

LIFE

AFRICA
A CONTINENT
IN FERMENT

A
SPECIAL
ISSUE

20 CENTS

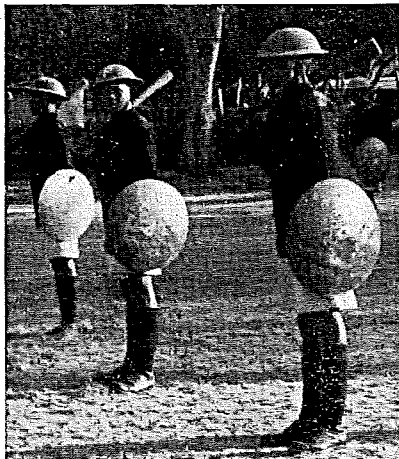
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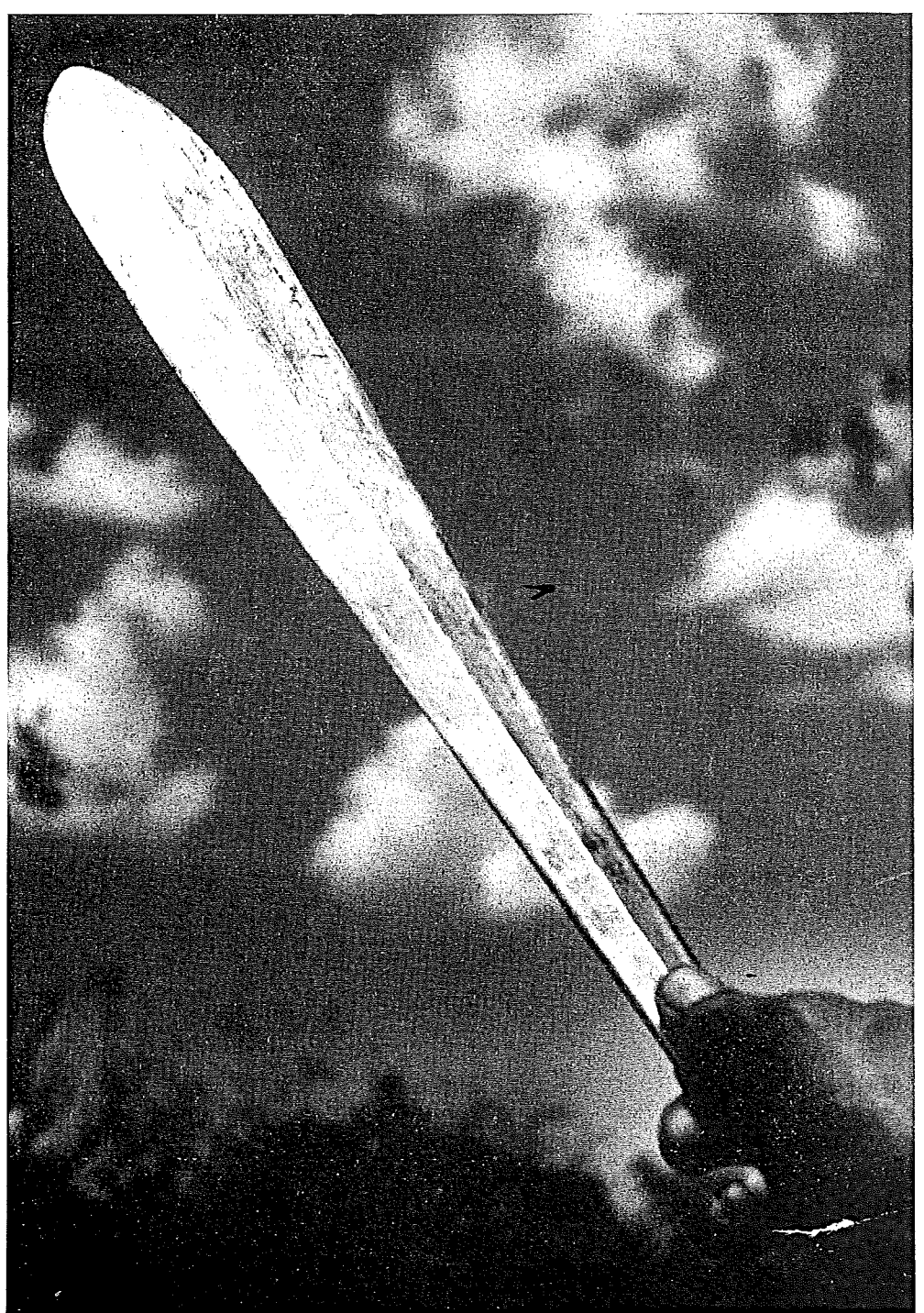


