parochial schools, and Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis has asked his association to go beyond words and to "increase the commitment and involvement of our laymen."

ALL THESE RECENT happenings indicate that the churches of America, which slumbered between the administrations of Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy, have rallied to arouse, to inspire, and to direct the moral conscience of America.

This is a fortunate turn of events because the Negro Revolution and the War on Poverty

pass it off as a sincere desire to get a job done without frivolous diversion.

This leads to the second point, which is that the Chinese actually do work incredibly hard to get a job done.

The embassy staff has grown from a handful to nearly 50 specialists, each assigned to work closely with a ministry or public agency, ranging from agriculture to children's welfare.

ranging from agriculture to children's welfare. Compared with other Communist states, Peking moved swiftly in offering and delivering aid to the woefully poor Brazzaville regime. A \$5 million loan to help balance last year's budget was followed more recently by a \$20 million loan to set up Chinese-run small industries. Both loans are interest free for 10 years. In contrast, the Soviet Union has offered \$8 million at 2.5 interest to finance such longrange, prestige projects as a luxury hotel and a hydroelectric dam that the Americans had rejected as economically unfeasible. private real property the ABSOLUTE RIGHT to own, control, buy, sell, lease or rent such property to whomsoever he chooses and shall protect each owner's right and discretion to prohibit its use by any individual, partnership, corporation or other legal entity, including agents and representatives thereof."

Without dwelling on the serious threat posed by such a proposal to important local welfare programs substantially supported by federal funds, it would seem that the moral considerations involved are sufficient grounds for any fair-minded person to condemn the Wood-Palludan resolution.

This was a patent and ill-disguised attempt to give property owners the ABSULUTE RIGHT to discriminate against otherwise qualified and responsible potential buyers on the basis of race, religion or how a man "parts his hair," as the expression goes. Those who try to read anything else into such a proposition are only deceiving themselves and the public at large. That goes for GERALDINE TYSON, who was elected to represent and serve the best interests of ALL the citizens of Las Vegas in the State Assembly.

We repeat. GERALDINE TYSON. Mark the name well.

could fail if the innermost spiritual needs of Americans are not improved and only material gains result.

The danger is that Negro citizens could be integrated into the mainstream of American life without a commensurate revolution in the spirit of our society, without assisting Americans to overcome their struggles against alienation, against apathy, against succumbing to creature comforts and gadgetry. The men of the cloth last year staged a

The men of the cloth last year staged a Prayer Vigil during the filibuster of the civil rights bill which, in effect, turned the tide in favor of that historic legislation. But, as ministers and rabbis know full well, the lasting gains of men are often made in small undramatic ways.

IT IS DRAMATIC and important for a church to send its members into the South to protest segregation but it is also important to staff remedial night literacy classes in the ghetto for disadvantaged Negro adults. This, too, is vital work--absolutely indispensable to the success of man's quest for equality.

The contributions which can be made by churches in our industrial centers are enormous. These include both teenage and adult literacy training; assisting Negro businessmen to acquire higher skills; spreading information on available housing opportunities; actually taking the leadership in planning middle-income interracial housing projects; operating day care centers for working mothers; and disseminating information on prenatal care, family planning, and employment opportunities.

Many churches have long solaced themselves with a basket of charity at Christmas for the poor--leaving the poor as dependent the next Christmas as the one before. Now the church must seek new ways to liberate men from dependence, not through condescension but through cooperation; not with doing for, but by working with; not by an occasional bazaar, but by a permanent, ongoing program at the parish level. (Contributed by Bro. George Barton)

of the Red embassy staff are required to travel in pairs. A lone Chinese cannot even go around the corner for a haircut by himself!

Considering this obviously deliberate aloofness, why have the Chinese been so successful in their dealings with the Brazzaville regime? According to Lloyd Carrison of the New York Times, a recent visitor to Brazzaville, Western observors agree on two points.

First, they stress the fact that the radicals in power in Brazzaville had long been warmly disposed toward the Peking regime and its belligerent attitude toward the West.

"There's no question the Chinese have been clever," one Western observor said. "But the table was already set for them when they arrived. All they had to do was sit down, mind their manners and eat." He inferred that if they have been less than sociable, they have been able to What are the Chinese objectives?

Most Western experts doubt that Peking wants to completely eliminate the French influence and responsibility for keeping the Brazzaville regime from collapsing. The country is so small and so impoverished, that to assume major responsibility for day-to-day aid and long-term budget subsidies would be extremely expensive.

(See AFRICA, page 16)

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