FelAfrobeat Index

Afrobeat through Highlife in Nigerian Newspapers and Magazines, 1959-1979

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Sola Olorunyomi

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I wish to express my profound gratitude to Mr. GbengaOlaoye for doing the initial production layout. Two scholars of conflict studies found this enterprise equally worth their while: Tolu Johnson shot through aspects of the exciting times via his lenses, while Dr. Phillip Olayoku lent invaluable critical evaluation on thematic thrust. To all, I am very grateful for your sharing of creative time in order for me to achieve the dream of denying the future researcher on Highlife and Afrobeat the horror I went through in sourcing for basic data and developing a mere cultural timeline of the era. And now with *FelAfrobeatIndex*, even if only as beacon, we know how, what, why and — where to turn.

Preface

This E-index, as all worthy indexes, seeks to map the yet-to-be-trodden route, and serves as a beacon to help chart the would-be researcher's path. *FelAfrobeat Index...* is motivated by this modest wish to assist the researcher of Highlife and Afrobeat music and performance on how to access greater details of the forms and genres.

The timeframe captured in the overall project is between 1959 and 1979, and from the following Nigerian newspapers and their magazines, besides the Drum Magazine: Daily Times, West African Pilot, Nigerian Tribune, The Observer, Sketch and The Punch. What is the scope of its content basically comprises stories on and about the emergence and development of the Afrobeat form, through Highlife, and stories on and about Fela, its originator, besides detailing the general social, cultural, aesthetic and musical mood and mode of that era.

This is a 2005 work-in-progress that will be continually upgraded as time and resources permit. Two broad sections are accounted for here: the pre-Afrobeat Highlife phase of Fela (1959-1968), and the high point of Afrobeat leading to the destruction of Kalakuta Republic on February 18, 1977, and the tip of the next decade in 1979. I stopped here, figuring out that the 1980s were, properly speaking, the moment of inauguration of the ubiquitous electronic technologies, and it was a period that made access to these data far easier for referencing. Besides, apart from the Punch and Tribune archives, the other newspapers are defunct, and sometimes with their libraries pillaged in the name of privatization.

This has meant dusting up other private archives, as well as digging up archival resources across Nigeria (particularly the National Archive at the University of Ibadan); I equally found the Africana section of the Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois to be quite helpful. It was here that I dug up asizeable collection of the socio-cultural and artistic temperament of 1960s Nigeria from local journals and the Drum magazine.

Something must be said of end users, too. There is a sense in which the work kept moving forward, and my spirit uplifted by the sheer fact that there was promise for the relevance of the research. I first noted how enthusiastic some of my graduate students were on the possibility of historical retrieval during a class on cultural resources, when I used samples from the work-in-progress. Then a little later, the respected film maker Steve McQueen and his producer, Linda, were in town for a Fela film project, and I presented a copy of the index to them. They were quite excited about the detail, and I was encouraged enough to give them an electronic copy of the first phase of the book, by then limited to between 1969 and 1979. I hope they find good use for it, and along with the current issue.

Even though I did not source these stories from its newspaper and magazine archives, special mention must be made of the Kenneth Dike Library at the University of Ibadan for general motivation of being the largest repository of the Ransome-Kuti data. But the actual agency for this transformation is the University Librarian, Dr. B.A. Oladele, and the Reference Librarian, Christopher Oni Ola, for their encouragement of this project all through and, along with the E-Unit led by the Systems Librarian, Mr. R.A. Ojo, for the aggressive digitization of their holdings of the Ransome- and Anikulapo-Kuti data and other Africana materials.

One proceeds only in spite of, only in the hope that we shall soon transcend the over-clichéd phraseology: "when the old die in Africa, a library burns down." Someday, we really hope, our immediate experiences would cease to warrant the expertise of decipherers of hieroglyphs!

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Foreword

This e-index is an appraisal of the context and contents of West Africa's popular culture and music of the sixties and seventies, even when it shapes these antecedent socio-cultural events to buttress the performance of highlife and Afrobeat music. To achieve this, I have had to resort to selected Nigerian dailies and weeklies. The discursive events have, in the main, been sourced from library and archival resources, detailing the interplay of cultural performance within the political economy of a budding West Africa, and how the subregion came to define its own modernity with cross-cultural borrowings. It particularly highlights the genre of music, club life, the general zeitgeist of the sixties and seventies' decades, and their import on policy formulation in some of the respective countries. And it renders this overall experience in a consciously discursive, popular language, as a mode of reflecting the context of the subject matter. The current edition is a physical copy of an essentially electronic book, with each of the entries representing not just a page but a textual experience.

FelAfrobeat Index Textual Overview

The sixties: both as myth and reality, had its reverberation in Africa. Much as elsewhere, there was an African Sixties, with its echo intermingling with echoes from other climes. Mention the sixties to the average left-leaning and you harvest a thousand sighs, small talks of missed opportunities, of how the wrong strategies thwarted potential revolutions and proletariat internationalism, while the far-right would often chuckle in contentment of subversives being contained, yet add somberly how regrettably the era signposted moral turpitude. Many nations negotiated their diverse routes into this zappy era, such that even comrade Nikolai Kruschev was, at some moment of global spirit-filled excess, deemed hip!

The media, in its traditional sense, and literature in general, it was that made it possible for peoples scattered across the continents to speak with such strange sense of similitude and precision even when they averred in the minutiae of the everyday. If the West had overcome the ruination of its economy in the Second World War years, it was only now that its industry was sufficiently confident to evolve other strategies of survival without direct colonial occupation. So the metropolis sensed a new freedom, ironically as its colonies, too.

Although a somewhat dubious exercise to chunk the past into bits such as fifties, sixties or seventies; sometimes this becomes inevitable, especially once a critical mass portends a trend. After all, the anxiety for change often associated with the sixties had by 1954 been converted to open warfare by the FLN (Front de Liberation Nationale) of Algeria when it commenced its guerrilla action against the occupying French administration. However, even when there are obvious overlaps, it cannot be for nothing that the sixties continues to arouse such passion in public imagination, sometimes among those already quite old or even too young to partake in its definitive moment.

The African sixties' experience, no doubt, was an interlocking one with its European metropolis—sometimes, even North America; with the 'there' mutating in the 'here', and vice versa. It would seem that by and large the continent was feeling out a cultural moment, a sense of the texture of decolonization and the dream of new nations, fresh social and political expressivity—all combusting with the Beetles, limbo and ska, soul's frantic efforts and plaintive cries across the cities denouncing injustice from San Quentin Prisons (with its Black Panther inmates), through the environmentalists' advocacy against the smog fumes of London, and the reversals of the Prague Spring that would deny Czechs a healthy public sphere for some extra two decades.

A Cascade

Buoyed by both internal and external factors, the clamour for independence in West Africa had reached a crescendo by the mid-fifties, and this triggered off a somewhat domino effect after Ghana's 1957 independence. Others would follow suit: Mali, 1959; Chad and Senegal, 1960; and Nigeria, October 1, 1960. No sooner after this, multitude of voices began hollering on behalf of others still under the colonial leash: Rhodesia, Angola, Mozambique, and South Africa, then still under the apartheid government, became strategic to the focus of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

As earlier noted in *Afrobeat! Fela and the Imagined Continent* (Olorunyomi: 2003), the Nigerian story in the immediate, dates way back to the constitutional conferences that preceded Nigeria's independence on October 1, 1960. It bears mentioning, though, that the northern and southern protectorates had been amalgamated in 1914, only two years after the formation of the African National Congress of South Africa. In the Constitutional Conference of the fifties that preceded the Nigerian independence, two radical politicians—Mallam Aminu Kano and Chief Bello Ijumu—canvassed for and succeeded in ensuring the inclusion of a human rights clause in the constitution, though a basic feature of governance in Nigeria four decades later

remained executive excess and the emasculation of the judiciary and the rule of law. The military held the reins for two-thirds of the entire period of nationhood and yet not less than five coup d'etats and seven other unsuccessful bids (excluding phantom charges) have been recorded in this intra elite in-fighting to control state power.

In the interval, there appears to have been a reversal of the patronclient relationship such that, unlike in the first two decades when the politician played patron, this role was effectively usurped by the military from the mid-eighties, although the slide had begun from the first coup of 1966. Jurgen Habermas's notion of the dynamics of the 'public sphere' quite candidly describes the Nigerian experience under the military, especially in relation to the distinction he makes between citizens' right to public discourse without being subject to coercion, and the coercive power of the state as the counterpart, that is, a negation of the political public sphere as such. And having stayed long enough to generate its own version of primitive accumulation, the military had discovered the need for power independent of the national public sphere in an environment where the disbursement of resources was totally centralized.

Meanwhile, the military threw overboard federalism as a character of the national constitution, imposed a unitarist state (de facto), and paved the way for subsequent central governments to decimate opposition and pressure groups including trade unions, the students' movement, professional bodies and opposition parties. Thenceforth, the human rights situation regressed as the political public sphere shrank. Evidence of military pressure on the public sphere could be seen as wanton violation of rights through arbitrary arrest and detention, detention without trial, torture, indiscriminate killing, abduction and kidnapping, military attack, fanning of ethnic and religious embers, and general brutality against the public psyche became commonplace. The language of hegemonic discourse was further entrenched through the sole control of the electronic media by the state, and even when, by the midnineties, licenses were approved for private broadcast, allocation was

largely to perceived client figures under a very strict regime of censorship.

In socio-cultural life, Nigeria and Britain of the sixties did share some things in common. The most primary being the colonial experience whose expiration triggered off new layers of interaction. There was the cross-cultural influence and, sometimes, mutation of forms between the two, just as well as between Britain and British West Africa. In the matrix of the ideology of liberal democracy adopted by the new nations, which somewhat preserved the existing political economy, its new elite simply adapted to courting the old master, quite often in order to hold on to the perceived privileges accruing from such closeness. Unlike excolonies of Portugal and Spain such as Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, and the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) which all erupted in violent revolutions to attain political independence, somehow the generality of British colonies were soft-landed into a continuing dialogue with the structural patterns already laid out in the pre-independence era.

Nurtured in defining its sense of modernity and aspiration by happenings in the mother country, the elite also raised its off-springs in like manner; first in search of the educational golden-fleece which was usually in the core professions of medicine, law, administration, and even military training. Then a myriad other possibilities emerged, particularly for the accompanying spouses: in nursing, catering, and the general hospitality industry. With this came the often bi-racial foster-parent experience, and an exclusive generation that grew to describe England as "home". In time, some would venture to return to Nigeria to seal an old bond, others protest the perceived servility to Britain, yet a sizable lot simply shuddered at the prospect of returning home to the smouldering inferno of coups, counter coups, and civil war that had become the recurrent past time of the following decades.

Indeed, and not in spite of, the private and social tragedies of the times, typified the social anxiety of the sixties for a more egalitarian public space. One consequence though was the fact of a short-tempered era.

Burdened by an overbearing leash, it exploded in violence, as was the case in Nigeria. After all, independence meant freedom!

Elsewhere too: the tinder-box in the Parisian air of 1968 when students actively took to the barricades and the French state whiffed a return of the 1789 revolution, even if temporarily, and the upsurge in the U.S. of the civil rights and feminist movements, through the rise of the Black Panther and the folk heroes that emerged in the likes of Angela Davis, George Jackson, Stockley Carmichael and Malcolm X. The stage had also been set to thwart Africa's dream in the idealism portended by the likes of Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, and Patrice Lumumba of the Congo. The air was filled with dissent rhythm.

The vehicle for the transmission of these mutual influence and diverse knowing, be they political-economic, socio-cultural or artistic, was the media—particularly the electronic media—primarily of radio but also of television. Worthy forerunners of the digital age, this analogue medium defied traditional notions of time and space, transgressed vast boundaries, even when sometimes atomizing social reception and performance, and even occasionally spoke the language of locals.

The Macmillan wind of change was already catching on and by 1956, an Act of Parliament was passed for the incorporation of the Nigerian Broadcasting Service (NBS), which was transformed to the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) a year later. Taking advantage of this Act, the Western Region government immediately went ahead to set up its broadcasting station, seeing to its Western Nigeria Television (WNTV) making its maiden broadcast on October 31, 1959, while the other two regions also followed suit. What would have seemed like the nascence of media autonomy was however thwarted only shortly after, when Nigeria's first Minister of Information, Chief T.O.S. Benson, successfully introduced a motion in parliament which was duly passed on August 28, 1961, and enhanced "direct government control" over NBC.

Media and Highlife Music

While hinterland people and Urban Nigerian clustered around the shops of record retailers on new hits and evergreens, the radio was increasingly providing an alternative source for musical consumption. Since 1946, "radio rediffusion service was available to those who could afford to rent "wire-wireless" boxes in Lagos, Ibadan Abeokuta, Ijebu-Ode, Port Harcourt, Enugu, Kano, and Zaria." The 300-watt short wave station located at Ikoyi, Lagos, since 1939, aided the broadcast and reception of Nigerian Musicians, as different music forms gradually filtered in, adding to an increasingly syncretic style. The great boost, however, was from the dense forest of the Congo, where Radio Brazzaville, the official voice of Free France, had been installed. The government of General DeGaulle had ordered a 50-KW transmitter from the United States which kept broadcasting to a wide expanse of land from 1943 through the war years, and much after. This greatly popularized many local styles from across the continent which, along with rhumba and mambo were favorably received in Lagos. Christopher Waterman documented Adebayo Faleti's recollection of those times:

Almost everybody loved Congo music. And if you bought a radio set then you bought it because you wanted to learn to tune to Congo-Brazzaville. Because at that time, Radio Nigeria had rediffusion boxes which could play for five shillings or so, but for foreign music, you had to buy a radio set. They wired the thing to your house, so that you can listen to WNBC programs, without having any other place to tune it to. There permanently, giving you the programs of that place. So, people were tired of that, especially those who were illiterate, they said, "Well, we cannot be bored with talk, talk, talk, talk." Also, the young men moving to the city; the craze of any young man at that time was to have enough money to buy a radio set. Any young man without a radio set, and a carpet in his room, and a curtain to divide the room, a single room, into two, was not considered to be a man leading a full, satisfying life.

Muse, Missionaries and Music

One important strand of this highlife story in West Africa comes from John Collins. Himself a musician and bandleader, the chemistry-teacher-turned-music-scholar also struck acquaintance with Fela Anikulapo-Kuti (then Ransome-Kuti), and would play Sergeant Reynold (the colonial officer) in Fela's "Black President" film whose sound track was consumed in the inferno that gutted Kalakuta Republic much later in 1977. A rare archivist of 20th Century musical development in West Africa, Collins says highlife is the product of the fusion of indigenous dance rhythms and melodies, with influences from the West of the late 19th century. By the second decade of the 20th century this pre-highlife had become self-conscious as a form in fusion and flux.

A significant key to the outside influence was the regimental bands of the forts which trained African musicians to play military marches, polkas and popular ballads of the time. Incipient globalization was at the fore and the ships from the new world were sailing back, now no longer to pick up slaves but equally gold-digging, seeking new opportunities in commerce. Their crew comprised diverse nationalities, including black seamen from the West Indies and the Americas such that the earliest highlife was played combining string instruments like the guitar, concertina and harmonica over traditional formulaic and improvised African percussion, string and wind instruments.

The missionaries had also crept in, and the early Western elite would later fuse piano music and church hymns into the repertory. The most visible of the "proto-Highlife" bands by the beginning of the 20th century were the Osibisaba of the Fantis of South Western Ghana, "the Ashiko & Gome (Gombe) music of the Accra people, the "Dagomba" guitar songs of Liberian sailors, and creole melodies from Sierra Leone." It would take until the World War period for the forum to be known as highlife. Of this phase, Graeme Ewens notes: Yebua Mensah, brother of E.T. Mensah and a co-founder of dance band in highlife, told the writer

John Collins how the name caught on in Accra: "The term highlife was created by the people who gathered around the dancing clubs such as the Roger Club, to watch and listen to the couples enjoying themselves...the people outside called it highlife as they did not reach the class of the couples going inside, who not only had to pay a relatively high entrance fee of about seven shillings and sixpence, but also had to wear full evening dress, including top hats if they could afford it." ii

Each musical idiom, like every cultural production, has always evolved from antecedent forms, and in an electronic age such as ours, the question to pose is how this or that form is appropriated to create a new musical register. Of jazz, for instance, Esi Kinni-Olusanyin notes that although it "descended from the blues and ragtime, many elements of the work song, spiritual, and ring shout are incorporated into it." In the same way that Highlife drew its form as "one of the first examples of fusion between the old world and the new, and a prototype for all African pop," Fela's Afrobeat also tapped from a myriad of sources ranging from basic Nigerian traditional rhythms and Highlife —besides jazz and Latin elements— over a structure that is essentially a criss-cross African rhythm. However, this process is quite tenuous and his artistic production cannot simply be defined in relation to an ostensibly foreign mainstream "corpus which constitutes the canon against which it [his form] is measured."

Highlife as currently canonized, came into clear, recognizable form only in the post World War II period; the inter-war years that preceded this phase was highly steeped in stuttering experimentations. Enroute Ghana, Highlife had three discernible moments. There were the brass and life bands which major towns aspired to have as an exercise in post-colonial modernity. Soon, they became regular features of social functions, with their regimental marches, especially on Empire Day parades. The earliest of this tradition was the Excelsior Ochestra formed in 1914. Alongside with highlife in large towns like Accra, Kumasi and Cape Coast were orchestras playing Waltzes, Foxtrots, Quicksteps, Ragtimes, and Rumbas in the elite ballrooms. Then, also, was the lower

class infusion composed of guitar band tradition with deeper local flavoring with rattle, hand piano and acoustic guitar.