SWORD of natives, the long, double-edged simi (*right*), is favorite weapon of Mau Mau marauders.

Kenya lies under the sword



SHIELDS protect the loyal native police against the Mau Mau knives. They carry ax handle bludgeons.



BLACKS AND WHITES ARE BATTLING FOR LAND

PHOTOGRAPHED FOR LIFE BY ALFRED EISENSTAEDT

Stretching west from the Indian Ocean, starting from low plains and stepping upward to high, grassy plateaus, is Britain's Kenya Colony. Kenya lies on the Equator, but in the highlands the climate is cool and pleasant and the rolling downs look so much like England that when the first Britons came there 50 years ago they built homes to stay. They have lived comfortably off cattle raising and farming.

But wherever African land is attractive to whites, there the conflict between blacks and whites becomes most bitter. This has been especially true in Kenya where the threat of the simi (*above*) hangs over the colony and a cruel war is being fought between native Kikuyu and the British. In Kenya there are 30,000

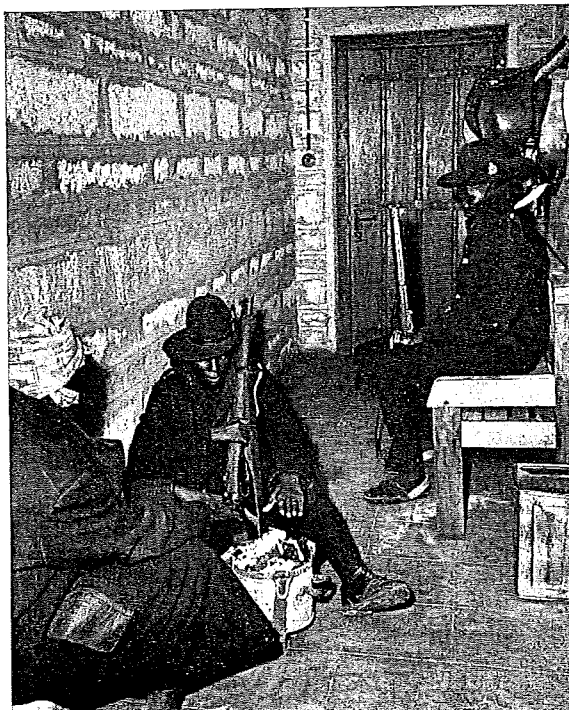
whites and five million blacks. The British have settled the best land and have not faced the economic problems this causes among the fast multiplying natives. They have given the blacks representation in the Legislative Council but refuse to share their farmland. Through a secret society called the Mau Mau, by murdering and pillaging (*LIFE*, Nov. 3), the Kikuyu are trying to drive the British completely out. They have not only brutally killed and mutilated white farmers but their own people suspected of helping whites. Sometimes they have wiped out whole families and burned whole villages. "We were the meat and the whites were the knives," they say, "but now we shall be the knives and the whites will be the meat."



FARMER BLUNDELL (IN JACKET) STROLLS ON THE LAWN OF COUNTRY HOUSE WITH



GUARDED by native groom, 6-year-old Susan Blundell goes for a ride on her father's farm. She is never permitted out of sight of the main house. The groom belongs to Kipsigi tribe, which is still loyal to the whites.



