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VOLUME 28 to 41

**GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE
DISTRICTS**

BORGOU



Multinational Agribusiness Systems Incorporated

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN

MINISTRY OF PLANNING, STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

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VOLUME 28 to 41

**GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE
DISTRICTS**

BORGOU

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROJECT FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT
OF
ONCHO-FREE AREAS**

**CENTRAL BUREAU FOR PROJECTS
B.P. 2022 - COTONOU
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN**

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VOLUMES 28 to 41 : GENERAL INFORMATION
ON THE DISTRICTS OF BORGOU

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VOLUME 28

DISTRICT OF BANIKOARA

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The District of BANIKOARA consists of ten communities, comprising a total of 58,228 inhabitants. The primary activity is agriculture, followed by animal husbandry, commerce, and crafts. The population is made up essentially of BARIBA (60%) and then PEULH (15%). The other groups are DJERMA, GOURMANTCHE, HAOUSSA, and YORUBA, each of whom does not exceed 5% of the population.

A. Type of Relationships between the Various Ethnic Groups

Relations are good between these ethnic groups, overall, to the point where the CCR of Soroko-Peulh says: "they live like brothers". Indeed, the BARIBA are big beef cattle owners and they entrust the herds to the PEULH. In the other communities, business relationships prevail between the BARIBA and the PEULH. In the community of Kokey, "the PEULH, who needs food products, goes to the BARIBA and, in exchange, gives him a calf and something else". Likewise, the BARIBA who wants a head of beef cattle goes to the PEULH and buys it from him or barter it. However, there is no equality among these groups and the BARIBA are big beef herd owners and enjoy much more prestige than the PEULH who are considered "itinerants" or "foreigners". An important element in the attribution of prestige is the geographic and historical origin. A second element which is often considered has to do with the number: the numerically strongest group is the most prestigious one.

But this second element does not work for the PEULH who are everywhere considered as foreigners and itinerants. At BANIKOARA, the BARIBA are considered as the founders of the District and this element alone gives them much prestige in the region.

B. Popular Celebrations

The most frequently celebrated traditional fete is the fete of Gani and it lasts a week. It is held at NIKKI under the sponsorship of the royal family. Then there is also the fete of the female fetishist (fetish feast) which is celebrated every year. All of these fetes "take place in a special setting, to the sound of the drum, the violins, the calabash, and they mean that the year is well over, that health and happiness have smiled and that God may give life until the next year" (CCR Koko). For the feast of Gani in the community of Soroko, "the people fire shots to announce it. On the day of the feast, the population takes unprepared food to the superior chief to receive foreigners and they kill a head of beef cattle in the chief's house. The chief prepares himself for the feast in the afternoon. He visits the tombs of the former chief; then there are the ceremonies on horseback which end in a horse race to see which horse is the best" (CCR Soroko).

The PEULH for their part celebrate the feast of flagellation which lasts a week. At Arbonga, the BARIBA furthermore celebrate the feast of Kira-Yarou, a traditional acrobatic dance. This feast lasts a day. The griots praise chief Nam-Soumon three or four times and then the dance begins. This dance means that unity makes strength.

C. Social Function of Markets

The market is the preferred place for the exchange of goods and services. Everybody goes to the market: men, women, and children. Some go there to sell or buy what they need; the others go there just to walk around, to meet friends, and to have fun. The market is the main form of entertainment in the district. As a general rule, women go to the market to sell the farm's products, to buy condiments or clothing, while "the men go there only to walk around. They go there to have fun" (Sirikou). At Soroko, "the PEULH, who are rather curious, go there to observe". In the community of Kokey, "the market is a meeting place for everybody coming from everywhere to exchange various products. At the market one can find merchants, buyers, sellers, hair dressers, and craftsmen. The market is lively and the crowd swarms all around".

D. Crime

Crime is little known in the district. However, there are some problems of theft, particularly at Soroko-Peulh, where "some persons steal lambs, chickens, and even beef cattle". This is the main crime problem. At Kokey, when "the thief is caught, he is taken to the delegate and from there to the mayor where he is made to bring the things he stole to salute the village". For crimes, the guilty person is beaten in order to deter the others from committing the same error. There are few rare cases of crime at Kokiborou: "crimes are basically caused by women: when you love another man's woman, that causes crime".

E. Relations with Outside World: Emigration

Relations of the people with the other districts and the outside world are very frequent and are carried out primarily through markets. Only the community of Koriborou has few relations with the outside world. However, about 30 persons from that community left to go to NIGERIA in search of money. Likewise, several young people left the different communities and villages of the district and all of them did so to go to NIGERIA "in search of money". Others left to learn the Koran while others, still, went because they were dissatisfied in their village due to the lack of women. Very few persons came to settle in the district. As a matter of fact, the district's population is largely immobile. The exodus which involves mostly young people is seasonal; they leave for several months to go to NIGERIA, to make money, and then they come back to the district.

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season, the main problem involves roads which makes transportation practically impossible due to the lack of bridges: "during the rainy season, the roads are ruined. There are no bridges to go from one place to another" (CCR Soroko). Furthermore, in certain zones, such as Arbonga, the houses fall down. The harvests may also be spoiled.

During the dry season, the number one problem is the lack of water: "the wells which we dig run dry and you have to dig deeper" (Kokey). We find this problem due to the lack of water at Soroko, at Kokiborou, at Sirikou, and at Kokey, where the CRL also deplores the numerous brush fires which devastate the region. At Arbonga, there are many illnesses during that time of the year.

During the interim period, the main problem is the lack of food: "lack of food products" (Soroko, Kokey). In addition to that we have the problem of seeds; the seeds die if the rain stops abruptly" (Kokey).

G. District Needs

As far as roads are concerned, we find the same needs everywhere: the need for road repair, maintenance, or construction because "the roads are so bad that transportation is very difficult" (Kokey). It is also necessary to build many small bridges. At Sirikou, there are no roads and certain trails cross water courses which bar passage during the rainy season.

Health services are very deficient in the district because of the insufficiency of pharmaceutical products, the inadequacy of operating loans, and the lack of auxiliary personnel. Certain villages lack dispensaries and in others, where there is a dispensary, the population does not go there because "the people only like traditional remedies" (Sirikou). At Arbonga, there is also a dispensary "but nothing with which to help the sick".

As far as schools are concerned, generally speaking, there is a lack of buildings, furniture, and textbooks. At Arbonga, for example, there are no doors or windows in the school and there is no equipment for the teachers. Another problem arises at Kokey: the problem of non-attendance in school, above all regarding the PEULH children because "the PEULH do not want to send their children to school".

There are no serious problems with water at BANIKOARA. Many villages are demanding wells because "the water we use is very dirty" (Kokey) or simply "there is no drinking water" (Sirikou).

The district's greatest problem is "lack of means of transportation for collection agents". At the village level, it is necessary to improve the markets to encourage people to go there and, in particular, to build sheds.

There is a lack of material for agricultural services, particularly for plant care treatment and spreading of fertilizer because, at BANIKOARA, there is much cotton cultivation. Also needed are storage warehouses for the products and even tractors since the cultivated areas often cover several hectares.