The latter part of the interwar years and its immediate aftermath gave a new impetus to the West African dance band scene. As part of the overall strategy of the allied forces, Commonwealth and American troops were stationed in West Africa. This youthful lot could not be contented with mere mortar and the rifle, its members partook in the ebullient tradition of West African musical culture by also introducing fresh ideas from their home countries. This was how swing became a West Africa staple, with a certain Sergeant Leopard, a British sax player, forming the earliest known swing band - the "Black and White Spots" in Accra. However, unlike the pre-war big band tradition of brass and strings, Sergeant Leopard spotted only the "trap drums, doublebass, guitar, and a front line of sax, trumpet, and trombone." The "Black and White Spots" lived up to its name with its recruit of indigenous local players, and would later influence the formation of the now, more popular "Tempos", formed by another English sax player and a Ghanaian pianist. Over the years, with the gradual withdrawal of foreign troops, these bands became more Africanized both in structure and style. Their venues were now reaching out to other segments of the community which, hitherto, had been largely confined to army clubs and the European clubs.

Long before the independence era of the 60s, indeed since about the mid-20th Century, the "Tempos" was led by E. T. Mensah, (Emmanuel Tette Mensah) with Guy Warren as drummer, and its members completely composed of African musicians. They infused into Swing and Ballroom, Highlife music. Not only this, by the fifties, they were already ingesting a Latino, calypso feel with a percussion section of bongos, congas and maracas. This bold experimentation, commitment and focus paid back, with E.T. Mensah becoming acknowledged as the undisputed "King of Highlife" across West Africa. Much later, with the creativity of E. K. Nyame, highlife would get infused and become, almost, inseparable as standard repertoire of the Ghanaian Concert Parties. It had combined

the vaudeville tradition of Western theatre and African thematic structure which, together, had earlier utilized the services of ragtime.

The emergence of this vast repertory of music genres transgressing the major cities of Africa's west coast did not confine themselves to one kind of music and there were all manner of band formations including the Sierra Leonean "Police Orchestra", a large all-female music group with vocalists drummers, and players of other kinds of instruments. Although radio and record made the year 1960 a date-maker for the emergence of Rock and Roll in the country, the first pop group there was the Heartbeats, formed in 1961 – 1962 by Geraldo Pino, who would later become Fela's strong musical adversary in the late sixties.

Nightclubs were prominent features of social life. It did not matter what country they were located; nightclubs were a West African confluence. In 1964, when the Yellow Diamond nightclub was to rise in Sierra Leone. a phoenix out of the ashes of the Swazark Club, it was a joint band of Nigerian and Ghanaian groups — "Outer Space" from Nigeria and a band from Ghana which regularly performed at the Tijuanah Nightclub in Freetown —practically nurturing the revival. Together with players from Sierra Leone, they formed the Leone Stars, and raised a loan with which they put the vacant Swazark Club into shape again, re-naming it the Yellow Diamond. Music in the 60s was really an international language. At the Yellow Diamond, 'jam' sessions held Saturday afternoons. A black American diplomat, Woodie, was sure to be there to perform on the guitar. Buddy Peep from Ghana who had been playing drums in American jazz bands, and was a friend of Guy Warren, was another denizen of the Yellow Diamond. King, himself a native musician in Freetown, was a regular fixture.

There was also De Souza, born in 1937 in Cotonou, Dahomey (now Benin Republic), and Nigeria's immediate neighbor to the West. He created music that ranged from Cha-Cha to Highlife, having earlier learnt to play the sax and the trumpet from two Nigerians— Baby-Face Paul and Zeal Onyia—based then in Dahomey. In Accra, De Souza became somewhat a phenomenon when, with instrumentalists from Togo and Dahomey,

he introduced the genre known as Congo Music. By 1964, De Souza had firmly implanted his feet in Ghanaian soil. When there was trouble between the proprietor of the Lido Club where he played with The Shambros Band, and the Minister of the Interior, De Souza was able to get the TUC (Trade Union Congress) to intervene in his favor. At the time he had stayed in Ghana for nine years without the encumbrance of a passport. But even earlier, he'd had problems with the Lebanese proprietor whom he complained was underpaying local musicians. It was in the same '64 that he 'outdoored' his Congo music creating on July 11 at the Metropole where his new band Black Santiagos played alongside the Ramblers before a tumultuous audience.

By the close of the 60s, precisely in 1970, De Souza, whose band had a strong Nigerian membership, had to leave Ghana because of the Aliens Order, and the way he saw people being brutalized. Before then, however, he had traveled reasonably well across West Africa, and met musicians from the length and breadth of the subregion. Fela, he said, paved the way for the Black Santiagos to transform from traversing the high-and-byways of Ghana to visiting and playing in different West Africa cities. In 1968, the band had its first outing in Lagos, alongside Fela, at the Glover Memorial Hall. This was an arrangement which Fela had handled in the spirit of musical camaraderie. They also played at Fela's place, the original Afrika Shrine. During the Nigerian civil, from the 1967 to 1970, the Black Santiagos were playing numerous spots in northern Nigeria.

The high-energy Nigerian guitarist, Victor Uwaifo, was also circulating in this sixties' matrix. He had trained on scholarship at Yaba Collage of Technology doing Graphic Arts, and developed a veritable feel of musicology that combined intimations from his sensibilities of sound, colour and fabric textures. His idea of Akwete rhythm, is a transposition of the colour motifs, recurrences and rhythms that constitute the hallmark of the hand-woven Akwete fabric of Eastern Nigeria for the purpose of denoting sound textures and combination. From this basic preoccupation he had develop a unique sound notation based on

colours: Do, strongest role = black; Re = red; Mi = blue; Fa = green; So = white because neutral; La = yellow; and Te = violet. But his akwete was a much higher abstraction from basically the same sort of synaesthesia.

Uwaifo's experimentations were a symptom of the heady period. He developed other themes in his musical oeuvres, especially the shadow. Mutaba and Ekassa, all of them and particularly the last, signaling his own negotiations of modernity, tradition and an original voice. The Ekassa was more or less a profane form of the traditional Nigerian Benin musical form; it is only performed at a king's coronation. To do the dance at any other time could be seen as a challenge to the Oba's (king's) sovereignty. But by the time Uwaifo has thrown together tomtom and agba drums, woodwind from the Western world, and two guitars, with the melodious singing in Edo language, the Ekassa was already on a journey to neo-tradition.

In his own case, the Accra-born Stan Plange joined the Downbeats in 1967, purportedly as an instrumentalist who could acquit himself on the bass fiddle and congas. But, by his own admission, he could barely play anything. The band was led by Bill Friday, a Nigerian of Igbo extraction who had been in Bobby Benson's band. After the Downbeats' tour of Togo in 1957, he joined the Comets, a band formed by Ray Ellis. But his stay there was short-lived as the band fell apart. After going around for a while, he finally rejoined the Downbeats on Bill Friday's invitation in Lagos, where the band had moved. He was in Lagos for three years, and must have felt much at home in that the Ghanaians in the band outnumbered the Nigerians, notwithstanding that the leader was a Nigerian and the location was Lagos. He even rose to become the treasurer of the Nigerian Union of Musicians (NUM) between 1958 and 1961. Plange was the arranger in Downbeats during his Lagos stay and was second leader. Peter Kwetey was trombonist; Joe Mensah, a vocalist. George Emissah was alto saxophonist and Lee Ampoumah played the bongos. Another Ghanaian, Akwei, played the congos.

However, Plange did not think the Nigerian music scene suited him both in terms of the quality of its musicians and the prospects it held out. For him, only the horn players seemed of inspiring capabilities, and the guitarists were just nothing to write home about. Juju music then was still a fledgling form when, not being sure of itself, tried out its voice only in the backyard of the Nigerian music scene. The urge to go back home was heightened in Plange and other Ghanaian musicians in Nigeria because of the exploits of the Broadway Band, which was at that time enjoying much endorsement from Ghanaian officialdom. The band traveled with Kwame Nkrumah (on his state visits), and with the inauguration of Ghana Airways, the Broadway had joined the roller coasters, sited today in Khartoum, and tomorrow in Lebanon. Joe Mensah and George Emissah joined the Broadway while on leave in Ghana. And in 1961, Joe Mensah himself left Downbeats to play in the Stargazers Band which was being reconstituted by Collins Kusi. In 1964 or thereabout, he moved to the Broadway in Takoradi.

The Broadway band which, in the fervor of pan Africanism, would later came to be known as the Uhuru, toured the world. On Ghana Airways first flight to Moscow, it was there to liven the occasion with highlife. It played in Nigeria on several visits, and the eastern parts of the country were its favorite port of call. Indeed, the band left Nsukka only three days before the start of the Biafran war. It also toured East Africa in 1968, with outings in Uganda and Kenya.

It was in 1964, after Broadway's stint on a course in traditional drumming and dancing at the Arts Centre in Accra, that the events leading to its change of name to the Uhuru took place. The Zenith Hotel management did not meet the band members' expectations as to salary and maintenance of instruments; and when it demanded a rather high percentage of the band's earnings in a new arrangement, the band left and soon got E.K Dadson and Krobo Eduse to buy it a new set of instruments. But the Zenith management contested the bands continued use of the name The Broadways, suing its members to the tune of €26,000 in damages. Even though the court did not grant the

Zenith manager his monetary prayers, all he got was €75, it had become necessary to find a new name.

A New Temperament for the Sixties' Highlife

If there was one person who personified the continuous tinkering with the relative stability of the structural pattern(s) of Highlife, it was Fela Kuti. From his days with Victor Olaiya's Cool Cat, Fela kept improvising; first was the highlife jazz phase and later, the birth of Afrobeat. While his 1971 release of "Jeun Koku" signaled the manifest arrival of Afrobeat, the seed of this final germination was already mutating from the late sixties. And if anyone shared Fela's restless and adventurous temperament of this era, of all these youngsters, it was Faisal Helwani. Born of Lebanese parents in the coastal town of Sekondi, Ghana, he quickly became very active in the music scene as a promoter of musicians and shows. It all seems to have started in 1964 when he organized for five professional bands to play on the same night at the Lido Night Club, Accra. This was an event because before then, night shows only involved single bands entertaining the audience from their repertoire. By bringing together the Shambros, Black Santiagos, Ramblers, African Rhythm makers and Ghana Armed Force Band, Faisal re-defined the range of tones and moods that anybody could look forward to in a single night. He got involved in beauty pageants and fashion shows and organized competitions called 'Pop Chairs' where pop groups could come and show their stuff. "The Thunderbirds" are among the school-boy bands that Faisal promoted and encouraged. By 1968, he had a band of his own led by Johnny Acheampong and Alfred Bannerman. This was how the Sombraros came about.

Faisal came to Lagos in 1967, and spent time with Chris Ukoli, a journalist with the "New Breed", and an organizer of musical shows. It was while doing the round of night-clubs in the city that he first came across Fela. Chris introduced them to each other. Fela was playing at Kakadu and his songs like 'Yeshe Yeshe' was unlike anything Faisal had heard before. A close friendship soon developed which saw Fela going to Ghana in 1967

and 1968 at the instigation of Faisal. By the time of Fela's second Ghana show, he had begun to create the Afrobeat form. This form drew great acceptance from the Ghanaians before it came to acquire any level of popularity in Nigeria. Some of the Highlife titles to his credit in the sixties include Onifere, Yeshe Yeshe, Lagos Baby, Lai Se, Wa Dele, Mi O Mo, Ajo, Alagbara, Onidodo, Keep Nigeria One and Araba's Delight. Others are Moti Gborokan, Se E Tun De and Ako —all produced between his Koola Lobitos Band and the Highlife Jazz Band (1958-1969), although Ray Templeton had tracked down Aigana to the "Highlife Rakers" production of 1960. The musical influences on Fela at this point ranged from soul and blues, Geraldo Pino's style (including the reciprocal influences with James Brown), through a number of Highlife musicians, notably E.T. Mensah, Victor Olaiya and Rex Lawson. In terms of structural pattern, it was Rex Lawson's brand of Highlife with its emphasis on the musical complexity of traditional Nigerian drum rhythms-combining the three-membrane drum, two- and onemembrane conga drums, and the Western trap drum set with cymbals—that would serve as the immediate catalyst for Afrobeat.

By the late sixties, however, Fela's estimation of the value of Highlife for social change and political intervention was already in trough. It was as if Highlife had somewhat served its time as a cultural tool for African "authenticity," as it was wont to be presented in the early decades of the century. By now, independence had been achieved and the new nation had to confront issues of development and the postindependence elite who, to a large measure, bestrode the landscape with the air of internal colonizers. The new elite, like its colonial forebears, promptly put a leash on the anticipated democratic project. With a restive population, its organized labor sector and the student movement finding itself confronted by an increasingly diminished "public sphere" for alternative visions (in Nigeria the civil war was already raging), a period of disillusionment would set in and the status quo had by the mid-sixties begun to be challenged on these terms. And with its breezy, generally covert political themes, obsessively hedonistic lyrics—of transcendental love, of women and wine—and a rather

sedate rhythmic structure, Highlife, for Fela, was simply not best positioned as the medium for the brewing post-independence confrontation, at least in Nigeria. It was a task that would have to be shouldered by Afrobeat, a subversive musical and cultural practice initiated by Fela Kuti. And by the time he started waxing Zombie, Alagbon Close, ITT, and Sorrow Tears and Blood (much later in the seventies), tracks which lampoon military and other hegemons in contemporary Africa, it was clear that he had finally unmasked the bogey of ideological unanimity of contending classes.

Conclusion

There is a sense in which the West African sixties-seventies typified a virile inter-group relations, thereby fostering a travelling cultural matrix powered by music and the broad media. Through music and other cultural performances the era came to embody the hopes and aspirations of early independence as well as the unfolding challenges that confronted the new nations by the seventies. This is the compelling resume that these news stories, articles and photographs tell in the indexed newspapers.

FelAfrobeat Dateline

1959

- 1) 1959, January 10, Saturday, Daily Service, (Pg. 9)
 - Records: Guluso
- 2) 1959, February 7, Saturday, Daily Service, (Pg. 4)
 - Sing it again
- 3) 1959, February 9, Monday, Daily Service, (Pg. 9)
 - Faculty of music
- 4) 1959, March 11, Daily Times, (Pg. 6)
 - Advert placement for Philips Tape Recorders
- 5) 1959, March 12, Daily Times, (Pg. 13)
 - Nigerian voices to be heard over BBC today
- 6) 1959, March 14, Saturday, Daily Service, (Pg. 8)
 - Advert on tonight amusement
- 7) 1959, March 18, Daily Times, (Pg. 5)
 - Music festival to be held at Onitsha
- 8) 1959, March 26, Daily Times (Pg. 19)
 - Opportunity to study music
- 9) 1959, April 2, Daily Times, (Pg. 8)
 - Advert: Philips accent on classics for April
- 10) 1959, April 18, Saturday, Daily Service, (Pg. 9)
 - Music wave: K. Dairo in Lagos
- 11) 1959, April 24, Daily Times (Pg. 10)
 - Advert: His master's voice
- 12) 1959, April 24, Daily Times
 - Garrard automatic record changer



1959, February 7, Saturday, Daily Service, Pg. 4

- 1) 1960, March 12, Saturday, Daily Service, (Pg. 10)
- The world king of jazz to broadcast own story
- 1960, September 10, Saturday, West African Pilot (Pg. Front)
- Advert placement: Tonight big night
- 1960, September 24, Saturday, West African Pilot (Pg. Front)
- Advert placement for BEAM record
 - 4) 1960, September 26, Monday, West African Pilot (Pg. 7)
- Grand Independence Dance
- 5) 1960, September 29, Thursday, West African Pilot (Pg. 7)
- Nigerian national band to play at state ball
 - 6) 1960, September 30, Friday, West African Pilot (Pg. 5)
- Dance to freedom
 - 7) 1960, October 7, Friday West African Pilot, (Pg. 2)
- Advert: The ambassador of Jazz
 - 8) 1960, October 10, Monday, West African Pilot (Pg. 2)
- Advert Placement: The Ambassador of Jazz
 - 9) 1960, October 21, Friday, West African Pilot (Pg. 5)
- Local artistes entertain All-Stars man
- 10) 1960, October 24, Monday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Reminiscence



1959, March 4, Wednesday, Daily Service, Pg. 4

6)

- 1) 1961, February 2, Thursday, Nigerian Tribune
- · Music is everywhere in Nigeria
 - 2) 1961, February 13, Monday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)
- Master of jazz in action
 - 3) 1961, June 28, Wednesday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 3)
- How much music should you hear
- 4) 1961, September 23, Saturday, West African Pilot (Pg.
- Meet a MAESTRO
- 5) 1961, October 4, Wednesday, West African Pilot (Pg. 3)
- Record Review
 - 6) 1961, October 11, Tuesday, West African Pilot (Pg. 1)
- Duke Ellington and his band
- 7) 1961, October 17, Tuesday, West African Pilot (Pg. 1)
 - Ray Chicago sent to jail
- 8) 1961, October 21, Saturday, West African Pilot (Pg. ?)
 - Duke Ellington and his band
- 9) 1961, November 4, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Musicians: Charles (Mr. Highlife) Iwegbue
 - 10) 1961, November 11, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Where is Joe Nez?
 - 11) 1961, November 17, Friday, West African pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Musicians at work
 - 12) 1961, November 18, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Ijaw women dancers in action
 - 13) 1961, November, West African Pilot, (Pg. 7)
 - Classical Concert