ON NIGHT WATCH loyal Kipsigi tribesmen, armed with rifles, sit huddled a chilly stone passageway in Blundell's farmhouse behind a locked do

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DAUGHTER, A WOMAN VISITOR, WIFE GERALDINE AND HIS PERSONAL BODYGUARD

1 FARMER ON DEATH LIST

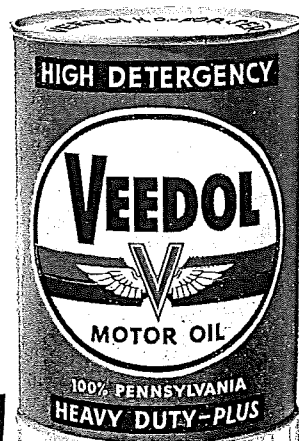
Wealthy spokesman for the whites is 49-year-old, Yorkshire-born Mike Blundell, who owns a 1,200-acre farm in the heart of the highlands. Blundell came to Kenya as a farm apprentice when he was 18 and later bought virgin bush. By hard work he developed it into a trim, model farm. Unlike many whites who look upon the "Kukes" as "just 50 years out of the trees," Blundell believes in uplift for the blacks, but he also believes the whites should keep what they have worked for. The Mau Mau have sent him notes threatening to murder him and his family, saying, "You will all die, and be sure your deaths will not be easy."



PISTON IN HAND, Blundell takes no chances as he makes the rounds of his farm. Here he talks to 16-year-old Kikuyu girl whose father works for him.

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Seal in All Your Horse- power!



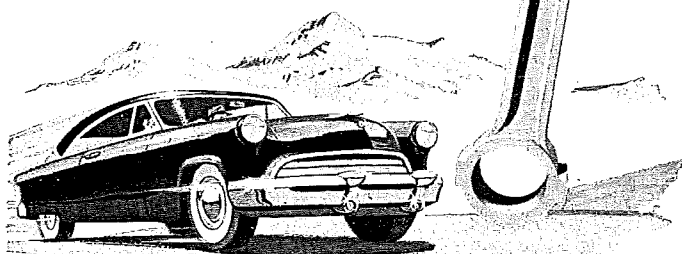
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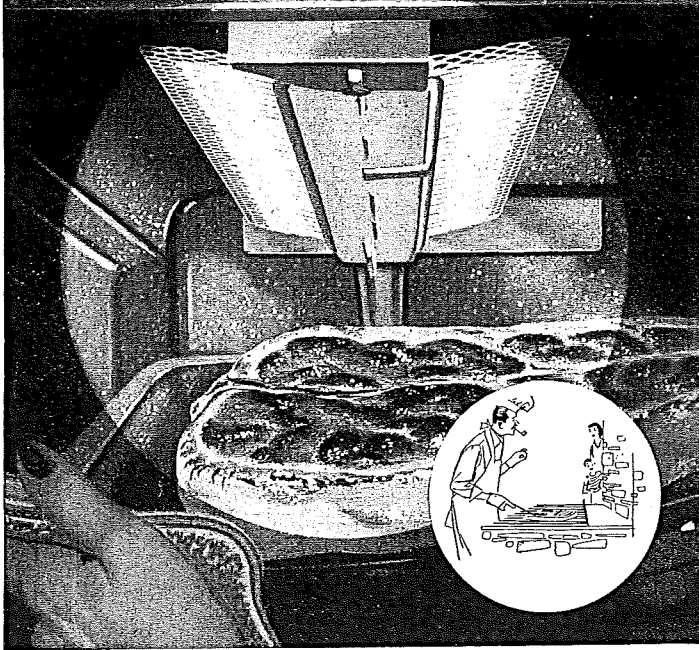
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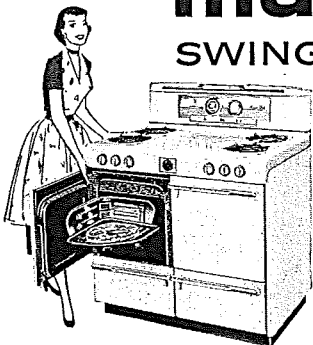
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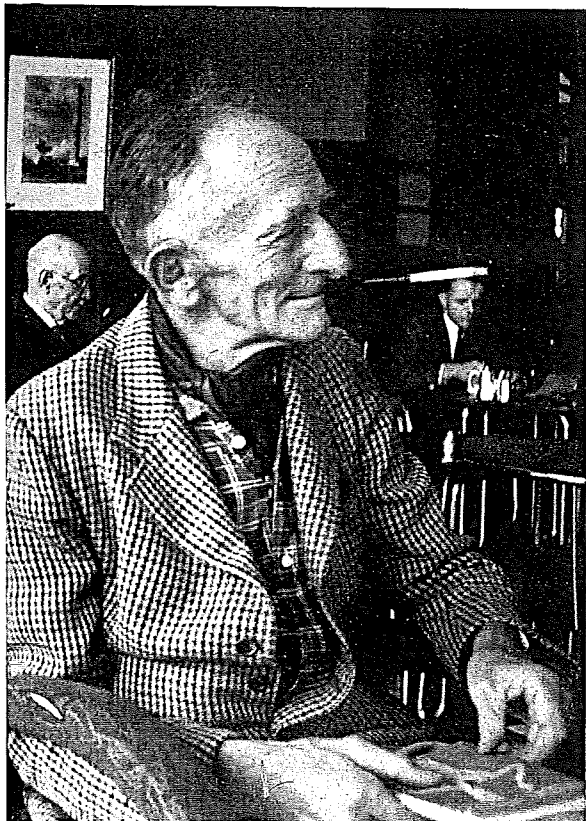
IN COCKTAIL LOUNGE in Nairobi, where color line is enforced, embattled whites can drink safely. At table at left is the Rev. Robert Philp (bare knees);