H. Population's Needs

The needs felt by the population essentially involve agricultural production and health services. At Soroko, for example, the community's population "needs production factors, such as plows, tractors, fertilizer, insecticides, etc". The same is true of Sirikou, where the population wants to have more effective means available to cultivate the land. At Kokiborou, the population has also demanded, "a store for agricultural tools, a gas station, and a big barracks building for industrial products". Health centers have been demanded at Sirikou, Arbonga, and Kokey. At Kokey, the population is asking for a forest ranger.

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

The factor that most obstructs the region's development is the lack of agricultural equipment which would permit the population to produce much more because the land is abundant and fertile. There is also a manpower shortage, particularly for the cotton harvest. Mechanization of agriculture and immigration would promote the development of the community of Kokiborou.

There are undeveloped potentials in the district, such as the forests which could permit lumber operations and the mountains where stone could be obtained.

Finally, it should be noted that there is much bottom land in the district which is being developed by the population. Besides, there is enough land available in the region to permit the establishment of new farms. Each can work the surface area he wants; it suffices to see the village delegate who then indicates where the new households can settle. At Soroko, "everybody settles down where he wants to". The delegate gives the newcomer "the freedom to build his house where he wants". The land belongs to the old people and each can dispose of it as he sees fit.

J. Health Problems

Onchocerciasis rages in district but no information was supplied to us regarding the extent of that disease as far as the population is concerned. There are supposedly a few blind persons. The other diseases striking the population are measles, dysentery, malaria, and smallpox. There are also some cases of tuberculosis. The main causes of death are the above-mentioned diseases and snake bites but supernatural causes were also mentioned, such as "the phantoms of the field who move around during twilight" (CRL Sirikou) or atmospheric factors, such as the sun.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 28B.

DISTRICT OF BEMBEREKE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of BEMBEREKE consists of five communities, comprising a total of 33,640 inhabitants, distributed over 48 villages. The primary activity is agriculture and animal husbandry; the population is mostly made up of BARIBA, GANDO, and PEULH.

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

In villages where several ethnic groups coexist, relations are of the good neighborly type. But in many villages we find just about only BARIBA (Pedarou, Teme) or only GANDO (Gando). The groups are mixed at Beroubouye. It is therefore not surprising that, at Gando, it is the GANDO who have the most prestige because they constitute almost the entire population, whereas at Pedarou, it is the BARIBA who have most prestige for the same reason.

B. Popular Celebrations

A certain number of traditional feasts are celebrated in the villages annually. In particular we note the feast of Gani, the feasts which are staged in memory of ancestors, or those which take place on the occasion of new harvests.

C. Social Function of Markets

Mostly women frequent the market, either to buy what they need or to sell products. Men go there also but to meet their friends and to talk.

D. Crime

There is little crime in the villages surveyed: "no crimes, neither thefts, nor infractions of the laws and customs. In the rare case where there is an infraction of the law, the guilty person is punished before the entire population and fined with the purchase of cola or liquor" (Pedarou). At Beroubouye "the women leave the conjugal home to cheat, just like the men".

E. Relations with Outside World: Emigration

The population maintains relations with the other villages and the outside world primarily through the markets which are important places for the exchange of goods and cultural matters. However, there is very little emigration and immigration in the district: only a few young people have left their village to go to NIGERIA in search of money (Beroubouye). Others left the village of Gando to learn a trade either at PARAKOU or in NIGERIA.

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season, the special problems which arise in the villages are those of access ways which are flooded and thus impassible (Teme). There is also the wind which rips the straw roofs off (Beroubouye).

During the dry season, the major problem is lack of water.

During the interim period, there is a lack of supplies at Teme but at Pedarou, there is no problem.

G. District Needs

The district needs to rebuild certain roads to facilitate trade, in particular between Beroubouye and SINENDE.

Health services require new dispensaries at Teme, Pedarou, Gando, and Beroubouye. At Pedarou, the CRL wrote: "since the village has no health services, it would like to have an infirmary to care for the population".

Equipment for schools is insufficient and the population does not feel motivated to send the children there: "the village has a primary school but there is no moral support for the parents of the pupils because, so far, they do not know why they should send their children to school" (Gando). In the other villages, the problem springs from insufficient equipment, particularly the lack of furniture and books.

In the village of Teme there was an opportunity to get a well that does not run dry but the population of Pedarou complains that "the only well that supplies the village contains non-potable water which is the main cause of frequent stomach disorders. The village needs another well treated by the water service department to make the water potable".

In most villages, sheds should be built to cover the market so that "the sellers and buyers are protected against the rain and the sun".

The population requires a means of production (tractors) in order to be able to exploit large areas of land.

H. Population's Needs

In Pedarou, "the population needs a well, a market, an infirmary and construction of schoolrooms".

At Teme, the needs felt by the population are "water, health, access ways, manufactured products, cement, canned food, and a youth house". At Beroubouye, the population wants "cultural and sports activities, qualified personnel to organize and indoctrinate the peasants, plow to increase the field surface area, and the construction of a dam to hold the water in the bottom land.

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

The positive development factors above all include the determination manifested by the population to increase its output by means of agricultural mechanization. Land is available in sufficient quantity but it remains underexploited due to the lack of resources. When a new household decides to settle, it reports to the local authorities who allow it to settle where it wishes and to cultivate the surface area it can handle.

The factors that limit development are basically lack of resources, agricultural material and equipment to work the land.

J. Health Problems

The most common diseases in the district are stomach disorders, measles, fevers, and malaria. The main causes of death are due to the diseases mentioned: "the population does not have an understanding of modern medical care" but "there is also old age poisoning" (Pedarou).

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 29B.

VOLUME 30

DISTRICT OF GOGOUNOU

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of GOGOUNOU consists of six communities, comprising a total of 30,949 inhabitants, distributed over 33 villages.

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

The primary activity is agriculture and animal husbandry and the population is essentially made up of BARIBA and PEULH. The BARIBA own beef cattle and enjoy much more prestige than the PEULH who are simple herdsman. It is the BARIBA "who control all groups in all economic and social fields" (CCR Bagou) and also because they are most numerous.

B. Popular Celebrations

The best-known traditional feasts are the feasts of Gani, celebrated by all BARIBA and the feast of Dankourou, which is held during the year's 7th moon. The feast of Gani takes place during the 9th moon of the year and lasts 2 days: "the chief rides on his horse, the griot sings out in the name of the chief and glorifies him. The princes are baptized in the evening. Everybody drinks and dances" (CRL Lougou). The feast of Dankourou means that a new life begins for the group. It lasts one moon and marks the new agricultural year.

C. Social Function of Market

Women and merchants mostly frequent the market to sell or buy what they need. This is a place where there is much talking "to buy at a low price without which they cannot re-sell". At Bagou, "the men and women go to the market; there are vendors and buyers as well as criminals".

D. Crime

The only crime problems mentioned in the district are problems of theft: "the thieves steal during the night" (Bagou).

E. Relations with Outside World: Emigration

Many people left the district to settle particularly in NIGERIA. "These persons left the community because of poverty" (Bagou). The CRL of Lougou writes: "here it is the poor living conditions that force our young rural people into the rural exodus. Some sell what little they have to get married. But it might happen that the girl will fool around with another man and the family is ruined: "and we do not even have any food in our family, we have nothing more, because everything has been sold. The family is sad. It is because of these poor living conditions that young rural people abandon their village".