- 14) 1961, December 2, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3
 - Meet a MAESTRO: Eleazar Arinze
- 15) 1961, December 5, Tuesday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 3)
 - Shake your waist
- 16) 1961, December 9, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Chike Emegokwue
- 17) 1961, December 28, Thursday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Radio and TV Programme

- 1) 1962, May 5, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Music and Music Lovers
- 2) 1962, May 24, Thursday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Musical heritage
- 3) 1962, June 16, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Sammy Akpabot hits Lagos
- 4) 1962, June 26, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 4)
 - Music as a unique aid to medical profession
- 5) 1962. September 1, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Music and music makers: Band leaders
- 6) 1962. September 5, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Music and music makers: The Helsinki Festival
 7)1962, October 3, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - American Children learn highlife
 - 8)1962, October 10, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - London based Nigerian bands



1959, April 24, Daily Times, Pg. 10

- 9) 1962, October 13, Saturday, West African Pilot (Pg. 3)
 - Advert: Philips recorder
- 10) 1962, November 19, Monday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 5)
 - In lighter mood
- 11) 1962, November 24, Saturday, West African Pilot (Pg. 3)
 - Adeolu balabi's rhythm dandies
- 12) 1962, November 27, Tuesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 8)
- Blow! Blow!! Blow!!!
- 13) 1962, December 12, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Band changes name

- 1) 1963, January 9, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 4)
 - Rhythmic thunder
- 2) 1963, January 18, Friday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Music
- 3) 1963, January, 23, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 9)
 - Uganda music
- 4) 1963, February 9, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 5)
 - Moscow students celebrate
- 5) 1963, February 15, Friday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 3)
 - African music hits USA
- 6) 1963, March 22, Friday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 3)
 - Adejumo's rhythm dandies
- 7) 1963, March 25, Monday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 2)
 - Back with a bang
- 8) 1963, October 30, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 4)
 - Review

AMBASSADOR



Duties

Northerner gains ICA scholarship

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Investment chances in

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1960, March 12, Saturday, Daily Service, Pg. 10

- 1)1965, January 5, Tuesday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 2)
 - Pop singer sick of his audience
- 2)1965, March 19, Friday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 2)
 - Towards Highlife
- 3)1965, June ?, Thursday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)
 - The king of Apala
- 4)1965, August 28, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 6)
 - U.S. musician coming

1966

- 1) 1966, February 5, Saturday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 4)
 - Cinemas
- 2) 1966, February 7, Monday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 9)
 - U.S. Musician in Nigeria
- 3) 1966, February 11, Friday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 9)
 - . U.S. musician with Nigerian students
- 1966, February 17, Thursday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 10)
 - The origin of the first world festival of the Negro arts
- 5) 1966, February 18, Friday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 9)
 - Jazz time on Sunday WNTV
- 6) 1966, March 7, Monday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 10)
 - Singing with you
- 7) 1966, March 21, Monday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 10)
 - Singing with you (Four)
- 8) 1966, March 28, Monday, Nigerian Daily Sketch, (Pg. 10)
 - Singing With You



- 9) 1966, July 2, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Danny Williams, Famous through perseverance
- 10) 1966, July 4, Monday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 5)
- 11) 1966, July 8, Friday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pgs. 2-3)
 - Music and music makers
- 12) 1966, July 16, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Big beat jamboree
- 13) 1966, July 23, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Reviewing the jamboree
- 14) 1966, July 28, Thursday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 2)
 - What makes highlife music tick
- 15) 1966, July 29, Friday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 2)
 - Fela at Kakadu
 - 16) 1966, July 30, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Saturday highlife
 - 17) 1966, August 6, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Nigerian pop groups get a big slap
 - 18) 1966, August 10, Wednesday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 2)
 - Drama, sport, jazz on NTS
- 19) 1966, August 13, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Come swinging, cats
- 20) 1966, August 20, Saturday, West African Pilot, (Pg. 6)
 - Pop strangling highlife



1960, October 24, Monday, West African Pilot, Pg. 3

1967

- 1) 1967, June 4, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 5)
 - Caught in the act
- 2) 1967, June 11, Sunday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)
 - Saturdays night with Osifeso
- 3) 1967, July 2, Sunday Sketch, (Pg. 5)
 - Short history of Nigerian pop scene
- 4) 1967, July 16, Sunday Sketch, (Pg. 5)
 - First African art gallery in Uganda
- 5) 1967, July 25, Sunday Sketch, (Pg. 5)
 - Music
- 6) 1967, July 30, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 5)
 - What colour means in American pop music scene
- 7) 1967, August 13, Sunday Sketch, (Pg. 1)
 - Fela the best
- 8) 1967, November 16, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 1)
 - Advert: Grand jazz festival
- 9) 1967, November 24, Friday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12)
 - Advert: Philips tape recorded
- 10) 1967, December 28, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 7)
 - Jazz group fold up

1968

- 1) 1968, January 24, Daily Times, (Pg. 8)
 - Advert placement for Sir Victor Uwaifo
- 2) 1968, February 4, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg.5)
 - Music

WEST APRICAN PILOT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1961

eatre view

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of course. objection film. As ve films, ve scenes omplete-



the screen THE popular singer, Joe Nez, known among fans as "The Voice", Joe features regularly on the radio and television programmes.

uke Ellington A nd His Band

ated her record that the Ellington as the conductor, Band is one of the largest, oldest and certainly most interesting jezz organisation in the world.

During the twentier, it in the treesesses troduced its so-called "jungle

permanent line-up, of masterly music. disciplined individuality.

CO MUCH have been said Philips have just released a composition is the perfection about "Duke Ellington" performance of their work on of the solos which of course a I did it and his Orchestra. It is on LP (429809 BE) with Ellington typical of Ellington's personal

By EMMA

It is a wonderful piece with style" with growling brass and a fascinating time and a cons which could be dianced for a tinuous flow of shythm - the Blues, a special quality as

At the early thirties, it had a two things that make for good usually found in other muse One thing notable in this obytheaf it in for any dance. into; the ability to make your

BOOK REVIEW

1961, October 21, Saturday, West African Pilot

3)	1968, February 5, Monday, Sketch, (Pg.3)			
	 Advert placement for NIVICO record player 			
4)	1968, February 15, Thursday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)			
	Great American Negro name in fine art			
5)	1968, May 5, Sunday Times, (Pg. 7)			
	Arthur Conley is coming of age			
6)	1968, May 19, Sunday Times, (Pg. 7)			
	• Record			
7)	1968, May 24, Friday, Daily Times, (Pg. 3)			
	Guitar play time			
8)	1968, June 1, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg. 3)			
	New Disc			
9)	1968, June 30, Sunday Times, (Pg. 11)			
	Lobitos have a new sound			
10)	1968, July 4, Thursday, Daily Sketch, (Pg. 8)			
	Cinema tonight			
11)	1968, July 10, Wednesday, Daily Sketch, (Pg. 8)			
	Art can publicize Nigeria abroad			
12)	1968, July 14, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 8)			
	Jazz music for dancing, weeping			
13)	1968, July 24, Wednesday, Daily Sketch. (Pg. 6)			
	The promise of Orisun theatre group			
14)	1968, July 31, Wednesday, Daily Sketch, (Pg. 10)			
	Rex Lawson in wonderland			
15)	1968, August 3, Monday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)			
	 Music supplies relief to heavy heart 			



1961, November 17, Friday, West African pilot, Pg. 3 (2)

16) 1968, August 18, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 5) Folk theatre in Nigeria 17) 1968, August 25, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 5) Mario tops them all 18) 1968, September 8, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 5) Now, Soul epidemic hits Ibadan 19) 1968, September 11, Wednesday, Daily Sketch, (Pg. 6) Soul music for hippies at home 1968, September 15, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 5) 20) Orlando, veteran musician at 26 1968, September 18, Wednesday, Daily Sketch, (Pg. 6) 21) Sound to warm your heart 22) 1968, September 22, Sunday, Sketch, (Pg. 5) Bees on the move 23) 1968, September 25, Wednesday, Daily Sketch, (Pg. 6) First Nigerian cultural convoy 1969 1969, February 16, Sunday Times, (Pg. 13) 1) A Clash of music forces 1969, March 9, Sunday Times, (Pg. 8) 2) Cold Sweat! ... Geraldo Pino 3) 1969, March 29, Saturday, Nigerian Observer (pg 6-7) Fela Storms Benin 4) 1969, April 1, Tuesday, Daily Times (Pg. 5) Afro-Beat now gets a home 1969, May 10, Saturday, Daily Times (Pg. 13) 5) Advert placement for Fela's Koola Lobitos



1961, December 9, Saturday, West African Pilot, Pg. 3

- 6) 1969, May 11, Sunday Times, Sunday, (Pg. 12)
 - Advert placement called Afro Spot
- 7) 1969, May 13, Tuesday, Daily Times (Pg. 9)
 - Afro Spot advert
- 8) 1969, June 2, Monday, Daily Times (Pg. 12)
 - "Just Shout Afro", a free Afro night show
- 9) 1969, June 3, Tuesday, Daily Times (Pg. 7)
 - Bobby Alerts Tax Officials on the Visiting Soul Men
 - 10) 1969, June 3, Tuesday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)
 - US jazz team coming
- 11) 1969, June 3, Tuesday, Daily Times (Pg. 9)
 - Advert placement, Fela featuring Orlando Julius' Modern Aces
 - 12) 1969, June 8, Sunday Times, Daily Times (Pg. 2)
 - Fela off to US
 - Border Hitch for Pino
 - 13) 1969, June 9, Monday, Daily Times (Pg. 13)
 - Advert, Fela featuring "the Dynamite Ten"
 - 14) 1969, June 14, Saturday, Nigerian Observer, (pg 6-7)
 - West Africa 'Soul' Export, Geraldo Pino now in Midwest.
 - 15) 1969, June 13, Friday, Daily Times (Pg. 9)
 - Advert, Fela featuring Roy Chicago
 - 16) 1969, June 16, Monday, Daily Times (Pg. 15)
 - Noticed a pattern of advert placement for free shows on Mondays.



1961, December 28, Thursday, West African Pilot, Pg. 3

- 17) 1969, June 18, Wednesday, Daily Times (Pg. 14)
 - Advert for Geraldo Pino and his "heartbeats" with Rose Small.
- 18) 1969, June 19, Thursday, Daily Times (Pg. 4)
 - US date for Fela
- 19) 1969, June 27, Friday, Daily Times (Pg. 2)
 - The Lobitos off at last
- 20) 1969, June 27, Friday, Daily Times (Pg9)
 - In the Lobitos' absence, Afro spot places advert for the Sunflowers of Nigeria featuring afro stars like Mona Finnih, Sunny Okogwu and Mr. Afro.
- 21) 1969, July 2, Wednesday, Daily Times (Pg. 13)
 - Geraldo Pino consistently held his shows at the Maharani, a restaurant and nightclub located at 39/41, Martins Street, Lagos
- 22) 1969, August 9, Saturday, Daily Times (Pg. 9)
 - Afro spot advert for Roy Chicago and his Rhythm Dandies.
- 23) 1969, August 25, Monday, Daily Times (Pg2)
 - Venues where Geraldo Pino and his Heartbeats performed
 - Surulere Night Club
 - City Hall, Catholic Mission Street, Lagos.
 - The Talk of the Town Night Club
 - Red Cross Hall, Eko Akete Close, off st. Gregory Road, Obalende.

Tickets to watch Pino perform generally sold for 10/6 d for singles and £1 for doubles. (Ref.)





S. O. FARHINA

laugh or two

£100 COLLECTED FOR OWU COLLEGE

programmes

HE IS TOURING AFRICA



Your star

1962, March 21, Wednesday, Nigerian Tribune, Pg. 3

- 24) 1969, August 11, Monday, Nigerian Tribune, pg. 7
 - Swinging Jerk Beat
- 25) 1969, August 23, Saturday, Daily Times (Pg. 9)
 - Advert, Afrospot hosts Geraldo Pino and his heartbeats during Fela band's trip to the US.
- 26) 1969, August 25, Monday, Nigerian Tribune, Pg. 5
 - US University on African music
- 25) 1969, August 27, Wednesday, Daily Times (Pg.8)
 - A first for Fela
- 26) 1969, August 31, Sunday Times, Daily Times (Pg. 9)
 - Here comes the LUNAR WALK
- 27) 1969, September 7, Sunday times, Daily Times (Pg. 8 & 13)
 - SUCCESS STORY, PINO! The little boy who ran mama's car as taxi and saved £30 to buy his first guitar.
 - Sunny Okogwu
 - Still on ... the silent battle between mama and me –Pino.
- 30) 1969, September 23, Tuesday, Daily Times (Pg. 7)
 - TIMESCENE; "I am doing fine Fela.
- 31) 1969, October 1, Wednesday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 15)
 - Soul galore on eve of ninth



1962, November 24, Saturday, West African Pilot Pg. 3

32) 1969, October 6, Monday, Nigerian Tribune

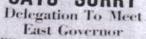
Music

- 33) 1969, October 11, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - Gondoliers plan soul music feast
- 34) 1969, October 18, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - An empire hotel: Guitar boy digs
- 35) 1969, October 25, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - Prizes galore at empire nite club
- 36) 1969, November 13, Thursday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)
 - Singer and designer
- 37) 1969, November 15, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - Orlando Julius and his boys
 - 38) 1969, November 19, Wednesday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)
 - Miss soul takes the floor
 - 39) 1969, November 29, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - Tex Dandies hit empire hotel tonight
- 40) 1969, December 2, Tuesday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 4)
 - Josephine doing the camel walk
- 41) 1969, December 6, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - All stars soul international storms Ibadan
- 42) 1969, December 13, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - The Gondoliers-Here they come
- 43) 1969, December 15, Monday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7)
 - Music



NSUKKA STUDENTS UNION

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Italian Fashion

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It's Not So.

Missionaries

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Manager Jailed For Stealing Goat



I WAS GUIDED BY THE THEY DECIDE

Okpara Praises
Christian Housewife Found
Dead In Bush

Safe Blown Up.

LAW: WITNESS

TREASURY BILLS

1962, November 27, Tuesday, West African Pilot, Pg. 8

(Pg. 3) Black music at Indiana University 45) 1969, December 20, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7) Its xmas music session at empire 46) 1969, December 27, Saturday, Nigerian Tribune, (Pg. 7) Music, relaxation, enjoyment 1969, December 28, Sunday, Nigerian Observer, (Pg. 13) 47) Pino's Day at Benin 1970 1) 1970, March 7, Saturday, Nigerian Observer, (Pg. 7) Pino has something up his Sleeve 2) 1970, March 21, Saturday, Nigerian Observer, (Pg.7) Fela and his Nigerian "70" Returns Home Soon 3) 1970, March 28, Saturday, Nigerian Observer, (Pg. 9) Who is Nigeria's Best Musician? Fela is back 4) 1970, April 11, Saturday, Nigerian Observer, (Pg. 7) Dele, A New "Happening" 5) 1970, October 18, Sunday Times, Daily Times, (Pg.3) Nigerian musicians on the war path- Row over titles 1970, November 1, Sunday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12) 6) Afro Spot 7) 1970, , November 2, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 20) Afro Spot

1969, December 17, Wednesday, Nigerian Tribune,

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-PEN ATALANTA

NOSING AROUND

NIGERIAN TRIBUNE

'AFRICAN MUSIC HITS USA'

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Federal Palace

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VICTOR BLAIVA.

OUR MEN SEE A NEW CITY

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Emeka

writes UBA

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Editor

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Art Actions and the child she moresed the numer Charles Nidakwe Ositiachesdomas Chinye is Unit to their medence of Philimore Garden.

Happy birthday

MASS Christman Danks will be are on February at Charestee Elmas in the Shinghfee of Mr F JJ Elices of the British Indonwation Services Doctor

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CALLING YOUR STARS

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AQUARIUS - Chinology Edy-device of South Greek and harbon established to fished westparted Souther Sou specied. Day's player Souther of Project Son Milled on Souther

Sir Francis
visits scout
camp

THE Governor and Chief Scout of Eastern Nigeria Sir Francis thiam, accompanied by Lady Ibiam on Monday visited the Scout Jamhorer care of Control of Control

uing the visit for Francia Trinod

Migerians could be sure thing if they were a liv-

OJORA GETS IT

MR Adequate Over recertly tree stather step on the bridge when he sees primates, UAT Gauge Paths Belatton Al-

Runter 45 No. 10 Corneral by maked was usual his new appointment. Public Relations Munager, based to

Mr Opens with as the tips toolder of the most will be received the most will be tool the UAC Group public selections actionics in Hr

Date of the state of the state

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Earlier the General led to the easing chief and Hopional Commissioner Mr F1 Day Broden simported the mining Jan beaus carry including the Arikins and the Brian with tamp head

The threather took part of

1963, February 15, Friday, Nigerian Tribune, Pg. 3

8)	1970, November 3, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12)
	Afro Spot
9)	1970, November 4, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg.16)
	Afro Spot
10)	1970, November 5, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 23)
	Afro Spot
11)	1970, November 6, Friday, Daily Times, (Pg. 16)
	Afro Spot
12)	1970, November 7, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14)
	Afro Spot
13)	1970, November 8, Sunday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12)
	Afro Spot
14)	1970, November 9, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 23)
	Afro Spot
15)	1970, November 10, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14)
	Afro Spot
16)	1970, November 11, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14)
	Afro Spot
17)	1970, November 12, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 17)
	Afro Spot
18)	1970, November 13, Friday, Daily Times, (Pg. 17)
	Afro Spot
19)	1970, November 14, Daily Times, (Pg. 19)
	Afro Spot
20)	1970, November 15, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12)
	Afro Spot

Prophet charged with

Calls on Jesus -'Take my life'

EPE WATER IS PURE -OFFICIAL

IN LONDON AND NEW YORK-

ONLY TIMEX HAVE

ALL THESE . STAR FEATURES



C' Wealth festival prelim begins today

CLERK JAILED FOR 26s THEFT

SCOUT BOSS SAYS 'BYE' TO GOVERNOR

Nigerians : 43 pass USSR Exm.

