

TEACHERS RALLIED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (TREE)

The TREE program, sponsored by the nonprofit educational organization Friends of Africa in America, will conduct a 20-day mission-seminar in East Africa in June 1975. The goal of the program is to prepare educators "for dedicated ecological instruction in the U.S."—at the community level as well as in the classroom.

This summer, sixteen educators will be selected to participate. The seminar will begin with an orientation session in New York City. Participants will then fly to Nairobi where they will take part in cultural exchanges and study of ecological problems of concern to Africans and Americans. The "camerades" will be given special instruction in candid and wildlife photography and recording, and will be introduced to production of sound-slide documentaries. Much of the three-week seminar will be spent in savannahs, forests, and in the mountains of safari country where interaction between plants and animals and their environment may be seen and recorded in an atmosphere free of industrial complications.

The cost to each participant will be approximately \$2,000. Following the seminar, audio-visual materials resulting from the trip will be pooled and assessed. Participants will complete production of sound-slide presentations and negotiate appearances before professional gatherings with assistance from TREE sponsors.

For further information and application materials, write to: Mr. Clement E. Merowit, Friends of Africa in America, 330 South Broadway, Tarrytown, New York 10591.

SUMMER FLIGHTS TO AFRICA

The African-American Institute has announced that the Educators to Africa Association is arranging a charter flight program to West and East Africa. All flights leave in July 1975, and six months' membership in ETAA is required.

The flights to West Africa (NYC/Accra/NYC) will permit stays in Africa of 3½, 4, and 5½ weeks. The flight to East Africa (NYC/Nairobi/NYC) will return after 5 weeks.

The ETAA round-trip fares are less than commercial one-way fares, and allow a savings of over \$400 from the special 14-45 day excursion fare. ETAA is by law a membership organization, and one must be a member of ETAA to receive all the flight details. Annual membership rates: \$10/students; \$15/educators; \$20/others. Family members covered in a single membership. For further information on membership benefits (which include a free subscription to *Africa Report*), write to: ETAA/AAI, 833 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Barker:

I have recently become concerned with current media portrayals of Africa, especially those of T.V. non-news programs. I find it disturbing to come home from a seminar and find my family clustered around the T.V. watching programs which present stereotyped, paternalistic and warped impressions of modern African life.

At annual meetings we have all heard pleas for constructive action on South Africa and other problems. Surely, monitoring media coverage of Africa in this country is an area where the Association could be active. Television is a powerful mold of opinion and could be channelled constructively to help Americans become more aware of the realities of African life. Such an awareness is a first step in building a base of support for new and better American policies in Africa.

I wonder if there are other members of the Association who share my concern? Would this be a good topic for a panel at the annual meeting, or for articles in *Issue*? Are there members who would be willing to volunteer as consultants to T.V. programmers, script writers, etc.? I feel that the knowledge and skills resident in the Association could be used to advantage in this area and hope that other members would agree.

Sincerely,
Vicki Evalds
Temple University

Dear Ms. Evalds:

I sense that you are not alone in your desire for better media coverage of Africa. A letter printed in the most recent *Issue* criticizes NBC for a January 1975 production of "Weekend" which featured one-sided commentary of the conflict in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe.

Those ASA members who would like to work for more objective, informative programming on