ON THE COUNTERATTACK

In Nairobi, the Kenya capital, the British still drink their pink gins and hopefully tell each other, "We mustn't lose our heads over this." But the ex-Indian army colonels and majors still have not come up with a way to put down the native rebellion, and some who own farms in the danger zone are now wondering if perhaps they should get out—if they could find someone to buy the land. Three thousand British troops have been sent to Kenya and the settlers themselves have been organized into home-guard commandos reminiscent of the American Wild West posses. The brutal, wholesale killing by the Mau Mau has brought on harsh white retaliation. The settlers shot or hang Mau Mau suspects from a portable gallows. Other thousands of "Kukes" have been herded from the Kenya towns and farms and transported back to the native reserves. But on the already overburdened, eroded land of the reserves the impoverished Kikuyu face starvation, and their resentment against the whites is only increased by such forced measures.



ON THE TRAIL after Mau Mau, heavily-armed African trackers examine the ground for tracks. Horsemen are on ready to dash forward if quarry is flushed



missionary, and Claude Reynard, army major, who has 13,000-acre farm. In right foreground is Cyril Hill, retired navy commander, who grows coffee.



ON THE MOVE, Kikuyu dressed in rags and shivering in the cold are loaded to trucks to be taken from farms where they worked back to native reserves.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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RECENT SETTLERS, 30-year-old Bill Campbell Clause and his wife Marga sit with their 5-month-old son John, 2½-year-old Charles. Born in England, Clause bought his farm after fighting in Abyssinia during World War



THE HIRED HAND, a native, gets his instructions from Clause, who carries a gun for protection from Mau Mau. Clause owns 500 acres on which grows wheat, raises pigs and cows. His income averages about \$4,000 a year

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GUN-TOTING WIFE wheels baby John around the yard in a perambulator. Clauses also keep dogs to warn them of a Mau Mau attack, and their home simple clapboard house, has a wire screen all around it as further precaution

