

The Indispensable Weekly
The Voice of the Ambled Negro-The Pacific Front

Guaranteed Circulation 50,000
Reaching the Mass of Negroes Throughout the World

THE Negro World



A Newspaper Devoted Solely to the Interests of the Negro Race

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AFRICA THE LAND OF HOPE AND PROMISE FOR NEGRO PEOPLES OF THE WORLD

WILL NEGROES ALLOW THE WHITES TO TAKE AFRICA?



Widening Horizons

Negroes everywhere are becoming more and more interested in trade and commerce, and the horizons for these activities are widening daily. Native African merchants find it extremely difficult to secure bottoms (ships) for the conveyance of their product, and this is equally true of Negro merchants in South America and the West Indies. Everywhere Negroes are experiencing considerable difficulty securing passage of the steamship lines controlled by white interests. The need of more and bigger ships for the Black Star Line is, therefore, apparent. Will you help us to secure these ships to accommodate the needs of Negroes everywhere by buying shares in the Black Star Line?



THE MARCUS GARVEY AND UNIA PAPERS PROJECT



"I am still heavyweight champion of Uganda. Nobody is willing to fight me."

Idi Amin

**ETHIOPIA AFRICA BLACK
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
(E.A.B.I.C.)
NEW JERUSLE SCHOOLROOM
AFRICAN HEROS
AND
LEADERS
BIOGRAPHY SERIES
VOL. 1**



**RT. HON. PRES. GEN. MARCUS GARVEY (U.N.I.A.)
AND
H.E. PRES. IDI AMIN DADA (UGANDA)**

Marcus Garvey Time line

Key Events in the Life of Marcus Garvey

Aims and Objectives of UNIA

Carnegie Hall, 23 February 1923

“Mr. Chairman and Fellow Citizens: I am here tonight as the President-General of the Universal Negro Improvement Association to explain the aims and objects of this organization and to defend its principles. Over five years ago the Universal Negro Improvement Association placed itself before the world as the movement through which the new and rising Negro would give expression of his feelings. This association adopts an attitude not of hostility to other races and peoples of the world, but an attitude of self-respect of manhood rights on behalf of 400,000,000 Negroes of the world.”

Marcus Garvey

Carnegie Hall, 23 February 1923



1887 August 17: Marcus Mosiah Garvey Jr. is born in St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica to Marcus Mosiah Garvey Sr., a mason, and Sarah Jane Richards, a domestic worker and farmer

1900 Garvey begins an apprenticeship at his godfather's printing business in St. Ann's Bay.



ca. 1903 Garvey's formal primary education ends after he completes the six

ca. 1906 Garvey leaves St. Ann's Bay and moves to Kingston, where he is employed in the printing shop of P. A. Benjamin Manufacturing Company; Garvey's mother relocates there with him.

1908 March 18: Garvey's mother dies, at age 56, in Kingston.

1909 Garvey publishes *Garvey's Watchman*; the paper ceases after its third issue.

1910-1912 Garvey begins to travel to Central American countries (1910): he lives in Port Limon, Costa Rica for several months; edits *La Nacion* (a daily newspaper, 1911); resides in Colon, Panama (and edits a tri-weekly paper, 1911); then returns to Jamaica (1912).

1912 April-May: Garvey moves to London, where he attends Birkbeck College.

1913 October 13: Garvey's article, "British West Indies in the Mirror of Civilization: History Making by Colonial Negroes" is published in the *African Times and Orient Review* magazine.

December 10 - January 14: Garvey visits Paris, Madrid, Boulogne, Monte Carlo, and other European cities.

1914 mid-January: Garvey returns to London via Scotland, and attends more classes at Birkbeck College.

June 17: Garvey leaves England aboard the "S. S. Trent," destined for Jamaica.

June: Garvey's article, "The Evolution of Latter-Day Slaves: Jamaica, A Country of Black and White," is published in *The Tourist*.

July 8: Garvey arrives in Jamaica.