F. Specific District Problems

The problems that arise in the district during the rainy season have to do with the flooding of the bottom land which makes any movement impossible due to the lack of roads and bridges and the tremendous increase in mosquitos which bothers the population because this "causes an incalculable number of illnesses" (Lougou).

During the dry season, it is the lack of water which "causes much suffering among the population". During the interim period, "we have difficulties because we lack everything here" (Lougou).

G. District Needs

The district's needs in terms of roads are many because the roads are very poor and there is no transportation service. "When we have things to sell, such as corn or peanuts we lose much due to the lack of roads, and incidents happen at any moment" (Lougou).

"Dispensaries are lacking in all communities. We die due to lack of pharmaceutical products" (Bagou).

There are no wells and, besides, "the drinking water contains many microbes".

As far as markets are concerned, although they do exist at Bagou, there are no sheds "and the men are out under the sun all the time. During the rainy season, the merchandise is soaked. This is a big loss to the community". At Lougou, there is no market and the population wants one.

There is no shortage of land; instead, agricultural equipment for cultivation is lacking. The people need "plows, hoes, draft animals (cattle), and chemical fertilizer". The peasants thus are asking for government assistance in the form of agricultural equipment in order to be able to produce better.

H. Population's Needs

The needs felt by the population concern "water, dispensaries, sheds for the market, and products for crop cultivation development". To that we can add the construction of a market at Lougou.

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

The factors that limit development are the lack of infrastructure facilities and agricultural equipment and the flight of the young people from the farms. The positive factors include the determination of the population to work and improve its destiny within the limits of the restrictions that weigh heavily on it. This is why the people expect help from the government. Several bottom land areas are being developed in the region. Here the people grow rice, in particular. At Lougou, the land is not being developed due to lack of resources and, besides, "because there are big trees and we do not want to cut them down". At any rate, there is enough land available to permit everybody "to settle down where he wants, without any problems; the land is free".

J. Health Problems

In addition to onchocerciasis, which is serious in the region, the main diseases are malaria, measles, tuberculosis, icterus, and stomach disorders. The main causes of death however are poisoning (Bagou), malnutrition, lack of medical care, and means for the transportation of the sick.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 30B.

VOLUME 31

DISTRICT OF KALALE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of KALALE consists of six communities, comprising a total of 38,457 inhabitants, scattered among 44 villages. The primary activity is agriculture, followed by animal husbandry, crafts and commerce. The population includes GANDO (kin to the PEULH), BOKO (kin to the BARIBA), BARIBA, and PEULH. Their proportion in the district is not specified. The GANDO account for 80% of the population in the community of Buca, and the Boko represent 70% in the urban community of KALALE. The BARIBA represent only 5% of the population at Bouca, like the BOKO and PEULH; the PEULH account for 30% in the urban community of KALALE.

A. Type of Relationships between various Ethnic Groups

The relations existing between the various ethnic groups in the district are characterized by "family ties between individuals of the family group (marriage, baptism, funerals, ceremonies in commemoration of the souls of the ancestors, fetishist ceremonies, etc.), cohabitation and by good neighborly relations among individuals of different ethnic groups". This positive cohabitation is manifested by efforts in terms of moral and material support on the occasion of all ceremonies. Likewise, on the village level, as at Gbessassi, solidarity and mutual aid predominate.

In spite of everything, there is a certain inequality between the various ethnic groups in the district; this inequality results from the feudal period. Because of their warlike activities, the BARIBA rose to a higher rank than the other groups. Although during the period after the war, they continued to live from the product of the work of other groups, using the old title of prince and warrior which characterized them. These inequalities tend to disappear at this time and each group is adjusting to the new situation.

The groups that have the most prestige are the BARIBA, followed by the PEULH (red skin) and the BOKO. The prestige of the BARIBA has to do with "their ancestral princely rank, their possessions in terms of material goods, and the very careful management of these assets, and finally, their easy adaptation to the contemporary world". The other groups owe them respect and obedience (C.U. KALALE).

In the villages where the BOKO are very numerous, they enjoy more prestige than the YORUBA who are considered as having come from elsewhere.

The groups that have the least prestige are the GANDO and some BARIBA families who are not numerous enough by themselves. As far as the GANDO are concerned, their lack of prestige has to do "with the historical fact that they were originally the slaves of the other groups. Their social practices differ from those of the others; they are not at all conservative from the view-point of mores and customs; they are very distrustful and they are characterized by the kidnapping of wives and by the inflicting of serious injuries".

In the community of Bouca, the most prosperous villages are Bouca, Kourele, Bouka-Gando, and Gbassi. They owe their prosperity to the markets, to the merchants, and to their favorable geographic location (along the Bouka-Nikki road).

In the urban community of KALALE, the most prosperous villages are Kidarou-Kperou, Gbessassi, KALALE, and Nassiconzi. Their prosperity is due to the wealth of the land and the dedication of the farmers to agricultural work, animal husbandry, and small-scale commerce.

B. Popular Celebrations

The most popular traditional feast is Gani which takes place once a year. It is held at NIKKI under the direction of the royal family. Gani is a consecration of the souls of the feudal ancestors and a presentation of the feudal families to the sound of the sacred drums and trumpets. It consists of honoring the king.

Funerals and baptisms are also traditional feasts which are very much in use. In certain villages, such as Gbessassi, there is also the feast of "Tezu" or the rejection of fire on the eve of the feast of Gani. This feast consists of going west and throwing burning embers. The villages get together and express their joy by dancing and drinking. The other feasts celebrated are national feasts.

C. Social Function of Markets

The social function of the markets, which revolves around the exchange of goods, is a function of communication, exchange of information, and circulation of news. The entire family goes

to the market which is also the place to meet people and make friends through contacts between individuals. This is the occasion for the various social and ethnic groups to get together and to exchange ideas.

D. Crime

Crime is rare in the community of Bouca. The most frequent cases involve problems of kidnapping of wives and infractions of the customs.

On the village level, social pressure causes almost everybody to respect the customs (Gbessassi).

E. Relations with Outside World: Emigration

The people in the districts are very mobile. Within the district, thousands of persons every day attend the various markets (there is a market on every day of the week). Ceremonies involving marriage, baptism, leaving the convent, etc., are very much attended there and constitute occasions for regular movement from one village to the next.

Relations with other districts are more restricted and involve only the itinerant merchants. There are also the movements of the stockmen during the period of the great migration, going from the border region of NIGERIA in search of watering places and pasture land for the animals.

The number of persons who left the district was not specified but there has been emigration to the border villages of NIGERIA and in the rural district of NIKKI. This migration originates from the search for fertile land, pastures, and watering places for the animals. This is true in particular of the community

of Bouca. The most obvious consequence on the district level - in addition to the fact that this is a handicap for the stabilization of its budget - is the accomplishment of the task of national construction, etc.; the district loses its good workers and its animals.

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season the chief problem is in getting around because the roads are impassable due to the lack of bridges.

During the dry season, it is primarily the lack of water for men and animals and the appearance of contagious disease, such as measles and meningitis. No particular problem was mentioned for the interim period. At the community level, mention was made that reserves run out and the food prices rise.

