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Gov Onoja warns parents against dubious elements

From Walter Uba

PARENTS in Plateau state have been warned not to allow their children to be used for mischievous acts, by some unpatriotic individuals for their selfish motives.

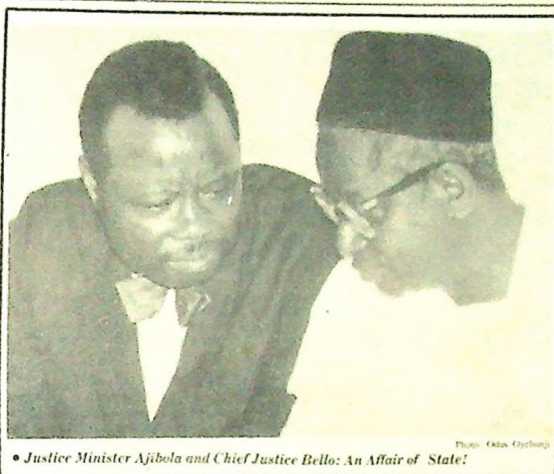
Issuing the warning on Thursday while addressing the Jos Traditional Council, Governor Lawrence Onoja said that children swelled the rank of last Wednesday's Jos University students demonstration which escalated into a clash with the police, which left six dead and 30 injured.

He said that government has received reports threatening the current calmness of the state, of fresh moves by students to embark on a more violent demonstration in sympathy and support for the university students.

To this end, the governor announced the immediate closure of the Plateau Polytechnic, Barkin Ladi and directed that other tertiary institutions in the state which embark on any demonstration under whatever guise, should also be closed.

He regretted that the recent increase in price of petroleum product was misinterpreted as a deliberate government measure to lighten the hardship on the people, than the development of the populace and the rural areas.

The governor also lamented that mischief makers have cashed in on the situation to precipitate crisis of confidence and warned that the government will not shrink to allow unpatriotic persons to hold the society to ransom.



• Justice Minister Ajibola and Chief Justice Bello: An Affair of State!

No U-turn in economic policies— IBB

From Mikhail Mumuni, Lagos

IN a Thatcherite stance, the federal government has let it be known that, it will not deviate from its economic policies.

The President, General Ibrahim Babangida, has vowed that his administration "will continue to pursue vigorously the basic economic policies, which in the final analysis, will be in the interest of the country."

President Babangida gave this undertaking in a good-will message sent to a conference organised by the World

Trade Centre of Nigeria (WTCN) in co-operation with the Association of African World Trade Centre building at the Eko Holiday Inn, Lagos.

He recalled that since our independence, "the various Nigerian governments have emphasised the necessity for creating viable economic climate for investors," adding that "this economic trust has been the basis of many laws enacted specifically to encourage foreign investments in Nigeria."

He referred to the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion decrees of 1972 and 1977 as the most important of these laws.

He, however, noted that "the recent world economic recession has slowed down the trend of foreign participation in our economic ventures."

General Babangida told the participants at the conference that his administration has "wisely taken bold steps to arrest the situation and has introduced far-reaching measures aimed at recouping the economy and creating favourable climate for foreign investments."

He identified the introduction of the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market (new FEM) which allowed the companies access to foreign exchange without bureaucratic control "as the most significant of these measures."

The Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) of the government, the President said, has been applauded by the national and international economic and financial experts.

While noting that the theme of the seminar could not have come at a better time, General Babangida urged the participants to draw up strategies "that will

Elongated salary structure

Borno to spend N20m on arrears

From Mohammed Gangan, Maiduguri

THE Borno State Government is to spend about N20 million on payment of arrears of civil servants salaries under the elongated salary structure.

The state governor, Lt. Col. A. Aminu, who disclosed this in an interview yesterday, stated that modalities for the payment have been worked out by the office of the Secretary to the Military Government and the Ministry of Finance.

According to the governor, payment of the new salary and the allowances that go with it and accrued arrears would start by the end of this month.

The allowances he explained, are those that go with salaries such as transport and housing allowances.

Governor Aminu, also related allegations by the state's chapter of the National Union of Local Government Employees that his administration has been di-

verting to other sectors, legitimate shares meant for local governments from the federation accounts.

According to him, Borno was the only state in the federation that had been noted for giving local governments their legitimate shares of the federation account.

He stressed that his government has never tampered even with a single kobo, meant for the local governments. Adding, "the state even received commendation from the federal government, for what it had been doing all along."



• Gov. Aminu

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N4 10k syrup 60ml.

"If symptoms persist for more than two days of treatment, consult a physician."

Nigerian Hoechst Limited

'How my husband was killed'

ABU Jihad, the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) second in command killed on Saturday in Tunis was shot 75 times by four men wielding machine-guns.

His widow, Intissaf Al-Wazir said in an interview on Sunday that her husband fired a single shot with a pistol at the attackers before being hit by a hail of bullets.

Her husband, she said, "was busy writing a letter at his desk when he heard noises. He rushed to pistol and went to the entrance

hall."

"There, after he had fired a shot at the intruders, four men, one after the other, emptied their machine-guns on him," she added.

"He was shot 75 times from head to toe," she said.

"One of the attackers then directed his weapon at me. I turned towards the wall and closed my eyes thinking he was going to kill me too," she added.

"Before leaving, they went into the bedroom

where one of my sons was sleeping and fired at the walls and ceiling. Then they returned to fire at Abu Jihad's body again," Mrs. Al-Wazir said.

She said she did not hear the attackers speak, but added that she was convinced they were Israeli secret agents.

She did not notice whether, as was reported by a maid, a member of the attacking commando fired the entire operation. (AFP)

Social welfare office treats 78 cases

THE area social welfare office in Mabi Gombe has successfully disposed of 78 of the 82 cases of forced marriage, ceremonial marriages, child neglect, disease and child abuse brought before it last year, according to the 1987 annual report just released by the office.

The report, made available to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), said Mabi showed that four of those cases were referred to law courts.

According to the report, ten cases of abandoned children were received by the office in the period under review, adding that all abandoned children, who were less than one month old, were given to "willing foster mothers".

It said that 63 various juvenile cases involving rape, vagrancy, theft and forgery were also received and treated last year, adding "the culprits were either punished or warned to desist from such anti-social behaviours".

The office said that of the 593 inmates in the Mabi remand home last year, two were sent there for culpable homicide, 25 for being in possession of Indian hemp, 49 for theft, 30 for fighting, 78 for idleness and nine "for being beyond parental control".

In youth division, the office stated, granted visits and excursions from which a retained N1,830 last year.

A NAN correspondent who visited the Mabi Remand Home reports that the building was in a complete state of disrepair.

Police officer for interrogation

A SUPERINTENDENT of Police attached to Lekki Kwara State, has been invited for interrogation by the state police command over his role during a demonstration on March 10 by members of staff of NEPA against their former management.

A reliable source told a correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Friday, that the invitation was sequel to a protest to the command alleging that the officer framed charges against eight of the staff of the former NEPA manager, Mr. Michael George, from whom he had received assistance.

The officer was also said to have quarrelled with the Regional Police Officer (RPO), Mr. Samuel Adeniyi, who was opposed to the manner in which he was handling the matter.



■ The Ghagbi community in Kaduna recently organised a reception in honour of the Kaduna Local Government Chairman, Rev. John Akai Kwoke at Marula Square, Kaduna. A Ghagbi cultural group entertaining guests at the occasion.

Commissioner indicts newsmen

From Moses Olorode, Lagos

A STATE commissioner has taken a hard, long look at the role of the media and accused Nigerian journalists of being unnecessarily antagonistic of government policies.

The commissioner said that media attitude to government is so bad that the immediate inclination, especially for the unwary, is to view the media as the opposition government.

The Dutch State Commissioner for Education, Dr. Gambia Luvaba who expressed this view said the situation had created doubts in the minds of the citizens about the worth of government's declared intentions.

"In more extreme cases, it has led to absolute apathy on the part of the populace an apathy which breeds non-identification with the policy of the government", she asserted.

The commissioner, who was speaking at the 1988 convocation ceremony of the Nigerian Institute of Journalism in Lagos revealed that she always felt uncomfortable each time she read in the papers criticisms of government policies by journalists.

Such criticisms, she went on, had in recent times become an obsession with the journalists who "seem to always play down on the virtues of our leaders and authorities and to expand the small mistakes to make good reading in public".

She regretted that journalism in Nigeria 28 years after independence had remained that of the 1950s and asked, "must the press be contented with just criticizing without offering alternative solutions?"

Dr. Luvaba agreed that the press owed it a duty to criticize government policies but only if such criticisms are carried out with sufficient background information, "superior degree of objectivity and transparent honesty".

In his own speech, the director of the institute, Dr. Poly Nnametoka called on the proprietors of the institution to change their lukewarm attitude towards progress and development.

He warned the proprietors — the Newspaper Proprietors Association, the Guild of Editors, and the NUJ, that unless there was such change of attitude, the progress of the institution

will remain stagnant.

Also speaking at the occasion, the chairman of the board of governors of the institution, Chief Michael Ochei announced that the board would soon embark on the provision of workshop facilities for both print and broadcast journalism to enhance the practical aspect of the training of students.

About 117 students were awarded diplomas and certificates at the ceremony.

Adelabu Foundation bags N.3m

From Oluseun Lase, Lagos

ABOUT N200,000 was realised at the launching of the "Adeyoke Adelabu foundation" in Ibadan last week.

Topping the list of donors were two publishers, Alhaji Ismaila Is. Furtu and Chief M.K.O. Abiola who both donated N200,000.

Alhaji Ismaila Is. who is the Managing Director of New Africa Holdings Limited, publishers of *The Democrat* newspaper, made a donation of N125,000.

He told the gathering at the launching that he was delighted at the honour done to a great hero and nationalist like Adeyoke Adelabu.

Rawlings urges unity of black race

From Walter Uba, Makurdi

THE Ghanaian Head of State, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings has called for a united black race in Africa.

Answering questions from newsmen at the 24th anniversary of the Nigerian Airforce in Makurdi over the weekend, Flt Lt. Rawlings stressed the need for the natural restoration of the unity of the black race.

He explained that such unity has now become imperative, to fortify Africa's defence development and advancement.

He pointed out that Africa was a united continent prior to the advent of the "white-man who effected boundary creation between us, splitting us apart".

The Ghanaian leader who was the special guest at the occasion, regretted that as a result of the boundary adjustments, Africans who hitherto were members had discarded the traditional concept and belief of community feeling.