July 20: Garvey meets [Amy Ashwood](#) shortly after his return to Jamaica and on July 20th



they co-found the [Universal Negro Improvement Association](#) and African Communities League.

ca. July - August: Garvey publishes a pamphlet, "A Talk with Afro-West Indians: The Negro Race and Its Problems."

August 4: Great Britain declares war on Germany.

September 8: Garvey writes [Booker T. Washington](#), founder of the Tuskegee Institute, and [asks him for support](#).

October 3: Washington invites Garvey to visit Tuskegee.

1915 June: Garvey's father, Marcus Garvey Sr., is committed to St. Ann's Poor

November 14: Booker T. Washington dies.



1916 March 6: Garvey leaves Jamaica aboard the "S. S. Tallac," bound for the U.S.

March 24 : Garvey arrives in America penniless, moves in with a Jamaican family in Harlem, New York City, and finds work as a printer. He gains a following for his movement by speaking nightly as a soapbox orator on a Harlem street corner.

April 25: Garvey visits [W.E.B. Du Bois](#), the editor of *The Crisis*, the magazine of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

May 9: Garvey holds his first public lecture in the U.S. at St. Mark's Church Hall in New York. It ends disastrously, with him falling off the stage.

ca. May - June: Garvey begins a year-long, 38-state speaking tour that takes him across America.

1917 April 6: The U.S. declares war against Germany.

May: Garvey returns to New York after completing his U.S. speaking tour.

May: Thirteen members join to form the New York branch of the Universal Negro Improvement Association.

July 2: [A race riot breaks out](#) in East St. Louis.

July 8: Garvey delivers an address, "The Conspiracy of the East St. Louis Riots," at Lafayette Hall in Harlem, in which he states that the riot was "one of the bloodiest



outrages against mankind."

October: The first split appears in the Harlem branch of the Universal Negro Improvement Association.

November 7: The Russian Revolution. The Bolsheviks, a broad-based Socialist group supported by workers and soldiers and led by V. I. Lenin, seizes power from the tsarist Romanov dynasty, which has ruled Russia for over three centuries.

1918 Amy Ashwood joins Garvey in New York.

June 3: The Federal Bureau of Investigation learns via a written report that Garvey speaks nightly at outdoor meetings on a Harlem street corner.

July: The Universal Negro Improvement Association publishes its *Constitution and Book of Laws Made for the Government of the UNIA/ACL*.

August 17: The first issue of [*The Negro World*](#), the official organ of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, is published.

November 8: An armistice is signed, and the First World War ends.

1919 February 19-21: The Pan-African Congress organized by Du Bois meets in Paris.

February - August: Copies of *The Negro World* are confiscated by authorities in various countries. It is banned by the governor of Belize, called seditious by the governor of Trinidad, and seized by the government of British Guiana. The acting governor of Jamaica orders the postmaster to open and detain copies of the newspaper. April 27: Garvey announces his plan to start the [Black Star Line](#).

July 12: The Bureau of Investigation (the predecessor to the FBI) requests that its New York office forward all information on Garvey to headquarters in Washington, and instructs its Chicago division to monitor Garvey and other black radicals.

[Amy Jacques](#) becomes Marcus Garvey's private secretary.

August 25: Garvey holds a mass meeting at Carnegie Hall in New York to promote the sale of Black Star Line stock.

August 29: Garvey is arraigned before the Court of General Sessions and committed briefly to the Tombs prison in New York; he is released after paying \$3,000 bail.

September 10: The British colonial secretary authorizes the West Indian governments to introduce legislation to suppress *The Negro World* and other publications considered



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seditions.

September 15: The Bureau of Investigation instructs its New York division that it wishes to establish "sufficient evidence against Garvey to warrant the institution of deportation proceedings."

September 17: The Black Star Line signs a contract to purchase its first ship, the "S. S. Yarmouth," later renamed the "Frederick Douglass," for \$165,000.