G. District Needs

The needs of the district for roads include the repair of the old agricultural routes which have deteriorated completely and which are now inadequate as well as the construction of roads to facilitate trade.

The communities need construction or improvement of roads and an increase in transportation services.

Health services are insufficient. It is necessary to build new health facilities, to complete those that exist, and to improve the latter and to be able to issue the necessary pharmaceutical products (C.U. (Urban Council) of KALALE).

Schools are mostly built of straw and bamboo (banco), and the district believes that their construction with the use of permanent materials is an urgent necessity. Likewise, there is a lack of teaching materials (KALALE).

The district recommends the drilling of wells and the construction of water weirs. The same is true of the communities.

There is a need for food shops. There is a shortage of agricultural equipment, such as plows, tractors, insecticides, etc. (KALALE).

H. Population's Needs

The needs felt by the population of the district concern roads, social-medical and agricultural-pastoral matters. More specifically, in the community of Bouka, the population wants retaining facilities to be built at watering places for the animals. Also wells for human consumption are needed plus the installation of sanitary facilities. In the urban community of KALALE, they also want lighting and water supply lines.

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

No information was given on the district level regarding the factors that restrict or promote the region's development, nor was any information provided on the unexploited potential.

In the urban community of KALALE, mention was made of the rural exodus and the commercial situation as limiting local development.

Land is available in sufficient quantity to permit the establishment of the new farms. This is done by simple occupation of the land.

J. Health Problems

The most common diseases are malaria, measles, bronchitis, and the various forms of dysentery. Another health problem comes from snake bites which are frequent in the region. The causes of death are malnutrition and diseases.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 31B.

VOLUME 32

DISTRICT OF KANDI

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The information concerning this district was not received.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 32B.

VOLUME 33

DISTRICT OF KARIMAMA

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of KARIMAMA consists of five communities, comprising 18,065 inhabitants, distributed over 18 villages. The primary activity is agriculture, followed by animal husbandry, fishing, and commerce. The population is essentially made up of DENDI (70%), PEULH (20%), followed by some GOURMANTCHE (5%), HAOUSSA (3%), and YORUBA (2%).

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

The various ethnic groups maintain good relations among each other. The DENDI and GOURMANTCHE entrust their animals to the PEULH. The CRL of Kompati emphasizes that "relationships of brotherhood exist between the various groups in the village". The DENDI feel superior to the others. The DENDI and the PEULH have more prestige than the HAOUSSA and the YORUBA who are considered as foreigners. At Kompati, the GOURMANTCHE, who predominate, have more prestige than the HAOUSSA "because of their numbers and their agricultural activities".

B. Popular Celebrations

In addition to the feasts of the Muslim religion, Ramadan and Tabaski, which are celebrated on the village level, no other traditional feast is celebrated in the district.

C. Social Function of Markets

The market enables the entire population and all tribes to get together. It is through the market that information is circulated concerning the villages in the interior and even neighboring countries, such as NIGER, NIGERIA, UPPER VOLTA. When one goes to the market "in the district, one buys what one wishes and then one goes back home". Some people go to the market only for amusement.

D. Crime

The main crime problems are alcoholism and drugs in the markets. People do not respond to urging. Some cases of theft have also been reported in the village of Kargui.

E. Relations with Outside World: Emigration

Relations with the people of other districts and the outside world are carried out through the market. The young people in particular travel much (125 persons left the district), either for the sake of commerce or because they were barred from entering the Park with the beef cattle. The consequence of that is a drop in the population, in the output, in taxes, and in the cattle population. In the community of Kompa, 50 people left the community and that decreased the number of good workers; ten persons came from NIGERIA to engage in trade: "they built beautiful houses and opened shops". In the village of Kargui, 45 persons went to settle in the south of BORGOU, because of the poor production conditions (in particular, the beef cattle and the lambs were free to run around and cause major damage).

F. Specific District Problems

The problems arising in the district during the rainy season include isolation, lack of passable roads: "the population does not manage to get around because the roads are muddy and slippery" (Karagui). There is also an invasion of mosquitoes which terribly bother the population.

During the interim period, the population must get its food at MALANVILLE. At Kompa, the lack of water is the worst problem. At Kompati, infant mortality goes up considerably during that period of time because of the famine. During the dry season, the overwhelming heat weakens the population.

G. District Needs

The district needs more roads and transportation equipment (vehicles, motorized canoes). This is true of all villages surveyed in this area; it is necessary "to lay out communication lines and create transportation services" (Kompati).

There is a lack of doctors, midwives, nurses, and medications. At Kompa, there is no medical station, nor are there any medications. At Kompati, the CRL deplored the lack of a medical station because there are many problems connected with pregnancies and infant mortality is very high.

As for the schools, there is a need for a CEMG, teachers, and instructors. There is also a shortage of furniture.

Wells should be built in the district and at Kompa, where the very muddy sea water is the only water available to the population.

Sheds are needed for markets. The lack of the proper facilities is making itself felt in several villages.

Concerning agricultural needs, the CRAD notes the lack of agricultural equipment and material, such as carts, plows, tractors, motor pumps, etc. There is also a need for insecticides. These same needs are felt among the villages where the people deplore the poverty of the soil and the lack of fertilizer.

H. Population's Needs

The needs felt by the population concern roads, agricultural equipment (tractors, carts, plows), medical personnel and medications, as well as motor canoes. At Kompati, the population lacks drinking water and wants a well to be dug.

Most important for the population is the construction of a road to link the district to the outside world. In the community of Kompa, water is the most important item.

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

The factors restricting the region's development are the insufficiency of wells, lack of roads and means of communication.

At Kompa, development is held back by inequalities among men, crime and the lack of organization.

There is bottom land and there are river drainage basins which are not being worked because they are flooded.

In the village of Kompati, the bottom land covers about a hundred hectares but they are not worked due to lack of resources. The same is true of Kargui.

The unexploited potentials include: the drainage basin of the river (NIGER); the banks of the Alibari; and iron from Boumbon-Lombou. It would also be possible to grow potatoes in the region of Kompa.

Land is available in sufficient quantity in the district to permit the establishment of new farms by simple occupation of the land after authorization from the land chief or the village delegate.

J. Health Problems

The most widespread diseases in the district are measles, meningitis, influenza, cholera, dysentery, and malaria. There are blind people in the district. The cause of death primarily are diseases. At Kompati, mention was also made of "sorcery" as a cause of death.

K. Special District Problems

The Nigerians occupy the entire NIGER Valley and have settled on both banks. The civil servants assigned do not want to go back to the district. Cattle are not cared for and that does not help the proper development of the animal population.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 33B.

VOLUME 34

DISTRICT OF MALANVILLE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of MALANVILLE consists of five communities and 31 villages, comprising a total of 35,338 inhabitants. The primary activity is agriculture but the population also engages in animal husbandry, fishing, and commerce. The population is essentially made up of DENDI (more than 60%) and PEULH, TCHANGA, HOUASSA, and BARIBA.

