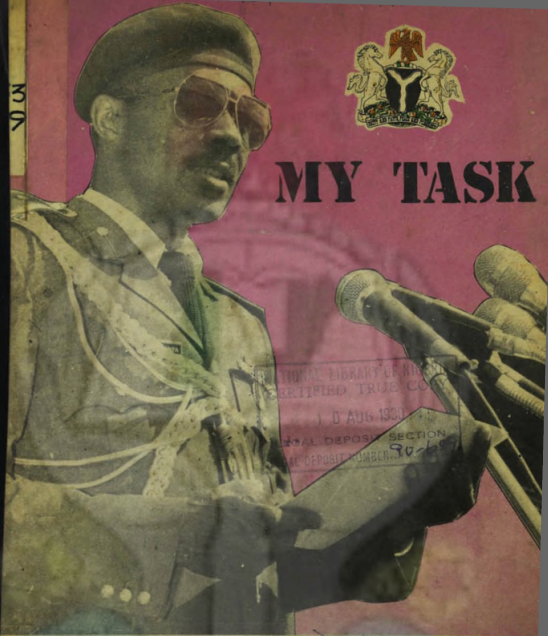


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# MY TASK



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**VOLUME I OF GOV. ORESANYA'S  
MEMORABLE SPEECHES**

IBADAN



# MY TASK

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## VOLUME I OF GOV. ORESANYA'S MEMORABLE SPEECHES

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## FOREWORD

"MY TASK" as the title connotes is a challenge for purposeful leadership geared towards the transformation of an egalitarian society. Although, the success story of Col. Sasaenia Adedeji Oresanya in all the sectors of his administration from July 1988 to July 1989 cannot be disputed, the demands of the people of the state for more goodies is a task that must be done.

There is no doubt that in contemporary history of military administration, the action Governor in person of Col. Oresanya, has proved cynics wrong that the Military are not trained to govern like the politicians. The catalogue of Col. Oresanya's achievements within one year as Governor of the most articulate and urbanised state in the federation is sufficient to debunk the wrong assumption of a section of the society as regards the incursion of the Military into politics.

Choosing agriculture, education and health as the priority areas of his administration is a right step in the right direction. This is so because of the importance of these indispensable sectors in the survival and advancement of any nation.

The encouragement being given to agriculture is unprecedented. To mention just a few, the intensive labour agriculture has been promoted and resuscitated in the state because of the skyrocketing cost of agricultural machineries.

It is in realisation of this laudable objective that Col. Oresanya's administration ordered large quantities of locally fabricated cutlasses for sale directly to genuine farmers. Also, a good rapport between the State Government and the farmers has been established and this has in no small way contributed to reasonable prices of foodstuffs in the state compared to other parts of the Federation. The establishment of farmers' markets in all the local government areas of the state has reduced the profit margin of the shylock and exploitative middlemen. It is hoped that within the shortest possible time, the state would not only become self-sufficient in food production, but would be able to satisfy the demands of other states in the Federation.

Education, which is the main industry in the state continues to get the necessary boost of the state administration. This is so, because it is the avowed belief of Col. Oresanya that any investment on education would not be a waste because it is an agent against poverty, disease and ignorance. A few practical examples would suffice to prove that no stone is left unturned to ensure that percentage of literacy continues to rise in the state.

These include the inauguration of primary and post-primary schools' boards, appointment of teachers, grants to schools, rehabilitation of school buildings, and award of scholarships to outstanding students.

In regard to health, in the whole of the Federation of Nigeria, only Oyo State has met the requirements of the World Health Organisation by allocating about 6.67 per cent of its annual budget to health delivery services. This has made possible for the government the renovation and refurbishing of

health institutions in the state, appointment of medical and health personnel, the opening of more health institutions, procurement of drugs and dressings for government pharmacy shops and the execution of the State Immunisation Programme (during which children and pregnant women were immunised against the six-killer diseases).

A review of other achievements of Col. Oresanya is a testimony to a dawn of new era in the state. Most of the abandoned projects which were started about 15 years ago have now been completed and put into use. These include the local government secretariats, The New Civil Service Reforms is being religiously implemented to the full satisfaction of the civil servants. General renovation of the public buildings as a way of embracing maintenance culture has been carried out while potable water is being provided for the rural inhabitants in the state.

To crown it all, a state liaison office has been opened in Kaduna to look after the interest of the indigenes of Oyo State in the northern part of the country. Also worthy of mention is the maintenance of peace, harmony and concord among the various communities in the state. Col. Oresanya deserves a kudo for his ability to sustain the peaceful atmosphere in the state, considering the volatile nature of its people.

All the thought-provoking speeches in this book were delivered on memorable occasions ranging from the appointment of public officers to commissioning of completed projects and the launching of new programmes.

"My Task" will undoubtedly, be a useful document for researchers, historians, students, leaders, followers and other interested readers.

Ibadan,  
July, 1989.



*Colonel Saseen Adadeji Oresanya, Military Governor, Oyo State*

## THE PEOPLE OF OYO STATE IMploRED TO REMAIN PEACEFUL

*Although, Oyo State is relatively peaceful, I cannot but emphasise the need to avoid unnecessary tension. I, therefore, implore the people of the State to let peace continue to reign supreme in all their facets of life.*

*Maiden Broadcast in Ibadan on July 28, 1988.*

Fellow citizens of Oyo State,

You are all aware of my appointment as the Military Governor of Oyo State. I was sworn-in yesterday by the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida.

On my arrival at Ibadan, the out-going Military Governor of the state, Colonel Adetunji Idowu Olurin, who had successfully captained the ship of the state for three years has handed over the affairs of the state to me.

I, therefore, feel that it is important that I send my warm greetings to you all. I will be addressing you from time to time and I shall be meeting you whenever the situation demands.

Although, Oyo State is relatively peaceful, I cannot but emphasise the need to avoid unnecessary tension.

I implore you all to let peace continue to reign, remove tension from your daily life; make your place of work tension-free; make your place of abode tension-free so that we may all work together for the progress of Oyo State.

Thank you all and good night.



*Maiden Broadcast of Col. Oresanya to the people of Oyo State.*

## THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS ORGANISES DINNER

*Every encouragement must be given at all levels to on-going attempt by local technicians to adapt simple implements. In this connection, our engineers must consider what contribution the traditional blacksmiths can make.*

*At the dinner of Ibadan Branch of the Nigerian Society of Engineers on November 18, 1988.*

I like to start this address by expressing my appreciation to the Ibadan branch of the Nigerian Society of Engineers for giving me the opportunity to address you on this occasion. Personally, I have always held the view that government and professionals in all walks of life must hold dialogues on a continuous basis if the technological development which we all envisage for our great country must be achieved as quickly as desirable. It is in this spirit that I have gladly seized the opportunity you have given to me not only to dine and wine with eminent engineers like you but also to address you.

It is no longer news to any Nigerian today that the economy is depressed, that income at the state and individual levels had decreased in the face of escalating prices and that government is finding it extremely difficult to complete some of the projects begun in the days of relative affluence even when such are crucial to the welfare of the people. It, therefore, seems to me that the challenge of the moment which I guess must have been uppermost in your mind throughout your week-long activities is how to combat the problems of the depressed economy at least, from the engineering point of view. The hope that Nigeria will quickly weather through the storm and take its rightful position amongst technologically developed countries lies in the attempts of eminent citizens like you who ceaselessly diagnose the problems of the country with a view to hitting at solutions to them. It is, therefore, cheering that you have devoted your week-long activities to pondering over the issue. May I, however, attempt to enrich the result of your hard thinking and research by focusing attention on a number of issues. These issues are by no means new. In fact, they are commonplace ideas but that is the very reason why they have been taken for granted to the disadvantage of our country.

First, I like to plead with you to come out with bold recommendations on measures that can help to arrest the poor maintenance culture in this country. This culture is not confined to government properties alone. Individuals hardly have maintenance schemes for the houses in which they live and it is common to find that it is only if disasters such as storm, erosion or flood strike that the average house owner is forced to carry out any meaningful renovation on his house. The attitude is worse with government property. Small pot-holes on the road are allowed to develop into gullies without anybody visibly bothering about them. It is not uncommon to find plants and equipment which only require relatively minor repairs abandoned for years and allowed to rot into disuse. In my opinion, this attitude has assumed the proportion of a calamity in the light of the tight

hold now being maintained on the economy which makes replacement of goods and services from abroad difficult if not impossible. It is, therefore, necessary for us to have co-ordinated attempt to correct this age-long culture of poor maintenance.

Secondly, preparatory to technological take-off, I believe that the citizens of this country need technological orientation. In our thinking, in our daily business, in appraising issues, technology must permeate the atmosphere. For example, if a contracting company owned by an indigenous engineer adopts the relatively easier approach of purchasing ready-made equipment from abroad even when such equipment are simple ones that can be fabricated locally, that company is discouraging technology. In the same spirit, every encouragement must be given at all levels to the on-going attempt by local technicians to adapt simple agricultural implements such as maize sheller and harvesters for use on our farms. In this connection, our engineers must consider what contribution the traditional blacksmiths can make.

Thirdly, I think that the time has come when our own engineers must make deliberate incursions into the ranks of contractors in this country instead of leaving that much abused but very important field to illiterate and semi-illiterate individuals whose only attraction is material gain. I am making this suggestion in the belief that the interest of the engineer transcends material gain. He is in all probability more interested in sound construction as a testimony to engineering skill. The more the number of indigenous contracting companies that can be floated by professional engineers, the better for the country.

It is also relevant here to suggest that there must be a determined attempt to raise ethical standard amongst consultants generally. All over the place, we come across badly executed jobs by contractors. One is constrained to feel that such poorly executed jobs are made possible through the connivance of consultants to the projects. Since the consultants monitor execution of projects and since contractors are indeed, only paid on certificates by consultants, they, the consultants, should bear ultimate responsibilities for the projects. I, therefore, want to plead that on no account should consulting engineers compromise quality on any projects they may be working on.

I started this address by indicating my happiness for an opportunity to engage in dialogue with you. I want to plead with your society to establish sustained forum for academic appraisal of issues that can lead to early technological advancement of this country. Of course, the forum has to be academic but it must also be sufficiently practical rather than theoretical. I am confident in my mind that all the governments in the federation will be too willing to pick up the gains that may result from such sustained academic exercise.

I am not unmindful of some of the difficulties and complaints which engineers and other professionals particularly those in the public service have. For example, it is not uncommon to hear complaints that professionals were not being given a fair deal in the public service. Sometimes, the complaint has to do with funding, on other occasions, it may be the problem

of inadequate equipment and facilities. In my opinion, the Civil Service Reform which is being currently implemented has to a large extent, eliminated the problem of frustration in the public service. Under the reform, it is possible to remain yourself and advance to the highest level. More importantly, the point to recognise is that even these difficulties and complaints constitute challenges to which we must positively respond. This is the only country to which we can lay claim. We must, therefore, be ready to develop it even if it means indulging in improvisation in the process of doing so. I think we have a lot to learn from the example of India.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I do not intend to spoil your appetite for the delicious dinner being served us. Rather I want my talk to serve as spice for the food. Hence I am limiting myself to this short address. Thank you very much.

### OYO N.U.J. 1988 PRESS WEEK OPENED

*In the crucial exercise of nation-building, the press should not content itself with the 'watch-dog' role alone, but must take the rightful position among the builders.*

*-- At the Press Centre, Iyaganku, Ibadan on December 12, 1988.*

It is with great pleasure that I accepted your invitation to formally declare open the 1988 Press Week of the State Council of the N.U.J. This occasion should be regarded as one that calls for stock-taking by every journalist, to look back and consider his activities in the past one year. To see how much he has contributed, as an individual or as a member of this enviable profession of journalism, to the overall development of our great country. In Nigeria, the press industry is a vital part of the organic whole, which is the nation. And in the crucial exercise of nation-building, the press should not content itself with the 'watch-dog' role alone, but must take the rightful position among the builders.

The well-being of the press and that of the community which it serves are closely linked. If, for example, as we all hope, the present economic development programme of the Federal Military Government succeeds in generating higher standard of living among our people, this is bound to be reflected in the revenue that will accrue to the press through increased circulation and advertisement patronage. Conversely, if we lose to poverty, the economic repercussion on the press industry will be obvious. If law and order are allowed to break down and violence becomes the order of the day, we can say from the bitter lessons of the past that the media industry, like many other industries, will be thrown into serious jeopardy.

These statements amply emphasize that both the government and the media have complementary role to play in ensuring that peace, harmony and unity must be achieved in this country. I want to appeal to the press, therefore, to note that government and the press are both devoted to the cause

of humanity. They should be seen as comrades-in-arms, recruited to wage war against the enemies of mankind namely, poverty, oppression, injustice, fraud, deceit, diseases, ignorance and rumour-mongering. As comrades-in-arms, the press and government should be able to work together in a spirit of mutual understanding and reciprocity. In order to promote this understanding, every member of the NUJ must learn to be critical without being unfriendly, to be frank without being rude and to be respectful without being apologetic.

On its part, the Government of Oyo State will continue to offer its hand of fellowship to the Oyo State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ). I assure you that the government welcomes objective criticisms, designed towards the enhancement of government policies and programmes. The state government believes in being in constant touch with the people. This is because civilization can only move forward and development can only go on where communication is possible. For this reason, the Government of Oyo State, will continue to support your organisation and ensure that obstacles that may hinder the good performance of your assignment are removed.

As we journey into the Third Republic, the media, you must admit, have a crucial role to play. The Federal Military Government has made it abundantly clear that the Military will hand-over the reins of power to democratically elected governments in the country. One of the processes of handing-over power begins with the lifting of the ban on politics next year. If we shall be frank with ourselves, the media could not be exonerated from the multiplicity of factors that accounted for the fall of the first two Republics. Is it not true that some media practitioners abused their privileged positions and were brazenly partisan in the last two Republics? Under a situation like this, your professional judgement is bound to be affected. As moulders of public opinion, you must assist the rest of us to see events in their true perspective. To manipulate events to suit a group of people, is to do a great disservice to the good intention of the Federal Military Government in fighting the culture of deceit, culture of violence as well as election fraud. Ladies and gentlemen, this is a challenge that must be taken seriously if our nation must be spared the agony of the past malaise.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is my honour and privilege to declare open the 1988 Press Week. I wish you a successful week.

Thank you.

#### OYO N.U.J. 1988 PRESS WEEK CLOSED

*We are lucky to have in Oyo State, a bunch of dedicated young men and women who have toiled night and day to improve on the image of the Nigerian journalist.*

*At the Press Centre, Iyaganku, Ibadan on December 17, 1988.*

Just last Monday, at this same venue, I had the honour of declaring open, the week-long activities to mark the 1988 Press Week of the Nigeria Union

of journalists (N.U.J.), Oyo State Council. It is also my honour today to declare the week closed. But before the closing, I wish to make a few remarks.

If we must not deceive ourselves, some Nigerians tend to hold Journalists with contempt. Some have deep bias, with very serious feelings, that nothing good can come out of their organisation. For instance, some people see you as a band of strange bed-fellows, who quarrel over trivial matters. All these impressions have been proved wrong in Oyo State. We are lucky to have here, a bunch of dedicated young men and women who have toiled night and day, to improve on the image of the Nigerian Journalist.

The N.U.J. in Oyo State, has proved itself a worthy organisation, under the able leadership of Mr. Schinde Dagunduro. The events of the past one week, are good testimonies of the organisational ability of the current executive. For example, you organised "Journalist Family Night", an innovation that brought the wives and children of practising journalists together, to partake in the festivities of the union. I am reliably informed that an idea is being mooted to form "Journalists Wives' Association". This is good for the profession as understanding from individual homes will lead to collective improvement of the union.

Today, we have also witnessed the commissioning of the Executive Chambers of the Union, which the Government of Oyo State assisted in furnishing. The N.U.J. Dome, a relaxation spot, has also been commissioned. So also is the sign-post specially designed to beautify the N.U.J. Press Centre. We have witnessed the foundation laying of the sports hall and the N.U.J. Clinic. I have, myself, been privileged to lay the foundation of an auditorium, which I am told, will seat about 800 people. I wish you speedy completion of the various projects.

Mr. Chairman, members of the N.U.J. Executive, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I have today been honoured with the titles of the Grand Patron and Fellow of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Oyo State Council. As your patron we will jointly seek to promote the greatness of our dear fatherland, Nigeria.

We must now understand that Nigeria needs a new kind of journalism that begins with an objective description of events, but which does not stop at that, but moves to a fair analysis of alternative and practicable solutions. Although there may be occasions when I, as your patron may not agree with you on methods, timing and speed of certain actions, yet, the objectives of government and the media must always be the same, that is, seeking the best for our people.

Perhaps, it is pertinent to emphasize that the functions of the press, among others, is to help build and mobilise support for the political and economic development of the society. Therefore, institutions, philanthropists and individuals should assist the NUJ, Oyo State Council in the execution of its various projects.

At this juncture, I wish to appeal to the Nigerian Press to reciprocate the good gesture of governments institutions and philanthropists by striving for a high degree of professionalism and respect. We should enforce and encourage professional standards in order to justify your call for freedom under the constitution.

I am sincerely grateful for the honour done me and I promise that we shall work together as partners in progress. It is my hope and prayer that we shall all witness, even in greater dimension, the 1989 Press Week. I have the honour and privilege to declare 1988 Press Week in Oyo State closed.

Thank you and God bless.

### ARMED FORCES AND REMEMBRANCE DAY APPEAL WEEK LAUNCHED

*The welfare of ex-servicemen and the widows of the fallen heroes should not be regarded as the sole responsibility of government. It is a duty in which all members of the society have roles to play — Ibadan on January 6, 1989.*

It is with great pleasure that I am here this morning to launch the Armed Forces and Remembrance Day Appeal Week for Oyo State. As you all know, the Appeal Week is usually full of activities. The activities start today and will end on Sunday, 15th January 1989, with the laying of wreaths at the Iddo-Gate Cenotaph in honour of our fallen heroes of the First and Second World Wars and the Nigerian Civil War. This week will witness various activities aimed at demonstrating in practical terms our gratitude to those whose supreme sacrifices have sustained mankind in general and the nationhood of Nigeria in particular. I therefore, urge you to pray fervently this week, and always, for the repose of the souls of our compatriots who made the sacrifice.

The occasion we are celebrating this week also affords us an opportunity to remember the widows, children and dependants of those heroic and gallant soldiers who died in defence of this country and, indeed, of the world at large. As we all know, the widows, children and dependants of such deceased soldiers have been left to face their survival and sustenance all alone. In order that the supreme sacrifices made by the dead soldiers shall not be in vain, we the living, should support their dependants. We pray that God in his infinite mercy will give them the fortitude to bear the loss of their beloved ones.

It is pertinent, on this occasion, to express appreciation to the Nigerian Legion for initiating various programmes such as pension scheme, scholarship, employment scheme, relief programme and rehabilitation schemes for the disabled soldiers who were victims of the various wars. I wish to assure them that the government of this state will continue to support them and will render any assistance that would promote the comfort and happiness of our disabled colleagues and ex-servicemen.

The Federal Military Government recently drew up a comprehensive resettlement and employment policy for the Armed Forces. In addition, the Federal Military Government recently inaugurated a programme of census of ex-servicemen which commenced on 15th November, 1988 and which will end on 31st January, 1989. For the registration exercise, local government headquarters are registration centres and secretaries of local



*Col. Oresanya lays wreath at Iddo Cenotaph during the Armed Forces  
Rememberance Day.*

governments are registration officers. I seize the opportunity of this occasion to call on all ex-servicemen to take advantage of the registration exercise.

As the practice is, every year the Remembrance Day celebration committee makes arrangements for the sale of emblems in connection with the Remembrance Day celebration. I appeal to every member of the public to support the programme by purchasing these emblems and make generous donations to the appeal fund. The welfare of ex-servicemen should not be regarded as the sole responsibility of government. It is a duty in which all members of the society have roles to play.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to launch the 1989 Armed Forces Remembrance Emblem Appeal Week. As a practical demonstration of your support, I appeal to you to donate generously for the copies which are now on sale.

Thank you.

## TWO MEMBERS OF STATE ARMED ROBBERY TRIBUNAL SWORN-IN

*Owing to lack of proper care and guidance, some young men and women start by associating with undesirable elements and late in life join the band wagon of armed robbers. It is to prevent that trend that the state government has embarked on self-employment programmes aimed at ensuring better future for the youths.*

— At the Executive Council Chambers, Ibadan on February 15, 1989.

It will be recalled that in November, 1986, chairmen and members of the re-constituted Oyo State Armed Robbery Tribunals I and II were sworn in. Recently, I was informed that the two police personnel serving on the two tribunals have been posted out of Ibadan. In view of this development, there is need to appoint two other police officers to replace them so that the two tribunals may continue to function without any disruption. Hence, the appointment and the swearing-in of Mr. Ade. Ajakaiye and Mr. C. Obahiagbon.

I want to observe that the current wave of armed robberies can be traced largely to the high incidence of juvenile delinquency. Owing to lack of proper care and guidance, some young men and women start by associating with undesirable elements and later in life join the band-wagon of armed robbers. In spite of the current financial constraints, government has continued to make provisions for the educational development of the youths and in realisation of the fact that the devil finds job for an idle hand, government has embarked on self-employment programmes aimed at ensuring better future for the youths. I, therefore, call on parents and guardians to discipline their children to prevent them from imbibing anti-social behaviours.

I wish to re-emphasise the fact that the task before the chairmen and members of the tribunals is enormous at this crucial period in our national history when the incidence of criminal behaviours had increased tremen-

dously. I am calling on you to dispense justice without fear or favour. This is a time when innocent citizens live in constant fears of armed robbers, day and night and living, generally, has become a nightmare.

On the part of government, no sacrifice will be too much to guarantee the safety of life and property of the citizens. Government will continue to co-operate with the police to ensure that the menace of armed robbery is reduced drastically in Oyo State.

In like manner, I want to call on the people of Oyo State to be vigilant. I appeal to you to furnish the police with useful information about the identities of undesirable elements. The various vigilante groups should be up and doing to complement the usual patrols of the police. There must be a joint effort to curb the activities of armed robbers.

I congratulate the two police officers on their appointment to serve on tribunals I and II respectively. It is my fervent hope that you will co-operate with other members of the tribunals to perform your duties diligently.

Thank you.

### BOY SCOUTS HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

*The age-long mission of the Boy Scouts Movement is to promote honesty, patriotism and hardwork which Nigeria requires for its economic and political survival.*

*— At Government House, Agodi on February 18, 1989.*

I am indeed very happy to be here with you this morning at this opening ceremony of the 1989 Annual General Meeting of the Oyo State Boy Scouts Council. Since this is my first formal meeting with members of the council in 1989, I want to seize this opportunity to wish every member of the council success and happiness in 1989. I also wish the Boy Scouts Movement of Oyo State a successful scouting year.

The boy scouts movement has a long and glorious record of service to humanity. In virtually all parts of the world, including Nigeria, it has helped to develop children and young people morally, spiritually and physically. Such youths have grown into useful members of their societies and have contributed positively to the development of their societies and countries. The movement has had positive influence on the development of Nigeria in the past. I am sure that it can continue to influence the development of Nigeria for good. It is for these reasons that I am happy to be associated with this laudable organisation as the Patron of the Oyo State branch of the Movement.

It is pertinent to recall that the objective of the Boy Scouts Movement is service to God, fellow-men and country. There is need, therefore, to strengthen the movement and also to draw up programmes which will assist youths to achieve the objectives of the movement.

Nigeria is at present faced with economic and political challenges. This period of economic recession in which the nation has found itself has compelled us to realize the need for self-reliance. Nigerians must learn to depend more on themselves and less on foreigners for their basic needs. Nigeria must become a nation of producers rather than a nation of

consumers of foreign goods. Nigeria must evolve its own industrial and agricultural technologies. Our youths must be turned into job producers rather than job seekers. The nation must develop a strong agricultural base and learn to produce food adequately for its ever increasing population. Population growth through a period of political transition from a corrective military rule to civilian administration. Democratic civil rule will not be successful unless the generality of the people appreciate the value of honesty, patriotism and hardwork.

The age-long mission of the Boy Scouts Movement is to promote all those qualities of honesty, patriotism and hardwork which Nigeria requires for its economic and political survival. This is the reason why it is sad that the Boy Scouts Movement is declining rather than developing as it should. It is not growing as fast as it should in Nigeria. Because it is non-sectarian and world-wide in its appearance, it should be encouraged to grow and flourish in Nigeria. The challenge which leaders of the movement face in Nigeria in general and in Oyo State in particular is to ensure that the movement is resuscitated and re-vitalised.



*Gov. Oresanya decorates a scout veteran at the scout camp in Ibadan*

The Government of Oyo State in realization of the need for youth development has always given every possible encouragement to voluntary organisations. Subventions are made annually to deserving youth movements such as the Girls Guide, Boys Brigade, the Sheriff Guards and similar other organisations sponsored by well-meaning groups within the society. The Government of Oyo State will continue to give every possible encouragement to the development of these organisations whose aims are to produce decent and useful citizens.

I hope that in the course of your deliberations, you will address yourselves seriously to the task of revamping the image of the Boy Scouts Movement and also to the task of restoring the movement to the leading position as a youth movement which it once occupied and which it should occupy in the country.

With these few words, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I have great pleasure in declaring this annual general meeting open.

### GOVERNOR ORESANYA GREETES PEOPLE OF OYO STATE AT EASTER

*The Easter season should be a period of devotion, self-sacrifice, self-discipline and for searching of hearts among Christians – Easter message on March 25, 1989.*

I send this goodwill Eastern message to all the people of Oyo State particularly Christians to whom the festival is of supreme importance. The Easter festival commemorates the triumph of Jesus Christ over tribulations and death.

Since the beginning of the Lenten Season on Ash Wednesday, Christians all over the world have been engaged in fasting and supplications to God in a spirit of sober reflections. In many churches, the commemoration of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem by Jesus and the consequent events of the Passion Week were re-enacted with absolute faith.

The Easter season should be a period of devotion, self-sacrifice, self-discipline and the inward searching of hearts among Christians. This is particularly so in our country today when it is remembered that we are going through economic crunch and transition to civil rule. We should all re-dedicate ourselves to cope with our social and economic problems.

As we rejoice during this Easter season, let us remember the lesson of Easter, the lesson of the Saviour who made the supreme sacrifice by laying down his life.

As citizens of this state, and in the spirit of Easter, let us re-dedicate ourselves to the service of the country and the upliftment of our fellow men. We should remember the poor, the handicapped and the under-privileged in our society, and learn to be our brother's keeper.

I wish you all happy celebrations.

## BOARD OF SKETCH LIMITED INAUGURATED

*The board is not to serve as a censor, rather it is to further promote the dissemination of information and also to ensure that all the nooks and corners of the country and beyond get to be informed of happenings promptly and adequately.*

AT THE EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS, IBADAN ON JUNE 5, 1989

Following the lift of the ban placed on partisan politics announced recently by the President and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, President Ibrahim Babangida, we have all witnessed the emergence of several political associations. As the country marches forward in its avowed commitment to the implementation of the political transition programme however, there is greater need for control to make the change of baton by the Military to the civilians very smooth.

It is in pursuance of the above objective that this board is being inaugurated. The board is not being inaugurated to serve as a censor, rather it is being inaugurated to further promote the dissemination of information and to



*Col. Oresanya going through a copy of the Daily Sketch during his official visit to the Sketch Press Ltd.*

ensure that all the nooks and corners of the country and beyond get to be informed of happenings promptly and adequately. The board is also to ensure a balanced coverage and reporting of events.

Let me emphasise once more the need for political actors in the Third Republic to be tolerant of one another and to play the game according to the rules, since the survival of the Third Republic depends on them more than anyone else. This administration, on its part, will do everything possible to ensure that the foundation for a stable political structure is laid.

I enjoin the members of the board to meet as regularly as possible so as to achieve the aims and objectives for which the board has been inaugurated. The newspapers in the stable of the Sketch Publications are renewed for fair and fearless commentaries and I enjoin the board to keep these lofty ideals up. To the chairman, Mrs. Ronke Okusanya, and the other members of the board, I charge you to bring your professional expertise, which have been demonstrated by your track records in journalism, to bear on the successful execution of the tasks of the board.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour to inaugurate the Board of the Sketch Limited to the glory of God and the further enhancement of the information machine. y in our society.

Thank you and God bless you all.

#### MUSLIM INTENDING PILGRIMS WARNED

*Intending muslim pilgrims from the State were warned to resist the temptation of carrying any hard drugs as drug trafficking in Saudi Arabia attracts death penalty - In Ibadan on June 24, 1989.*

I feel highly delighted to have this opportunity to address you on the eve of your departure to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for this year's hajj. Pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina is one of the five pillars on which Islam rests as a religion. Although it is not compulsory that Muslims should undertake the holy pilgrimage, particularly where there is financial constraint, yet, there is hardly any devout Muslim who does not dream of getting to the holy land in his life time. It is for this reasons that you must regard yourselves as fortunate that the Almighty Allah has granted you, not only the will, but also the health and the means of performing this great religious task.

Going by the immediate past performance of the state's contingent to Mecca and Medina under the current board, it is perhaps not necessary for me to give you some charges about what you should do and what you should eschew. Through the dedicated service of the chairman and members of the board and the discipline of the pilgrims, this state recorded the best performance throughout the federation last year. This is indeed a very high standard and you as ambassadors of this state and indeed of the whole country, should do everything possible to guard this enviable position jealously.

To be able to do this, you should acquaint yourselves with the codes of conduct for an intending pilgrim. It is expected that every one of you should concern himself or herself solely, with the object of your mission and avoid obnoxious activities in their entirety. You should not do anything that can embarrass the Federal Military Government or bring the nation into disrepute. You should conform with the laws of your host country. Let me remind you that in Saudi Arabia, drug trafficking attracts death penalty. I, therefore, warn you seriously, to resist the temptation of carrying any hard drugs. In short, you are enjoined to follow the foot-steps of your predecessors and strive to improve on their performance.

The nation is passing through critical times and it behoves every well meaning Nigerian to cooperate with the Federal Military Government in the on-going efforts to improve the situation and put the economy on a sound footing. In their bid to acquire material wealth at all cost, some Nigerians give this nation very bad image, at home and abroad. This pilgrimage offers a unique opportunity for you to reverse the trend. The qualities you radiate, the way you relate to pilgrims from other parts of the world and your comportment generally, will be a reflection on your country and assist in people's assessment of Nigerians. The attributes of peace, honesty and discipline which are enshrined in the Holy Quran must be brought to bear in your performance of this hajj.

Finally, I urge you to pray fervently for the peace, progress and stability of Nigeria so that the transition to civil rule programme of the Federal Military Government may be implemented without hitch. I wish you safe journey to the Holy Land and happy return to your fatherland.

#### INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL TRANSITION PROGRAMME INAUGURATED

*The primary responsibility of the committee is to ensure that the transition programme is implemented without any hitch or deviation from its widely-disseminated laudable objectives.*

*— In Ibadan on July 12, 1969.*

On Friday, 19th May of this year, I inaugurated a five-member transition committee for the take-off of the 18 newly-created local governments in Oyo State. Reports reaching me confirm that the committee has commenced its work in earnest. Today, it is the Inter-Departmental Committee on Political Transition Programme which I am launching. The committee will serve as the apex and co-ordinator of all the political transition activities in Oyo State under the chairmanship of the Director-General for Political and Security Matters.

The primary responsibility of the committee is to ensure that the transition programme is implemented without any hitch or deviation from its widely-disseminated laudable objectives. The programme is so paramount that no agency of government can afford to toy with it. You will observe that, in consonance with the transition programme, the process of registra-

tion of political parties has begun with the ultimate plan of granting recognition by National Electoral Commission (NEC) to two of them that can meet the conditions already specified. You are also aware that the two parties to be eventually recognised will be funded by the Federal Military Government as a way of preventing them from being influenced or controlled by wealthy or self-centred political aspirants. It is important to recall further that, as part of the transition programme, training programme has been arranged for officers who will constitute the nucleus of the legislative staff at Federal and State levels. Seminars and workshops are also being mounted as a way of complementing the training programme. Through the activities enumerated above, the Doubting Thomases in our midst can now convince themselves that the Federal Military Government has not only provided the necessary tools, but has laid solid groundworks required for an effective and hitch-free implementation of the transition programme.

Your committee has to harness all available resources with a view to making a success of the programme. It is in this regard that MAMSER, NEC, National Population Commission (NPC) and the Political Affairs Department of the Office of the Military Governor are represented on the committee. You should not fail to realise that citizens of Oyo State are not only articulate, but are more conscious of their rights and privileges than ever before. We are now in an era when no one can be taken for a ride. This, therefore, represents a big challenge which your committee must accept with full dedication and rightness. You should ensure that neither religion, ethnicity nor the bitterness that characterized the politics of the past is used by any political organization or aspirant to present their manifestoes. It is equally expected that your committee will not be seen as providing either overt or covert support for any of the political aspirants. At the same time, pronouncements or activities that savour of extremist, fanaticism or those capable of splitting communities into bitter political divisions are discouraged.

You are men of proven ability and competence in whom I have full confidence. It is, therefore, your duty to ensure that the transition programme is carried out in an orderly and peaceful manner and without any fear or favour. Bearing in mind that the way and manner you handle this assignment will constitute a legacy for the in-coming generations. You should feel free to meet me as occasions demand and I wish to assure you that the state military administration will not hesitate to assist in making your assignment a huge success.

I congratulate you on your appointment.

Thank you all.

## 1989 EID--EL--KABIR GOODWILL MESSAGE SENT

*In the midst of merriment, therefore, we must all resolve to strengthen our faith, to repose our confidence wholly in Allah and to strive to do His will all the days of our lives.*

*— Ibadan on July 12, 1989.*

On the occasion of the celebration of Eid-El-Kabir. I am happy to send warm greeting to all Muslims and the generality of the people of Oyo State. The festival of Eid-El-Kabir popularly known as the Greater Bieram is a time of rejoicing and thanksgiving to Allah.

It is customary that on this occasion, thousands of rams will be slaughtered in commemoration of the sacrifice made by Ibrahim in obedience to Allah's command. But more important than the sacrifice of rams are the great lessons which the festival teaches us. It was through faith, obedience and sincerity that Ibrahim found favour with Allah. In the midst of merriment, therefore, we must all resolve to strengthen our faith, to repose our confidence wholly in Allah and to strive to do His will all the days of our lives. By so doing, we shall find peace for ourselves, our nation and the world at large.

At this time of rejoicing, we must not forget our brothers and sisters who have gone on holy-pilgrimage to Mecca. May Allah accept the supreme act of worship which they are making and may He guide and protect them to return to us safely.

I take this opportunity of this festive mood to enjoin all Muslims and non-Muslims throughout Oyo State to cooperate with government in the efforts currently being made to cushion the effects of the Structural Adjustment Programme. You are also enjoined to cooperate with government to ensure a peaceful transition to civil rule.

Once again, I rejoice with the whole Muslim community and non-Muslims in Oyo State on this happy occasion in thanking God that we have lived to see another Eid-El-Kabir. Let us resolve that we shall live and work throughout the coming year as men and women worthy of Allah's grace.

Barka-De-Sallah.

## MAIDEN ILEYA GET-TOGETHER HELD

*This administration believes in Godliness as an essential instrument of social integration and progress.*

*At Government House, Ibadan on July 14, 1989.*

Salaam Aleikum, Wara Motulai, Wabarakatul.

It gives me great pleasure to be amongst you this evening, on the occasion of the first-ever Ileya get-together to take place here in the Government House. No doubt, this is an epoch-making occasion which is intended, like the Christmas party, to be an annual event from now on. The idea is to give our Muslim brothers, sisters and children a sense of belonging, in line with this administration's policy of no discrimination against any religion, and, of equity and fairness to all.