CONTINUED ON PAGE

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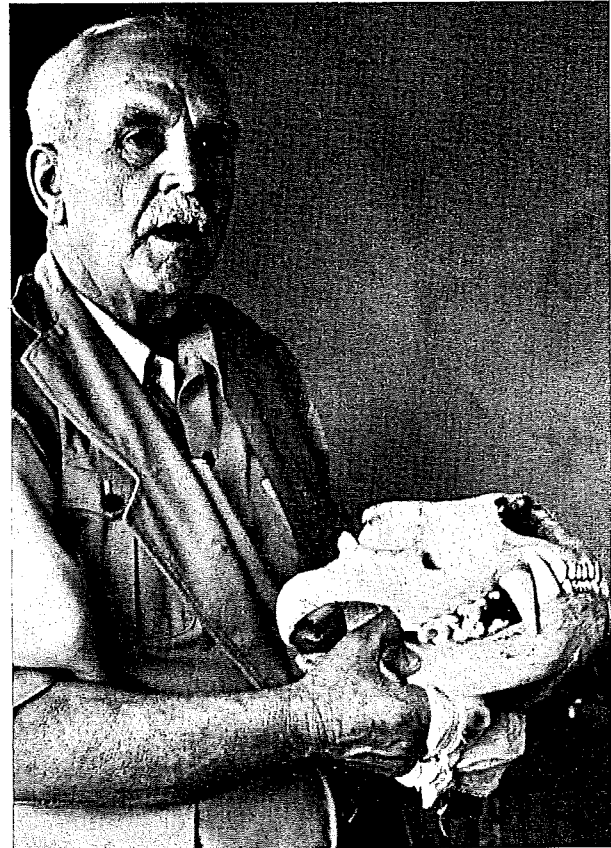
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Kenya CONTINUED



KENYA PIONEER, 72-year-old Louis Sykes, who holds skull of a spotted lion killed on 4,000-acre farm, has a son and daughter away fighting the Mau Mau.

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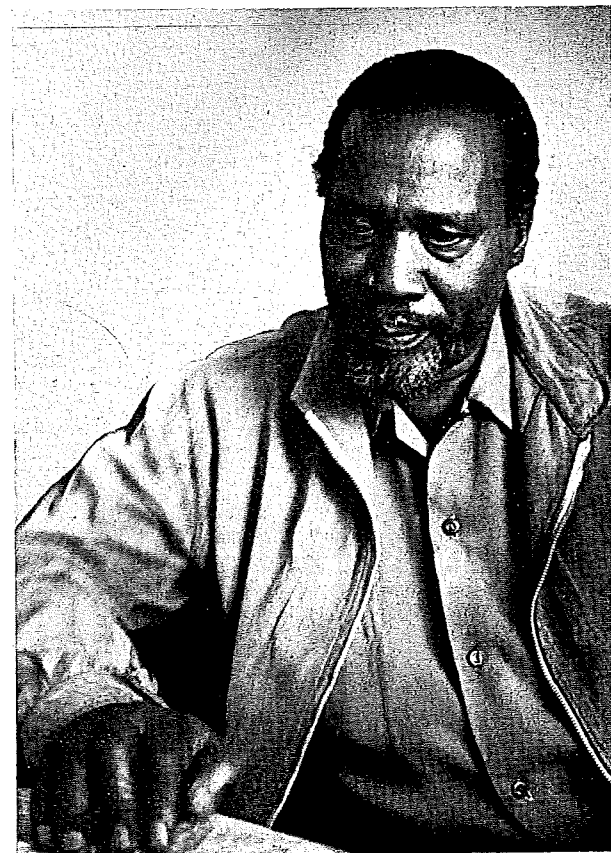
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KENYA AGITATOR, Jomo Kenyatta, who studied in Moscow, was convicted April 8 of managing Mau Mau and was sentenced to seven years at hard labor.