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DACHOICE MY CHOICE



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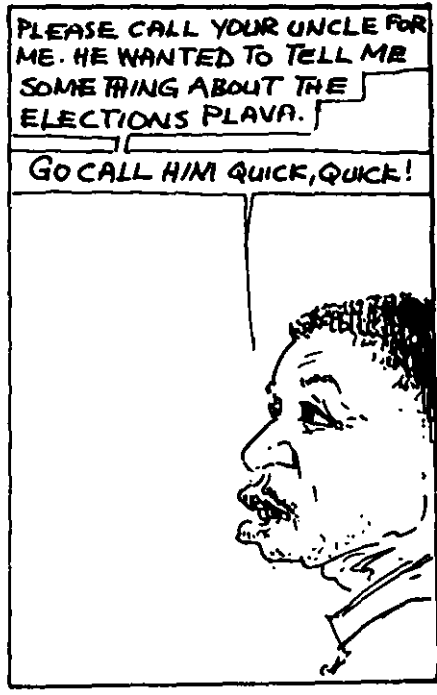
**F. CLIFTON WHITE RESOURCE CENTER
INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ELECTION SYSTEMS**



SUNDAY! SUNDAY!



YES, PA



PLEASE CALL YOUR UNCLE FOR ME. HE WANTED TO TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT THE ELECTIONS PLAVA.

GO CALL HIM QUICK, QUICK!



ALRIGHT, PA.



JOCKA, HELLO.

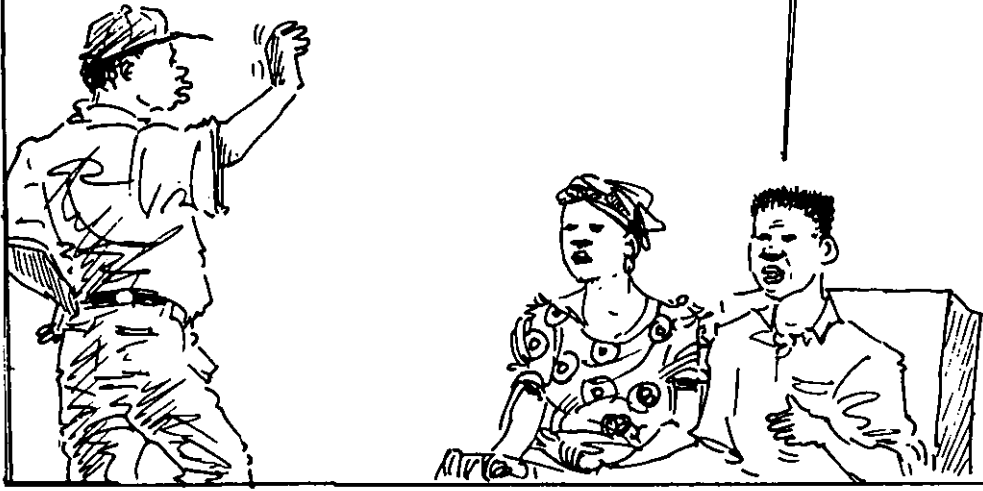


HELLO, MARDEA, WHAT NEWS IN THE MARKAY?

ABY, MY BROTHER, THE MARKAY NOT EASY!
EVERYBODY JUST TALKING ABOUT
ELECTION PLAVA.

JOCKA, YOU AND YOUR WIFE HEARD THE VOTING BUSINESS?

YES, BUT WE AIN'T KNOW HOW THIS WHOLE VOTING PLAYA IS - HOW PEOPLE WILL VOTE AND WHERE THEY WILL GO TO VOTE.



FIRST, LET ME TELL YOU WHY PEOPLE VOTE

UHUM - UHUM...

ME, I GOING IN THE KITCHEN TO COOK YAH. THAT VOTING THING IT'S FOR YOUR THE MEN - NOT WOMEN

NO, NO! VOTING PLAYA FOR EVERYBODY - MEN O! WOMEN O, YOUNG MEN O! YOUNG WOMEN O! - EVERYBODY WHO REACH EIGHTEEN YEARS OR ANYBODY WHO'S MORE THAN EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD GOT THE RIGHT TO VOTE.