This administration believes in Godliness, as an essential instrument of social integration and progress. To this end, we take advantage of the religious festivals to identify with the deep-rooted beliefs of our peoples. Such as the faith underlying the '*Idul Adha*', in reawakening in the young and the old, those values that will make our society peaceful and harmonious, and consequently build a great country. The spirit of sacrifice and mercy which this festival teaches are, no doubt, among those that we cherish and earnestly desire in our society today and at all times. A get-together, such as this, will surely provide an opportunity for recalling such values.

Moreover, such a gathering also affords an opportunity for interaction amongst different strata of our society, and for relaxation in the festival mood. It also serves as a forum for meeting our Muslim children, drawn from a cross-section of our society.

As a believer myself, I wish to take this opportunity to appeal to you, to forge mutual understanding and tolerance amongst the various religious groups in the state. All religious leaders in the state should do everything possible to avoid intolerance and discord. They should feel free to make their views known to government, in a constitutional manner. I wish to assure you that this administration is always ready to give an ear to view points and stands for justice and fair play.

I also wish to implore you to appeal to our people at your congregational worship, for clear understanding of the measures taken by government to effect a structural adjustment of our economy. While people are free to express their views, they should try to do so lawfully, abhorring violence, which is like an ill-wind that blows nobody any good.

I wish you all a happy '*Idul-Adha*', and many happy returns of the Greater Beiram, the Ileya festival. Ma Salam.

*Ekun odun, Eku Iyedun, Odun a ya'bo. Ase yi s'amodun.* Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, Thank you.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAMME CLOSED

*The introduction of the scheme to all the states of the federation is an indication that the present Military administration is committed to set Nigeria on a glorious path to rapid industrialisation—At Parliament Buildings, Ibadan on August 12, 1988.*

I have great pleasure in welcoming you all to the closing ceremony for the Entrepreneurship Development/Working For Yourself Programme, Oyo State Chapter. This programme was opened on the 24th June, 1988. Thereafter, twenty-five candidates finally selected from all but two local government areas, after a series of screening and interviews, began an eight week training course. I must quickly add that the two local governments not represented in this batch was due to poor or no response from the affected areas.

During the period of the training course, participants had been exposed to various aspects of problems and prospects associated with the establishment and management of business enterprises with particular emphasis on small scale businesses. The training course covered lectures, tutorials, group discussions, field surveys and several assignments. Rigorous as the programme might appear, I have no doubt that the participants had had a good session and enjoyed themselves during the course. There is a clear indication that the scheme is bound to be a success since all that starts well ends well. In this regard, I wish to commend the efforts of the Director and members of staff of the Centre for Industrial Research and Development, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and the team of trainer/motivators drawn from various institutions for a job well done.

I must also recognise and commend the good gestures of the Federal Military Government for providing the guarantee for the credit scheme, as well as for financing the bill for this EDP/Working For Yourself Training Programme. The introduction of the scheme to all the states of the federation is an indication that the present Military administration is committed to set Nigeria on a glorious path to rapid industrialization. In the same vein, the acceptance by the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry (NBCI) to disburse and administer the loan and relax the conditionalities attached to the loan is a decision worthy of commendation. I wish, therefore, to assure all institutions concerned that Oyo State Government on its part will do everything possible to make the scheme a model for other states to emulate.

This programme is aimed at:

- (i) Developing the entrepreneurial skill among Nigerians;
- (ii) Encouraging self-employment thus reducing unemployment among Nigerians;
- (iii) Encouraging effective utilization of the country's natural resources which had hitherto remained undeveloped; and
- (iv) Ensuring general improvement of the nation's economy through conservation of foreign exchange earnings.

With these objectives at the back of our minds, and realising the fact that Nigeria is blessed with abundant manpower and natural resources, it must be stated here that industrialization is the wheel of progress and no nation ever prospers without putting the natural resources at its disposal into effective use. You will all agree with me that it is logical to crawl before we run, hence the decision to start with a small-scale approach will no doubt bring into reality our industrial goal and aspirations.

The importance of self-employment cannot be over emphasised especially at this time when the economic crisis is characterised by unemployment of human and natural resources. We are all witnesses to the cause of our economic predicament. Over the past few years the public sector has always been the major employer of labour. The oil boom era in the mid-seventies and the subsequent migration of people from rural areas to urban centres in search of paid employment further compounded the problem. The associated drastic change of taste in favour of foreign goods led to massive importation of foreign goods and services to the extent that our local resources were left to rot away. The resultant effect of this gross mismanagement of the nation's economy drained our foreign reserve within a short period of time and the nation finds itself in a very difficult economic situation.

Like a lost sheep, we need to retrace our steps and it is in realization of this that the present Military administration both at the Federal and State levels considered it appropriate to start from a low profile approach in providing solution to our economic problems. In recent times a number of schemes aimed at strengthening our industrial base were introduced at both Federal and State levels. These include Federal Government and State Government financed Graduate Industrial Self-Employment Schemes and the Open Apprenticeship Training Programmes for Secondary School Leavers. There are also similar programmes in the agricultural sector which are aimed at providing food and industrial raw materials.

The advantage of these self-employment schemes is that a lot of projects could be accommodated at relatively low capital out-lay. Their multiplicity will no doubt facilitate wide-spread even development as well as the fact that small-scale enterprises require simple management skills which is the best for our present situation. Similar schemes have always been faced with several abuses the greatest of which is wilful loan default. The financial assistance is meant to be revolving in nature. And I am sure several others will benefit from this scheme.

It is essential at this juncture to repeat the advice that the beneficiaries of this programme should make the best use of the golden opportunities made available to them. You should also realise that this is one of the rare opportunities a repeat of which you may never come by again. I hope the participants will adhere strictly to the lessons they have learnt during the programme and put the new ideas they have acquired into practical use in their operation. I will, therefore, urge you to put into your individual projects all you can to make it successful. I wish to give every assurance that in Oyo State we are prepared to make judicious use of any assistance rendered to us.

Finally, Honourable Minister, State Commissioners and Members of the State Executive Councils, My Lords Spiritual and Temporal, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour to formally present the certificate of participation to the candidates.

Thank you all.

## FEDERATION ACCOUNT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE ADDRESSED

*Given the nation's desire to diversify its revenue sources, the nation's other mineral resources should be exploited and used for State classification apart than oil. In the case of Oyo State, there is a large deposit of gold not being exploited, which should qualify her as a mineral producing State.*

*At the Federation Account Allocation Committee meeting held at Premier Hotel, Ibadan, on September 16, 1988.*

I heartily welcome all delegates to Ibadan, one of the most populous cities in Africa, on the occasion of this meeting of the Federation Account Allocation Committee. It is really a great pleasure for the Government and people of Oyo State to play host to such a galaxy of economic and financial experts of the public sector as are here gathered. I will like to seize this opportunity to re-assure you that this state has always held your committee in high esteem, being the nation's highest body on the allocation of revenue from the Federation Account to all tiers of government. Since my assumption of duty as the Military Governor of this state, I have been reliably informed that your committee has been alternating your meetings between Lagos and each of the state capitals. This rotational meeting is, to my mind, a product of wise decision which serves the purpose of giving members of this august body the opportunity of visiting as many states as possible and interacting with the people of the respective states. Members are thereby opportunity to familiarise themselves with prospects and problems of the states other than their own.

I am quite aware that the assignment that has brought you together is of such national importance that affects every citizen of our great country. It is in realisation of this that I wish to draw your attention to some salient points for your consideration. In doing this, permit me to make a kind of introductory remark. "Oyo is one of the most urbanised states in the federation". Hence, budgetary allocation to finance specific needs of the people, which are necessary to justify government existence, has always been a sort of unavoidable commitment. For example, in the field of education, Oyo State has about 3,000 public primary schools, 700 secondary schools, 6 technical colleges, 8 grade II teachers' colleges, 3 colleges of education, 1 college of arts and science and a polytechnic with 4 satellite campuses. Consequently, about 40% of its annual budget is consumed by the education sector. I made particular reference to education to lend support to the Federal Government's recent pronouncement on the funding of primary school education, which if operative will, in part, bring about a new revenue sharing formula, a topical issue. I will not go on to suggest a new formula,

rather I want to believe that if states are relieved of the burden of financing primary school education, additional revenue will be available to states for execution of their capital programmes.

One other area of the revenue sharing formula which I will urge you to take an in-depth look at is the issue of classification of states as mineral producing or otherwise. At present only oil is regarded as eligible mineral for state classification. Given the nation's desire to diversify its revenue sources, other mineral resources should be exploited and used for classifying states. In the case of Oyo State, there is a large deposit of gold now being exploited, which should qualify Oyo for classification as a mineral producing state.

I learnt that at present, your committee meets every month mainly to approve the recommendation of the technical sub-committee on the allocation of revenue accruing into the Federation Account. Given the present state of our economy, I am convinced that the nation can derive greater benefits from a meeting of your committee if your deliberations go beyond the routine task of money sharing into the realms of national economic and financial policy formulation, recommendation and implementation. I look forward to your committee being given these additional responsibilities. I am making this suggestion with due deference to the existence of the resuscitated Conference of the Minister and Commissioners responsible for Finance and Economic Planning. I am convinced that regular nature of your committee's meeting would in small measure assist you in discussing at regular and timely intervals, urgent matters of national interest than you would at the conference which meets once or twice a year.

Another area which calls for attention is your additional responsibilities as Chief Executives and Accounting Officers under the new Civil Service Reform. At your subsequent meetings, thoughts should be shared on a uniform approach for the husbandry of the nation's financial resources under the new dispensation. I believe this will assist this administration in the realisation of the laudable objectives of the reform.

I have in this address raised certain issues for your in-depth discussion. I hope you will apply your experience and expertise in tackling the issues of improving the quality of life of every Nigerian. I, however, appreciate that these are weighty issues to which you may not find ready solutions here.

Honourable Minister, State Commissioners, other officials, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is a singular honour and privilege to declare open the September 1988 Meeting of the Federation Account Allocation Committee, the first ever in Oyo State. While wishing you a session of fruitful deliberation I invite you to find time out of your usually tight schedule to visit places of interest, meet old friends and make new acquaintances, so that at the end of it all, your stay will be more rewarding. I also wish you safe journey back to your various destinations.

## BETTER LIFE FAIR FOR RURAL DWELLERS HELD

*Patronising of home-made goods is a measure of our patriotism. It is such encouragement that can ultimately lead to improved standards.*

*At the First National Better Life Fair for the Rural Dwellers at Tafawa Balewa Square, Lagos on September 18, 1988.*

It gives me great pleasure to be present at this historic occasion of the first ever national fair organised under the Better Life for Rural Dwellers Programme. As we all very well remember, this programme was launched during a workshop held at Abuja from 13th to 16th September, 1987 by Nigeria's First Lady, Mrs. Maryam Babangida. Since its inception, this programme has mobilised efforts aimed at improving the lot of rural dwellers. For initiating this significant step, I join all Nigerians in congratulating and thanking Mrs. Babangida and her team of able lieutenants and advisers.

Since the inauguration of the programme at Abuja, men and women in all the 21 states of the federation have embraced the programme. The Oyo State chapter of the programme was launched with great fanfare and ceremony at the historic Liberty Stadium, Ibadan on Thursday, 10th December, 1987. Women from each of the 24 local government areas of the state floated colourful exhibitions of the various crafts and agricultural/industrial products of their areas. As a follow-up to the exhibition, a "Better Life Programme for the Rural Women" was initiated in the state. The state committee for the programme, after a familiarisation tour of the state, made an assessment of the needs of each of the 24 local government areas of the state and submitted appropriate recommendations, including possible projects, to the state government for consideration and possible implementation.

The fact that we are now commemorating the anniversary of the Abuja programme with this national fair is indeed a sign of the dynamism of the leadership of the programme. It is also an evidence that under the already acknowledged able leadership, Nigerian women are now determined to work with men to contribute their quota to Nigeria's economic and social development. Agriculture forms the bedrock of rural development in Oyo State. And about 70% of Nigerians live in these rural areas. With the beautiful array of articles on display, it is abundantly confirmed that all the states of the federation are richly endowed with abundant food, cash crops and raw materials. The country's main problem is lack of know-how for the best utilisation of the many raw materials with which we are endowed. There is need, therefore, to develop existing rural industries and initiate new agro-allied small-scale industries all over the country in order to provide gainful employment for all our people. For a start, Oyo State Government has provided funds for the establishment of 11 rural projects in the six administrative zones of the state.

Examples of these are as follows:

- |        |                                |   |                              |
|--------|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| (i)    | Iwo (Adana)                    | ) |                              |
| (ii)   | Irewole                        | ) |                              |
| (iii)  | Ila (Kajola-Alagbede)          | ) |                              |
| (iv)   | Atakumosa (Alusekere)          | ) | Palm Oil Processing Industry |
| (v)    | Lagelu (Alakia/Isebo)          | ) |                              |
| (vi)   | Oyo (Sabo)                     | ) |                              |
| (vii)  | Iseyin (Ipapo Farm Settlement) | ) | Gari Processing Industry     |
| (viii) | Ogbomoso                       | ) |                              |
| (ix)   | Osogbo                         | ) |                              |
| (x)    | Ifedapo                        | ) | Corn Milling Industry        |
| (xi)   | Kajola (Okeho)                 | - | Craft Centre                 |

Government efforts alone in this direction cannot satisfy the needs of the rural areas. I, therefore, seize this opportunity to appeal to indigent entrepreneurs to establish industries in the rural areas. By so doing, we shall help to develop the rural areas. We shall also help to minimise the problem of urban congestion and its attendant evils.

At this juncture, I wish to acknowledge the contributions of several agencies and people of goodwill, not only of Oyo State origin, but also international organisations such as the International Institute for Tropical

Agriculture (IITA) Ibadan, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Ford Foundation, Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO) and Pan African Institute for Development (PAID). All these organisations have come to the aid of our womenfolk by imparting useful skills and facilities to them.

Once again, I wish on behalf of the people of Oyo State to thank Mrs. Maryam Babangida, and her able advisers, for the dynamic leadership which they have provided for this laudable programme. I am sure that this dynamic leadership will be sustained and that in the end, life will be made considerably happier and better for all the rural dwellers of this blessed country.

In conclusion, I also want to appeal to all Nigerians to patronise home-made goods in spite of observed shortcomings. It is a measure of our patriotism to patronise home-made goods. It is also through such encouragement that we can achieve improvement of such goods.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I want to assure you once again that the Government of Oyo State will do everything within the limits of its resources to improve the living conditions of the rural dwellers in Oyo State. I, therefore, call on all those present to patronise Oyo State-made goods and to contribute generously in cash and kind to Oyo State Better Life Programme for Rural Dwellers.

Thank You.



*Oyo State Day at the opening of the first Better Life Fair in Lagos*



*Mrs. Dorothy Oresanya admires a big tuber of yam on display by Oyo State exhibitors in Ibadan before departure for Better Life Fair in Lagos.*

## BCOS FOURTH HOME-MADE GOODS EXHIBITION OPENED

*Exhibition of this nature assist the promotion of commercial activities as well as foster exchange of ideas among producers and consumers.*

*At the BCOS Premises, Orita-Bashorun, Ibadan on September 29, 1988.*

I am highly delighted to be here this morning to declare open the 4th home-made goods exhibition organised by the Broadcasting Corporation of Oyo State (BCOS). The Broadcasting Corporation of Oyo State is a unique establishment of the state government. Apart from performing its traditional functions creditably, it has assisted industrialists and producers of home-made goods in recent years to promote their goods through specialised exhibitions thereby complementing government efforts to improve the living standard of the citizenry. I commend the efforts of the organisers for their vision and innovativeness in organising this home-made goods exhibition.

Exhibitions of this nature assist the promotion of commercial activities as well as foster exchange of ideas among producers and consumers. The industrialists and consumers are thus able to make useful business contacts and acquaint themselves with new products and latest developments in technology. I am reliably informed that the BCOS, has decided to sustain this exhibition as an annual event because of its belief in the need to educate our people and create general awareness that survival of this nation depends on our readiness to utilize our resources both for domestic consumption and exports with a view to boosting our foreign exchange earnings and reducing our dependence on foreign goods.

It will be recalled that in the seventies and early eighties when there was oil boom the response of Nigerians was characterised by excessive propensity for imported raw materials and capital goods, massive promotion of foreign goods by the distributive sector and over-consumption of such goods by the citizenry. The economy found itself in a vicious circle of import dependence and acquisition of alien cultures. No responsive and responsible government will fold its arms and watch the nation drift like a rudderless ship. In the light of our painful experience, the present Military administration decided to redress the structural malaise and sensitize the economy in the path of health and recovery with emphasis on local sourcing of raw materials for our industries, the adoption of appropriate technologies in the production processes, development of capital goods and intermediate goods' industries and development of final goods to satisfy local consumer needs. To achieve the desired goal, the cooperation and commitment of every Nigerian cannot be over emphasised. We must all work conscientiously and assiduously to guarantee our survival by making the best use of our local resources.

I understand the theme of this exhibition is, "Looking Inwards for Economic Recovery". The theme is apposite and tries to press home the message of the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP). More than ever before our manufacturers and industrialists should look inwardly to source for their raw materials in the production processes. I appeal to fellow Nigerians in the private sector to be loyal and dedicated to the national cause to ensure that the efforts of government at the various levels to change the course of the Nigeria's economic history are not in vain.

I will appeal to our manufacturers and industrialists to strain efforts to ensure that what they produce for their fellow Nigerians compare favourably in quality with those imported materials so that Nigerians can have value for their money. The Standard Organisation of Nigeria and Nigeria's Exporters Consultative Council have a major role to perform in order to ensure that our home-made goods are of high quality and favourably meet with international standards. They also have the onerous duty of putting in check those manufacturers who in their wanton desire to get rich quick and maximise profits, have the propensity to produce sub-standard goods. Ladies and gentlemen, high quality goods which are of international standards will have the positive effect of satisfying the aspirations of several loyal Nigerians who want this country to develop its export economies and become one of the most highly industrialised countries of the world.

By going round the pavilions, you will be treated to a variety of goods and services some of which are agricultural and food production items, consumer goods like carpet under-lay and foam industry, printing materials, shoes and leather works, textiles, garment industry, detergent and soap industry, plastics and paints; industrial and production machinery like machines and plants, metals and aluminiums and services like College of Research in African Medicine and Federal Institute of Industrial Research (FIRO), Osodi. In order that you might be fair to yourselves, I advise that you visit all the pavilions so that you might know what your fellow Nigerians are capable of producing.

Once more, I congratulate the BCOS for organising this impressive 4th home-made goods exhibition and I thank all the participants for the interest shown in the exhibition.

Thank you. God bless.

## GOVERNOR ORESANYA OPENS TRADE FAIR

*Governor Oresanya regards smuggling of banned goods and flirtation with foreign cultures and values as vices which must be eradicated in the national interest. He also encourages Nigerians to place emphasis on primary agricultural produce, processed industrial products and high quality works of art for purpose of turning Nigeria's economic tide to national advantage. At the Ogun State Trade Fair, Abeokuta on September 30, 1988.*

I am pleased to be here this afternoon to welcome you all, on behalf of the Government and people of Oyo State, to the Oyo State Day within the on-going 3rd Ogun State Made-In-Nigeria Goods Trade Fair. The Council

of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ogun State, has been consistent and forceful in the national crusade of projecting to the outside business world that Nigerians are capable of salvaging this country from its economic predicament through self-reliance. I commend the efforts of the organisers of the fair for their commitment and achievements in the gargantuan task of changing the course of Nigeria's economic history.

Over the years, trade fairs have come to occupy a unique position in the promotion of commercial activities and exchange of ideas. As you are well aware, fairs afford both manufacturers and consumers the opportunity of making useful business contacts and acquainting themselves with new products and latest developments in technology. It is indeed an opportunity to which investors look forward for the promotion of their goods and services. Like trade fairs in other parts of the country, your efforts in this direction in recent years have succeeded in generating the much needed awareness and considerable interest among business persons and investors all over about investment and business opportunities which exist in this state.

We are all living witnesses to the state of our economy and the efforts being mustered by the present administration to sensitize the economy to the path of recovery and growth. Although the journey might be seemingly rough as it calls for sacrifice from all, the efforts of government at the various levels will be justified in no distant future when the economy is put back on sound footing. We only need to be loyal and dedicated to this noble cause whilst we also need to eschew those vices like smuggling of banned goods and flirtation with European cultures and values which undercut the good intentions of government. We should as well forge ahead with fortitude in the atmosphere of peaceful co-existence in the interest of this nation and future generation. For if we backslide or take any other retrograde step, our initial efforts and sacrifices may not achieve the desired objectives.

We need to build on our internal resources through an aggressive internal and external trade which should place emphasis on those economic activities capable of propelling the country to the stage of self-reliance. Our primary agricultural produce, processed industrial products and high quality works of arts should enjoy massive exportation if we are to change the turn of tide for better. Most Nigerians are not aware of what their fellow men can produce. Constant floating of made-in-Nigeria goods trade fairs backed by aggressive marketing strategy will make Nigerians in other parts of the country know the services and goods available within the country. I only wish to appeal to manufacturers and industrialists to produce those goods of very high quality that can sustain the interest of Nigerians in home-made goods and dissuade those with a flair for imported materials. Furthermore, prices placed on such goods and services should be reasonable. At the same time, Nigerians should display their absolute sense of loyalty and commitment to the national cause so that Nigeria can be made a pride of place for us all.

Today is Oyo State Day. By going round the pavilions within this com-

plex, participants will be adequately informed about the agricultural and industrial potential of Oyo State and other states participating. Apart from promoting our goods and services and securing markets for them, this occasion also affords us the opportunity of exploring new areas of business ventures that can strengthen the existing trade links between Oyo State and other states of the federation. Visitors to Oyo State stand will be treated to a variety of home-made goods ranging from Oyo State calabash carvings, ceramics, leather works, traditional *aso-oke* and a host of other products made from agricultural produce in the state.

I wish to mention at this juncture that the Ibadan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in co-operation with the State Government and Ife, Osogbo and Oyo Chambers of Commerce and Industry has finalised arrangements to float its 2nd Made-In-Nigeria Goods Trade Fair at the Permanent Trade Fair Complex, Sango, Ibadan as from Friday, 21st to Sunday, 30th October, 1988. I, therefore, seize this opportunity to invite all the participants in this trade fair, other industrialists and investors from all parts of the country to come and exhibit their goods and services at the forth-coming Oyo State Trade Fair.

Once more I congratulate the Ogun State Council of Chamber of Commerce and Industry for its vision for organising the 3rd Ogun State Made-In-Nigeria Goods Trade Fair. I also thank all the participants for sparing their time to witness Oyo State Day.

Thank you.

## DECLARING OPEN THE SECOND OYO STATE TRADE FAIR

*Our survival as a nation lies in local sourcing of raw materials for our industries and adoption of appropriate technology that requires local inputs in the production processes.*

*At the opening of the Second Oyo State Made-in-Nigeria Trade Fair in Ibadan on October 21, 1988*

On behalf of the Government and people of Oyo State, I am delighted to welcome you all to the Second Oyo State Made-In-Nigeria Goods Trade Fair organised by the Ibadan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in co-operation with other Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Oyo, Ife and Osogbo. I congratulate the Ibadan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other Chambers in the state for their sense of vision, innovativeness and commitment to the promotion of economic activities in the state.

It is almost two years ago that Ibadan Chamber of Commerce and Industry obtained the mandate of the Federal Military Government to organise the First Oyo State Made-in-Nigeria Goods Trade Fair. Convinced of its role as a facilitator of socio-economic development of the state, government released a sum of N306,660 to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the erection of permanent structures at this site. It is gratifying to note that the intentions of government in this direction are being realised. Apart from the major fairs being organised by the chamber, a few

private organisations have organised specialised exhibitions at this site. It is hoped that other organisations within the private sector will make use of the opportunity offered by the complex.

Since I assumed office as the Military Governor, I wish to aver that reports reaching me about the activities of organised private groups like the Ibadan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other Chambers in Ife, Oyo and Osogbo, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) and the Association of Small-Scale Industrialists (NASSI) and co-operative societies are reassuring. The role of the organised private sector to sustain the pace of industrial and economic development in the state cannot be over-emphasised. Floating of Made-In-Nigeria Goods Trade Fair is one of such activities which provide a forum for producers and consumers to exchange ideas and technological know-how as well as engender a sense of awareness among the business communities about the resources and potentialities in the state.

We are all witnesses to the efforts of the present Military administration to sensitize the economy in the path of recovery and growth which is dictated by the circumstance of the time. Ours is a nation bedevilled by a myriad of vices within a tottering economy. Convinced by its sense of mission to redress the structural malaise and give the nation a purposeful leadership, this administration decided to break the vicious circle. Some of the fiscal measures introduced by this administration to put the economy on a sound footing, found expression in the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) and its financial fulcrum, FEM. Although the road to achieve greatness might be seemingly rough because it calls for sacrifice, and commitment from all Nigerians, it is certain that we are now moving in the right direction and the effects on the economy in the long run will be real.

I am reliably informed that the theme of this year's fair is "Survival through Self-reliance". This theme is not only apposite, but gives the resume of what should be at the minds of all Nigerians. At present, our

industrial structure and consumption pattern as we now have cannot be sustained without an abundant and steady flow of foreign exchange, and the reality of the situation is that we do not have a steady flow of foreign exchange, therefore, it is absolutely necessary to restructure our production and consumption patterns in line with what we can reasonably support with minimum reliance on foreign exchange. This means that our production and consumption patterns must be internalised so that our economic system might be more self-reliant. We need to survive as a nation and do away with flirtation with foreign cultures and values. Our survival lies in local sourcing of raw materials for our industries, adoption of appropriate technology that requires local inputs in the production processes, development of capital and intermediate goods for export and production of final goods to satisfy local needs.

We need to build our internal resources through an aggressive internal and external trade which should place emphasis on those economic activities capable of propelling the country to a stage of self reliance. Our local resources, capital goods and semi finished goods and high quality works of

arts and crafts must enjoy massive exportation. Constant floating of trade fairs backed up by aggressive marketing strategy will not only disseminate technological information but also assist the industrialists and producers to get ready markets for their goods. Consequently, the producers will get material rewards for their efforts and motivation to apply themselves further.

I will appeal to manufacturers and industrialists to be patriotic in their day-to-day operations and produce such goods of very high quality that can sustain the interest of Nigerians in home-made goods.

Participants at this fair, research institutes and universities particularly those located in this part of the country should meticulously take out of new local inventions and technologies whilst going round the pavilions and develop on them. We should not allow the opportunities offered by the fair to slip off. Its gains must be concretised.

On our part, I want to assure the organised private sector that government will always provide the necessary supportive assistance to enhance the promotion of economic and industrial development of the state.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour and privilege to formally declare open the Second Oyo State Made-In-Nigeria Goods Trade Fair to the glory of God and for our economic survival.

Thank you.

#### OYO STATE DAY AT SECOND NIGERIAN INTERNATIONAL TOURISM EXPO '88

*'Oyo State Day', is not only meant to focus attention of the world at large to the existing tourist spots in the state but also to create positive awareness for all tourists potentials awaiting development.*

*IN KADUNA ON NOVEMBER 28, 1988.*

On behalf of the Government and people of Oyo State, I am pleased to welcome you to this ceremony marking the Oyo State Day at the on-going Second Nigerian International Tourism Expo '88, organised by the Nigerian Tourist Board with the active support and co-operation of the Federal Ministry of Trade and other various corporate bodies. The continued efforts of government and the agencies in this direction will go a long way to demonstrate to the world of the change of emphasis designed to engender greater awareness of the vital role tourism can play in the country's economic future. It is also regarded as one of the ways of preserving the cultural heritage of our people. I commend the efforts of the organisers of this tourism expo for their vision and commitment to the national objective of charting a new course of economic history for this country.

Tourism has become one of the major credible and dependable sources of revenue in some countries of the world where they are well developed. It is more of a permanent venture which can be improved upon with time unlike mineral resources which are susceptible to total exhaustion or disappearance. In countries like Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Austria, France, Cote d'Ivoire, Latin America as well as South East Asia, substantial foreign exchange earnings are being realised from tourism. Government at the various levels should accord tourism development priority attention as an

alternative source of revenue by providing basic infrastructures like good roads, water and security at the existing spots of tourist attraction. Tourism will not only serve as another source of revenue but also provide essential relaxation and holidaying avenues for Nigerians.

In Oyo State, government is poised to explore and transform the existing potentials in tourism to viable concerns as well as recreational and entertainment centres for domestic and international tourists. Government has identified some tourist spots for immediate development as a long-term revenue base for the state. The Erin-Ijesa Water Falls about 20 kilometres east of Ilesa and 2½ kilometres from Erin-Ijesa has been partially developed. Apart from the Erin-Ijesa community's effort to rehabilitate the 2½ kilometres access road to the falls, government has commissioned the construction of a mini-hall for the comfort of visitors to the spot. Government will also provide facilities which will make the falls attract local and foreign visitors to enhance its revenue generating propensity. Similarly, government has awarded the construction of another mini-hall at Ado-Awaye Suspended Lake, whilst the access road and the car park at the foot of the hill had been rehabilitated by the local government. It is hoped that more visitors will visit the two tourists centres for relaxation and entertainment.

As you are well aware, tourism is capital intensive and in this era of dwindling resources, government at the various levels are striving hard to find other legitimate internally generated sources of revenue. This is the reason why Oyo State will develop, as a matter of priority, the following tourist spots as soon as funds are available: Kurumi Tomb in Ijaye, Oranmiyan Staff in Ile-Ife, Bowers Tower in Ibadan and Ajayi Crowther Tomb in Osogun. Government has also embarked on the construction of an amusement park at the Bodija Airport, Ibadan as a joint venture between the state government and the Nigerian Airport Authority. I wish to place on record that the Federal Military Government, through the Nigerian Tourist Board, has been assisting the state in every way possible to develop some tourist spots. For instance, the Nigerian Tourist Board has accepted to build a modern recreational facility around Osun groves. On our part, all the inputs required from the state government will be in place very soon to facilitate early implementation of that decision. Furthermore, the decision of the Federal Military Government to turn Upper Ogun Game Reserve to a national park is another source of inspiration to the state government.

Today is Oyo State Day. It is not only meant to focus attention of the world at large to the existing tourist spots in the state but also to create positive awareness for all tourists potentials awaiting development. Oyo State has a wide range of music, arts, cultural festivals and dresses. The Yorubas are the master of the talking drum known as 'gangan', and they also display their dexterity on 'bata drums'. High quality works of arts and crafts notable among which are calabash carvings, cloth weaving, wood carving and leather works abound in Oyo, Iseyin, Saki, Osogbo and other parts of the country. Some of the notable traditional festivals like Ogun in all Yoruba towns, Sango at Ede, Olojo at Ile-Ife, Oke'badan in Ibadan, Oosa Ikire at Ikire, Osun Osogbo, Oosa Bedu at Igbajo, Ogiyan at Ejigbo and a host of other traditional festivals, are celebrated annually with reverence.

Visitors to the Oyo State stand will be treated to a number of fascinating traditional items ranging from the age long calabash carvings from Oyo, the leather works and intricate traditional cloth 'Aso Ofi', 'Adire' and a host of other works of arts on display. Pictures of the beaded crowns, other historical monuments like the 300 year-old tortoise from Ogbomoso and the mysterious Ajagbon Tree which is older than Ogbomoso town in the palace of Soun are available at the Oyo State pavilion. Additionally, there are pictures on the festivals of Oke'badan, Osun Osogbo, Ebo Oorun in Oyo and Olojo in Ile-Ife. Other geographical phenomena some of which are being developed by government as economic tourist centres and places of interest recommended to visitors are Erin-Ijesa Water Falls, Ado-awaye Suspended Lake, Osun Groves at Osogbo and Alafin's palace which is characteristic of a well-maintained Yoruba royal court. I wish to seize this opportunity to invite fellow Nigerians and foreigners to the state to have a taste of the existing cultural monuments some of which have been mentioned in this address.

It is hoped that visitors to the various pavilions at the Expo would now go to their various states of the Federation and countries to disseminate information among their peoples about those tourist attractions that exist in Oyo State and other states of the Federation. Once more, I congratulate the Nigerian Tourist Board and the Federal Ministry of Trade for organising this massive and impressive Tourism Expo '88. Your positive action in that direction, the effect of which might be imperceptible initially will go a long way to provide a long-term alternative source of revenue for the various governments if only to break our over-dependence on oil and diversify our resources. I sincerely thank all the participants, indigenes of Oyo State residents in Kaduna State and other well-wishers for sparing the time to witness Oyo State Day at the 1988 Tourism Expo.

Thank you and God bless.

### **CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS PLAZA OF IBL COMMISSIONED**

*The expansion in the operation of the company necessitated the increase in the accommodation requirements, hence the International Breweries Plaza whose completion put the complex at about N6 million.*

*AT ILESA ON DECEMBER 9, 1988.*

I have great pleasure to be here this morning to perform the official commissioning of the Corporate Headquarters Plaza of International Breweries Limited (IBL), Ilesha. I gladly accepted the invitation to be here to rejoice with one of the leading and successful companies in this country. The state government is proud to be associated with the success story of this very vibrant company in the brewing industry.

The International Breweries Limited, Ilesha, brainchild of our highly respected philanthropist and astute businessman, Dr. Lawrence Omole, was incorporated in 1971. The company commenced operation in 1978. It was officially commissioned in 1979. I want to take this opportunity to pay

glowing tributes to the founding father, Dr. Lawrence Omole. I also express our appreciation for the co-operation and support given by the technical partners, Haase Brauerei GubH, the former Oyo State Investment and Credit Corporation, the Nigerian Industrial Development Bank and the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry. The products of the company, Trophy and Mayor Lager Beer and Betamalt are virtually indispensable in social gatherings.

I am also pleased to note that the products of the company have, since 1984, been winning international and national awards. In 1984 and 1988, the company's products won the gold medal in Nadrid, Spain and Athens, Greece respectively. And from 1985, the products had been winning the NIS Award given by the Nigerian Standard Council. In 1987, the company also won the Oyo State Merit Award.

The expansion in the operations of the company necessitated the increase in the accommodation requirements, hence the International Breweries Plaza which was embarked upon and which is being commissioned today. At today's rating, the complex has been put at about N6 million. I wish to pay tribute to the foresight, vision and business acumen of the Chairman and members of the Board of Directors as well as the management staff of the company for the successful implementation of this project and for the prudent financial management, in spite of the prevailing economic situation. I also commend the Architects, Messrs Egoramy Company, Ibadan and the contractors, Solel Boneh Company for the dynamic beautiful edifice.

I congratulate the company on its role in ensuring local sourcing of most of its raw materials. This is a challenge to the other firms in the same industry. There is no short cut to self-reliance. This is the message of the Structural Adjustment Programme. It is my hope that in no distant date, IBL will be in a position to source locally, one hundred per cent of its raw materials requirements. The success of the company may also be assessed from the standpoint of its being able to retain its staff without any retrenchment inspite of the down turn in the economy. I thank the management for this gesture.

I want to seize the opportunity of this address to assure our people that the privatisation/commercialisation policy of the present administration will not be allowed to slow down the pace of industrialisation in the state. To this end, the state government has established an industrial fund to give financial assistance to genuine indigenous investors who, because of lack of funds, have not been able to complete their projects which have been adjudged to be viable. In the current year alone, the state government has committed a sum of N4.75 million in equity and loans to three of such projects namely Queen Amina Farms Ltd., Ilesha, for the production of edible vegetable oil; Palm Oil Mills Ltd., Oshogbo for the production of palm oil and NASSIO Company Ltd, Iseyin for the production of industrial starch.

The experience of government has been that loan agreements entered into with members of the public by government are more honoured in the breach than in the observance. This attitude should not be allowed to bedevil this new scheme, if it is to survive, so that the objectives behind its establishment

could be achieved. Other investors are advised to take a cue from IBL which I am informed was able to discharge its initial loan obligation of ₦5.7 million, eight months ahead of schedule. The state government is still committed to industrial development. I appeal to genuine investors to come forward to take advantage of the industrial fund.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, permit me to record the appreciation of the Oyo State Government for the philanthropic gesture of the company in donating amongst other things, an ultra-modern library complex to Oyo State College of Education, Ilesha. The company is also noted for its support of sporting activities in the state. I wish to congratulate the company on the impressive performance of the International Breweries Limited Football Club, I hope the promotion of the club to the premier division is a matter of course. I rejoice with you all on this remarkable achievement.