He also stressed the need for a common military policy in Africa, as has been agreed by both countries in

'Waive parking fees for private airlines'

THE chairman of Okada Airline, Chief Gabriel Ighinedion, has urged the Federal Government to consider waiving completely landing and parking fees for aircraft of private airlines.

Chief Ighinedion, was commenting on the recent increase in price of aviation fuel and the alleged seizure of his aircraft owing the Nigeria Airports Authority (NAA) N2 million, explaining that the concession

would ease the airlines' "current untold hardship".

Chief Ighinedion disagreed with an idea to increase airfare, saying that the current fares should last for about two years.

"To increase fares would be suicidal on the public because the business is not there to justify the increase," he said.

Chief Ighinedion lamented that facilities for which the NAA was charging exorbitant fees did not justify such fees and called for improvement.

On plans for the airline to commence operations abroad, the chairman said that guidelines were being worked out between the ministry of civil aviation and Okada Airline for that purpose.

"As soon as the routes are worked out, we will begin operations," Chief Ighinedion said, adding that about 200 people in various categories would be employed by the airlines to cope with the expansion.



■ Dr. Laraba

...Okpere appeals to airline owners

PRIVATE airline operators in Nigeria have been called upon to organise themselves into a single body so that they could channel problems to government towards contributing to the improvement of civil aviation.

The Minister of Aviation, Air-Vice Marshal Anthony Okpere who made the call in Lagos, said such a step would be ideal instead of presenting their problems or demands in the media in reaction to government policies.

Air-Vice Marshal Okpere said that the habit of using the media for criticisms is improper and would not yield the much-needed goals of improving their services as well as the development of the nation.

Others are Alhaji Lawal Kari, former governor of Kaduna State, Alhaji Umaru Shinkafi, Chief Ayoeye Oyesika, Chief Ademiran Ogunsanya and Alhaji Ibrahim Gusau.

He emphasised that democracy must involve a military society, to make it strong and develop to the taste of the people being ruled, pointing out that Japan, though one of the most advanced na-

tions of the world has a militant culture, while the United States of America (U.S.A.) still conscripts its citizenry for wars despite its acclaimed democratic ethos.

On his assessment of the Nigerian Airforce, the Ghanaian Head of State said: "I respect and have great regards for the Nigerian Airforce," pointing out that, "we are proud that there is a brother African country that can readily bail us out in case of defence. I am highly impressed with your airforce."

Newbreed rejoins fold May

PRODUCTION of Newbreed and President Magazines which was proscribed

by General Olusegun Obasanjo's administration, will resume next month, its chief executive, Chris Okolie has said in Lagos.

Chief Okolie told a news

conference that the two magazine will serve its watch dog role and function with objective analysis of news.

The chief executive said that Newbreed Organization will struggle for a new order where social justice would not be mere events.

He said that "the magazine will uphold the fundamental objectives of state policies and pursue vigorously with the single-mindedness, the responsibility and accountability of authorities to the people."

"The President," "Newbreed" sister magazine, makes its re-entry as a news magazine focusing on Nigeria's economic and world business", Chief Okolie said.

He said that the essence of the magazine was to capture the dynamics of living, the inter-relationship and the allocation of resources as well as the expansiveness, glamour, colour and vitality of human economic activities.

1988 Ramadan timings for Kaduna

	SAHUR	IFTAR
1. April 18	5 — 07	6 — 41
2. April 19	5 — 06	6 — 41
3. April 20	5 — 05	6 — 41
4. April 21	5 — 04	6 — 41
5. April 22	5 — 03	6 — 41
6. April 23	5 — 02	6 — 41
7. April 24	5 — 01	6 — 42
8. April 25	5 — 01	6 — 42
9. April 26	5 — 00	6 — 42
10. April 27	5 — 00	6 — 42
11. April 28	4 — 59	6 — 42
12. April 29	4 — 59	6 — 42
13. April 30	4 — 59	6 — 42
14. May 01	4 — 58	6 — 43
15. May 02	4 — 58	6 — 43
16. May 03	4 — 58	6 — 43
17. May 04	4 — 57	6 — 43
18. May 05	4 — 57	6 — 43
19. May 06	4 — 56	6 — 43
20. May 07	4 — 56	6 — 43
21. May 08	4 — 56	6 — 43
22. May 09	4 — 55	6 — 44
23. May 10	4 — 55	6 — 44
24. May 11	4 — 55	6 — 44
25. May 12	4 — 55	6 — 44
26. May 13	4 — 54	6 — 45
27. May 14	4 — 53	6 — 45
28. May 15	4 — 53	6 — 45
29. May 16	4 — 53	6 — 45
30. May 17	4 — 53	6 — 45

Variations for state capitals

	SAHUR	IFTAR
Abuja	+3 minutes	-1 minute
Abeokuta	+21 ..	+12 ..
Akure	+14 ..	+5 ..
Bauchi	-9 ..	-9 ..
Benin City	+14 ..	+2 ..
Calabr	+6 ..	-12 ..
Enugu	+6 ..	-6 ..
Ibadan	+19 ..	+10 ..
Ilorin	+15 ..	+9 ..
Jos	-5 ..	-6 ..
Kano	-6 ..	-1 ..
Katsina	-4 ..	+3 ..
Lagos	+22 ..	+10 ..
Maiduguri	-25 ..	-21 ..
Makurdi	0 ..	-8 ..
Minna	+5 ..	+3 ..
Owerri	+9 ..	-6 ..
P/Harcourt	+10 ..	-7 ..
Sokoto	+7 ..	+9 ..
Uyo	+6 ..	-10 ..
Yola	-18 ..	-22 ..



• Kaduna State Cultural troupe thrilling visitors at the just-ended National Festival of Arts and Culture in Lagos.

Photo: Olatu Oshere

Constable appeals against trial

A POLICE constable who lost a thumb while attempting to arrest a gang of criminals at a road-block at Koton-Karfe in the Kogi Local Government Area of Kwara State has appealed against his trial by the police.

for protesting against his superior officers.

A News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) correspondent in the area reports that the constable, Mr. Samuel Durodaiye, was ordered to be tried in December by a

police disciplinary committee for petitioning against the role of his superior officers in the release of the suspected criminals.

In his letter of appeal to the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Durodaiye said that the police planned to dismiss him in spite of the loss of his thumb and his diligent service.

Sating his case in the letter, the constable said that he was at the road block when the officer informed him that a gang of criminals was conveying stolen cows from Lapa village in vehicle registered OD 2850 R and OY 8336.

He said that the drivers of the vehicles refused arrest at the road block but the vehicles were immobilised by shots fired at their tyres.

Mr. Durodaiye added that two suspects emerged from a vehicle and attacked him with a sword which cut off his thumb while he was attempting to ward off a blow aimed at his head.

He said that in spite of the injury, he was able to arrest one of the suspects who later revealed the whereabouts of the others.

He claimed that the suspects, Garba Mohammed, Ibrahim Shehu, Bello Muhammad and Shabbu Usale, appeared before magistrates courts at Koton Karfe and Lokoja.

He disclosed that the four suspects were later released by the court for want of evidence.

"I protested to the state commissioner of police in December last year but I was surprised to learn that I was to be tried on oath as a result of my complaint against the two officers", he explained.

He urged the Inspector-General of Police to protect him from being unjustly punished.

The divisional police officer at Lokoja, Mr. Samuel Adeyemi, confirmed the incident, saying that the matter was being handled internally.

UNN ASUU honours Iyayi

THE Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN), has honoured the former national president of ASUU, Dr. Festus Iyayi for his "selfless and dedicated service" to the union.

Dr. Iyayi was among the three honoured by the Nsukka branch of the union on Saturday under the "ASUU Honours Award" recently introduced at the UNN.

An Nsukka-based businessman, Mr. Ambrose Ohi-Okeye, who was honoured for the humble, disciplined and goodwill manner he manages his Unipetrol filling station during fuel crisis received the community service award and Dr. (Mrs.) Egle Odenigbo for the outstanding diligence and care she brings to bear on her job as medical officer.

The "leadership" category of the award went to Dr. Festus Iyayi, for the "selfless and dedicated service", he rendered to the union.

The secretary of the union, Dr. Maurice Iwu, explained that the awards, which were to be handed to the recipients at a ceremony, were designed to recognise and honour deserving persons within and outside the country's university system.

The recipients expressed gratitude to the ASUU-UNN for initiating such award which they agreed was unique and would be seen as a prop for greater service to the community.

Dr. Iyayi remarked that the UNN honours idea was

essentially unique, especially in this country where, he said, national honours were bastardised and held suspect.

He suggested that the national ASUU should take a cue from the UNN example and establish a national honours award which the UNN-ASUU should have the privilege of hosting permanently.

In a public lecture at the occasion, a Professor of Law, Prof. Isejaye Sagay, urged all Nigerians to rise to the defence of the rule of law which he said, successive governments in the country had tended to suppress.

He particularly called for the "conscious and informed segment of our population to resist these attempts by re-



• Dr. Iyayi

writing to the courts"

Prof. Sagay paid glowing tribute to the nation's law courts particularly the Supreme Court.

His lecture was entitled: "Recent trends in the status and practice of the rule of law in Nigeria"

..Faculty remembers late alumnus too

THE Faculty of Business Administration of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN) has decided to accord the family and children of late Chief Emeke Ozuah, an alumnus of the university, "all the rights and privileges" accorded "proud friends of the faculty".

Prof. Francis Okofor, Dean of the Faculty, said at Chief Ozuah's funeral at the weekend in Mgbawa in Awka Local Government Area of Anambra State.

"The spillover effect of his good deeds is that our faculty has resolved that all rights and privileges accorded to proud friends of the faculty

will pass on to his family and children". Professor Okofor said of Chief Ozuah who died in Lagos recently.

The Dean noted that Chief Ozuah donated generously to both the Faculty of Business Administration building fund and the library appeal fund of the department of accountancy.

"It is indeed unique", said Prof. Okofor, that Emeke Ozuah is the only graduate of the faculty, who is not a member of the academic staff, whose photograph is today hanging conspicuously in our faculty boardroom."

In its tribute, the Lagos branch of the Peoples Club of Nigeria described Chief Ozuah as an achiever.

Maroko, Etiosa to get face-lift

MAROKO and Etiosa — two slum areas of Lagos Island — are to be given a face lift under a rehabilitation programme of the Lagos Island Local Government.