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October 11: With the goal of deporting Garvey firmly in mind, [J. Edgar Hoover](#) writes a [memo](#) suggesting that investigators pursue the idea of prosecuting Garvey for fraud, in connection with his Black Star Line activities.

October 14: Garvey is shot and wounded in an assassination attempt by George Tyler.

October 15: George Tyler commits suicide while in jail.

November 5: Plans to float a second Black Star Line ship, the "S. S. Phyllis Wheatley," are announced.



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December 25: Garvey marries Amy Ashwood in Liberty Hall.

1919-1921 Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer begins what will become known as the Palmer Raids, monitoring the actions of people perceived to be "foreign radicals." The young J. Edgar Hoover is appointed Palmer's assistant.

1920

January 23: The [Negro Factories Corporation](#) is incorporated.

January 16: Prohibition goes into effect in the United States.

January 17: The "S. S. Yarmouth" leaves New York harbor for Havana, carrying a cargo of whiskey.

January 19: The "S. S. Yarmouth" is found sinking 101 miles outside New York harbor, and is assisted by the Coast Guard.

January 22: Rumors of dissension among Black Star Line and Universal Negro Improvement Association officers are reported in the New York news.

February 3: The U.S. government seizes the cargo from the "S. S. Yarmouth."

March 6: Garvey separates from Amy Ashwood Garvey; his personal secretary, Amy Jacques, has become his constant traveling companion.

March 28: Garvey addresses a Liberty Hall meeting, decrying the enemies of his organization, and announces a purge of Universal Negro Improvement Association

officers.

April 9: Marcus Garvey Sr. dies in Jamaica.

August 1-31: The Universal Negro Improvement Association holds its first International Convention of the Negro Peoples of the World at Madison Square Garden and schedules a massive parade in Harlem. During this convention, the UNIA adopts and signs a [Declaration of Rights of the Negro Peoples of the World](#), adopts a "nation" flag with the colors of the Red, Black, and Green, and elects officials for its provisional government. Garvey himself is elected Provisional President of Africa. James W. H. Eason, a Philadelphia minister, is named Leader of the American Negroes.



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August-September: Garvey is indicted on charges of criminal libel, and the government investigates ways to deport him.

ca. October 17: Garvey announces a \$2 million Liberian Construction Loan, meant to repatriate black people to Africa.

1921

January 2: Garvey delivers an address at Liberty Hall on "Du Bois and his Escapades."

January 4: Garvey begins another trip across the country on a speaking tour.

February: A 16-man Universal Negro Improvement Association delegation leaves for Liberia. Garvey applies for American citizenship.

February -July: Garvey obtains a British passport for travel to the West Indies. While he is on tour there, the State Department instructs the U.S. consul general in Jamaica to refuse Garvey a visa, in view of his activities in political and race agitation. After being temporarily detained by U.S. immigration authorities, Garvey finally is able to return to New York on July 17.

May 11: J. Edgar Hoover submits a brief to the Department of State about Garvey's activities in the U.S.

May 31: Racial riots break out in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

August 1: The Universal Negro Improvement Association opens its second annual convention.

August 5: The Universal Negro Improvement Association secretary general is charged with misappropriation of funds.

August 25: Formal charges are raised against various Universal Negro Improvement Association executive officers and debated on the floor of the convention.

September 30: The Pan African Congress meets in Paris.

December 12: The Bureau of Investigation requests that the Internal Revenue Service



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investigate Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association.

1922

The Negro World newspaper is confiscated and banned throughout Africa.

January 12: Garvey is arrested for fraudulent use of mails; he is held on a \$2,500 bond pending presentation of his case to a federal grand jury.

April: The Black Star Line is dissolved due to financial failure.

June 15: Garvey obtains a divorce from Amy Ashwood.

June 25: Garvey meets with the Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, Edward Young Clarke, in Atlanta, resulting in a vehement "[Garvey Must Go](#)" campaign headed by black leaders.

ca. July 8: Garvey announces at a Liberty Hall meeting that he plans to ask all Universal Negro Improvement Association and Black Star Line officers to resign at their next convention.

