—Hawaii of Africa

(Continued from Page 6).

Many tourists limit their safaris to areas in the vicinity of Nairobi, Mombasa or other cities.

This is understandable because while visiting Nairobi, you don't find yourself homesick for tall buildings or western entertainment.

Kenyans have long abandoned their traditional African prints in favor of western slacks and open collar shirts. Pretty girls stroll the sidewalks in loose-fitting skirts or full-body dresses that are crowned with short, neat afro hairdos and just a touch of makeup.

While there are probably no "roots" stories to tell here, young men will spend hours at a time asking about black Americans, their entertainers, and about the politics of the Carter Administration as they relates to Africa.

They want to know about Muhammad Ali, James Brown, Stevie Wonder, and other favorites.

Other Kenyans are more curious about American lifestyles in general and will ask without hesitation, "How much money do you make? If I worked this job in America, how much money would I get?"

Many Comforts

Nairobi, called "The City in the Sun," has many of the comforts of the western world and many of its vices as well.

There is the International Casino, a Las Vegas-styled gambling club that is equipped with a European floor show, beautiful women, and dice.

For those with more simple tastes, there are the small nightclubs: The New Florida Club, The Starlight, and for the most courageous, The Haloran. Modern music is played in these clubs and in the hotels.

For the adventurous traveler, who doesn't mind roughing it, Kenya has probably the most exciting geographic contrasts in Africa. It is undoubtedly one of Africa's most beautiful countries.

There are vast deserts to the north, the warm salt water of the Indian Ocean to the east, and the majestic Mount Kenya (17,000 feet high), and Mount Elgon (14,000 feet high) to the northwest.

These land contrasts come into full view when you visit the national game parks which have been set aside to protect the animal population, which includes: elephants, giraffes, zebras, rhinos, antelopes and lions.

Picturesque

The Great Rift Valley extends southward from the Ethiopia border and is one of the most picturesque spots in Africa.

A series of sweeping plateau and mountain ranges, which vary in altitude from 3,000 to 10,000 feet above sealevel, characterize this great valley.

The Mau Escarpment with its winding mountain ranges made famous by the Tarzan movies, is only an hour's drive from Nairobi to the west.

Tourists can either rent self-drive vehicles or hire private cars and a driver-guide from one of the many tour agencies in Nairobi.

But it is less expensive to spend about $5 and go by R.V.P. (The Rift Valley Puegeot Service), a private inter-city taxi service. R.V.P. stationwagons can whisk passengers and their luggage through the spiraling escarpment to the lovely towns of Nakuru, and Kisumu.

A town of 50,000 people, mostly members of the Kikuyu ethnic group, Nakuru offers fresh air and a chance to think. A minature Nairobi, the city has also felt the impact of western ideas and culture, but to a lesser degree.

It has a small western-styled nightclub, The Pivot, a couple of movie houses and several comfortable hotels which have heard of Diner's Club and American Express cards.

If you have more time, you

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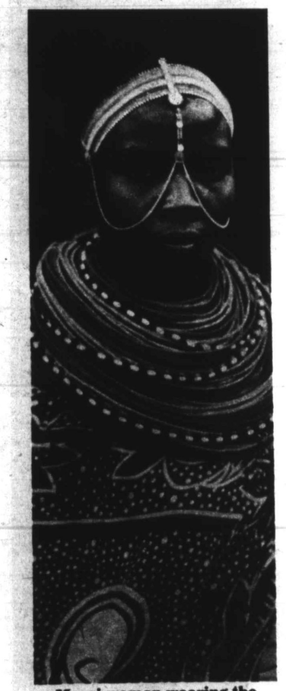
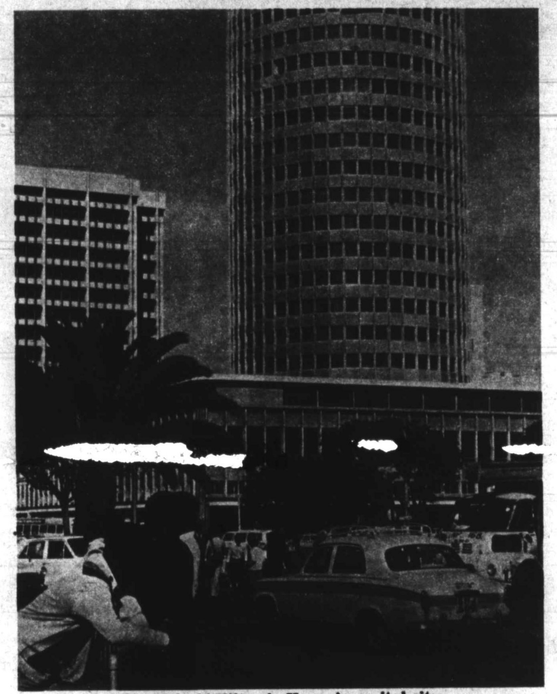


Masai woman wearing the traditional plastic and copper jewelry.