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

Relations between the various ethnic groups are good and are characterized by "mutual aid and friendship" (CRL Garou) or camaraderie between the DENDI and the PEULH because the "DENDI have their herd with the PEULH" (CRL Tolozougou). At Tassi-Tedji, the various groups consider themselves to be brothers and all CRL assert that there is no inequality between the groups, except at Tolozougou where the "PEULH do not like to mingle with the DENDI". Since the DENDI are the dominant group, they have more prestige than the others because it is they who grow more crops and they are more numerous. As in the other districts, the groups that have less prestige are the PEULH "because they only have their herds" (Tolozougou). However, at Garou, it is the Houassa who have the least prestige, "because they came from elsewhere". Besides, they are less numerous. Finally, at Tassi-Tedji, the BARIBA have less prestige "because they are only civil servants or drivers".

B. Popular Celebrations

Since the district's population is made up mostly of DENDI, who are Muslims, there are no popular celebrations other than those of the Muslim religion, in particular, the feast of Tabaski and Ramadan.

C. Social Function of Markets

In addition to its economic function involving the exchange of goods and services, the market is also a meeting place where many people go to meet their needs and to promenade. Here one can find: "the person who wants to sell and the person who wants to buy meet at the market. There are also thieves" (CRL Tassi-Tedji, CCR Garou).

D. Crime

Apart from thefts, which take place mostly around the market, no crime has been reported in the district. Theft is perpetrated by foreigners.

E. Relations with Outside World - Emigration

The people move around often but generally not for a very long time and everyone goes back to his village when the time comes for field work. People move around primarily to engage in trade or to visit each other. Practically no information was provided on the subject of emigration and immigration. Only at Monkassa did six persons leave the village to go to NIGER "because they do not want to work" and five came from NIGER "looking for money".

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season, the biggest problem in the district does not involve roads although it does exist, as elsewhere; instead, it involves agriculture. The person who did not cultivate his fields can no longer do so because there is too much water. There is a need for tools which the population does not have.

During the dry season, many villages have no problems other than the problem of excessive heat or relations with the PEULH which keep deteriorating: "we no longer get along with the PEULH because they do not hesitate to let their herds into our fields".

During the interim period, famine existed in all villages surveyed. The CRL of Tassi-Tedji expressed the situation of all villages rather well when he wrote: "during the interim period, hunger prevails in the village because, even if you have money, you cannot find anything to buy".

G. District Needs

Road repair and the construction of permanent (masonry) bridges (Monkassa) over the Sota are needed. At Garou, the community does not have good roads and transportation services are restricted. At Tassi-Tedji, the roads are impassable, as they are at Tolozougou. Only at Galiel are the roads good but transportation costs are high.

There is a general lack of equipment for health services, health stations, and pharmacies. Thus, if there are any sick people, they have no chance of survival "because there is no infirmary".

Schools exist in a sufficient number but there are no textbooks "because you cannot find them even in the bookstores" (Tolozougou). Finally, there are not enough teachers.

For water often there is only a single well in the villages and which is insufficient for the entire village: "a single well supplies the villages so that there is a shortage of drinking water" (CCR Garou, CRL Tolozougou: CRL Galiel).

All villages are calling for "the construction of modern markets".

There is a serious lack of agricultural equipment, such as plows, carts, working tools, and also fertilizer and insecticides: "the peasants need tools in order to produce better" (Galiel), "we need modern tools for agriculture" (Tolozougou), "we need agricultural equipment" (Garou).

H. Population's Needs

In the community of Garou, the population needs a market, a bridge over the Sota, maternity facilities, and wells. In the villages of Monkassa and Tassi-Tedji, the population calls for "field work instruments, such as plows and carts and poison to kill insects". At Galiel the CRL writes: "we need perfected tools to improve our fields and insecticides. Our draft cattle are tired and we need energy fodder for them". At Tolozougou, the population is calling not only for field work tools but also "an infirmary and a pharmacy".

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

In the community of Garou, the state of the roads is the most crucial factor that limits the region's development. The only

positive factor mentioned is agriculture which could yield more if draft-animal crop cultivation were to be used and if the harvests were to be diversified. Yams could produce a good yield in the region but are not cultivated because the herds destroy the fields: "yams could be grown but the PEULH do not want to let us harvest them" (Galiel) or "yams can grow but we are afraid of the PEULH because they drag everything away" (Tolozougou); or "the PEULH want to eat everything" (Monkassa) or, finally, "the PEULH sow disaster with their beef cattle".

There is bottom land in the community of Garou but it is not being worked "because it rarely ever dries out". Enough land is available to permit the establishment of new farms and that is done by simple occupation of the land.

J. Health Problems

Onchocerciasis is prevalent throughout the district of MALANVILLE. The other most frequent diseases are malaria, cholera, meningitis, smallpox, and leprosy. Measles strike many children. The main causes of death are primarily due to these diseases and "to God".

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 34B.

DISTRICT OF N'DALI

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of N'DALI consists of five communities, comprising a total of 26,431 inhabitants, distributed over 26 villages. The main activity is agriculture, animal husbandry, and a little commerce. The population consists of BARIBA, PEULH, YORUBA, DENDI, OTAMMARI, and PILA-PILA. The relative importance of each of these groups is not specified.

A. Relationships between the Various Ethnic Groups

Relations between these different groups are good, overall. The YORUBA are the richest because they are merchants but the BARIBA have more prestige "because they are more numerous and belong to the families of the feudal lords". The PEULH are the group that has the least prestige because they "are always shepherds and always live in the bush with their animals".

B. Popular Celebrations

The most popular feast is the feast of Gani which is celebrated every 12 lunar months and last 3 days. During this feast, the BARIBA princes are baptized. Horse races are also organized and "sacrifices are made to the gods". At N'DALI, we distinguish several groups of BARIBA princes: "the MACO group which comes from Kolaro; the Yari group which comes from Alafiarou; and the Sessi group which comes from Makararou".

There is also the feast of "Donkourou" which is the feast of fire. It takes place at the end of the lunar year. During that feast, "the people throw lighted embers into the bush to ask the ending year to take all its misfortunes with it".

C. Social Function of Markets

The market is considered a "place of transactions, meetings, reunions, leisure, and relaxation".

D. Relations with Outside World-Emigration

The inhabitants of PERERE and WASSA-PEHUNCO come to the district to cultivate the land which is very fertile. At the same time, the young people of the district frequently go to NIGERIA for a period varying between 6 months and 1 year "to sell their labor as agricultural workers. The objective here is to be able to meet their needs (acquisition of motorcycles or radios)".

E. Specific District Problems

The only problems mentioned are those relating to the lack of water during the dry season when the wells run dry, cattle plague and the influx of herders during cattle migration which increases the shortage of food products during the interim period.

F. District Needs

The district needs improved transportation services such as connecting tracts to end the isolation of certain villages. Nothing was mentioned regarding the need for schools, water supplies, agricultural services, or health.

G. Population's Needs

"The population would like assistance from the public administration to be increased instead of waiting for the participation of the population when it comes to providing certain social services".

H. Positive and Negative Development Factors

Nothing was mentioned on this subject.

I. Health Problems

It would seem that onchocerciasis is not a problem in the district. The CRAD writes: "onchocerciasis does not have an impact on the population". The most frequently encountered diseases are measles, malaria, and tuberculosis. Measles cause numerous deaths among children

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 35B.