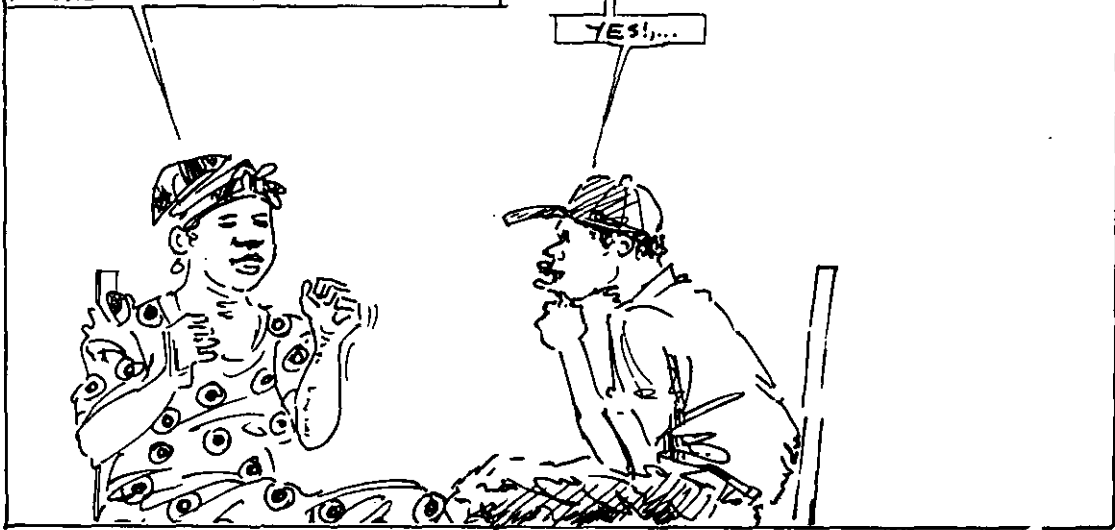


OH, SO THAT MEANS I CAN VOTE?

YES, YOU CAN VOTE; YOUR HUSBAND CAN VOTE.

AND EVEN OUR SON SUNDAY CAN VOTE BECAUSE HE IS EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD.

YES!...



SUNDAY CAN VOTE...



...BUT YOUR DAUGHTER MANSAYLEH NOT SUPPOSE TO VOTE BECAUSE SHE NOT REACH THE VOTING AGE YET. SHE SEVENTEEN.

THIS VOTING PLAYA, WHAT'S BEHIND ITSEF AND PEOPLE CANT HEAR WHOLE DAY-VOTE! VOTE! WHAT'S INSIDE THIS VOTING PLAYA?



VOTING BUSINESS IS IMPORTANT, THAT'S THE PEOPLE SUPPOSE TO DECIDE WHO MUST LEAD THEM. THE LIBERIAN PEOPLE GOT THE RIGHT TO FREELY CHOOSE THEIR LEADERS AND THE ONLY WAY TO DO IT IS BY VOTING. EVERYBODY SUPPOSE TO DECIDE WHO TO PUT THERE TO BE OUR LEADER.

I SEE WHY. BUT THEN WE REALLY NEED TO VOTE SO WE CAN CHOOSE THE CORRECT, CORRECT PEOPLE TO RULE US.

BUT SUPPOSE I AIN'T WANT TO VOTE, THEN SOME BODY WILL FORCE ME ??



NO, NOBODY WILL FORCE YOU. EVERYBODY IS FREE TO DECIDE WHETHER HE WANTS TO VOTE OR NOT; BUT IT IS GOOD FOR YOU TO VOTE SO THAT YOU CAN BE PART OF THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS - TO DECIDE WHO SHOULD RULE YOU.

OH!, BUT THEN I WILL VOTE; BUT WHAT WILL MYONE, TINY VOTE DO SELF!??

YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT JUST AS THE REST OF THE OTHER VOTES. YOUR ONE VOTE COULD MAKE SOMEONE WIN OR LOSE THE ELECTIONS.



BUT WHO MAN WILL VOTE FOR SELF, ALL THESE PEOPLE WANT BE PRESIDENT. THE WAY HOW THEY CAN GO SO AND COME SO.

Nobody can tell you who to vote for. You yourself have to decide who you want to vote for. You will choose from among the people who are running, the person you think will make a good leader for you and the whole country. We must know, that we have to think about our children's future and the future of the country.

BUT THEN THE VOTING THING THAT'S SOMETHING GOOD.