During this in Lagos during a courtesy call on him by members of the Lagos island auto spare parts dealers, the chairman of the Lagos island local government, Mr. Olatunde Beecroft, said that living conditions in both Maroko and Etiosa were so deplorable that no well-meaning government would allow this to continue.

"This situation has been on for over 40 years while the development of adjacent Victoria Island and Ikoyi has been going on unabated. This man's inhumanity must cease," Mr. Beecroft added.

The chairman stated that with the current emphasis on rural development, his primary objective would be to transform Maroko and Etiosa to habitable areas.

He remarked, "emphasis will be on these two areas that have suffered considerable neglect while minimal attention will go to Victoria Island and Ikoyi."

Maroko and Etiosa areas of Lagos Island have no good roads and water, while living conditions are deplorable when compared with neighbouring Victoria Island and Ikoyi.

On revenue generation, Mr. Beecroft said that his administration was only surviving on subsidies.

With the cooperation of the people of Lagos island in

this direction, he went on, the Lagos island local government hoped to collect enough money for its projects.

Earlier the chairman of auto spare parts dealers' association, Mr. Okey Asomugha, had enumerated problems facing his association and appealed for good working relations between the council and members of the association.

He said, that constant raids by officials of the local government was a major problem to members of the association and requested the chairman to look into the matter with a view to finding a lasting solution.

Mr. Asomugha assured the chairman of the co-operation of the association in his deliberations.

In another development, more than 2,000 residents of Alaka in Surulere, appealed to the Lagos Mainland Local Government Council to provide them with a pedestrian bridge at Alaka bus-stop along western axis.

The people who made the demand during a meeting with then councillor, Mr. Oghosun Ogunkeye, said that they found it difficult crossing the ever busy two-lane highway, adding that a number of people had been killed in the process.

Responding, Mr. Ogunkeye assured them that pressure would be mounted on the appropriate authorities to find a solution to the problem, adding that the road was a federal one, and that the construction of a pedestrian bridge was beyond the powers of the local government council.

He called on the people to solve some of their problems in the neighbourhood through communal effort, saying that there was a limit to what the government could provide.

Mr. Ogunkeye appealed to the youths in the area to

take more active interest in the development of the neighbourhood.

He said that the youths had a lot to contribute, adding that "if the younger ones are not involved, positive things would not happen".

Later, the councillor told



• Cross River State Governor, Cdr. Ihem Prancewell is seen flanked by some executive council members and top health officials at the exhibition of food stuff and drugs to mark the world health day in Cross River.

Twelve councillors sworn in

TWELVE elected councillors in Othmaniwu local government area of Ibeled state have been sworn in by Mr. Justice Albert Gbemudu of the Abudu High court.

They are messrs Moses Idusuy, Edward Elnho, John Jesuorobo, Martin Erharbo, Michael Omoregbee and Larry Ederaro.

Others are Charles Jobor, Samson Omoruyi, Eluege Amadawen, Humphrey Oshagha, Osharin Oshololu and C.T. Odave.

In his speech during the swearing-in ceremony at the Abudu high court, Justice Gbemudu reminded the elected councillors that their election was the first step in

the country's journey to civilian administration in 1992, pointing out that if the experiment succeeded, our hope for civilian administration in 1992 would be realised.

Earlier in a goodwill message sent by the acting military governor of Bende state, Navy Captain S.A. Akano to the councillors and read by the chairman of Othmaniwu local government council, Dr. Roland Ekabor Ehi-gamabe, the councillors were told not to betray the confidence responded in them by the electorate.

The acting governor advised the councillors to lay emphasis on road development projects, water supply,

electricity, provision of food and jobs for the people which were the priorities of the government.

He urged them to be prudent in the management of resources by placing emphasis on vigorous pursuit of revenue collection in the local government area.

On security, the governor enjoined the chairman and his councillors to constantly keep government informed on the trend of law and order in the area while boundary and chieftaincy disputes which were perennial problems in the rural areas should be placed under close and constant watch to ensure there was a reign of peace and order.

Mani LG spends N.3m on teaching aids

By Haliru S. Kande

THE Mani Local Government in Katsina State has spent (N300,000) in the first quarter of this year to procure various teaching materials for its 187 primary schools.

The Chief Education Officer, Alhaji Abdulakadir Tukar Funtua told the *Democrat* that similar amount may be expended for stationeries in the next quarter.

He said N400,000.00 was earmarked for the purchase of stationeries, textbooks

and literature to equip ten (10) model schools set up in the council.

Alhaji Tukar further said about 45,000 pupils are currently attending schools in the area adding that the hitherto teachers amongst pupils is slowly dying in the area.

He attributed the good trend to the rapport established between his department and parents through the Parents Teachers Association (PTA) formed in the schools, adding that 14 clas-

srooms were constructed through communal development efforts in the council saying that this has greatly increased the interest of parents to send their children to schools.

The local government, he pointed had supplemented the project with working materials such as cement, ceiling, nails and corrugated iron sheets amounting to one hundred and one thousand thousand (N115,000.00).

Rain destroys over N.5m property in Jos

RAINSTORM swept through Jos and its environs destroying property worth about N500,000 and rendered about 500 people homeless in Babale in Jos Local Government Area.

A correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Garba Bawuks, said that two government schools, a basic health clinic, three churches, two mosques and some residential buildings were destroyed by the storm which accompanied a two-hour rain.

The principal of one of the schools, Mrs. M. Ayeenajeh, described the situation as unfortunate and appealed to the state government, the schools' parent-teachers association to come to the aid of the school.

A poultry farmer in Babale, Mr. Samuel Lafang, told NAN that he lost about 3,000 chicken as a result of the rainstorm which blew off the roof of his poultry farm.

A NAN correspondent who visited some of the affected areas, said that victims of the incident were busy salvaging some of their belongings from their homes.

Meanwhile, the Lafia local government council has approved the sum of N3,500 for two post primary institutions which were among schools destroyed by rainstorm in the area.

Omuo-Ekiti votes N.05m for schools' materials

ABOUT N50,000 has been set aside by the Omuo-Ekiti Local Government Council in Ondo State for the procurement of educational materials and teaching aids for schools in the area this year.

Speaking on an Ondo Television Current Affairs Programme, "Our Local Government" the chairman of the council, Chief Omole said that the council was currently overhauling its schools in a renewed effort to inject efficiency and to improve standards.

He said that steps being taken to this goal included the provision of enough classrooms and more encouragement for teachers. Chief Omole said that the council had taken steps to improve its revenue base, such as the keeping of nominal lists of eligible tax payers at both village and town levels and the introduction of fees for House numbering and street

Oba commends Mrs. Ukpo

AN Oba in Rivers has commended the wife of the state governor, Mrs. Chibwe Ukpo, for her real and enthusiastic in championing the cause for the emancipation of rural women.

Obi Chikweonela Nnam Obi of Oghaland made the commendation in his palace when members for the emancipation of rural women led by Mrs. Ukpo paid him a courtesy visit, saying that any nation that did not carry her women along was not prepared for development.

Women should operate alongside men with pride for the betterment of the society.

Obi Chikweonela Obi mentioned to personally take interest in the rivers women in the move programme.

In a similar vein, the Eze Ekpeke, Igboke, Rivers, said O. Robinson, said he was disappointed with the action that education and enlightenment of women would co-

slave men. Speaking during a courtesy call also on him by the wife of the governor in Abakaland, Robinson described such thoughts as negative to the development of the society.

He suggested that as a way of encouraging the women of Ekpeke, tradition and culture which were unmitable to women's development had been abandoned to allow free room for their development.

Eze Robinson called for the extension of the campaign for social mobilisation so that it would be copied by all facets of the society.

In her reply, Mrs. Ukpo explained that the Rivers women on the move scheme was the state's version of the better life for women on the move programme headed by the wife of the president, Mrs. Maryam Babangida.

She said that the aim was to reduce the idleness of women encountered by the rural women and to make life better for them, their children and their families.

Briefly

Policeman runs amok, kills 3

A GUN-TOTTING policeman ran amok and killed three people including a colleague and seriously wounding three others in Nairobi streets, press reports said.

Some reports said the policeman was attached to the paramilitary General Service Unit (GSU) and that he was armed with an automatic assault rifle, while others said he was a member of the political special branch and was carrying a pistol.

The unidentified policeman is said to have gunned down his colleague first and in his bid to grab getaway vehicle killed two other people including a woman driver.

Contacted for confirmation, Nairobi Police Chief Geoffrey Kinnit refused to comment on the matter and referred a reporter to the commissioner of police, Philip Kilongo, who was not available.

6 US firms bombed in protest

COMMUNIST Guerrillas bombed six U.S. companies and a Hare Krishna temple in Medellin to protest U.S. policies in Nicaragua and Panama, police in this Northern Colombian city reported.

The attacks caused widespread damage and resulted in injuries to two people they said.

Responsibility for the attacks against the temple and the plants of Goodyear, Crovdon, Bando Sidonero, Yardley, Texting and Bando Industrial was claimed in graffiti at the sites by the people's militias of the Marxist-Leninist People's Liberation Army, which also claimed responsibility for a Friday bomb attack against a Colombian-U.S. language center in Medellin and a Sunday explosion at the Medellin Mosque.

Police said they had made no arrests.

'Scrap secret ballot' plea

KENYA'S Minister for National Guidance and Political Affairs, James Njiru, has said elections by secret ballot should be scrapped entirely in Kenya and wholly replaced by having voters line up in public behind chosen candidates, the national newspaper reported on Monday.

It quoted him as saying that this "queue-voting" system, which was employed to select candidates for last month's general elections, should be extended to become the sole means of election.

He proposed "queue-voting" be the method of electing candidates to political office not only in Kenya, but for Africa and possibly the entire world, the paper reported.

Bombs hit Saudi office

TWO bombs caused slight damage to a Jewish Cultural Centre and the offices of the Saudi Airways Company, police said.

There was no immediate claim for the blasts, which took place within minutes of each other, police added. Witnesses said the bomb at the Saudi Airways office was thrown from a car, police said, adding, however, that blood stains had been found at the site and that the person who placed the bomb might be injured.

The front glass window of the Jewish cultural centre was shattered and a minibus parked near by was also damaged, police said.

This blast might be linked to the commemoration this week of the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw Jewish ghetto uprising.

Eating in public banned

AFGHAN President Najibullah Sunday banned eating in public places or selling food during daytime in the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which began on Monday, radio Kabul reported.

