

## LETTERS

August 20, 1990

Dear Dr. Bay:

I write in response to the CIA resolution adopted by the Board of Directors on 28 April 1990 and published in the July/September 1990 issue of *ASA News*.

Paragraphs two and three of this four-paragraph resolution reproduce verbatim the Board's Defense Intelligence Agency resolution of 2-3 April 1982 except that two crucial words are omitted, one word is added and Defense Intelligence Agency is changed to Central Intelligence Agency.

As president of the ASA in 1982, I was the principal author of the DIA resolution. However, I do not support this year's CIA resolution, and my own actions will not be guided by it. I feel that I owe it to my colleagues, and to myself, to explain my position publicly and for the record.

The DIA research support program of the early 1980s provided funding for university-based research and publication. It created direct "patron-client" relationships between DIA and the Africanist community. The two words quoted here do not appear in the 1990 CIA resolution which proscribes participation of Africanist scholars in all activities sponsored by the CIA.

In 1976, a resolution adopted by the ASA Board condemned the participation of scholars in clandestine intelligence operations and called upon Africanist scholars to refrain from participation in clandestine intelligence activities. That resolution and the DIA resolution of 1982 were carefully worded to identify specific relationships

which were deemed by the Board to compromise the credibility and integrity of Africanist academic scholarship. Neither resolution proscribed all relationships with intelligence agencies. As a member of the Board in 1976 and president of the Association in 1982, I feel able to state with complete certainty that in neither case did the Board intend to oppose all such relationships.

I have long believed that an open intellectual intercourse between this country's academic and intelligence communities is desirable and not detrimental to the credibility or integrity of scholarship. Attempts to insulate the intelligence community from academic thinking serve no useful purpose. Nor would it make sense to deprive academics of information and analyses produced by members of the intelligence community. For several years I have participated in seminars on African politics, sponsored by the Defense Intelligence Agency and attended by both invited scholars and members of the intelligence community. Such meetings are mutually beneficial and do not turn the scholars who attend into clients of an intelligence agency.

I do appreciate that many members of our association, in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Board's 1990 resolution, would not participate in meetings sponsored by an intelligence agency of the United States. I respect their views and would be happy to discuss them and amplify my own when occasions arise.

Sincerely,  
Richard L. Sklar  
Professor of Political Science  
UCLA

## OBITUARIES

JOHN ALFRED NOON, a retired Foreign Service Officer, died 13 July 1990 at Arlington, VA. He was 80.

In 1949 Dr. Noon left the chairmanship of the Sociology and Anthropology Department at Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA, to join the US Department of State as coordinator of the National Intelligence Survey of the Office of Intelligence Research, after which he spent five years as director of the US Information Service for British East Africa. He served in a similar post in Nigeria, followed by appointments first as public guidance officer for Africa at the Voice of America in

Washington, and then as director of the VOA African Program Center in Liberia. He ended his career at the Department of State as associate dean of the Foreign Service Institute, leaving in 1970 to teach anthropology and African studies at Rhode Island College.

He earned a doctorate in anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania in 1942. He served briefly on the international staff of the International Labor Office in Montreal, Canada, and was an adjunct lecturer on African studies at Johns Hopkins University. During World War II he gave extensive

orientation in African studies at the University of Pennsylvania to officers destined for the North African campaign. During his lifetime, he also wrote extensively on Africa and participated in numerous conferences and seminars.

Dr. Noon was treasurer of the American Anthropological Association in 1945-46. He was a founding fellow of the African Studies Association.

Contributions may be made to the Arlington Hospital Foundation Heart Unit, Arlington, VA 22205.

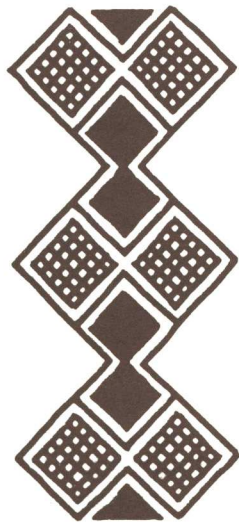
Claire S. Noon  
Arlington, VA



It is with great sadness that we report that on 12 July 1990 our colleague EMEKA KALU EZERA was killed in an automobile crash in Nigeria on the Lagos-Ibadan Road. This is a staggering loss on many levels: personally for his friends and family, who treasured his wit, his liveliness, his keen intelligence, his utter integrity and his great generosity of spirit; professionally, for the fields of political economy, comparative politics and public policy; and nationally for Nigeria, which has lost one of its greatest social scientists and policy intellectuals of this generation or any other.

No one who knew Emeka could doubt his passionate commitment to changing decisively the future of Nigeria. He was one who—through his thinking, research, writing and considerable entrepreneurial and political skills—seemed clearly destined to help steer Nigeria toward the democracy and developmental progress that has proved so elusive to date. He was unique in many respects, a man of many talents.

Emeka was a man of considerable intellectual depth, learning and nuance, one who appreciated



knowledge for its own sake as well as for its power to transform the world. He was educated at Harvard College, received his Masters of Public Policy from the University of California, Berkeley, and was working on his doctorate in Political Science at Berkeley at the time of his death. His field work in Nigeria was uncovering original and profoundly important insights about the limits and successes of the implementation of structural adjustment. As an intellectual, he enriched both of us with his comments on our own work, and his discussion of his own highly original ideas.

Emeka was also a man of action in politics, both at Berkeley where he served as a student representative on important university bodies and in the Bay area where he helped lead the fight for divestment from South Africa. Emeka was also a man of deep beliefs. His sense of personal moral outrage against injustice led him to use his considerable energies and talents of persuasion to work with local church groups to raise money for South African students. He spoke many times in black churches in the Bay area, and several of these churches "adopted" South African students into their congregations and their lives.

Emeka combined qualities of the militant and the diplomat. He did not suffer fools gladly. He spoke loudly and repeatedly against brutality, stupidity and arrogance wherever he found it. He refused to grow immune to the inequality of the world.

He felt himself to be very much a Nigerian and spoke out on Nigerian issues. He also felt himself to be partly at home in America and did not hesitate to speak about its weaknesses and possibilities.

As we speak to others privileged to know him, we are struck with how many lives he touched in such

important ways. He made us feel that we all had important work to do and that we needed to get on with it. Immediately. For all his fervor he was the nicest and gentlest of people. Our families remember his kindnesses and his good words; our colleagues, his honest and openness. Everyone—the Nigerian ambassador to Washington, the American ambassador to Lagos, people in the Washington Office of the World Bank Vice President for Africa (where he worked briefly), at the the World Bank in Nigeria (where he served as a consultant), and on many US and Nigerian campuses—remembers that when he came into a room, it suddenly seemed charged with his presence.

We are left with the nearly unbearable sense of brilliant promise abruptly silenced. All of us, black and white, Nigerian and American, are much poorer for his dying, but we were made better for his having lived and having lived so brilliantly.

Emeka sprang from a talented and warm family. To them we send our deepest condolences.

A committee has been formed to design a memorial for Emeka, which will probably include some activities at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, where he taught, possibly an activity through the ASA itself, where he was to present a paper this year, and a scholarship fund at Berkeley. Please contact either one of us if you wish to learn more about these projects.

Ernest J. Wilson III  
Director  
Center for Research  
on Economic Development  
University of Michigan

Larry Diamond  
Senior Fellow  
Hoover Institution