VOLUME 36

DISTRICT OF NIKKI

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of NIKKI consists of seven communities, comprising a total of 34,044 inhabitants, distributed among 56 villages. The main activity is agriculture and animal husbandry. We also find merchants. The population is made up of BARIBA, PEULH, DENDI, YORUBA, and NAGOT.

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

Relations are good between the various ethnic groups and the CRAD even speaks of "the welding of the BARIBA group with all the other groups, except for the PEULH who do not intermarry with the others". The PEULH keep the herds of the others which implies relationships of cooperation even though they develop on a footing of inequality. Thus, "the BARIBA prince, who is very proud of himself, despises the GANDO who however sprang from the BARIBA". Inequality between the BARIBA group and the PEULH group is based on the wealth of the PEULH which is essentially represented by the possession of herds by the PEULH". In this district it would seem to be "the PEULH who have the most prestige because of their wealth". The GANDO have much less prestige although they are richer than the BARIBA because they have herds and work much harder. But they are considered to be slaves. "In the beginning, the GANDO descends from the BARIBA; he is a BARIBA child raised by the PEULH. When this child is born during the 8th month of

pregnancy or when its upper teeth appear 3 months after his birth, it is considered that this is a bad sign. The child is then given to the PEULH to be raised by them. When this child manages to survive to adult age, it becomes the property of the PEULH. The latter can liberate it or, as the case may be, its parents may come to claim the child - but in return for ransom".

This is why the GANDO have no prestige when compared to the other groups.

B. Popular Celebrations

The most popular feast in the district of NIKKI is the feast of Gani which takes place every 12 lunar months and is held with a big display around the king of NIKKI. The celebrations last about a week. Then there is also the feast of "Donkourou" which is the feast of fire. It takes place every year to mark the new year. On the evening of the feast, the young people light embers which they go to throw to the west into the brush. The effect is to bid farewell to the year that has just ended with all of its maledictions. The population then gets together again on the day after around the king to wish him a happy new year. Finally, there is the feast of "DIARO" which is the feast of the king's enthronement. The king first of all spends a week in the convent, after which he is enthroned.

C. Social Function of Markets

The market at NIKKI is held every 3 days. This is a place for the exchange of products, for meetings, rest, and exchange of information".

D. Crime

Crime is almost non-existent but "cases of theft and drugs have been observed".

E. Relations with Outside World - Emigration

The district is a transit point for the people from ATACORA who go to NIGERIA in search of work.

F. Positive and Negative Development Factors

The only aspect mentioned by the CRAD on this subject concerns the fact that "the feudal system which exists on the level of the BARIBA group may be a brake on development".

G. Health Problems

Onchocerciasis is present in the district but its impact is declining. Other diseases found here are primarily malaria, measles, and icterus. These latter two diseases are the primary causes of death.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 36B.

URBAN DISTRICT OF PARAKOU

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Urban district of PARAKOU consists of five communities, comprising a total of 52,124 inhabitants, distributed over 42 villages. The main activities are agriculture and commerce but there are also civil servants and workers in the town of PARAKOU. The ethnic groups are quite varied and we find here BARIBA, DENDI, PEULH, FON, NAGOT, and even OTAMMARI.

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

Relations between the various ethnic groups are rather good in overall terms. "These relations are expressed through mutual aid on the occasion of field work or when construction work has to be done. There are also marriage relations between the BARIBA and the other ethnic groups, except for the PEULH". But all of these groups do not live on a footing of equality: "inequality among the groups is based on the feudal system represented by the BARIBA". The BARIBA as a matter of fact consider themselves to be superior to the other groups: "they are very proud because they are the descendants of a warrior people".

B. Popular Celebrations

The most popular feast in the district is the feast of Gani which is celebrated every year: "on the first day, the superior chief visits certain sacred places to implore the gods. Then, 7 days after that comes the baptism of the BARIBA princes and

princesses who come from every corner (of the district) to meet at the court of the superior chief. They are given a new name by Princess Gnou Kogui". There are also other feasts throughout the year but they are not specified.

C. Social Function of Market

The markets are very important in the district and are attended primarily by "the women, the merchants, and the drovers". In addition to its economic function relating to the exchange of products, the market is also "a place of fun and reunion".

D. Crime

The district has some problems involving theft and some cases of kidnapping.

E. Relations with Outside World - Emigration

There is a double population movement in the district, those who come from other districts in search of better land and a movement of young people from the district to the outside, particularly to NIGERIA. "There are young people who leave to go to NIGERIA in search of a job for a short period of time, looking for a higher income".

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season, the main problem involves roads which deteriorate. We also note cholera epidemics.

During the dry season, there are many fires.

During the interim period, the rise in food prices creates problems for many families.

G. District Needs

The main problem involves the repair of roads, primarily after the rainy season. It is necessary to build dispensaries and maternity facilities in the communities.

The classes are insufficient, particularly in the basic schools. Water supply services are a problem in the second, third, and fifth community. It would be necessary to build a modern market at PARAKOU.

H. Population's Needs

The CRAD expresses the needs felt by the population in the following manner: "construction of schools and modules in the CEMG; community health center; town lot division; water supply (pipelines) to the residential section; electrification; well-drilling; evacuation of rainwater and waste water; removal of manure".

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

According to the CRAD, the factors that promote the district's development are commerce, particularly commerce involving agricultural products. PARAKOU is an important urban center and commerce plays a significant role there. It is not

surprising that the factors that limit the region's development are those that do not promote commerce, such as, the insufficiency of transportation and communications facilities.

J. Health Problems

Nothing was reported on health.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 37B.

DISTRICT OF PERERE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of PERERE consists of six communities, comprising a total of 20,209 inhabitants. The primary activity is agriculture, some animal husbandry, and small-scale commerce. The population is essentially made up of BARIBA (more than 80%), followed by PEULH, GANDO, and DENDI.

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

Relations are good between the various ethnic groups although "the BARIBA are the masters of the PEULH and consider the DENDI to be foreigners, itinerant merchants, who have come to settle next to them" (CRAD PERERE). The BARIBA have more prestige than the other groups in the district and consider themselves to be masters of the region. The DENDI are viewed by the BARIBA to be "itinerant beggars, always sponging, real leeches" (CRAD).

B. Popular Celebrations

In addition to the religious feasts of Islam, the BARIBA celebrate primarily Gani, a feast which lasts 3 days in the district. There are probably other popular feasts but they are not mentioned in the surveys made among the CRAD, the CCR, and the CRL.

C. Social Function of Market

No commentary.

D. Crime

No comment on this subject, except in the village of Guinagourou, where the CRL writes that "there is no crime in the village".

E. Relations with Outside World

No comment was made on this point, except at Guinagourou where the CRL believes that relations with the outside world do not involve any problems because "there are roads and vehicles pass by every day". Nobody has left this village during the year which has just ended; nine persons came to settle here "because they know that this is a good place". About a score of young people did leave the community of Sontou to go to NIGERIA to get Yamaha motorcycles: "some of them come back safe and sound whereas others come back crazy and disorderly".

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season, the most significant problem involves roads and bridges. Thus, the village of Sontou is isolated by a branch channel which bars the road from Sontou to Tamarou and there is no bridge. At Guinagourou, the roads are very bad, the water sweeps the bridges away, and vehicles no longer come to the village". The houses also crumble.

