

Invitation to a conference on

American Policy Toward Africa

A RE-ASSESSMENT OF AMERICAN POLICY toward Africa is urgently required now. To this end, you are invited to attend a conference to explore new directions for that policy.

Several facts dictate a re-assessment. *Firstly*, Africa has emerged on the center of the world stage with explosive force. Seventeen African states gained independence in 1960. There are now 25 African countries in the United Nations, and they have played a significant role in the deliberations of the 15th General Assembly.

Secondly, with the installation of a new Administration in Washington, there is an opportunity for the adoption of dynamic and courageous policies. American public opinion, giving expression to the best in the American tradition of freedom and independence for all people, must make itself felt.

Thirdly, American prestige in Africa suffered greatly in the last few months of 1960 and a different approach to African issues must be adopted. At the recent session of the U.N. General Assembly, the African States lost confidence in the U.S. as a country sincerely devoted to self-determination and independence for colonial territories because of the U.S. voting record on Algeria, colonialism, Portuguese policy in Africa, and other questions. If a new policy is not formulated, the influence of the U.S. in Africa will be further weakened.

Fourthly, the General Assembly of the United Nations which reconvenes on March 7th, offers new opportunities to the U.S. for assuming leadership in championing the cause of freedom for all people.

No more urgent challenge confronts the American people today than that of formulating and implementing a creative policy to meet the dynamic changes occurring in Africa today.

A new policy toward Africa, not at variance with our country's broader foreign policy pursued in the interest of world peace, is not only possible but necessary. A policy that will be good for Africa can also be profitable for the United States.

REPRESENTATIVES of business, trade, and industrial organizations; church and minority groups; civic institutions; and all individuals concerned with international affairs, are invited to join in this conference.

Conference on
AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD AFRICA

Thursday evening March 9 through
Friday evening March 10, 1961

All sessions at
CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT INTERNATIONAL CENTER
345 East 46th Street (corner First Avenue), N. Y. 17

Co-Chairmen

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, *Vice-President*, AFL-CIO
DONALD HARRINGTON, *Chairman*, American Committee on Africa

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

7:00 p.m. Registration.

8:00 p.m. Introductory statement.

Donald Harrington, who has recently returned from Africa.

"The Challenge of Africa to the World: Two Views."

Senator Frank E. Moss, (Utah), co-author of joint Senate report on Africa following fact-finding tour.

Rep. Charles C. Diggs, Jr., (Mich.), Member of the House Sub-Committee on Africa.

"Is the U.S. Meeting This Challenge?"

A. Philip Randolph.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

9:30 a.m. "The United States and the 15th Session of the U.N. General Assembly."

Donald Grant, U.N. correspondent for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

10:00 a.m. Discussion Groups.

GROUP I—*Policy toward areas not yet independent or free: South Africa, Portuguese territories, Algeria, East and Central Africa.*

Panelists: *Lorna Hahn*, author of *North Africa: Nationalism to Nationhood*. *Mason Sears*, formerly U.S. representative on the U.N. Trusteeship Council. *George M. Houser*, Director, American Committee on Africa.

Some of the questions to be considered: 1) Should target dates be set for the independence of non-self-governing territories? 2) Should sanctions against South Africa be considered? 3) Should the U.S. take leadership in urging Portugal to report to the U.N. on her African territories? 4) Does the U.S. have a choice between her traditional support of freedom for all people and her alliance with Western European and NATO powers? 5) What can the U.S. do to assist the orderly change from dependence to independence in areas of conflict?

GROUP II—*Policy toward African neutralism and "cold war" competition.*

Panelists: *Prof. Rayford Logan*, Howard University. *Prof. Thomas Franck*, New York University Law School. *Prof. John Marcum*, Colgate University.

Some of the questions to be considered: 1) Are "cold war" considerations so dominating the Congo crisis that solutions cannot be found in

purely Congolese terms? 2) Does the U.N. represent a force that can neutralize the contending elements in the Congo? 3) Can the U.S. commit itself to an acceptance of African neutralism? 4) Does Soviet advance in Africa necessarily mean a loss of U.S. influence? 5) What should the relationship of the U.S. be to independent African states developing cooperative relationships with Communist countries?

GROUP III—*Policy on a program of economic assistance and development.*

Panelists: *Peter Weiss*, lawyer and Vice Chairman of the American Committee on Africa (Other participants to be announced).

Some of the questions to be considered: 1) Should the U.S. program of economic assistance be implemented primarily through the U.N. and other international organizations? 2) Should NATO powers attempt to develop a program of economic assistance in Africa? 3) Should economic aid be used as a weapon to

Registration

FEEES

Entire conference including buffet luncheon	\$5.00
Entire conference without luncheon	\$3.00
Single morning, afternoon, or evening sessions	\$1.00

Registration will take place at 7:00 P.M., March 9, 1961, and at 9:00 A.M. on Friday morning.

The entire conference will be held in the Carnegie Endowment International Center, 345 East 46th Street (corner First Avenue), New York 17, N. Y.

(OVER)

help those countries most friendly to the U.S. and to by-pass those critical of U.S. policy?

12:30—2:00 p.m. Lunch.

2:00—4:00 p.m. Discussion groups continued.

4:00—5:00 p.m. Plenary—presentation of reports of discussion groups.

8:00 p.m.

THEME: *Africa, America and the Racial Issue*

"A Declaration of Interdependence."

Dr. Zelma George, Member of U.S. delegation to the 15th General Assembly.

"America's Image and the Racial Issue."

James Baldwin, author of *Notes of a Native Son*, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, other books and articles.

"A South African's View."

Oliver Tambo, Deputy President of the African National Congress of South Africa.

"A Nigerian in America."

Chinwuba Umeadi, Graduate student in Housing and Planning at Columbia University.

"An American View."

Harold Isaacs, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Registration Form

MUrray Hill 6-7263

Please detach and return to the
AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON AFRICA
801 Second Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

I would like to register for the *Conference on American Policy Toward Africa*.

NAME

ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

Please check appropriate boxes.

- Entire Conference (\$5.00).
 Conference without lunch (\$3.00).
 Single sessions (\$1.00).

Discussion groups:

- I II III

Amount enclosed

