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## Spotlight on the Dark Continent

# Disgusted White Leaders Are Ready To Leave Kenya to the Mau Maus

By **ROBERT C. RUARK**, *Scripps-Howard Special Writer*

NAIROBI, Kenya. — The final results on the rigged London conference on a new voting apparatus of Kenya are clouded by British journalism, so I will not attempt to explain what it means except in simple terms.

Harry Selby, father of two, is selling his farms. Five farmers I know from Kitale have left for Australia, leaving their choice properties up for grabs. A man who runs 35,000 head of prime cattle on a 60,000-acre ranch outside Maralal is out here from England to see if he can get rid of it, at a loss if necessary.

I personally have just been offered a coffee property with a fine view of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanganyika for something around \$28,000. The last time the place was bartered it was for \$126,000.

The streets of Nairobi today are crowded with Somali come in from the North because the movement for a greater Somalia is a hot item at the moment. Old Mau Mau faces now through the corners since the recent mass release of detained murderers. Heavy thievery has started again. Wheels are missing from autos, houses are broken into, and if I know anything about this operation the theft of guns will start again soon.

There is a definite border traffic in arms from Ethiopia to Kenya at the moment—that I have from the highest authority in Ethiopia. There is an acute shortage of work in Kenya for the recently released Mau Mau, as well as other fringe natives "who have swum to the cities on the wave of independence," with the result that farm labor is more easily come by than in a long time.

### Whites Outvoted

As for the Kenya "representative" government plan, I make it that out of the 65 votes in the legislative council, 37 will be African and 14 will be Asian and Arab minorities. Against this total of 51 black and brown votes, the white settlers will have only 14 votes.

As the news of the agreement was leaked last week, and then announced, the whites' fury was wild. Their despair was painfully evident and white determination to fight back was equally as evident as a determination to leave.

And oddly enough, the triumph in London for nationalist leader Tom Mboya's one-vote-one-man program, which is supposed to

take place in from 14 to 18 months, seems somewhat less than popular with a great many Africans.

When the white man goes, the feeling among the more sophisticated tribes is that there won't be much work. "They will starve us, Bwana," one old fellow told me. "All Mboya does is ask for money. The unions will run everything."

### Warfare Likely

But there won't be much to run. Tribal warfare seems inevitable, since the fighting tribes are the rich nomads with great herds which are sure to be tempting to tax collectors serving a deficiency government.

Possibly the greatest complaint on the street today is that the triumph of Mboya & Co. endorses Mau Mau and made an honored councilor out of the exiled Peter Koinange, the nationalist leader held partly responsible for the Mau Mau terror.

Not only the white men but the thousands of loyal Kikuyu who fought the terrorists, who killed more than 20,000 of their own people, say that the outcome of the London conference constitutes an endorsement by the British government of Mau Mau and its bloody tactics as a successful political weapon.

It certainly leaves the loyal Kikuyu in a parlous position when the people they fought assuredly come back into power.

### Talk of 'Revolt'

There has been some muttering about a stout stand against the British government, much as the French Algerian colons put on against President de Gaulle. But it is not likely to come about. The white settlers, rugged individualists, among themselves would scarcely reach a common agreement on anything.

"What do you think will happen?" is the most common question.

"I'm packing it," is the most common answer. "Nobody is going to run me off my land" is the second most common reply by the white men.

There is much talk of bills of rights to safeguard private property but not much stock is set by mere words in a land of blood and violence and ignorance where words are seldom bonds.

Everybody I meet out here asks me as an outsider what I think will happen, and my answer is given in Swahili — "Seju."

That means, "I don't know."

Next: *The Lion of Judah.*

## The Negro Votes.

## The End of the

## White Minority!