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Africa's Search for Identity

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discussion of De Gaulle's concept of a United Europe under French hegemony, operating as a third power between the United States and the Soviet Union. One conclusion offered is that De Gaulle, despite his arrogant, erratic, arbitrary, and sometimes intransigent ways, offers the West a chance to gain the initiative and to institute needed, healthy change. This volume will provide the serious student of contemporary French history with essential information. Furthermore, for those in sympathy with Charles de Gaulle, who feel that he is a misunderstood visionary, that NATO under American leadership is wrong, that capitalism is obsolete, and that equality is more important than the freedom and rights of the individual, this book is recommended as quite agreeable.

R.E. WARNER
Captain, U.S. Navy

Ferkiss, Victor C. *Africa's Search for Identity*. New York: Braziller, 1965. 346 p.

Africa's Search for Identity is basically a literate résumé of Africa's struggle from its release from the bonds of colonialism to freedom. The author expertly refines the setting of his literary endeavor by pointing out that the so-called "period of colonialism" was in fact applicable to but a few areas of the continent of Africa, while the larger areas were in essence occupied or dominated provinces. In these dominated territories the political authority was, for the most part, superimposed on the existing native society, and, in those instances where any degree of this authority was delegated, the ultimate responsibility was methodically retained by the metropolitan cliques or protectoral governors. As a consequence, this provincial and somewhat feudalistic approach to government has left the populace stranded in the mire of political conflict, sorely lacking the education and experience to govern with any extent of flexibility. In this same vein, those in political position do not possess the dimension necessary to react and politicize in order to resist, accept, or even compromise with the opposition as it emerges. Against this backdrop Dr. Ferkiss has impartially and effectively recreated the conglomerate Africa of today, a political arena saturated with volatile elements, reflecting the entire spectrum of economic and ethnological discord. Into this patchwork the author carefully weaves the threads of the pan-African movement and the cult of Negritude in the present surge of nationalism. Additionally, Ferkiss treats the urge for unity that was coincident with the rapid emergence of the free states. This urge is evidenced in the numerous abortive attempts—doomed to failure from the outset—by such uncertain groupings as Tanganyika and Zanzibar and the divergent and conflictive efforts of the Organization of African Unity and its French rival, the Organisation Commune Africaine et Malgache. The composite analytical model of the discourse includes a survey of the trouble spots of the Congo, the Portuguese colonies and Rhodesia, the United Nations and Chinese communism in Africa, and a substantial account of African-American relations.

Overall, this appears to be as careful and balanced an analysis of Africa as is possible in today's gyratory relations among infant nations. This book is recommended for its substance, impartiality, and interest and is considered well worth inclusion in any collective or research endeavor in this specific realm.

J.T. WILLIAMS

Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy

Padelford, Norman J. and Goodrich, Leland M., eds. *The United Nations in the Balance*. New York: Praeger, 1965. 482 p.

This book is a reprint of the Summer 1965 issue of *International Organization*, a World Peace Foundation publication whose board of editors includes Professors Padelford and Goodrich. It is identical in text to the source except for slight changes in the Introduction, which remove association with the *International Organization* issue and which briefly note the sudden death of Adlai E. Stevenson, to whose memory the book is dedicated. In this challenging symposium, leading authorities provide a broad appraisal of the successes and failures in the United Nations' 20-year history and point to the problems that cloud its future. Its past is best summarized by the editors, who state:

The twentieth anniversary of the United Nations is a milestone meriting special recognition. That the Organization has come thus far is a tribute to the vision of those who drew the founding plans, a testimonial to the soundness of the guiding principles upon which it was built.

Its future is speculated on by Inis L. Claude, Jr., in the final paragraphs of the book:

We cannot be unconditionally certain that the United Nations has a future. We can only assert that there is a clear need for the Organization, a need that appears to be generally recognized, and that the Organization has developed a distinct usefulness, a usefulness that appears to be generally appreciated. The value of the United Nations for the future lies not in any prospect that it will become stronger but in the promise that it may become more useful . . .

The greatest potential value of the Organization lies, however, in its being used as an instrument of the whole body of states to promote the stabilization of international relations, the accommodation of divergent interests and aspirations, and the development of consensus and cooperation wherever possible.

Among the 28 eminent contributors are Francis O. Wilcox, Walter R. Sharp, Louis Henkin, and the editors.

R.B. BADE

Commander, U.S. Navy