

COLLEGE GRANT FROM U.S.

E-2 APR 1955

£140,500 and university aid for East Africa

A GRANT of £140,500 is to be made to the Royal Technical College of East Africa by the United States Foreign Operations Administration. This was announced in a statement issued yesterday from the office of the U.S. Consul-General in Nairobi.

Approximately £135,000 of the allocation will be used to accelerate the equipping of the college. The remainder will finance technical aid to be furnished under a contract between the Royal Technical College and Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

The draft submission to F.O.A. through the Colonial Office was completed in Nairobi in October, 1954, during consultations between Rutgers and F.O.A. officials, and representatives of the Royal Technical College and the High Commission.

Dean E. C. Easton and Prof. M. T. Ayers participated on behalf of the University and Mr. Robert Blum represented F.O.A.

Participants for the Royal Technical College were the chairman and vice-chairman of the Governing Council, Mr. C. P. Willoughby and Mr. C. D. Newbold, and the Principal, Maj-Gen. C. Bullard. The Commission was represented by Mr. T. Skinner.

Equipment need

The statement said: "Despite the present emphasis upon technical assistance in F.O.A. policy, the American representatives who reviewed the college's plans agreed that the major need was for equipment, including funds for installation and housing.

"Hence the inclusion of £68,000 for equipment necessary for advanced undergraduate instructions and research. In carrying out research, the college anticipates helping local firms with technical problems.

"The second largest allocation is, likewise, related to the problem of equipment. When all such items needed to carry out the instructional programme were computed, the space provided by laboratories at present planned was found to be inadequate. The sum of £55,000 was then earmarked for an additional wing, expanding the laboratories by 17,000 square feet.

"As the United Kingdom is a ready source of technical advice, this item figured less prominently in the college's request than is characteristic of most submissions to the F.O.A. About £3,000 was included for contractual services from Rutgers University for supplying outlines

of their comparative courses in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering, pertinent textbooks, and weekly work-block schedules."

Mr. William E. Moran, jr., chief of F.O.A.'s African Division in Washington, has expressed satisfaction in developing higher education in the technical fields in East Africa. He said: "Such a school would offer many new opportunities for all the people in East Africa."

Warm appreciation

Commenting on the announcement, the Principal, Maj-Gen. C. Bullard, said:

"In recording the Governing Council's warm appreciation of this generous contribution by the United States to the equipment of the College, it seems appropriate to emphasise that the steps envisaged in this project, amplifying as they do the basic resources and facilities of the College much earlier than would otherwise have been possible, will undoubtedly widen the knowledge of the first engineers, lecturers and research workers who will leave the College to enter governmental and industrial service in East Africa.

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