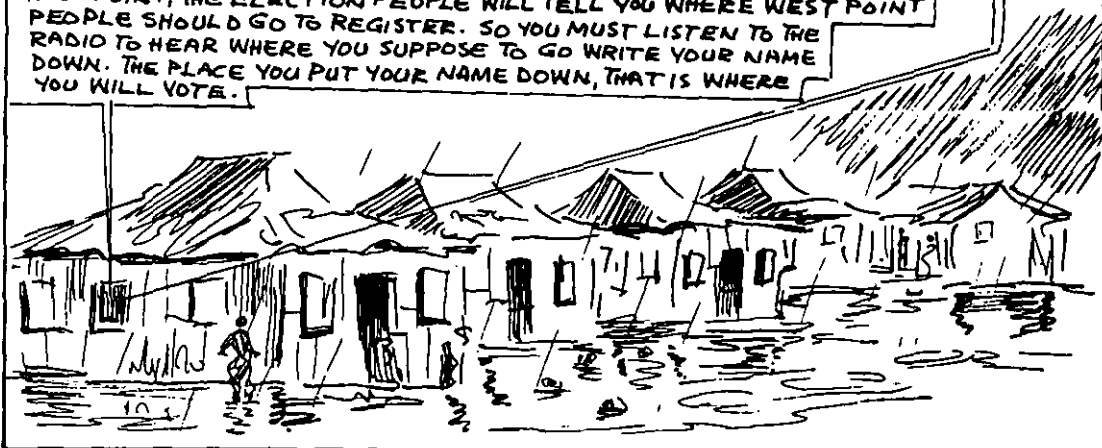
THIS RAIN WILL KILL PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY.



YES, IT IS GOOD. IT IS THE BEST WAY TO SELECT OUR LEADERS. NO HALLAH-HALLAH INSIDE IT - NO FORCE - NO FIGHTING AND NO CHEATING INSIDE. IT IS FREE AND FAIR.

SO HOW THIS WHOLE VOTING THING WILL BE. WHAT THING WE SUPPOSE TO DO BEFORE WE VOTE?

IN ORDER FOR YOU TO VOTE, YOU MUST FIRST PUT YOUR NAME DOWN. THE VOTING OR ELECTION PEOPLE WILL TELL YOU WHERE YOU SUPPOSE TO GO TO PUT YOUR NAME DOWN. IF YOU LIVE IN SLIPWAY, THEY WILL TELL YOU WHERE SLIPWAY PEOPLE SHOULD GO TO PUT THEIR NAME DOWN. IF YOU STAY IN WEST POINT, THE ELECTION PEOPLE WILL TELL YOU WHERE WEST POINT PEOPLE SHOULD GO TO REGISTER. SO YOU MUST LISTEN TO THE RADIO TO HEAR WHERE YOU SUPPOSE TO GO WRITE YOUR NAME DOWN. THE PLACE YOU PUT YOUR NAME DOWN, THAT IS WHERE YOU WILL VOTE.



BUT SUPPOSE I LIVE IN SONIWEN AND GO REGISTER WITH THE NEWKRU TOWN PEOPLE. EHU THAT IS THE SAME SIX AND SEVEN?

NO, YOU NOT SUPPOSE TO JUST DO ANYTHING YOU FEEL LIKE DOING. YOU MUST OBEY THE ELECTION LAWS. YOU MUST DO WHAT THE ELECTION PEOPLE TELL YOU TO DO SO THE VOTING PLAVA WILL BE FREE AND FAIR. IF YOU DON'T OBEY THE VOTING LAWS, THEN THE ELECTION PEOPLE WILL DISQUALIFY YOU; THEY WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO VOTE BECAUSE YOU WANT SPOIL THEIR WORK AND PUT DEE-DEE-BAN BUSINESS IN THE VOTING PLAVA. IF THEY SAY DO THIS, YOU DO IT; IF THEY SAY DO THAT THEN YOU DO IT.



I MYSELF AGREED WITH WHAT YOU SAYING, BECAUSE IF WE DON'T OBEY THE VOTING LAWS THEN THE VOTING PLAVA WILL NOT BE GOOD.

YES, THAT IS WHY EVERYBODY GOT TO WORK HAND IN HAND SO WE CAN BRING THIS WAR TO AN END.

THAT IS THE ONLY WAY DEVELOPMENT CAN COME TO LIBERIA WHEN WE VOTE AND PUT OUR LEADERS IN POWER.



AFTER I PUT MY NAME DOWN, THEN THAT IS ALL ?? HOW PEOPLE WILL KNOW I REGISTER?

MARDEA, AFTER YOU PUT YOUR NAME DOWN, THE ELECTION PEOPLE WILL GIVE YOU A PIECE OF PAPER CALL VOTER'S REGISTRATION CARD AND IT IS THIS CARD YOU WILL USE ON THE DAY OF VOTING.



TUTU, BUT THEN I KNOW PLENTY PEOPLE WILL PUT THEIR NAME DOWN MORE THAN ONE TIME O?!

NO, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE. NOBODY CAN PUT HIS NAME DOWN MORE THAN TIME BECAUSE THE ELECTION PEOPLE GOT SOME THING THAT THEY CAN DO SO PEOPLE WILL NOT REGISTER PLENTY TIME.

LIKE WHAT NOW?