Mr. Najibullah emphasized that "Islam is our religion and we feel it our duty to implement all its commands and tenets," the broadcast intoned.

Those violating the order will be liable to legal action, it said.

The Afghan Mujahideen resistance has described the Kabul government as corrupt and tyrannical.



• Yasser Arafat

...Times indicts Israel

ISRAELI army commanders assassinated Abu Jihad, the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) second in command, U.S. media outlets.

Time Magazine's Middle East correspondents said in the latest issue that Israeli commanders "crossed the

Mediterranean, used Lebanese passports and disguised themselves in uniforms of the Tunisian national guard to kill PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's "most trusted lieutenant" in Tunis last Saturday.

He said the murder of his deputy was "an Israeli decision taken at the highest

level and with the green light of the American administration, Israel's strategic ally."

Mr. Arafat, in a message addressed to Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories, vowed "Those who think the assassination of Abu Jihad will smother the Palestinian uprising are deceiving themselves."

"His death will give new life to this heroic revolt. The blood of Abu Jihad will be dearly paid for."

Abu Jihad, whose real name was Khalil Al-Wazir, was the Commander in Chief of Palestinian armed forces. He was gunned down by a commando unit that burst into his home here at dawn Saturday and will be buried in Amman.

The death of Abu Jihad triggered a torrent of violent protest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza strip Saturday that left 19 Palestinians dead in clashes with Israeli troops, according to an official count.

The Israeli army confirmed 11 deaths.

Palestinians in the territories have been battling Israeli occupation forces since early December.

'Rawling's visit solves our differences'

THE External Affairs Minister, Major General, The Swachukwu has said in Lagos that the visit of the Ghanaian Head of State, Flt. Lt. Jerry John Rawlings has immensely helped to resolve the differences between Nigeria and Ghana.

The visit, the minister said had afforded the Ghanaian leader the opportunity to hold heart-to-heart discussions with President Babangida.

Major General Swachukwu also said that areas of disagreement between the two countries have been amicably settled, adding that discussion between the two leaders have been very cordial.

The discussion, he said, enabled them to identify areas that needed mutual co-operation, saying that the joint commission of the two countries had been given the task of drawing areas of co-operation economically, culturally and militarily.

Though Israel has denied the involvement in the assassination, a high-ranking Israeli intelligence official told Times "Do not ask me, and I'll not have to tell you lies."

Meanwhile, the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) said that Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Foreign Minister Chaim Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin approved the action after PLO Guerrillas hijacked a bus and assassinated three Israelis in Southern Israel last month.

NBC added that Mr. Shamir was so pleased with the outcome of the mission that he sent a congratulatory message to the commandos while they were sailing home.

The assassination itself was conducted by seven men and one woman in a 30 member Israeli unit, Time said.

The commandos made their way to the Tunisian coast aboard a dinghy after crossing the Mediterranean aboard a larger vessel, said Time.

Once on land, the commandos were met by three men who provided them with two Volkswagen vans and a Peugeot 305.

The commandos drove to his house dressed in the Tunisian uniforms, killed him, and then returned to the vessel, Time said.

Abu Jihad, whose real name was Khalil Al-Wazir, was deputy commander in chief of Palestinian armed forces.

The PLO instantly blamed Israeli agents for the assassination.

Mao statues demolished in China's varsities

STATUES of Mao Zedong, erected during the cultural revolution, are vanishing from Chinese University campuses as the reformist leadership chips away at remaining symbols of his fading influence.

Over the weekend, two statues of Mao — both more than 10 meters (33 feet) high — were demolished at Beijing University, the nation's most prestigious place of learning. For almost, destruction workmen did the job at night.

"Yes, we took them down," university spokesman Zhou Muxuan said on Monday. "This was done because they were built during the cultural revolution (1966-76) and had become old and cracked. What's more, they were not works of art."

Other Mao statues — depicting China's revolutionary leader gesturing forward with his right arm — were destroyed last year at Qing-

hua University and Beijing Normal School. Other campuses have said they will do likewise.

In the heart of Beijing, meanwhile, two big panels proclaiming "10,000 years of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong thought" came down in mid-April, replaced by tamer slogans for the "economic building of socialist China."

Mao forged a massive personality cult during the chaotic cultural revolution with the nation's media heaping praise on his ideology and youthful red guards waving his now-legendary book of quotations.

No public place was without a Mao statue or portrait — and most of them went after Mao's death in September 1976, in a limited first wave to remove vestiges of his authority.

Only a few huge Mao statues remain. Some of them can be found at the border with North Korea.

Aquino vows to improve Philippine economy

PRESIDENT Corason Aquino has said that she aimed to turn the Philippines into Asia's "next economic miracle" and said the economy was now her number one priority.

Economic recovery was more important than recapturing fugitive revolt leader Gregorio Honasan and was an integral part of ending the 1963-44 communist insurgency, Aquino told news conference.

Col. Honasan "is still a priority, but for me a higher priority is economic development," she said.

The Philippine economy grew by 5.7 per cent last year and is forecast to grow by between six and 6.5 per cent this year.

Clearly buoyed by her four-day trip to China and Hong Kong, Aquino said she would push ahead with a planned visit to Switzerland and Italy in June and hoped she might make other trips to help project a positive image of stability in the Phi-

lippines.

"The conditions for Philippine progress are nearly all in place," she said on her return from her first trip outside the country in 13 months.

Diplomats and political analysts rate Honasan, who led an almost successful army revolt against Aquino last August, as a major potential threat to Aquino, but she brushed the teenage colonel aside and said she was not afraid of taking risks.

"If you do not take risks



• President Aquino

there is no way for you to improve," she declared.

Noriega and the Washington Sheriffs

By Mashood-Jayce Fayemiwu

THERE are two kinds of prisons. There are the prisons we all know, and then there are the prisons we don't know. These are the Panamanian prisons for the Noriega.

Manuel Antonio Noriega, June, 1926. A keen observer of the current events in Panama - a Latin American country and its overlord, America may be surprised at the determination of the Americans to dump a hitherto loyal ally under charges of drug trafficking. To say Panama City and Washington are in for diplomatic ruptures for the first time would be an understatement. Albert, a member of the Council of the Organisation of American States (O.A.S.), Panama broke off diplomatic relations with the U.S. in January, 1984, over the death of twenty-four Panamanians during the independence riots over heavy taxation, humiliating condition and harsh economic measures of the U.S. on the "banana" republic.



America recognise the sovereignty of Panama.

The Carter Administration has also signed a treaty with Panama to take partial control of the land, come the year 2000.

But the latest developments may lead to far-reaching consequences for both Panama and Noriega on the one hand and even the U.S.A. The current diplomatic rupture emanated as far as 1985 when the U.S. government suspected Noriega, the No. 2 man of the republic of drug running, money laundering and arms dealing. He was also accused of espionage and a Cuban protégé. Within Panama itself, Washington cried against his high-handed and despotic rule. He was accused of murdering opposition leader, Hugo Spadafina. Panama's equivalent of Benigno Aquino. With all these accusations, Noriega shelved a proposed visit to Washington in 1986 and raised incentives on the Americans for a "military plot to topple me".

Americans are waiting, busy piecing all available documents together before they

could do it. Relying on disclosures from the prestigious "New York Times", NBC news and the U.S. intelligence agencies, charges were compiled and early in the year, the U.S. court found Noriega guilty and sent its verdict to the President of Panama, Eric Arturo Delvalle - a titular head. Acting on advice from Washington, Delvalle had no choice but to dismiss Noriega - a military general. Delvalle might have miscalculated but Washington was impressed.

On February 25th, Noriega staged a "coup d'état" as the head of the Armed Forces and put Delvalle somewhere in the dungeon. The panamanian Parliament, in a fifty-splitted move and overwhelmingly appointed Manuel Solís Palma, a Noriega Crony, as the titular president. Washington reacted immediately by slapping economic sanctions on the tiny island. The dollar was stopped, rice, sugar and other essential commodities were blocked. Consternation gripped the republics ruling class.

The net result were demonstrations, general breakdown of law and order. Labour unrest instigated by opposition parties on March 21, 1988 echoed Washington's demand: "Remove Noriega". As George Shultz, America Secretary of State remarked, "we will continue to push to see that Mr. Noriega gets out of Panama", the capital had voted 367 to 2 in favour of administration's decision to cripple Panamanian's economy until Noriega abdicates.

In the ensuing melee, an abortive coup d'état was uncovered in March. The coup plotters led by Col. Leonidas Macías, Col. Bernardo Barrera, the chief of state security, Majors Juan Obispo Pablo, José Williams and Captain Orlando Rodríguez have all been apprehended. On March 15, Terrence Knecht, a U.S. envoy in Panama city was given forty-eight hours to leave the republic. The Foreign Minister, Jorge Abacha had hinted that if Washington continued with stiff economic sanctions, a diplomatic break between both countries was inevitable.

Meanwhile, a phalanx of demonstrators

comprising civil servants, market women, opposition members and students of the National University have thronged the streets calling for Noriega's head. Civil servants are yet to be paid their salaries as a result of U.S. economic sanctions. Noriega has appealed to Ghaddafi's Libya while baton-wielding and trigger-happy street, helmeted zombies have been drafted to the streets to maintain peace.

The nations Armed Forces are solidly behind Noriega who has retained the symbol of their "constituency" and has vowed to keep him in power.

Panama is very strategic to the U.S.A. It houses her Southern Command and its a listening post for much of Latin America, but Panama is not the issue. Noriega is the headache. As events continue to unfold in the tiny island, three distant outlets are open for Noriega. First, he must know he is really running a battle he has neither the will nor the wherewithal to prosecute. The U.S.A. has both. He may have the support of his men, the Armed Forces, but the deteriorating economic conditions may shift the loyalty of the Armed Forces to the opposition.

In this sense, he may decide to leave in one piece second, an assassination attempt is likely in the offing. Lacking the political finesse as a military man, to manage politico-crisis, unperturbed at the avalanche of demonstrations from the opposition parties, Noriega may jolly well walk into the jaws of an assassin's bullet. "This stake will last until Noriega leaves. This is the last stake", an opposition leader revealed to foreign journalists at the wake of the crisis.

The third option left for Noriega will be to sever diplomatic relations with America, cut the nations economic base and tell the Yankees to go to hell. The last option is untenable party as a result of Noriega's internal contradictions and the political history of Panama. A loyal ally like Noriega is being ditched at the last minute because he has outlived his usefulness to the Americans. His decline is a lesson to other lackeys of colonialism. No matter the course of events, Noriega will come worse for it, that is, if he comes out in one piece. Let's wait and see.

