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GOVERNMENT OF KENYA

1 JUNE 1963

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GOVERNMENT OF KENYA

1 June 1963

On 1 June 1963,* following the victory of the Kenya African National Union (KANU) in the May elections, and the proclamation of a new constitution by Governor Malcolm MacDonald, the patriarch of Kenya nationalism and president of KANU, Jomo Kenyatta, became Prime Minister of one of the last major British areas in Africa to attain internal self-government; he will lead his country to complete independence, probably within nine months. Selected for the first time completely from the party supported by Kenya's largest and most politically conscious tribes (the Kikuyu and the Luo together comprise about 30% of Kenya's 8.5 million Africans), the cabinet reflects the divided nature of KANU itself. Kenyatta has apportioned ministerial and sub-ministerial appointments to achieve a careful balance between the main and lesser tribal groupings, the warring factions grouped around Tom Mboya and Oginga Odinga within KANU, and among the three racial segments of Kenya's population--African, Asian and White.

The ages of Kenyatta's ministerial appointees range in a steady progression from the early thirties to the early sixties, with never more than a few years' interval. One notable fact emerges from a study of the educational backgrounds of the cabinet: the only member who did not complete secondary school is the most able politician, Tom Mboya. Of the remaining fifteen members, ten received either teacher's certificates or university degrees from African schools (principally Makerere College, Uganda), four received degrees from US institutions and one completed college in India. Surprisingly, only one (Kenyatta) received his higher education primarily in the UK.

* On 7 June, following the convening of the Parliament, two additional ministers (McKenzie and Angaine) were named.

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The composition of the cabinet of Kenya formed on 1 and 7 June 1963 is as follows:

Prime Minister	Jomo KENYATTA
Minister of Agriculture	Bruce Roy MCKENZIE
Minister of Commerce and Industry	Julius Gikonyo KIANO
Minister of Education	Joseph Daniel OTIENDE
Minister of Finance and Economic Planning	James Samuel GICHURU
Minister of Health and Housing	Njoroge MUNGAI
Minister of Home Affairs	Ajuma Oginga ODINGA
Minister of Information, Broadcasting and Tourism	Richard Achieng ONEKO
Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	Tom MBOYA
Minister of Labor and Social Services	Eliud Ngala MWENDWA
Minister of Lands, Game, Fisheries, Water and Natural Resources	Lawrence George SAGINI
Minister of Land Settlement	Jackson Harvester ANGAINI
Minister of Local Government and Regional Affairs	Samuel Onyango AYODO
Minister of State for Pan-African Affairs	Peter Mbiyu KOINANGE
Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office	Joseph Anthony Zuzarte MURUMBI
Minister of Works, Communications and Power	Dawson MWANYUMBA

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MBOYA, Tom

KENYA

MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

The only politician who approaches the national stature of Prime Minister Jomo Kenyatta is Tom Mboya, named Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs on 1 June 1963. Tough and resourceful, Mboya is general secretary of the Kenya African National Union (KANU) and derives his strength from his faction in KANU and from Kenya's most powerful labor organization, the Kenya Federation of Labor (KFL). Mboya is probably the major threat to Kenyatta's leadership of KANU and the country, and their relationship is an alliance of convenience--Kenyatta needs Mboya's political brain and ability while Mboya, a Luo, needs Kenyatta's prestige and the support of the Kikuyu tribe. By far the ablest of Kenya's political figures, Mboya faces, however, the opposition of the old guard nationalists who were jailed with Kenyatta, of the extremist, anti-Western elements in Kenya and of his personal enemies

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Consequently, although he might wish to tighten control of a KANU suffering under what he sees as Kenyatta's vacillatory leadership, he recognizes that such a move would provoke cries from his opponents that he was betraying the leadership of the popular old nationalist.

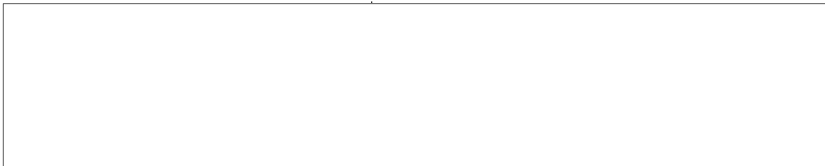
Mboya's labor union career--he was secretary general of the KKEEL before assuming the post of Minister of Labor in the coalition government of April 1962--is the foundation for his political success. He first became generally known in 1955 when he served as mediator in a Mombasa strike and won a large pay raise for the dockers; the next year he obtained a scholarship to Ruskin College, Oxford, traveling at this time to the US (among other countries), where he made a number of contacts in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)

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The symbol of African nationalism to the West, he has become the symbol of Western influence to some Africans.

Born of Luo parents on 15 August 1930 on Rusinga Island, Lake Victoria, Mboya was baptized into the Roman Catholic Church with



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MBOYA, Tom (continued)

the name Thomas Joseph Adhiambo. He was educated at Kabaa mission, St. Mary's and at Holy Ghost College (a secondary school)--withdrawing when his father could no longer afford to help with the tuition. Shortly afterwards Mboya was accepted for training as a sanitary inspector; three years later he took the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate and was appointed to the Nairobi City Council, where he served for the next two and one-half years. About 1951 he became president of the African Staff Association and built it up into the Kenya Local Government Worker's Union, becoming its national general secretary. Mboya was treasurer of the Kenya African Union in 1953 just before it was proscribed for its alleged connection with the Mau Mau; later that year he became secretary general of the KFL. In March 1957 he won the Nairobi seat in the first African constituency elections and proceeded to bind the eight African elected members into a solid group strongly opposed to the Lyttleton Constitution, under which they had been elected, and to demand that the British government declare Kenya an African country and advance her gradually to full democracy. His tactics were largely responsible for the breakdown of the constitution and for the subsequent imposition of the Lennox-Boyd Constitution which gave the Africans six more elected members. Mboya became president of the Nairobi People's Convention Party in July 1958; and the following year, after disagreeing with the Constituency Elected Members Organization on land policy, he helped to form the Kenya Independence Movement. In April 1960 he became general secretary of the then newly-formed KANU, which, by February 1961, emerged as the strongest single party in Kenya, with Mboya being re-elected to his seat in the Legislative Council by an overwhelming majority. In April of the following year he assumed the post of Minister of Labor and immediately faced difficult tests of his political skills; the trade unions, possibly egged on by his opponents, suddenly choked Kenya with a series of strikes, but Mboya applied pressure to both management and labor and most of the unions returned to work.

Intelligent, personable and articulate, Mboya is a superb orator in both English and Swahili and ~~always~~ speaks extemporaneously. He is apparently a man who will adapt his words to his audience and his actions to the situation; he argues logically and with great ability and has an undoubted flair for publicity. Clever and shrewd, he possesses great drive and determination. Mboya, who has had two unsuccessful marriages outside the church, was married in a Catholic ceremony in January 1962 to Pamela Odede.

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