July 9: Garvey explains his meeting with the Klan.

July 27: Garvey marries Amy Jacques in Baltimore.

August 23: The Universal Negro Improvement Association trial against James Eason, the Leader of the American Negroes, begins. Garvey accuses Eason of double crossing him. Eason will eventually be expelled from the UNIA for 99 years.

September 11: A Universal Negro Improvement Association delegation to the League of Nations arrives in Geneva.ca.

September 11: Eason forms a rival organization, The Universal Negro Alliance.

1923

January 1: Eason is shot in New Orleans; he dies January 4. William Shakespeare and Fred Dryer, two Garveyites, are later arrested for his murder.

January 15: Chandler Owen and seven other black leaders send letter of complaint against Garvey to Attorney General Harry M. Daugherty. The "Garvey Must Go" campaign continues.

January 31: Because of a failure to pay rent, the Universal Negro Improvement Association enterprise is closed.

January: Garvey publishes an answer to his critics in *The Negro World*, referring to them as "race defamers," "traitors," "turncoats," and "sinners" who will stop at nothing to defile his name and hinder the work of the UNIA.

April 2: William Shakespeare and Fred Dryer are sentenced to 18 to 20 years in prison for Eason's murder.

May 18: Garvey's trial for mail fraud begins.

June 21: Garvey is sentenced to 5 years in prison for mail fraud. His appeal is soon denied, and he is taken to Tombs Prison in New York.



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ca. July 5: The Marcus Garvey Committee on Justice forms, and mounts a petition drive to free Garvey. Garvey is finally allowed bail on September 10, after a 3-month imprisonment.

September 25: Immigration authorities begin preparing a deportation case against Garvey.

1924

February 2: *The Negro World* adds two sections, one in French and one, edited by Amy Jacques, devoted to women's issues.

May: Du Bois writes an editorial in *The Crisis* calling Garvey a "lunatic or traitor." This is one of several editorials published in *The Crisis* during the 1920s critiquing Garvey and his movement.

July 10: Liberia refuses to grant visas to Universal Negro Improvement Association members.

August 1: The Fourth International Convention of the Negro Peoples of the World opens.

1925

February 8: After being arrested at the 125th Street train station in New York, Garvey is taken to Atlanta Federal Penitentiary and incarcerated.

March 12: Amy Jacques publishes a pamphlet, "Was Justice Defeated?," a critique of Garvey's trial and conviction.

April 28: Members of Garvey's Pardon Delegation submit a petition for Garvey's release to President Calvin Coolidge.

June 13: Garvey submits his first official application for executive clemency.

June 26: The Immigration and Naturalization Service issues a warrant for Garvey's deportation after a hearing in the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary.

July: The U. S. Attorney's Office in New York and the U. S. Post Office Inspector recommend that Garvey's application for clemency be denied.

December: Amy Jacques lobbies for the release of her husband. She will eventually publish a second volume of *Philosophy and Opinions*, a collection of writings by Garvey.

1926

January: The Universal Negro Improvement Association office building at 52 West 135th Street in New York is sold for nonpayment of taxes.

May 11: Garvey is cited by a prison guard for insolence; he receives a warning and reprimand.

September 8: A parole board denies Garvey's application.

December: Nine members of the jury that convicted Garvey sign an affidavit recommending the commutation of Garvey's sentence.

1927

June 8: Malcolm X's father, [Earl Little](#), a follower of Garvey, appeals to President Coolidge for Garvey's release.

Nov. 18: President Coolidge commutes Garvey's sentence.

Garvey is released from the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary and taken to New Orleans for deportation.

Dec. 2: Garvey delivers a farewell address from the deck of the "S. S. Saramacca" and is deported from the U. S., never to return.

1928

January 1: Laura Kofey establishes a splinter group in Miami called the African Universal Church and Commercial League.

