

Bonn calls for more Renegades

BONN, INP — A 27-MEMBER steelband from Trinidad and Tobago has created a sensation in Bonn when it gave a performance as part of the celebrations marking the 2,000th anniversary of the city of Bonn.

Over a thousand music enthusiasts and fans of Caribbean music, who watched the open-air performance at Bonn's market square facing the historic Town Hall, danced and rejoiced to the Calypso and steelband rhythms, and lustily cheered the musicians from Port-of-Spain.

Shouts from the crowd for more music from the band continued for some time after the musicians wound up their two-hour presentation.

Jubilee Year

The performance by Amoco Renegades Steelband was Trinidad and Tobago's birthday present to the City of Bonn on its 2,000th anniversary, and to the Federal Republic of Germany on its 40th birthday. It took place within the traditional cultural programme of 'Bonner Sommer' (Summer of Bonn) which is being organised in this jubilee year as the "Festival of Continents."

Amoco Renegades, the winners of the first prize of this year's official steel-



SWEET PAN: AMOCO RENEGADES steelband from Port-of-Spain entertains the people of Bonn to a selection of calypso and steelband rhythms.

band competition in Trinidad and Tobago, demonstrated with elegance the versatility of the steelband by playing a variety of calypso music, Caribbean melodies, pop songs and classical music.

They began with the Calypso melody 'Carnival Baby,' moved on to 'Calypso Music' and splendidly switched over to 'Shake It,' a pop number, inciting the audience into dance and revelry. Their repertoire included 'How Insensitive,' 'Somewhere, Oh Dear' as well as

some Afro-Brazilian melodies and classical tunes.

Near Future

The musicians from Port-of-Spain, who had travelled to Bonn with their heavy musical in-

struments, were delighted with the opportunity given to popularise steelband in the Federal Republic of Germany, said the manager of the group Patrick Penco. The band was pleased with the enthusiastic reception from the

audience in Bonn.

He felt that there is a growing interest among the German people in the Caribbean music, especially in calypso and steelband rhythms. But, musicians from the Caribbean rarely get an opportunity to nurture this by giving performances. The last time the Amoco Renegades Steelband visited the Federal Republic of Germany was in 1969 when it made a ten-month European tour.

Penco thanked the organisers of the 'Festival of Continents,' and the International Institute for Comparative Music Studies and Documentation in West Berlin for organising their tour of the Federal Republic of Germany, which included performances in West Berlin, Bochum and Langenhagen.

He hoped that the band will be able to return to the Federal Republic of Germany in the near future as a result of its popularity during the tour.