

NOT FOR PUBLICATION, BROADCAST OR USE ON CLUB TAPES BEFORE
00.30 B.S.T., THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1942. THIS EMBARGO SHOULD
BE RESPECTED OVERSEAS BY PREFACING ANY MESSAGES FILED WITH THE
EMBARGO.

PRODUCTION IN AFRICAN DEPENDENCIES

The following message has been sent by Lord Cranborne to the
Governors of Kenya, Uganda, Zanzibar, Tanganyika Territory, Northern
Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Nigeria, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Gambia:

"Since I became Secretary of State for the Colonies, I have been
deeply impressed by the way in which the African Dependencies have helped
forward the war effort.

"Their contribution up to date is well known and needs no words of
praise from me. Some of the peoples in these Dependencies have already had
the opportunity of fighting: and they have acquitted themselves against the
enemy in Eastern Africa with great bravery and distinction. It may be that
they will be called upon to fight again. If they are, they can be reckoned
upon to show the same sterling and aggressive qualities.

"In the meantime we must take stock with a clear vision of the realities
immediately before us. There has been a new turn in the kaleidoscope of war:
and the demands upon Africa for the war effort have entered into a new phase.
Many of the raw materials produced in the Far East are now denied to us: and
we must look to Africa to make good these losses and to supplement our supplies
on a bigger scale than in the past. There was for the first two years of the
war an ample supply of many African products. Surpluses were being piled up:
and some markets were being artificially supported. Many producers must have
felt that they were not making the best contribution of which they were
capable.

"That stage is past. The demand for most African products has now a
new urgency and new reality. The foodstuffs and minerals of the African
Dependencies have become a vast armoury for the war effort. There is a new
call to the producers in Africa to do their utmost to serve the needs of the
United Nations.

"Their efforts will receive all the support which it is within my
power to give. To be effective the drive for production must be wisely
planned and directed. There must, so far as is practicable in the varying
and conflicting conditions of war be clear and definite objectives for
production. I shall set myself to give these directives and to furnish all
help for carrying them through. Where there are obstacles in the way of the
full production of the required commodities, those obstacles must be
surmounted: and I shall make it my business to see that they are."

COLONIAL OFFICE PRESS SECTION