Once again, I wish to commend the chairman and other board members particularly the Managing Director for their foresight in the conception and execution of this project. I hope it will be able to satisfy the administrative requirements of this company for now and some years to come. I also wish to extend my thanks to the management staff and other employees for their co-operation, loyalty and hardwork which have contributed immensely to the success story of IBL. I enjoin you all to be dedicated to the ideals of the founding fathers of the project. I wish you all successful 10th year anniversary celebrations.

Thank you and God bless.

I now have the greatest honour and privilege to commission this Plaza for use, to the glory of God and the consolidation of the enviable performance of International Breweries Limited.

## 1989 BUDGET OF CONSOLIDATION PRESENTED

*It is imperative that we continue to pursue vigorously the restructuring of our economy to ensure a better tomorrow for future generation.  
Budget broadcast on January 8, 1989.*

I am happy to present to you the policies and programmes of this State Government for the 1989 fiscal year. Before I do that, however, I will like to place on record my personal appreciation for the cooperation and support that all of you have extended to the government since my assumption of office as the Chief Executive of the state. I enjoin you to continue to cooperate with the government in all its bids to ensure an orderly development of this state. It is needless to emphasise that your cooperation is particularly important in the achievement of a successful transition to civil rule, a programme to which the present Military administration is resolutely committed.

As you might have heard in the broadcast of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces on the 1989 Budget, the Nigerian economy is currently going through a major transitional period. The Structural Adjust-

ment Programme (SAP) has entailed painful and sometimes overwhelming hardship and deprivation. This is a price that we all necessarily have to pay for the rectification of the mismanagement of the past and our share of the general decline of the world economy. Government is not unmindful of the hard situation. It is, however, imperative that we continue to pursue vigorously the restructuring of our economy to ensure a better tomorrow for future generation.

The programmes and policies of Oyo State Government for 1989 fiscal year are guided by the overall framework of the national economy. Hence, efforts are being geared towards correcting the structural imbalances in the system and promoting a sustainable level of growth of the economy. We will create the right framework compatible with enhanced efficiency, optimum resource utilization and increased productivity.

About this time last year, a budget of eight hundred and thirty eight million, seven hundred and nineteen thousand and one hundred naira (N838,719,100) was announced for this state. It is satisfying to note that in spite of the prevailing economic situation, remarkable achievements were recorded by the government. Before unfolding the programmes and policies for 1989, I wish to briefly review our performance during the 1988 fiscal year.

#### Review of 1988 Budget

##### *(a) Revenue*

As at December 31, 1988, the returns available indicate that a total revenue in the sum of nine hundred and ninety three million, eight hundred and seven thousand, seventy six naira and ninety three kobo (N993,807,076.93) had been realised. This represents 118.49% of the projected estimate of eight hundred and thirty eight million, seven hundred and nineteen thousand, one hundred naira (N838,719,100). With respect to the internally generated revenue, a sum of two hundred and eighty million, five hundred and thirty five thousand, nine hundred and thirty two naira, fifty two kobo (N280,535,932.50) representing 132.17% of the projected pro-rata revenue was realised. The performance can be attributed to some effective revenue collection devices embarked upon in the preceding year. The situation in the world oil market is a major determinant of the revenue from the Federation Account. But for the fall in the world price of oil in the second half of 1988, the sum of six hundred and twelve million, forty seven thousand, seventy five naira, twenty six kobo (N612,047,075.26) realised by this state as statutory allocation, representing 110.98% of the projected estimate of N551,481,000, would have been more.

##### *(b) Expenditure*

The actual recurrent expenditure during the same period amounted to five hundred and ninety four million, eight hundred and twenty eight thousand, three hundred and seventy one naira, fifty six kobo (N594,828,371.56). This is an increase of 24.06 per cent over the estimate of four hundred and seventy nine million, four hundred and thirty four thousand, five hundred and fifty

naira (N479,434,550). This increase was largely attributable to some policy measures introduced by the Federal Government during the year. These include the elongated salary structure and the revised fringe benefits.

This notwithstanding, the state was able to implement a substantial part of its capital programmes. As against a capital budget of three hundred and fifty nine million, two hundred and eighty four thousand, five hundred and fifty naira, (N359,284,550), three hundred and sixty one million, three hundred and twenty seven thousand, and forty five naira, seventy eight kobo (N361,327,045.78) or 100.56 per cent was expended on capital projects. On the whole, a sum of nine hundred and fifty-six million, one hundred and fifty-five thousand, four hundred and seventeen naira, thirty four kobo (N956,155,417.34) was expended on recurrent services and capital programmes in 1988 as against the budgeted sum of eight hundred and thirty eight million, seven hundred and nineteen thousand and one hundred naira (N838,719,100). This represents 114% achievement.

The performance in 1988 could, in physical terms, be described as very encouraging. Apart from being able to meet the wage bill of the workers as and when due and sustain the recurrent services, the state government committed funds for the continued implementation of the following key projects: Ede-Osogbo Water Supply project, Ibadan Emergency Water Scheme, procurement of water chemicals, Igbetti-Igboho road, Ila-Ekan road, Ikirun-Igbajo road, Iwo-Osogbo road, rehabilitation of inter and intra city roads by direct labour. Others include the Adamasingba Sports Complex, New Gbagi Complex, J.S.S. workshops and equipment, rural electrification and street lighting, purchase of refuse equipment, the state-owned Trans International Bank, Trans Wonderland Amusement Park, mass transit system, completion of some hospitals and health clinics and purchase of medical drugs and dressings.

The achievements of the past twelve months could not have been possible without the commitment, co-operation and support of all and sundry. I am, therefore, thanking you all for your understanding and support in ensuring that the goals of government were reasonably achieved. I trust that I can always count on our continuous support in the task of socio-economic upliftment of Oyo State to which this government is irrevocably committed. We should join hands to consolidate the gains of 1988 and proceed to enhance the balanced development of the State in 1989.

### **The 1989 Budget**

The prevailing economic situation has influenced the formulation of policies and programmes of the state government for the next twelve months. Given the reality of the moment, the policy framework has been geared towards:

- (i) adoption of measures that will stimulate domestic production and broaden the supply base;
- (ii) deliberate and sustained development of the economic sector;
- (iii) cost effectiveness of operations through waste minimization and

- judicious use of meagre resources ;
- (iv) provision of employment opportunities by focusing on labour-intensive projects with high local input content; and
- (v) emphasis on the provision of social and economic infrastructures for the rural areas as a way of enhancing even development throughout the state.

Government is conscious of the fact that some of the policy objectives are continuous developmental strategies that can only be pursued within the limit of available resources. Consequently, the present administration has decided to accord priority to *agriculture, education and health in the 1989 fiscal year.*

The size of the 1989 budget is nine hundred and two million, six hundred and fifty eight thousand, eight hundred naira (N902,658,800), an increase of sixty three million, nine hundred and thirty nine thousand, seven hundred naira (N63,939,700) over that of last year. The total revenue of nine hundred and two million, six hundred and fifty eight thousand, eight hundred naira (N902,658,800) is made up of recurrent revenue of eight hundred and eighty eight million, six hundred and fifty eight thousand, eight hundred naira (N888,658,800) and an envisaged capital receipt of about fourteen million naira (N14,000,000). The recurrent revenue includes internally-generated revenue of two hundred and ninety eight million, two hundred and forty thousand, six hundred naira (N298,240,600). This represents an increase of eighty six million, two thousand and five hundred naira (N86,002,500) or 40.52 per cent over the 1988 figure. With regard to

the statutory allocation, the provision of five hundred and ninety million, four hundred and eighteen thousand, two hundred naira (N590,418,200) is 9.34% higher than the 1988 provision of N551,481,000. Given the volatility of price in the world oil market, we are compelled to be more inward looking in our revenue generation efforts. Hence we will redouble our internal revenue generation efforts to ensure a more efficient and effective collection during the year. I fervently hope that individuals, organisations and corporate bodies will in the same spirit voluntarily perform their civic responsibilities by paying their taxes, fees etc., as and when due.

## EXPENDITURE

A total expenditure budget of nine hundred and two million, six hundred and fifty eight thousand, eight hundred naira (N902,658,800) is envisaged to ensure a balance budget in 1989. The recurrent expenditure of six hundred and eighty one million, five hundred and fifty four thousand, nine hundred and seventy naira (N681,554,970) constitutes 75.50% of aggregate expenditure. The capital expenditure is two hundred and twenty one million, one hundred and three thousand, eight hundred and thirty naira (N221,103,830) or 24.50 per cent of the total expenditure.

In the 1988 fiscal year, a total of five hundred and twenty nine million, four hundred and thirty four thousand, five hundred and fifty naira (N529,434,550) represented 63.12 per cent of the total budget was devoted to recurrent expenditure. In the current year, the percentage allocation to

recurrent expenditure increased 75.50%. Some exogenous variables are responsible for the increase in the overall percentage of recurrent expenditure. As noted earlier, these include the elongated salary structure, revised fringe benefits payable to public officers, high naira costs of external payment obligations and of imports.

Not unexpectedly, therefore, the capital expenditure proposal could not be higher than two hundred and twenty one million, one hundred and three thousand, eight hundred and thirty naira (N221,103,830) or 24.50% of the total budget. This is low when compared with the approved capital expenditure of three hundred and fifty nine million two hundred and eighty four thousand and five hundred and fifty naira (N359,284,550) or 42.83% in 1988. However, in spite of the decrease, adequate attention has been paid to the priority areas of the present administration. Similarly, existing administrative apparatus that will ensure value for money will be improved upon and employed for the implementation of the budget.

The sectoral breakdown of the capital expenditure is as follows:

<b>A. ECONOMIC SECTOR</b>	<b>APPROPRIATION</b>
Agriculture and Rural Development including Livestock, Forestry and Fisheries	27,968,620
Industry, Commerce, Finance and Cooperatives	14,651,980
Rural Electrification/Power	4,125,000
Transportation	<u>32,039,100</u>
Sub-Total	<u>78,784,700</u>
 <b>B. SOCIAL SERVICES</b>	
Education	27,346,000
Health	12,662,500
Information	24,286,000
Social Development, Sports and Culture	<u>5,250,000</u>
Sub-Total	<u>69,544,500</u>
 <b>C. REGIONAL PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Water Resources and Water Supply	32,850,000
Environmental Sanitation, Sewerage and Drainage	2,400,000
Housing, Town and Country Planning	<u>12,994,500</u>
Sub-Total	<u>48,244,500</u>

D. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	APPROPRIATION
General Administration	24,530,130
GRAND TOTAL	<u>221,103,830</u>

#### Highlights of the 1989 Budget:

I now give the sectoral highlights of the projects and programmes, details of which will be provided later by the Commissioner for Finance.

### ECONOMIC SECTOR

#### Agriculture and Rural Development

The role of agriculture in ensuring a self-sustaining development hardly needs any emphasis. The administration has, therefore, decided to accord this sub-sector priority attention. In view of the importance attached to it, a provision of twenty seven point nine-seven million naira (N27.97m) has been made. The policy thrust still remains the promotion of individual holdings. Government's main objective is to stimulate, educate and motivate the private sector in the optimum utilization of available resources. With the success story of the Oyo North Agricultural Development Project (ONADEP), government has decided to implement a state-wide Agricultural Development Programme (OYSADEP). Necessary provision has been made for the take-off of the programme which will jointly be financed by the World Bank, the Federal Government and the Oyo State Government. The total amount of World Bank loan involved in the programme is \$22.2m or about N111 million. During the first phase of the project which will last five years, 880 km of roads will be rehabilitated while 3,050 km of feeder roads will be maintained. 600,000 farm families will be assisted on improved agriculture, livestock husbandry and supply of agricultural inputs like fertilizer, herbicides, tractorisation, pesticides, improved seeds and seedlings and storage facilities. Under the new dispensation, the Agricultural Inputs and Services Unit (AISU) will be re-organised, re-equipped and made an integral part of OYSADEP. In addition, AISU will bulk-purchase 35,000 tonnes of various types of fertilizer to be sold to farmers in the state at subsidized prices. Government will also provide storage facilities for farmers.

The abolition of commodity boards had proved to be a huge success in terms of the response of farmers to increased farm gate price for their produce. Government intends to use the opportunity of the improved income to stimulate future cocoa production by providing necessary inputs to this sub-sector in order to make it a worth-while venture. To this end, reasonable quantities of cocoa, oil palm, cashew, citrus and coffee will be raised and distributed to farmers in the state during the year. To reduce the problem of inadequate storage facilities for our agricultural products, a sum of two point five million naira (N2.5m) has been set aside for the provision of storage facilities in all the 24 local government areas of the state.

It is the intention of government to produce 160,000 fingerlings of fish at government fish ponds throughout the state for distribution to fish farmers. Furthermore, as a means of alleviating the problems of fish farmers, government proposes to establish a Fish Feed Mill in Ibadan.

The raising of livestock other than cow alone will be encouraged to ensure availability of adequate protein in the food intake of our people. In line with government policy on forest regeneration and afforestation, 400,000 tree seedlings will be raised and distributed freely to the public, institutions and schools under the tree planting campaign programme in 1989.

Government is actively pursuing a proposal to upgrade the Agricultural Credit Corporation to a State Agricultural and Co-operative Bank. This will afford the state a broader capital base for its agricultural and agro-allied industries. Appropriate decision would be taken on this matter early in the new year.

### Industry

The industrial policy of government is to encourage and stimulate the industrialisation of the state. However, the participation of the state government would at best be limited to the provision of necessary industrial infrastructure, holding minority equity and granting credit facilities to entrepreneurs with viable industrial projects. With effect from this year, government is setting up an Industrial Infrastructure Trust Fund into which one per cent of the statutory allocation will be paid. The objective of the fund is to provide necessary industrial infrastructure such as well laid out industrial estates with basic infrastructure like good roads, water, electricity, telephone services etc. at various locations in the state.

In 1987, the state government established an Industrial Development Fund. A number of industrialists have benefitted from the scheme either through government equity participation in their enterprise and/or granting of soft loans. Government intends to use the opportunity of the fund to ensure a more balanced distribution of small and medium scale industries throughout the state.

Similarly, 75 graduates have benefitted from the loans offered under Oyo State Graduate Industrial Self-Employment Scheme. In response to the enthusiasm shown by potential beneficiaries of the scheme, a sum of N1.00 million will be provided to further boost the scheme this financial year. In addition, deliberate efforts will be made to revitalise the Ceramic Project at Ado Awaye, Cocoa Products Industry, Ede and Oranmiyan Clay Products Limited, Ipetumodu.

### Commerce

Commercial activities rank high in the state as a source of employment and income generation. However, the commercial activities are not sufficiently co-ordinated to achieve the desired result. Consequently, in the new financial year, government will, through series of trade fairs, focus the attention of people, particularly industrialists and entrepreneurs to the great potentials of the state. Government participation in commercial activities will continue to be through Trans Investment Company Limited (TICOL). Early in the new year, we will also look into the issue of registration of

business premises with a view to eliminating possible incidence of double taxation.

### Tourism

Tourism, if well articulated, would be a potential foreign exchange earner for the country. For the first time, this sub-sector attracted considerable boost in 1988 through the establishment of Trans Wonderland Amusement Park at the site of the old Ibadan aerodrome. Order has been placed for necessary equipment and the first phase of the project would be completed in 1989. I wish to enlist the support of private entrepreneurs and local governments in the development of the identified tourism potentials of the state which, among others, include Erin-Ijesa Water Falls, Ado Awaye Suspended Lake, Osun Shrine International Tourist Centre, Osogbo, Kunrunmi Tomb in Ijaye, Oranmiyan Staff in Ile-Ife and Ajayi Crowther's Tomb in Osogun.

### Electrification/Power

Last year, the state government successfully executed street lighting projects in Ilesa, Ile-Ife, Osogbo, Ogbomoso, Oyo, Saki and Ibadan Municipality at a cost of ₦4.3 million. Work is currently in progress on the street lighting projects at Ede, Iwo, Okeho, Iseyin, Ila-Orangun and Ikirun. On completion, the projects will be handed over to the appropriate local governments for maintenance and payment of NEPA bills. It is my hope that no local government will, through any act of negligence, deprive the people of the benefit from this investment.

Rural electrification scheme in the state has a long history. After the initial take-off, the projects embarked upon under the scheme were virtually abandoned for some years until they were later resuscitated by the Military administration. For this reason, the first four phases of the project are being implemented simultaneously. A firm of consulting engineers has been requested to undertake survey design and preparation of new working drawings and bill of quantities in respect of the towns and villages covered under Phase I Extension. It is expected that actual construction work will commence in 1989. A total of 28 towns and villages are slated to benefit under the first phase of the project. To-date, *the electrification of twenty three towns and villages have been completed.* Twenty one of them have been commissioned, leaving Akanran and Omifunfun to be commissioned in the new year. Out of the forty-five towns scheduled to benefit under Phase III, seventeen has been commissioned, while thirteen others have been completed and will be commissioned in 1989. With regard to the fourth phase covering 34 towns, only five had been completed and commissioned. Two other towns, namely Ara and Ilie are ready for pre-commissioning inspection by the Federal Ministry of Mines, Power and Steel. Attention would be focused on the completion of these on-going projects in 1989. In addition, preliminary works on the rural electrification projects for 225 towns scheduled for the fifth phase of the State Rural Electrification Programme will commence.



*Col. Orasanya Commissions Street Light at Osogbo*

Apart from the State Rural Electrification Programme, the first phase of the Rural Electrification Programme of the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructures (DIFFRI) covering seven towns will commence this year. Finally, four other towns are to benefit under the rural electrification programme of the European Economic Community Development Technical Assistance. It is expected that construction would commence in March, 1989. By the time all these projects are completed, there would hardly be a village with a population of 500 people without electricity in the state.

### Finance

The realities of inadequate financial resources has, more than ever before, called for prudent financial management. The Capital Budget Implementation Committee has continued to monitor the expenditure on capital projects with a view to ensuring cost effectiveness and priority rating of capital projects within the limit of available resources.

The World Bank Assisted Urban Renewal and Rehabilitation Project is currently being reviewed to reflect the present day economic and fiscal realities. This may entail the scaling down of the project to a manageable size.

I am delighted to report that meaningful progress has been made on the construction of the headquarters building of the state-owned Trans International Bank. The building would be completed early this year. The bank has already commenced business and would soon open. It is hoped that the bank will satisfy the aspirations of its shareholders and all the good people and all institutions in Oyo State that will patronise it.

Work has gone far on the New Gbagi Market, one of the two projects for which government floated revenue bonds in 1987. The market would be ready for commissioning early in the new year.

### Cooperatives

Government's deliberate policy of supporting a steady expansion of co-operative movement in the state has been yielding good dividend, as co-operative activities within the state have continued to grow by leaps and bounds. Efforts will be made in the current year to complete work on the State's Co-operative College, at Oyo.

### Transportation

Government will continue to give priority attention to the construction and maintenance of good road network in the state through both the direct labour approach and award of contracts. The decision of government in each case will continue to be guided by the expected quality performance at the minimum cost possible. In 1989, an end would be put to the practice whereby roads dis-integrate almost immediately after construction because of inadequate soil testing. To this end, a new *Geo-Technics and Structure Unit is being established in the Ministry of Works and Transport with responsibility for detailed material testing before such materials are used.*

Following the recent achievement in the area of direct labour projects, provision has been made for the execution of some road projects by direct labour in the new year. In a bid to further improve the condition of the roads in the state, some of which are deplorable, and thus alleviate the sufferings of the people, the execution of the following road projects, among others, would be given immediate priority attention.

- (i) Reconstruction of Okeho – Ilero – Otu – Baasi Road with sur to Aiyetoro;
  - (ii) Ibadan – Akufu – Iddo – Eleyele – Eruwa Road;
  - (iii) Ilesa – Ipole – Odo – Iperindo Road;
  - (iv) Iwo – Osogbo Road;
- and (v) Igbajo – Imesi-Ile – Ondo State Boundary Road.

In addition, necessary provision has been made for the funding of the various on-going road projects in the state, many of which are expected to be completed this year.

In the new year, more emphasis will be laid on maintenance culture. Consequently, provision has been made for the rehabilitation and/or replacement of construction plants, vehicles and appliances. Adequate financial provision has also been made for the maintenance of the existing road networks throughout the state.

The Oyo State Mass Transit Project was commissioned in July, 1988. The activities of the Trans City Transport Company which has been restricted to major routes of Ibadan municipality will soon be extended to other major urban centres of the state.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

### Education

Understandably, education continues to be the most singular dominant sub-sector, attracting a total sum of three hundred and fifty eight million, nine hundred and forty-nine thousand and nine hundred and fifty naira (N358,949,950) or 39.76 per cent of the total expenditure proposal.

### Primary Education

The Federal Military Government recently promulgated the National Primary Education Commission Decree 1988. With effect from January, 1989, the Federal Government would be responsible for the payment of part of the wage bill of the primary school teachers. Necessary administrative apparatus for the implementation of the new reform has been set up. Besides the recurrent expenditure associated with primary education, most of the 2,543 public primary schools in the state have been experiencing acute shortage of classroom accommodation, furniture, instructional materials and adequate security. While attempts have been made to make some provision for these critical items, local governments and parents/teachers' association

are enjoined to see primary education as a joint responsibility of the Federal Government, State Government, Local Governments and Parents/Teachers' Association and join in the present effort to improve the quality of primary education.

In 1988, a total of 4,200 Grade II teachers who graduated in 1985 and 1986 were offered appointments. Also, 1,280 former grade II (CTR) teachers laid off in 1985 but who passed their papers between that year and 1987 were re-absorbed. These actions have greatly reduced the number of staff vacancies in our primary schools. Efforts will be made to improve the situation further in 1989.

### **Secondary Education**

Government has restricted the number of secondary schools in the state to 613. So far, 195 J.S.S. workshops had been completed out of the 413 given out on contract. Financial provision has been made in the Estimates for the completion of the on-going workshops as well as the award of new ones. Government will continue to supply generating sets to schools in the rural areas which are without electricity, so as to facilitate effective utilization of the workshops.

In line with classroom accommodation requirements of the 6-3-3-4 system of education, provision has been made to provide, in phases classrooms accommodation so as to avoid undue bottle-neck as the state proceeds to the full-fledged senior secondary classes in 1991. The bulk purchase of science equipment for distribution to schools will continue. Provision has been made for the employment of teachers in the critical areas of Guidance and Counselling, Mathematics, English Language, Sciences and selected arts disciplines.

All these have been done to improve the quality of education in the state. The students are expected to reciprocate this good gesture of government by performing creditably in their educational pursuits.

### **The Polytechnic**

Technical education is expensive and it becomes more expensive when courses are duplicated at the various satellite campuses. To this end, an exercise of course rationalisation and specialisation has been completed at the Polytechnic, Ibadan. It has been realised that in spite of the rationalisation exercise, the existing facilities are still inadequate. Construction of workshops, laboratories, studios, lecture theatres and provision of other requirements that will make the institution satisfy the National Board on Technical Education's (N.B.T.E.) course accreditation requirement will therefore, receive priority attention in this financial year.

### **Oyo State University**

Government is actively considering the report of Ayoola Committee on the establishment of Oyo State University. A more definitive statement would be made on the project this new year.

## Health

The goal of the National Health Policy is the achievement of a level of health that will enable Nigerians maintain healthy and productive lives. Consistent with this objective, the state government embarked on some projects and programmes which are geared towards improving the quality of life of every individual in the state.

During the 1988 fiscal year, remarkable progress was made in meeting the health needs of the growing population of the state through provision of hospital-based treatment. Apart from Saki Primary Health Centre which was recently commissioned, other primary and comprehensive health centres have been completed. The centres which are being equipped and staffed will be commissioned soon. The contractors handling seventeen (17) abandoned 6-bed health clinics have been advised to go back to site immediately. A general hospital and a 20-bed primary health centre will commence in Saki and Iangan respectively early in the new year. *The State Government has decided, as a matter of policy, to develop at least one secondary health care centre per local government to serve as referral centre to the satellite 6-bed clinics, maternity centres/dispensaries of the local governments. We will, therefore, ensure the ungrading of at least one primary health centre of twenty to thirty-bed hospital in each local government to cope with the anticipated volume of work.*

The state government has been encouraging greater involvement of the communities in their health care programme. The Community-Based Distribution (CBD) project was expanded to two more local government areas during 1988. With the selection of Oyo State in the programme of restructuring of health delivery services through strengthening of village level health care, otherwise known as Bamoko Initiative, an improved health care delivery system will be established in many villages and communities in the state this fiscal year.

In the preceding year, government took some steps on the supply of drugs to health institutions, the effect of which will crystallise in 1989. The ultimate aim of government in this regard is to guarantee continuous supply of drugs and thus combat the problem of high cost of drugs and the danger posed to health services by the increasing presence of fake drugs in the market. Among others, government has set aside a sum of ₦8 million for the purchase of drugs in 1989. Pharmacy shops will be established in all hospitals to enable patients buy the prescribed specialised drugs at reasonable prices. Furthermore, government has established a Central Compounding Unit in Ibadan for the preparation of mixtures, ointments, creams and the production of infusions. This is to cut down on the cost of these products and ensure good quality control and easy availability of the products in the state owned hospitals.

A total of ₦60.18 million, representing about 6.67 per cent of the budget has been allocated to this sub-sector.

## Information

Free flow of information between the government and the governed normally facilitate mutual understanding. Consequently, investment in this sub-sector will indirectly facilitate the accomplishment of the goals which government sets for itself in the other sectors of the economy. The importance of uninhibited flow of information hardly needs any emphasis in a transitional year like 1989 when the ban on party politics is expected to be lifted. Government has made provision for the purchase of radio/television transmitters that would make the signals of the radio and television services of the Broadcasting Corporation of Oyo State receivable all over the state. Similarly, government information outfits are being re-organised and re-equipped to enable them inform and educate the public adequately about the activities of government. A sum of ₦24.286 million has been voted for this sub-sector.

## Social Development, Youth Affairs and Community Development

In October 1988, a new Ministry of Social Development, Youth and Sports was created. It is my hope that this new development will result in the intensification of social, youth and sports development in the state. In accordance with the government recognition of the role of women in the social and economic emancipation of the nation, a Women Affairs Department has been created in the new Ministry of Social Development, Youth and Sports. The new department will be saddled with the responsibility of developing women-folks in both the urban and rural areas. The focus will be on how to raise the standard of living of rural dwellers.

In May, 1988, 60 youths drawn from all the 24 local government areas of the state participated in the First National Youth Festival which took place in Yofa, Gongola State. The participants did Oyo State proud by coming first not only in carnival float and cultural dance but overall. Seven of the youths performed a similar feat at the 1988 Seoul Olympics by winning the overall grand prize. Government will continue to support projects geared towards the development of the Youth Village at Ajoda New Town.

## Sports

The Adamasingba Sports Complex was commissioned in May, 1988. Funds are being set aside for the provision of other facilities such as electronic score board, synthetic track, flood light etc. at the complex. To improve the standard of sports in the state, government has converted the former Teachers' College, Ijebu-Jesa to a games village for training of athletes in the state. Necessary facilities for training would be provided. Government does not intend to embark on the construction of further sports stadia in 1989. However, Ilesa, Osogbo, Ogbomoso and Oyo Stadia will be improved upon and raised to an acceptable standard. More facilities without committed sports men and women do not win the gold. The Sports Council has been firmly directed to scout round for good sports men and women that can do this state proud in any future competition, as we are determined to regain our lost glory in sports. We do not believe in buying sportsmen and

women to feature for the state in national competitions. We shall train and develop capable sportsmen and women for the state. Finally, government will give necessary support to I.I.C.C. and International Breweries Football Club to sustain and enhance their status among the clubs in the first division of the national football league table. Other sporting clubs and organisations in the state will also be encouraged to perform well.

### **Culture**

Government will continue to demonstrate its full commitment to the promotion and preservation of culture. Besides the provision made for consumables that will facilitate effective training and participation of our cultural groups in national and international events, a sum of ₦1.0 million has been set aside for the completion of the outstanding works on the Cultural Centre Complex in Ibadan. It is the intention of government that the centre be completed without any further delay.

## **REGIONAL PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Water Resources**

Government will, as usual, accord water supply a very high priority in the coming year not only for domestic consumption but also for industrial and agricultural development. The highlights of the projects to be pursued by government in 1989 include the following:

(a) *New Ede/Osogbo/Ife/Gbongan Water Supply Project*

The construction of this multi-million naira project is nearing completion. The headworks have been completed and handed over to the Water Corporation by the contractors. Ede, Osogbo and Ife are already enjoying water supply from the headworks. Extension works to other towns and villages to be served by the scheme will be embarked upon during the year. The Ejigbo Emergency Mini Scheme, which is a minor extension from this gigantic project has also reached advanced stage of completion. Work will further be intensified on the project to ensure early completion.

(b) *Ibadan Emergency Water Supply Rehabilitation Project*

The rehabilitation work on Ibadan Water Supply Schemes at Asejire, Eleyele and Osegere which commenced in July, 1988 with a loan of thirty million US Dollars (US \$30 million) from the African Development Bank (ADB) has reached an advanced stage. All things being equal, the project will be completed in the new year and this will make more potable water available to the residents of the state capital. However, in view of all these works, there will be slight interruptions of water supply in the city during the rehabilitation period. Consumers are, therefore, enjoined to provide some form of storage. Construction of prestressed reservoir and booster station at

Ikoyi which is being financed from the same loan will be completed in the new year.

(c) *New Ilesa and Ejigbo Water Supply Projects*

Although their execution suffered some initial setbacks, these projects have not been abandoned. Government is doing everything possible to resolve the problems surrounding the projects and it is our expectation that the projects will soon proceed as designed. The pumping plants and other equipment for the project have already been delivered and stored. The Efon Alaye Intake from where Ilesa gets water will be rehabilitated in the new year, while the treatment headworks at Ilesa will be rehabilitated to double water supply to Ilesa township.

(d) *Igboho Water Supply Project*

Satisfactory progress was achieved on this project in the past year and provision has been made to complete the remaining civil works and pipe-laying from the new dam to Igboho township. The treatment and pumping plants will also be installed in the new year.

(e) *Ago-Are and Ago-Amodu Water Supply Projects*

The dams for the two communities have been successfully constructed by the Oyo North Agricultural Development Project (ONADEP). The treatment and pumping plants together with the distribution network will be carried out by the Water Corporation of Oyo State in the new year.

(f) *Ikirun/Igbajo/Iree/Otan Aiyegbaju/Iragbiji Water Supply Scheme*

A sum of ₦500,000 was made available for the continuation of the work on the project in 1988. Necessary financial provision has been made for the intensification of work on the project in the new year.

(g) *Installation of Meters*

In order to control the use of treated water and to increase revenue generation in 1989, the Water Corporation has embarked on the process of installing meters at the premises of its consumers.

(h) *Boreholes*

As a short-time measure of providing drinking water to communities where there is no conventional water supply, Oyo State Government will, in the new year, intensify its efforts at sinking more boreholes to alleviate the sufferings of the people, particularly in the rural areas. Twenty-seven of such boreholes were commissioned in 1988.

(i) *Water Treatment Chemicals*

The Water Corporation will spend about ₦9,000,000 on purchase of chemicals in 1989.

For continuous enjoyment of potable water supply, people of Oyo State are enjoined to pay their water rates promptly. Also, members of the public should desist from tampering with Water Corporation's installations and property.

**Environmental Sanitation, Sewerage and Drainage**

Health is wealth and absolute cleanliness is a major pre-requisite for healthy living. The erstwhile Sewage and Refuse Matters Department was transformed into Environmental Sanitation Board in 1988. The object of the reconstitution was to give the board wider powers so that it could extend its activities to all parts of the state. The State Government, through the Environmental Sanitation Board, has been solely responsible for the collection of refuse in Ibadan metropolis. With effect from this fiscal year, refuse collection aspect of the functions of the Environmental Sanitation Board would be taken over by the local governments in the state. This is in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution. To facilitate early take-off of refuse collection by the local governments, the state government will transfer to them, all the vehicles and plants that are being used for refuse collection by the board. It is my hope that local governments will leave up to expectation in the performance of this important task of keeping our towns and cities clean.

Work is progressing steadily on the channelisation of Ogunpa Stream in Ibadan and it is hoped that within the next 12 months, the first phase of the project will be completed. Repeated appeals have been made to people who put up illegal structures on flood plains without positive response. Enumeration of illegal structures in the flood plains of the streams in Ibadan is currently going on. Anybody found contravening government order in this regard would have himself/herself to blame.

**Housing, Town/Country Planning**

The kernel of government housing policy in the new year will remain the provision of site and infrastructures on approved housing estates. Provisions have been made for the construction of roads and the supply of water and electricity in Ajoda New Town and the various housing estates of the Property Development Corporation. Necessary provision has also been made for the construction of roads in the Government Reservation Areas throughout the state. I expect beneficiaries of state land to pay their annual ground rent and premium as they fall due.

Government has deliberately de-emphasised the building of staff quarters and, instead, encouraged public officers to obtain loans for the building of their own houses according to their own tastes. In the 1989 fiscal year, a sum of ₦2 million each has been set aside for the Civil Servants and

Teachers' Staff Housing Loan Schemes. In addition, a sum of ₦500,000 each has been approved as staff housing loan for the Polytechnic and each of the colleges of education.

In sum, a provision of ₦12.995 million has been set aside for Housing, Town and Country Planning.

### Judiciary

In the immediate preceding year, government enacted the Oyo State Judiciary Self-Accounting Edict which aims at giving the judiciary the desired financial independence from the executive arms of government. It is my hope that the provisions of the Edict would be operationalised in 1989. In the new year, government would give attention to phase II of the High Court Complex at Ring Road, Ibadan and the new High Court Project at Ile-Ife.

Similarly, construction and stocking of a Law Library at Ibadan will attract priority attention since a well-equipped library is a *sine qua non* to the efficient performance of the legal profession.

At this point, I like to place on record the appreciation of Oyo State Government for the invaluable contribution of the Oyo State Police Command to the maintenance of law and order in the state as well as the co operation between the Police and the judiciary in preventing the breakdown of law and order. The Federal Military Government is determined to deal ruthlessly with the men of the underworld whose activities have increased of recent and have thus brought sorrow and unimaginable pain to some individuals and families in the state. We shall continue to give necessary support and encouragement to the law enforcement agencies to enable them stamp out incidence of armed robbery and other vices in the country.

### General Administration

Government is aware of the acute accommodation problems facing the public service. It is also aware of the need to provide other basic office equipment which are now in short supply. The situation has to be improved if efficiency is not to suffer considerably. Consequently, necessary measures are being taken to ensure the completion of the new secretariat complex early in 1989 to ease the existing accommodation problem. A sum of ₦24,530 million has been set aside for general administration.

### Public Service

Training and re-training of staff is the bedrock of the new Civil Service Reforms. In realisation of the importance of training to efficient and effective performance of the public service, government is upgrading the status of the Civil Service Training School to that of a Staff Development Centre. As a practical demonstration of its commitment to the immediate take-off of the centre, government will provide a sum of ₦500 000 for the physical expansion of the school during the 1989 fiscal year. In addition, a sum of ₦1 million has been set aside to finance centralised training courses in the new year.

It goes without saying that good health necessarily enhances workers' productivity. In conformity with this age long management concept, a provision of ₦400,000 has been made for the construction of workers' clinic at the secretariat. In the same spirit, it is intended to establish a Civil Service Club in 1989 to provide recreation facilities for civil servants.

Government has taken due cognisance of the fact that government quarters have generally fallen into a state of neglect and that unless the present rate of deterioration of the quarters is arrested, they may become completely dilapidated. Consequently, a provision of ₦500,000 has been made for the renovation of the quarters.