IF YOU GO PUT YOUR NAME DOWN AND NO BODY POINT FINGER AND SAY YOU FOREIGNER OR YOU NOT REACH VOTING AGE, THEN THE ELECTION PEOPLE WILL WRITE YOUR NAME DOWN ON THE VOTER REGISTRATION RECORD. THEY WILL ALSO PUT YOUR NAME DOWN ON THE REGISTRATION ROLL AND THEN THEY WILL PUT YOUR BIG FINGER AND PUT IT IN INK BEFORE THEY GIVE YOU YOUR REGISTRATION CARD. SO NO WAY TO CHEAT.

THE INK WILL NOT MOVE FROM YOUR FINGER WHEN YOU WASH IT?



NO, JOCKA, THE INK WILL NOT MOVE UNTIL THE TIME FOR PUTTING NAMES DOWN FINISH. PEOPLE WILL BE PUTTING NAMES DOWN FOR TEN DAYS. THE PLACE PEOPLE WILL REGISTER WILL BE OPEN FROM EIGHT O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING TO SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING, AND THE ELECTION PEOPLE WILL CHECK YOUR FINGER TO MAKE SURE NO INK ON IT BEFORE THEY PUT YOUR NAME DOWN.

...BUT HOW THE ELECTION PEOPLE WILL KNOW WHETHER YOU LIBERIAN OR YOU NOT REACH THE VOTING AGE YET?



BEFORE ANYBODY PUT THEIR NAME DOWN IN LIBERIA, YOU FIRST GOT TO PROVE THAT YOU ARE A LIBERIAN AND YOU REACH VOTING AGE, ESPECIALLY FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO MAY NOT LOOK LIKE THEY ARE EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD.

BY DOING WHAT, TUTU?

BY EITHER SHOWING YOUR BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR PASSPORT, OR IF YOU BEEN A REFUGEE, THEN SHOW YOUR UNHCR REFUGEE REGISTRATION CARD, OR SOME BODY RESPONSIBLE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO KNOW YOU CAN TELL THE ELECTION PEOPLE, SO THEY CAN ALLOW YOU TO VOTE.



WHAT 'BOUT SOME PEOPLE WHO NOT LIBERIANS, BUT LIE AND SAY THEY LIBERIANS SO THEY CAN VOTE? HOW THE ELECTION PEOPLE WILL HANDLE THAT?

THEY GOT THREE WAYS TO DECIDE WHY A PERSON SHOULD NOT VOTE. ONE, IF THE PERSON IS NOT A LIBERIAN; TWO, IF THE PERSON IS NOT EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD, AND THREE, IF THE PERSON LIES AND SAYS HIS NAME IS PETER FLOMO WHEN HE NOT PETER FLOMO. THEN HE SHOULD NOT VOTE.



SO SUPPOSE YOU PUT YOUR NAME DOWN AND THE ELECTION PEOPLE SAY YOUR NAME NOT ON THE LIST. THEN HOW WILL YOU MANAGE TO VOTE??

IF YOU PUT YOUR NAME DOWN THE TIME WHEN PEOPLE WERE PUTTING THEIR NAMES DOWN, THEN YOUR NAME SUPPOSE TO BE ON THE REGISTER AT LEAST IF YOU SHOW PROOF THAT YOU REGISTER.

