

# Capt. Daley's Sea Stories

## M/V Ken C Tamblyn Ghana, Africa

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### Sekondi-Takoradi, Twin Cities 2



Sekondi-Takoradi, population 335,000, is the capital of the Western Region of Ghana. It is Ghana's fourth largest city. The chief industries are timber, plywood, shipbuilding and railroad repair. It lies on the main railway lines to Accra and Kumasi.

Sekondi, older and larger, prospered from a railroad built in 1903 to hinterland mineral and timber resources. Takoradi has an important deepwater seaport, Ghana's first, built in 1928. Both stemmed from 17th Century Dutch, Swedish and English forts. During World War II, Takoradi Air Base was an important staging point for British aircraft destined for Egypt. The 26th South African Air Force Squadron was also based in Takoradi during WWII flying anti-submarine and convoy protection patrols over the Atlantic

Takoradi Technical Institute houses a Fab lab, equipped by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which is the first of its kind in Africa.



Takoradi Airport - These planes were marked Ghanaian Air Force. Hope there are more!



Ghanaians are a very religious people. This is one of four Mormon churches I saw in the area.



"Stores" sell what they want to sell, in this case appliances, tables and purses.



"Stores" sell what they want to sell, in this case computer paper, magazines and books.



Those are normal sized yams! The papaya are even bigger!



She is selling smoked fish and roasted plantains. The bananas were great, can't tell you about the fish.



In general, people did not like having their picture taken. Not sure why. And of course being the only white skinned person in the area drew a lot of attention!



Coconut milk is a very popular drink as you can see from the size of his cart.



And of course no big African city would be complete without a huge football (soccer, for us yanks) stadium.



Look at the TV antennas atop bamboo poles. It's hard to believe that a country like Ghana has so many TV's.



This is the old immigration building at the port of Takoradi, probably 1930's vintage.



He is cooking a variety of meats over open flame in the port. He would slice some up in a cup for you to buy.



Here is the old Takoradi train station, early 1900's.



The African Beach Hotel is not five star like the Pemba Beach Hotel in Mozambique, but it is the nicest in the area. Plenty of ex-pats hang out here. Food was good, though it made me sick. There is a live band on Saturday nights.



The people of Ghana are very friendly. She was my waitress at the hotel.



Annie gave me the best massage I've ever had. Ever. If you ever go to Ghana...



Diana sells Ghanaian artifacts in a store just outside the hotel. They are a little over-priced, but very good quality.