In line with the unalloyed commitment of government to the prompt payment of pensions and gratuities to officers who leave the service in pensionable circumstances, a sum of ₦45 million is being provided in the 1989 Estimates for payment of gratuity and pensions to qualified officers.

As you are aware, the preceding year witnessed a fundamental reform of the civil service. The new structure is progressively being put in place in Oyo State. The new reforms are expected, among other things, to ensure greater productivity, accountability and greater sense of commitment among the ranks of all civil servants. I must express my admiration of the good relationship subsisting between Commissioners and Directors-General in the state. By this action, they have been showing purposeful and good leadership in the public service.

The implementation of the remaining aspects of the reforms is being seriously addressed. I am impressed by the dedication and efficiency which Oyo State public servants have displayed in performing their duties. While thanking them for this, I trust that the new year will witness greater efficiency and dedication in the conduct of public business.

### Conclusion

Once again, I want to thank all the good people of Oyo State for their support of the programmes and policies of government and for the maintenance of law and order, which are necessary pre-conditions for peaceful and orderly development. The year 1989 is a crucial one, as it marks the beginning of the third attempt at parliamentary democracy. We cannot afford to fail on this occasion. It is, therefore, my expectation that all and sundry will co-operate with the present administration in the pursuance of its transitional programme. Finally, I wish to appeal to you to join hands with government in the faithful implementation of the State Budget of "Consolidation". I hope I can continue to count on your support.

I wish you all a happy and prosperous 1989.

Thank you and God bless.

## 12. OYO STATE DAY AT ONDO STATE TRADE FAIR OPENED

*This trade fair, apart from promoting goods from Oyo State and securing markets for them, also affords the State the opportunity of exploring new areas of business ventures to strengthen existing trade links between Oyo State and other States of the Federation.*

— At Akure, Ondo state capital on December 16, 1988.

On behalf of the Government and people of Oyo State, I wish to heartily welcome you to the Oyo State Day ceremony at the on-going Third Ondo State Made-in-Nigeria Trade Fair organised by the Akure Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture in collaboration with the State Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ondo State Investments Holding Company Limited. As one of your closest neighbours, our presence is to further cement the cordial relationship which exists between our two sister-states and the historical antecedents binding us together. I wish to commend the organisers of this fair for their sense of vision and innovative ideas in the national crusade of projecting to the business world, that this great country has a lot to offer in terms of exportable resources which are capable of propelling this country to a stage of self-reliance.

I seize this opportunity to formally express the sincere appreciation of the Government and people of Oyo State for the active role of the Ondo State Government at the recently concluded 2nd Oyo State Made-in-Nigeria Trade Fair. Your meaningful contributions at the fair had led to the huge success recorded. We sincerely look forward to your continued support on a reciprocal basis for our future Made-in-Nigeria Trade Fairs in Oyo State. Our outing at this trade fair is not only aimed at reciprocating the good gesture but also to serve as a barometer through which our level of achievements on the socio-economic scene could be measured, when compared with those of other states of the Federation. Our participation is also a deliberate attempt to bring into focus, the agricultural and industrial potentials which abound in Oyo State. We do hope that genuine entrepreneurs will come over to take advantage of these potentials by siting their industries in Oyo State.

I am reliably informed that the theme of this year's fair is "Sourcing and Utilising the Agricultural, Mineral and Human Resources of Ondo State Towards Industrialisation". The theme is apposite at this point in time when Nigerians are beginning to learn the real lessons derivable from the impact of the nation's economic downturn. Our survival lies in local sourcing of raw materials for our industries, adoption of appropriate technology that requires local inputs in the production processes, development of capital and intermediate goods for export and production of final goods to satisfy our local needs. Given the abundant agricultural, mineral and human resources in this part of the country, I wish to appeal to our manufacturers and industrialists to show their commitment and loyalty to this administration's national objective of charting a new course of economic development for this great country to replace our past distorted economic strategy which placed emphasis on the massive importation of alien goods, culture and values.

The present Military administration is committed to correcting the

economic structural malaise and give the nation a sense of direction. You are all aware of the economic and fiscal measures of government which found expression in the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) and its financial fulcrum, FEM designed to revamp the tottering economy. My Government watches the operations of these measures with keen interest to ensure that their objectives are achieved with minimum pain. Although the road to economic self-reliance is rough, the end result is expected to lead to economic vibrancy. Furthermore, the current drive towards export promotion is also designed to correct the past neglect to develop the nation's resources for the socio-economic transformation of the country and to minimise dependence on oil as the major foreign exchange earner for the country. It behoves all of us to be patriotic, loyal and dedicated to the national course so that this great country might become a place of pride for us all and for future generations.

I wish to use this opportunity to appeal to our industrialists and manufacturers to make every effort to ensure that Nigerians have value for their money. An increased commitment is desired for an improvement of the

quality of home-made goods so that Nigerians might be convinced that our manufacturers are not all out to make quick money at their expense. Whilst governments at the various levels are mustering efforts to protect home industries, our industrialists and manufacturers are hereby called upon to reciprocate the good gesture of government by producing goods of high quality that can compare favourably with imported materials.

Today is Oyo State Day. I invite you all to go round the pavilions to see the agricultural, mineral and industrial potentials of Oyo State. Apart from promoting our goods and securing markets for them, this occasion affords us the opportunity of exploring new areas of business ventures to strengthen existing trade links between Oyo State and other states of the Federation. Visitors to Oyo State stand will be fascinated by a variety of home-made goods ranging from Oyo calabash carvings, ceramics, leather works, traditional aso-oke and a host of other products made from agricultural produce in the state.

I wish to say at this point that the Government of Oyo State will provide a package of incentives to would-be investors. This package includes provision of land, possibly on our industrial estates, quick and efficient processing of Certificate of Occupancy, provision of free advisory and counselling services and equity participation in viable projects. All these and many more are being packaged together in an industrial policy that will soon be released to members of the public. I take this opportunity to invite investors to Oyo State to take advantage of the various industrial possibilities as well as the hospitality of the people.

Once more, I wish to congratulate the Ondo State Government, the Akure Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture and the Ondo State Investments Holding Company Limited for their role and commitment in making this trade fair a reality. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to thank you all for your interest in sparing the time to witness Oyo State Day at this fair.

Thank you and God bless.

## GOVERNOR ORESANYA AT KADUNA TRADE FAIR

*Many Nigerians know more about the potentialities of foreign countries than those available in this country. Such is an unfortunate situation which constant floating of trade fairs is expected to correct.*

*At the 11th Kaduna International Trade Fair on February 20, 1989.*

I have great pleasure in welcoming you all on behalf of the Government and people of Oyo State to the 11th Kaduna International Trade Fair. I wish to commend the efforts of the Kaduna Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for its vision and efforts in the national crusade designed to show that Nigeria is potentially endowed with a lot of exportable resources which, if fully tapped, are capable of propelling the country to self-reliance and self-sustenance. I also commend the consistency and the high quality of annual fairs floated by the chamber over the past years.

I have been reliably informed that the theme of this year's fair is "Co-ordinating Agriculture, Industry and Commerce for Economic Growth". The theme could not have come at a better time than now when emphasis of government is on local sourcing of raw materials for our numerous industries. It will be recalled that our present economic predicament was caused mainly by the distorted economic development which placed emphasis on massive importation of foreign goods to satisfy our prematurely elitist tastes. In the light of our painful experience, we need to harness our resources and return the economy to the old glorious days of massive exportation of primary produce, processed industrial products and works of arts of high quality. We have to appreciate the fact that the unalloyed co-operation and commitment of all Nigerians is of the essence in this regard. We must all work assiduously and conscientiously as a nation to guarantee our survival by making the best use of our locally available resources.

Like all other trade fairs held in other parts of the federation, the 11th Kaduna International Trade Fair will generate awareness and considerable interest among businessmen and women and members of the public about investment and business opportunities which exist in all the participating states. As you are aware, trade fairs held on regular basis serve to bring together investment promoters, industrialists, entrepreneurs, business consultants, distributors of goods and services as well as traders. It is hoped that the classes of people involved in this fair will seize the opportunities offered and explore the industrial and commercial potentialities of Oyo State in particular and of other states in general in maximising the gains of participation. Furthermore, the organisers of this fair should document all the resources exhibited at this fair with a view to circulating them among the national and international business communities as reference materials for necessary follow-up actions.

I have observed that many Nigerians know more about the potentialities of foreign countries than those available in this country, it is unfortunate. However, the consolation lies in the fact that constant floating of trade fairs, backed by aggressive marketing strategy, will make Nigerians to be better

educated on the resource potentials of the country, and be made aware of the resources available in those states other than their own. I wish to take this opportunity to appeal to manufacturers and industrialists to produce goods of very high quality that will sustain the interests of Nigerians, in home-made goods and dissuade those who might be tempted to have flair for imported materials. Furthermore, prices placed on such goods and services should be fairly reasonable and not exploitative.

Today is Oyo State Day. The Day has its own significance. Apart from putting into focus the exportable items of trade available in the state, the Oyo State Day will provide opportunities to business men and women, industrialists etc. new areas of business ventures that can strengthen the trade link between Oyo State and other parts of Nigeria as well as other parts of the world. Let me assure you all, visitors to Oyo State stand will have a lot to be interested in these range from reputable Oyo calabash/ceramic wares to the traditional aso-ofi and Leather Works which are strong evidences of Yoruba civilization, varieties of modern agro-industrial products etc. Visitors to Oyo State stand will also have the opportunity of catching a glimpse of the tourism potentials of the state and see pictures of various historical monuments and other geographical phenomena existing in the state as places of interest to be visited by Nigerians and foreigners alike.

At this juncture, the pertinent question that should be asked is whether or not the objectives of the organisers have been achieved, having regard to the theme of this fair, I wish to aver with a deep sense of satisfaction that the current drive is a necessary step directed towards correcting the past imbalance and to foster all round development of the nation's resources and thereby minimise the over-dependence on oil as the main source of our foreign earnings. To be able to consolidate our gains, the Nigerian Export Promotion Council and all the relevant Federal Government agencies have the responsibility of revising the list of exportable products from time to time to reflect new ideas and new areas of discovery as well as embarking on an aggressive marketing strategy. The laws of this country which penalise poor quality products should be enforced against those manufacturers who revel in shady business by turning out low quality goods. Both the Standard Organisation of Nigeria as well as the Nigerian Exports Consultative Council have a major role to play in this regard so that the illegalities being committed by some unpatriotic manufacturers can be wiped out.

Let me also seize this opportunity to call on Nigerian universities as well as the research institutes to make available to the public and private sectors of the economy their research efforts designed to boost the production of high quality consumer and capital goods.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, once more, I congratulate the Kaduna Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for the achievements recorded so far in the efforts to chart a new course of economic history for this country. I also wish to thank you all for sparing the time to witness Oyo State Day at this international trade fair. You are welcome to Oyo State to take advantage of the traditional hospitality of the people. I assure you that it will be a home away from home.

Thank you.

## OYO STATE INTEGRATED SCHEME COOPERATIVE GROUPS PRESENTED WITH CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

*The greatest emphasis of Government of the State Integrated Scheme is in the area of resettlement of the participants. This objective is seen to be realised with the signing of loan agreements by 34 cooperative societies consisting of 754 members engaged in agriculture and various vocational and technical entrepreneurship in 1989. Also, 13 cooperative groups in the field of agriculture received similar loan in 1988.*

*At Ibadan on March 31, 1989.*

It gives me a great pleasure to be in your midst this morning and be part of this epoch-making event in the history of the search for a better society for future generation of Nigerians. I wish to recall that the need for a lasting solution to youth unemployment in Oyo State led to the establishment of the Oyo State Integrated Self-Employment Scheme. The scheme is designed to generate the spirit of self-employment among youths. It would also be recalled that the populist mass education programme of the previous administrations in Oyo State contributed in a large measure to the increasing pool of secondary school leavers into the unemployment market. It was the concern which government has for the fate of the unemployed youths that led to the establishment of the Tunde Oshobi Commission. A careful consideration of the recommendation of that panel led to the establishment in February, 1986 of the Oyo State Intergrated Self-Employment Scheme under the chairmanship of Colonel D.B. Laoye (rtd.). I make bold to say that the scheme is the first of its kind in the entire federation. I, therefore wish at this juncture, to express hearty congratulations to the founding fathers of the Integrated Self-Employment Scheme for the ingenuity and foresight. The modest achievement which the scheme has recorded within its short life span would not have been recorded if the founding fathers had not thought of and provided a solid foundation upon which the programme rests.

The intention of the scheme is to assist young secondary school leavers towards acquisition of skills in agricultural and other vocational and technical trades through a two-year training programme. The ultimate objective as mentioned earlier is to generate among youths the spirit of self-employment and economic self reliance. The scheme has no doubt gone a long way in reducing rural-urban drift of these young people who could have flooded the few urban centres in search of non-existent jobs. These new breed of young farmers and artisans, by their acquired skills, would no doubt serve as good examples to the rural populace who need practical examples to convince them of the need to change for the better their approach to production techniques.

The Oyo State Integrated Self-Employment Scheme which started in February, 1986 with the agricultural programme in four local government areas has been expanded to cover in 1989 twelve local government areas while the recruitment of participants is made in such a way that covers all

the nooks and corners of Oyo State. Perhaps the greatest emphasis of government in the OSISES programme is in the area of resettlement of the graduates of the scheme's training programme. The resettlement programme is to set the youths on the path of self-employment and is predicated on the formation of cooperative societies. This is so because in Oyo State the role of cooperative societies in the socio-economic transformation of the communities has been realised and government is convinced that it is only through cooperative societies that the maximum benefits derivable by the participants from the OSISES scheme can materialise.

Today we are gathered here to witness the signing of loan agreements by a total of (34) thirty-four new cooperatives societies consisting of 754 members engaged in agriculture and various vocational and technical entrepreneurship. A year ago when this type of ceremony was being performed, it was for only thirteen (13) cooperative groups and only in the field of agriculture. The total loan package is to the tune of ₦2 million made up of ₦1.7 million to be disbursed to the participants in vocational and technical programmes by the Oyo State Government through the Small-Scale Industrial Loan Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and ₦1.0 million to be disbursed to participants in the agricultural programme through the Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank with headquarter at Kaduna.

Honourable Minister, distinguished guest, ladies and gentlemen, it is my sincere hope that the beneficiaries of this programme will try their best in making the best out of the scheme and give it the desired multiplier effect among the generality of the people of Oyo State. It is also my hope that this loan agreement signing ceremony will serve as an impetus to the participants with a view to enabling them achieve greater height in their chosen profession.

I wish at this juncture, to place on record my sincere gratitude to various organisations and individuals who have contributed in one form or the other to the success of the Oyo State Integrated Self-Employment Scheme. The contribution of the following organisations are noteworthy: the National Directorate of Employment which took over the training programme of the participants in the vocational and technical arm of OSISES; the Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank which provided the loan made available to the participants in the agricultural programme, traditional rulers who provided the pieces of land on which the OSISES farms are located and most importantly to the out-going Executive Director, Directorate of Rural Development, Retired Col. David Bankole Laoye who nurtured the scheme from its teething stage to the present level it has reached. The kind gesture exhibited individually and collectively by people connected with the scheme has convinced me to the commitment of our people to the welfare of our children. I hope government can still count on your future cooperation.

Thank you.

## TRANS INT. BANK BOARD OF DIRECTOR INAUGURATED

*The Trans International Bank Limited is established with the purpose of mobilisation of savings, provision of employment and for development of additional source of income for government to meet its social and economic commitment to the citizenry.*

*At the Executive Council Chambers in Ibadan on April 3, 1989.*

It is my great pleasure this morning to perform the inauguration ceremony of the Board of Directors of the Oyo State owned bank named Trans International Bank Limited.

The process of establishing the state bank started at about 1982 when the government decided to have a bank of its own. The proposal became a reality in 1987 when the Central Bank granted the state a licence to establish and operate a bank. The total share capital of the bank is ₦10 million, which initially has been fully paid up by the State Government. The proposal is that the share will be open to the public in due course.

The construction of the headquarters building of the bank is already in progress and it is hoped that it would be completed before the end of the year. Meanwhile, however, the bank is using the old Kingsway Stores, Ibadan which has been re-structured and renovated to enable the Trans International Bank start operations.

In furtherance of the objectives of the establishment of the bank, government considers it necessary at this stage to set up a new Board of Directors to guide the operations and the successful take-off of the bank. The chairman and members of the Board have been selected on their personal merit. It is, therefore, your duty to ensure that the objectives of government in setting up the bank are achieved. I have confidence in all of you that you will not let the bank be let down.

May I seize this opportunity to thank the former Board of Directors of the Bank for a job well-done. It is believed that the new board will take off from where the former left and aspire to reach the top.

I need to reiterate that the rationale behind the setting up of the bank are as follows:-

- (i) mobilisation of savings for the purpose of investment generally;
- (ii) extension of banking facilities and promotion of banking habits in the rural areas for the rapid economic development of the state;
- (iii) provision of employment for the citizens of the state and in particular the development of the requisite skills and expertise in banking among such citizens;
- (iv) development of an additional source of income for the government to meet its social and economic commitment to the citizenry especially at a time of diminishing allocation from traditional sources;
- (v) stemming the tide of rural-urban migration particularly among the youth by providing job opportunities in the rural areas through the spin-off effect of banks on the economy.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my honour and privilege to inaugurate the new Board of Directors for the Trans International Bank Limited.

I thank you.

## COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL POLICY INAUGURATED

*The State Government has established an Industrial Infrastructural Development Fund into which one per cent of the state's proceeds from the Federation Account is credited and with this the government hopes to develop industrial estate in each of the eligible areas of the state.*

*At Executive Council Chambers, Ibadan on May 24, 1989.*

As you will probably recall, the Federal Military Government launched an Industrial Policy for Nigeria sometime ago. The decision was informed by the awareness that Nigeria has a weak industrial base inspite of its numerous resources with which she is endowed. These include entrepreneurial talent, various types of natural resources and a large market. To meaningfully tap these resources, the Federal Government is convinced of the need for a package of industrial development strategies and incentives. Reforms are also required to simplify the processes which prospective investors have to go through in the establishment of new industries. The policy package also includes concessions to entrepreneurs who invest in economically disadvantaged areas of the country. Such investors are entitled to income tax rebates and other concessions.

However, the National Industrial Policy encompasses general incentives and inducements that will be applicable throughout the country. Given the heterogenous nature of the country in several respects, the national policy understandably will not cover all the peculiarities of the different states. Hence, the Oyo State Government decided to set up a Committee on Industrial Policy for the State. The committee would be expected to identify the peculiar features of Oyo State and use this to build on the industrial policy enunciated for the country. Given this, the committee would identify further areas for incremental incentives which will help further in attracting investors to the state.

To enhance the quality of its recommendations, the committee needs to be reminded of some enduring features of Oyo State bearing on the nature of its task. Oyo is obviously the most urbanized of all the states of the federation, with many large cities and towns. This in no small measures, accounts for the demand pressure on employment and social facilities through migration of the inhabitants of the relatively rural areas to the urban centres. This tendency has resulted in a high unemployment rate in the state. The state is, however, endowed with many resources which, if properly harnessed, can enhance an accelerated economic development of the state. In addition to various types of minerals, the state can boast of several agricultural and forests resources, which span both the rain and savannah belts of the country.

In its numerous attempts to enhance a commercial and industrial development of the state, the government had over time initiated some moves. As early as 1974 it established the Small-Scale Industries Credit Scheme. This was followed in 1987 with the establishment of an Industrial Development Fund with an initial grant of ₦10 million for medium-sized industrial outfits. Some

well-meaning applicants have benefitted from this scheme. To stem the tide of unemployment in the state, the government established the Oyo State Integrated Self-Employment Scheme for fresh graduates who are being provided with soft loans.

The State Government has also not relented its efforts at providing infrastructural facilities conducive to investment. As at now, the state government has established an Industrial Infrastructural Development Fund into which one per cent of the state's proceeds from the Federation Account is credited. With this, the government hopes to develop industrial estate in each of the eligible areas of the state. This present administration can also boast of spectacular achievements regarding the provision of water and electricity to the rural areas, with an eventual aim of providing, as soon as possible, electricity facilities to any village with a population of 500 and above.

These efforts have recently been complemented by the activities of the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure, especially in areas of water and electricity supplies, as well as opening up of roads leading into the rural areas. All of these are in addition to the rendition of free advisory and technical services to interested investors by the appropriate agencies of government. Furthermore, the commercialization/privatization programme is being actively pursued by the state government.

In spite of the numerous efforts noted above, Oyo still remains an industrially deprived state. Herein lies the core of this committee's assignment. The committee is expected to take an inventory of the incentives provided, so far by the state government and those offered under the National Industrial Policy for Nigeria, and thereby evolve additional incentives to bail out the state from its present unsatisfactory state of industrial development. Specifically, the terms of reference of the committee are the following:-

- (i) to identify and address constraints to rapid industrial development of the state;
- (ii) to identify preferred industrial sub-sectors to which special attention should be paid, given the macro-economic objectives of the state;
- (iii) to identify and suggest means of harnessing the agricultural, mineral and human resources for the industrial development of the state;
- (iv) to suggest industrial incentives incremental to those already initiated by both the State and the Federal Governments that will make the state relatively more attractive to genuine investors;
- (v) to examine and make recommendations on any other matters which in the opinion of the committee are relevant to the realisation of the industrialization objectives of the state government, and
- (vi) to recommend an Industrial Policy for Oyo State.

The task of the committee is no doubt onerous. However, we believe that with the right calibre of personnel, the objectives of the exercise will be meaningfully achieved. Hence, the state government embarked on an extensive research for the appropriate type of her human resources which will no doubt do justice to the assignment. I have, therefore, ensured that the membership of the committee reflects actual practitioners in the industrial sector, the organised private sector, visibly successful entrepreneurs and efficient

managers of corporate resources, bankers and academicians who are acclaimed experts in the field. May I reiterate that the government is looking up to you to provide meaningful clues to her industrialisation problems. Given the calibre of the members of the committee, I am sure we will not be disappointed. You are free to invite memoranda from all relevant sources, while the cooperation of the appropriate agencies of government will be readily available whenever required. I also wish to take this opportunity to commend the efforts of members of Oshobi Committee that have done some preliminary work in this aspect. I believe members of this committee would find the document very useful.

I now have the greatest pleasure to formally inaugurate the Committee on Industrial Policy for Oyo State. The committee is given *eight weeks* to submit its report.

While thanking the members for accepting to serve on this committee, I wish them successful deliberations.

Thank you.

#### Committee on Industrial Policy for Oyo State

1. Mr. Akin Akinola — Managing Director,  
International Breweries Limited, Ilesa  
— Chairman
2. Professor Olukunle Iyanda — Rector, The Polytechnic, Ibadan.  
— Member
3. Mr. Tunde Oshobi — National Vice-President,  
Manufacturers' Association of Nigeria  
— Member
4. Dr. Olu Ajakaiye — NISER, Ibadan.  
— Member
5. Prince Abimbola Makanjuola — Chamber of Commerce, Industries,  
Mines and Agriculture  
— Member
6. Mrs. Mosun Togunu-Bickerspeth — Nigeria Association of Small-Scale  
Industrialists (NASSI), Oyo State  
Chapter  
— Member
7. Professor A. Odetola — Centre for Industrial Research,  
Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.  
— Member
8. Dr. Razak Olopoenia — Department of Economics,  
University of Ibadan.  
— Member
9. Mr. M. K. Duyile — Nigerian Bank for Commerce and  
Industry, Ibadan.  
— Member
10. Mr. A. A. Ajani — Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey  
— Member

11. Mr. Ayo Fapohunda – Director-General, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ibadan.  
– Member
12. Mr. A. P. Omiyale – Director of Industries, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ibadan.  
– Member
13. Mr. S. A. Adedokun – Director of Investment Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ibadan.  
– Member/Secretary.

### NIGERIAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION CONFAB OPENED

*There is need for intensification of production efforts and aggressive marketing strategies so as to open up markets for the products of our industries.*

*In Ibadan on June 16, 1989.*

I feel highly honoured by the invitation to declare open the 1989 national conference and annual general meeting of your association taking place today here in Ibadan. About six and half months ago, specifically on 24th November, 1988, the official inauguration of your association, Oyo State chapter, took place at this same hotel. I am reliably informed that your association has a membership of about 2,000 in the individual and corporate categories spread across the federation. I have no doubt that you will strive to achieve an increased number through your activities in various parts of the country.

For a virile economy, there is need for intensification of production efforts and aggressive marketing strategies so as to open up markets for the products of our industries. I am happy to note the efforts of your association in handling marketing and marketing-related programmes in order to promote opportunities for developing marketing philosophy and concepts to meet the aspirations and yearnings of consumers. It is a popular axiom that the producer is not seen to be productive until his products are favourably accepted by the consumer.

Your association should then act as the mid-wife between the producers and the consumers. You will ensure that products that are released to the market are of the right quality and prices. Most of us are quite aware of the tendency of some unscrupulous persons in the society to flood the market with adulterated goods. This is a sad trend. Such people fraudulently exploit the current scarcity to supply sub-standard goods to the market, knowing fully well that many consumers are ignorant of the underlying gimmicks. The Nigerian Marketing Association should intensify its efforts at combating such unwholesome practices. The members should work in close collaboration with various governmental agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration Unit of the Ministry of Health, the Standard Organization of Nigeria, etc. There should also be a close liaison with the Manufacturers' Association of Nigeria and the Association of Small-Scale Industrialists. These associations must

be made aware of the need for quality control in their production processes. I am aware of the contribution of your association in organising seminars and pre-budget workshops. I am equally appreciative of your efforts in launching the 'Marketing Journal' as the official bulletin of your association.

Permit me to say that the concept of marketing goes beyond the exchange of tangible products. It includes the marketing of services both in the public and private sectors. The Nigerian Marketing Association should, therefore, intensify its role in this direction.

We are all aware of the problems of high prices of goods and services in the country, an issue which is of major concern to the present administration. Available information suggests that one major cause of this undesirable societal phenomenon is the unwholesome practices of commercial houses and the retailers. As a result the scarcity of consumer goods had been aggravated by hoarding and hence the attendant astronomical increases in prices. I think your association should take an indepth look at this problem with a view to proffering meaningful solutions and practical suggestions to be implemented by the government. It is not in the interests of these agents to continue to maximise profits in a manner that will lead to economic and social chaos.

The Oyo State Government on its own part, is tackling the issue of rising prices of food items. It has set up a Task Force on Public Enlightenment on Food Prices. It has established farmers' markets in many local government areas. It has supported and encouraged the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructures in opening up many rural roads. It will soon introduce to the market, a standard 'kongo' measure to frustrate those who manipulate the measures currently in use. Efforts are also going on to develop industrial estates all over the state to facilitate production of required products for the populace. This is consistent with our view that, to be effective, the demand management strategies of the government must be complemented with policies that will encourage adequate supply of goods and services. Of course the

government is open to suggestions not only in terms of fresh ideas but also on how to effectively implement the government's existing laudable ideas.

I am happy to note that the Nigerian Marketing Association is poised to provide suggestions that will assist the Federal Military Government in its economic recovery drive. The government introduced the Structural Adjustment Programme as part of a package, but this has been assaulted by very many people and groups without their proffering feasible alternatives. Your association has now taken up the challenge. I am fascinated by the various sub-themes to be discussed at your conference. Efforts aimed at economic recovery have, social, financial and marketing perspectives and these should be intensively discussed at your conference. Government and the public at large are anxiously waiting for your suggestions aimed at getting the economy out of the woods.

I am happy to welcome you to Ibadan, the Oyo State capital. I hope you will find time to visit some of the attractive spots and taste of the traditional hospitality of the good people of Oyo State.

I wish you successful deliberations.

Thank you all.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MEETS

*Education, a corner-stone for other developments, deserves priority attention for purpose of achieving the needed technological break-through. This is why Oyo State Government accords education a high premium. For the past decade, education has been attracting almost half of the state's expenditure.*

*— In Ibadan, August 11, 1988.*

First and foremost, I heartily welcome all delegates to Ibadan for this 34th National Meeting. It is really a great pleasure for the government and people of Oyo State to play host to such a galaxy of educationists and education administrators as are here gathered. I like to seize this opportunity to re-assure you that this state has always held your council in high esteem, being the nation's highest body on educational matters. I sincerely hope that, as usual, your deliberations will contribute in no small measure to the orderly development of the educational sector of our national life. Like its counterparts in the federation, Oyo State accords education a high premium. In fact, for the past decade or so, education has been attracting about 40% of the state's annual capital and recurrent expenditure. With 130 nursery schools, 50 private primary schools, 2,534 public primary schools, 613 secondary schools, six technical colleges, eight grade two teachers' colleges, three colleges of education, one college of arts and science and one polytechnic with four satellite campuses, education is, indeed, a big industry in the state.

In addition, the various areas which the Federal Military Government has declared as those of policy-impact have been receiving our special attention. Thus, we have committed a lot of money to the successful implementation of the 6-3-3-4 system of education, for the erection of technical workshops and the procurement of equipment and educational materials. In the same vein, women education is being given the desired boost. As regards the nomadic education programme, I am pleased to inform this august gathering that we are now poised for its implementation, having formally launched the programme in the state a couple of weeks ago. In the areas of special education, our handi-capped children, as well as their gifted counterparts are being catered for appropriately. Also, we have just established our State Library Board and the Agency for Adult and Non-Formal Education as a further boost to our efforts in the area of formal and non-formal education.

Our post-secondary institutions have been established to cater for the yearnings of our secondary school leavers for further education, as well as for the state's manpower needs. However, they have been found to be inadequate. In spite of the large size of our educational base, we are the only state in the southern part of the country without its own university. This has seriously restricted the chances of our children for university education. The presence of two Federal universities in the state has not helped our cause because of the admission policies. I sincerely hope that, when we have the wherewithal to establish our own university, the Federal Military

Government will consent and readily assist in its early take-off.

At this point, I wish to draw attention to certain problems now facing the nation's education system, and which require priority attention, if meaningful education is to be provided and maximum benefits derived therefrom. Some of these problems that readily come to mind are:

- (i) The poor condition of our primary school buildings, due to old age and lack of adequate maintenance;
- (ii) acute shortage of classroom accommodation in our primary schools;
- (iii) recent widespread damages to our school buildings by rainstorms;
- (iv) under-staffing of our schools and colleges, as a result of inadequate funding
- (v) shortage of funds for the prompt erection of junior secondary school workshops;
- (vi) shortage of teachers of certain key subjects under the 6-3-3-4 system namely, the major Nigerian languages, introductory technology, home economics and business education;
- (vii) non-availability of relevant books and other instructional materials, and their prohibitive costs when they are available; and
- (viii) lack of adequate employment opportunities for the products of our educational system.

Solutions to these problems are definitely beyond the resources of most of the states in the country — especially in the face of the limited revenue base of all of them. It is, therefore, gratifying to note that of recent, the Federal Government has been trying to aid the states by the provision of some instructional materials and, lately, by making a promise to pay a substantial part of the personal emoluments of primary school teaching and non-teaching staff. I am also aware, from recent press statements, that the book-crisis is already receiving the attention of the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council. Similarly, the problem of unemployment for our educated youth is being tackled through the National Directorate of Employment. Furthermore, I hereby assure the Honourable Minister of Education that the states are quite appreciative of the rehabilitation grants made available to us by the Federal Military Government in 1986. But, considering the large number of our primary schools needing urgent rehabilitation work, these grants can, at best, be regarded as a mere drop in the ocean or a tip of the iceberg.

As for shortage of teachers of technical subjects, it is heartening to note that the Federal Ministry of Education has already taken steps to establish six new colleges of education (technical) and eight new technical colleges to produce teachers of technical subjects as well as technicians and craftsmen. Oyo State thanks the Federal Military Government for siting one of the Federal Technical Colleges in Ilesha, but the Federal Ministry of Education is hereby urged to quicken the take-off of the college. We would also welcome the siting of a college of education (technical) in the state. In the meantime, members should also pursue more vigorously, the decisions taken in Bauchi with respect to short-term and long-term solutions to the problem of

shortage of teachers of Nigerian Languages.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, before I end this address, I wish to emphasise that the issue of education should be given a priority attention in our national planning, in order to achieve the technological break-through which we are now clamouring to attain. In this, the Federal Military Government has to give the lead, morally and financially. Although, I am fully aware of the responsibilities of the Federal Military Government to other sectors of our national life, I wish to appeal for more Federal assistance to the states in the field of education — especially at the primary school level. Education is expensive, but it is certainly less expensive than ignorance! Education is surely the corner-stone for every other development.

Finally, I have no doubt in my mind that your deliberations in the next couple of days would contribute immensely to the educational advancement of this country. It is obvious that your programme for this meeting will be a crowded one. Nevertheless, I advise that you find the time to visit places of interest in this largest African city of Ibadan, meet old friends and make new acquaintances. At the end of your meeting, I wish you all a safe return to your various destinations.

On this note, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to hereby declare open the 34th Meeting of the National Council on Education.

Thank you and God bless.



*The importance of books in educational development of any nation cannot be over-emphasised. Here, Col. Oresanya glances through a book during the 1st Ibadan Books and Educational Materials Fair.*

*Corps members, wherever they are posted, should regard their posting as national call to duty and serve dutifully.*

*— At Ede on October 20, 1988.*

Today marks the end of a five-week NYSC orientation course in Oyo State, during which 1,544 of you took part.

There is no doubt that those of you who have got some mind of what the National Youth Service Corps Orientation Programme looks like must have reported on the camp grudgingly. The fear of the rigours — real or imagined — must have been responsible for this. I have no doubt in my mind too that by now such people must have been so used to the early morning exercises and drills and found them physically and mentally helpful that they would willingly continue on their own in their places of primary assignment and beyond.

Besides, the leadership and citizenship training must have equipped you adequately for the task ahead. For example, I understand that some of you were involved in the general administration of the camp. Some of you had cooked, understandably, for the first time in their lives during the orientation course. This is part of the lessons in self-reliance as most of you would have to prepare your meal at your places of primary assignment. I assure you that you will later recall, with pride and a sense of achievement, the joy of having gone through a challenging but highly rewarding orientation programme.

I am told that postings to your various places of primary assignments will be released immediately after this ceremony. As you must have learnt by now, Oyo State consists of 24 local government areas with varying degrees of urbanisation. I enjoy you to be adventurous and accept your postings without rancour or bitterness but with the avowed determination to leave your host communities better than you met them. Remember that, however, seemingly remote your place of primary assignment might be, corps members have served there before and have contributed their own quota to the development of the community.

It is relevant to inform you that the people of Oyo State are very hospitable and accommodating. You will soon discover this through your close association with them. You will also pleasantly discover the many similarities in our cultures but where you find a little difference here or there, respect the people's tradition, norms and ways of life generally.

Here I want to note with satisfaction the laudable achievements of your predecessors in service particularly in the area of Community Development Service programme (CDS). They constructed bridges and bus-stops, built public toilets, dug wells, sculpted statues in memory of our past heroes and heroines, engaged in house numbering, conducted immunisation programmes, environmental sanitation campaigns and landscaping and beautification of our towns and villages. In sum, they identified and executed such projects as are the felt-needs of their host communities in order to raise their standard of living.

One of such indelible marks left behind by your immediate predecessors is the architectural design of a befitting Amusement Park of Ibadan, capital of Oyo State. Other initial professional jobs on the project had been concluded by them before a "N1 million Amusement Park Appeal Fund" was launched on July 19, this year. I have no doubt that you will strenuously continue from where they parted.

Laudable as these achievements are, I charge you to improve on them by being more resourceful, more purposeful, more dedicated and more patriotic. Let selfless service be your watch-word throughout the service year and beyond. You should not regard your one year of national service as a period of sinecure appointment — an appointment where you merely take your allowance at the end of every month without corresponding duties. I also enjoin you not to regard the 12 months of national service as a period of jamboree and unguarded revelry — a period you can use for relaxation after burning your candles at both ends while preparing for your final examinations. Rather, regard it as a period when you too can make your own contribution towards building an egalitarian society.