'GBENRO GIVES VONOS TO LEPERS

TOWARDS

HIGHLIFE

JOB GALORE

SHELLING

Proceeds

Talk ends

1965, March 19, Friday, Nigerian Tribune, Pg. 2

Afro Spot						
33)	1970, November 28, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg. 17)					
	Afro Spot					
32)	 Afro Spot 1970, November 27, Friday, Daily Times, (Pg. 18) 					
31)	1970, November 26, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 24)					
30)	1970, November 25, Wednesday Daily Times, (Pg. 16) • Afro Spot					
30)	• Afro Spot					
29)	1970, November 24, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 20)					
	Afro Spot					
28)	1970, November 23, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 18)					
27)	1970, November 22, Sunday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12) • Afro Spot					
271	Afro Spot 1970 November 32 Sunday Daily Times (Pg. 12)					
26)	1970, November 21, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg.14)					
	Afro Spot					
25)	1970, November 20, Friday Daily Times, (Pg. 21)					
,	• Afro Spot					
24)	 Afro Spot 1970, November 19, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 25) 					
23)	1970, November 18, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 17					
	Afro Spot					
22)	1970, November 17, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 15)					
	Afro Spot					
21)	1970, November 16, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 21)					

Nigerian Pop



Meet Sunny And His All Star Band

SUNNI Amage over the property of the pales recognition as the pales recognition as the property of the east of thing you here been shad on the part of the pales recognite the east of thing you here been shad one to the wavel down to the wavel down

Chib Afrique Obseoch Street, Valsa Man Ole man this-spot rea reval hot one The Malain in rhough of the Chib Mrs Adeola Adebuwah who form cell manageral the 7 States Hotel Boatlan waid yesterday that San-ny and His Licky Sar Rand have a lor of the votted and rhythin that Lagos sorbillies want to listen and dattee of

PTP Plans Jamboree No 2

Groups Get A Big Slap



Pop News



SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1948

ODEON-EB MANDO TARZAN COMIL TO

ODEON-BADAN BOOK OF YOU FIAM

Radio, TV Programm



1966, August 6, Saturday, West African Pilot, Pg. 6

1970, November 29, Sunday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14) 34) Afro Spot 35) 1970, November 30, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 1& 5) I feel at home in Lagos - James Brown James Brown is mobbed 36) 1970, November 30, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 24) Afro Spot 37) 1970, December 2, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12-13) How Soul Brother No. 1 got to the top 38) 1970, December 9, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 10) Let us have a soul summit 39) 1970, December 12, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg. 16) Afro Spot 40) 1970, December 12, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg. 22) Afro Spot 41) 1970, December 14, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 20) Afro Spot 42) 1970, December 15, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 7) Afro Spot 43) 1970, December 15, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 22) Afro Spot 44) 1970, December 17, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 20) Afro Spot

45) 1970 December 18, Friday, Daily Times, (pg. 21)

Afro Spot



1966, July 30, Saturday, West African Pilot, Pg. 6

- 46) 1970, December 19, Saturday, Daily Times, (pg. 16)
 - Afro Spot
- 47) 1970, December 21, Monday, Daily Times, (pg. 24)
 - Afro Spot
 - 48) 1970, December 22, Tuesday, Daily Times, (pg. 18)
 - Afro Spot
 - 49) 1970, December 23, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 20)
 - Afro Spot
 - 50) 1970, December 24, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 30)
 - Afro Spot
 - 51) 1970, December 27, Sunday Times, Daily Times, (Pg. 12)
 - Afro Spot
 - 52) 1970, December 28, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 19)
 - Afro Spot
 - 53) 1970, December 29, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 12)
 - Afro Spot
 - 54) 1970, December 30, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 10-11)
 - New Afro-Beat Tune is on the way up
 - 55) 1970, December 30, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14)
 - Afro Beat



of halanic (49), a cod halanic (19), a cod halanic (19), a cod selection (19), a cod (19),

War hero speaks on borders

BEST

FELA. THE

1967, August 13, Sunday Sketch, Pg. 1

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- 1) 1971, February 2, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14)
 - Afro Spot
- 2) 1971, February 3, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 16)
 - Afro Spot
- 3) 1971, February 4, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14)
 - Afro Spot
- 4) 1971, February 5, Friday, Daily Times, (Pg. 18)
 - Afro Spot
- 5) 1971, February 6, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg. 17)
 - Afro Spot
- 6) 1971, February 7, Sunday Times, Daily Times, (Pg. 12)
 - Afro Spot
 - 7) 1971, February 8, Monday, Daily Times, (Pg. 20)
 - Afro Spot
 - 8) 1971, February 9, Tuesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 16)
 - Afro Spot
 - 9) 1971, February 10, Wednesday, Daily Times, (Pg. 16)
 - Afro Spot
 - 10) 1971, February 11, Thursday, Daily Times, (Pg. 14)
 - Afro Spot
 - 11) 1971, February 12, Friday, Daily Times, (Pg. 18)
 - Afro Spot
 - 12) 1971February 13, Saturday, Daily Times, (Pg.

Afro Spot

24)



1967, August 13, Sunday Sketch, Pg. 1



Club 400: it could THE choosy nature of Benin might clubers has rendered most existing right clubs, and restaurants in the City stale. A number of them are unable to meet up the required standard in all aspects of entertainments.

Song of

the week

KALAKUTA SHOW By Fela Ransome-Kull

Make we talk something We never talk before and We de see am everyday

Look the man him de waks Waks juju wake juju {Chorus 2cs

Hungry de run for him face

Waka waka waka waka

Him pepeye cap for him head Pepe pepe pepe pepe

Him Khaki woolen shirt for him body Wuru wuru wuru wuru 200

Him trouser de fly above

him knee Yaya yaya yaya yaya 2ce The People wey employ the man them give am Permit 10 carry the thing we he bad

Dem give permit to carry baton Dem give permit to carry

leargas Dans give permit to carry bullet

Dom give permit to carry

top them all

sions take the shape of an end-of-party group.
One spot that is likely to make Benin fans have a Christmas with a difference this year is called Club 400.
Finishing touches are now being put to the interior decorations.
Apart from the exquisite furnishing, the atmosphere is seductive.
The lighting could be cool, or psychiedelic, depending on the mood of the show.
Although the layout looks imported, it gather refreshments will be mainly African with European ones as supplement.
For now I, micht est the supplement.

ment. For now, I might not have enough superlati-

Patrick Idahosa

ves to describe the set-ling inside Club 400, but dropping in might help tell my story. The guy behind the project is superstar mu-sicien hotelier Exassa King "Sir" Victor Uwa-ifo.

King Sir Victor Uwa-ilo.

The club will be offi-cially opened on Decem-ber 13 and a couple of events have been lined up to mark the occa-sion.

there, but for me, I don't think, I'll miss it.



"GENERAL" BOLIVIA

SIR VICTOR UWAIFO

Boliviia's 3rd Album to be

EXHUE music exponents "General" Bolivia and his Happy Stare Band of Auchi whose three about will be released this month are stated for a history-would billing of the Midwest State.

The tour which starts off from Uromi December 13, will take the hand to Benth (20) Ublain (28) and Auchi (27).

the four the During

out soon

band will preview male-rials in the expected al-born.

Their special attraction will be the introduction of the electric organ into their abound which had believe now being a guitar,—online,—longs—lumpet and box setting.

This funny world

COMING ATTRACTIONS

"SIR" Patrick Idahosa and His African Sound makers who have been off the scene for some-lime now are back in full awing and will have their fifth album released within the next

inable to meet up use required standard in all aspects of entertainments.

Those who attempt to satisfy their fans either do not have enough sound to back up their efforts or inefficient services tend to ruin their whole attempts.

In some cases, exorbitant prices of drinks and snacks tend to scare tans off.

These failings on the part of the club owners coupled with the rising cost of living appears argely responsible for the scanly outlings now being experienced in Benin and so many supposed happy occa-

Benin and so many supposed happy occa-



few weeks.

The band plans a massive tour to back up publicity for the expected album which Patrick himself desconded as "sensation-

Sunday, December 1975, Sunday observer, Pg. 14

- 1) 1978, February 13, Monday, The Punch (pg. 2, 4 & 7)
 - What the Judge said on the Kuti family #25m claim suit
- 2) 1978, February 16, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela's mother in a coma
- 3) 1978, February 16, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon Punch
- 4) 1978, February 16, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 7)
 - What it's like to be Fela's number one woman for eighteen years by Remi Anikulapo Kuti
- 5) 1978, February 18, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Fela Returns Home a Sad Man
 - And Keeps Date with 27 Brides
- 6) 1978, February 18, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 16)
 - Mum not afraid to die Fela
- 7) 1978, February 18, Saturday, Daily Times (pg. 13)
 - Fela in line with Tradition, but
- 8) 1978, February 19, Sunday, Daily Times (pg. 1)
 - Fela: No Wedding, it is against Public Policy –
 Braithwaite
- 9) 19678, February 19, Sunday, The Punch (pg. 11)
 - Marriage that Never Was
 - Take Tradition Seriously
- 10) 1978, February 20, Monday, The Punch (pg. 1 & 11)
 - Fela says 'law or no law, I'll marry today'
- 11) 1978, February 21, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela weds his girls

ZING HUMAN STURY TO CHEER THE NEW YEAR B oring black and white American couple e children found a Yoruba Mama

MALCOLM AND JEANNE GREEN

were fundreds to be convered- as homethy a positible.
Why diel I come to Nigeria!
What diel I pton to do hier?
Why didn't we come by
plane? What was America
like? Diel drive here from
America? Was I going back America rich? These are just a few of the local newspe-

the fire violent philosophy adopted by the military the hotopted by the military the hotopted been brought about by the absolute refusal of most if anisolate refusal of most if not all of the political eco-nomical religious croil free dom of the black man in a white man's house. This should be clear by the fact that the very distinct of the

Mama supplied us all with new Yoruba names and at first it was very confusing to remember who was who.9

pers some to interview us and place non-s drawe for free-

tome Kepi, the Afre-Beat King year care of the first to extend to belong hand to my fomily and myself. The encouragement and finenciab help ha gove us helped as greatly ever the first months and gover me an apportunity in

rience our first cultures differences when we moved to Akoke to comp on the grounds of private citzen's compound. This man had man wives end many children and apparently none of them were too supply. Our comping there although the man had referred the invibitions brought about more unhappiness. The swomen in the compound immediately resently man and the contract of the contract o

non. However we had no word from the authorities end we tried to work paliently and suffered quelty.

ipbu-Ode.

If shouldn't be difficult for must people to realise what a cultural gap exists between the Afra-American and the traditional Yoruba-Mame. women come to our larry and change our entire life, The shart stout elderly women approached our lorry at Akoko.

E koro o she said pleasantly. I am your

Inciditional Yoruba-Mome-who owns properly in Serv-lere decided to move us into a small george on the some compound as a hostel that the owned should the time that we couldn't go on com-ga in the lory, and orthogs we would be forced to move on. So we come to Survives and found ourselves right in the middle of a ribbal mother, and so it come to be. Mame was convinced I was her son and as for as everyone was concerned the aliens deportment included, that was that. So, the Green and their

American is overwhelming.

One of the first things on

American child learns is to

mind his own business. To do otherwise is dongarous How ever I believe my family and I tried brovely to bridge the cultural gap. At this point, I'll turn the story over to my

JEANNE SPEAKS Perhaps the best way to try and explain our transition would be to go through each phase of existence.

Mama supplied us all with new names. Yaruba names and at first it was very con-

when Aderonke was called and vise versa. The house was constantly filled with

e difficult time.

Believe me, for someone who has been independent who has been independent and standing on his own feet for at least 35 years to suddenly find himself regarded at a small boy unable to decide anything is like an

realised if was too ropid at franktien, Memo continued to bring people to use of all lours of the inchi and day.

As for privacy we had some and for people who are an after people who is the cost of the people who had become intrivious.

We waited three months before we approached morns about cranking the could become a family unit had been about the could be the cou somebody gave them and I had been warned by mama over about people nod been warned by mama over and over about people trying to polson the children because the children are talkable and excitable mama

ralkable and excitable, mema thought they were disrespectful and organients were part of our regular routine. She was very annoyed of our toggestion for visiting hours and returned to her own hause refusing to allow her people to visit a again. This hou olivory been the

Sunday, January 6, 1974 Sunday Punch, Po. 9

- 12) 1978, February 21, Tuesday, Daily Times (pg. 1 &11)
 - Fela Weds
 - Ifa Priest Blesses the 27
 - Priest Blesses Fela and his New Wives
- 13) 1978, February 22, Wednesday, (pg. 24)
 - Sick Mum blesses Fela and brides
- 14) 1978, February 25, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela set free
 - ... But bench warrant for his girls
- 15) 1978, March 1, Wednesday, The Punch (pg. 3)
 - Fela plans a party
- 16) 1978, March 3, Friday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela deported from Ghana
- 17) 1978, March 3, Friday, Daily Times (pg. 32)
 - Fela Kicked out of Ghana: Zombie Cry Worries Govt
- 18) 1978, March 4, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 7)
 - "I can cope with my two dozen wives" Fela
- 19) 1978, March 13, Monday, The Punch (pg. 15)
 - Teenage Girl caused Kalakuta 'war witness
- 20) 1978, March 22, Wednesday, The Punch (pg. 4)
 - I love Fela
- 21) 1978, March 24, Friday, The Punch (pg. 2)
 - Advert for Fela's show
- 22) 1978, March 25, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 17)
 - Advert for Fela's Fela's show

HOW TIME CHANGES THINGS



IT is often difficult to imagine how time changes things and how it transforms a man's life.

Perhaps, if it were possible to get a vivid picture of what we were years back, we may be in a better position to really assess our progress or retardation in life.

What one is driving at here may be made more vivid if we take the formative years and the present performance of Afrobeat King — Fels Ransons Kuti for an illustration.

The two photograms where may suffice to illustrate of the change in Fela's life over the series.

Picture on the right spows the man Fela as leader of the stand Lobitoes in the early sixties.



Notice his flying collar, his belt, the shape of his trouser and his dance steps.

More important, look at his microphone which may have been the "latest" at that time, compare it to his present day microphone.

Having done these, please relax, and view picture on the left critically.

No doubt one notices modernity on display.

Compare Fela's microphone, dress and his dance posture.

There also seem to be some display of confidence, drive and action in him. But who ever knew Fela could change so soon.

Now you know, time changes every-

May 4, 1975, The Nigeria Observer, Pg.22

- 23) 1978, March 25, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 20 & 22)
 - Why and how I was deported from Ghana
- 24) 1978, April 5, Wednesday, Daily Times (pg. 13)
 - I Won't Vote for Fela
- 25) 1978, April 6, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - 18 'Disciples' of Fela freed, Bench warrant for
 25
- 26) 1978, April 10, Monday, Daily Times (pg. 24)
 - Fela: protest march today
- 27) 1978, April 11, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 17)
 - Advert for Fela's show
- 28) 1978, April 11, Tuesday, Daily Times (pg. 32)
 - Protest March Halted
 - Now, Fela Talks to Police
- 29) 1978, April 12, Wednesday, Daily Times (pg. 1)
 - Cold War May End
- 30) 1978, April 12, Wednesday, (pg. 20)
 - Fela carries protest march to supreme HQ
- 31) 1978, April 14, Friday, The Punch, (pg. 1)
 - Mama Fela is dead
- 32) 1978, April 14, Friday, Daily Times (pgs. 1 &2)
 - The Voice of Women is dead
 - Fela's Mum Passes Away
 - How she lived
 - The Crusader





Fela's Kalakuta show: A

RUPEE FESTUS

Aighe Lebarty's

date refixed

OLOKUN King Aighe IIerly whose major Benin pearance was billed for wember 28 has decided reschedule his date. Some hitches in the riginal publicity layout as said to be the reaon for the cancellation. The show has however en ratixed for DecemTHE setting was unusually calm inside Fela's lounge at the Kalakuta 'republic'.

His PR man was on hand.

A triend of the re-public who could go for a black American, two radio and television filmakers, two Wagon Inc. promoters and a maiden to attend to the urgent needs of the "chief priest".