Racism: A threat to world peace

By Sheikh Abubakar Ahmed

THE word Racism is an ugly word both in adoption and ideology. It is nothing short of oppression and human exploitation. It represents today in all its ramifications. It diverts the working man from the urgent social problems of capitalist society and sow discord within the progress.

Governments that adopt racism as an official ideology are extremely aggressive in their foreign policy. When the Nazis committed heinous crimes during the second world war 1939-1945, they were goaded by nothing short of racialism and also the Israeli-Arabs war and South Africa's invasion of independent Angola are cases in point that racialism constitutes a threat to world peace.

When the United Nations declared 1975-1985 a decade of campaign against racial discrimination, it emphasised the need and significance to eradicate racism in all its manifestation. It is important that progress

ressive forces throughout the world should forge a United front to fight those who discriminate against people on the basis of race, colour or sex in violation of international law and in defiance of morality. As a violation of international law and a threat to world peace, racism among other things, thwarts fundamental human rights.

The charter of the international military tribunal at the Nuremberg trial of Nazi war criminals, the U.N. charter, the convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of Genocide, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination, the convention on the suppression and punishment of the crime of Apartheid and other rules of international law are designed to safeguard equality of man regardless of race, and prohibit racial discrimination.

This recalls to mind, the words of John Adams, second president of the United

States of America during the declaration of American independence 4th July, 1776 when he said among other things that "all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness".

To go beyond this confinement I would like at this juncture to equate the forces struggling for man's social equality with the Magna Carta of 1215, The petition of Right of 1628, The Abolition of Slavery Act of 1806, The emancipation proclamation of 1863, and The Un-touchability Act of 1954.

The Magna Carta laid the foundation of civil liberty in England. The petition of Right secured political liberty in the United Kingdom. The Slavery Act abolished slavery from the British Empire for ever. The Emancipation Proclamation manumitted all slaves in the United States of America and gave them citizenship rights, while the Un-touchability Act

guaranteed social equality to all the Indian untouchables and secured for them full liberty under the law.

Today, from the very inception, the United Nations after its inauguration on the 24th of October, 1945, accorded an important part of its programme to the struggle against racial discrimination. The Soviet Union at the drawing up of the U.N. charter insisted that a clause containing an undertaking to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion be included.

Contemporary international laws does not only proscribe every manifestation of racialism and racial discrimination but also charges the UN to safeguard fundamental human rights and freedoms. The UN therefore, has every moral right to take up the problem of apartheid in South Africa where there are over 1,300 laws curtailing the right of non-white population. The UN

has undoubtedly exerted great efforts to expose racialism and apartheid and galvanise world opinion to fight them but the resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly are treated as mere recommendations. The security council - the only UN body whose decisions are on the face of law, has consistently failed to use its full authority.

It is a pity to note today that the leading Western Powers who orate against racialism turn round to share up the racialist regimes. In

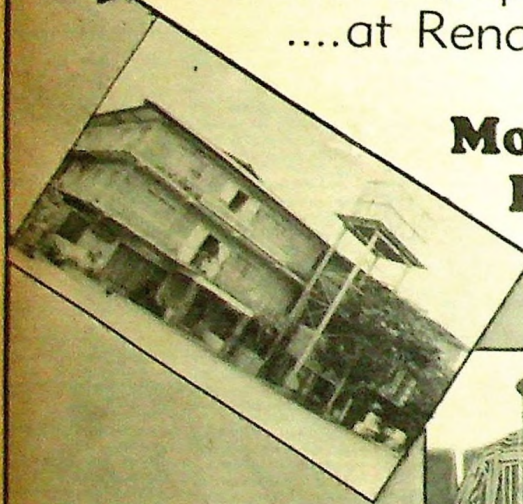
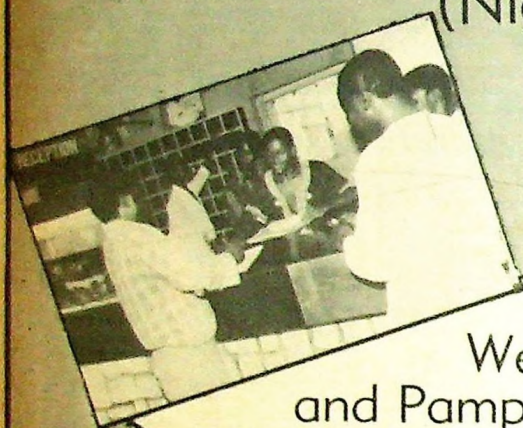
"To go beyond this confinement I would like at this juncture to equate the forces struggling for man's social equality with the Magna Carta of 1215, The petition of Right of 1628, The Abolition of Slavery Act of 1806, The emancipation proclamation of 1863, and The Un-touchability Act of 1954."

1966, the British Government used its veto to prevent the security council from adopting a resolution demanding all the UN members to participate in international sanctions against countries pursuing internal racist policies. Likewise in 1974, the governments of Britain, France and the United States of America vetoed a resolution approved by an overwhelming majority of members to expel South Africa from the UN. All available facts prove that the imperialist powers bear full responsibility for the continued existence of the racist regimes in Africa and the world over.

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On freedom and responsibility

An address by the Honourable Minister of Information and Culture, Prince Tony Momoh on the occasion of the launching of *The Democrat* Daily and Weekly in Kaduna on April 15, 1988.

It gives me delight to be a guest at this most auspicious occasion during which we are witnessing the rebirth of a mass media organ, *The Democrat*. As I always say, when a media organ dies I feel the pain, and eventually, when one is born or reborn, I am filled with joy. Not necessarily because one holds an Information portfolio but because, as a journalist, new job opportunities are being created for me and the threat of unemployment is reduced. Secondly, it demonstrates that our common profession is still blossoming and can still find vent in a society where the first and relevant only can survive and grow.

Thirdly, importantly, Ladies and Gentlemen, the emergence of a new organ of communication, to me, is a conclusive demonstration that information is one of the most viable commodities or needs in modern-day Nigeria and that there are many who have no access to it for one reason or the other but who must be provided with information. And this is why I warmly welcome *"The Democrat"* to the "waiting audience" of our time.

"Democrat" I am convinced is a deduction from the concept of democracy. But what has kept me busy even on my way in this place is which of the concepts of democracy is it a derivative of? Is it of the concept which defines democracy as the government in which the will of the majority rules where the will of the majority is equated with the will of the people? Or is it the concept that defines democracy as the government freely chosen by the people and responsible to the people thus building out an idea of the sovereignty of the people? Or is it the concept that requires a government to periodically reflect the interest of the majority where it exists but to constantly engage in the reconciliation and resolution of the conflicts arising from the claims of its constituent minorities?

While I pondered over this, one fact that remained indelible in my mind is that whatever concept any one chooses, be it the one or another element, and that is that all the concepts are people-centred. They either derive their origin from the people and assert a responsibility to the people. Consequently, the *"Democrat"*, as a product of the people, as agent of the people and member to the people.

Thus, since every media organ intentionally carries a social role, it follows that the



Prince Tony Momoh

prosperity of *The Democrat*, have effected a double imposition of social responsibility on themselves, first by their decision to publish a newspaper and secondly, by tagging the organ, *"The Democrat"*. Distinguished guests, this is clear evidence of putting the horse before the cart. More so, it will serve as a far reaching example to those who put the cart before the horse, those who dwell on the quest for rights and freedom and are asked to be reminded of duties and responsibilities.

Freedom is no doubt a priceless commodity to the individual, to the media in particular and to the society. It is therefore not surprising or unexpected that those whose profession require a "high degree of freedom" to perform are always in the forefront in the struggle to wrest it from whoever might be denying them from it.

However, man's predicament in the quest for freedom is that freedom does not exist alone. It exists with duty and responsibility. More painful is the fact that duty or responsibility can exist independent of freedom but

the converse is not the same. Again, where both exist, duty and responsibility, either by nature or design, precede freedom in all cases. This is why slaves and serfs exist with all the burdens imaginable but without a jot of freedom.

This distinguished guests, is the irony of our fight for freedom as journalists. If and only if we can recognize that freedom is the reward for duty or responsibility and that the degree of freedom of an individual is, in all normal circumstances, inversely proportional to the degree of demonstrable (not demonstrated) level of duty, our strategy will become more effective. Such a strategy will first seek a higher level of responsibility in the society and through it achieve a greater degree of freedom. It is probably when we adopt this strategy of putting duty first that we will begin to appreciate the role of the state as an institution of governance.

Today, many of us seem not to fully appreciate the fundamental role of the state in the ordering of society. A responsible government must function to reconcile all

the conflicting interests in the society. In so doing, it must set parameters and make laws which must guide all relations in society. It must create institutions and programmes which in one way or the other compel adherence. To live "freely" within such a system, it becomes mandatory that we understand what the system says and offers in order that we do not fall foul of the rules.

This is fundamental to the journalist so that he does not seek to take out of the system what the system does not or cannot offer. To do so will amount to confrontation with those who have a division of labour role to play to promote, sustain and maintain the system. Monitoring and evaluating strategies and approaches adopted for the implementation of agreed programmes is a professional right of journalism, but it is not synonymous with questioning the programmes.

It is the carry-over of the earlier into the later that is responsible for the perceived conflict between the role of the State and the profession of journalism and, consequently, the real conflict between the agents in the two institutions.

Distinguished guests, on another frontier, how far has journalist-media-owner relations affected the performance of the profession on its accepted role? What constraints has it placed on the qualified freedom of the journalist? Today, it is probably not recognised that the journalist in Nigeria is an agent serving under a media owner whose freedom of ownership is constitutionally guaranteed. However, as I have always said, a professional regulation of the profession by professionals themselves will serve to reduce the lines of friction in the interest of the society. This is what is envisaged in the Press Council Decree.

Finally to the *DEMOCRAT*, in your responsibility to the people, it is my candid hope that "the people" is defined more from the perspective of the rural man than from the urban man who already comparatively is overfed. More importantly, your rural focus should tend more towards a feed-back than the single line conveyor approach which implies that the receiver has neither an idea nor an opinion. When I leave here I will leave with a hope that when I pick up the *Democrat* tomorrow I will learn as much as an Abubakar in Kwo as of Tony Momoh in Lagos.