You should, therefore, shun abscondment and absenteeism. Absenteeism, for your purpose, is not merely being absent from your place of work for a day or two but it also means being not physically present at your duty post for a minute or two when you are supposed to be there.

For effective utilisation, your performance in your places of primary assignment will be closely monitored by not only the National Youth Service Corps Inspectors who will be paying scheduled as well as unscheduled visits to you but also by other authorised persons some of whom you may not know. Being fresh from school and bubbling with new ideas, I urge you to do your best without being supervised.

At this juncture, I wish to ask employers of corps members to make the best use of them in order to avoid under-utilisation. They should, however, do their best to make the corps members happy. Since shelter, for example, is one of the basic necessities of life, it is mandatory for employers to provide modest accommodation for the corps members in their establishments. It is also necessary to remind all employers of corps members about payment of transport allowance to them whether they are housed or not. Also important to the effective utilisation of corps members is provision of necessary tools and equipment to work with.

It is needless to stress that gone are the days when it was normal, to expect that on graduation from any of the nation's tertiary institutions, one would secure automatic life-time job even among several alternatives. The attitude and orientation of majority of our young graduates then, was that creative thinking and individual initiative ended when they wrote their final examination.

Most important among the steps being taken by the Federal Military Government in salvaging the youths from the mass unemployment syndrome is the organisation of the Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) whose objectives are geared towards encouraging self-employment, equipping potential entrepreneurs with techniques for successful management of small

and medium scale industries, and uplifting the dignity of self-reliance among our youths.

I have been reliably informed that the programme was successfully conducted at this camp and that you all seized the opportunity to get yourselves ready for the task ahead. It is my hope, in fact my expectation, that at the end of your period of national service, many of you would have succeeded in having feasibility studies that would qualify you for bankable businesses. It is only by so doing that we can together build a nation that we all can be justifiably proud of.

I am aware that government is not unaware of the inadequacy of camp facilities available here. Let me assure you that this administration will look into the possibility of giving further assistance in due course to make life more comfortable for both corps members and camp officials and, more importantly, to make the National Youth Service Corps Orientation Programme a more rewarding one.

I am aware that you have been warned against making indiscriminate and unauthorised journeys. You have just completed your university and professional education. Your parents, spouses, relations, friends, and, indeed, the nation need you and we do not want to lose you at the threshold of the fulfilment of our hopes in you. You should, therefore, travel very RELUCTANTLY even when it is ABSOLUTELY necessary for you to do so and this you must do with the express permission of the appropriate authorities. The nation has lost enough of our promising youths through road accidents!

I cannot end this address without commending the camp officials who by their maturity, dedication to duty, understanding and selflessness, have contributed in their various ways in making this orientation course a huge success.

Finally, I urge you to meditate and ponder anew after this ceremony on how best you can serve the nation this service year and also make up your mind that you will, more than ever before, strive to be in pursuit of excellence at all times.

I wish you a memorable and an enjoyable service year.

Thank you and God bless.

#### GOVERNING COUNCIL OF NCE ILESIA RECONSTITUTED

*At this austere times, the council must ensure that the limited resources available to the college are most judiciously utilized.*

*- At the Executive Council Chambers, Ibadan on November 3, 1988.*

Today, a new chapter is being opened in the annals of the Oyo State College of Education, Ilesia. It is my fervent hope that the inauguration of its fifth governing council will herald dawn of peace and progress, open a new vista and wider horizon for the college.

First and foremost, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the chairman and members of the new Governing Council of the Oyo State

College of Education, Ilesha on their appointments. I want them to see themselves as representing the entire people of Oyo State in overseeing the affairs of the college. They should not regard themselves as representing any particular geographical, ethnic, religious or social interest. It is my ardent hope that they will deal promptly and effectively with situations and incidents which are likely to lead to deterioration in relations between the management and staff on one hand, and staff and students on the other. Coincidentally, some of the members of the former council have been re-appointed. They should be an effective link between the past and the future and thus save the new council from the unpleasantness of making the same mistakes as its predecessor.

This college, which was established in 1978, is the first college of education in the state and should naturally, be a pride to us all and a shining example in good things to its sister colleges. It is not too much to expect that the vision of the founding fathers will be translated into reality. If I may briefly recapitulate, the functions of the college, are:

" . . . to provide studies in education and for the purpose of carrying out that function it shall be the duty of the college, so far as its resources permit, to provide facilities for activities including the following —

- (a) courses of instruction leading to National Certificate in Education or its equivalent, in such subjects as may from time to time be determined by the academic board;
- (b) such other activities as may in the opinion of the governing council serve to promote the objectives of the college".

In order to facilitate the performance of these functions, government has made huge investments in terms of high calibre academic and non-academic as well as supporting staff, physical structures, equipment and other infra-structural facilities in the college. However, in spite of all these, although the college has managed, over the years, to record some laudable achievements, it has not grown to its full stature and taken on effectively the leadership role which history has placed at its feet. This is hardly surprising considering the fact that, from its inception, the institution has been bedevilled by internal wrangling and rancour, ethnic rivalry, rumour peddling, petition writing and an undesirable measure of maladministration and financial mismanagement.

You are no doubt aware that the college has gone through a series of crisis since its establishment. You are also probably aware of the chain of events which has led to the dissolution of the last governing council, the crisis in the college and its most recent closure. In spite of the unhappy circumstances which led to the dissolution of the council, I would wish, at this juncture, to thank the Chairman and members of the dissolved governing council for sacrificing their time and energy to serve the college, and, thereby, the state. Although that council was easily impressed and behaved like a weak and over-indulgent father, it nevertheless, made its own contributions towards the development of the college. I wish members of that council better luck in all their future endeavours.

The untimely dissolution of the council left a yawning gap in the administration of the college which had been like a flock of sheep without a shepherd. For the past few months, my office and that of the Commissioner for Education have been inundated with petitions and counter-petitions regarding the high handed solo administration consequent on the dissolution of the council. Simply put, the present position in the college is like that of a rumbling volcano. The prevention of an eruption depends largely on the

skill, tact and seriousness with which you members of the new governing council handle your assignment. Your position now is like that of a surgeon whose patients survival from the operating table depends mainly on the dexterity with which he handles his scapel and other surgical tools.

Therefore, there is no doubt that you have an herculean task to perform. All eyes will be on you and many more people than you may imagine will follow with keen interest every step you take. I will advice that you first quickly study and assess the situation of the college with a view to identifying the problems, and their root causes. After identifying the problems, you should take the bull by the horn and proffer effective solutions to them, rather than adopt a line of least resistance. I enjoin you to tackle the problems you identify with courage, firmness and fair play. It is my fervent prayer that you may succeed.

There are some important issues to which I would like to draw your attention. First is the need to re-establish confidence and credibility in the college as a property of the whole state. The College of Education, Ilesa belongs to Oyo State and must be seen as such. All qualified students of Oyo State origin must feel free and eligible to seek admission into the college. Similarly, all qualified personnel, whose services are needed, must feel free to seek employment into the institution. Some misguided elements should stop regarding the college as the exclusive property of a section of the state. Next is the need to exercise more control on the management of the finances of the institution. You should re-examine the on-going projects and prioritise them. These are austere times and we must cut our coat according to our cloth. You must ensure that the limited resources available to the college are most judiciously utilized. Another issue is that of members of staff who have been placed on suspension by one faction of the administration or the other. Their cases should be looked into in order to rectify any miscarriage of justice wherever it exists.

As I said earlier on, the college has been bedevilled by one crisis or the other since its establishments in 1978. On each occasion, the Provost had been the sacrificial lamb. Thus, within its ten years of existence, the college has had five Provosts — three on substantive appointments and two in acting capacity. This sort of instability is not doing the college any good and must not be allowed to continue any longer. The recent trouble has clearly shown that, while they were not angels, the Provosts have not always been solely responsible for the crisis. It would appear that there are some cantankerous elements in the college who, apart from being of doubtful integrity, take immense joy in fomenting trouble. You should therefore, note that the recent retirement of the last Provost is only the first step in finding a lasting

solution to the problems of the college. I want the new council to work in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education in identifying those disruptive elements with a view to plucking them out of the body politics of the college.

I cannot conclude this address without using this opportunity to appeal to the college community, both staff and students, to give the new council and administration a chance and cooperate with them. The students must always

be conscious of the fact that their parents, guardians or other sponsors have sent them to the college, primarily, to learn and not to take sides on issues that are none of their business. Their main concern must, therefore, be their studies rather than participation in fruitless agitation and disruptive activities in the institution, into which some irresponsible individuals may incite them for their own selfish ends. Members of staff, especially senior staff, need henceforth to be extremely careful about what they do or say and how they comport themselves. No government will watch helplessly while some self-centred individuals undermine and destabilize the administration of an institution on which so much has been invested. Let me warn those, who have the misguided notion that they can subvert the administration of the college with impunity that enough is enough. Those who find themselves unable to accept the authority of the people given such authority by government have the option of voluntarily bowing out of the college before they are booted out as saboteurs.

Once again, I extend my hearty congratulations to Dr. B.O. Teibo. Your appointment as substantive Provost takes immediate effect. To all members of the council, it is my fervent hope that you will all justify the confidence which the government and people of this state have reposed in you. I wish them God's guidance in the discharge of their onerous responsibility and a successful tenure of office.

Thank you and God bless.

#### UNIBADAN CENTRAL LIBRARY NAMED AFTER DIKE

*Professor Dike in his life time had played a pioneering and worthwhile role in the development of education in Nigeria while his contributions have remarkably changed for good not only in Nigeria but also on the African continent.*

*— At the 40th anniversary of the University of Ibadan, on November 16, 1988*

It is my pleasure to be in the midst of highly distinguished academicians and administrators, who through years of self-discipline and determination, have contributed in no small measure to the educational progress of our great nation. I am also delighted to express my great admiration for this citadel of learning which had been a place of pride and a pace-setter in our education development.

I like to associate myself with the impression this institution made on Mrs. Perry, a one-time Chief Librarian of the Reference Division in the Hoover Institute at Stanford University. She then wrote:

"On the West Coast of Africa, not far above the Equator, the past six years have seen the growth of a new university college whose standards are high, whose buildings have been described as the best that modern architecture has yet offered tropical Africa, and whose students have already made an outstanding name for themselves in advance degree work at the University of London".

It is commendable that the institution has, for a long time now, been internationally acclaimed as a reputable centre of learning. This has been deservedly earned through the untiring efforts and unrelenting selfless services of seasoned administrators and academicians whose mission, right from the inception of the university, was to make it a world-acclaimed citadel of learning.

There is no doubt that several people must have contributed to this welcome development. One cannot but mention Lord Ashby and his colleagues whose recommendations led to the birth of the university in 1948 as a college of the University of London. Also, the first Principal – Dr. Kenneth Mellamby did a lot to give the university sound foundation both in its physical facilities and academic work. He was succeeded over the years by men of vision, intellect and proven administrative ability. The various Governments of Nigeria also ensured that during its formative years, the university did not lack much. Finally, all the teaching and non-teaching staff as well as the students of the university are known to have contributed their own quota to making their institution the giant it is today.

However, Professor Kenneth Onwuka Dike's contributions place him shoulder-high above all the other architects of this great university and thus make him deserve a special place of honour in the Nigerian "Hall of Fame". His immeasurable efforts, both direct and indirect, that closely relate to the positive image-making of this great institution are better appreciated by having an insight into some of his contributions as recently documented post-humously. The success story of this great institution will be very much distorted without recognizing the contributions of Professor Kenneth Onwuka Dike who, as the first President of the International Congress of Africanists, has been rightly cited as a "venerable pioneer and inspirer of scientific Africa historiography; an intellectual luminary of international stature; the first African incumbent of the Chair of History in any university in black Africa; the first African Principal and the last executive head of the University College, Ibadan (1960–1962); pioneer and master builder as the first Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan, (1962-1967); the father of Nigerian's National Archives and an untiring apostle and crusader of African studies".

He has earned a world-wide reputation as the "Father of Modern African Historiography. His doctoral thesis, "Trade and Politics in the Niger Delta 1830-1885", which was published in 1956 by the Oxford University Press, revealed the importance and legitimacy of African History as an academic discipline. The great value of his contribution is demonstrated in the citation of the University of Michigan, U.S.A. (1979) on the occasion of his being awarded the Honorary Doctor of Laws. The citation likened his work to that of Copernicus. It was Dike's approach to the history of African peoples

which changed the world's negative perception about this aspect of history by setting the solid foundation for the restoration of the dignity of 'The African' in particular and the "Black" in general. Professor Kenneth Onwuka Dike laid a solid foundation for the teaching of history as Head of the

Department of History at this university. It is noteworthy that most of the leading Nigerian historians today have passed through his tutelage and have been inspired by his work. It was his vision and efforts that led to the establishment of the National Archives for which he was both founder and chairman, (1951-1964). He spearheaded the founding and maintenance of the National Antiquities Commission and was its first chairman (1954-1967). This commission has not only founded museums around the country but has striven to preserve places and structures of historical interest as national monuments.

He was also a great educationist and administrator. He played a pioneering role in educational administration of this premier university and a number of his contributions have remarkably changed the course of education in Nigeria and in West Africa. He was a member of the Ashby Commission on Higher Education in Nigeria and Chairman of the Commission for the Review of Education System in Eastern Region – 1959. His greatest achievement, no doubt, was in the development of the University of Ibadan. He was the Vice-Principal of the University College in 1958-1960 when he took over from Dr. J.H. Parry. Later in 1962, he became the first African Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan – a post he held until 1967.

Indeed, Professor Dike could rightly be christened the "Father of the University of Ibadan"; as he joined the university in 1950, barely two years after the inception of the university college. He served as a link between the university college and the full-fledged university and continued to shape the destiny of the institution when he finally became its first Vice-Chancellor (1962-1967). In 1974, on this campus Professor Onwuka Dike was deservedly honoured with an honorary doctorate degree in literature. Part of the citation on that occasion touched on some of his several achievements as the first Vice-Chancellor of the university. Below is one of such laudable achievements.

"For example, he instituted the policy of staff development through post-graduate studies, a policy that had encouraged student expansion by the production of high-quality staff; many of these students today are "worthy emblems of Ibadan in other universities in and outside Nigeria".

This library started with various private collections – most notable of which are those of Henry Carr, Frederick Dyke, Herbert Macaulay, all of which were added to the entire stock of the Yaba Higher College. This formed the basic stock of 40,000 books got together and organised at the old site by Mr. John Harris. The library moved into this permanent site in 1954. It is no secret that Professor Dike contributed a lot to the development of the library. It is no wonder then, that as a man of many parts, administrator, educationist, historian and humanist with great interests in the development of antiquities and archival materials, the university library

that was nurtured to maturity during his tenure as the last Principal of the university college and the Vice Chancellor of the full-fledge University of Ibadan, is now being named after him.

I am sure that everybody here present is not in any doubt about the worth of this illustrious son of Africa and strongly believe he should be so fittingly honoured with the renaming of this university library after him. It is with great pleasure, therefore, that I rename and direct that the University of Ibadan Library be henceforth known, called, addressed and referred to as "DIKE MEMORIAL LIBRARY".

The Visitor, The Vice-Chancellor, The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I congratulate you all for being a part of this memorable occasion. Long live Dike Memorial Library. Long live the University of Ibadan, Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Thank you and God bless you all.

## 12TH GRADUATION OF IBADAN POLYTECHNIC HELD

*The Polytechnic, Ibadan, should show the light and break new grounds. The institution must play the role of teaching, of researching and of rendering services to the community. It is in this regard that the establishment of the Polyconsult becomes relevant.*

— Ibadan, December 2, 1988.

It gives me great pleasure to be here this morning to witness the 12th graduation ceremony of this polytechnic. It is heart-warming to note the pomp and pageantry which usually mark occasions like this. The joy and festivities which greet these occasions indicate the importance which our people attach to education. I heartily congratulate the graduands who have captured the "golden fleece". I rejoice with them and their proud parents and guardians. I hope the joy and happiness will be enduring.

I am also delighted to note the steady increase in the number of students graduating annually since the 1982/83 session. I note that the number rose from 1,816 in 1982/83 to 2,466 in the 1986/87 academic session. The Polytechnic has, by and large, succeeded in its yearly production of a large number of graduands, thereby fulfilling the objectives for which it has been established as defined in the enabling edict. This is as it should be, since our present emphasis is on scientific and technological development of the nation.

Technological education, like other areas of education, is an investment aimed at developing human resources. But, unlike some others, technological education is very expensive in terms of labour, equipment and material provisions, research projects and infrastructural facilities. However, any nation that aspires to have a scientific and technological culture must not spare the effort to fund technological education. It is in realisation of this that government has, within a not-so-bouyant economy, continued to give this institution generous financial support to enable it achieve the objectives for which it was established. For instance, between January 1987 and

October this year, government has made available to this institution a total sum of about N11 million towards its capital projects. It is gratifying to note that the funds have been judiciously spent, mostly on the issue of accreditation.

No nation can develop or have any claim to development if it closes its eyes to standards: This is where the accreditation issue becomes relevant. I am happy to note that your institution has taken the accreditation issue seriously for both the main campus and the satellite campuses at Eruwa, Esa-Oke, Iree and Saki. I am glad that a total of thirty-seven courses have so far got the blessing of the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) for both the Higher National Diploma and the National Diploma on the main campus. I enjoin you to continue to pursue vigorously the issue of accreditation for the courses being run in the satellite campuses. I also hope that the re-structuring of the courses is being vigorously pursued to avoid duplication of courses and consequent waste of resources. I assure you all that this administration will continue to assist this institution to maintain its pride of place among similar institutions in the country.

However, since government's financial resources are not inexhaustible, and in view of the fact that there are competing requests from other sectors, it is my firm belief that the funding of education cannot and should not be left to government alone. The organised private sector as well as people of means within the society should rally round to lend a helping hand. I am seizing this opportunity to express my appreciation to those who have contributed towards the polytechnic's endowment fund launched last March and to appeal to others who have not done so to contribute their own quota towards the development of technological education in his state. Funds are needed to help the institution to complete abandoned projects and undertake other developmental ones. This will, no doubt, assist in accelerating the pace and tempo of our nation's technological development.

As we are aware, one important role of tertiary institutions in any society should always be to show the light and break new grounds. Your institution must play the role of teaching, research and rendering services to the community. It is in this regard that the establishment of the Polyconsult becomes relevant. I understand that the venture is yielding dividends and is now well known to many people in this part of the country. This drive towards revenue generation, I hope, will blossom into a viable business. I urge you to break newer grounds still, whereby your presence will be felt more by all throughout the length and breadth of this nation.

I am happy to observe that progress is being made by this institution in different directions. Progress and development can come only in an atmosphere of peace and stability. I recall that, on the occasion of the 11th convocation ceremony of this institution in February this year, a fervent hope that peace would be permanently restored to the Institution was expressed. Having once gone through a turbulent period, staff and students alike should now be in a position to know what it is to have peace. I wish at this occasion to acknowledge the continued maintenance of peace, by the authorities of this institution, among members of the Polytechnic community. I wish to congratulate the chairman and members of the govern-

ing council, as well as the members of the academic and non-academic staff and students on their efforts in this regard. I hope this will be sustained.

I want to congratulate once more the graduands, their parents and guardians. I admonish you graduands to be good ambassadors of your alma mater. The award of a certificate to you is just the beginning of life's arduous journey. This nation looks up to you for positive contributions to its development. Your education in the field of technology is geared towards making you self-reliant. Therefore, we expect that many of you will become job-creators rather than job-seekers. We expect that you will put to practice all the experience gathered during your period here and let the nation be richly blessed by your sweat. "To whom much is given, from him much is expected" says an old adage. This institution looks up to you for sincere and genuine assistance in whatever form through your alumni association. You must be proud to see your alma mater grow and become one of the best institutions of its kind in the world. I hope you will not let it and the nation down.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I want to thank you most sincerely for your presence here to honour today's graduands. I enjoin you to remember them in your prayers, so that their journey into a new world may be blessed with success.

Thank you.

### MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS INAUGURATED

*The establishment of primary schools' management board is meant to ensure that primary education receives, the desired attention to rescue it from its deplorable situation of the past.*

*— Excutive Council Chambers, Ibadan on December 21, 1988.*

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this inauguration ceremony at which the members of the Oyo State Primary Schools' Management Board are being formally introduced to you and to the members of the public before they take on the duty to which they have just been appointed. I am sure that many educationists, who have been reading the dailies, since August, 1988 when the National Council on Education met in Ibadan, must have been anxiously awaiting the establishment of a separate management board for primary schools in this state. I am happy to inform you that your expectations are becoming a reality this morning.

As you may wish to recall, a re-organisation of the organs for education administration in the state was carried out in May, 1987. This involved, among other things, the establishment of 24 local schools' boards to re-place the 12 divisional schools' boards we had until then. In order to bring the administration of our primary and post-primary institutions nearer to our people, the central schools board was made to delegate most of its powers to these local schools' boards. These boards have since taken up the duties of

posting and paying teachers, initiating disciplinary actions and supervising academic affairs of the schools within their respective areas of jurisdiction. The primary schools' management board is not being established because of the inefficiency of the central and local schools' boards but in compliance with the provisions of Decree 31 of 1988 which has been promulgated by the Federal Military Government to ensure that primary education in the country receives the desired attention to rescue it from the deplorable situation it is now.

Today's inauguration ceremony is an off-shoot of the 31st National Council on Education's meeting held in Sokoto in October, 1986 where the deteriorating condition of primary education in the country was extensively discussed before the council resolved to pass the issue on to a technical committee for close study and appropriate recommendations. The technical committee recommended that henceforth;

- (i) Ministries of Education should be the agency responsible for the supervision of primary education throughout the country;
- (ii) each state government should set up its own primary schools' management board, solely for the administration of primary schools;
- and (iii) the Federal Government should share in the financial burden of primary education.

The National Council on Education did not only accept the committee's recommendations but also ensured their being enforced by getting the Federal Government to agree to bear 65% of the expenditure on primary school teaching and non-teaching staff salaries of those states which have set up their own primary schools' management boards. This state, by this ceremony, is therefore adhering to that Federal Government directive and joining those states in the federation that have established their own primary schools' management boards as contained in Part IV of Decree 31 published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria Gazette, No. 53, Vol. 75 of 17th August, 1988.

In addition to the state primary schools' management board, each state government is also expected to establish, for each of its local government areas, a local government education authority which shall be subject to the control of the state primary education management board and whose functions shall be carried out by a local government education committee.

Each of these committees is to be made up of 10 members under the chairmanship of the chairman of the local government. The decision to make the chairmen of the local governments chairmen of these committees is to re-emphasize the constitutional responsibility of local governments for primary education. Our local governments should now realise, more than ever before, that primary education is a joint venture between them, the state governments and the Federal Government. These committees will soon be constituted by the Commissioner for Education in accordance with the enabling decree.

The functions which have been assigned to the state primary schools' management board and the local government education committees are set

out in Sections 9 and 12 of the enabling decree respectively. In broad terms, they are to take over every aspect of the management of primary education in the state — with the Ministry of Education retaining responsibility for policy issues. By this development, the central schools' board will only be left with the responsibility of looking after the teaching and non-teaching staff of our secondary schools while the present local schools board will disappear from the scene. I do hope that all the organs of education administration in the state — that is the Ministry of Education, the central schools' board, the primary schools' management board and the local government education authorities/committees — will work together in ensuring a more viable education industry in the state. They cannot afford to do less, considering the huge investments which the state government has been making on education over the years.

I want to take this opportunity to draw attention to the rationale behind the setting up of this board. For some time, people of goodwill have been genuinely worried about the deplorable state of primary education in the country: The present Federal Military Government has decided to intervene and prevent further deterioration. It has, therefore, decided to come to the aid of the state and local governments in the administration of primary education by providing 65% of the wage-bill for teaching and non-teaching staff in all primary schools in the country. Thus, one of the causes of the present problems with our primary education, which is lack of adequate funding, is being realistically tackled. However, like all good programmes, the amount of success that will attend the Federal Military Government's effort will be determined by the level of commitment of all those who have been called upon to work the new arrangements.

With one of the causes of the problems thus tackled, we should now turn our attention to the problems themselves. We are all aware of the present deplorable state of primary education in the state. Most of the buildings are dilapidated and standards are tumbling down. I expect the chairman of this board and his team to take the bull by the horn by ensuring that the poor standard of education in our public primary schools undergo tremendous change within a very short period. It is a known fact that the educational qualifications of teachers in our public primary schools are often better than those of their counterparts in private primary schools. They are better paid and their salaries are regular; yet the performance of the pupils in the public primary schools are invariably worse than those in the private primary schools. The wide gap in the performances of private and public primary schools' pupils could be found in the management of their schools. It would appear that private schools are better managed, their teachers are adequately supervised to the extent that laziness is not condoned in any form among the teaching and non-teaching staff. I advise the board to evolve a method that will bring about the desired change in our public primary schools.

It has not been an easy task to constitute this board, in view of the fact that the state is blessed with several men and women who more than meet

the requirements of the enabling decree. However, after a most painstaking search, I have appointed the set of ladies and gentlemen now sitting before us. They have been appointed on the basis of their individual merits. Most of them have been connected with education at one level or the other for several years now. While congratulating them on their appointments as chairman, members, and executive secretary of the Oyo State Primary Schools' Management Board, I wish them to bear in mind at all times that they are the first set of people to serve on the board. They, therefore, have a very difficult but challenging assignment ahead of them. They have no precedents to follow. Rather, they have to build from the scratch and ensure that they lay a solid foundation on which their successors can always build. Considering the individual background and experience of those I have appointed to serve on the Oyo State Primary Schools' Management Board, I have no doubt whatsoever that they will make a huge success of their assignment.

Once again, I extend my hearty congratulations to the Chairman, Members and Executive Secretary of the Oyo State Primary Schools' Management Board and hereby wish everyone of you here present and all the good people of Oyo State a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

On this note, I hereby inaugurate the newly established Oyo State Primary Schools' Management Board to the glory of God and advancement of the course of education in the state.

Thank you and God bless.

#### OYO STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS' MANAGEMENT BOARD

- |        |   |                        |
|--------|---|------------------------|
| (i)    | Chief Abel Alani Olawumi  | — Chairman             |
| (ii)   | Mr. Biodun Fatoki   | ) — Full-Time Members  |
| (iii)  | Mr. Bello A.O. Oladeji  |                        |
| (iv)   | Mr. Ezekiel Oyeleke Abioye  |                        |
| (v)    | Mrs. Grace Adewumi Adepoju  | ) — Part time members  |
| (vi)   | Mr. Joseph Adegoke Adewuyi  |                        |
| (vii)  | Mr. Isa Ayandele Raji   | ) — Ex-Officio Members |
| (viii) | Mrs. Risqat Oyinade Aleem   |                        |
| (ix)   | Representative of the Ministry of<br>of Education — Mrs. J.A.O. Lawore  | ) — Ex-Officio Members |
| (x)    | Representative of the Local Government<br>Inspectorate of the Office of the Military<br>Governor — Mr. J.O. Oyedeji |                        |
| (xi)   | Alhaji Ganiyu A.O. Oladimeji  | — Executive Secretary. |

## BOOKS AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FAIR HELD

*The government should not be left alone to shoulder the burden of education. Other bodies such as the Chamber of Commerce, philanthropists, communities and individuals should contribute substantially towards the development of education, so that the national education objectives and standards prescribed could be met.*

— Permanent Trade Fair Complex, Sango, Ibadan on January 9, 1989.

I heartily welcome members and guests to this First Ibadan Books and Educational Materials Fair, christened IBEMF '89. I am particularly delighted to be invited to declare open the fair and I thank the organisers for this kind gesture.

As you are aware, Oyo State accords education a high premium and as a result a sizeable percentage of the state's annual capital and recurrent expenditure is spent on education. Education is, therefore, a big industry in the state, with about 130 nursery schools, 50 private primary schools, 2,543 public primary schools, 613 secondary schools, six technical colleges, six teachers' colleges, three colleges of education, one college of arts and science and one polytechnic with four satellite campuses. It is, therefore, not surprising that the chamber had decided not only to contribute towards the educational development of this state by staging its fair which is geared towards education and contribution or helping to reduce the burden on parents in purchasing books at a much reduced rate. I should congratulate the organisers of this fair for their initiative as this decision will ensure that cheaper books and stationeries are available in the market for both teachers, schools and pupils to purchase for their use.

It is disheartening to note that, since the economic crunch has plagued this country a few years ago, most pupils attend schools without the necessary textbooks, notebooks and other educational materials due to the inability of parents to purchase them as a result of the high cost of educational materials. By the act of this fair, there is no doubt in my mind that the main objective of your chamber will be met, which is the provision of educational materials to the public at affordable costs. I wish to seize this opportunity to appeal generally and specially to publishers for a moderate textbook price policy. I am aware that publishers will mention the effect of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP), but it is because of the effect of this same SAP on the pockets of parents that a moderate book-price policy is being advocated so that more and more can have access to the text-books. It would be appreciated, therefore, if you can step-down the cover-prices of your books. It is in this vein that I am also pleading for books which are physically durable and which can last longer. Education is no doubt expensive but we all should play our parts to lessen the cost.

Government and bodies connected with the development and promotion of education are partners in progress and must cooperate with one another in order to achieve success. The success of any educational system depends on the quality of books and educational materials available. I hereby appeal to publishers that in complementing government effort in the provision of

sound education to the populace, it should be borne in mind that such books need to be relevant and in line with the curriculum. In view of this, you must ensure that books published by you for schools as course books are in line with the new curriculum adopted in this country for primary, junior secondary, senior secondary and tertiary levels of education. As at now, very few books are in the market for the 6-3-3-4 system of education and unless relevant books for this system of education are available, the implementation may run into a hitch.

But books are supposed to be written for other purposes. Most publishers concentrate on books for school children, perhaps due to the ready market available for this purpose. It is disheartening to note that the quality of general reading books available might be responsible for the poor reading habit of many literate Nigerians. Most people in this country do not read for pleasure but in order to pass examinations. Once this task is achieved, most Nigerians fail to read again. The best that are read are newspapers and magazines. This habit has to change and publishers and other people associated with the book industry must help in the change by providing books relevant to the society and at cheaper rates and in a wide variety of interests.

Government, in its own part, will ensure adequate assistance to the publishers and other bodies associated with the development and promotion of education in all forms in the state. The Government of Oyo State in 1989 budget has put emphasis on education as one of the areas of priority and no doubt this fair will further contribute largely to the realization of the objectives of the state government in developing a literate society thereby reducing illiteracy to the barest minimum. It is my hope that this fair will arouse the curiosity of the parents and the reading audience in the society and since most of the books on display were published in Nigeria, the fair will not only contribute largely to the economic recovery of the nation but will also help to produce a better reading audience in the country.

Once again, I thank the Book Publishing and Allied Trade Group of the Ibadan Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the excellent organisation and initiative in organising this First Ibadan Books and Educational Materials Fair. I wish to emphasize that government cannot and should not be left alone to shoulder the burden of education. Other bodies such as the Chamber of Commerce, philanthropists, communities and individuals should contribute substantially towards the development of education so that the national education objectives and standards prescribed can be met.

On this note, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I have the pleasure to hereby declare open the First Ibadan Books and Educational Materials Fair.

Thank you and God bless.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, ILA-ORANGUN  
HOLDS 7TH GRADUATION CEREMONY

*Education students as teachers of tomorrow should show maturity in getting issues resolved as it is only in an atmosphere of peace that any meaningful learning could take place. On its part, Oyo State Government has been demonstrating its interest in education and matters that affect teachers. For, despite the hard times, the State Government within the last five months had re-absorbed and placed on appropriate salary commensurate with their qualifications 153 graduates and 1475 N.C.E. teachers formerly teaching as grade two teachers in primary schools. Similarly, 1,239 grade two CTR teachers who had passed their examinations and 3,400 fresh successful grade two teachers had been employed. Besides, the appointment of 298 Graduates and NCE teachers had also been ratified by government.*

— At Ila-Orangun on January 26, 1989.

Today brings me special joy, being the first occasion of my personal attendance at the graduation ceremony of this college. First of all, I wish to congratulate the graduands whose hard-work for the last three years is being rewarded today. I also wish to rejoice with the parents and guardians for witnessing this important occasion in the lives of their children/wards.

Going through the pages of the history of this college, one feels satisfied with the catalogue of successes achieved within a very short time of the existence of the college since its inception in 1979. The college which started as a Campus of Oyo State College of Education, Ilesa, has since firmly established itself as an autonomous college with a student population which has steadily increased over the years. The staff strength of the college has also grown correspondingly. The amount of scholarship exhibited by the growing number of their publications in academic journals is a testimony to the efforts of the academic staff to up-date their knowledge. This is also reflected in the number of the graduates of this college who have completed their first and second degrees in various universities in the country.

I note with pleasure that the institution, in its efforts to up-date the knowledge and up-grade the status of our primary school teachers, has introduced the Sandwich N.C.E. Primary Education Programme along with the two other colleges of education in the state. Four centres at Ila-Orangun, Osogbo, Iwo and Ibadan have been created for the Ila-Orangun-based course. The college has also introduced basic studies programme which is designed to assist students who are aspiring to enter tertiary institutions but do not have the requisite qualifications.

The achievements made so far by this institution are through the hard work and dedication of the governing council and staff of the college as well as the co-operation of the student body. I want to congratulate you all and urge you to re-double your efforts in promoting the development of your Institution so that it could contribute its own quota to the progress of this state in particular and the country in general.

Government, on its part, has encouraged the growth of the college since its inception in 1979 through financial and moral support. Within the last

three years, government has made available, a total sum of N7.652 million towards the provision of essential services for the smooth running of the college. In like manner, government has also provided funds for the development of the permanent site so that, in no distant time, the entire college can move to its permanent abode. Only recently, a sum of N240,000.00 was released for the building of the College Central Administration Block. Similarly, a sum of N200,000.00 has been spent on the extension of electricity and pipe-borne water to the School of Science Complex, N50,000.00 for the purchase of library books and N200,000.00 for the purchase of science laboratory equipment and fittings. I want to assure you that Oyo State Government will continue to assist the college within its limited resources.

However, the present economic situation in the country calls for financial prudence on the part of all and sundry. The revamping of the nation's ailing economy demands a revenue generation drive from all government agencies in order to supplement government's efforts and help themselves. The admirable plans of the authority of this college to embark on revenue yielding projects are, therefore, highly commendable. It is hoped that the college's agricultural venture will blossom into a profitable business capable of boosting the financial strength of the institution. It may also be worthwhile for the college to explore other areas of revenue generation for diversification.

At this juncture, I will like to draw the attention of the staff and students of the college to the need to relate academic and other successes to a high sense of self-discipline. A good measure of this appeared to have been demonstrated, hitherto, in the college. I have, however noted, with disappointment the recent unwholesome development in the college over the problem of transportation and some other real or imagined problems. I will like to say that this has put a smear on the image of this institution as a peace-loving community. Students must learn to explore every peaceful and constitutional avenue to seek redress to their grievances and or solutions to their problems instead of engaging in demonstrations which, more often than not, become violent and destructive. Problems are bound to arise now and then. These are occasions when I expect students of this institution and similar ones, as teachers of tomorrow, to show maturity in getting issues resolved. These are periods when you can best demonstrate the discipline of your calling. I want to remind you that peace creates an atmosphere conducive to learning. It enables the authorities to have time to plan for the welfare of all in the college. Happily, the governing council and the management of the college are taking positive steps to resolve the issues which led to the loathsome demonstration of last December. I enjoin students to be law-abiding and give peace a chance. The college management, on its part, should always maintain an open-door policy and hold constant dialogue with students on issues that affect them. Government is looking into the problem of transportation facing students of this and other similar institutions in the state.