Subject matter: Kala kuta Show — the fatest eoic album from the black president himself has lust been lastied on Kalakuta. Records and Kalakula Records and distributed by EMI Ni.

Feta showed round sleeve — an artist's im-pression of the gruel-ling bloody battle bet-ween kalakuta republi. cans and the police.

The back cover was even more terrible.

Real live photogra. heal live photogra-phs of the great light: Fela in bandaged left hand singing (after the November 23rd, 1974 war another showing his battered head and two more pictures of the hattle area is the battle zone in total nins, and then, the monatrois lyrics cord. nlete with revolution.

Fala epinned the record himself hut left his au. dience to decide what they thought of the al.

A burst of high-keyed sex intro draes some minutes, exploding into a high energy Afro. beat, setting the rhyth, mic pattern of things to come

Some ten pulsating minutes of tensed percustion firework ensues with master drummer Tony Allen and conga player Henry Kofi exchanging fierce leaks.

Fela opens the vocal section, gutting out monster lyrics in their brevurae. I had thought that "Alagbon Close" was the culmination of Fela's creative power but after listening to

KALAKUTA SHOW", I

found I was wrong. Fela's best works are usually produced under tension and disorder and police provided all the sparks he needed to compose this master

Show nelting Fela at least N500,000 both in record sales and road shows.

It is almost certain that Kalakuta show will form the basis of Fela's next tour particularly the one Wagon are negotiating to do in three state capitals: Enugu, Port Harcourt and Benin during Christmas season. Benin during the

Fela has yet to okay

the tour.
Fela has become to
Nigeria what the Weiers leader Bob Marley

is to Jamaica. Both are cult heroes and revolutionary musi-clans often at daggers drawn with police.

warey's enti-police record I SHOT THE SHERRIF has the under-tones of Fela's "Kala-kuta show."

The guitar sound on Fela's new album to Fela's new album to something near machine gun fire work while trie horns invoke memories of firegas and bazooka

him has distinct sound and differs fremendous. ly with others.
While Alagbon has

white Alagon has sometimes relaxed moods, Kalakuta show is continously charged with heavy rhythm, with heavy rhythm, showing the band in

showing the parameter tightest.
Back at the Shrine, Fela is accompanied by a crowd of reline. The band, Africa 70 already warmed up through loin Fela

band. Africe 70 already warmed up through warmed up through warmed up through the some numbers join fela in his first preview of the album since release fast Friday.

What a boneshaker.

More than 1,000 youthe burst in ecstatic joy as the opening bars blast into charged freazy. They also Join in the chichus:

Dem do one thing Dem never do before Dem never do before 2ce)

Dem hire exe o Dam bring cutiess Kalakuta show Kalakuta show.

Fela's singing magic has certainly undergone the desired vocal aur-gery that he walls, cries and even stretches his voice into straining pro-portion as he drives the entire outfit into perfec.

For 1976, Fela Is



Sunday, November 30, 1975, Sunday Observer, Pg. 14

- 33) 1978, April 14, Friday, The Punch (pg. 17)
 - Advert for Fela's show
- 34) 1978, April 15, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Obasanjo condoles Kuti family
- 35) 1978, April 15, Saturday, (pg. 5)
 - Mrs. Kuti: A Freedom Fighter Obasanjo
- 36) 1978, April 16, Sunday, Daily Times (pg. 32)
 - Mrs. Kuti's Death Shocks Egbas
- 37) 1978, April 16, Sunday Times, (pgs. 18& 27)
 - Funmilayo Ransome Kuti: She Walked
 Where Angels Feared to Thread
 - Exit of Mrs. Ransome kuti
- 38) 1978, April 22, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Mock Coffin of Mrs. Kuti paraded in Lagos
- 39) 1978, April 22, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Mama Fela's mock coffin
- 40) 1978, April 24, Monday, Daily Times (pg. 1)
 - Fire Guts Steel Firm near Mrs. Kuti's coffin
- 41) 1978, April 24, Monday, The Punch (pg. 22)
 - Obituary announcement for Dr. Funmi Kuti
- 42) 1978, April 24, Monday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Fela says: 'Sack Col. Ali'
- 43) 1978, April 26, Wednesday, Daily Times (pg. 13)
 - Tribute to Mrs. Kuti

KING of Afropeat, Olu-

femi Ransome-Kuti, is to headline a great music headline a great music exposition to be staged in in Nigeria on our Repu-blic anniversary eve—Sep-tember 30 this year at Lagos State Sports Stadium.

Billed AFRO BEAT EXPO '75, it will be the first time an entirely local package is being presented in a massive open air football

potball ground concert. Fela will face the biggest audience in the history of the music that he

authored and pushed to worldwide fame and glory. An estimated crowd of 20,000 Afrobeat worship-pers are expected to watch-

pers are expected to watchthe event.

The spirit, certainly, will
be peace, love, and happiness that sports meetings could never achieve.

WAGON INC. who are
masterminding the project
boasts of a consortium of
experts in the music business some of whom have
contributed immensely to contributed immensely to the development of the music industry in Nigeria.

A spokesman of the firm simply explained "all we are doing is to afford everyone, young and old, the opportunity Fela and some Nigeria's finest young musicians in arr atmosphere condusive

Fela and his Africa 70 re not only what the are not only what the Afrobeat expo is all about Appearing alongside with twelve hour in the

non stop marathon event, is an array of rock acts whose presence will cheef up the denim-clad mods

who will be in the real festival mood.

This include a new Afro funk squad called Afro Cult Express (ACE) comprising some of the best names Nigeria has ever produced in rock

music. ACE plays Afroan funk-and-glamour oriented rock.

When they decide to go underground, they dig deep and come up with skull-shattering places that get kids jumping with ecstacy.

Two other Lagos based outfits to play the mammoth fiesta

They are War Head Construction, a quartet that has the thoroughness of BLO and energetic enough to generate the same impact and instant reaction from audiences; and Perry Ernest who has forthcoming album. AFRO VIBERATIONS preview at the expo.

Perry has already made his mark with the brilliant vocal poetry delivered in Ozziddi's HELP and represents a newbreed in songwriting, arranging and production of music.

come the In-thing in live concerts and who else could be more appropriate to occupy that slot that the disco king Femi On the disco himself,

After his triumphant pe fomance at a recent disc battle in Lagos, Femi cor firmed his class as undisputable king of disco waves.

Tuesday September 3 1975 will surely go dow in Nigerian music histor as the day the industry of its biggest boost, and w pray the trend continue



Fels Ramsome Kul

Sunday, November 30, 1975, Sunday Observer, Pg. 14

- 44) 1978, April 27, Thursday, Daily Times (pg. 26)
 - Aurevoir, Lioness of Egbaland
- 45) 1978, April 28, Friday, Daily Times (pg. 32)
 - 2 Tombs for 'Voice of Women': Where Will She be Buried?
- 46) 1978, May 5, Friday, (pgs. 12 13)
 - The world of a great woman
- 47) 1978, May 5, Friday, The Punch (pg. 18)
 - Obituary announcement for Dr. Funmi Kuti
- 48) 1978, May 5, Friday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Chief Mrs. Kuti to be buried at Abeokuta
- 49) 1978, May 6, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 21)
 - Advert for Fela's Fear not for Man
- 50) 1978, May 6, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Adieu Mrs. Kuti
- 51) 1978, May 8, Monday, The Punch (pgs. 12-13)
 - Bye to Funmilayo Kuti (in pixs)
- 52) 1978, May 11, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 16)
 - Advert for Fela's show
- 53) 1978, May 13, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon Punch
- 54) 1978, May 20, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 19)
 - Chief priest says:
- 55) 1978, June 3, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 2)
 - Chief Priest Says:
- 56) 1978, June 10, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Fela plays against apartheid



THE Hat Jodan Barrocks. eral Obasanjo b tion, Mr. Omar

BY ROY GRAHAM

THE Chief of Army Staff, srid the Garrison.
Commander of Abalti Berracks were yesterday at a Lagos High Court sued for 85 million.
The suit which was filed by Mesars. Tunji Braithwaite firm of solicitors on behalf of Mrs.
Olufunmilayo Anikulapo-Kuri, Dr. Bako Kuti and Fala Anikulapo-Kuri was for damages allegadly caused to their persons and properties at 14A Agese Motor Road, on February 18, this year.
According to the sait. They had claimed in the

According to the sult, both Mrs. Kuti and Fels anikulapo-Kuti were co-cupying the two-storey building while Dr. Beko Kuti occupied a bungalow of the same research. Auti occupied a bungalow of the same premises used as his clinic.

NEXT WEEK: WIN

- 1 Refrigerator
- 3 Transistor Radios and
- 2 Radio Cassette Recorders in our Easy Competition.

NEXT WEEK IN THE WIRMING PUNCH

They had claimed in the suit that both the first and second defendants along with their agents unlawfully burst into the said house and maliciously set fire to the entire building thereby rendering the plaintiff homeless without any clothes, money or valuables.

The defendants' agents, it was claimed, violently assaulted the three plaintiffs and the aged Mrs. Oldrummilayo Anikulapo-Kuti was thrown out of a window of the top floor while Fels and his brother were nordlessly beaten on the head and Bodies with gunbutts.

It was further claimed the suit was thrown out the control of the property of the p

It was further claimed that the three plaintiffs were admitted into hospital as a result of serious injuries received.
No date has been fixed for hearing.

Startling.

The religion that worships life See Centre Pages.



DR. BEKO KUTI at LUTH Hospital yesterday said he was prateful to the nurses at the Creek Hospital Onl "they are wonderful and excellent".

Saturday, February 26, 1977, The Punch

- 57) 1978, June 15, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 7)
 - Advert for Fela's "Midnight Picnic Show"
- 58) 1978, June 16, Friday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - Advert for Fela's Midnight Picnic Show
- 59) 1978, June 17, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 2)
 - Advert for Fela's Midnight Picnic Show
- 60) 1978, July 1, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 17)
 - Advert for Fela's Sorrows, Tears and Blood
- 61) 1978, August 6, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 22)
 - Classy Advert for Fela's Sorrow, Tears and Blood and Colonial Mentality
- 62) 1978, August 3, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Fela yet to be served
- 63) 1978, August 5, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Thugs molest my client Fela's Counsel
- 64) 1978, August 26, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Fela files contempt motion against Decca
- 65) 1978, September 2, Saturday, The Punch (pgs. 8-10)
 - Fela vs Decca: Afrika 70 say judge for yourself
- 66) 1978, September 8, Friday, The Punch (pg. 20)
 - Judge barred from hearing Decca's motion
- 67) 1978, September 9, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela's party takes off soon

The 'Kalakuta' Affair

How Fela's house was burnt down - police

THE Nigeria Police has sewed a press release on the Kalakana Republic disturbance on Friday aftersoon. Published below is the Police press release.

"The Nigoria Police would like to comment on the second disturbance which occurred at Modulandis Russide-Sourie, A Belliury Police man on uraffic control they along Western Avenier, Strukter, Cardenogo a mamber of Mr. Feld, Anikulapo Kurif, than dwin there is which against One Way (entering Western Avenier from Minking intension strongs the UT turn meant only for whiche from Lagor to Western Avenued, The man driving Full's vehicle spatement the adverges by the Military Policeman and derive away samplementy almost purioding the Military Policeman student. On reaching No. 14A. Agage Moster Road (Fed's houses) the drive insciso other members of Fed.'s 2000 prits came flower to where the Military Police man was standing along Western Avenue and sharped beating him to un necession."

acing wentern Avenue and started beating nin up intercitearly.

As the Military Police mmi was being besten up, another army
personnel tiding a motor-cycle No. NA. 4055 alone Western Avenue
intervated. This Feen's group spain beat up the Military Motor-cyclist

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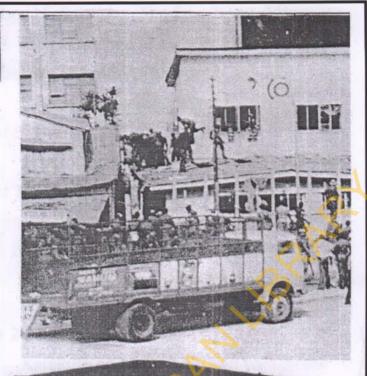
the started beat up the started beat up the Military Motor-cyclist

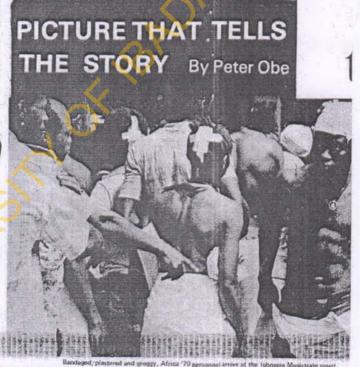
the started beat up the started beat up the Military Motor-cyclist

the started beat up the started

Fire stated from a private generator in the house. Because of the totoots situation which was developing the Police and the Armo were called in to clear the area and the traffic. The Nigeria Police is still inventioning.

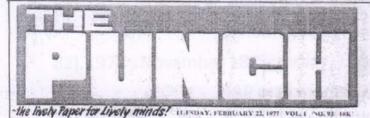
How 43
Africa '70
Band
personnel
came
to court
yesterday





Saturday, February 26, 1977, The Punch

- 68) 1978, September 16, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Fela shows up in an ambulance
- 69) 1978, September 30, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela's party takes off soon
- 70) 1978, October 5, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela for presidency
- 71) 1978, October 10, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 32)
 - Fela loses
- 72) 1978, October 20, Friday, The Punch (pg. 18)
 - Advert on the launching of Fela's party,
 Movement of the People (MOP)
- 73) 1978, October 24, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Kalakuta to be demolished tomorrow
- 74) 1978, October 25, Wednesday, The Punch (pg. 2)
 - Movement of the People takes off in style
- 75) 1978, October 30, , Monday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Kalakuta Falls
- 76) 1978, October 31, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon Punch
- 77) 1978, November 3, Friday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon punch
- 78) 1978, November 9, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Fela back from Berlin
- 79) 1978. November 10, Friday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela in Berlin
- 80) 1978, November 18, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - MOP appeals for funds



Police allege w damage to a Ni Army Motorc

Story by Segun Odusanya Pictures by Francis Komolafe

FORTY — three members of Fela Anikulapo — Kuti's FORTY Africa 70 organisation were yesterday arraigned before an Igbosere Chief Magistrate's Court, Lagos for an alleged wilful damage to a Nigerian Army motorcycle.

The accused - 15 men and 28 teenage girls — were according to the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. Morrodu Foedele progestration Egegele, prosecuting, withilly and unlawfully set fire to one Nigerian Army Enfiel Motorcycle registration. No NA/AD 4055 property of the Federal Government of the Federation", on February 18, this year.

The accused, most of them half dressed and with battered heads and limbs consisted of mostly enage girls.

They were taken to the court in a police Black Maria at 3 p.m. and arraigned before Chief Magistrate A.A.O.

The youngest of the coused, Comfort accused, Comfort George, aged 15, was half

male aged 26; Owolabi Balogun (male main aged zo: Owolabi Balogur (male aged 19), Adelanwa Birmbo (female aged 19), Comfort George (female aged 15), Bose John (female aged 17), Toyin Olowu (female aged 17), Bayo Odeneye (male aged 25) and Bayo Peter (male, aged 19).

Others include lyabo Adebiyi (female aged 19).

Continued on page 14

Prosecuting officer asks for remand in custody because "the accused have no place of abode What they claimed as residence has now been burnt down and they do not have any address"



d as they appeared in a

naked in the dock while the oldest of the lot, Arthur James (39) had his head in plaster and bandages.

dages.

They were earlier requested by the prosecution to be remanded in police custody because, "the accused have no place of abode".