March 8: Kofey is assassinated at the pulpit during a meeting in Miami.

April 29: Garvey goes to London and establishes temporary Universal Negro Improvement Association headquarters.

1929

March 30: Garvey begins publishing a daily newspaper, *The Blackman*, in Jamaica.

1930

September 17: A son, also named Marcus, is born in Jamaica to Garvey and Amy Jacques Garvey.

1932

June 11: The last issue of *The Negro World* with Garvey listed as the managing editor is published.

1933

August 16: A second son, Julius Winston Garvey, is born in Jamaica to Garvey and Amy Jacques Garvey.

October 17: *The Negro World* ceases publication.

1935

March 26: Garvey relocates to London. His wife and children remain in Jamaica.

1940

ca. January 20: Garvey suffers a cerebral hemorrhage; he is paralyzed on his right side and his speech is affected.

May 18: *The Chicago Defender* carries a story by a London correspondent erroneously announcing the death of Garvey.

June 10: After suffering a second cerebral hemorrhage or cardiac arrest while reading the inaccurate news reports of his death.





"His Excellency President for Life, Field Marshal Al Hadji Doctor Idi Amin, VC, DSO, MC, Lord of All the Beasts of the Earth and Fishes of the Sea, and Conqueror of the British Empire in Africa in General and Uganda in Particular."

Idi Amin Timeline

Key Events in the Life of Idi Amin Dada

His childhood real names were Idi Awo-Ongo Angoo.

He was born on May 17, 1928 at about 4.00 a.m. in a police barracks at the present International Conference Centre in Kampala.

He was of the Adibu clan of the Kakwa ethnic group. His father was initially Andreas Nyabire, a Catholic who converted to Islam in 1910 and became Amin Dada.

Andreas Nyabire Amin Dada was born in 1889 and died in 1976. He was a Kakwa from Adida in Southern Sudan.

The mother of Idi Amin was called Assa Aatte. Born in 1904, she died in 1970.

She was daughter of a Lugbara Sultan (Chief) at Leiko Iruna in the present day Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Aatte was a traditional herbalist dealing with pregnancy and fertility complications. Aatte had among her patients in 1924-1929, Lady Irene Druscilla Namaganda, the Nabagereka of Buganda and the Kabaka Sir Daudi Chwa.

Amin's parents married in 1921 in Arua, produced their first son in 1922, a daughter in 1925 and Ango (Amin) in 1928.

Idi Amin's father served in the 4th King's African Rifles (KAR) from 1915 to 1920 and joined the Uganda Police in 1921. His job in the Uganda Police was to administer corporal



punishments called kibooko to natives.

Idi Amin's parents separated in 1931 while living at a new police barracks at Kololo. Apparently, the separation resulted from suspicion that Idi Amin, the baby, had been fathered by Daudi Chwa rather than by Dada.

Idi Amin's mother got money from the Kabaka and built a house at Kitubulu near Entebbe. Amin's father, Dada, rejected him.

He grew up with his maternal family. His brother and sister died in 1932.

Three decades later, in 1964, Amin's father accepted him back.

In 1933 Idi Amin lived with his mother's relatives at Mawale near Semuto in the present Luwero district. There he reared goats from 1936 to 1938. He then moved to the home of Sheikh Ahmed Hussein in the present Semuto town from 1938 to 1940 where he started reciting the Koran.

In 1940 he came to Bombo to live with his maternal uncle Yusuf Tanaboo. He tried to register for the equivalent of Primary One but Nubians were not admitted in schools.

As a twelve-year-old Amin participated in the Nubian riots against discrimination and was injured by Makerere College students at Wandegaya.

In 1941 Amin joined Garaya Islamic school at Bombo, and again excelled in reciting the Koran under Mohammed Al Rajab from 1941 –1944.

Amin and Abdul Kadir Aliga won honours in reciting the Koran in 1943.