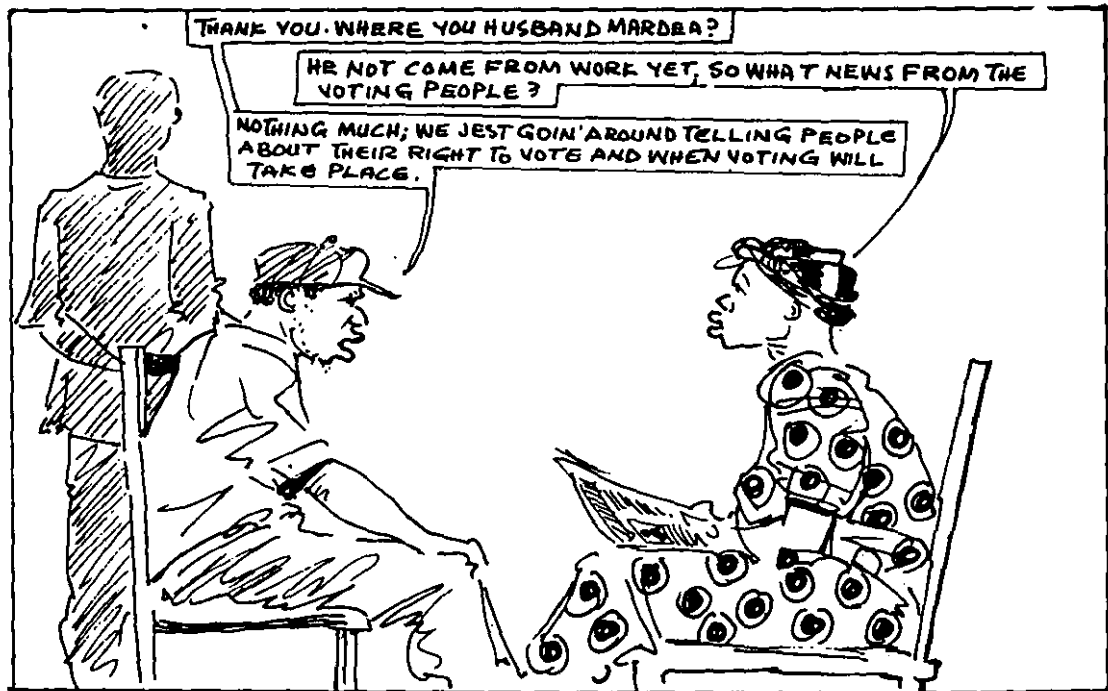
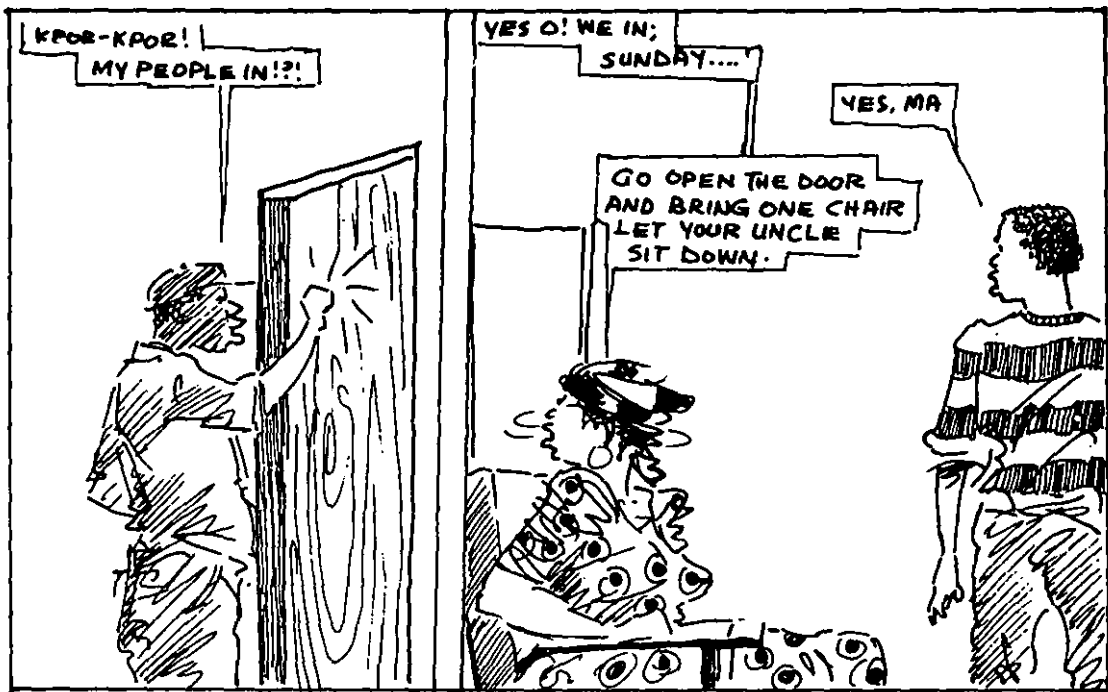


