

Ghana's Ambassador Holds Gala Anniversary Reception

by Lillian Wiggins and A. N. Said
Washington — Ghana, the progressive little West African country that became independent March 6, 1957, celebrated its 11th year of independence Wednesday.

Independence was celebrated here in Washington with a gala anniversary reception given by Ghanaian Ambassador E. M. Debrah and Mrs. Debrah at the Chancery, 2460-16th St., NW.

Approaching the Ghanaian Embassy which was brightly lit up with lights and dignitar-

ies alighting from limousines it was obvious that a gala celebration was taking place.

Ghana's Ambassador and Mrs. Debrah who were dressed in traditional Kente Cloth greeted the many guests at the entrance of the Chancery.

Representatives were present from the State Department; Dr. Samuel Westerfield, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs; Mrs. Dean Rusk, wife of the American Secretary of State; United States Information Agency, Lee Nichols and Ja-

mes Pope and private business investors.

A cross section of community leaders were also present at this joyous occasion which ended with high-life dancing.

Buffet tables were laden with Ghanaian and American food of all description and both floors of the Chancery were filled to capacity with guests.

Only recently, during the visit of Vice President H. Humphrey did Ghana and the United States sign a new agreement under which 12-329,760 new cedis (approximately \$12,088,000) worth of American agricultural commodities will be shipped to Ghana.

This is the largest "food for freedom" agreement signed between the two countries.

In his visit to Africa Vice President Humphrey described Ghana as "the land that has provided promise for all Africa."

Ghana, which has a military head of State in General Joseph Ankrah, has slowly been lifting herself up by the boot strap and is continuing toward the original goal of making Ghana a model vountry.

Since Ghana is expected to be returned to civilian rule, General Ankrah in a New Year's message to the people appealed to all Ghanaians to "exercise the greatest restraint in the exciting months immediately ahead of the nation."

A Draft Constitution has been presented by the Constitution Commission to Lt. Gen. Ankrah, chairman of the National Liberation Council. The proposed Constitution provides inter alia for a President and Prime Minister for the Executive, a single chamber Legislature of 140 members to be elected on the principle of universal adult suffrage, and an independent Judiciary.

Even though some may say that Ghana's future is dim and that she is in deep financial troubles, it is believed that she will dig herself out of a financial scrape.

The will of Ghana's leaders and people are strong.

The 12th Independence Celebration of the Republic of Ghana should reveal some startling advances.

O. J. Eyes Goals In Two Sports

Los Angeles (AP) — Southern California's O. J. Simpson, who burst into national prominence as a star in two sports during 1967, aims at running faster on the track and meeting tougher challenges in football during 1968.

He hopes to run the 100-yard dash in 9.3 seconds, one-tenth faster than his best, although football remains his first love and the All-American halfback will forego a shot at the Olympics.

"I'm looking forward to next season," says the versatile star from San Francisco who led the Trojans to the national collegiate football championship and the Rose Bowl victory.

"It will be a challenge. We hope to do as well or better than last fall. We lose a lot of good players and everyone will be shooting for us."

"All the way with O. J." became the 1967 chant of USC fans and after losing the Rose Bowl, Indiana coach John Pont said several teams might have been national champions with Simpson.

After scoring both touchdowns in the 14-3 victory over Indiana, Simpson ran the 60 yard dash indoors at San Francisco.

"You get up in the clouds and then run against someone like Charlie Greene and you come down mighty fast," declares O. J. who finished last in the race while a few football bruises still ached.

He points toward professional football, so will be competing in track for the final time this spring.

"I'm aiming at 9.3 and we'd like to break the record in the 800 - yard relay," says the speedster who was a member of the Trojan 400 - yard relay quartet which last spring set a world mark of 38.6 seconds.

The Rose Bowl star came to Southern California's attention in the Prune Bowl, a post-season game for junior colleges at San Jose in Northern Cal. The City College of San Francisco's 1965 club met Long Beach City College and assistant coach Jim Stangeland travelled to San Jose primarily to watch Long Beach.

After the game, he told Coach John McKay, "Simpson is the most outstanding running back I've ever seen in junior college."

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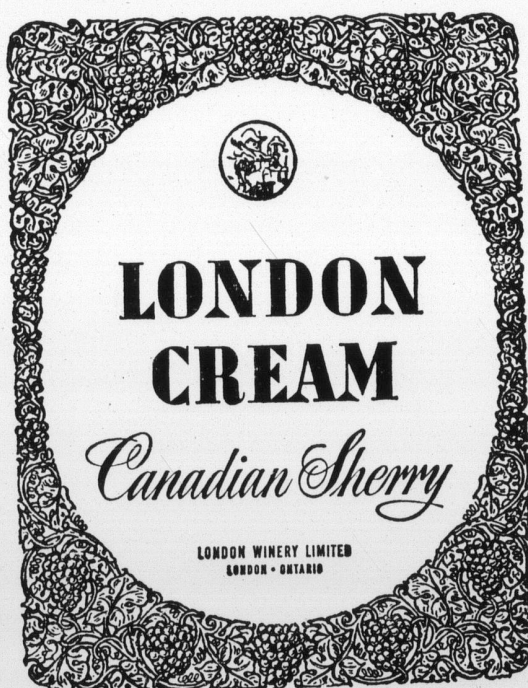
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