

## Africa Calling

Over the years I have found out that I have a great many relatives living in various parts of the world. Most of them are located on the west coast of Africa, notably, Nigeria and the Ivory Coast. I first found out about these assorted branches of the family tree when I received an urgent e-mail from a bank manager in Lagos. He advised me that my great-uncle, Mr. Harrington McInnes, had died and left me \$12 million U.S. in his will. This money will be transferred to me as soon as I notify them where to deposit the money. I was instructed to forward the name of my bank, address, account number and any pin numbers or codes to access the account. Money would be transferred within 10 business days.

You can imagine my supreme joy at receiving this wonderful news. At the time I was wondering where I would come up with the funds to replace my 21" black and white TV with something a little more upscale. I went to see my bank manager to tell him of my good fortune and prepare him for a very large deposit that would be made to my account. He advised me that I should proceed with caution. With that amount of money he did not want it to go to the wrong account. The bank manager advised that I write back and ask them for the name of the bank that was sending the funds and ask if it was financially solid. Good advice from a trusted bank manager.

I wrote, asking for the name of the bank as suggested, but received no reply. I was getting a little concerned because I had started spending my inheritance and needed the cash. Several more of my e-mails went unanswered when a strange thing happened.

I received another e-mail, this time from a lady who was residing on the Ivory Coast. She was a widow and her dear departed husband had been a very high ranking executive in the government. The government advised the poor widow that her deceased husband was owed \$16 million U.S. dollars and it was now to be paid to his widow. There was one small problem. The laws of the Ivory Coast would not allow the money to be paid directly to the widow. If it was paid directly the government would keep 95% of it in taxes. What the widow must do is find someone in North America who will receive the money on her behalf. The chosen party could then forward the money to her free of tax. This fine Christian widow had chosen me to receive the money and in return she would share it with me 50/50. I felt truly blessed. There are 350 million people in North America and I was to be the one to receive the money. How lucky can you get?

Now, I had gone from wondering how to pay for a new television set to having \$28 million U.S. dollars coming my way. I am a very popular guy on the west coast of Africa because in the past several years I have been offered no less than \$280. million U.S. dollars for the use of my bank account. None of this has come through and as a result I am still watching my 21" black and white TV.



**Brad McInnes**  
**YMASC President 1970 - 1971**