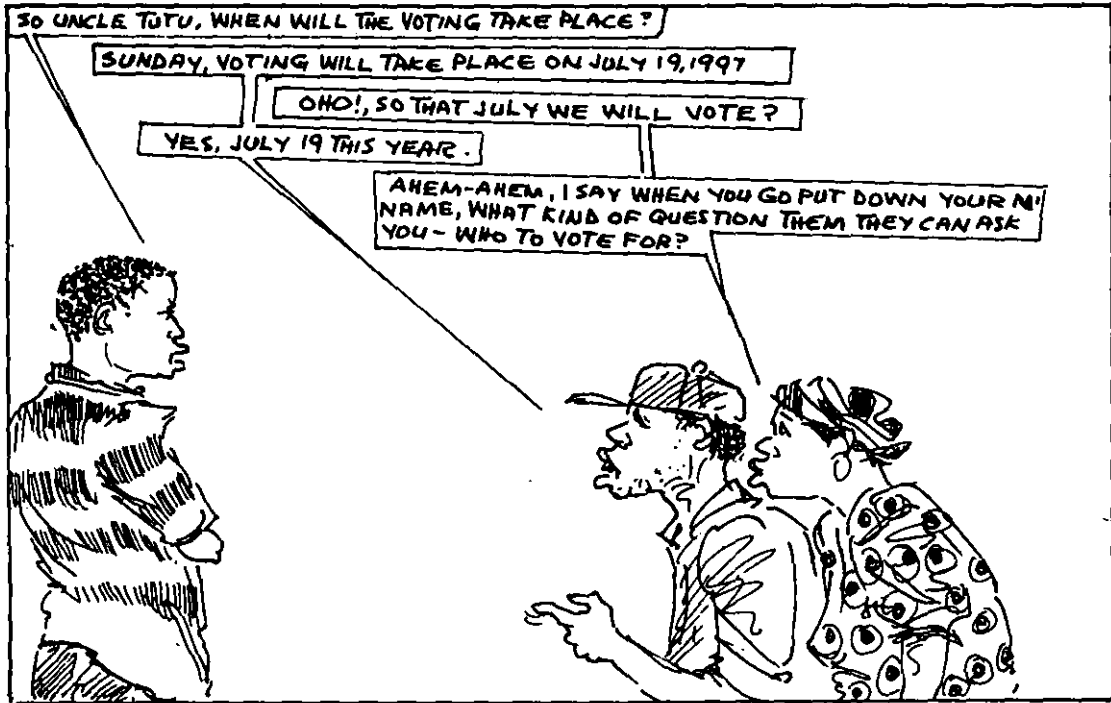
OH, SO THAT'S WHY THEY WILL BE WRITING YOUR NAME ON THE DIFFERENT, DIFFERENT SHEETS JUST TO MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS REGISTERED?

YES. OKAY, I WILL SEE YOU LATER, MY PEOPLE.

THANK YOU, TUTU. YOU REALLY HELPED US TO UNDERSTAND THIS VOTING BUSINESS.







SO UNCLE TOTO, WHEN WILL THE VOTING TAKE PLACE?

SUNDAY, VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE ON JULY 19, 1997

OH!, SO THAT JULY WE WILL VOTE?

YES, JULY 19 THIS YEAR.

AHEM-AHEM, I SAY WHEN YOU GO PUT DOWN YOUR NAME, WHAT KIND OF QUESTION THEY THEY CAN ASK YOU - WHO TO VOTE FOR?

MARDEA, NO-NO, NOBODY GOT THE RIGHT TO ASK YOU THAT KINDA QUESTION. WHO YOU VOTE FOR THAT'S YOUR OWN BUSINESS.

HEHN! MAN! SO THE VOTING PLAVA WILL BE SECRET??

YES. THE VOTING PLAVA WILL BE SECRET - ONLY YOU ALONE WILL BE IN THE ROOM TO VOTE. WHEN THE VOTING PEOPLE GIVE YOU YOUR VOTING PAPER THAT GOT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO BE PRESIDENT NAME ON IT, YOU YOURSELF WILL MARK THE ... PERSON NAME YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT. THEN YOU WILL PUT YOUR PAPER IN THE BOX THAT GOT THE PERSON PICTURE ON IT.

I SEE. BUT UNCLE WHAT KIND OF QUESTIONS THEY CAN ASK ON THE VOTER REGISTRATION PAPER?



YOU BOY, THAT BIG BOOK YOU TALKING. THE PAPER WHERE YOU CAN PUT YOUR NAME DOWN TO VOTE GOT PLENTY QUESTIONS ON IT. YOUR REGISTRATION NUMBER.

THE PLACE WHERE YOU WILL WRITE YOUR NAME DOWN...

THE DATE... , YOUR FULL NAME; AGE THE PLACE YOU BORN AIRH; THE NAME OF YOUR DISTRICT WHERE YOU BORN; THE NAME OF THE COUNTRY; YOUR MA NAME AND YOUR PA NAME.



MY PEOPLE, YOUR HELLO. HELLO, JOCKA. HOW THE WORK GOIN?

NO GOOD WORK, MAN. EVERYBODY PUTTING HIS NAME DOWN TO VOTE. SO-SO VOTING PLAVA EVERYBODY TALKING.

YOU PUT YOUR NAME DOWN TOO?

PA, THEY ASKED YOU PLENTY QUESTIONS?

YES, I PUT MY NAME DOWN.



YES, THEY ASK ME MY NAME, THE PLACE WHERE I STAY, THE PLACE I BORN, THE DISTRICT WHERE I BORN IN, MY COUNTRY, MY MA NAME AND MY PA NAME ... BUT MARDER YOU WILL NOT GO TO PUT YOUR NAME DOWN, TOO?