During the dry season, there is no water for the herds and in certain villages there is even not enough for the inhabitants. At Sontou, there is a well that does run dry but the water is muddy from February to April.

During the interim period, the population in certain villages suffers from a lack of food.

G. District Needs

In general the roads are very bad, deteriorated and the lack of bridges hinders movement. At Sontou, the population built a wooden bridge but the latter did not even last a year and fell apart so that the people feel discouraged.

The construction of medical stations is a necessity. There is none in the community of Sontou. The inhabitants of Guinagourou complain "that they have to walk 45 km to get medical care".

Classrooms are often insufficient. A special problem arises in the community of Sontou: "attendance is not at all regular. It is difficult to get the parents to let the children come to school". Certain villages are without water for several months throughout the year and it is necessary to build bridges or dams.

The community of Sontou deplors the fact that its market has not been given official status.

The population of Guinagourou is asking for tractors.

H. Population's Needs

The needs felt by the population at the level of the communities and villages concern medical stations, drinking water, roads and bridges. At Guinagourou, the CRL pointed out that "the needs felt by the population include the dispensary, the maternity ward, the (medical) station, tractors, and wells for water". In the community of Sontou, there is no medical station and the population is asking for one because "the health problem is very serious".

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

The factors that limit the development of the community of Sontou involve "the lack of roads and bridges". There are no special potentials in the region, except at Guinagourou, where there are three bottom-land areas that are not being worked "due to lack of equipment and money".

There is enough land to permit the establishment of new farms. These lands belong to anybody who wants to cultivate them and are available in quantity. A new household may take 20 or 40 hectares if it can keep them up" (Guinagourou).

J. Health Problems

Onchocerciasis is serious in the community of Sontou and "reduces the number of agricultural workers". We have no information regarding the other communities or villages. The most prevalent disease, in addition to malaria, is measles which "hit especially the children". Next we have stomach

disorders and eye diseases, as well as infected wounds, etc. The main causes of death are diseases and road accidents (Guinagourou).

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 38B.

VOLUME 39

DISTRICT OF SEGBANA

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of SEGBANA consists of five communities, comprising a total of 22,000 inhabitants, grouped in 29 villages. The main activity is agriculture, followed by animal husbandry and some crafts. The population is for the most part (75%) made up of BOKO, followed by PEULH (25%).

A. Type of Relationships between Various Ethnic Groups

Good relationships of cooperation exist between these two groups with the PEULH being the keepers of the herds of the BOKO. As the CRAD underlined, "there is a relationship of assistance to the extent that it is the PEULH who agree to keep the animals of the farmers and one cannot speak of this relationship without a relationship of confidence due to the fact that these PEULH do not often manage to divert these animals for personal purposes without the knowledge of the owner". Of course, these two groups are not equal: "the PEULH live from the earnings derived from the animals which the BOKO entrust to them, therefore are the bosses of the PEULH". Hence the Boko consider themselves to be superior to the PEULH. "The latter admit that they live in the bush and are thus cut off from all reality of social life" (CRAD).

B. Popular Celebrations

The main festivity celebrated in the district is the feast of Gani which lasts 9 days. "There is dancing on the first 4 days in front of the chief's house; this is followed by 3 days in front of the house of the village Imam" (CRAD). The other feasts are directly related to the agricultural cycle, such as the feast of the new yams.

C. Social Function of Markets

The people go to the market not only to sell and buy products involving daily necessities but to exchange news and to get together with friends.

D. Crime

According to the CRAD, there is no crime problem in the district.

E. Emigration

There is a migration movement, particularly involving young people, to NIGERIA. At least 31 persons left the rural community of SEGBANA.

F. Specific district Problems

During the rainy season, the district is isolated because of the lack of access roads. The Kandi-Segbana road becomes impassable and the village of Liboussou complains "of no longer getting petroleum or imported products. There are bridges which are ruined and the potholes made by the rain on the road prevent the trucks from moving; even the evacuation of patients from Segbana-Kandi has become impossible."

During the dry season, there is lack of water for the PEULH herdsmen. This necessitates water weirs in order at least to reduce the movement of the PEULH to a search for water and thus to reduce animal mortality" (CRAD).

During the interim period, serious difficulties arise in the district. This is because the district is along the border with NIGERIA and its food products are shipped to that country. "The growers deliver all of their products without considering the interim period" (CRAD). It is thus not surprising that "the people do not eat enough" in many villages during that period of the year (Liboussou).

G. District Needs

The district needs better roads. The CRAD writes: "it is necessary to improve our roads and to build culverts. At least one means of transportation, which will regularly run on the line from KANDI to SEGBANA, should be made available to the district".

There are many villages which do not have any medical stations. The district "deplores the long delay indicated by the medical district in receiving its allocation of medications" although the people are reluctant to go to the medical center. The women in particular, "do not want to go to the maternity facility for their confinement in spite of the effort by officials to make them aware of the situation". In the villages, the lack of a dispensary "means that the children die amid disorder" (CRL Liboussou).

There are schools in almost all villages in the district but, "the greatest problem involves school attendance because the parents do not want to send their children to school. They

prefer to have them watch the cattle" (CRAD). In addition to this problem, there are not enough teachers and there is a shortage of teaching material, furniture, maps, books, etc.

"Adequate drinking water is a major problem in most villages" (CRAD). It is necessary to dig many wells. The markets are of little importance in the district because "the BOKO do not like to sell their products at the market. They prefer to sell them secretly" (CRAD).

As for agricultural services, the peasants only use archaic means. Plows and carts are necessary" (Liboussou).

H. Population's Needs

The needs felt by the population involve "the improvement of these various roads to improve communication, supply drinking water, construction materials and provide food reserves for daily necessities" (CRAD). To that, the CRL at Liboussou adds: "the construction of a dam for the cattle".

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

Factors include "the lack of socio-economic and cultural infrastructure" and, the emigration of young people, particularly to NIGERIA. Mechanization of agriculture and adequate agricultural equipment would promote development. There is some bottom land in the district but it is not being worked "even though rice cultivation is possible. Adequate land is available to permit the establishment of new farms. It is done through simple occupation of the land with the approval of the local authorities".

J. Health Problems

According to the CRAD, there is practically no onchocerciasis in the district. The most common diseases are malaria, measles, meningitis, and stomach disorders. The main causes of death are due to these diseases and the "lack of medical care" (Liboussou).

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 39B.

VOLUME 40

DISTRICT OF SINENDE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of SINENDE consists of four communities, comprising a total of 24,374 inhabitants. The primary activity is agriculture, followed by animal husbandry, crafts, and commerce. The population is essentially made up of BARIBA (90%). The PEULH and the DENDI account for only 6% and 4% of the population, respectively.

A. Type of Relationships between the Various Ethnic Groups

No information was furnished on this subject, except that agriculture, commerce, and animal husbandry are the activities that cause the groups to develop relationships among each other. All groups are not equal. The basis of inequality among the ethnic groups stems from the feudal system and commerce.

The ethnic groups which have the most prestige are the BARIBA and the DENDI. The BARIBA is the chief of the land and the DENDI believes that he is richer and more civilized. The PEULH have less prestige because they do not develop".