The Military Governor, Distinguished Guests, on this note I welcome the new, recreated baby — *THE DEMOCRAT*. Thank you.

Speech by Mallam Isa Kaita, C.O.N., C.B.E., Waziri Kaduna, on the occasion of the opening of the British Council Learning Library, Thursday 14 April, 1988.

I am greatly honoured and privileged to be asked to dedicate the British Council Learning Library, Kaduna open.

As you are all aware the British Council has been in Kaduna for over 25 years and operated a library for most of that time. Kaduna people were disappointed when the British Council closed the library in Kaduna in 1970. For many of us British Council ceased to exist when we could no longer come and borrow books. There were even rumours that the British Council itself was to be closed for financial reasons, as well as the B.C.C.

Although we are glad to have the British Council in Kaduna not close and,

British Council promotes genuine dialogue

For example, arranged for 120 Nigerians to visit Britain in the last 12 months alone, it is clear that many more will be able to benefit by borrowing their books. We are all delighted that the British Council is re-opening the Library in Kaduna and to learn that they are also reopening libraries in Kano, Lagos and Enugu.

These small libraries are a useful complement to the services offered by the State Library Board, the National Library and the specialised collections held by various Ministries and Institutions.

You will all agree with me that the Learning Library is a valuable complement to



Mallam Isa Kaita

the regular film programmes of the British Council and the occasional live performances which are arranged by the Council. The British Council has

long been noted for bringing British performers to Nigeria, the latest being the Dilly Fingers, but is now also showing a genuine interest and support for Nigerian

performing artists by supporting tours to Britain by Nigerian performing artists. In this way the Council promotes genuine dialogue and understanding between peoples.

In Nigeria the purpose of the British Council is to promote goodwill and understanding between the peoples of the two countries. We, members of the Nigerian British Association think it is beyond any reasonable controversy that Britain is such an important country that Nigeria should ensure that the cordial relationship existing between the two countries should continue to grow from strength to strength.

Finally some personal memories — I will never forget the care and attention

given to me by Mr Osborne the Representative of the British Council and his wife in Exeter between 1948 — 50, when I attended a course in Public Administration at the University College of the South-West in Exeter.

We always remember with respect and gratitude the good work put in by the late Mr. Bill Emslie (first Director in Kaduna) and also our good friend who designed the building for the British Council in Kaduna, Mr. Frank Ringland, who is still very much with us. May I also express my thanks and appreciation to the present Director, Mr. Philip Thompson, who amongst his multifarious duties finds time to act as the Secretary to Nigeria British Association. Thank you.

Foreign Reports extra

"NPA hard liners bid to buy foreign arms

IN the wild far north of the Philippines a group of elite soldiers are strolling forward along an isolated dirt road, led by a menagerie of goats, dogs and chickens.

The nation's toughest counter-insurgency troops have been caught in the latest trap of the communist New People's Army (NPA). Rather a goat than a soldier impaled on bamboo spikes at the bottom of a pit, caught in a rope trap Vietnam-style, or blown apart by a homemade landmine.

This remote jungle region is, according to the communist, a "red" area - an area permanently held and controlled by communist guerrillas. And the elaborate defence system is one of the latest developments in the Philippines' increasingly violent and "dirty" civil war.

As Philippine revolutionaries celebrate the 19th anniversary of the NPA at jungle "birthday parties" in such "red areas" across the country today many are aware of the major changes which have taken place in the strategies and tactics of their struggle since they attended such celebrations last year.

And combined with a new "all out" offensive by government troops, these changes within the communist ranks offer the people of the Philippines little more than stepped up jungle fighting, more city terrorism, more mass evacuations and, ultimately, even more deaths.

Two years after the "self-faced" administration of President Corason Aquino came to power preaching "peace and reconciliation" the battle lines have been clearly redrawn. A military shakeup has freed more soldiers to fight the communists and President Aquino has announced that the government will no longer talk, but "meet terrorism with force".

On the part of the communists similar efforts are being made to step up the conflict and take the "revolutionary struggle" into its next phase.

After 17 years of rejecting foreign intervention in favour of a so-called "indigenous revolution" the leaders of the Philippine communist movement are now overseas recruiting for foreign guns, any guns from almost any

country. "We've realised we cannot win the war without foreign help, it's a practical matter," one senior NPA commander said.

"We are now willing to take arms from anywhere, and the problem is not where to get them but how to smuggle them in."

The last shipment of guns donated to the NPA came from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in 1982. Before that there were two shipments in the 1970s from China which were intercepted even before they hit the Philippine coast. That left most of the communist guerrillas snatching their old assortment of weapons in raids on the enemy, and coming back to fight carrying Armed Forces of the Philippines guns.

Where the new supply of guns will come from cannot be confirmed. Communist sources would not commit themselves to who, when and how. But one Communist Party of the Philippines political officer said, "Don't worry, we'll make so much noise you'll know when they've arrived."

Amongst the countries known to be dealing with the NPA the most likely to supply guns is North Korea or Vietnam, one observer commented.

The search for more and bigger weapons reflects the apparent resolution of a post-Marcos leadership struggle within the party with the rise of the so-called "Mindanao faction" - the hardline "militarists" - to positions of considerable power and influence within the revolutionary movement.

It was the "Mindanao faction" which first developed urban guerrilla warfare in the southern city of Davao in the 1970s. Since last year communist urban assassination squads have been scoring regular day-light "hits" on the busy streets of Manila, making the gunning down of any passing military officer or policeman a common city news item.

Some communist leaders consider their assassination squads an essential part of the psychological battle, guerrilla tactics of surprise and retreat in the middle of a busy city. But some consider the horror they bring to ordinary people counter-

As communists in the Philippines celebrate the 19th anniversary of the New People's Army at jungle "birthday parties" today, the nature of their struggle with the government has changed significantly since last year. Now the "hardliners" are in control. LOUISE WILLIAMS reports from Manila.

Collected from Hong Kong Standard



• An NPA fighter hands a pamphlet to a farmer in a mountain village in North Philippines.

productive. It is people like these whom the "Mindanao faction" have reportedly replaced.

Out in the countryside the "psy-war" means bigger and better landmines and more "booby traps". Guerrilla units all over the country are working on landmines which can tear through a government armed personnel carrier. Government helicopters are somewhat trickier - although some communist fighters boast about being "good shots" and turning their machine guns into anti-aircraft weapons.

Just how big the communist forces are is difficult to gauge. According to the rebels themselves, there are about 30,000 full and part-time guerrilla fighters, 15,000 of them with functional guns. United States government intelligence reports put the strength of NPA at

around 24,500 - an increase of 1,500 since President Aquino came to power - spread over 90 of the Philippines' 73 provinces and actually occupying 14 per cent of the countryside.

With a maximum fighting force of 160,000 men the government forces outnumber the communists by up to 10 to one - a critical figure in the theory of guerrilla warfare. Both sides agree that for every guerrilla in the jungle there must be 10 conventional troops on the ground.

Military sources acknowledge the current tactical stalemate and plans have been announced for an additional 6,000 mobile counter-insurgency troops to be trained, giving soldiers the capacity for back-up operations in trouble spots without leaving any one area open and vulnerable.

The communists, too, are actively recruiting. But it is the nature of the new recruits and not the number which may prove significant.

English writer James Fenton, veteran of both the Vietnam and Cambodian wars, first noted earlier this year that the average age of communist fighters was about 16 or 17 and that most were illiterate peasant boys.

When the communist movement began in the Philippines 20 years ago most of the recruiting occurred on the campuses of the country's best universities, resulting in a revolutionary movement with a strong core of intellectuals.

Fenton's analysis is that a shift towards younger, less educated guerrilla units with fewer intellectual leaders can only result in a more violent

and totalitarian "revolutionary struggle".

One senior NPA commander said only, "An immature revolution tends towards violence, yes."

Another political officer confirmed the drop in city recruits, explaining that under former President Marcos many middle class student activists had little choice but to go up into the mountains to fight with the communist guerrillas to avoid arrest.

Under the Aquino administration the Philippine political situation is no longer a clear cut struggle between "good and evil", that is.

Marcos and his opponents. In the cities the communists have trouble convincing people that the present administration is just as bad as the Marcos regime.

In the countryside the communists don't have to work quite so hard. There, the people are still desperately poor and hungry, and the ousting of President Marcos has done little to liberate them from that overriding reality.

While most observers and analysts are predicting a stepped-up conflict few go further than identify this important turning point. Which way the scales will tip depends on too many factors, particularly overseas intervention in the form of foreign communist or socialist guns for the NPA or SU-military and for the Philippine military.

In his controversial analysis retired US General Richard Shilwell, an outspoken anti-communist, wrote of the NPA: "It now presents a very grave and growing threat to the nation and neither the incumbent political leadership nor the armed forces are taking the steps necessary to avert the danger of an ultimate communist takeover."

However, Fenton and others, see the increasingly "militarist" approach of the communists as the desperate effects of a revolutionary movement which has been badly damaged by internal conflicts in the wake of the defeat of N. Marcos, and one which has since failed in its attempts to paint a convincing picture of Corason Aquino as a wolf in sheep's clothing.



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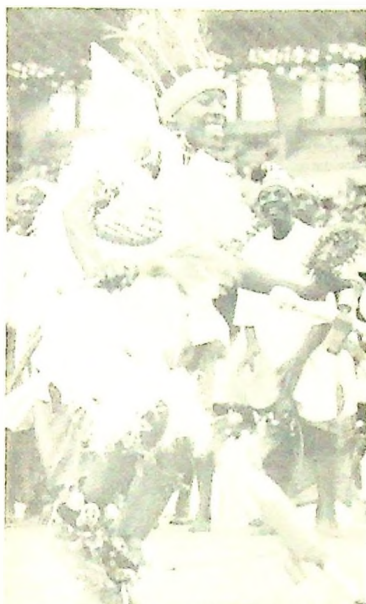
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Memories of NIFEST '88



• Miss Josephine Ikurete from Cross River State digging it out. She is part of the Cross River's cultural troupe



• Pretty Fulani maidens from Kaduna State entertaining

Photos:

Odus

Oyebanji



• Egbangba dancers from Edo State seeking the show



• Jere masquerade from Anambra State was not left out of the show



• Bata dancers from Oyo State thrilling visitors

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Looking for Mr. Right:

The dilemma of the Nigerian female graduate

QUIT! often, the Nigerian girl or woman, while in the University, carries herself too high. At times too high that she considers herself to be miss high and mighty. But she forgets that miss high and mighty will one day eventually come down from her horse.