I would like to express my government's gratitude to the Chairman of Ila Local Government Council, Dr. Olaolu, for the noble role he played in

bringing the December crisis in the college under control and for his general assistance to the institution. In the same way, I want to thank the Orangun and the entire Ila community for their assistance to and interest in the college. Your contributions towards the development of the college are recognised and appreciated. We look forward to further assistance and contributions from all of you.

This graduation ceremony is one with a difference. The governing council has introduced into the ceremony an innovation. The council has instituted a Governing Council Award. This award, I understand, may be given annually to qualified and deserving individuals within and outside the college system. Eligibility for the award is to be based on the quality and quantity of contributions made by any individual to the academic, moral, professional, social and physical growth of the college. On this first occasion, the council is conferring honour on some eminent and well deserving individuals connected with the college. The council's highest award of gold is being conferred on three distinguished personalities, while its higher award of silver goes to another notable individual. I heartily congratulate Kabiyesi

Oba William Ayeni, the Orangun of Ila, Honourable Justice Bola Babalakin, the 1st Chairman of the college's Governing Council and Dr. S.O. Omotoso, the first Provost of the college who have bagged the highest council award. Similarly, I congratulate Dr. O. Bello, an indefatigable member of the college staff. You all richly deserve the honour being done you today. I wish you many more years of useful service to the nation.

I also congratulate, once more, the graduating students on the success which has crowned your efforts. This must be a happy day for you, your parents/guardians as well as your well wishers. The use to which you put your knowledge for the good of the society will show how really educated you are. I seize the opportunity of this august gathering to bring home, especially to the graduating students, a topical issue. Hitherto, governments have been the largest employers of labour. Times are changing; economic fortunes of individuals and governments are becoming capricious. In spite of the hard times, Oyo State, within the last five months, had re-absorbed into secondary schools and properly placed on appropriate salary grade levels commensurate with their qualifications, 153 graduate and 1,475 NCE teachers who were formerly teaching as grade two teachers in primary schools; similarly 1,239 Grade Two CTR teachers who had passed their examination and 3,400 fresh successful grade two teachers had been employed. And only this month, the appointment of 298 Graduate and NCE teachers who had earlier been interviewed were ratified by government. Let me assure you that government will continue to offer employment to teachers and other categories of skilled personnel in the state. However, the situation in the country today calls for ingenuity and originality in the use of knowledge for self-employment and service to the community. Rather than hunt indefinitely for non-available jobs, I advise that you face the realities of our time and explore other areas for a living. I want to assure you, however, that both the Federal, State and Local Governments are working hard to ease the unemployment problem in the country.

I would not like to end this address without thanking the authorities of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, especially that University's Faculty of Education for over-seeing the academic programme of this college. I also thank the Chairman and members of the Governing Council, the management and staff for their achievements so far and implore them to strive harder to see that the College attains greater heights.

Finally, I thank you all for gracing this occasion with your presence and for patiently listening to me.

God bless you.

### 13TH ANNUAL CONGRESS HELD BY PRINCIPALS

*The hope of the nation rests on the schools where teachers are expected to find the appropriate mix of academic and moral education in building the lives of the future leaders of this nation.*

— At the Parliament Buildings, Ibadan on February 7, 1989.

I am indeed very pleased to be in your midst for the opening ceremony of the 13th Annual Congress of the All Nigeria Conference of Principals of Secondary Schools, Oyo State branch. My presence here, this morning, is significant in a number of ways. This is my first time of meeting you as a body since I assumed duty as the Military Governor of Oyo state, though, before now, I have had one or two contacts with the executive committee of your conference. Secondly, it will not be out of place if I mention that before my present assignment, I was on a training schedule as an educator just as you are. Thus, you will all agree with me that once a teacher, always a teacher. I share the aspirations of your conference.

The management of schools in present day Nigeria is a very demanding task. The population of each school is not only twice or thrice what it used to be, but, is full of students who have been exposed to diverse cultures and values and are, therefore, confused and disorientated. The economic and social problems in the home as well as in the society contribute in no small way in worsening the situation. The hope of the nation, therefore, rests on the schools, where teachers are expected to find the appropriate mix of academic and moral education in building the lives of the future leaders of this nation. To this end, both the school syllabuses and school years have undergone tremendous changes within the last five or six years. The school curricula had changed in order to incorporate technical, commercial, vocational training as well as religious and moral instructions. The performance of students is now measured in a more systematic and regular manner referred to as continuous assessment. This system now places less emphasis on the need to swot for external examinations. Not only this, the school year was changed in order to encourage students to participate fully in agricultural production which should be the mainstay of the economy as it was in the good old days.

The various ways by which these changes are being implemented by the Federal and State Governments are not new to you. In fact, you are, and should be, actively involved in the whole exercise. Although this state was one of the last to start the implementation of the new policy on education, it is my joy that our first set of students to scale through the junior Secondary School passed out last year and their performance, on the whole, was not bad. As the popular saying goes, "He who laughs last, laughs best"; ours regretably has not been the best as a result of many factors. Our shortcomings, I have got to know, are not only found in the lack of complete commitment on the part of the students and the lack of necessary infrastructures but also in the manner in which the programme is handled by teachers. I, therefore, seize this opportunity to request your association to look into the possibilities of achieving greater success not only in the junior secondary system but also in the senior one which we have embarked upon as from January, 1989.

It cannot be over-emphasised that the world of education today is one of science and technology. This means there is need to pay more attention to the study of science and technological subjects. Our youths, to whom the future of our nation belongs, need to be educated and trained in a way that will make them take the nation to the technological stage. They must be capable of being readily adaptable to changes in skills which the future may throw up. Such individuals would find it easier to meet new manpower needs in a society whose economy is expanding. It is for this reason that the senior secondary schools will be offering specialised courses in subjects like mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, technical and business education and home economics as well as the liberal arts and social sciences. This broad-spectrum specialisation has also been designed for both the teachers' colleges and technical colleges to enrich their curricula.

Much as efforts are being made to make education more relevant to the needs of the society, it is disheartening to note that there is a gradual lowering

of educational standard. Both the Federal and State Governments are deeply concerned about this issue, which is the main reason for the setting up of a separate management organ for primary schools both at Federal and State levels. You would recall that this state inaugurated its own primary schools' management board towards the end of last year. By this singular act, the management of secondary schools will henceforth be directly handled by the post-primary schools' board. I appeal to you to ensure that you do thorough supervisory work in your respective schools. Government expects every teacher to do his/her work diligently by teaching conscientiously, giving and marking assignments at regular intervals, thereby ensuring that their students assimilate as much as possible. Teachers should rise to the occasion by giving their students the best education within their capability just as their own teachers did under poorer conditions of service. I strongly believe that whatever achievements we can make, at this time, will be recorded as our own little contributions to the progress of education in this state. I assure you that the government on its part will continue to issue appropriate guidelines, enforce uniformity in schools, set and maintain standards and ensure prompt payment of teachers' salaries and allowances. It is hoped that you will give

your utmost best for the development of education in this state.

At this juncture, I would like to refer to some practices that fall short of expectation in our schools. This state is charging one of the lowest fees in the Federation, yet we have always been unable to collect our estimated revenue which has always been based on the population in our schools. The government spends far more per child per annum than the ₦120.00 each of them in our secondary school is expected to pay, yet, many evade the payment. Worse still, some unscrupulous members of your conference engage in the fraudulent practice of embezzling the little they collect. I strongly appeal to you to intensify efforts at collecting both the arrears and the current fees for this year and remit them promptly to government treasury as directed by the Ministry of Education. I want to assure you that government is leaving no stone unturned in plugging all loopholes exploited by some unscrupulous principals who intend to defraud it in the collection and rendition of school fees.

In the same vein, I have no choice but to keep on sounding a note of warning to all those teachers/principals who keep on mismanaging government fund. Petitions keep on flowing in from the public, more often from parents, concerning teachers who engage in illegal collection which they divert to their own personal purses. Apart from financial mismanagement, some teachers have also been found to be guilty of immoral dealings with female students. Both misconducts are on the increase in our schools. Much useful time is being wasted on the investigation of these cases. I like to remind you that both misbehaviours attract the punishment of dismissal from the service while those guilty of mismanagement must in addition, refund whatever money is involved and face contraction. I, therefore, request you to keep your financial records up-to-date and be prepared to render your account anytime. The supervision of your teaching and non-teaching staff should be thorough. Once again, any teacher found wanting in job performance, morals or general behaviour will be appropriately dealt with.

It had been discovered that some teachers on the pay roll of this state were stealthily pursuing undergraduate and post-graduate courses full-time in a number of universities and colleges of education in the state. Such teachers were able to do this through the connivance of their fellow teachers and the acquiescence of their principals. While Oyo State Government will continue to encourage teachers to improve their store of knowledge, we will not tolerate dishonest behaviour of doing regular courses in universities or colleges of education to the detriment of the progress of our students. I seize the opportunity of this gathering to solicit for your assistance in seeing that teachers are much more committed to their profession and also in seeing that they work for the pay they receive. Any teacher who is caught doing full-time course in institutions of higher learning and those who leave their classes to engage in other activities such as trading will have themselves to blame and head of department, vice-principal or even principal who is found to have connived with such teachers would not go unpunished. A word is enough for the wise.

Before I conclude this address, I would want to stress the importance of

improving the reading habits of our students. I appreciate that prices of reading materials ranging from newspapers magazines, supplementary readers to text-books are high. It is in realisation of the need to assist the citizenry to imbibe good reading habits that the State Library Board was inaugurated a couple of months ago. The State Library Board will go to the grassroots.

Apart from having its headquarters in Ibadan, the board is expected to work very closely with your members at the local government level. It is my view that by improving the reading habits of children, sufficiently fertile land shall have been prepared for learning. I urge your conference to give the library board the necessary moral support and professional co-operation.

You are aware that this administration has always been concerned about your welfare and is doing everything possible to ensure that teachers enjoy the same conditions of service as civil servants. I assure you that, we will not relent in our efforts to provide adequate instructional materials and services that will make your jobs easier and your output better. It is my hope that you will not let us down. May God enable you to accept the challenges of your office and discharge cheerfully and honourably the obligations thrust on you by your noble profession.

On this note, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I now formally declare open the 1989 Congress of the Oyo State branch of the All Nigeria Conference of Principals of Secondary Schools.

#### ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION HOLDS SIXTH GRADUATION

*Government is committed to the development of education in the State. This has been demonstrated by the provision of funds to educational institutions out of which St. Andrew's College of Education has had its fair share. However, the provision of educational facilities is a heavy burden and should not be regarded as the sole responsibility of government. Hence government will appreciate supportive role of patriotic and wealthy citizens in this regard.*

*— At Oyo on February 24, 1989.*

I have great pleasure in being amongst you today to witness the sixth graduation ceremony of this college. The graduands of today deserve our heartfelt congratulations on the successful completion of their courses. I also rejoice with the parents and guardians for seeing their children and wards successfully through their educational journey so far.

Government on its part, is committed to the development of education in the state. This commitment has always been demonstrated by the provision of funds to institutions in the state in spite of government's lean resources. In 1988 for example, government provided a total sum of ₦3.874 million to execute both the recurrent and capital projects in this college. In the 1989 budget, government has also made provision of over one million naira ₦1,000,000 for the prosecution of on-going projects. As it has hitherto done,

administration will continue to give subventions to meet the needs of this college, including payment of salaries and other benefits of staff as and when due.

Government will also continue to improve the welfare of the staff of this college and other institutions. It is in this spirit that in 1988 a sum of ₦500,000 was released towards a revolving housing loan scheme for the staff of this college. Another half a million naira has also been earmarked in this year's budget for the same purpose.

The welfare of students is of no less importance to this government. In order to improve water supply to both the Main and Isokun Campuses, government has made available a sum of ₦70,000.00. Similarly, between 1985 and 1988, a sum of ₦230,000.00 was provided for the rehabilitation and renovation of old buildings so that the physical appearance of the campuses may become more attractive. Another sum of ₦80,000.00 has also been earmarked for the completion of the renovation in the current financial year. I am aware of the transportation problem being encountered by the students of this and similar institutions in the state and this government is taking positive steps to arrest the situation.

I am delighted to note the level of diversification of the curriculum being provided in this college to meet the ever-increasing needs of our society. The current emphasis in education is not only on the development of the cognitive and affective domains of students but also on the development of that psycho-motor domain. In other words, the products of this training will not only be able to make use of their brain and their minds, but they will also display skill with their hands. This knowledge they can also impart to the children they teach.

The effect of this situation will be very much felt when the products of our Junior Secondary Schools enter technical colleges, polytechnics and universities and eventually come out to change the 'face of the earth'. I am happy to note the skill displayed by the Department of Automobile Technology in trying to put back on the road, an unserviceable bus released to the college by government. I have been informed that the Automobile Department is similarly involved in maintaining the college vehicles. This, hopefully, will assist the college in cost reduction. This type of drive towards self-reliance is one of the goals of the present administration. On the other hand, government on its part, will continue to encourage the development of technical education as it has always done. To this end, two sets of Junior Secondary School equipment were made available to each college of education recently for the training of technical education students. This is in addition to the ₦200,000.00 earmarked this fiscal year, for the procurement of equipment for metal fabrication. All these are designed to boost technical education in the state thus ensuring sound technical skills for our would-be technical teachers.

Another area of academic development, which I am pleased to note, is the commencement of the NCE Primary (Sandwich) Programme by the college for teachers in our primary schools. This will surely improve the academic and professional standards of our primary school teachers.

I understand that the course is being currently run in Ogbomosho, Iseyin

and Oyo. It is my hope that the college will continue to respond to the needs of the community from time to time.

As we must all know, the provision of educational facilities is not the responsibility of government alone but that of all citizens. No government, however, opulent or benevolent, can single-handedly shoulder the burden of education. It is gratifying to note that some citizens are making substantial contributions towards the development of education in the state. I, therefore, want to express, once more, government's appreciation for the contributions being made by various groups and individuals towards the development of this college. The list is almost endless: the benefactors include Oyo Local Government, Chief E.O. Asamu, Alhaji Haruna Elewi, the Oyo Patriots, St. Andrew's College Old Boys' Association (SACOB), Professor S.O. Taiwo etc. I believe that the benefactors will not relent in their effort to assist the college. I seize this opportunity to call on more people to come forward to assist our various institutions throughout the state.

Since government's resources are not inexhaustible, I like to repeat the call to various government establishments and institutions to look inwards and generate revenue to supplement whatever government is able to give them. I am happy to note that with a loan of ₦250,000.00, this college had established commercial ventures which will increase its revenue. I fervently look forward to receiving encouraging reports on the progress of the ventures.

At this juncture, I shall like to commend the efforts of the chairman and members of the governing council for constituting themselves into a formidable and worthy team for the overall development of this college. Your tremendous contributions vis-a-vis the physical development of the three campuses of the college are here acknowledged. I hope that you will not relent in your efforts at seeing to their total development over time.

I am also aware of the devotion to duty and sense of justice demonstrated by the college management, the entire academic community including the students and all the workers. It is, therefore, no surprise to us that peace, stability and progress are reigning supreme because of the harmony not only among students in their daily interactions with one another but also among staff and students and also among members of staff. I hope this happy situation will be maintained at all times.

Again, the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife to which this college is affiliated continues to give every support — academic or administrative — to this college, and is leaving no stone unturned to ensure proper curriculum development that will enable this college's products to pursue degree courses spanning over two years only after successfully graduating from here. Of course, this concession is made available also to our Colleges of Education at Ilesa and Ila-Orangun.

Once again, I congratulate the graduates on this occasion for their academic achievement. You have to remember that this is just a beginning. As professionally trained teachers, you are expected to show maturity in approaching issues. Self-restraint, self-reliance on your part are necessary so that you may show good example to the community in which you live.

You are also advised to up-date your knowledge regularly by reading

journals and other relevant sources of information. In fact, you are vanguards in our country's new educational dispensation where sterility of ideas in solving societal and personal problems shall have place in your person but marching forward with fortitude characteristic of your high education, you shall be part of your country's problem-solving ladies and gentlemen and not part of her problems.

Members of the State Executive Council, Kabiyesi, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I thank you once again for witnessing this occasion and wish you God's journey mercies back to your various homes. May this college continue to grow from strength to strength, nurtured in love and high academic ideals.

Thank you and God bless you all.

### ILESA HOLDS 8TH AND 9TH GRADUATIONS

*Graduating students should realise that when they start operating within the realities of the world, they would be judged by their performance, be it excellent or poor. As ambassadors of their alma mater, they are expected to imprint on the world a lasting message of hope and excellence in whatever they do.*

*— At Ilesa on March 9, 1989.*

I am particularly happy to be amongst you today to participate in this combined eighth and ninth graduation ceremony of the Oyo State College of Education, Ilesa. The graduation ceremony which is taking place here today is one that gladdens the hearts of all friends and well-wishers of this institution. The ceremony is doubly important because it is not only for the 1988 set of graduands, but it is also for the 1987 set who, probably, have given up hope of ever passing through such a ceremony.

I wish to congratulate the graduands, first on the successful completion of their courses in this citadel of learning and, secondly, on the opportunity afforded them of going through this graduation ceremony. I also congratulate the parents and guardians who are assembled here to witness the attainment of an important mile-stone in their children's and wards' journey in life.

As we are all aware, this institution was the first college of education in the state, having been established in 1977. With an initial student population of 143, it now has 2,393 students on its roll. A total of 6,824 students have graduated to-date. It has also recorded some laudable achievements in academics, physical development, sports etc.

I recall with pleasure, the successful hosting of the Nigerian Advanced Teachers' Colleges of Education Games (NATCEGA) by this institution with the state government's substantial financial assistance in 1987. I am also pleased to recall that this institution's contingent to the games emerged as the over-all winners, while sister institutions in the state also did us proud.

In order to encourage hard-work on the part of staff and students and promote the over-all development of the college, government had made huge

investments on physical structures, equipment and other infrastructural facilities. Subventions have also been released regularly. For instance, about ₦3.5 million was released as subvention in 1987, while almost the same amount was made available in 1988. The state government places premium on the welfare of staff and students hence the provision of infrastructural facilities. In pursuance of catering for the welfare of staff, a provision of ₦500,000 was made for the Staff Housing Loans Scheme in 1988. In the current year's budget, a sum of ₦500,000 was also earmarked for the same purpose.

This government is not unaware of the additional needs of the college especially in the area of technical education, workshop and staffing to facilitate accreditation by the National Board for Technical Education, laboratories for science education and telephone services for easy communication with the outside world. In dealing with these needs the authorities of the college are advised to prioritise the projects and attend first to those which are most urgently needed.

Given the favourable circumstances of the foundation of this institution and government's financial and other forms of support for it, one would have expected a more impressive catalogue of achievements and a distinctive pace-setting record. Ironically, the history of the college has been a chequered one. Since its inception, the college has gone through one crisis after another. Within the short span of its eleven years of existence, it has had five Provosts – three on substantive appointments and two in acting capacities. These Provosts appeared to have borne the brunt of the crises. While as mortals, they had their own faults, the entire onus of blame cannot be placed on their shoulders.

It has become evident that there are some rancorous and disruptive elements within the college community who specialise in fanning the embers of disaffection within the community and sponsor activities directed against the smooth running of the college. Such people do not see anything wrong in biting the finger that feeds them. There are also the cowardly and spineless "professional" petition writers who hide under pseudo-names in carrying out their nefarious activities. For now, they appear faceless but they can be sure that their cups will one day overflow and the mask will be peeled off their faces. I advise the two categories of disruptive elements to channel their energies to constructive ventures.

I want to seize this opportunity to reiterate the appeal which I made to the college community, both staff and students, on the occasion of the swearing-in of the members of the new governing council of the college in November last year. You should give the new council and administration a chance and co-operate with them. Students in particular, must always be mindful of their primary reason for coming to the college. They should concentrate on their studies and not allow some irresponsible individuals to incite them into participating in fruitless agitations and disruptive activities for their own selfish ends. Members of staff, particularly the senior ones, should be extremely careful about their utterances and activities. I want to repeat that this administration will not look on helplessly while some self-centred individuals undermine and destabilize the institution on which so much has been invested and so much hope pinned. A new team-spirit must

emerge and all bickering and mutual suspicion must be laid to rest. The past instability has not done the college any good and a halt must be put to it at all costs.

Happily, the newly re-constituted governing council has been tackling some of the problems it inherited in such a realistic and business-like manner that it appears that one's optimism in the early return of normalcy to the college is not misplaced. I wish once again to congratulate the chairman and members of the governing council, as well as the Provost who, incidentally, are making their 'debut' at this graduation ceremony. As I have said before, I believe that you will justify the confidence reposed in you.

It is heartening to note that some individuals and groups have been assisting in the development of this institution by donating valuable physical structures to it. In this connection, I would like to acknowledge, with gratitude, the donation of a health centre to the college by Dr. Lawrence Omole. Similarly, this government appreciates the construction of an impressive library in the college by the International Breweries Limited whose Chairman is also Dr. Lawrence Omole. I understand that the edifice has been completed, and that the landscaping is being done in readiness for the formal presentation any time from now. May I also recognise the contribution of the Ibadan Council of Ijesa Societies which performed the foundation laying ceremony of half-a-million Naira senior staff quarters in 1987. I have been informed that the buildings are nearing completion. I thank you and all others, who have contributed in one way or the other to the development of the college. I hope you will continue to assist in whatever way you can. I am now making a clarion-call to others who have the means to emulate the good example set by these kind donors and make their own contributions to this and other institutions in the state.

I congratulate once more, the graduands of today. The successful completion of your course is a result of your industry and indomitable spirit through the three-year academic programme. You have been adjudged by the academic

board of this institution and the Senate of the Obafemi Awolowo University to be ripe both in learning and in character, to go into the labour market as finished products. When you start operating within the realities of the world, you should remember that your institution will be judged by your performance, be it excellent or poor. You should, therefore, imprint on the world a lasting message of hope and excellence in whatever you do and be worthy ambassadors of your alma mater. You should abhor laziness, insolence, greed and other vices. Bearing the present economic realities of the country in mind, you should face your future boldly by finding something honourable to do for a living, no matter how humble. You must then, as Henry Worsworth Long-Fellow put it:

". . . . . be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait".

May God guide you as you step into the world.

Members of the State Executive Council, Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and

gentlemen, I implore you to join me in praying that the new chapter which has been opened in the history of this institution may become replete with episodes which will bring joy and gladness to our hearts and that it will herald the dawn of a new morn and a "brave new world" for the college.

I thank you all for your presence here today and for your patience in listening.

## POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS' BOARD INAUGURATED

*There will always be the need for the Ministry of Education and the Post-Primary Schools' Board to co-operate and collaborate in order to achieve the much desired success in our educational system.*

*In Ibadan on July 5, 1989.*

You will all recall that early this year the erstwhile central schools' board was dissolved. As it has never been the intention of this administration to create a vacuum in such an important area of our public administration, there must be many who thought, and correctly indeed, that the constitution of another one was a matter of time. It is, therefore, a great pleasure for me to welcome you to the inauguration ceremony of the board in which will be entrusted the management of the personnel in the over six hundred secondary schools and teachers' colleges in the state.

You will also recall that on 21st December, 1988 I inaugurated the primary schools' management board charged with the responsibility of managing the nearly three thousand primary schools in the state. That exercise called for a re-organisation of the central schools' board which, of necessity, has to shed its responsibility on primary education and focus attention only on post-primary institutions. In recognition of the change in functions, the erstwhile central schools' board is now to be known and called post-primary schools' board.

With the inauguration exercise of today, both the primary schools and the post-primary institutions in the state now have their full management outfits and can now join hands with the Ministry of Education to ensure successful formulation and execution of educational policies in the state.

Going by the large number of primary and post-primary schools in this state, one can rightly say that education is a major industry with us. And when viewed against the fact that in the last few years up to 40% of the state's annual expenditure has gone to education, it becomes clear that education has become a major pre-occupation of the government and people. No other sector of our social and economic life consumes as much. It is not surprising, therefore, that an adequate administrative apparatus in form of a board should exist at the second tier of our educational system. Though

distinct from the Ministry of Education in functions and jurisdiction, both establishments are meant to complement each other in ensuring successful execution of government's educational policies.

The major function of your board as contained in its instrument of creation is largely personnel administration for both the teaching and non-teaching staff. In carrying out this function, you will soon discover that you have to work in close link with the Ministry of Education. There will always be the need for the two agencies to co-operate and collaborate in order to achieve the much-desired success in our educational system. I count on your liberality and resourcefulness to resolve all cases amicably and to conduct your business as partners in progress.

It is in recognition of the onerous task and responsibilities of administering post-primary education that government has selected, as members of this very important board, educationists of proven integrity who have distinguished themselves in their professions. In spite of your individual track record of success, I deem it fit to call on you to bring experience to bear on your new assignment. You are not appointed to represent any local, social, sectional or religious interests; rather, you have been called to serve Oyo State. It is your responsibility, therefore, to make your mark by improving the standard of education in our post-primary schools and to shun any

divisive tendency. You should ensure peaceful industrial relations in our institutions of learning.

I wish you a successful tenure of office.

Thank you.

### **₦10M POLY APPEAL FUND LAUNCHED**

*The Saki Satellite Campus, like the other three satellite campuses, was established in order to bring education to the doorsteps of the people in the various areas.*

*- At Saki, in Ifedapo Local Government on July 8, 1989.*

It gives me great pleasure to be in your midst, on this occasion of the launching of an appeal fund in aid of the Polytechnic Satellite Campus, Saki. I congratulate the members of the Saki Parapo for their initiative in embarking on the launching of this appeal fund. I also congratulate the Kabiyesi, the Okere of Saki, for witnessing yet another milestone in self-development efforts within his domain.

As you are probably aware, the Governing Council and the Management of the Polytechnic, Ibadan relaunched an endowment fund for the institution on March 12, 1988 in order to supplement government efforts in providing basic teaching and infrastructural facilities for the institution. It is gratifying to note that many public-spirited and philanthropic indivi-

duals, groups, corporate bodies, organisations, friends and well-wishers participated at that occasion. It is equally gratifying to note that the fund is being utilised for the purpose it was launched. It is my fervent hope that today's ceremony will go down in the history of the Saki Campus of the Polytechnic as individuals, organisations, establishments, friends and well-wishers participate in its development and progress.

You will agree with me that higher educational institutions, like the polytechnic, need a lot of fund to run them. When such an institution has as many as four satellite campuses to supervise, in addition, the amount needed to run that institution becomes colossal. Most of the courses being offered at the polytechnic require heavy and expensive equipment and materials to run and maintain. These equipment and materials must be procured if the institution is to meet the accreditation requirements of the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE). I note with satisfaction efforts being made by the governing council of the polytechnic to restructure its courses at the national diploma level whereby certain courses are identified with a particular satellite campus. This arrangement is commendable as it will maximise the use of material and human resources. However, the restructuring exercise means that the NBTE will have to accredit those courses that have been transferred from one campus to another. I wish to assure you that government will continue to do all it can within its limited resources to get all courses in all the main and satellite campuses accredited within a short time. In 1988, a total sum of ₦5.6 million was approved in the Approved Estimates for the capital projects of the Ibadan Polytechnic and the four satellite campuses while ₦5 million was approved in the 1989 Budget.

The Saki Satellite Campus, like the other three satellite campuses, was established in order to bring education to the doorsteps of the people in the various areas. The yearnings of the ever-growing student population for higher education will not be realized if the education they receive is half-baked due to non-availability of the necessary facilities in the institution. Therefore, although in 1989 the state government allocated a sum of ₦358,949,950.00 representing 39.76% of the total expenditure proposal to education alone, and other sectors had to be catered for the overall good of its citizenry. Government still enjoyed contributions from public-spirited individuals, organisations and establishments to complement its efforts.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I see this launching of an appeal fund for this institution as a self-help scheme. It has often been said that self-help is best help. I believe, therefore, that the good people of this local government area know what is good and of benefit to them. I believe also that the development of this satellite campus is of high priority to you, hence, this launching. Consequently I am, therefore, appealing to the chief launcher, all launchers, friends and all other well-meaning citizens wherever they may be to donate generously to this appeal fund with the assurance that they are contributing toward a very worthy cause. By your con-

tribution, you are investing in technological education and thereby the progress and developments of Saki, in particular and Nigeria in general.

I want to appeal to the people of this community to close ranks and work together towards the upliftment and development of this area. There would

be no visible development where there is bickering, backbiting, blackmail and petition writing. Progress and development are synonymous with stability and peace. Therefore, I am imploring the entire people of this area to allow peace to reign supreme and give absolute support and loyalty to government in the implementation of its transition programme. With the lifting of ban on politics, people of this local government area, and, indeed the people of this state are implored to be tolerant of other people's views on issues and to play the game according to the rules. You must guard your utterances in order to ensure peace among all.

Members of the State Executive Council, Kabiyesi, the chief launchers, distinguished guests, I hope the target set for this appeal fund will be realized soon. The entire members of the polytechnic are already awaiting the provision of the facilities which the fund will be used for. On behalf of Oyo State Government, it is my pleasure and privilege to officially launch this appeal fund. I wish you all successful launching.

Thank you one and thank you all.

#### FOUNDATION OF THE SECRETARIAT OF FORESTRY ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA LAID

*The Oyo State Government has been providing funds to establish not less than 200 hectares of forest tree plantations in the state annually. It has also encouraged acceleration of tree planting in secondary schools by providing a shield to be competed for in that regard.*

*At Ibadan on October 15, 1988.*

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to be invited to perform the foundation laying ceremony of the secretariat of the Forestry Association of Nigeria today. I understand that this association from its inauguration in October 1970, has earned for itself the undisputable pride of creating awareness of the importance of forests and wildlife, their rational use for the greatest number of people for the longest time and the beautification of our environment; the association has also made immense contributions to the socio-economic growth of Nigeria.

I wish to thank the founding fathers of the Forestry Association of Nigeria for their vision and spirit of patriotism. In fact, foresters all over the world are reputed for their exceptionally perspective planning. I must also recognise the noble role played by Sir Alfred Mooney, the Governor of Lagos Colony, who in 1887, alerted the then colonial British Government of the need to conserve valuable tropical forests of Nigeria having observed threats posed to their

existence by shifting cultivation farming practice. Exactly ten years later, in 1897, the forestry service in the country was born. In March, 1899, the first forest reserves in the country at Olokemeji now in Ogun State and Mamu (now known as Gambari Forestry Reserve) in Oyo State were legally established. From this humble beginning, forestry in Nigeria developed to its present state.

Since the inception of forestry operations in this country, Ibadan has been in the fore-front of the operation. For example, the School of Forestry, Ibadan, for the training of technical staff in forestry, was established in 1940. The first Forestry Department of Nigeria was located at Olokemeji now in Ogun State and later transferred to Ibadan. The Department of Forest Research now Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria was later carved out of the Forestry Department and this Institute remains till today the focus for forest research activities in this country. To add more to the prestigious position of Ibadan in the history of forestry in Nigeria, the United Nations Organisation (UNO) in 1963 established the first Department of Forestry to train graduates in forestry for all African nations at the University of Ibadan. It is thus obvious why the founding fathers of the Forestry Association of Nigeria thought it fit to put up a befitting edifice for the association in Ibadan, the cradle of forestry in this nation. I am made to understand that it was through the Forestry Association of Nigeria that the National Tree Planting Campaign was born and had become an annual national event. The association has to do more to sustain this campaign by making the entire school children population of this country aware of trees and their roles in the existence of humanity.

Since 1970 when your association was inaugurated in Ibadan, Oyo State, a lot of changes have taken place. The changes in the last eighteen years have not only affected the various aspects of timber trade and all users of wood and wood-based products, it has also affected the general forestry organisation in the country. In the area of afforestation, the Federal Military Government has contributed so much to meet the threat posed by the encroachment of desertification in some states in Nigeria. Likewise, the Federal Military Government cannot relent in its efforts to meet the raw materials in terms of wood for the three pulp and paper manufacturing mills.

At this juncture, particular mention should be made of the contributions which companies like the Nigerian Tobacco Company, the Safa Splints (Nigeria) Limited, and the Nigerian Paper Mill, Jebba, are making to the development of forestry in the country. Government will, therefore, welcome other private companies and enterprises to be partners in progress towards meeting the ever-increasing wood requirements of this country.

Annually, for the past five (5) years, the Government of Oyo State has been providing funds to establish not less than two hundred hectares (200 ha) of forest tree plantations in the state. For the past three (3) years the Oyo State Government has been setting aside in its annual budget, sufficient funds to prosecute the tree-planting campaign. Furthermore, the government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources has, in its bid to accelerate the tree-planting campaign in secondary schools in the state,

provided a shield to be awarded annually to the best school in tree-planting exercise. To encourage the idea of tree planting and preservation, a small book has been published by the ministry for school children to supplement its other campaign activities. All tree exploiters, be they individuals or companies, have been organised by the ministry to contribute financially to the establishment of forest tree plantations in the state. It appears that with all these efforts, we are succeeding to make our people here realise the priceless treasure that trees constitute. The forest is an asset that should be supported and made to endure.

It is pertinent to mention before the end of my speech, that your association should endeavour to alert the various governments of the federation of the importance of recreational or urban forestry. By this, I mean the establishment of green open parks dotted with shade trees as seen in the developed countries of the world. I need not say much that relaxation after a day's work is necessary for the well-being of the people. One is disturbed to see how urban centres in our country have developed without much care for open and green shaded areas as play grounds. We enjoy a walk in the park in other countries but we hardly care for parks here! I hope your association, in your annual conferences, and in collaboration with other relevant professional bodies will not fail to recommend to all state governments the best way to tackle this ugly and unhappy urban planning or misplanning. I will like your association to give government concrete proposals to evolve a land classification pattern in the country. Many streams have dried up, many slopes have been formed and many hills have been laid bare. All these ecological ills have been caused by wrong land-use system and now we are all witnesses to flood, erosion and threat of desertification. We can no longer afford to indulge in the luxury of an unplanned environment.

Finally, let me assure you that the Government of Oyo State will continue to give sound forestry practice all the attention and encouragement it deserves within government's financial limitations.

The President of the Forestry Association of Nigeria, members of this professional body, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I wish the association success in all the goals it has set to achieve and, may also have for the future development of forestry in Nigeria. It is with the greatest pleasure, therefore, that I now lay the foundation of the secretariat of the Forestry Association of Nigeria in Ibadan to The glory of God and good of mankind.

Thank you.

## TASK FORCE ON PUBLIC ENLIGHTENMENT ON FOODSTUFF PRICES INAUGURATED

*Government does not contemplate any mode of price control with regard to staple food. What it intends doing is to enlist the support and co-operation of socio-economic groups as a medium of public enlightenment to tackle the problem of unnecessary increase in the prices of foodstuffs.*

*At Ibadan on November 10, 1988.*

It gives me great pleasure to address you at the inauguration of this task force set up to find ways and means of educating members of the public on how to find solutions to the unprecedented rise in the prices of staple foodstuffs in Oyo State. To start with, I need to thank you immensely for honouring the invitation to participate in this onerous socio-economic task to find solution to a problem that continues to assume unbearable dimensions each day.



*Col. Oresanya Commissions farmers' market at Oyo*

The unprecedented rise in the prices of foodstuffs in the state is, in part, a result of low rainfall which resulted in poor harvest in 1987. In fact, lack of rain at that time not only created extreme scarcity of foodstuffs but also had devastating effect on the economic resources of peasant farmers all over the country. The resultant poor harvest coupled with the increase in population and increasing urbanisation contributed to a sharp rise in the prices of foodstuffs and the situation was further compounded by the nefarious activities of smugglers, hoarders and unpatriotic middlemen.

I am aware that natural factors like the weather and scarce rainfall are beyond the control of human beings; however, it is the belief of the Oyo State Government that the concerted efforts of organised farmers as well as other social and economic groups, government functionaries and the general public at large can go a long way in reducing the prices of foodstuffs.