ME, THIS POLITIC THING I NOT LIKE IT. WHO YOUR VOTE FOR THAT IT. I NOT WANT PUT MY HAND IN THIS VOTING PLAVA.

BUT MA, YOU CANT SAY SO! EVERY BODY SUPPOSE TO VOTE. THAT YOU RIGHT TO VOTE SO YOU MUST TRY AND VOTE, TO CHOOSE OUR LEADERS THEM.



BUT WHER' KINDA PARTY PEOPLE WILL JOIN SEF?

AGAIN, MARDER, THAT IS YOUR RIGHT TO JOIN ANY PARTY YOU LIKE.

HEE! I BEG YOU YAH! MY WOMAN AND MY SON WILL JOIN THE SAME PARTY I JOIN, AND THEY WILL VOTE FOR THE SAME PERSON I VOTE FOR?!

I NA BELIEVE MY EARS!!!



NO, JOCKA, YOU CANT SAY SO; NOT BECAUSE DA YOUR WIFE OR YOUR SON, EVERY PERSON FREE TO VOTE FOR ANYBODY HE WANT TO VOTE FOR, AND THEY FREE TO JOIN ANY PARTY THEY WANT TO JOIN.

TUTU, YOU WANT TO TELL ME, THE PEOPLE WILL BE STAYING WITH ME; IF FEEDING THEM EVERYDAY AND THEY SLEEPING UNDER MY ROOF, THEN THEY WILL GO VOTE FOR THE PERSON I DONT WANT TO VOTE FOR! NO WAY!!

THAT'S AGAINST THE ELECTION LAW, JOCKA! IN FACT, NOBODY SUPPOSE TO TELL YOU WHICH PARTY THEY VOTING FOR IF THEY DONT WANT TO. THAT'S NOT FORCE. THEY ARE ALSO FREE TO SAY WHO THEY VOTING FOR AND NOBODY SUPPOSE TO TROUBLE THEM.



BUT THEN THE ELECTION PEOPLE REALLY NEED TO EXPLAIN THE THING HERE TO THE LIBERIAN PEOPLE SO IT CANT BRING HALLAH-HALLAH-OY BECAUSE I KNOW PLENTY PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILY OR FRIENDS WILL BREAK UP DURING THIS ELECTION SEASON BECAUSE THEY NOT UNDERSTAND THIS VOTING LAWS THEM.

BUT EHM THAT IS WHAT I'M EXPLAINING TO YOU PEOPLE NOW. IF YOU PEOPLE LISTEN TO ME GOOD-GOOD, THEN YOUR WILL HEAR THE VOTING LAWS GOOD.

... BUT UNCLE, WHAT ABOUT IN THE INTERIOR WHERE THE PEOPLE DONT KNOW ABOUT THESE VOTING LAWS? HOW YOUR WILL MANAGE???



WE WILL GO THERE BECAUSE,

WE STILL HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO PEOPLE IN THE INTERIOR THAT LIBERIA IS FOR ALL LIBERIANS. LIBERIA IS FOR ALL OF US, AND WE SUPPOSE TO FEEL FREE TO SAY WHAT WE WANT TO SAY IN OUR OWN COUNTRY, AND TO MOVE AROUND IN OUR OWN COUNTRY WITH OUT ANY BODY HAMBUCKING US.

YOU RIGHT, UNCLE, BECAUSE THAT IS THE ONLY WAY THIS WHOLE VOTING PLAVA WILL BE FREE AND FAIR.

YES, THAT'S THE ONLY WAY WE CAN HAVE FREE AND FAIR ELECTION IN LIBERIA.



TUTU, SUPPOSE YOU GO TALK ABOUT YOUR PARTY SOMEWHERE AND SOME BODY GO BEAT YOU OR MAKE FUSS WITH YOU, YOU THINK IT RIGHT ??

NO, IT IS NOT RIGHT.

BUT THEN WHAT THE VOTING PEOPLE WILL DO SO NO PLENTY PLAVA AND FIGHTING WILL BE IN THE VOTING BUSINESS ??



BE VOTING PEOPLE GOT LAWS FOR THESE KINDS OF SMALL-SMALL MALLAH-MALLAH. ANYBODY WHO TROUBLE HIS FRIEND BECAUSE THE PERSON NOT WANT VOTE FOR HIS PARTY WILL BE PUNISHED. IT IS AGAINST THE ELECTION LAW OF LIBERIA FOR ANYBODY TO TROUBLE HIS FRIEND ABOUT WHO HIS FRIEND SHOULD VOTE FOR. VOTING PLAYA IS COMPLETELY SECRET AND PRIVATE. NO FORCE PLAYA INSIDE. THAT'S WHY THE PEOPLE CALL THE VOTING PLAYA FREE AND FAIR ELECTION.



