

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

African leaders and their people feel, the members of the study mission were informed, that U.S. interests are concentrated in other areas of the world, such as southeast Asia and Latin America, and that very little interest is demonstrated with regard to problems in Africa. It was emphasized that Africa is bypassed in visits by leading U.S. officials. The study mission feels these complaints have some merit; that there has been neglect of some African areas which are at least equally crucial to our interests as areas elsewhere. The study mission believes there is urgent need for greater emphasis on American posture on the African continent. To aid in the building of this posture, the study mission recommends that the Subcommittee on Africa schedule more trips to that continent and that future study missions cover more nations, particularly those seldom visited by people of the United States.

U.S. AID TO AFRICA

U.S. aid to Africa represents only 8 percent of our global assistance. This is very small in comparison with other areas of the world although other free world donors have been providing more than \$1 billion annually to Africa. In view of the diversity of sources of assistance and Africa's needs, it appears that AID should make every effort to design programs and projects to increase productivity in economic and educational development. There are many areas where aid from the United States or other Western donors is needed in order to give greater impetus to the growth of the African countries' economies.

Economic development in most African countries has not reached the "takeoff" stage for many reasons: (1) Agriculture in many countries is not greatly developed; (2) between 85 and 90 percent of Africans depend on agriculture; (3) most countries depend on one or two cash crop economies; (4) there is a noticeable absence of a base for industrial endeavors. In order to make the economies more viable, new methods of technology must be introduced and this can best be accomplished with assistance from Western developed nations. European countries that formerly held territories in Africa are best suited to assist the newly developing nations to attain viable economies. Nevertheless, fresh and urgent action is required.

In Africa, AID's assistance has been primarily in two forms: (1) Technical assistance, often linked with particular capital projects, to help African nations expand their incomes, train their peoples, eradicate diseases, etc.; and (2) technical assistance to improve the organization and management of government services. In all these cases, the objectives are to build or improve some institutions of economic, political, and social development so that the recipient country can increase its capacity for sustained, self-directed development. In other instances, AID had made selected contributions to local efforts to overcome problems of unemployment, food shortages, and financial stabilization. The results have not been spectacular