I must make it clear at this forum that government does not contemplate any mode of price control with regard to staple food, rather, government intends to enlist the support and co-operation of socio-economic groups as a medium of public enlightenment to tackle the problem of unnecessary increase in the prices of foodstuffs. Thus, the terms of reference of this task force are:

- (i) to embark on intensive campaign and lectures to farmers, market women and other interest groups on the evils of hoarding and over-pricing of foodstuffs;
- (ii) to monitor the movement of foodstuffs to and from Oyo State;
- (iii) to campaign against the activities of middlemen and smugglers of foodstuffs; and
- (iv) to intensify efforts in organising farmers into co-operative societies for direct disposal of their products to consumers.

It is my hope that you will work out the *modus operendi* which will enable every group contribute meaningfully to the achievement of the desired objectives. The food question is basic issue to be addressed by any government that has the interest of its citizens at heart. A hungry man or woman cannot be mobilised for positive action, hence the efforts of the Federal Military Government in prosecuting the programmes of the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI). About 20% of Nigerian population resides in the rural areas and the effects of government are geared to making this teeming population more productive on their farms and with access roads to city markets. The provision of fertilisers, herbicides, tractors and other equipment to assist farmers to maximise their farm output and raise rural income. At the end of the day, Nigerians should be able to feed themselves and have surplus of food for export. Unfortunately, Nigerians are suffering in the midst of plenty. It is also an irony that government efforts are now yielding positive results, some unscrupulous Nigerians are hell bent to make things difficult for their fellow men.

Members of the Press, representatives of various unions and organisations the composition of this task force is deliberately made broad-based comprising of interest groups connected with production, storage and distribution of foodstuffs. There are also representatives of research institutes and the media. This is to give the citizens of this state the feeling that government is aware of the hardship brought on them by the unbearable high prices

of foodstuffs. It is an incontrovertible fact that the priority of any man is food. It is an irony that in spite of abundant natural resources, in this part of the country, people find it difficult to comfortably have two not to talk of three square meals a day because of the exorbitant prices of foodstuffs. It is also an irony that a country which experienced an era of oil boom for well over one decade is now being gradually strangled by food crisis.

Ladies and gentlemen, successive governments had made several but unsuccessful onslaughts on the issue of food production. You may wish to recall the Operation Feed the Nation (OFN), Green Revolution and above all the River Basin Development Authorities introduced in the 1970s and thereafter. All these schemes were designed to attack the supply side of the food equation. Our main problem now is the distribution and marketing. The task before you is how to facilitate the distribution to consumers and at affordable prices.

As a practical step to the achievement of our objectives, the task force may examine the possibility of establishing consumer protection offices in the big markets in our various urban centres and with active collaboration with the local governments. In addition, there may be need to have education sub-committee in these markets as well. The consumers have to be educated on market trends and price movement as well as where to get the cheapest bargain without compromising quality. It is in the interest of the consumers to exercise great vigilance as well as prudence in the face of declining income. These suggestions are worth trying.

We have assembled on this committee, the producers, the transporters, the sellers and the consumers. We are all in a joint enterprise and I want to appeal to your conscience to assist government in its task of ensuring economic revival, economic sustenance and social justice. We should endeavour to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number. Let me thank you once again for your acceptance to serve

Oyo State is extremely grateful. This is another opportunity to assist the common man. We must not fail. We shall not fail.

I now have the pleasure to inaugurate this Task Force on Public Enlightenment on Foodstuff Prices. I wish the members the best of luck in this assignment.

Thank you all.

## AGRICULTURAL SHOW AND FARMERS' FESTIVAL HELD

*Agricultural Shows and Farmers' Festivals bring people together not only for the display of their farm produce but also afford them the opportunity of comparing notes and sharing experiences on the latest farming practices and techniques.*

*At the premises of the Ansar-Ud-Deen High School, Saki on December 3, 1988.*

I am particularly delighted to be here today to witness the grand-finale of the 1988 Oyo State Agricultural and Farmers' Festival. I agreed to attend today's ceremony because of the conviction that my presence will afford me

the singular opportunity to address a cross-section of farmers, farmers' organisations and other agents involved in the production processes of agriculture in Oyo State.

We are all aware of the tremendous impact of agricultural show and farmers' festival on the practice of agriculture since the days of Western Region. Likewise, we are all aware of the aims and objectives of the agricultural show and farmers' festival. Agricultural shows and farmers' festivals bring together farmers of all categories so that they can display their farm produce. The shows and festivals are expected to afford farmers and farmers' organisations an opportunity to compare notes and share experiences on the latest farming practices and techniques, including the use of agricultural inputs, be they the locally manufactured rotary planters, the watering cans or the fairly sophisticated locally fabricated grain shellers, threshers, etc. Besides, farmers are enabled to exchange ideas also on the variety of improved seeds and seedlings. I urge the organisers and the participants of this show to re-appraise the aims and objectives of the agricultural show and farmers' festival, reflect on how they were organised in the past especially the achievements and the shortcomings, and bring all these to bear on the organisation of future show and festivals.

An agricultural show and farmers' festival should be a means of improving agricultural production and improving market outlet for the sale of farm produce. I believe that consumers of farm produce, especially industrialists, should be encouraged to take more active parts in agricultural shows. The trend that I have observed is that of compartmentalization; the agricultural sector is doing its things separately and the industrial sector is steering its own course by itself. There should be a closer co-operation between the two sectors; after all, the industrial sector needs the raw materials from the agricultural sector.

In the course of my tour of the state soon after I assumed duty, I observed a number of things that should be put right. For instance, I observed that in the forest areas of the state, some farmers are gradually destroying the forest to do arable farming; even in some areas, permanent crops such as kola and cocoa and even citrus are being cut down to make way for annual crops such as maize and yam. This is an unfortunate trend which must be checked immediately. It is my belief that farmers in the forest areas should concentrate on those crops which they can produce most efficiently whereas those farmers in the savannah and the fringe forest areas could specialize in the production of grains such as maize, guineacorn, etc. Afterall, in economics there is what is called "the law of comparative cost". I have also observed that some small scale farmers complain of inavailability of chemicals such as herbicides. While I appreciate that for large scale farming involving heavy mechanisation, the use of agricultural inputs like herbicides cannot be ruled out, I believe that in the case of small scale farmers, the human labour which, fortunately, we have in abundance, can still be used to an advantage. My observation becomes more relevant in times like this when a 5-litre jar of lasso atrazine costs ₦160.00, whereas two years ago the same quantity was being sold for ₦50.00.

You are no doubt aware of the increased financial benefit that accrued to

cocoa farmers within the last two years. Cocoa is so specific in its ecological requirement that it cannot be profitably cultivated in every part of Oyo State; in order to develop another tree crop particularly in the forest fringe, the government of this state had embarked on conscious encouragement of farmers to cultivate cashew. For example, this year alone, the Cocoa Development Unit of the State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources raised 200,000 cashew seedlings which were sold to farmers at highly subsidised prices. I expect the unit to increase its cashew seedlings to a million in the coming year. Since cashew is less vulnerable to natural hazards like drought and flood than arable crops and in view of the fact that it can tolerate poor soil and less favourable weather conditions, I appeal to all farmers in Oyo State, particularly, those outside the deciduous forest belt to devote part of their farm land to the cultivation of cashew for which there is high demand both within the country and internationally.

This year's agricultural show and farmers' festival is being held at Saki, the headquarters of Oyo North Agricultural Development Project. There is no doubt that ONADEP has transformed the social and economic life of the people of Ifedapo, Irepo and Kajola Local Governments. Between 1983 when it started full operations and 30th September, 1988 which marked the end of World Bank funding for project implementation, the Project has sunk 1,300 wells, build 12 dams with capacity to supply 4.2 million litres of potable water enough for 600,000 people, constructed 590 kilometres of new roads and rehabilitated 170 kilometres existing ones and assisted over 50 000 farm families with fertilisers, herbicides, pesticides, credit, tractor services and improved seeds of maize, cowpea, cassava, soyabean, vegetables, etc. all backed up with technical advice on improved husbandry. The project area has become the food basket of Oyo State, particularly, in the supply of staple foodstuffs like yam and yam flour, maize, cowpea and soyabean, gari, cassava flour, etc.

Spurred by the visible success of ONADEP and in order to fully develop the agricultural potentials of the state, the State Government, through the Federal Military Government, had secured from the World Bank a loan of £21.2 million or ₦112 million for the implementation of the Oyo State-wide Agricultural Development Project which will take off in 1989. The project, during its first phase which extends till mid-1994 is expected to rehabilitate 880 kilometres and maintain 3,050 kilometres of feeder roads, construct dams and wells for supply of potable water to the rural community, rehabilitate 28,563 hectares of cocoa, assist 600,000 farm families on improved agricultural husbandry and supply of agricultural inputs like fertilisers, herbicides, tractorisation, pesticides and improved seeds and seedlings as well as storage facilities. Again, I wish to appeal to you all the farmers of Oyo State to avail yourselves of the opportunities and facilities which government has placed at your disposal, make the best use of them, increase your agricultural output and raise your level of income and standard of living correspondingly. All our resources must be fully tapped in the areas of crops, live-stock, fisheries and agro-forestry for optimum production and self-sufficiency in food and agro-industrial raw material production.

Before I end this address, I wish to place on record my appreciation and that of the Government of Oyo State to all who have contributed to the successful staging of this year's Oyo State Agricultural Show and *farmers'* Festival. In particular, I thank the chief hosts, the Okere of Saki and the Chairman of Ifedapo Local Government, other Obas, Chiefs and eminent citizens of the state, farmers including farmers' organisations and the various firms, companies and financial institutions. I wish to specially recognise and thank some of our financiers like the Co-operative Bank Limited, the International Bank for West Africa (IBWA), Amo Sanders of Awe, the Industrial Planters of Bashi and the various local governments that have generously donated to make the show a success.

Members of the State Executive Council, Your Royal Highnesses, local government chairmen, distinguished farmers, ladies and gentlemen, I have the greatest pleasure in declaring open the grand-finale of 1988 Oyo State Agricultural Show and Farmers' Festival with a firm belief that it will lead to a better tomorrow by providing abundant food for our people, provide raw materials for industrial use and even surplus for us to export.

Thank you all.

#### THINK TANK ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INAUGURATED

*The Think Tank on Food and Agricultural Development for the state is an innovative idea meant to help raise the level of agricultural output in the state, and bring down the escalating prices of food items in the state within the shortest time possible.*

*At Ibadan on March 6, 1989.*

Barely a week after being sworn into office, the Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources obtained my permission to set up a "Think Tank" on Food and Agricultural Development for Oyo State. This innovative idea was conceived as part of the multi-prong attack against the current food problem. The think tank is expected to help raise the level of agricultural output in the state and within the shortest time possible bring down the escalating prices of food items in the state. I, therefore, express my pleasure to inaugurate this Think Tank on Food and Agricultural Development for Oyo State. Distinguished gentlemen, you have been selected because of your collective research interests, and your individual specialisation and expertise. I am happy that this "Think Tank" comprises such a pool of relevant skills in agricultural production, econometric production and analysis, agricultural business, agricultural institutions and land resources, forest resources management, agricultural marketing, credit and cooperatives, agricultural extension and rural sociology, animal science; fishery and wildlife, and veterinary medicine. I have no doubt that with these concentration of skills and expertise, you are more than adequately equipped to discharge the onerous responsibility entrusted to you. That

responsibility is a singular one: "To help deliver the shortest time and at the least costs possible". I will, therefore, want to begin seeing the results of your efforts within three months!

Remember, of course, that you are an ad-hoc group. Yours is a call to service. The Government of Oyo State thanks you immensely for accepting to serve, and assures you of its cooperation. Before I end this short address, I wish to pay tribute to the contributions of individuals, private and public corporate bodies, universities and research and specialised institutions towards increasing the food supply to our teeming population and overall agricultural development of this country. I also seize the opportunity of this address to urge the farmers' groups, the market women and all citizens who take part in the production and selling of food items to co-operate with this think tank in all ways.

It is with the greatest delight and high expectations that I inaugurate this body to bring abundant food supply to the people of Oyo State.

Thank you.

### FARMERS' MARKET FOR IBADAN – IBARAPA ZONE COMMISSIONED

*The problems encountered by the common man as a result of high prices of foodstuffs in the country is the purpose of establishing farmers' market, so as to make foodstuffs available at affordable prices.  
At Ijokodo, Ibadan on April 1, 1969.*

It affords me great pleasure to be present at this occasion of the commissioning ceremony of Ibadan/Ibarapa Market at Ijokodo. I am very delighted to be here among the good farmers of Oyo State on this occasion.

The issue of having markets for the sale of agricultural produce is not new in Nigeria particularly in this part of the country. From time immemorial, our people have been known to be astute in market organisation. The basic difference is that the farmers are once-and-for-all breaking the backbones of the middlemen whose activities have led to the existing exorbitant prices of foodstuffs. I must congratulate the Council of Nigerian Farmers for taking this bold step of organising their members together for this eventful occasion. It is, indeed, a milestone in the history of agricultural production in this country.

It is perhaps not necessary to recount the problems encountered by the common man and, indeed, all of us as a result of high prices of foodstuffs in the country. We all know the problems. The farmers labour day and night to produce these products and sell at rock bottom prices either because of apparent poverty or inability to store while some people around thus reaping more cash on this than their fair share of the profit. I am, however, happy to say that this problem is being tackled effectively through the establishment of this market.

I need to say, however, that for the farmers' markets to effectively meet the aspirations of our people, there must be enough food items and other farm products produced for the markets.

As you well know, the Oyo State Government is solidly behind the farmers of this state in their endeavour to make food available to the generality of the people, and, we will, within our limited resources, continue to encourage you.

In this regard the government has made necessary arrangements for the provision of adequate inputs, seeds and fertilizers which we will ensure reach the actual farmers at the grassroot.

The government has also placed order for 25,000 (Twenty-five thousand) cutlasses to be sold to the farmers at affordable prices. This action is borne out of our firm belief in the labour intensive approach in food production.

In order to solve the problem of food shortage in the state, I set up recently, a "Think-Tank" committee to look into the problems of food shortage and give me within three months short-term and long-term recommendations which we intend to implement with despatch.

In concluding my speech, I am calling on all good people of this state to go out in their numbers and put all suitable and available lands to food crops production. I want to assure you all that in no distant future, food will be made available in the right quality and quantity and at affordable prices to the common man.

With this promise, I have the pleasure and honour to commission the market.

Thank you.

#### OGBOMOSO FARMERS' MARKET COMMISSIONED

*Farmers' markets are established to reduce marketing chain and hence curb inflationary trends arising from activities of middlemen.*

*At Ogbomoso on April 8, 1989.*

I am delighted to be present at this unique occasion of the commissioning of the Farmers' Market at Ogbomoso. A similar market was commissioned at Ibadan only last week. The establishment of farmers' markets which has been made possible by the untiring efforts of the Oyo State Chapter of the Council of Nigerian Farmers is a great landmark in the history of farming activities in Oyo State.

Government is aware that between 65-70% of the people of this country are engaged in farming or directly dependent on agriculture. It is also a patent fact that the bulk of the food crops grown in the country is produced by the peasant farmers. A good percentage of the food produced is, however, wasted after harvest due to lack of good storage and preservation facilities. At harvest, prices of agricultural products are very low but farmers sell their products to earn a living. The establishment of farmers' markets, therefore, will solve some of the problems posed by the perishable nature of agricultural products confronting farmers in that they will be able to dispose of their produce readily. Most importantly, it is envisaged that the market will reduce the marketing chain and curb, if not completely eliminate, the inflationary trends arising from the activities of middlemen.



*It is the determination of the state government to bring down the high cost of foodstuffs in the State. The picture shows Col Oresanya inspecting some vegetables on sale at Ile-Abu Farmers' Market Ogbomoso, after the launching of the market*

For long, the absence of markets like this where consumers have direct access to farmers has led to unduly high prices of farm products. While the consumers accuse middlemen for exploitation, the middlemen always claim that high costs of transportation account for the high prices of farm products. The situation has of recent assumed unbearable proportions throughout the country. Government cannot fold its arms and watch the masses suffer. All hands must, therefore, be on deck to stem the tide of rising food prices. This is why government is supporting and giving necessary encouragement to the establishment of farmers' markets in the state. One of these is being commissioned today. Government views the establishment of the market as a positive complement of its effort in establishing the task force on food prices and the "Think-Tank" on food and agricultural development for the state.

You are, no doubt, aware of the efforts of the present Military Administration in improving the level of infrastructural facilities in the state. Apart from government efforts in catering for the urban centres, the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructures (D.F.R.R.I.), a government agency, has constructed many kilometres of access roads throughout the state to facilitate the transportation of food items to various locations in the state. I enjoin the various communities to contribute positively towards the mainte-

nance of these access roads to enable our farmers carry their food products to the markets from where the consumers can buy directly from them. Concerted efforts should be made to disallow the middlemen from buying off the farmers' products with a view to reselling same at exorbitant prices to consumers or to create artificial scarcity which can contribute to undue hiking of food prices. I also implore both farmers and consumers to negotiate fairly and peacefully the prices of food items and other related products that may be brought for sale at this farmers' market.

I need to say, however, that for the farmers' markets to effectively meet the aspirations of our people, there must be enough food items and other farm products produced for the markets. To bring down the high cost of food prices and eliminate hunger, malnutrition and rural poverty, I appeal to all the good people of Oyo State to intensify their food production efforts.

As the planting season is just on, everybody should endeavour to grow food both on the farm and at the backyard. Indeed, all available land should be cultivated.

On its part, government will not relent in its efforts to assist and encourage farmers in all possible ways to increase food production. The agricultural extension workers will reach and assist the farmers in all parts of the state. They will disseminate improved agricultural technologies to farmers and make farm inputs available to them. In this regard, the newly established Oyo State Agricultural Development Project which will cover all the twenty-four local governments in the state and which has taken off since 1st April, 1989 will be of immense assistance to farmers. I appeal to farmers to avail themselves of this opportunity to increase food production in the state. Furthermore, may I enjoin farmers to make full use of the facilities being provided by the pest control committees established by government in each local government area to control pests during food production as well as after harvest.

I congratulate the Council of Nigerian Farmers and all those who are connected with the establishment of farmers' markets in the state. I appeal to workers and other consumers to patronise the markets. You should not hesitate to report the activities of bad eggs who may want to negate the attainment of the objectives of establishing farmers' market in the state. I assure you of the support of government in all efforts that will make life comfortable for our people.

Finally, I have great pleasure in commissioning the Ogbomosho Farmers' Market to the glory of God and the welfare of the generality of our people. Thank you.

## OYO STATE DAY AT TIMES AGRICULTURE AND FOOD EXHIBITION

*Different agricultural projects designed to boost agricultural production and generate employment have been embarked upon by the Oyo State Government. The Oyo State Integrated Self-Employment Scheme which trains school leavers to become modern farmers and settles them in their villages is one such scheme.*

*At Akure on April 15, 1989.*

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the activities marking the "Oyo State Day" at the on-going Time Agriculture And Food Exhibition holding here in Akure, Ondo State capital. Agricultural exhibitions of this nature are expected to display available technologies and give information on what is available and where it is available. It also affords participants an opportunity of learning at first hand what could take considerable length of time to find out through normal correspondence. I congratulate the Daily Times Organisation which has been in the fore-front of efforts to promote agricultural production in Nigeria for organising this exhibition. It is my hope that the organisation will not relent in its efforts in staging similar exhibitions in future years.

Agriculture, as we all know, has now assumed important dimension and any activity that promotes it is in the interest of us all. It has been observed in many quarters that our nation's inadequacy in agricultural production has contributed to our economic woes. We are also aware that agriculture is expected to produce food for our ever increasing population, earn us foreign exchange and provide raw materials for our agro-based industries. While every encouragement is being given to agricultural production, we are still not able to produce enough food and industrial raw materials. The competing needs between food for human consumption and raw materials for industries has resulted in high food prices. I wish to seize this opportunity to appeal to our farmers and, indeed, all Nigerians to redouble their efforts to produce more and more food as there is a ready market for all they produce, because of high and increasing demand in the country. With about seventy per cent of our population engaged in agricultural pursuits, it would be disastrous to resume importation of food.

Agriculture has passed through different phases in this country. During the colonial era, our population was such that the peasant farmers were in a position to produce the food needed. They were also able to produce the export crops which were needed for feeding the factories of the colonial masters. Cocoa, palm produce, cotton and groundnuts were the main export crops. Few children went to school and family labour was readily available for farm operations with increasing school population, the labour supplied on the farms by children dwindled. White collar jobs were preferred to employment in agriculture. With the increasing population and few people in agricultural production, there arose a gap between demand and supply of

food. The oil boom of the 1970s made matter worse as many rural dwellers abandoned the farms to take up job particularly in the then booming construction industry. The output of food and export crops fell as labour for production was just not there.

The government embarked on several programmes which were expected to correct the imbalance. Such programmes were the National Accelerated Food Production Programme, the Operation-Feed-the-Nation and the Green Revolution. These programmes met with varying degrees of success but the sum total of all of them is that we still have continuing food problem. The present administration has taken the bull by the horn and banned the importation of most food items. This has now put agriculture in the prime of place it deserves. The resultant effects include the attractive prices being paid for farm produce. It is my hope that farmers will continue to increase their production until we reach our goal of food self-sufficiency for our nation and also be in a position to export to other countries.

Agriculture is usually a family business, at initial stages of development. Therefore, starting from the hoe and cutlass system to gradual improvement on this level of technology, until a high degree of efficiency and sophistication is achieved, is appropriate for developing our agriculture. However, we jumped from the cutlass and the hoe system to the use of the tractor, with all its paraphernalia which were designed for different soils and different climate. The present economic situation makes it necessary for us to adopt technologies which can be made available within the country. Machinery and agricultural equipment manufactured in the country should be patronised as such a step will save us the foreign exchange which will be spent on importing such goods and, in addition, it will keep Nigerians engaged in the local fabrication of these equipment and machines busy.

At this juncture, I would like to dwell on the state of agriculture in Oyo State. Oyo State has the good fortune of spanning both the forest belt and the savanna. This puts the state in a position to produce a wide range of crops and livestock. Cocoa, palm produce, coffee, cashew, citrus, pineapple, maize, rice, cowpea, cassava, yam, sorghum, melon, soyabean and even wheat are among the crops which can be successfully produced. In the forest belt of the state, it is possible to produce two crops in the year under rain-fed conditions. Contrary to the opinion in certain quarters, Oyo State is also able to produce livestock ranging from cattle to sheep, goat, poultry and rabbits.

Investors are invited to participate in the agricultural development of the state either directly or by supporting the farmers with inputs. This could be under a contract agreement whereby the investor has the first call on the produce but pays at the prevailing markets price. At his juncture, I wish to thank the Flour Mills of Nigeria for its assistance to farmers in Oyo State with which it has a contract agreement for production of hybrid maize. This arrangement can be extended to cover other crops.

Oyo State has a crop of seasoned agricultural experts who give technical support services to farmers and their services will be available to investors. The State Government also assists in procuring land for agricultural projects. The State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources produces and

makes available to farmers high yielding and disease resistant seeds and seedlings. Other inputs like fertilizer are distributed to farmers at reasonable prices. Investors who are interested in agro-forestry will also find the required support from the ministry. There is an efficient veterinary service back-up which takes care of the health of animals and also an extension service to advise farmers on all their operations. It is my hope that investors will seize the opportunities to participate in agriculture in Oyo State.

Different agricultural projects designed to boost agricultural production and generate employment have been embarked upon by the Oyo State Government. The Oyo State Integrated Self-Employment Scheme which trains school leavers to become modern farmers and settles them in their villages is one such scheme. This project has met with tremendous success. To catch the youth young, a new school's agricultural programme is being evolved this year. This is expected to enlist the interest of the youths in agricultural production.

The state is also adopting a labour-intensive agricultural strategy in order to promote a village level development technology that will involve the use of simple tools and improved but locally fabricated implements by farmers. Similarly, farmers' markets are being established all over the state to enable consumers buy directly from farmers and thereby stem the tide of rising

food prices, emanating mainly from the activities of middlemen.

I am happy to announce that the Agricultural Development Project, which was operated in the Oyo North enclave of Ifedapo, Irepo and Kajola Local Government areas has from 1st April, this year, gone state-wide. I am confident that the notable achievement of its predecessor, the Oyo North Agricultural Development Project, will be repeated all over the state.

Before I end this address, I wish to place on record, my sincere appreciation and that of the Government of Oyo State for all who have contributed to the successful staging of the 1989 Times Agricultural And Food Exhibition. In particular, I thank my chief host, the Military Governor of Ondo State, Navy Captain Olabode George, members of Ondo State Executive Council, Obas, Chiefs, eminent personalities and citizens of Ondo State, farmers and farmers' organizations. On this note, I have the greatest pleasure in declaring open the Oyo State Day at the 1989 Times Agriculture And Food Exhibition. It is my firm belief that this exhibition will in time lead to a better and improved production of various local tools and equipment at reasonable costs to the farming populace and thereby lead to abundant food for our people, raw materials for our industries and surplus food for export to increase our foreign exchange earnings.

Thank you all.

## OYO FARMERS' MARKET OPENED

*Oyo State Government is committed to a successful operation of the farmers' markets because they are designed to bring down the soaring prices of foodstuffs by eliminating the unwholesome activities of the middlemen.*

*AT OYO ON JUNE 10, 1989.*

I am delighted to be here today to perform the opening ceremony of the Farmers' Market in Oyo. This is the fourth of its type to be opened in the state. It is my hope that the operations of the farmers' markets will be to the benefit of the farmers and all the people of Oyo State. The establishment of these markets is aimed at ensuring that food reaches the consumers at affordable prices. It is also to ensure that farmers get good return for their labour. We are committed to a successful operation of the farmers' markets because they are designed to bring down the soaring prices of foodstuffs by eliminating the unwholesome activities of the middlemen.

You are all aware of the efforts of the government in making it easier for people to live in rural areas. This is being done through the activities of the Directorate of Rural Development in the areas of rural road construction, rural water supply and provision of electricity. The construction of the rural roads is to enable farmers transport the necessary inputs to their farms and conveniently evacuate their produce at harvest time.

With good access road and provision of other basic infrastructural facilities, the farmers will be in position to have reasonable farm price for their produce while the consumers, too, will not need to pay through their nose to purchase needed food items.

Time and again, several people remind us of farm produce storage problem which has resulted in the loss of a good part of our harvest every year. After giving due consideration to the issue, the government has concluded that on-farm storage, particularly for grains, is most appropriate for our level of development. The storage of produce, as we all know, is to prevent unnecessary glut at the time of harvest, ensure steady flow of produce to the market and eliminate undue price fluctuation. I am happy to announce that in realisation of the importance of on-farm storage, the Oyo State Government has made available to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources a sum of seven-hundred thousand naira for the construction of cribs all over the state. The cribs are now being constructed. They will be available for use at the time of the next harvest.

The State Government is aware of the current high costs of tractors and other farm implements. We are also aware of the inadequate number of agricultural tractors available for use by farmers. I am happy to inform you that the situation will improve very soon when action is concluded on the additional 72 tractors being procured by the State Government. The tractors will be added to the existing fleet for the use of farmers in the state. As a further evidence of our commitment to labour intensive agriculture, Government has expended a sum of N1,500,590.00 on the purchase of 35,000 cutlasses for distribution to farmers, secondary schools and local governments at subsidised prices.

In its bid to greatly boost agricultural production in the state, the state government has picked agriculture as one of its critical priorities. The Federal Government has stopped the former practice of supplying fertilizer to states before payment. With the Federal Government's new "cash and carry" policy, it is now necessary to pay in advance for fertilizer to be collected. The Oyo State Government has so far released a sum of ₦15.5m for the purchase and evacuation of fertiliser this financial year. We are doing all things possible to see that adequate quantity of fertilizer is available in the state for use by farmers this cropping season. Apart from the existing inputs, government is striving hard to procure additional inputs for use by the farmers in the state. A sum of ₦10m has been set aside for this. Efforts are being made to ensure even distribution of inputs among the practising farmers in the state. The Task Force on Agricultural Input Distribution will vigorously monitor the distribution of the inputs. We will make sure that only real farmers have access to the inputs.

Also, as a demonstration of its commitment to improve agriculture, the government has set up a "Think Tank" to advise it on food and agricultural

development in the state. Government has adopted the initial report of the "Think Tank", and the recommendation are already being implemented. In addition, the School Agricultural Programme is being resuscitated in the state. Through the programme, post-primary institutions will be encouraged to cultivate farms. Government will provide the initial inputs for the farms.

The Task Force on Food Prices established by the government has been very active. The task force will soon come up with a standard measure for selling food items all over the state. I hope that all the people of the state will cooperate in the achievement of the basic objective of the establishment of the task force which is to bring down the prices of food items. This administration is doing all these in realisation of the fact that no effort is too much to improve the condition of agriculture in this country.

I congratulate the Council of Nigerian Farmers, again, for the establishment of the farmers' markets. I believe that we shall with the cooperation and support of all and sundry, restore agriculture to its rightful place in the state and make prices of food crops affordable to the ordinary citizens.

Before ending this address, I wish to appeal to both farmers and non-farmers in Oyo State to seize the opportunity of the existing favourable weather to put all the available land into cultivation. We are blessed with vast area of suitable land. We should all join the government in the determination to make Oyo State Nigeria's food basket.

Kabiyesis, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I have the greatest honour to declare open the Oyo Farmers' Market for the benefit of our people and to the glory of God.

Thank you.

## IJEBU—JESA GENERAL HOSPITAL COMMISSIONED

*Government cannot avoid the introduction of cost recovery methods as this will ensure the regular supply of drugs to the teeming number of patients attending our state health institutions.*

*— At Ijebu-Jesa on December 23, 1988.*

I am indeed very happy to be here this afternoon on this important occasion of the commissioning of Ijebu-Jesha General Hospital which incidentally is the second of such an assignment for me in the last few hours within the same local government.

To start with, I like to register the appreciation of the state government for the wonderful contribution of this community towards the health care delivery in the state. I also want to place on record that since my assumption of office in this state and indeed from all indications, the donation of this hospital building to the state government is one of the most unique donations to be made by any community in recent times to assist government programme. I am reliably informed that about ₦800,000.00 had been expended on this project and, as we have all heard from the president of the sponsoring club, everything will be done to complete the other two blocks to make the hospital truly a general hospital. For this, this administration is grateful to you all.

I have, this morning, at Ibokun explained the rationale behind the government plan to develop a very good referral centre in each local government area in this state, for the facilities to be provided by the local governments in the implementation of primary health care programme. It will interest you to note that the ten hospitals/clinics, which I promised, on my assumption of office to open, form part of this overall plan. You will also have learnt of my directive that all the twenty hospitals in the state were to be renovated. I am glad to say that preliminary work has started and any time from now work should start in all centres.

All these, of course, will cost money. And because of the sheer size of Oyo State and its attendant large population, the government — both local and state — cannot possibly go it alone. The various communities have to be involved as well. In this particular case therefore, it is with pleasure that I note the generous contribution of the community in the provision of this facility. On the part of the state government, it will interest you to note that apart from the staff provided to run the centre, the state government has spent about ₦100,000.00 in the provision of equipment and furniture etc. for this centre.

At this juncture, let me allay the fears of the general public about staffing these new facilities which are being opened. I am aware that the existing staff of Hospital Management Board are very thin on the ground and therefore, there is need to recruit more staff to cope with the volume of work to be done. It is for this cause that I gave approval for the recruitment of more staff for these hospitals/clinics. This covers all the categories of staff needed ranging from house officers to medical officers, to consultants, to

nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technologist etc. I hope that this additional recruitment will further ease the problem of unemployment in the state. Neither has the government lost sight of the great need to ensure adequate and constant supply of drugs and dressings. Again, let me assure you that the state government has already tackled this problem and as from the beginning of next year, the present shortage will be a thing of the past. Already, a sum of about N20m has been earmarked for the purchase of drugs and dressings and the latest order should start to arrive as from January 16.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, considering the high cost of maintenance of these institutions, the government cannot avoid the introduction of cost recovery methods. A pharmacy shop will soon be opened here in this hospital, where our more expensive drugs can be purchased at a price which is slightly higher than what obtains in the hospitals open pharmacy but which will definitely be lower than the price with outside pharmacies. I hope you will then patronise the shops as this is one of the ways the government can keep up with the constant supply of drugs in the hospitals and also ensure that patients have only genuine drugs.

Before I end my address, I want to appeal to the community not to rest on their oars as there are still other areas for assistance to complement the efforts of the government. Yours have been a community of self-help culture and this is an area where you have created enviable image for yourself. I like to assure you that my administration will do everything possible to encourage you.

Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for listening to me. It is my fervent hope that we will continue to be partners in progress. I wish you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Thank you and God bless.

### IBOKUN PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE COMMISSIONED

*As the health of a nation hangs around the health of its people. Government will continue to give priority attention to the sector while it expects various communities to give complementary assistance to the sector.*

— At Ibokun on 23rd December, 1988.

I am highly delighted to be amongst you this morning to perform the commissioning of the Primary Health Centre, Ibokun. This is the second centre to be commissioned by me since I assumed office. It will also interest you to note as a matter of fact, that two centres will be commissioned today which will bring the number to three at the end of the day, the other two being the Primary Health Centre, Shaki, which I commissioned in August, and the General Hospital, Ijebu-Ijesha.

Let me, therefore, start by acknowledging the effort of this community in the execution of this project and other development projects in this area. It is on record that the community not only made this accommodation available for the health centre, but that they are also working on the permanent sitewhich is located only a few metres away from here. I am also

informed that the community is also currently working on the construction of the town hall. I commend your efforts and hope you will not relent in your drive to develop your community.

When I assumed office some months ago, I stated categorically that two priority areas of this administration will be health and agriculture. This is because the life of a nation hangs very much around the health of its people. We are aware of the old adage. "A Healthy Nation is a Wealthy Nation". If we are, however, to achieve the goal of providing health for all, it is imperative that every community should have access to a health facility.

You are of course all aware of the fact that Oyo State has a land area of 37,705sq. km, a projected population of about 11.6m and that it is broken down into 24 local governments. You can, therefore, imagine how many facilities will have to be provided in the state if each community is to be adequately serviced. Luckily, health is on the concurrent list of the Federal, State and Local Governments. Otherwise the task would have been impossible for any tier of government.

Unfortunately the efforts of the three tiers of government have for too long not been adequately coordinated, with the result that there are several cases of unnecessary duplication of efforts. It is, therefore, the intention of this administration to streamline the provision of health care delivery service within the state. In the first instance, in line with the Federal guidelines, the thrust of health care delivery by which Health for All by the Year 2,000 will be achieved, will be primary health which will be handled by the local governments. The plan, therefore, is that the small health facilities, some of which are being handled by the state government will form the local apex of health care delivery by the local governments. On the part of the state government, each local government will have at least a 20 - bed hospital which will be the referral centre for that local government. It, therefore, becomes necessary to ensure that each local government is provided with at least one of such facility.

From this explanation, it is obvious that a large proportion of the state resources will be spent before the ideal situation is achieved. In the face of the competing needs of other sectors, the government will, therefore, have to phase this development out and many communities may have to wait longer than others to receive their own facilities. The complementary efforts of the communities, therefore, becomes very important as obviously the governments, no matter how benevolent, cannot go it alone. I, however, observe that Obokun Local Government is one of the luckiest local governments in the state as far as the provision of health facilities in the state is concerned. With the opening of the two centres at Ibokun and Ijebu-Jesha today, the local government is now adequately serviced, particularly when one takes into consideration the fact that there are two others still under construction at Erin-Jesha and Esa-Oke.

I, therefore, once again congratulate Ibokun community most heartily for their effort in providing this facility and for being a partner in progress with the government. I hope your efforts will not stop at the commissioning of this centre today. I want to reiterate here that the running of this centre is the joint responsibility of all of us — state and local governments and the

community. We all have vested interest in this project and must, therefore, see that it works well. I want to appeal especially to the pioneering staff of this centre to work together as a team in promoting health care delivery in this area.