SO TOTU, HOW WE WILL KNOW THE PEOPLE WHO RUNNING NOW? THE PEOPLE WILL COME TALK TO US OR THEY WILL JUST STAY TO THEIR HOUSES AND WE VOTE FOR THEM?

JOCKO, ANYBODY WHO WANT RUN FOR GOVERNMENT JOB WILL GO AROUND TO TALK TO THE PEOPLE. THEY WILL COME TALK TO US TO EXPLAIN WHAT THEY WILL DO FOR US WHEN WE VOTE FOR THEM. SOMETIMES WE WILL GET CHANCE TO SAY WHAT WE WANT THEY MUST DO FOR US BEFORE WE VOTE FOR THEM. GOVERNMENT AND THE PEACE KEEPERS WILL GIVE THEM SECURITY.



SO THAT ALL THE PEOPLE GOVERNMENT AND PEACEKEEPERS WILL GIVE SECURITY?

OH, YES NOW, THAT IS GOVERNMENT JOB TO GIVE THE PEOPLE THAT RUNNING SECURITY BECAUSE THEY RUNNING IN OUR INTEREST;

AND IN THEIR OWN INTEREST TOO. SOME ONLY KNOW PEOPLE WHEN THEY RUNNING, WHEN THEY WIN, YOU WILL NOT SMELL THEM



THAT IS WHY YOU SHOULD KNOW WHO TO VOTE FOR, BECAUSE ONCE YOU VOTE FOR THE PERSON AND HE BECOME REPRESENTATIVE, SENATOR OR PRESIDENT, YOU CAN NOT REMOVE HIM SO EASILY.!

TUTU, SUPPOSE SOME BODY OR SOME POLITICAL PARTY GO IN A VILLAGE TO VOTE AND SOME PEOPLE IN THAT VILLAGE PUT GRUMBLE DOWN AND SAY THE PERSON OR THAT PARTY MUST NOT VOTE IN THAT VILLAGE, THEN WHAT THE PERSON OR PARTY WILL DO NOW?



EVERY BODY, WHEN I SAY EVERYBODY, I MEAN EVERY LIBERIAN CITIZEN AND EVERY POLITICAL PARTY. GOT THE RIGHT TO BE PROTECTED BY LAW AND FOR THE LAW TO MAKE SURE THAT THE PERSON OR PARTY RECEIVE 'NEVER MIND' FROM THE PERSON OR PEOPLE WHO CAUSE THE TROUBLE OR CONFUSION. NOBODY GOT RIGHT TO STOP HIS FELLOW LIBERIAN OR ANY POLITICAL PARTY FROM VOTING UNLESS THE PERSON OR PARTY BREAK THE VOTING LAW.



YES, THE WAY HOW YOU TELLING US THIS VOTING THING, IF WE ALL WILL LISTEN TO YOU AND THE THING WE SUPPOSE TO DO, AND DONT DO THE THINGS WE AIDT SUPPOSE TO DO, THEN I SWEAR THE VOTING PLAVA WILL BE FINE. IT WILL BE FREE AND FAIR AND NO PLAVA WILL BE INSIDE.

YOU RIGHT!



EXACTLY, THAT'S THE MAIN REASON FOR VOTER EDUCATION. BEFORE PEOPLE VOTE, YOU SUPPOSE TO TELL THEM THESE SMALL, SMALL THINGS SO THEY WILL KNOW THEM BEFORE THE VOTING START. IF YOU DON'T DO IT, OTHER PEOPLE WHO GOT GRUMBLE WILL TROUBLE THEIR FRIENDS THEM AND TAKE THE LAW IN THEIR OWN HAND.

AND THIS TIME EVERYBODY TIRE WITH WAR AND FIGHTING PLAYA. EVERYBODY WANT PEACE EVERY BODY WANT VOTE SO THIS ONE LEADER PLAYA WILL FINISH.



THAT ONE THAT IS TRUE. EVER SINCE WE LEAVE WE PLACE IN THE COUNTRY AND COME HERE, YOU THINK IF WE WAS THERE THEN LONG TIME WE NOT FINISH BUILDING OUR HOUSE?

OH! LONG TIME! THAT THIS WAR THROW WE WAY-WAY BACK! THAT'S WHY ME I SAY WE MUST VOTE SO THE COUNTRY CAN BE ONE AGAIN, SO EVERY BODY CAN GO BACK HOME.



Wartue



H. W. Hunt Major 1974 & 1978