The prosecuting police officer said that "what they claimed as easidence has now been burnt down.

has now been burnt down and they did not have any

Some of the accused are Mgbaniyi Adoutugh, alias "Segun Adams",

CONFLICTING STORIES ABOUT HOW THE FIRE STARTED IN FELA'S HOUSE

See Centre Page

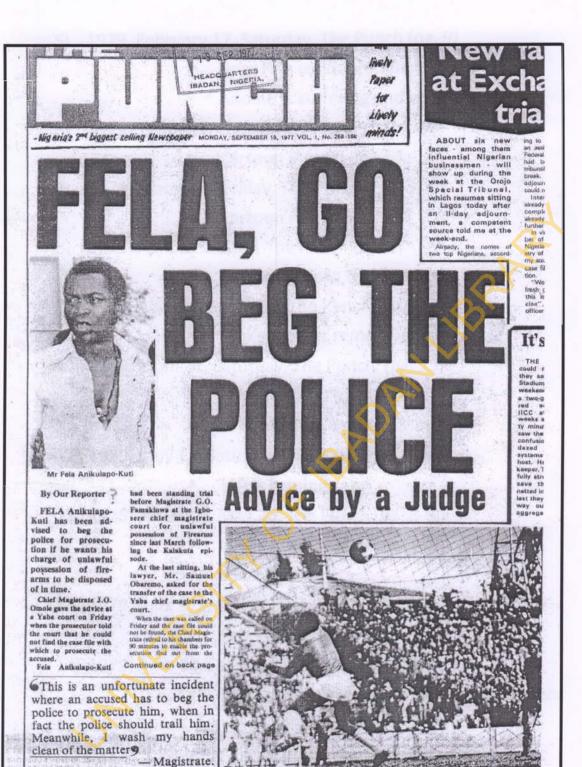


Tuesday, February 22, 1977, The Punh, F

- 81) 1978, November 18, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon punch
- 82) 1978, November 18, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 21)
 - NAP may merge with MOP
- 83) 1978, December 9, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Fela blasts the press
- 84) 1978, December 17, Sunday, The Punch (pg. 32)
 - Back Page Front
- 85) 1978, December 21, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 16)
 - Fela charged with possessing poison
- 86) 1978, December 22, Friday, The Punch (pg. 7)
 - MOP promises democratic government
- 87) 1978, December 23, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - 5 Parties registered
- 88) 1978, December 28, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - No MOP, No Election Fela
- 89) 1978, December 30, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon Punch

1979

- 1) 1979, January 21, Sunday, The Punch (pg. 15)
 - Fela, FRC 2
- 2) 1979, February 10, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 14)
 - MOP has right to exist Fela
- 3) 1979, February 12, Monday, The Punch (pg. 18)
 - Advert for Fela's Shuffering and Shmiling
- 4) 1979, February 13, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Advert for Fela's shuffering and shmiling



Monday, September 19, 1977, The Punch

- 5) 1979, February 17, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - How Fela conquered Berlin
 - And he's 'suffering and smiling'
- 6) 1979, March 1, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon Punch
- 7) 1979, March 30, Friday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon Punch
- 8) 1979, April 1, Sunday, The Punch (pg. 3)
 - Fela lectures in the dark
- 9) 1979, April 14, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 24)
 - Fela's mother remembered
- 10) 1979, April 21, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Fela is #5,000 poor
 - ... Berlin Film again in May
- 11) 1979, May 12, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - VIP is coming soon
- 12) 1979, Saturday, May 26, The Punch (pg. 8-9)
 - Like Fela like children
 - At UNIFE
- 13) 1979, June 9, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 8-9)
 - Fela is as good as new
- 14) 1979, June 23, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 8-9)
 - Relationship between Fela and his Queens
- 15) 1979, July 2, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 12)
 - Fela's VIP for two Countries

the University of ibadan society and that great past had not been under- 1979, he declared

EGBA CHIEFS MEET From 'Segun Odusanya in Abeokutz ON EET A

TWENTY-four hours after the seige on Fela Anikulapo-Kuti's "Kalakuta Republic" by a large group of soldiers and the subsequent injury sustained by him and his brother, Dr. Beko Kuti as well as their aged mother some leading traditional Chiefs in Egbaland held a hurriedly - summoned meeting during which the incident was discussed. The meeting was held at Abeokuta, Ogun State capital last Saturday.

The meeting which lasted more than three hours was held behind closed doors at a house in Ibara, Abeokuta. It was

attended by more than 15 of the senior traditional chiefs representing a cross section of Egbaland.

Because the chiefs could not immediately ascertain the real cause of the weekend incident from the few newspaper reports, a delegation was said to have been sent to Lagos for an on-the-spot account.

Journalists and press photographers who had attempted to cover the "Kalakuta" incident on Friday were chased out of the area, beaten and moiested by soldiers.

Camera worth over

N1,000 belonging to the Punch Group of Newspapers were smashed during the incident with two of the Company's photographers escaping with battered limbs.

A source close to the traditional chiefs' meeting refused to name who were those present at the meeting. But the source confirmed that a cross-section of the Egba community was represented at the crucial meeting.

But, they would not comment over the issue "until a clearer picture of what happened is at hand".



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Monday, September 19, 1977, The Punch

- 16) 1979, August 18, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - Lagos nightlife is no longer high
- 17) 1979, August 22, Wednesday, The Punch (pg. 16)
 - Pix of Fela at a Press Conference
- 18) 1979, August 31, Friday, The Punch (pg. 5)
 - Cartoon Punch
- 19) 1979, September 1, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 8-9)
 - Bravo! Fela and Congrats
 - 1979, September 4, Tuesday, (pg 13)
 - Advert for Fela's ladies nite special
- 20) 1979, September 5, Wednesday, The Punch (pg. 7)
 - Fela's new hide-out
- 21) 1979, September 7, Friday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
- 22) 1979, September 8, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 24) 1979, September 15, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - Watch out for Unknown Soldier
 - 25) 1979, September 15, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 26) 1979, September 18, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 27) 1979, September 20, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 3)
 - Advert for Fela's new album by Skylark Records
 - 28) 1979, September 20, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 7)
 - Fela: My mama lives



TO Fela Anikupalo-Kuti's fans the turn-out is quite a familiar oneone-piece pant suit and a fat cigar.

But the proprietor of Crossroads Hotel. Lagos. Chief A. Adeniyi and his wife had to take a second look.

It was at a farewell party hosted by the proprietor for his star guest, Fela, and his Africa '70 Organisation members. After 8 months residence in the hotel, Fela and his party left for Accra on Thursday their first performing tour outside Lagos since February.

More pictures on Centre pages.

RIOT:

THE 21 Armoured Brig has set up an inquiry into la incident in which soldiers of went on rampage in Enugu.

In addition, the Brigade has invi in Enugu, comprising Roy Graha Correspondent) and Cyril Mba come forward and assist in the inve

The Punchmen who were eye rampage had also alerted the command when the riot began.

A statement from the Public Roment of the Brigade yesterday rampage was triggered off when knocked down the pregnant wife of the National Secondary School Monday.

The statement further revealed burnt by the soldiers included registration number AN 4198E.

Saturday, September 24, 1977, The Punch

- 29) 1979, September 23, Sunday, The Punch (pg. 11)
 - How Fela creates his music
- 30) 1979, September 23, Sunday, The Punch (pg. 12)
 - Comments on Fela's Unknown Soldier
- 31) 1979, September 28, Friday, The Punch (pg. 8-9)
 - Photo Report: Skylark launches Fela's Unknown Soldier
- 32) 1979, September 29, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - Unknown Soldier is out
- 33) 1979, September 29, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - A fan at new shrine says:
- 34) 1979, October 3, Wednesday, The Punch (pg. 16)
 - Fela charged to court, 56 others arrainged
- 35) 1979, October 5, Friday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
- 36) 1979, October 8, Monday, The Punch (pg. 2)
 - How to help the less fortunate by Prof.
 Ransome Kuti
- 37) 1979, October 9, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
- 38) 1979, October 11, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Advert for Fela's Unknown Soldiers by Skylark Records
- 39) 1979, October 13, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:

Tony Allen takes them all on





Tony Allen at work off di

MY visit to the Crossroad Hotel last Sunday was prompted by two reasons: To listen to the best music in town on Sunday and chart to the leader of the band.

The band on stage was the Africa 70 led by Tony Allen who directed from his stool surrounded by six differently shaped drums and three percussion instruments.

He was the coolest conductor I ever saw; quite contratry to the Elizabethan conductors (one would expect).

Tony, of course, didn't have much conducting to do

as the rest of the band knew what to do. He simply whilepers the tune and taps his drum-sticks to the beat and — bangl — the most sophisticated beats for which the band is noted for (Afro beat) fills the air.

But Tony's mechanisms and techniques, as simple looking as they are, were indispensible in the band. The sudience's response were spontanous, the lead vocalist and the overall boss of the Africa '70 Organisation, Fels Anikulapo Kuti checks with him on every note he blows from his saxophone or plays on his organs.

"I am a technical drummer" said Tony over beer at the cross-road restaurant when I saked him what makes his drumming extra-ordinary. He was simply dressed and spoke simple and correct English. No slorgs. "Technique is one

over the years.

"Right from my days with Sifo Lawson, of the Cool Cats in 1960, through Agu Norris days, the Nigerian Messengers led by Charles Wokoma, and Adeolu Akinsanya all the way to "Afrika 70" which I joined in 1965".

thing any kind of musicien

must build up and I built mine

He became the band leader

in 1970

"People might think Afro beat is my speciality but wait till you see me beland the drums with any group even a Chinese group.

"Drumming is not one of the sessest in any musical out-fit and Afro beat drumming is the most difficult of them all. But the problem is, we don't know who is who in drumming today. People don't look at us individually and there is no forum for instrumentalists to perform and engage in some sort of competition.

There are tough drummers in Nigeria who haven't seen the light yet. When we start rating musicians, you'll be surprised how many with hisden talents would be ready to come out and play.

"When this happens, their problems will be reduced to that of communication. They cannot communicate with their instruments and if one cannot communicate with what one presents to the public how does he hope to be recognised."

"You come on outside, watch me play and see what I mean which makes me the best in Africa today and if any drummer doubts or disagrees with me, let him come and play with my band and I with his and see who knows his onions better."

I followed him outside and sat by the stage hoping to see him wild and showing off our stage but he didn't. He indeed was a master of his instrument. Little wonder his last album 'Jealousy' sold like hot cake.

And 'Papa bears witness



"MUSIC", said my high school instructor, "is the language of the soul and the outlet of our feelings" and this was what I read from 'Papa's' face last Sunday at the Cross-road Hotel where Fela Anikulapo-Kuti treated Afro-beat fans to some of his latest compositions.

Papa came in as early as 5.00 p.m., about the same time I did, to catch the beginning of the regular weekend show.

His age might be old but at heart, he is very much young and his taste in music is extraordinary, considering what his age group would rather be doing on a Sunday evening.

I was fascinated.

Friday, September 16, 1977, The Punch, Pg. 4

79

- 40) 1979, October 16, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 7)
 - Fela to wait till Nov 30
 - 41) 1979, October 16, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 42) 1979, October 19, Friday, The Punch (pg. 3)
 - The Constitution is a failure Fela
 - 43) 1979, October 19, Friday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - Advert for Fela's Unknown Soldiers
 - 44) 1979, October 20, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 45) 1979, October 23, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 46) 1979, October 25, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 11)
 - Advert for Fela's Unknown Soldier
 - 47) 1979, October, 26, Friday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 48) 1979, October 27, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - Comments on Unknown Soldier
 - 49) 1979, October 27, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - Advert for Unknown Soldier
 - 50) 1979, November 6, Tuesday, The Punch (pg. 15)
 - Chief Priest Says:
 - 51) 1979, November 9, Friday, The Punch (pg. 9)
 - Black Musical Expo!!!



Friday, April 14, 1978, The Puch

- 52) 1979, November 12, Monday, The Punch (pg. 1)
 - Fela conquers the Theatre
- 53) 1979, November 12, Monday, The Punch (Pg. 4)
 - Advert for Fela's No Agreement
- 54) 1979, November 17, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 6)
 - Advert for Fela's No Agreement
- 55) 1979, December 13, Thursday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Advert for Soul's Messager's, Saturday Heavy and Sunday Jump
- 56) 1979, December 15, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 8)
 - Fela back at the Shrine
- 57) 1979, December 15, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Advert for Fela's Shrine
- 58) 1979, December 22, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
- 59) 1979, December 28, Friday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Advert for Fela's yabis nite
- 60) 1979, December 29, Saturday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Chief Priest Says:
- 61) 1979, December 31, Monday, The Punch (pg. 13)
 - Fela's end of year show

Fela files contempt motion against Decca

By SOJI ADELOKIKI

FELA Anikulapo-Kuti's lawyer, Mr. Kanmi Isola-Osobu, yesterday indicated before a Yaba senior magistrate Mr. M.A. Opeagbe that he had filed a motion of contempt of court against Decca (W.A.) Limited.

The counsel made this known when the civil action instituted by the recording

company — Decca (W.A.) Limited against Fela Anikulapo-Kuti came up for mention.

Immediately Mr. Isola-Osobu informed the court about the motion, Mr. Opeagbe askad: "What motion are you bringing up in respect of somebody who had been served and failed to appear in court?"

Mr. Isola-Osobu told the court that it would be legally right to entertain it in as much as it is in connection with the matter before the court.

"I will not entertain it until the respondent is in court and as far as I know, there is no contempt," the magistrate said.

Earlier, Mr. Akin Shadare, Decca's counsel, had informed the court that the police, for reasons best known to them, had not executed the bench warrant on Feia.

Mr. Shadare said he would be asking for a long adjournment to allow them bring up some motions in respect of the

same case in court.

Hearing in the suit was then adjourned till September 20.



Mr. Ishola-Osobu (centre) leaving the court yesterday with Mr. Steve Buwa-Udah (right) Fela's public relations officer and Mr. Kessi Oke-Yope.

Saturday, August 26, 1978, The Punch

brought to the nospital.

FELA Anikulapo-Kuti is yet SERVED

to be issued with a bench warrant as earlier ordered by Yaba senior magistrate's а

court.

Consequently, he did not show up in the court yesterday when the matter between him and Decca (WA) came up for mention.

Mr. Akin Shadare, counsel to DECCA, informed the court that the DPO at Shomolu told him that the warrant had been sent to the Lion Building, Lagos.

The magistrate, Mr. M. A. Opeagbe, asked why the warrant should be sent to Lion Building instead of the respondent in the suit but plaintiff's counsel could not

explain. The matter has been Friday adjourned for



Fela Anikulapo-Kuti

Thursday, August 3, 1978, The Punch

Thugs molest my client

By SOJI ADELOKIKI

FELA Anikulupo-Kuti's lawyer, Mr. Kunmi isola-Osobu, yesterday complained at a Yaba senior magistrate's court that some thugs, allegedly hired by Deces were molesting his client.

Mr. Isola-Osobu told the court that acts of lawlessness, intimidation and thuggery were now being embarked upon by the recording company on

his client, Fela.

"Even outside the court premises, a one-man placard-carrying demonstrator is at work to incite the court premises." The lawyer said. the public against my client," the lawyer said.

But the senior magistrate, Mr. M.A. Opeagbe, immediately cut in and asked for the next date of adjournment which was later fixed for next Friday.

Mr. Ade Mukunju, Decca's leading counset, and cartier informed the court that a policemen from the C.I.D., Yaba, had told him that no warrant had been executed on Fela, hence he could not appear in court.

Earlier, the placard-carrying demonstrator, whose presence attracted a lot of curious spectators, had

"invaded" the court premises to protest against the continued occupation by Fels of Decca offices at Anthony Village, Ikorodu Road, Lagos.

Some of the placards carried by the protester, who called himself Tijani Mabawonku, a Decca employee read:

"Magistrate Opeagbe, please, use your power to eject Fela and his gang from Decca premises." "We, the staff of Decca feel that by his action, Fela is taking the judiciary, the law enforcement agency and all the law-abiding citizens in this country for a

Mr. Mabawonka later told me in an interview that he was an employee of Decca.

Asked why he decided to take such a step at the court premises, he replied: "We are now fed up. People ask from us why we don't go to work.

"We have not been paid our salaries up till now because we could not enter our office,"



Fela Anikulapo-Kuti

Saturday, August 5, 1978, The Punch

FELA TO PLAY IN BERLIN

NIGERIA'S No. 1 Afro beat musician Fela Anikulapo Kuti will be going to Germany to deliver a sermon on his brand of music.

Sources close to the Music Bus Stop said that the celebrated musician will be participating in this year's coveted yearly WORLD BERLIN MUSIC FESTIVAL.

The festival is expected to hold in the first week of November this year.

The Chief Priest will be accompanied by his wives and other members of his band.

The Berlin festival which is a world acclaimed festivity usually features artistes, dramatists musicians, personalties in Radios and films from different parts of the world.

For this year's show, artistes from about one hundred and fifteen countries are expected to converge in Berlin, West Germany for the great show.

Our sources further disclosed that according to the overall co-ordinator of the Musical Show, Mr.

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178 est. ced George Gruntz, the organisers consider Fela a legendary talent and creative musician to music enthusiasts all over the world. chart It storn

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Mr. Gruntz was quoted to have said that there is a great demand for the Afro beat king to come and give live shows in Germany.

"There is hunger for his type of original, creative African Work in person in most parts of Europe, America and Asia", he said.

He further declared "we on our part do not see Fela as a controversial person but a high rated and immensely talented musician".

Feta Anikulapo Kuti is said to have accepted the invitation to perform at the festival and he had already given a prelude show to six representatives of the organisers in Lagos.

Mr. Gruntz disclosed that the organisers were able to get Fela to come specially to perform at the Berlin Festival through his lawyer, Mr. Tunji Braithwaite.



Saturday, August 5, 1978, The Punch

Fela plays against apartheid

By Jide Akinwunmi

AFRO-heat-King, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti and his Africa '70 Organisation played free of charge for the Lagos State Committee for the Dissemination of Information on Evils of Apartheid, recently.

The concert, which was staged at the Tafawa Balewa Square, was part of this year's celebration of African Liberation Day. Thousands of people turned out for the occasion,

A statement from the Lagos State Ministry of Information and Tourism had earlier explained that Fela was invited to stage the concert in view of his life-long commitment to the liberation of the Blackman from the shackles of oppression.

The show was Fela's second outing after his mother's death.



Faia, doing his thing at the Anti-Apartheid gig.

Ikwue off to London

AS hinted in this column last Saturday, velvet-voiced Bongos ikwus, in his it efforts to hit the record charts, flew out on Tuesday to London, for a re-mixing session at the Abbey Road studios of EMI.

Speaking to me at an exclusive interview shortly before he flew out, Bongos said, "I am going to do the subbing and mixing of materials for my next album at the ultra modern 24 track deck there in Abbey Road, London".

I understand that the backing tracks for the album were laid down at the 3 track studios of EMI in Apapa, while the materials would be transferred into a twenty-four track tape at Abbay road, London where more instruments would be added and the lead voice as well as the backing vocals isld.