At the end of 1944 Amin and fifteen other students at the Bombo Garaya were taken for conscription into the army. Amin and five others were released for being underage.

He then went to the present Kiyindi zone at Kalerwe near Bwaise and started doing odd jobs in 1945.

He got a job as a door hat and coat attendant at the Imperial Hotel at the end of 1945.

Later in 1946 a British army officer was impressed and offered to recruit Idi Amin in the army.

Amin served at Magamaga Barracks in Jinja as a laundry and kitchen army staff as he trained until 1947 when he transferred to Kenya for real military service.

He served in the 21st KAR infantry brigade at Gilgil, until 1949 when his unit moved to Somalia at Belet Uen to fight the Shifta animal raiders.

In 1950, Amin's unit returned to Fort Hall in Kenya. There he trained in the Scottish military band.

In 1951 he returned to Jinja but went back to Kenya the same year.

In 1952 his battalion was deployed against the Mau Mau. Amin became corporal the same year.

In 1953 he became a sergeant for his role in starting the mobile foot patrols in the forests occupied by the Mau Mau.

While fighting the Mau Mau, Amin had a son and a daughter with two Kikuyu women.

Amin's name appeared on the list of those soldiers who performed best against the Mau Mau. He was also nominated for promotion to the new rank of efendi (that is, warrant officer equivalent).

He returned to Jinja, Uganda in 1954 where he was selected best in the parade for Queen Elizabeth. In 1955 Sgt Amin again led the guard of honour to welcome Kabaka Edward Mutesa from exile.

He moved to Lango district in 1956 and successfully defended the Langi from the Karimojong raids as head of a platoon.

He got a child with a Langi woman.

The same year 1955, Amin's unit was deployed to quell a military mutiny in southern Sudan. He again performed well by the standards of the time.

In 1957 Amin led requests for salary increment. It was denied. Amin also failed the intellectual (written and oral) tests for promotion. He was posted to the KAR band.

In 1958 Amin again failed promotional exams but passed field exercises in 1959 and was promoted in December of that year.

In July 1960 a British officer called Ronald Cedric Weeding was defeated and killed by the Turkana in Karamoja.

Amin was sent to Karamoja. The army spokesman described Amin as having "restored the prestige of the forces of law and order in the region of Karamoja".

Subsequently, Amin was commissioned to Lieutenant in July 1961 by Sir Frederick Crawford.

The same year Amin and Daudi Ochieng were assigned the duty of negotiating with Sir Edward Mutesa for a political compromise.

He convinced Mutesa that the Uganda army in which Amin was part, would never move against the Kingdom. The mission was a success.

Idi Amin then moved against the Turkana in 1962 with two convoys of the 4th KAR. Using the threat to cut off their penis, Amin disarmed the Turkana without a fight.

He was again part of the initiative to placate the unhappy Mutesa when in 1963, he proposed that the Kabaka becomes Major General and Commander-in-Chief of the army.

Ironically, the same year, Amin prevented the recruitment of Kabaka Yekka and Uganda People's Congress youths into the army. He instigated complaints about the drive for educated people to take over army leadership.

Early in 1964 Idi Amin complained that the army was doing all the heavy work of the independence government of the Rwanda where it was helping to keep law and order. He said that they were also working in the Rwenzoris and on the Sudan border but had not benefited from Uhuru like the civil servants and the politicians.

The British army commander Lt.-Colonel W.W. Cheyne blocked Idi Amin's request for a salary increment. Idi Amin instigated the February-March military mutiny.

Idi Amin was proposed for the role of mediator between the mutineers and the UPC-KY government for the mutiny he had started.

The end of the mutiny saw the British officers lose their jobs to Amin. He also got a salary increment, the promotion to Major and the command of the First Battalion.

Idi Amin who in 1962 had been discontinued from a platoon commander course at Wiltshire in the U.K and who in 1963 failed to complete a paratrooper course nevertheless became a deputy Army Commander in 1964.

