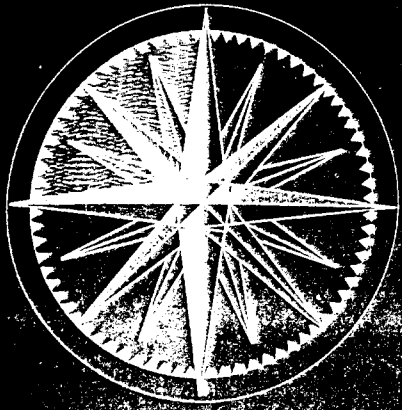


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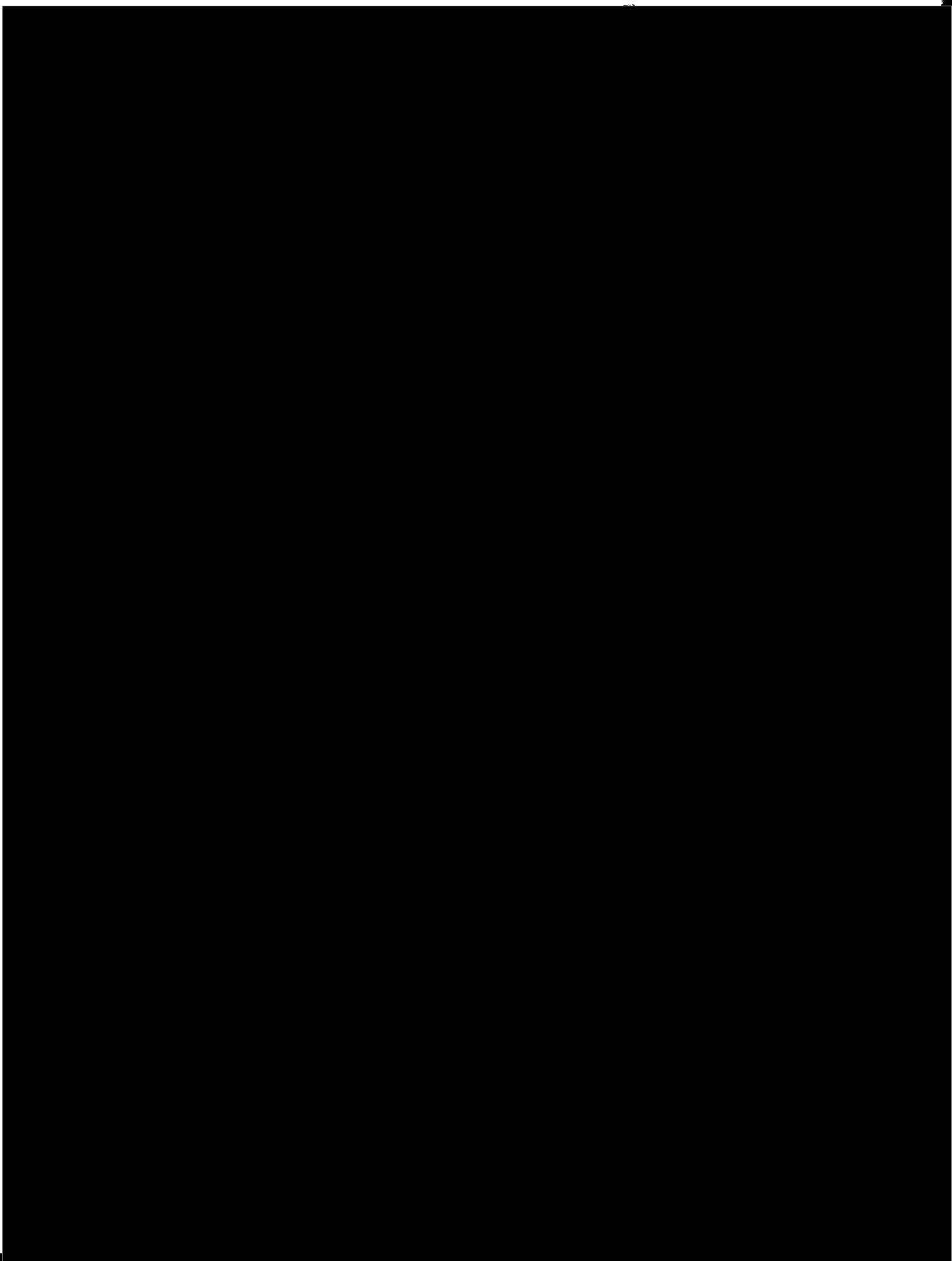
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GHANA'S NEW REGIME PROGRESSING UNEVENLY

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The Western-oriented regime appears to be functioning reasonably smoothly. Overt political activity remains proscribed, and Nkrumah's prospects for a comeback are more remote than ever.



GHANA'S NEW REGIME PROGRESSING UNEVENLY

The two-month-old moderate regime in Ghana has settled in and appears to be functioning reasonably smoothly. Its pro-Western army and police leaders evidently do not intend to redeem any time soon their promise to restore constitutional government.

Internally the main emphasis has continued to be on denigrating the old regime through publicized allegations by prominent former officials of widespread corruption and subversive activities in African countries. Although most of these accounts are probably distorted, they appear to have further discredited Nkrumah whose prospects for an early comeback are now bleaker than ever. He is still in Conakry, but reportedly may soon seek another refuge. There are indications that Guinean President Touré has become concerned about adverse repercussions from his extreme pro-Nkrumah stance.

Changes have been made in Ghana's administrative structure, partly to tighten the army and police leaders' grip on the country. The number of ministries has been reduced from 32 to 17, and the new national directorate of military and police officers and civil servants has been extended to the regional and local levels. In grappling with the country's massive economic problems, the regime's pro-Western economic experts are being assisted by World Bank advisers. Some significant new foreign aid,

notably from the US and West Germany, has already been obtained and all signs still point to a determination on the part of the ruling National Liberation Council (NLC) to qualify Ghana for still larger Western assistance.

Plans for a major overhaul of the Ghanaian national labor organization, elaborated by its new anti-Communist chief B. A. Bentum in early March, have not yet got off the ground. Bentum seems in some danger of being outmaneuvered by labor activist John Tettegah, [REDACTED] who served Nkrumah and now is trying to ingratiate himself with the NLC.

Ghana's relations with the USSR and Communist China continue strained following the expulsion of all technicians from those countries last month. Accra may yet initiate a complete rupture with Peking. The NLC now appears to be focusing on getting most if not all Ghanaian students-- numbering approximately 1,000-- out of Communist countries, probably by this summer.

In Africa, the NLC has won general acceptance, while relations with Ghana's immediate neighbors--all led by moderates long at odds with Nkrumah--have improved markedly. Closer policy coordination with the generally similar military regime in Nigeria seems likely, with consequent effects on the balance of pan-African politics. [REDACTED]