Bongos disclosed further that, he will take advantage of his presents in London to check out the current music scene there and prepare himself for a more sophisticated future in the Nigerian and world music scene.

The yet untitled new sibum would be printed in Britain, where the sleeve would also be designed according to sources close to EMI Nigeria.

Saturday, August 5, 1978, The Punch



Friday, March 3, 1978, The Punch

Saturday, March 25, 1978, The Punch, Pg. 23

WHYI WAS DEPORTED

- FELA

Continued from page 20

colonial oppressors during the scramble for Africa to suit their own imperialist scheme of cultural, political and economic genocide.

I see a land - the richest piece of earth, I see Africa. I don't see national divisions which divide us forever so that we submerge our enviable cultural heritage.

The irony is that an African

has been deported from an African piece of land by Africans. That takes us back many years and impedes the progress of the black man.

It is naive to see it merely as Fela deported from Ghana. It is a problem of africa, ruled in several places by colonial African soldiers who arrogate to themselves the right of leadership!

rend Punch

or light reading

since then, conquess halve been wagging in high and loss quarrers in 10 habe this insusual, and offere misserial grains would supe with such strange quantitioned marked amongs of the misserial grains and strange quantitioned in the strange quantition of the strange of the str

nations of Africa.

PUNCH: You are now talking of politics-even on a continental scale: Could you now be regarded more us a politician or a

some my condense was burnt last vear. Whirever I sleep, may will sleep and whatever I mat, they will not I I clostic myself, they will do likewise. Polygamy is not new to Africa and as far as I know, our cannot be charged list before, our cannot be charged list bigawe; in African tradition. Polygamy, like many collect things is lift, is a many collect thing is lift, is a matter of understanding barriers lively no. Polygamy. But many collect the question fully. How due you hape to cope with the axinal aspect of your large scale institutional? Cast you satisfy each and everyone of your large scale institutional? Cast you satisfy each and everyone of your large scale institutional? Cast you satisfy each and everyone of your large scale institutions taken overnight. Each of these question taken overnight. Each of these question, has been self in the for it sheet question to five or as of the could make love to free or as of the punch.

Even if I were rich, I can no more be rich when my house, my property and several cars have been burnt. I peld thousands of naira per month for hotel bills in both Nigeria and Ghana.

'I can cope with my two dozen wives' - Fela

tumbes involved weren't pretion. And that it is just a
monorfage to carde the public.
FEEA. Not at all. Since members
of the mass media were present,
how can commone regard the
weedeing blessed by the fix Prise
as a secret other it fa veal.
PUNCEL Dush's year minds that
your marriage to the girls in yearorganisation could affect the
relationship between them and
the male members who are all
tachelors?

the male members who are all banchelors?
FELA: No. The relationships in the most as a had been before the marriage and it will continue to be like har.
PUNCIE: Are you rich? Many people say you are a millionate.
FELA: No. I smi mot, Even if it work my house, any properly and everal cars have been burnt. I paid theographic off mires personant; for house bells in both Nigeria and Ohams. As it peoples in the property of the prope

think I can be ten any your state expensed?
PUNCH Which are your state important records that have stude landmarks if the code of quantitative circulation is to be used as your outset.
PELA: I have wixed many records that his the gold-list murr. Notable among them are the controversial 20MEH. the controversial ZOMBIE. SHAKARA, and YELLOW

music for the peoples' empoyment even if I become the Head of State. Most presidents of count-ries have their professions. Isn't

17 % I will always be a musician.
PUNCH: When do you hope to
mop music and guit the stage for
younger sellets?
PELA: I am now 40, I am not

As you know, I am now homeless. But if I sleep, my wives will sleep. I have lived with my entqurage! in almost ten hotels at one time or the other since my residence was burnt last year. Wherever I sleep, they will sleep and whatever I eat, they will eat. If I clothe myself, they will do likewise. Polygamy is not new to Africa and as far as I know, one cannot be charged for bigamy in African tradition. charged for bigamy in African tradition. Polygamy, like many other things in life, is a matter of understanding between the parties involved.

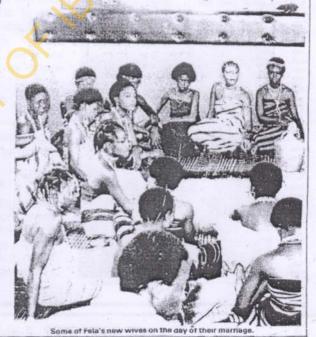
FELA: If the word 'empire' is based today, I will choose north word to describe the body of people organized by me within a definite territory. What is no nonenclasting afternal? PUNCH: If your political

only young at heart but also physically, I will play music till you you do ge, In fact I hoven't searced playing real popular music because of one or popular music because of one or when I am fully fibersale, when I am fully fibersale will start. With me, as long as music in the hour of fire, I will play on.

And a man.

In a pointiss of the analysis of the repagaments, I can only cope with three per day. This is shill obligate in through the per control of the repagament of the analysis of the repair of the control of the repair of the continuous of the period of the repair of the continuous of the period of th

PUNCEL Do you hope that you marriage with these squares? With the blessed with reliables? If so, how many do you knope to get from good squares carriers to make the property of Arterio Californ Californ Californ Californ Californ Californ to soot received with besedentian of the goods. I will get as many kits a possible from my alver. D.V.
PUNCAL Don't you think that marringoinal empageness magnifest separately your "queens" professional careers as dancery and single-1?



Saturday, March 4, 1978, The Punch



I was not a politician. I work only to defend the rights of the common people. I will never be a politician.

Women are solidly behind me. Anytime, anywhere I call them they will come out in their thousands. They know I fight to make them happy. I have no money to give them but their happiness is my happiness.

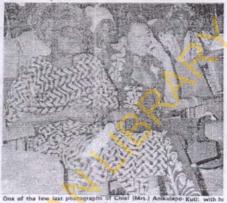
I am not an agitator. I am just a defender of human rights and I will continue to do that for long as Llive.

I believe in my God. You could be a pagan and be godly. As far as I can see, if you don't think of cheating people you are godly and I think if there is any paradise you will get there. Many pastors as I see them will end up in hell. I will see God in the sort of life I lead, not because I go to church every Sunday.

PUNCH tribute to the late Chief (Mrs) Aniku-Funmilayo lapo-Kuti.

* * *

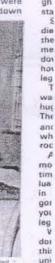
The only class I still are those so-called women; you can them to do anythin spoken to many of know the answers I cannot identify t with the aspiration 'ordinary' women they are wives of big



Her account of the Kalakuta A which she never recovere

DID not know how it all began, I was in the house relaxing. with everything normal when, suddenly, I heard an explosion. I ran out to see what was. matter.

The next thing I saw was that soldiers were breaking down



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Friday, May 5, 1978, The Punch

BY LOKUN BABARINDE Anikulapo

FELA Kuti's former residence, "Kalakuta Republic", at 14A, Agege Motor Road, Idi-Oro, in the Lagos Mainland Local Government area, will be demolished tomorrow.

A dependable source close to the Lagos State Government said that the demolition of "Kalakuta Republic", as well as other structures within the area acquired by the government along Agege Motor Road, Idi-Oro, in Mây last year, will begin at

To facilitate the demolition exercise, the source said, the government has instructed the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) to disconnect the electricity supply to all the affected buildings in the area before the exercise begins.

All occupants in the affected area have also been advised to quit immediately and remove

NOTICE TO ALL

REHABILITATION LOAN

DEBTORS

before D-Day.

Fela's house and other buildings and structures along the area excluding the Dorman Long company were acquired by the Lagos State Government in a notice No 133 of May 4 1977 following the report of the Anyia tribunal, set up by the state government to probe the cause of the February 18, 1877 incident at 14A. Agege Motor Road, Juning which Fela's house was burnt down.

It will be recalled that



Tuesday, October 24, 1978, The Punch, Pg. 24

KALAKUTA FALLS

A NUMBER of houses along the Agege Motor Road, Idi-Oro, Lagos including the 'Kalakuta Republic' former residence of top musician and leader of the Movement of the People (MOP), Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, were demolished yesterday.

As early as 8,00 a.m. some buildozers had arrived in the Moshalashi area of Agege Motor Road in two heavy duty trailers with registration numbers KNE 6227 and LA 6407 KB.

Soon after the bulldozers were rolled off the trailers, the drivers went into action starting with 14A, Agege Motor Road building of late Chief Funmilayo Anikulapo-Kuti

In less than 30 minutes, the storey building in which a mock coffin and the Afro 70 Organisation flag - black red and green - were displayed had been pulled

BY ZEE TEL DEBEKEME

Going!! Gone!!!

The acquisition of the area by the Lagon State Government followed the February 18, 1977 epitode during which a number of vehicles belonging to the Afro '70 Organisation and the "Kalakuta" building were burnt down. The following May, after Mr.

The following May, after Mr. Justice Anya's inquiry on the incident was made public, it was announced that the Lagos State Government had acquired the whole area excepting the prenises of the Dorman Long engineering company.

Later, Fela, his mother and his brother Dr. Beko Ramome-Kuti, instituted a N25 million claim sait against the Attorney-Ceneral, the Chief of Army Staff and some military personnel ugainst the destruction of his property.

The suit was dismissed by Mr. Justice Later Document on February 12, this year.

Only last week, the affected people in the area pleaded with the Lagoe State Government for an extension of time to enable them get alternative accommoda-

As the demolition exercise progressed yesterday, traffic in



Flashback to February 18, 1977. The soldiers besieged the Matakuta Republic' and the series of events which eventually lad to its being taken over by the government starts.



Tuesday, October 24, 1978, The Punch, Pg. 24



Tuesday, October 24, 1978, The Punch, Pg. 24

Mainland Hotel, Ebute-Metta. Lagos. Party fans, supporters and allowed into the hall. Yesterday's security measures were said to have been taken in order to prevent non-party members and members or agents of other parties from spying on the proceedings of the congress.

Pressmen, who had called at the venue, were also not

movement and presence of non-accredited delegates the congress hall.

The manifesto of the party was approved by delegates

that party leaders had expressed concern over the free

It was, however, decided that it should still remain a secret document until further

The protem chairman of the party. Chief Obafemi Awolowo, personally directed yesterday's proceedings, during which he briefed the delegates on policies outlined in the manifesto.

The constitution of the party had earlier been passed on Tuesday.

Delegates will today finalise arrangements for a national rally of the party, scheduled to be held in Lagos on Saturday.

Venue of the rally has not been disclosed.

Chief Awolowo is also scheduled to address the Press today at his Apapa residence on "Woman's Rights".



AFRO-BEAT KING, FELA ANIKULAPO-KUTI has declared himself as a presidential candidate in next year's general election.

He made the declaration while announcing the formation of his own political party - MOVE-MENT OF THE PEOPLE (MOP) at his Ikeja residence yesterday.

He declared: "If our Movement wins, all deve-



By Soji Adelokiki

FELA Anikulapo-Kuti was brought in an ambulance to the Yaba senior magistrate's court yesterday escorted by a Deputy Superintendent of Police, Mr. Bob Manuel, of the Panti Central Investigation Department Yaba, Lagos.

He, however, did not step out from the ambulance.

Fela had been brought to court in compliance with the decision of the court to issue a bench warrant on him for failure appear before the court.

The police had earlier informed the court that they were unable to serve Fela on several occasions.

Yesterday, Mr. Bob-Manuel informed the court that the police had been able to comply

police had been able to comply with the directive of the court. He said despite the fact that Fels was iif and medical carificate had been produced, the police had been able to bring him to court. "Fels is custide there, Your Worship — insittle the ambulance," the police official said. The magistrate, Mr. M. A. Opeegbe, said that he had received an order from a Lagoa High Court barring him from

the High Court had been finalised.

Because of this, he said, he

received an order from a Lagoa High Court barring him from further learning an injunction motion filed by Decca (West Africa) against Fela until the appeal motion on the issue of bench warrant against him ut

would not be able to continue

"I will take it that the police have done their job," he

have done their lob, he remarked.
On the medical certificate tendered in the court by the police, Mr. Opeagbe said he could not do or say snything on it at present.



Felz inside the amb

The medical certificate was The medical certificate was issued by the Junction Clinic, idi-Oru, Legos and was said to have been eigned by Dr. Bako, Ransome-Kuti.

Fels was seen inside the ambulance belonging to the Junction Clinic in front of the Yaba senior magistrate's court

yesterday.

The order on the Yaba court came as a result of an application roade by Feta's counsel, Mr. Kanna Isola-Oeobu for an injunction to restrain the magistrate from further hearing the case pend-ing the determination of an

appeal and to grant him leav of appeal against the ruling of senior magistrate Opeagbe.

Decca (West Africa) was not present in the court yesterday.



Saturday, September 16, 1978, The Punch, Pg. 24

Fela's party takes By SOJI ADELOKIKI THE AIRO-DERI KIDY, Tela

THE Atro-beat king, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti will launch a new political party next Wednesday, it has been disclosed in Lagos.

Fels, who is optimistic about the success of his party, said he would not disclose its name until that day adding: "It is still my secret".

The party, he said, would have a new concept — "the present generation ideology".

According to him, the party will have members throughout the length and breadth of the country.

He, however, hinted that the party will be exclusively meant for the youths.

"We youths have agreed that we want to carry everybody with us", Fela said.



Fela Anikulapo-Kuti

He said the party would not allow, any longer, our responsibilities to be left in the hands of the colonialists.

Saturday, September 30, 1978, The Punch



Friday, September 28, 1979, The Punch, Pg 9



September 28, 1979, The Punch, Pg9

FELA:

ALTHOUGH Chief (Mrs) Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, is dead now, almost two years, veteran musician Fela Anikula-po-Kuti, one of the four children of the late woman activist, would still refuse to agree with that fact.

Rather Fela believes that his mother is not dead, because, according to him, "I have not buried her".

And with the release of his latest album UNKNOWN SOLDIER Fela contends that he is just "making the proper proper burial of my mama".

He told me in an interview during the week, "as far as I am concerned my mother is not dead. To start with, I don't believe my mother was the kind of woman whose praise would be sung over her dead body by some opposite people".

"There is no amount of condolence that would enliven her. So I have made the album to really make her live again. I want to make it a legend, to the generality of the Nigerian society, that there once lived a woman who fought tooth and nail for the unity and independence of this country but was 'killed by an unknown soldier'."

When I asked him why he believed in politiking his messages Fela said, "my sole aim is to fight the injustice in Africa

My Mama lives

particularly Nigeria and I shall continue to do this. In my new album: I highlighted some of the injustices being perpetrated in our society. I talk politics and the only avenue is through my music".

Why did he decide to record on Skylark label, I asked him, realising that there is hadly a large record company that hasn't recorded Fela in this country.

"Thank you very much, my brother" he said I have taken on Skylark this time because I want a Nation-wide distribution of the album and invariably my messages. Restricting it to Lagos and probably part of the South would not do it much good.

This is the first time I'm recording on this label and I'm confident of their competence.

Having listened to the album several times at Fela's new shrine, I have no doubt in my mind that he will make it again.



Fela Anikulapo-Kuti

Friday date for Libra club

TOMORROW, Friday is the first anniversary of the Libra Club of Nigeria.

I hear that a grand all night dance has been fixed for Mainland Hotel, with King Sunny Ade on the band stand. An official of the club told me yesterday "Be there and you shall be convinced of our commitments".

September 28, 1979, The Punch, Pg9



sic nite

artisties have indicated their stones being equal, be dislodged

He said Marry Dibango vi inquirients were underways allow to be recorded

notes and liking the feel of it in my pocket as the ferry took me from Apapa Wharf to my place on Lagos Island.

This memory came flooding back last Saturday as I watched Fela Anikulapo-Kuti on the stage at his new Afrika Shrine. For the first time slatce I've known him, Fela displayed emotion.

Try as much as he could, he could not hide his joy, his triumph and the sense of schievement. One may wonder why he should be so jubilant, since this was not his first performance nor was it his first abrine

wees! Yope said it all when he walked ug to me and said: "Fola, we're making history here tonight". Of course they were making history.

Not the history that directly concerns mankind or he history that will be studied in schools, but history all the same - at least for the Africa '70

With the opening of their new shrine, they sow have a place of their own, built by their sweat and ments. Stagger Lee and off their bread and from which they can never, all

But this is not the whole reason for Fela's joy "According to him he was broke flaid off for 30 months; the place was salsotaged and every obstathey appealed guest bond their was placed in the way, or that a new Alroka Shrine owned completely by him, would be a perpetu

It was also a lone struggle. No



Fels, worshipping at the side of the shirne, entirely devoted to th wership of our ancestral gods. Photograph by DARE IBIRONKE

hauner headlines and supplement in the papers. There were no congratulatory messages bings like that.

This, I'm sure, is due to the fact that the Afrika Shrine, to some people, does not deserve uncis fuses

That congratulatory messages nd tupplement are only meant for opening of a big not house by a head-shrinker is stopld and

No night-cish where you can listen to good muon. Everything gare way to the discn. And then from the blue skies, comes this new shrine which will definitely cater for hundreds of people And it is unhersided. Too bad,

Or is it because people don't want to be identified with "temble theorer Fela!" People unlike the 700 who witnessed the opening. People unlike the 300 deserves his joy at achiev ing this immediate objective and I say - 'Congrais Brother.