In 1965 Idi Amin was given the task of supporting the Congo nationalists to resist the foreign supported government of Mobutu Sese Seko.

Idi Amin benefited financially and invested in a bus company called Trans-Nile.

At the end of 1965 the Congo mercenaries defeated the Idi Amin-backed rebels in the Congo.

In Uganda Amin was identified with Prime Minister Obote who was being pressured to leave office.

Idi Amin on February 22, 1966 resisted the military coup to oust Obote and helped execute a counter-coup to give Obote absolute power.

Idi Amin proceeded to Makindye and convinced Mutesa to order the soldiers under Brigadier Shaban Opolot not to fight. Amin promised to mediate between Obote and Mutesa.

Idi Amin was promoted to Colonel and became the Army Commander replacing Brigadier Opolot in 1966.

Amin led the assault on the Lubiri but contrary to orders from Obote seized only one side instead of encircling the Lubiri.

Mutesa escaped.

In February 1967 Idi Amin started attending English lessons under the adult studies programme at Makerere University Continuing Education Department.

In the same month Idi Amin was given powers to increase the size of the army by two more battalions. Idi Amin used the powers to recruit from West Nile and southern Sudan.

In April 1968, Obote promoted Amin to Major General – a reward for his loyalty during the Republican Monarchist crisis.

In 1968 as Army Commander Idi Amin involved Israeli-sponsored operations to support the rebellion in southern Sudan.

In 1969 Idi Amin was challenged over his capacity to lead the army during a revolutionary Socialist UPC Move-to-the-left period.

Amin lost control of the army units under Acholi and Langi command. He joined UPC and attended lessons in Socialism in 1969.

At the end of 1969 Idi Amin was accused of cowardice in the incident of Obote's attempted assassination.

In January 1970 Idi Amin organised through a man called Christopher Luutu the assassination of Brigadier Okoya who had accused him.

Later in 1970 the assassins of Okoya while hiding for fear of Amin eliminating were arrested and revealed their role in the assassination through Luutu, a brother to Captain Smart Guweddeko.

Idi Amin was also found to be linked with the loss of Shs 40m from the Military Operation Fund. Obote removed Amin from direct command of the army at the end of 1970.

In January 1971 Obote ordered for a prosecution file on Idi Amin to be prepared.

On January 24, 1971 Idi Amin fled Kampala to avoid arrest. Soldiers led by Sergeant-Major Moses Ali received a misinterpreted message from a signaller and they resisted preparations to arrest Idi Amin.

Power was seized in Kampala and Idi Amin was sought to take over.

Idi Amin appeared just as Captain Charles Arube was volunteering to become president. Amin accepted to become president on January 25, 1971.

In April 1971 Acholi soldiers who survived the coup started fleeing to southern Sudan fearing for their lives.

In July 1971 Idi Amin visited the UK where his speechwriter James Namakajo caused embarrassment by failing to provide a speech at one of the functions.

Britain demanded commitment from Idi Amin without them promising to meet his needs on weapons and drilling the Lake Albert Basin oil.

In August 1971 Idi Amin re-engaged John Bikobo as Presidential Advisor. Bikobo had been working under Obote and was responsible for the Move-to-the-left, the Common Man's Charter, and the Nakivubo Pronouncements.

With Bikobo at his side, Amin took similar an even more radical political stand than Obote. He turned on the Israelis, British, and all other imperialists and even changed from the promoted 18 months caretaker period to five years so as "to put the country's politics in order."

Idi Amin showed clemency to former Obote government ministers and operatives. He allowed them to stay and live as private citizens. In November 1971 and February 1972 he released Obote's former intelligence operatives.

In July 1972 Idi Amin received a petition from Augustine Kamyu to place the economy of Uganda into the hands of the indigenous people.

On August 1, 1972 Idi Amin declared the economic war.

On that day Asians were to start leaving Uganda. The country was attacked by Obote and Museveni troops with the intention of engaging Idi Amin's troops as the British landed to prevent the Asian exodus.