B. Popular Celebrations

The traditional feasts celebrated in the district are Gani which today lasts no more than 1 day. This feast is to

manifest the union of the traditional chiefs and to honor the ancestors around the person of the king. The people also celebrate the Muslim festivities of Tabaski and Ramadan.

C. Social Function of Markets

Men and women go to the market which is the place where all groups meet.

D. Crime

Although cases of crime are rare, there are nevertheless cases of theft and hangings.

E. Relations with Outside World - Emigration

The population groups maintain relations with the people in the other districts through commerce. About 150 persons left the district to settle in NIGERIA, GHANA, and NIGER for the purpose of making money. The resulting problem is the decline in workers and a drop in agricultural output.

About 60 persons came to settle in the district from NIGERIA, NIGER, and MALI, to engage in trade and sometimes to cultivate the land. But their arrival creates problems for the district because they engage in illegal and fraudulent commerce.

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season, the main problem is the district's isolation because of the poor condition of the roads. During the dry season, there is a shortage of drinking water and almost all of the PEULH go away with their herds. During the

interim period, there is sometimes famine among the population groups because of the lack of cereal crops. Another problem at that time is the influx of untrustworthy merchants.

G. District Needs

The district's needs for roads include the repair of the Guessou-Yara-Beroubouye, Sinende-Bembereke, and Sinende-Ouassa roads. A dispensary is needed at Guessou, Barri, and Saka; a maternity facility at Sebere and Sikki, and a social center at SINENDE. There is a need for a module of three CEMG classes: one building for the CESE, modules for three classes in the schools of the urban community.

It is necessary to dig five water wells in the districts: one at Sokka, two at SINENDE, and one at Serou. It is also necessary to build markets at SINENDE, Fo-Boure, and Sokka. It is necessary to construct a sector building at SINENDE and to buy two tractors.

H. Population's Needs

Needs felt by the population include pharmaceutical products, manufactured products, and fuels.

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

The factors that restrict the district's development include an early end of rainy season, the lack of economic units, the poor state of the roads, and the district's isolation.

The factors that promote development are agriculture, commerce, and animal husbandry.

There is bottom land and there are river drainage basins in the district, particularly at Yarra, SINENDE, Guessou, Barri, and Fo-Boure. Their surface area has not been determined and they are not being worked due to lack of money and adequate agricultural equipment.

There is land in sufficient quantity in the district to permit the establishment of new farms and this is done by simple occupation of the land.

J. Health Problems

The most common diseases are malaria, leprosy, onchocerciasis and infantile diarrhea. Measles are very common among children. The causes of death are diseases and old age.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 40B.

DISTRICT OF TCHAOUROU

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The district of TCHAOUROU consists of seven communities, comprising a total of 30,000 inhabitants, distributed over 36 villages. The primary activity is agriculture, followed by commerce and animal husbandry. One-half of the population is made up of BARIBA and NAGOT; the other half consists of PEULH, PILA-PILA, OTAMMARI, and FON, as well as some BERBA and NATAMBA.

A. Type of Relationships between the Various Ethnic Groups

Relations between these many ethnic groups are not particularly well developed and are confined for the most part to strictly economic relations. Only the BARIBA and the NAGOT maintain deeper relationships which are structured and arranged in a hierarchical manner on the basis of either material or cultural criteria. Thus, the NAGOT "by virtue of their commercial activities, have the most material goods. They dress richly. They have transport vehicles which are owned in common and privately. This indicates that they are superior to the BARIBA. The latter, by virtue of their position as land owners and feudal lords, feel that they are superior to all of the other nationalities". It is on this basis that the NAGOT place themselves at the top of the social ladder, followed by the BARIBA. At the bottom of the social ladder we have the PEULH who have the least prestige "because of their mores and their way of life"

B. Popular Celebrations

Among the most popular traditional feasts in the district is "Tantarou" celebrated by the BARIBA each year. This is a feast which lasts 7-9 days in the course of which food is given to the fetishes. The funeral ceremonies for the old, the notables and the customary chiefs also assume the character of a popular feast. The population comes from the surrounding villages: "the people come from everywhere; they eat, they drink, and they dance". Each ethnic group has its particular feast in addition to national feasts which are common.

C. Social Function of Markets

In addition to its obvious commercial function, the market also has a very important social function since it enables all tribes to get together in the same place. There is also an opportunity for the exchange of information on everything that makes up the life of the local groups.

D. Crime

Crime in the district is primarily due to the fact that "the district is bordered to the north by PARAKOU, which is a big city and to the east by NIGERIA". Among the chief crimes are theft of property and of women.

E. Relations with Outside World - Emigration

Population movements in the district are rather significant. A massive seasonal population loss occurs along the border population centers near NIGERIA. There is a flight from the farm on the part of the young people who are attracted by the city and by easy money in NIGERIA. There is also a strong

immigration current into the district as groups come from ATACORA and Zou in search of fertile land. This influx is beneficial since it contributes to an increased economic output.

F. Specific District Problems

During the rainy season, the main problem involves the isolation of certain villages because the rural tracts are impassable. It is also during this season that certain epidemics break out, particularly measles.

During the dry season, the watering places and wells run dry. In addition, there are brush fires which destroy the forest. During the interim period, the population is forced to pay high food prices and many suffer from malnutrition.

G. District Needs

Certain main roads require complete regrading. The CRAD in particular mentions "the Tchaourou-Beterou, Alafiarou-Agbassa, Alafiarou-Tchatchou, and Tachachou-Kika-Morankourou roads". Community transportation would be a welcome addition.

The almost total lack of health receiving facilities is a major factor preventing medical care for the population. The buildings of the old dispensary are no longer in use; there are almost no medical supplies; health personnel are very limited. There is only one doctor, two male nurses, and one nurse's aid for a population of 35,000 inhabitants!

The CRAD regrets that most basic schools do not have adequate buildings, furniture or teaching materials. There are not enough water wells and "prospecting is still in the study phase".

The CRAD notes that "the market at TCHAOUROU is poorly situated and the sheds are insufficient". Other markets in the district do not have any sturdy sheds.

The CRAD further notes "There is misunderstanding of agricultural services, on the part of the masses; they do not want to listen to the officials from the CARDER". There are no warehouses or silos.

The district's other needs are many and varied. Among other things, the CRAD reports, "construction of administrative buildings, district offices, residence for the district chief, low-income houses (HLM), maternity facilities, schools, health center, housing for the doctor, social center, tax collector's office, youth center, car parking lot and general urban development.

H. Population's Needs

The needs felt by the population essentially involve water, then roads and means of communication.

I. Positive and Negative Development Factors

Among the factors that hinder development is lack of water and means of communication. To that is added flight from farms by young people which reduces the labor force. The positive factors are the wealth of the land. Unexploited potentials include underground water which could be tapped and the operation of zoological parks in the forests of upper Oueme and Wari-Marou. There are no land problems in the district and anyone can settle where he desires.

J. Health Problems

The CRAD reports a definite decline in blindness after the establishment of onchocerciasis services in the region at Beterou. The other diseases include malaria, grippe, and bilharziasis, measles, and infectious diseases in general. The main causes of death are measles, snake bites, and lung infections.

II. STATISTICAL DATA

Please refer to Volume 41B.