The Nairobi Hilton in Kenya's capital city.

What to avoid

No story on travel is complete without its little warnings. Avoid traveling during the rainy seasons (April to June or October to December).

The rainy seasons in Kenya are not regarded as severe, however. Most back country roads remain passable and game is plentiful.

In the marketplaces or on the streets, when you buy the famous camel hair bracelets, make sure you insure its authenticity by applying the "match test."

Simply set a flame to the ends of the bracelet. If an odor or stink is emitted, then you have the real McCoy.

Finally, beware of humorous little men, who will try to milk you out of a small sums of money under the guise of being Uganda refugees fleeing Idi Amin's secret police operating in Kenya. Americans are known to be most sympathetic to a sob story.

Black Culture Quiz

Which blacks have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?

The prize has been awarded three times to blacks—two North Americans and one South African.

Ralph Bunche (1904-1971), long associated with the United Nations, was the first. He was cited in 1950 for his work as mediator of the Arab-Israeli dispute over Palestine.

In the other two instances, it was awarded to blacks who led non-violent crusades against racial injustices: Zulu Chief Albert Luthli (1898-1967) of South Africa in 1960 and Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968) in 1964.

Who founded the AME Church?

Richard Allen was born a slave but purchased his freedom in 1777, the same year in which he was converted. Shortly thereafter he began to preach.

He preached frequently at the St. George Methodist Church in Philadelphia where the officials planned to segregate the blacks who came to hear him.

On one occasion, Allen, Absolom Jones and William White were pulled from their knees during prayer because they were in a section reserved for whites.

Allen then made a firm resolution to establish a church where blacks could worship as they wished and not be subject to such indignities. The African Methodist Episcopal Church grew from this determination.

Which African leader was most noted for his attempts to unify the African continent?

The late Kwame Nkrumah, former president of Ghana. Educated as a young student in London and Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, Nkrumah returned to his native country to lead the Convention People's Party and eventually guide Ghana to independence in 1957.

Afterwards, his efforts were devoted to creating a national unity among divergent African tribal and linguistic groups. Nkrumah died in exile in Guinea in 1966.

What is the role of Dred Scott in Afro-American history?

Dred Scott, a slave, resided with his master in a free state and in a free territory. He later sued for his freedom on grounds that his residence in free areas entitled him to freedom.

The case reached the Supreme Court and it handed down an infamous decision in 1857. The decision, which denied Scott his freedom, stripped American blacks of any legal standing as citizens of the United States.

It also encouraged the extension of slavery, a hot political issue of the day.

Who was the first black in a Presidential Cabinet?

President Lyndon B. Johnson in

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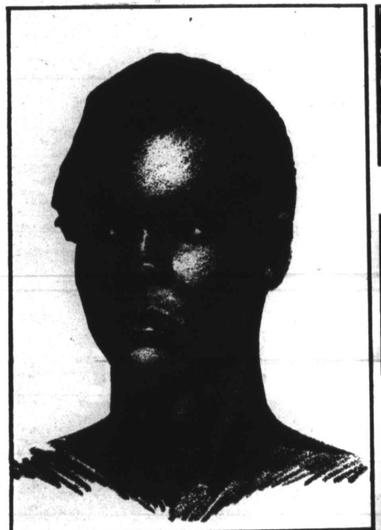

Joseph Cinque
Mutineer for Freedom

Joseph Cinque, the son of a Mendi chief, and several other Africans were taken by surprise in 1839 and were herded onto a ship to be sold into slavery.

A filthy Portuguese ship took the prisoners to Cuba. Joseph was one of fifty slaves purchased by two Spaniards. A chartered ship, the *Amistad*, was to take the slaves from Havana to Principe.

Unable to accept slavery for the rest of his life, Joseph confided in several others and plotted to escape.

Mutiny took place at night. The Africans seized all the weapons aboard and as the crew awoke a battle ensued. In the fray, the Captain and the cook were killed.

Not being evil nor vindictive men, Cinque and his followers set the rest of the crew adrift in a small boat and ordered the owners of the ship to take the *Amistad* back to Africa.

However, the navigators tricked the mutineers and took a course due Northwest. On the high seas for 63 days, many Africans suffered such deprivation that they died of starvation.

When the ship arrived off Long Island, New York, the U.S. Navy commandeered the ship taking it to New London, Conn. The story of the *Amistad* was widely headlined.

Cinque and his companions were charged with murder. Abolitionists argued that the Africans were kidnapped and, therefore, had the right of free men to try to regain their freedom. Faculty and students of Yale took an active interest in the case because of the many legal questions involved.

President Martin Van Buren rejected a plea to free the black men. However, on March 9, 1841, the United States Supreme Court ordered that Cinque and his comrades be freed. Aided by Abolitionists, Cinque and his young friends were exposed to American education before returning to Africa in 1842.