Your unrelenting energy and perseverance in the face of seemingly formidable odds has got you

I wish you every good

Nigeria alone, And nobody 2,500-strong audience did not scens to be making any bid for it I tell you something, there are marts of this country that do not come into contact with records released in Lages until about

ten months later. "And of course, there is the problem of the pirstes who inderest salet by almost half, if you add all these to poor studio. activirs, imbecites on executive

get them trouge back on stage

"Wa-perform only if the temperature is 18 degrees cen tigrade and your Budapes weather is only 17 degrees s we will not dance," a trade union member of the ballst company said. The 40-strong cast then left the outdoo

"So far it is only Steve Rhodes

Valces that provide this kind of

atmosphere. That's why I like to

work with such group. And you

get a lot of experience from

working with such groups too."

father of other kids tays

andhoe, anmerred and

medic is African priented. He ha

featured in many groups that play

rarious sounds. He would n

rate bimself with any of

CANDIDO: FROM TOY DRUM TO BIG TIME

CANDIDO Dotun Obajimi was a problem child. Not local that he was sickly or anything like that. The problem he created was noise-making.

He was always drumming amond the house, his father's chair cooking utentils, the dining table, the radio and TV sets were not safe as soon as Candido taid his hands on two sticks. Of course, he got on everybody's nerves.

On his second birthday, his father bought him a toy drum, not because he was exterpleased with Candido, but at least to save some afurniture from the hatterings rendered by the tirty tot.

Sitting conductably on a sofe in our office, with his bag thing, as usual, across his shoulder (I can't remember having som him without a bug on his shoulders Candido rapped.

This toy drum became my most prized possession, and the only time I got separated from it was when I went to had. When I went to Ladi Lak Institute Yaba for my primary education, the teachers singled me out because, rather than listening. I would be drumming on

There and then I knew I would be a deutemen

Candido had his secondar education at Lagus Anglican Grammar School and Zumratul Islamiyyah Grammar School Yaba. He graduated in 1965 and enlisted in the Nigerian Army.

"I was pushed into the army because of an interest in masic was with Nigerian Army Band, Ahalti Barracks, Idiano where I played the drums until I was discharged in 1972."

"On my discharge from the army, I formed the Mesemono 1972 with femi Heastnip. Kenneth Okulols and Friday

In 1975, for one reason or the other, Candida led Monaman and started giging around with

"I played with people like from Solanke, Harry Morke and the Stave Rhades Voices. In fact whit I can call my greatest achievement is having performed live and in recordings, with

grany groups that have made it loday. three mentioned above, I have performed with Manu Dibenec Miarta Membullah, Osibita and I was in both of Teny Allen's records. This makes me hare

because you don't get called unon until and unless voy are recognised?"

In 1976, he formed the Spirit Konekson. He has had to dishand the group twice. "The Spirit Konekson known today is the third formation. There have always been persoonel problem. Some people just flan's see the glory of bearing with hard times and working for the better day

"To achieve your goal, you have to believe you're doing and work hard at it. You need to have forelight to that you don't get frestrated. H not, you just drop it because of

"And talking of difficulties, I must say they abound on the music scene. There is lack of mance. Facilities in the moording studios are sub-standard. There are no promoters and and down to bring talented musicianwio any enviable standard.

"Our Disc lockeys and record dealers are not doing anything to omesa indiagnous maniciana rither. They direct all their mergies and resources to promo ting foreign records and artistes. This does not sugar well for the

seicisms work hard enough, but there are some who are very hardworking and who need to be promoted. People like Hakeet Karrem, Soony Okosun, myself some musicians? and Harry Mosco, to name a few, deserve to be given priority

over and above foreigners 'I don't see what EMI, Pho angram and DECCA are doing with their eight years recording experience in this country. don't see why they don't improve

Resords are just like any

consumer products, il you don't advertise them, they don't sell." What does he think is respon sible for few productivity by

"In any profession, some people are islented and others want to do it her suse they think it's a way out. Some others are purded into it by their parents even when such people don't like that particular profession.

Rather, I will like somebo to spensor a national compa tion among dearliners. It sho first be on state level and then the grand finale by held in Lagor Then we will know who is who Candido, who compound says he gets inspiration fro many sources and situations.

"At times after listening to group, I get an idea of how to mprove on what I've just heard. At times, it's when I am walking we may be when I am asleep."

"Music is a universal length age. No matter in what languag you sing, people will still enjoy i if it is mood enough.

Candido loves going movies, "I go to the movies at only to enjoy the film, but after to hear the music score. The always indicate mond and you

learn a lot from them. Candido says he is womaniser, "But I dig discip lined women, beauty and shape come in secondary but she got is have a bestie and disciplined

affects will sell, on "I have pure lot of work into H. As the bu track goes, the sky is the limit for nee and it is the fineit for the record, because it is that good." He has started work on h neat allrum titled Obatals. have laid me macks at Phonodisi recording study and the recon-

Candido Obajimi...no longer a 'problem child' "To be a good munician, one

and get better equipments. To be frank, they're not doing well

"Look at Phonoditk with a 24-track studio. This is what we need - more phonodisks. Two things a good recording company must do are produce a very good album and promote it and the band. They should bring out the hand for live performances Unless these are done, there is no

'If you bring out a band, the fain appreciate it more and that creates the incentive to buy the record. h is not that they don't have the facilities for promotion. but they just don't want to vote

and practice. Same applies to a good producer. He must know a little of some, il not all instruments. This way, he would know when a hand is in tune or not. Candida Obajimi, who had ouise a few successful live shows

with Spint Kenekton and other bands magnised a recipe for good live performance. "There must be a good lighting effect to make it fively."

"Good dancers on stage is also imperative. The dance will coordinate with the music. There should also be side attract

needs a little rudimentary know-

ledge of music, both in theory

Saturday, September 1, 1979, The Punch, Pg. 8-9 cont

FELA'S NEW HIDE-OUT

PEPPLE Street as you and I used to know it is no more.

It used to be a quiet, little street where a few motorists took to avoid the traffic on the main road or to attend to a few businesses.

By 6 p.m. usually, the place would be deserted. And if you happened to pass by at 8 p.m., the road would have been taken over by dogs who would how! mercilessly at you for daring to invade their domain.

All that is no more. Fela has invaded the street, and quiet, if nothing else, has been murdered.

Funny how Fela transforms a street. When he was at Idi-Oro, the area from the Railway Crossing to the junction was an area that could never go to bed like other areas. He moved to Crossroads Hotel, and the immediate vicinity was transformed. At any time of the day or night, you would find a few cars perked, obviously by people who wanted to hear Fela's music - and

If the police can't go to the church, then they can't come to our shrine.

message

When he moved deep into lkejs, we thought people could not find him out but they did.

Now he has moved to Pepple Street, and the little, quiet street that I used to love to take, is no more.

While I can't help thinking about, the people Fela has obviously inconvenienced and has sometimes given pain to by his presence and that of his boys and — girls — in his daily search for livelihood, I also can't help thinking of the thousands of people Fela has given pleasure to.

From people like me, who go once in a while to hear the master blow at his horns, to people who have made it a ritual every week to worship at the Shrine with their chief priest.

I also think of those Fela has given indirect labour to. In a straight line on one side of Pepple Street were people selling all kinds of things from cigarettes to liquor and food.

The new shrine itself is pitched next to a church, and I wondered briefly as I passed, which of the two kinds of music will gain supremacy come weekends.

But Fela saw it differently.
"Ours is a shrine where people worship Africanism. If the police can't come to the church next door, I don't see why they should come to our shrine."

I bought my ticket from

Femi, Fela's son, and inside, I saw Fela's wife, the real, number one wife, who I had once interviewed to gauge her feelings on Fela's twenty-severwives, seated at the entrance.

Just as I found a seat, I saw his daughter walking along. These were an unusual sight to me and I wondered if Fela was integrating his family into the business now.

It was 8 p.m. The band was on stage, playing light music, but Fela himself hadn't come. The new shrine, has no presence of luxury, tr has metal chairs and tables, and natural air to cool you down. But it's adequate for what you've come for. To listen to Fela's music.

Fela came shortly after and to the queries from some members of his congregation on why he was late, the Chief Priest said, "Why I no go late, Anybody, way travel on our MUYIWA MUYIWA

THE COLOR WEDINGSDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 1979 -

on the beat

road must be late. The country "itself is late."

He referred to one of Omoba's cartoons which said: "News Report, Lagos roads are being rehabilitated", Omoba's comment, "Chel White Lie."

Fela yapped on, doing what he knows how to do best next. to his music. "They say I live inside city, but na village I dey live." During the yapping session, he enumerated the new directions of the shrine.

Mondays would be a free

night for lectures, Wednesdays would be for actors with Lari Williams directing the show. Thursdays would be for exhibition of paintings and drawings, Weekends for music.

He finished the almost thirty minute, rapping session with the usual, "Now I am going to play for you a tune called "If you give me shit, I vall give you shit."

Last note: A bottle of soft drink cost fifty kobo. If you can't beat them, you join them is Fela joining them?



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- 6.	1		IFICATORY FORMS IN Felafro		
5/N	YEAR	MUSIC / MUSICIAN	PERFORMANCE	ADVERT	INTERVIEWS
1.	1959	Music wave: K. Dairo in Lagos	Music festival to be held at Onitsha	Advert placement for Philips Tape Recorders	Nigerian voices to be heard over BBC today
2.	1960	The world king of jazz to broadcast own story	Grand Independence Dance	Desta Inc. and Cont.	le le ma
3.	1960		Nigerian national band to play at state ball		
4.	1960		Dance to freedom		
5.	1961	Music is everywhere in Nigeria Master of jazz in action	ljaw women dancers in action		
6.	1961	Duke Ellington and his band			
7.	1961	Ray Chicago sent to jail			
8.	1961	Musicians: Charles (Mr. Highlife) Iwegbue			
9.	1961	Where is Joe Nez? Meet a MAESTRO: Eleazar Arinze			
10	1962	Sammy Akpabot hits Lagos	The Helsinki Festival		7
11.	1962	Adeolu Balabi's rhythm dandles American Children learn highlife			
12.	1963	African music hits USA			
13.	1963	The king of Apala			
14.	1965	Highlife or Classical/ Towards Highlife			T. Herrina
15.	1966	U,S. Musician in Nigeria	The origin of the first world festival of the Negro arts		
16.	1966	What makes highlife music tick	Jazz time on Swing day WNTV	Prince Telline	
17.	1966	Fela at Kakadu Saturday highlife			11.
18.	1966	Nigerian pop groups get a big slap/ Pop strangling highlife			
19.	1967	First African art gallery in Uganda			

0.	1967	SAUCE CONTRACTOR		TOTAL TARREST OF	
.0.	1907	Jazz group fold up Fela the best		Advert: Grand jazz festival	
21-	1968			Advert placement for Sir Victor Uwalfo	
22.	1968			NIVICO record player	
23	1968	Lobitos have a new sound	The promise of Orisun theatre group		
24.	1968	Rex Lawson in wonderland	Folk theatre in Nigeria		
25.	1968	Orlando, veteran musician at 26	Now, Soul epidemic hits Ibadan		
26.	1968		First Nigerian cultural convoy		
27.	1969	Fela Storms Benin	"Just Shout Afro", a free Afro night show		
28.	1969	Afro-Beat now gets a home	Tex Dandies hit empire hotel tonight	Advert placement for Fela' Koola Lobitos	
29.	1969	Fela off to US	All stars soul international storms Ibadan	Afro Spot advert	US jazz team coming
30.	1969	West Africa 'Soul' Export, Geraldo Pino now in Midwest.		Advert placement, Fela featuring Orlando Julius' Modern Aces	
31.	1969	The Lobitos off at last		Advert, Fela featuring "the Dynamite Ten"	
32.	1969	US University on African music		Advert, Fela featuring Roy Chicago	
33.	1969	SUCCESS STORY, PINO! The little boy who ran mama's car as taxi and saved £30 to		In the Lobitos' absence, Afro spot places advert	419.0
		buy his first guitar.		for the Sunflowers of Nigeria featuring afro stars like Mona Finnih, Sunny Okogwu and Mr. Afro.	
34.	1969	Orlando Julius and his boys		Afro spot advert for Roy Chicago and his Rhythm	Inc.

			Dandies.	
35.	1969	Black music at Indiana University		
36.	1970	Who is Nigeria's Best Musician? Fela is back	I feel at home in L James Brown James Brown is m	
37.	1970	Nigerian musicians on the war path-Row over titles		
38.	1970	New Afro-Beat Tune is on the way up		
39.	1971	Cover Picture of Fela titled "Afro king in Action!" (Award winning picture by Taro Joseph, Observer head camera man)		
40.	1971	Meet Fela Ransome-Kuti, the man, and what makes him tick!		
41.	1972	Fela Rededicates Afro Spot to Africa Today.		
42.	1973	Fela's commune, where 50 odd people live with "the president".		
43.	1973	Africa should be proud of Fela (a letter from a fan).		
44.	1974	An advert for Fela's "Why Blackman Dey Suffer"		
45.	1974	Full-page advert of Fela's album, Confusion.		
46.	1974	My son, Fela, is energetic, creative and rascally by Mrs. Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, herself a stormy petrel in the colonial days.		
47.	1974	My 6 months of Agony by Afro Beat King Fela, just freed from an Indian hemp charge		
		How I escaped death, by Mrs. Funmilayo Ransome-Kutl.		
		Fela the woman womanizer.		

48	1975	Fela to headline Afro Beat Expo '75.	Fela Shines at Mini Festival	Advert for Fela's heavy ladies night	
49.	1975		Fela's kalakuta's show: A Bombshell	Advert for Fela's heavy yab	
0.	1975	STATE OF THE STATE		Advert for Fela's heavy Sur	
1.	1976	Fela to play in Berlin	Fela for Zairean festival		
2.	1976	Decca sues Sunny Ade for #250,000			
3.	1977	How They Burnt My Son's House by Fela's Mum	Advert for Mr. Grammarticologylisationalism		
4.	1977	Pandemonium at 'Kalakuta'/ (& pictures of the inferno)			
5.	1977	The 'Kalakuta' Affair; How Fela's house was burnt down- Police			
		How 43 Africa '70 Band personnel came to court yesterday			
		'Police story is a farce, a cover up and an afterthought'-Fela's mum			
		Pictures that tell the story			
6	1977	Nigerian Musicians are not self sufficient' says Bongos Ikwue			
		Why the music industry is unpredictable by Bob Okonnedo		married and	
7.	1977	In court yesterday on gun possession charge: Bail date for Fela			
8.	1977	Two brothers in the 'Kalakuta Republic' Affair			Fela: They won't let us enter our house
9.	1977	Explosion from Generator caused fire - Army Major tells Justice Anya			
0.	1977				American Musician tells of previous Incidents at "Kalakuta Republic", Feb 18 was extraordinary
	1977	Twist in 'Kalakuta' #25m suit, Braithwaite asks for judgement			I was there when soldiers set Fela's house on fire –

				journalist
				I was manhandled but escaped being raped
51.	1977	Only Guns can stop me now, say Fela, "I will play in Lagos"		
62.	1977	Fela seeks court order to play Fela plays		
63	1977	Tony Allen takes them all on		
64.	1977	Fela, go beg the police: Advice by a Judge		
65.	1977	Fela raided in Ghana		
66	1977	World Focus on Fela		
67.	1977	Pino rocks PUNCH festival		1
68.	1977	Fela lost #1.2m from Gate takings- Witness		
69.	1978	Fela Weds	Advert: Fela's Fear not fo	or.
		Ifa Priest Blesses the 27	Mon	
		Priest Blesses Fela and his New Wives		
70.	1978	Fela Kicked out of Ghana: Zombie Cry Worries Govt	Advert for Fela's Midnight Picnic Show	
71.	1978	Mama Fela is dead	Advert for Fela's Sorrows, Tears and Blood	
72.	1978	Fela plays against apartheid	Advert on the launching of Fela's party. Movement of the People (MOP)	
73.	1978	Fela vs Decca: Afrika 70 say judge for yourself		
74.	1978	Kalakuta Falis		F 19
75.	1978	Fela back from Berlin		

76.	1978	Fela conquers the Theatre			
77	1978	Fela Files contempt Motion Against DECCA			
78	1978	NAP May Merge with MOP			
79	1979	How Fela conquered Berlin			
80	1979	Fela at UNIFE			
81	1979	Relationship between Fela and His Queens		0	
82	1979	Lagos Night Life is No Longer High	<u> </u>	If the second	
83	1979	Fela's New Hideout		R To	
84	1979	Chief Priest Say	The state of	F E	4 8
85	1979	Fela: My Mama Lives	T	3 4	4 6 6
86	1979	How Fela Creates His Music	T Y S T	有 8 声	8
87	1979	23月9日		1 8 9	How to Help the Less Fortunate, by Prof. Olikoy Ransome-Kuti
88	1979	Chief Priest Say	E 12 3 2	B B A	
89	1979	Fela Charged to Court, 56 Others Arraigned	夏景 夏夏		F.E.S.
90	1979	Advert for Fela's Unknown Soldier by Skylark Records	8 2 3 5	3 5 5	E KEN
91	1979	The Constitution is a Failure		Unknown Soldier is Out Chief Priest say	B 7,8
92	1979	Black Music Expo			
93	1979	How Fela Creates His Music	# 4 0 0	-3 -0 -E	