The problem is in the process of carrying yourself too high, you shun other people especially the male students who really or should I say truly love you because you want a man with a car - not just any car but flashy, sporty car. You want a man who has already made it in life - one who has a good job or better prospects in business. You want a man with name - like his position in society or one who comes from a good family background or better still, prefer one who has a prestigious name like the Olu this, Onye that and the Dan so and so.

But you should know that Rome was not built in one day. I drew a list of all my female contemporaries and ticked those who are married and put an asterisk by the names of those unmarried and started reminiscing over some stories the latter ones had told me about their lives at the University and the men who have proposed marriage to them.

The general consensus gathered or rather discerned from their experiences with men while they were under-graduates, is that they turned down all the marriage proposals they received because they haven't found 'Mr. Right' or one who has a hand that is always dishing out money without any pains. They wanted an easy life and a ready made home with maids, chauffeurs working round the clock and other little luxuries that abound in a comfortable home.

The real dilemma starts after graduation especially when you start working and at that time you already have a car which probably your sugar daddy or parents bought for you, in most cases while you were still in the university. The journey to frustration lane begins when you start driving that car to work. All the young men who are interested in you would be scared to approach you because for one, you are a university graduate and your being learned scares them away apart from being too western in your behaviour, you'll also be speaking grammar. In other words, a Hausa man will call it *dogon toren*.

Also, by owning a car, it means you'll look down on those of them who don't have any. There is a name for it coined by university students, I think it is called *footrom*. Seriously, not that these guys are poor or cannot handle a woman graduate but they have other commitments like dependent relatives and other bills to take care of and dating or marrying an *acada* girl will be too much for them. Some of them are graduates like yourself and a large percentage are Secondary School leavers who rose through the ranks, so they are equally as intelligent as you because experience itself is a teacher.

Going back to the dilemma, like I said earlier, the frustration commences when you start work especially when you are good



at snobbing potential suitors - consequently, they too ignore you. Little by little, the years roll by and as you get older, you become lonely and bored with yourself. The sugar daddies and other men who used to fancy you have now turned to younger and prettier girls. In the long run, you resort to drinking and going on a binge by eating all sorts of food so that time will go fast and in the process, you gain weight. Apart from, being depressed, you also look ugly.

You can't continue to live on past glories but should concentrate in the present time or future. Take for instance you travelled round the world with friends and shopped in the most expensive shops in Paris, London and Rome - you can't expect that now because of the economic situation in the country and also your friends now have extra commitments and you too have started work and can't continue to globe trot or just take off from work without any tangible reason. If you do that, you stand the risk of losing your job.

A woman's beauty only lasts for a limited number of years. If you haven't heard it before, today I am telling you about it. So it is better to take advantage of your pretty days to get a man of your choice than to wait until you become an old maid. In these days when men discard women in the same manner they change clothes, you have to be very smart. Otherwise, by the time you realise your mistake, by the time you start dropping some of the dogmas beclouding you, time must have run out against you.

Just last week, I was talking to a male friend about this topic and he said men don't seem to have any dilemma, especially those from the rich homes. "The guys from the well to do families have their parents choose their wives for them while they are still in

school but funny enough the women are left to choose their spouse maybe because they think they are exposed enough to make decisions for themselves. Believe me, these girls are having a tough time now", he said.

But I have seen and heard of men who fall in the same category as the one stated above, who are equally having a hard time finding a suitable wife. There are also some who are rejected by their fellow female graduates just because they are not noble

lifetime commitment that shouldn't be trifled with, hence the need to be careful and tactful in this aspect". Says Dr. Juntima. On a more radical note, a friend has this to say. "Marriage is not something I think of - if it comes, fine, and if it doesn't come I don't worry about it. I don't believe men are worth the trouble".

The views expressed above represent only a small percentage of others. To be sincere, a lot of female graduates are now in great despair and in desperate search for a husband or someone to father their children. One thing I've noticed in most of them is for instance if a woman comes from the northern part of the country and when someone from the South proposes to her, she turns down his proposal just because the man is Ibo, Yoruba, Efik or Edo. Even here in the north you'll find out that a girl or boy who are both northerners and could even come from the same state, will reject a marriage proposal he or she is a muslim or christian.

My advice is if you know you are really in love with someone and you know you can live with him or her irrespective of his or her religion, tribe or race, you are better off marrying that person. To do this, you must shun rejection and ridicule from relations, parents and friends because they are not going to live your life for you. Ethnicity was the main issue twenty years ago but now we have transcended that period. Thanks to the Nigerian Youth Service Scheme for uniting Nigerians.

This is where a white woman has an edge over the Nigerian *acada* woman for the white woman can stoop so low to marry her gardener or house boy when, she is in love with him irrespective of whether she is a managing director of a company or the chief executive. I've seen and read about many of such weddings.

There are also alot of our women executives and commissioners who are not married or are either divorced or separated who desperately want to have that security but

The views expressed above represent only a small percentage of others. To be sincere, a lot of female graduates are now in great despair and in desperate search for a husband or someone to father their children. One thing I've noticed in most of them is for instance if a woman comes from the northern part of the country and when someone from the South proposes to her, she turns down his proposal just because the man is Ibo, Yoruba, Efik or Edo. Even here in the north you'll find out that a girl or boy who are both northerners and could even come from the same state, will reject a marriage proposal he or she is a muslim or christian."

or because they are not well off. How do other men feel about the female graduate? This depends on the type of woman and how educated the man is. If the man is an illiterate, there is the fear that the man will be shy and won't be able to control the woman. But when the couple are educated, there won't be any problems which they can't solve themselves." Says Inwa.

Another man said, "Ideally, taking into consideration our socio-economic condition of our present situation in Nigeria, one would prefer marrying a graduate because it is advantageous for the wellbeing of a family especially in these days of retrenchment and soaring cost of living. The man's salary will not be enough to maintain the family. If one marries someone of low income, life won't be easy for the couple as the woman would want to use her meagre salary to buy expensive clothes instead of helping in the house".

To balance up the report, I asked two graduates what they think their dilemma is. "It is not that we are having a difficult time finding a husband to marry. It's simply that women are now aware of what they want and how to get it that's why most of us take our time in choosing our life partners. Marriage is a very serious issue and a

don't know how to go about it and out of impudence, many a man with two or three wives in the end. Some go as far as living in separate towns with their husbands. In my opinion, that's no marriage but co-habitation. One would be excused to think that this women are simply looking for that little 'Mrs'."

Like this executive woman I know who changes young men in the same manner she changes her pair of shoes had a showdown with her employers when words got to their ears about her sexual escapades, with her subordinates. Isn't that disgraceful? Why can't the Nigerian women executive emulate her white counterpart.

In conclusion, I would say don't look down on any man because he is short, ugly, old, married or baldheaded. You are not getting married to his beauty but rather personality. You'll be surprised that women married to handsome men are having a rough time getting their husband's attention. Looks are deceiving. All that glitters is not gold. Don't reject a man because he rides a Beetle or an old beat up car. Love should not be predicted on a man's wealth. It is better if you build up your wealth together, that way you'll have something to hold on to.

"A woman's beauty only lasts for a limited number of years. If you haven't heard it before, today I am telling you about it. So it is better to take advantage of your pretty days to get a man of your choice than to wait until you become an old maid. In these days when men discard women in the same manner they change clothes, you have to be very smart. Otherwise, by the time you realise your mistake, by the time you start dropping some of the dogmas beclouding you, time must have run out against you."



• A clean goal indeed! Not even the goalkeeper's full length dive* could save the already helpless situation.

Defending champ falls at 1st hurdle

DEFENDING champion Jim Grabb of the United States slumped to a surprise first round defeat on the opening day of the men's grand Prix Tennis Tournament in Seoul on Monday.

Playing in blustery winds that earned a pall of yellow dust from the Gobi Desert, the sixth seeded world number 48 lost to Britain's Andrew Castle, a player ranked 100 places below him.

After his 3-6, 5-7 defeat Grabb refused to talk while Castle said: "I won by playing sensible tennis. I just tried to control the ball and keep it in play."

Top-seeded Andre Agassi of the United States, beaten finalist in Seoul last year, enters the fray yesterday when he faces compatriot Jimmy Levine.

First round:
Greg Holmes (USA) beat Ndaka Odzor (Nigeria) 6-0, 6-2.

Wolfgang Popp (West Germany) beat Kelly Jones (USA) 7-6, 6-4.



• Odzor

Andrew Castle (GB) beat Jim Grabb (USA) 6-3, 7-5.

Roberto Saad (Argentina) beat Roger Smith (Bahrain) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

Todd Nelson (USA) beat Bill Scanlon (USA) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4.

Jin-Sun Yoo (S. Korea) beat Paul Omerlin (USA) 6-4, 7-6.

Elliott Teitscher (USA) beat Johan Carlsson (Sweden) 6-3, 6-2.



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Sports

Calling Hockey clubs

HOCKEY clubs have been advised to register for this year's Jerry Usim trophy which will come up next month.

In a statement by the Secretary of Kaduna State Hockey Association, Mr. Jafan Kyari, the hockey clubs should register a maximum of 30 players with a non-refundable fee of

N30.00.

According to Mr. Kyari, the winner of the preliminary will represent the state in the zonal competition coming up at a later date.

Four clubs, Union Bank, I.K. Kano, Railways, Baidon and Bendel Packers are exempted from participating at both the preliminary and zonal competitions because of their performance at last year's national league.