From October 1972 Idi Amin started eliminating all the people linked or suspected of working with the British, Obote, and Museveni against his government.

Idi Amin established the State Research Bureau into a killing machine targeted at his opponents and those with links to imperialists.

In July 1973 Obote gave up fighting Idi Amin. In August 1974 Museveni also gave up fighting to start an internal guerrilla war against Amin.

The British government however continued undermining the economy under Idi Amin in Uganda.

In March 1974 Idi Amin eliminated Tanzanians seeking assistance from him to topple the government of Nyerere. Their crime was to claim that they had the support of Britain to fight an African country.

In July 1974 Amin rejected a budget increasing taxes by very high percentages. He said that he would never allow the overtaxing of the people at a time when they were involved with his government in a war against poverty.

In August 1974 Amin admitted that an economic war was probably much more difficult than a military war.

Amin declared a double production campaign and signed a decree to punish by death people sabotaging the economic war.

He also declared on behalf of all African countries war for the total liberation of South Africa from Apartheid. He offered himself as the first volunteer in the war to uproot Israel from Palestine.

In 1975 Amin became OAU chairman and immediately sought to use his position to rid Africa of all kind of imperialism from both capitalist and communist countries. During the OAU conference, General Gowon of Nigeria who had promised to support Amin was overthrown.

Idi Amin sought and won the title Doctor of Laws (PhD) from Makerere University. He sought to use this title to wear the intellectual authority necessary to advise the rest of Africa on policy vis-à-vis the unliberated regions of the continent.

In 1976 Uganda suffered from very poor economic conditions. Amin became more impatient dismissing ministers and civil servants by the day. Insecurity both real and imagined increased in the population as the SRB ensured the disappearance of more people.

Early in 1977 the UPC moved to take advantage of the pathetic situation in Uganda and cause an uprising with arms smuggled under the cover of the Church of Uganda Centenary (1877-1977). Amin learnt of the plot from the SRB and killed the people involved.

From March 1977 Amin became increasingly suspicious of the people around him including those from the Nubian ethnic groups.

Transfers in the army and temporary appointments became so common that by the end of 1977 more than 50 percent of ministerial and military posts were either vacant or occupied on a temporary basis.

To mitigate the economic crisis, Amin allowed imports to enter free. He started providing for the army directly through goods ferried by a chartered aircraft. To finance these ad hoc transactions Amin started selling coffee on cash basis – with money paid directly to him.

At the end of 1978 Amin launched a military exercise called Operation Magurugur on the Uganda-Tanzania border. The untrusted army units were not provided with planes and communications equipment.

When the artillery shells started falling the troops without communications fled to Tanzania. This triggered off the war that brought Amin's mercurial regime to an end.

Amin fled to Libya in April 1979. While there he failed to maintain his leadership over his followers in Zaire and Sudan who accused him of causing their ejection from Uganda. His host Col. Gadhafi resolved to work through Brig. Moses Ali in alliance with Museveni's NRM to restore the losses of Islam in Uganda.

Idi Amin fell out totally with Col. Gadhafi and had to find sanctuary in Saudi Arabia in 1981. In 1989 he however, did try to return through Kinshasa to lead an armed group organised by Col. Juma Oris.

The attempt was a failure. Idi Amin remained in Saudi Arabia sending financial assistance to his brother Ramathan (RIP) and six other relatives and friends. Until his death from a combination of hypertension and kidney complications.

Right up to his death, Amin believed in the mission of his leadership that problems of Africa are caused by imperialist interest particularly US and Britain with "their local agents" calling themselves politicians.

- The Monitor : Uganda -



"I am not a politician but a professional soldier. I am, therefore, a man of few words and I have been brief through my professional career."

Idi Amin, president of Uganda, from his first speech to the Ugandan nation in January 1971.

***“HOLY
EMMANUEL I
SELASSIE I
JAH RASTAFARI”***