Know your clubs for '88 National League

NNPC Football Club, Warri — Div. One

Name of Player	Licence No.
Ogunmurehin Charles	18901
Azibo Atare	18902
Kator Sunday	18903
Nnabue Alphonsus	18904
Usabue Francis	18905
John Humphrey	18906
Etienka Emmanuel	18907
Atomwe Ndabur	18908
Ndukezie Chibuzor	18909
Maduebue Anthony	18910
Ikanen Prince	18911
Rufat Sunday	18912
Eweka Osmond	18913
Ehichetor Pius	18914
Igboior Edwin	18915
Onyekwue Eke	18916
Beke Felix	18917
Achile Obioha	18918
Ejorhemu Omegero	18919
Obasuyi Godwin	18920
Amadi Mark	18921
Ukoko Lawrence	18922
Omomo Richard	18923
Omorie Emdy	18924
Yakubu Gambo	18925
Ewendia Justus	18926

Rangers International. Enugu Anambra State — Division One

Name of Player	Licence No.
Okonkwo Charles	18927
Chiemzie	18928
Kase Johnny	18929
Iwazor Sunday	18930
Ogbodo Kingsley	18931
Ivalla Ivalla	18932
Akubueze Eke	18933
Okonkwo Eke	18934
Maduka Lancy	18935
Okala Chika Patrick	18936
Agadi Jude	18937
Niemnaze Frank Kay	18938
Nwobodo Eke	18939
Anipkwa Herbert	18940
Alumona Onob	18941
Ezechi Stephen Okochukwu	18942
Uzo Chika	18943
Ilin Kenneth	18944
Jeremiah Emmanuel	18945
Okonkwo Chidozie	18946
Anipkwa Eke	18947
London Okochukwu	18948
Alonso Eke Chukwudi	18949
Obasi Christopher Eke	18950
Totiti Okoko Tolly	18951
Okonkwo Emmanuel	18952
Eke Chika	18953
Adeniji Joe Ode	18954
Okochi	18955



• Olympic indoor swimming pool in which synchronized swimming and water polo events will take place. The last main games site to be completed this month.

Zola Budd, victim of vendetta — coach

ZOLA Budd has become the victim of a very personal vendetta, claims her coach and adviser, John Bryant. But he says he would sooner see the trail 21-year-old step down than have the apartheid controversy destroy her life.

"At the heart of this row is a human being, a young girl. Stronger people than her have broken under less pressure. I fear she could be damaged by this personal attack," said Bryant.

It's the sort of pressure that could push someone to a mental or physical breakdown. She could be damaged by it. If I see that coming, I will have to think seriously about advising Zola to remember that health and happiness are more important than medals and sport.

The situation seems horrendously clear — it is no longer about right or wrong. It is about some people's personal prejudices. It is blackmail.

"Their case is full of lies and half truths. It is without credibility and we will be looking to the British board to stand up against it."

Bryant said that after claiming Budd's withdrawal from the recent World Cross Country championships was a "one-off situation", the board stuck with the view and he stressed her commitment to Britain has not wavered.

"Anyone who has been at her side through recent weeks would not doubt her commitment to this country. She likes this country."

If she didn't feel that way, it would have been easy for her to scuttle back to South Africa when it became clear there were people on the IAAF who were out to get her.

Budd is to continue with a training programme mapped out for her by Bryant.



• Zola Budd

Hussein wins Boston marathon

IBRAHIM Hussein under scored Kenya's Olympic ambitions with a pulsating win in the run in the '92nd Boston Marathon.

He defied the rain and Tanzania's Juma Ikangaa in a dramatic final mile to win in 2hr 8min 43sec, more than two minutes inside his personal best.

Kangaa, who ran a personal best of 2:8:10 when he won the Tokyo marathon in 1986, finished a stride behind in 2:8:44.

Hussein, a 29-year-old University of New Mexico Graduate, was the first African to win the world's oldest marathon. Last November he became the first African to win in New York in a then personal record of 2:11:01.

"I like to make history," he said afterwards.

Rosa Motta of Portugal, the World and European champion, now the women's race for the second straight year. She finished in 2:24:30.

It was Hussein's fifth win in seven marathons and brought him 45,000 dollars. He has also won the New York City Marathon.

Seoul '88 torch relay for August

THE torch of the 24th Seoul Olympics will be lit at the Temple of Hera in Olympia, Greece, on August 23 and will be carried by runners via Paris and Larnaca to Athens, where it will arrive at Pan-Athens Stadium on August 25.

After a ceremony in which the torch is officially handed over to Korea, the torch will be flown via Habesha and Bang Kok to Korea's South or most island, Cheju-do.

The torch relay in Korea will take 22 days beginning in August 27 and will involve 25,000 runners. The 4,096 kilometre course will take the torch through 62 cities after which it will arrive in Seoul on September 30, the eve of the games.

The following day at the opening ceremony, the torch will be used to light the sacred flame of the 24th Summer Games at the Olympic Stadium.

Special cultural events and folklore performances will accompany the torch's journey through provincial cities.

Ranchers host JIB Rocks

RANCHERS Boys of Kaduna will today lock horns with JIB Rocks of Jos in continuation of the National League Division one.

The match will be played at the Zaria Township Stadium at 4.30 p.m.

More Results:

BOA Lions 1 Rangers 0.
Hendel Inv. 1 NNPC 0.
Kwara 3 Anambra 1.
Anambra 0 ABU 1.

Olympic silver medalist John Terry of Ireland, the third in 2:9:15. That was 41 seconds inside his previous best achieved on his marathon debut at Los Angeles in 1984.

Welshman Steve Jones, whose 2:7:13 best was run in 1985, failed to find the elusive Olympic form he has pursued for the last two years through illness and injury.

He finished a disappointing ninth in 2:14:04, 11 seconds ahead of Japan's Takanori Kondo.

SENEGALINE Democratic Party (PDS) head Abdoulaye Wade and seven other opposition leaders will go on trial in Dakar tomorrow on charges of undermining national security, legal sources confirmed Monday.

Mr. Wade and the other leaders are charged with "incitement to violence" in the wake of presidential and parliamentary elections on

Senegalese opposition leaders face trial

February 28, the sources added.

The PDS leader was arrested at the end of February as riots swept parts of the capital following announcements of the re-election of President Abdou Diouf and

a renewed victory for his ruling Socialist Party.

Mr. Wade, who was returned to his seat in parliament, and other opposition leaders have alleged that there was massive fraud during the voting. The eight accused face five-year jail

terms. They include three members of his own party, Ousmane Njoni, Bonabacou Sili and Abdoulaye Faye.

On Friday, a Senegalese court threw out cases against five other opposition figures, including Mr. Wade's campaign director Adressa Sack

and the leader of the small Marxist independence and Labour Party (PTI), Amath Dansoko.

But the head of the Democratic League (LDMP), Abdoulaye Badi, will be appearing before a correctional court in Dakar today, legal sources added, for taking part in a banned demonstration.

Concord sued for N1m

A Former Inio State Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Emmanuel Nsofor, has filed a libel suit against the Concord Press of Nigeria Ltd. at an Owerri High Court, claiming N1 million as damages.

In the suit, Mr. Nsofor said the publication of his photograph directly below a Sunday Concord publication of February 28, this year, in which a senior high court judge of the state was accused of malpractices, and brought him to ridicule, shame and contempt.

He said that below the said photograph, the defendant falsely and maliciously published the story on the alleged scandal, saying the defendant, who print and publish the National Concord and the Inio Community Concord, had published the story of his exit as Inio Attorney General not only as news, but as an editorial opinion on the matter.

When the case was called for hearing, the presiding judge, Mr. Justice Ogu Ugoagwu, granted Mr. Nsofor 30 days to file his statement of claim and the Concord Press 45 days to file a statement of defence.

The case was fixed for mention on July 18.

No U-turn

Continued from P. 1

have long-time effect of not just boosting the economy but capable of bringing it out of the doldrums.

He noted that there is a great interdependence between producers of raw materials and their consumers, adding that in this respect, the success of the seminar will be to the mutual benefit of all participants, be they from the developed or developing countries.

The Chief of General Staff, Vice Admiral Augustine Akhoma who was the guest of honour at the opening ceremony, while echoing the points made by the President, paid glowing tributes to the members of WTCN, which included the late Chief, Adenike Adenike, and Lt. Gen. T. A. Dargatzis, both who are in the Chairman of WTCN.

In his own speech at the occasion, Air Chief Marshal Akhoma declared that the WTCN is one of the 100 members of the World Trade Centre Association with headquarters in New York, which operates on a non-profit making basis for the promotion of development and international trade.

The conference which attracts delegates from many parts of the world ends on Friday.

Register or face the law, publishers

THE Lagos State Government has warned that publishers whose publishing houses are in Lagos to register with the state while distributors are expected to obtain a licence.

Before manufacturing the documents, Mrs. Adenike stated that the committee's role will be to "assist in setting guidelines for state public enlightenment efforts, to serve as an overall advisory body on major public information matters both for the information division and the state administration, especially those involving sensitive issues, and to monitor information dissemination and effect closer integration of enlightenment



• Navy Capt. Alghie

From Mole Akinbani

acting director of the Concord newspaper stated that the duty of the committee is to ensure effective communication between the public and the Lagos State Government, adding that the roles of working out the possibilities for effective communication between the public and the government rests with the committee.

Dr. Adenike also reiterated the committee's statement on the importance of communication, adding that the size and growth of modern governance had placed responsibility of providing information to the public on the government.

This role she said is vital because its access to correct information is blocked, people also cannot get information from normal channel will resort to informal channels of rumour-mongering.

programmes of the federal with that of state governments.

While declaring that the role of communication cannot be over-emphasised, she said, "in as much as the government exists to satisfy the needs and promote the happiness and welfare of the people, appropriate machinery must be devised to ensure that the government constantly feels the pulse of the people."

In a key note address at the same occasion, Dr. (Mrs.) Dorcas Adenike, man-



• Col. Sakir Mubtar of Kaduna state stressing a point during an interview with The Democrat.

Drug firms urged to tap local herbs

PHARMACEUTICAL manufacturing companies in Nigeria have again been asked to undertake serious

research into the nation's available local herbs, medicinal plants and chemicals with a view to utilizing them for local drug manufacturing.

The Kaduna State Commissioner for Health and Social Welfare, Madam Sarah Hassan made the call at the launching of a new drug, Oronal, manufactured by Max and Baker.

Madam Sarah observed that this was in consonance with the federal government objectives of securing raw materials locally and lessening the nation's dependence on importation and the consequent drain of the nation's foreign exchange.

The commissioner argued that a situation where the pharmaceutical manufacturing companies of the country depend on up to 80 percent foreign sourced raw materials while local raw materials, abound for development should not be allowed to continue.

She also hoped that Max and Baker would carry out post launching trials.

Madam Sarah Hassan commended Max and Baker for introducing another drug, Oronal 500 into the market, which will cure the painful condition resulting from the inflammation of the bone tissues referred to as Arthritis.

She noted that since Max and Baker was incorporated in the country in 1944 and started production in 1974, it has been able to manufacture up to 80 percent of the drugs in the markets.

Commenting on the new drug, the commissioner hoped that the manufacturer had tried to overcome the side effects usually associated with arthritis drugs like gastric irritation, and sometimes perturbation using the non-dreadful anti-arthritis agents.

She also hoped that Max and Baker would carry out post launching trials.