Finally, I want to seize this opportunity to thank Kabiyesi, chiefs and the entire citizens of this town for their personal efforts in making the commissioning of this centre a success.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Thank you.

## HEALTH CLINIC COMMISSIONED AT OKINI

*Health institutions are established by government to prevent people from patronising medical quacks and roadside medicine sellers.*

*— At Okini in Ede Local Government area on December 29, 1988.*

It is with great joy that I am here this morning on the occasion of the official commissioning of the six-bed health clinic in Okini situated in Ede Local Government of this state. It is a day when a health establishment which will cater for all the health needs of people in and around Okini becomes a reality. In effect, the commissioning of the Health Clinic, Okini today marks another milestone in the health care delivery programme of this administration. It is also another giant stride to ensure that health facilities are no longer the preserve of urban cities.

As you are aware, the contract for the award of this clinic was made several years ago but because of financial constraints in which the state government found itself, the project could not be completed. However with the re-ordering of our priorities coupled with government belief in the provision of Health For All by the Year 2,000 A.D. government had no choice than to equip this clinic for the benefit of all. Therefore, I want to assure you that the government is firmly committed to and is actively pursuing the attainment of the objective of Health for All by the Year 2,000. In this connection, government has provided expensive equipment, drugs, vaccines and man-power in order that this centre might take off immediately.

One point which I will like to highlight at this point is government's plan for closer relationship over health matters between the state government and local governments for the avoidance of unnecessary dissipation of energies. There will be no need for competition for health care delivery between one arm of the government and the other. From now on, efforts of both the state and local government will be complementary rather than competitive and plans for this strategy are being worked out. In this connection, I wish to emphasise that the government needs the co-operation of every social groups, religious bodies, philanthropists, Obas and Chiefs for the successful implementation of the programme.



*The Impact of UNICEF in Nigeria is being felt in all the nooks and corners of the country. Picture shows a vehicle presented to the Oyo State Government by UNICEF, Director in Nigeria.*

I want to take this opportunity to stress the need for our people to steer clear of drug abuse. Incidentally, the programme was recently launched in Osogbo Zone and those of you who were privileged to attend the launching would have realised the dangerous implication of taking drugs from doubtful sources. Hospitals have been established in order to ensure that you are not attracted by the dangerous bait of quacks and roadside medicine sellers whose 'simple dose' are supposed to cure all ailments — real or imaginary.

The provision of a structure like this is, therefore, only a part of the war against untimely death. Making use of the services offered from the centre is much more important. I, therefore, assure you that the government would ensure adequate supply of staff and drugs to this centre at all times and I hope this will break the back of these unscrupulous exploiters of the common man on the street. I will, therefore, seize this opportunity of today's event to call on all for renewed efforts against unnecessary wastages of lives in our community. The health clinic which I am about to commission this morning, like others, has already been provided with adequate staff and drug supply. It is, therefore, my hope that the clinic will be adequately patronised. I urge the pioneering staff to be very understanding in their dealings with their patients so that the community could be adequately encouraged to make the optimum use of the clinic.

Kabiyesi, Chiefs, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for listening.

It is with great pleasure that I declare this clinic open to the great glory of God for the use of the people of this local government.

#### 4. HEALTH CLINIC COMMISSIONED AT OKE-OSUN

*The beauty of primary health care is the emphasis on community participation with local government assuming primary responsibility while the state government will continue to give every assistance to enable them function properly.*

*At Oke-Osun, Osogbo on December 29, 1988.*

I am most delighted to be here this morning for the official opening of the 6-bed Health Clinic at Oke-Osun in Osogbo Local Government area.

You will recall that this centre is one of the 118 uncompleted six-bed clinics inherited by the present administration, many of these having been started as far back as 1978. These are beside the 38, 20-bed primary health centres also inherited alongside. It is obvious that no government could possibly continue all the sites at the same time. Hence it became imperative to phase out the completion. This centre happens to be one of the first selected batch and with the contractor doing so well, it is not surprising then that it is one of the first to be completed.

I, therefore, congratulate the people of this local government for this additional facility which they will begin to enjoy as from today. When I assumed office in July this year, I made it clear that health will be one of the two priority areas of this administration and that the goal, therefore, will be

the attainment of Health for All by the Year 2,000. This goal, however, is only achievable if we can make it possible for each community to have easy access to health facilities and at a price they can afford. This administration will accordingly make primary health care the pillar of health care delivery in the state.

You will appreciate that this calls for the joint effort of not only the state and local governments but also that of the community. Osogbo Local Government is lucky because this centre has been built for them by government. The two centres which I commissioned last week were donated by the communities one of them costing over ₦800,000.00. I, therefore, want to seize this opportunity to remind everybody that the beauty of primary health care is its emphasis on community participation with the local governments assuming primary responsibility. This, of course, does not mean that the state government will take its hand off primary health care entirely. Every assistance will continue to be given to the local governments to enable them function properly. To this end, the local health committee will soon be inaugurated for each local government in the state. These committees will, therefore, provide avenues at each local government level for ironing out local problems of health care delivery. I am also happy to inform you that as from next year, quarterly meetings of local government chairmen and their supervisory councillors, with the Commissioner for Health will be held to iron out problems of health care delivery in the state on a regular basis.

While the state government will continue to give every encouragement, it will not relent in its effort to ensure that both new and old institutions of health are adequately staffed and given regular supply of drugs, dressings and equipment needed for efficient health care delivery. Having gone round the state hospitals, I appreciate the deplorable conditions of many of them. This is why I have directed that they should be given a facelift immediately and I am happy to say that preliminary work on this has been completed. In the next few weeks, therefore, your State Hospital at Osogbo should start to wear a new look and with the completion of the extension to the hospital, Osogbo State Hospital should be able to take its rightful place in the scheme of things.

I, therefore, want to appeal to this community to ensure adequate patronage of these institutions, particularly this new one. It is only this that can give both the local and state governments the encouragement to do more.

Kabiyesi, I want to congratulate you that this progress is taking place during your reign. I pray that many more of such great things will continue to happen in your time, I, therefore, want to appeal to you not to relent in your effort to give positive and good leadership to your people.

Once again, I congratulate the people of Oke-Osun on the occasion of this commissioning.

It is my honour and privilege to declare this primary health clinic open to the glory of God and the improvement of health care delivery in Osogbo Local Government area.

## OKITI HEALTH CENTRE COMMISSIONED

*The commissioning of Okiti Health Clinic, in Irepodun Local Government area, is a further demonstration of government commitment at making health care accessible to all as part of its rural development programme.*

*— At Okiti in Irepodun Local Government area on February 9, 1989.*

It affords me a great pleasure to be here at the commissioning of Okiti Clinic which is a further demonstration by government of its commitment to make health care accessible to all, irrespective of their geographical distance from the centre.

Your community has a lot to be happy about today. In the first place, this clinic was built, and furnished by government for the use of the people of this local community as a practical demonstration of government belief in its own rural development programme. For too long, the people at the grassroot level have been neglected in various government programmes. Special attention is, therefore, now being given to developing the rural areas to encourage their citizens to stay at home and join hands together to develop their immediate localities. Thus the unhealthy trend of rural-urban migration will be stemmed.

Secondly, the state is witnessing an era of revolution in its health care delivery programme. For the first time, there is practical and visible evidence of the much needed cooperation between the state and local governments in the execution of their health care delivery programmes. Today's commissioning is an example of such cooperation and it gladdens my heart indeed and gives me hope for a bright future for the country.

I, therefore, congratulate you for being part of this epoch-making ceremony. It is my fervent hope that this clinic will ultimately form a great support for the prosecution of primary health care in this area. It will interest you to note that health is on the concurrent list of the tiers of government. The local government has responsibility for primary health care while secondary health care is that of the state government and tertiary health care that of the federal government. Although these spheres of operation of each tier of government has been clearly stated, there is no doubt that there is need for close cooperation particularly between the state and local governments, while the state government should continue to give support and close supervision to health care delivery at the local government level. It is for this reason that government will be handing over to the local governments most of its six-bed clinics as part of its contribution to primary health care at the local level. The details of this will be finalised at the quarterly meeting of the chairmen of local governments with the State Ministry of Health. Suffice it to say, therefore, at this juncture that I have already launched the handing over programme in Oyo Local Government last week.

I, therefore, want to urge you all to patronise this clinic which belongs to all of you. You should show your appreciation for government efforts by not only using the clinic but also by your continuous suggestions on how to improve the services to be rendered here. This is the way you can help government to serve you better.

I cannot, however, end this address without reminding this community of the need to undertake self-help projects as self-help is the best help. No government, no matter how benevolent, can provide every need of the various communities under its jurisdiction. Therefore, each community must identify the areas of its need and embark on carrying out such projects. For example, the clinic which I commissioned a few hours ago, was the result of the effort of the government in its efforts to make life easier for those living in the rural areas.

I thank you.

### IFE-ODAN HEALTH CLINIC COMMISSIONED

*The six-bed clinic will ultimately form part of the state's primary health care programme, while the state government will ensure that a good referral centre is developed for each local government to look after all referral cases from the local government health centres.*

— At Ife-Odan, in Ejigbo Local Government area, on February 9, 1989.

It is indeed a pleasure for me to be here this morning to join you in the commissioning ceremony of the six-bed health clinic at Ife-Odan.

When I assumed office last year, I made a promise that ten more hospitals will be commissioned to boost health care delivery in the state. I am glad to inform you that since then, this morning's ceremony marks the seventh of such commissioning and by the end of the day the number will have increased by one, as I will be moving from here to Irepodun Local Government for another ceremony of this nature.

I, therefore, want to congratulate and thank you for the tremendous contribution of your community to health care delivery in the state. When one takes into consideration the fact that the state, with a projected population of 10.4 million is made up of 24 local governments and spread over 37,705 sq. km. of land area, one will appreciate the demand on the government resources by the health sector of the economy. With this at the background, the contribution of any community cannot be under estimated as it is obvious that government cannot bear all the responsibility alone, even if its resources are limitless! It is, therefore, in the light of this that the government appreciates community self-help and I congratulate you most heartily for your contribution towards health care delivery in this locality. I want to assure you that you are not alone in this crusade. I am happy to inform you that of the total number of seven clinics and hospitals which I have so far commissioned, yours is the fourth to be donated by their respective communities. I commend this spirit and assure you that government is indeed appreciative of such efforts. I, therefore, want to seize this opportunity to assure you, in return, that the government will continue to do everything in its power to ensure an all-round development of this state. While the six-bed clinics will ultimately form part of the primary health care programme, the state government will ensure that

at least a good referral centre is developed for each local government to look after all referral cases from the local government health centres. Consequently, I want to take this opportunity to remind the good people of this local government to patronise the Comprehensive Health Centre at Ejigbo. Report reaching me on the state of the hospital is far from encouraging. I have been informed that there are complaints of the distance of the centre to the town. I want to remind you, that your good people chose the site for government and that in any case, I understand that some go from Ejigbo to other neighbouring towns to receive treatment. If this is so, nothing prevents them from stopping over at their own hospital for treatment. If the patronage increases considerably, then the government will be further encouraged to develop to the full, facilities which should be there as the referral centre for this local government.

I, therefore, urge you all to please have a change of mind and make full use of government facilities. I hope that the same situation will not be allowed to exist here at Ife-Odan. This clinic must have cost you a lot of money, energy and time. I hope that this sacrifice will not be in vain.

I assure you that there will be regular supply of drugs as the government has recently committed about ₦23 million to the purchase of drugs and dressings, the bulk of which has now started to arrive.

Before I end this speech, I want to urge the people who will work at this centre to be ready to give of their best at all times. They should treat their patients with understanding and affection but with firmness to encourage them all to make use of the clinic.

Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I congratulate you all once again and pray that all the sick people who come here may receive healing and that the pregnant ones will all have safe delivery

I thank you all.

## FOUNDATION OF PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE LAID AT SAKI

*Neglected areas in the provision of amenities in the past will receive the priority attention of this administration. Laying the foundation stone of Saki Health Centre is an expression of that policy.*

— At Saki on February 27, 1989.

About six months ago precisely on 31st August, 1988, I had the pleasure of performing the first of a series of commissioning exercise of the hospitals and primary health centres in Oyo State here in Saki. On that occasion, a request was placed before me for the construction of a permanent hospital structure by government and I gave my word that this administration will give the request a serious consideration as a matter of priority. Since then, necessary machinery had been put into motion to ensure that your dream materialised within the shortest time possible. These efforts have culminated in our assembly here today. It is, therefore, a matter of joy for me to be present

among you today to perform the foundation laying ceremony of the permanent site of the Primary Health Centre, Saki.

Since the commissioning of the Primary Health Centre, Saki, currently housed in a temporary site donated by the Saki community, I have had the pleasure of commissioning about eight other centres all over the state. If I may recall for the purpose of history and posterity, two of such centres at Ijebu-Jesa in Obokun Local Government and Ife-Odan in Ejigbo Local Government were constructed by the communities concerned costing large sums of money while this administration handled the provision of equipment and staff. Of specific importance is the one at Ijebu-Jesa — the phase one of which had cost the community a sum of ₦8 million. This has remained a very important single donation by a community to this administration and I want to commend this spirit of self-help to other communities to emulate.

The project, which I am about to lay its foundation this morning will consume well over ₦700,000.00 for a start by way of physical structure alone, while the provision of equipment, drugs, dressings etc. and staff has to cost about that amount if not more. I have deliberately made this a priority project of this administration because of the apparent neglect of this area in the provision of health facilities in the past. At the time I assumed office as the Military Governor, the only health centre wholly-owned by government in this local government was the District Hospital, Tede. That one was also lacking in the provision of some basic equipment the most essential of which is electricity. In order to correct the situation, I have ordered the inclusion of the District Hospital, Tede among the first batch of hospitals marked for renovation. Also to be renovated are the Primary Health Centres at Igboho and Igbeti. The State Hospital Management Board has assured me that necessary arrangements have been completed on the renovation exercise and that work will start in these hospitals in a matter of weeks. In addition, the Ministry of Health is in contact with the appropriate authority to connect electricity to the District Hospital, Tede among others as approved for a number of hospitals in the 1979 Estimate. All these projects enumerated above will cost money and it is my hope that besides the payment of taxes and rates, the people of this local government in general and Saki in particular should be able to embark on specific project through self-help which will encourage the government to do more for you. There is a lot of joy in doing so, *moreso* when it is clear that no government can provide all amenities for its people.

Meanwhile, I want to implore the contractor handling this project to work within the time schedule as well as do a fine job. Officials of the State Ministry of Works and Transport will be around to monitor him. On the part of this administration, settlement of bills will be attended to as and when due, but government will not hesitate to deal ruthlessly with any contractor who chooses to delay important projects of this nature. I also want to seize this opportunity to appeal to the contractor handling our Primary Health Centre at Ofiki to be alive to his responsibilities so that more health care facilities can be extended to the people of Ifedapo Local Government. Gone are the days when contractors complain of lack of payment from the state government as this administration does not bite more than it can chew.

I am sure that even though today's ceremony has to do with health, you good people of this area would like to hear something about the condition of the Iseyin-Saki road which has always featured prominently in your previous addresses. For the moment, all I can say is that, like I have given a priority attention to this hospital project which is starting few months after my promise, your roads will wear a new and motorable appearance very shortly.

Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to lay the foundation stone of the Primary Health Centre, Saki to the glory of God and the benefit of mankind.

Thank you.

### ROTARY WARD OF HOPE COMMISSIONED

*Rotary Club has distinguished itself in worthwhile ventures of humanitarian and social values, a virtue worth emulating by all.*

*— At Osogbo on April 7, 1989.*

I am indeed very happy to be here today for the official commissioning of the Rotary Ward of Hope, built and donated by the Rotary Club of Osogbo. I am particularly delighted at the name given this ward for several reasons. In the first instance, this is a ward purposely built for children who are our hope for the future. Secondly, there can be no better time than now in the economic and political life of our great country to have hope. While I hope that we have learnt the lessons of our past mistakes, I also hope that we are getting out of the global recession.

Osogbo State Hospital has over the past four decades provided medical care to the people of this historical town and its environs. It has also become a secondary health care facility of excellence accepting referrals from all corners of Osun Health Zone. The increasing awareness of the possibilities of orthodox medicine, the attendant increase in the demand for and the misplaced emphasis on curative care of the past decades have all made facilities at this hospital, and others like it become inadequate. Neither has the down-turn in our economy helped matters. Government has consequently become less able to sustain and expand health services. It is indeed an economic fact that in times like this, worst hit areas are the non-productive sectors of the economy. However, productive capacity required a minimum level of health. It is this consideration that has moved this administration to re-order its priorities in health to make essential medical care accessible, affordable and acceptable to our people.

The reality of what I have said so far is the fact that it is becoming increasingly difficult for any government to meet all the social welfare needs of the people without assistance from individuals, groups and organisations. It is for this reason that I wish to commend the Rotary Club of Osogbo for the

donation of this 30-bed Rotary Ward of Hope. It was only on 2nd of March this year that I had the pleasure of commissioning a purpose-built ante-natal block at Jericho Nursing Home, Ibadan; the block was donated by the Rotary Club Ibadan West. These are but two examples of the contributions of Rotary International to health care delivery in this state. Let me, therefore, use this opportunity to express the deep appreciation to all the Rotary Clubs in this state through your current District Governor, Rotarian Ayo Ogunlade. In particular today, my appreciation goes to the Rotary Club of Osogbo for this donation and its previous activities through which it has lent support to government in improving the social health status of the people of this state. You are indeed a partner in progress to the government of this state. You have by this donation further demonstrated your commitment to improve the lot of the common man and make the world a better place than you met it. This donation becomes more significant when one takes into consideration the economic atmosphere in the country which will make the erection of this building a real sacrifice on the part of the Rotarians. I salute your efforts.

While our commitment to primary health care as the corner-stone of our health policy remains unshaken, we are also improving services in our secondary health care facilities. This administration has embarked on the renovation and refurbishment of our hospitals. It may also interest you to note that the cost-recovery drug scheme is making it possible for essential drugs to be available in these institutions. Under the scheme, drugs are sold to patients at reasonable prices that are much more competitive than those in private drug stores.

This hospital is particularly lucky because, in addition to this new ward, a new out-patient block is nearing completion. These two projects will surely decongest the over stretched facilities.

At this juncture, I wish to draw attention to a few things worth emulating in Rotary. Here is a body of men who provide service to their community; change their leaders without rancour and build on the positive achievements of their predecessors-in-office. As we proceed with the preparations for our third attempt at democracy and party politics, this country needs men and women whose goal in politics is positive leadership and service to our country. I hope they will borrow a leaf from the Rotary International.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, once again I congratulate the Rotary Club of Osogbo for a job well done and it is my pleasure to commission this children's ward — a Ward of Hope — which will through the grace of God bring relief and restore radiant health to all children who are brought to this hospital for treatment.

Thank you.



*Governor Oresanya being conducted round the 30-bed hospital ward donated by the Rotary Club, Osogbo to the State Hospital, Osogbo*

#### ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED BY ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

*Hard drugs hitherto unknown in this part of the world have become household words among young men and woman and worse still among students. The time has, therefore, come when everyone must join hands together and fight the evil in all its forms before it destroys the society.*

*— At Adamasingba Sports Complex, Ibadan on April 18, 1989.*

It gives me great pleasure to be with you this morning on this occasion of the launching of the anti-drug campaign of your association.

We are all aware that drug abuse and misuse, and drug trafficking constitute a serious threat to the health of any nation. There is no gainsaying the fact that within the last few years in this country, drug abuse has assumed an alarming proportion. Suddenly cocaine, heroin and other dangerous drugs hitherto unknown in this part of the world have become household words among young men and women, and worse still among students. We cannot

claim to be unaware of the large number of young men and women languishing in jails abroad for drug offences. The painful part of the affair is that many of these young people get into such trouble through ignorance of the consequences of their action, both to their persons and the end users of the drugs. The lives of many enlightened families today have been soured by the evil effect of these drugs on their sons and daughters.

The time has, therefore, come when everyone must join hands together and fight this cankerworm in all its ramifications, before it destroys our society. While the state government is, through its drug abuse committee reaching out to the public to warn them about the danger of this disease of drug abuse and misuse, there is no doubt that efforts of associations like yours are necessary as complements to such programmes. I, therefore, want to congratulate the Zonta International, Ibadan Chapter for taking this initiative to sponsor this campaign programme. Your action, however, is not surprising, when one takes into consideration the calibre of the members of this club who, apart from being distinguished women in their chosen fields, are responsible mothers as well.

Let me, therefore, seize this opportunity to appeal to all our women folk to take an active and special interest in this programme. Whether we all accept it or not, the bulk of the responsibility in the homes for the proper upbringing of the children, lies with you. It is, therefore, imperative that you get yourselves properly educated on this disease so that you can guide aright the lives, which God, in His infinite mercies has put in your care. It is my firm belief that the war against drug abuse must start in the individual homes before the efforts of the communities and governments can bear fruit. I also want to use this opportunity to appeal to parents all over the state to please create a little more time to know their children. A number of parents particularly the affluent, believe that they can buy the time they spend away from their children by lavishing money that the children do not need on them. I assure you that this could be the beginning of future problem for your children and this money could spell doom of future unhappiness and heartache.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, my advice to all parents this morning, therefore, is that we should all educate ourselves about the root causes of drug abuse so that we can serve as a reservoir of knowledge to our children. We also owe it a duty to train the children to cultivate habits of modesty, contentment with what we can provide, honesty, industry and humility in their daily lives. Above all, we parents must be living examples worthy of emulation by these children and that means that we must learn to live a decent, drug and alcohol free lives.

Before I end this address, I would like to leave a word or two for the younger generations. Please always say 'NO' to drug abuse; say 'NO' to those who entice you with gifts to run errands and carry parcels abroad. Say 'NO' to those who urge you to smoke hemp and take hard drugs. If you do not, you could be the mad person round the corner or you could find yourselves in prison here or in foreign lands and in the end ruin your beautiful self. A word is enough for the wise.

Once again, I salute the efforts of the Ibadan Chapter of Zonta International who are partners in progress with the government. May your shadow

never grow less and may this effort yield positive results in the minds of our people, who would otherwise have been lost.

Since this ceremony coincides also with the launching of another programme designed for the improvement of the quality of life, I cannot but say a word or two about the on-going State Immunization Days. You are all aware of the fact that this administration is pursuing a policy of establishing primary health care in all the local government areas of the state. We are, therefore, observing nine days as State Immunisation Days starting from today. This works out as three days in April, three days in May and three days in June to enable the children complete their immunisation doses. Our goal is to protect all the children in the state, against the six-deadly diseases of childhood, namely tuberculosis, measles, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. I want to call on all parents in the state to seize this opportunity to have their children immunized.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen it is my pleasure to launch this anti-drug campaign programme of Zonta International Club of Ibadan in the hope that many lives will be saved from ruin and the hope that today will mark the beginning of improvement in the quality of our society.

I thank you.

#### NIGERIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE DECLARED OPEN

*Our activities in the health sector in this state are geared towards the realisation of the broad objectives of the National Health Policy whose main focus is primary health care.*

— At U.C.H. on April 27 1989.

It gives me great pleasure to be here today to declare the 1989 Delegates Meeting and General Conference of the Nigerian Medical Association open.

When we consider that the health sector is at the heart of the present drive of this administration to improve the lot of our people, the conference of medical practitioners assumes great significance. Moreover, the theme of your meeting which is, "Standards in Medical Practice" shows that the NMA is not neglecting its self-regulatory function and that your deliberation will aid the national objective of improving the health status of all Nigerians.

Our activities in the health sector in this state are geared towards the realisation of the broad objectives of the other national health policy whose main focus is Primary Health Care (PHC). Primary health care has been defined and redefined all over again and again. At the risk of boring you specialists on the subject, I will like to repeat this definition as:-

*"Essential health care made universally accessible to individuals and communities by means acceptable to them through their full participation at a cost that the community and country can afford".*

These three major aspects of this definition have directed our efforts in providing Health for All by the Year 2000 and beyond. Essential health care

is that which makes a big difference to the lives of our people in terms of their ability to survive and live useful and productive lives.

We realise that accessibility in health care is multidimensional and predicated on geographical location of the facility, financial buoyancy of the community. Others are the cultural acceptability of the technology used and provision of the right kind of facility for the ascertained health needs of the community. Presently, all the 24 local government areas in the state are at various stages in the implementation of primary health care. Also, plans are at an advanced stage to provide at least one secondary health care facility in each local government area while the existing state, general and district hospitals are being renovated and refurbished. In all these and at every level of performance, there is need to maintain a minimum standard of performance. To achieve this, all cadres of medical personnel must be fully oriented to grasp the essence of the new approach, if they are to be able to perform at the optimum level.

At this juncture, I must acknowledge the leading role of your association in blazing the trail for this understanding. I note with pleasure the series of workshops and seminars organised by your association, ending with your Kaduna workshop earlier this year. On the occasion, your association and other decision makers and executives of medical education were opportunely to review the medical curriculum. Your aim, I am informed, was also to review the curricula with a view to producing doctors and other health personnel with skills which are relevant to the challenges of the new approach to health care delivery. I commend your efforts and hope that this conference will take your efforts so many steps further in the path of fashioning out for this country, an enviable health care delivery system.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, please permit me to seize the opportunity of this conference to mention a subject which I hope you might spare some time to discuss. The current flight of trained health personnel, especially skilled doctors, and the reluctance of medical officers to serve in rural areas, do not augur well for the attainment of our objective of Health for All by the Year 2,000 and beyond. Presently, less than 10 per cent of local governments in the country have medical officers of health. Over 80 per cent of the nation's population live in rural areas. This is a challenge to the Nigerian Medical Association. My appeal to our young doctors, therefore, is to give greater consideration to serving people where they live, mostly in the rural areas. I also want to urge your association to do everything within your means to continue to promote the training of doctors imbued with the spirit

of service.

Finally, ladies and gentlemen, please accept my wishes for a very fruitful deliberation. I hope you will share your communique with the Federal and State Ministries of Health, as well as local governments all over the country.

It is now my pleasure to declare open this delegates meeting and conference with the hope that it will promote our current efforts at health development.

Thank you.



*Gov. Oresanya clears debris during the special Ogunpa environmental Day*

## WORKSHOP ON UNICEF/NIGERIA PROGRAMME OF CO-OPERATION OPENED

*The present administration in the country at both the Federal and State levels places a very high priority on the health of mothers and children who are the target groups under this UNICEF programme.*

*In Oyo State, the established full Directorate for Primary Health Care has been an effective pivot in the planning of the programme.*

*— At Staff Development Centre, Secretariat, Ibadan on May 18, 1989*

It gives me great pleasure to be here today to declare open this two-day workshop which has been organised to review, refine and update the Draft Situation Analysis Report on Children and Women in Oyo State. I am further pleased at the realisation that Oyo State is very fortunate to have been picked by the Federal Government as one of the eight states in the federation to benefit from the UNICEF—Nigeria Country Programme of Co-operation during the period 1991 — 1995

This programme has enjoyed the full support and co-operation of the Oyo State Government right from its inception. In this regard, as many State Government Ministries/Departments, Federal Agencies in Oyo State and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOS), as the UNICEF team requires have been actively encouraged to participate in the planning stages. Their co-operative efforts have resulted in the draft situation analysis which will be the main focus of deliberation at this workshop.

It is equally heartening to observe that our health planners have come to realise that health care planning and delivery requires multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approaches. Thus, the draft of the situation analysis to be considered at this workshop has been put together by representatives of such government departments and other institutions like the Ministries of Health; Agriculture and Natural Resources; Social Development; Youth and Sports; Finance and Economic Planning; Education; the Federal Office of Statistics and NISER. The involvement of those to implement a programme right from the planning stage will surely ensure a better than average rate of success.

The present administration in this country at both the Federal and State levels places a very high priority on the health of mothers and children who are the target groups under this UNICEF programme. In Oyo State we have fully embraced the primary health system as enunciated in the country's health policy. A physical testimony to this is the establishment, under the on-going civil service reforms of a full Directorate for Primary Health Care. I am happy to hear that the Directorate has been an effective pivot in the planning of the Nigeria—UNICEF programme of co-operation in this state.

Furthermore, the Oyo State Government has committed huge financial and human resources to the full realisation of the primary health care delivery in the state. The resultant effect of this is the drastic improvement in the coverage of health services further enhanced by the involvement of all our local governments. This is also complemented by the improvement in the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) coverage in the past year.

A recent immunisation coverage survey conducted by the Federal Office of Statistics and Federal Ministry of Health shows the following results :-

BCG — 83%; DPT — 73%; OPV — 72%; and Measles 67%. With our determined efforts, we are sure of achieving a 100% success rate.

The complementary nature of the health of children and their mothers is also not lost on us. In this regard, the Oyo State Government fully endorses the National Policy on Family Size which encourages women to limit the number of their children to only four. Apart from the health hazard that unlimited procreation poses to a woman, the current economic climate in the country duly advises every Nigerian young couple to be mindful of the number of children they want to raise. The slogan should be "Have What You Can Cater For". The government has thus been providing necessary information and education on the values and virtues of a reasonable family size and make family planning services available to all willing couples. There now exist family planning services in most of our local governments. With the active support of such organisations like the Council on Women and Development (COWAD), Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN) and the Christian Health Association of Nigeria (CHAN) I am very confident that these messages will reach all the women in the state and have positive impact on their attitudes to their health.

At this juncture, let me state clearly that the current involvement of my office in co-ordinating this workshop is not an indictment of the capability of the Ministry of Health which has been in the forefront in planning this programme. The Governor's office is currently involved only in its capacity as the grand co-ordinator of government activities in the state and to allow for inter-state co-ordination that may be required in producing a general situation analysis report for the states involved.

I cannot end this address without, on behalf of the Government and people of Oyo State, express my gratitude to UNICEF for its consistent commitment to its basic ideals of child and, now, woman survival and development. Mr. UNICEF Representative in Nigeria, I am convinced that this programme of co-operation has opened a new chapter of fruitful collaboration between UNICEF and the Government of Oyo State. On our part, we will continue to mobilise our resources to ensure that every mother and child in this state is given reasonable chance of survival.

I wish you very fruitful deliberation during the workshop.

Thank you.

### THIRD ROUND OF S. I. D. LAUNCHED

*The objectives of this acceleration campaign are being met, notably increased immunisation coverage for our children and pregnant mothers, and improved accessibility of immunisation services to all our people, irrespective of their geographical locations.*

— At Kisi, headquarters of Irepo local government on June 27, 1989.

It gives me the greatest pleasure to be here today to launch the third round of the 1989 State Immunisation Days.

The fact that Oyo State Government set aside special days to promote immunisation awareness and conduct mass campaigns demonstrates the premium that this administration places on the health and welfare of our people, particularly the health of mothers and children. I am very satisfied that the objectives of this acceleration campaign are being met, notably increased immunisation coverage for our children and pregnant mothers, and improved accessibility of immunisation services to all our people, irrespective of their geographical locations. I am also satisfied about the remarkable drop in the incidence of measles and other childhood endemic diseases in the past two years. It is my hope that the six killer diseases of EPI, namely tuberculosis, measles, whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis will no longer afflict our children that is, if we all avail ourselves of this golden opportunity.

Within the past one year, Oyo State Government has addressed frontally the challenge of establishing the Primary Health Care System at the local government area level. In line with the mandate of the National Health Policy to local governments, this administration has assisted all the erstwhile 24 local government areas to develop necessary systematic managerial processes for primary health care implementation. I am pleased to note that each local government has created health districts in order to decentralise health care delivery.

I have no doubt in my mind that the creation of additional local governments in the state will go a long way towards expanding coverage of health care to all our communities. This administration will give special assistance to the newly created local governments to enable them establish their health care delivery system as early as possible. We have entered into negotiations with friendly organisations to put in place various support systems for the components of primary health care. Plans are also at an advanced stage to establish and strengthen the following health systems:

- cold chain systems for the 18 new local government areas;
- supplies and logistics support systems for EPI in all the local government areas;
- training and supplies systems in support of the family planning programmes in all the 42 local government areas;
- community-based health care systems for at least 12 local government areas.

I want to seize this opportunity to call on all local governments to give priority attention to health. We cannot have a prosperous country if the health of the people is compromised.

I also want to emphasise that there is a limit to what government can achieve in providing health care services. In line with the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978, individuals and communities have the duty and responsibility of participating actively in their health care delivery. For this reason, I call on all our people to come together to join hands with government to establish and maintain community-based health care projects.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude to all organisations and individuals who helped to make this campaign a huge success. I will make special mention of the Federal Ministry of Health, UNICEF, media organisations and non-governmental organisations. My debt of gratitude is to all, and my prayer is that our women and children will be saved from unnecessary suffering and deaths.

Thank you all.

### IREPO LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT COMMISSIONED

*The strategy of the present administration in the State to pursue the completion of various projects within the limit of available funds is based on the fact that a project has no meaning or relevance to the people until it becomes functional.*

*— At Kisi on February 26, 1989*

I am most delighted to be here today at the commissioning of the Irepo Local Government Secretariat building. It is to me a delightful duty to commission this project which is the first to be completed among the re-awarded local government secretariat buildings in the state.

When it was first awarded in February 1978, this project was to cost a sum of ₦356,231.47 with a completion period of 24 weeks i.e. six months. This means that if all concerned had discharged their obligations faithfully, this project should have been completed by July, 1978, more than 10 years ago. Unfortunately, this was not to be. Like many other similar projects in the state, it suffered neglect and abandonment through a combination of factors, the most critical of which was the poor performance of our indigenous contractors. Indeed, the local government secretariat building projects have been neglected for so long that most communities in which they are located would have concluded that they could never be completed. That we are gathered here today to commission this project which has been transformed from a neglected and dilapidated building into a beautiful edifice is a matter of joy and satisfaction. It is doubly so because Messrs. Amuda Agbaje and Sons, the company that did the feat is based in Irepo Local Government. I am happy to note that the company even completed the project before schedule. I, therefore, wish to rejoice with you, the people of Irepo Local Government on this epoch-making occasion. I also congratulate the contractor for a job well done and urge other indigenous contractors to follow the example of Amuda Agbaje and Sons.

On its assumption of duties, the present administration in Oyo State resolved that, within the limited resources available, it would complete as many of the abandoned projects as possible. We have accordingly tackled many of such projects in the various sectors such as health, education, works etc. Some of the projects have been completed, the fact that we are now commissioning this bears testimony. Others are at various stages of completion. This strategy was adopted as a matter of deliberate policy in the belief that a project has no meaning or relevance to the people until it becomes functional. The completion of this and other projects in the state gives this administration immeasurable satisfaction and a sense of fulfilment.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I now wish to focus attention on one serious malaise which is plaguing our nation. All too often, gigantic edifices and structures are put up with little or no thought for their maintenance. The rate at which they are vandalised and neglected gives the impression that we have little or no regard for the efforts and resources that went into the construction of such projects. This attitude must change. The Structural Adjustment Programme and the ripples it has generated should teach us the importance of having a maintenance culture in the process of our economic development. I, therefore, wish to appeal to you, the people of Irepo, to guard this edifice jealously and ensure that it is properly maintained. You should not allow vandals and miscreants to come near it to destroy its beauty. I also charge Irepo Local Government to evolve a deliberate policy of maintaining this structure so that generations unborn will come to admire its beauty.

There are great challenges ahead of all local governments in this country. They should not just flaunt their newly won autonomy all over the place. They should, instead, demonstrate to the whole world that they are alive to the responsibilities the new status confers on them. With increased funds going to them directly from the Federation Account, local governments must prove their relevance to their communities by transforming them economically and socially. As the tier of government closest to the people, local governments should embark on projects that are of the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. Furthermore, they should show greater imagination in generating revenue internally to make them less dependant. They should explore green areas of revenue and let people see, physically, what they have done with the money and materials entrusted to their care.

At this juncture, I wish to invite your attention to the transition to civil rule programme which this administration has fashioned out and which is being faithfully implemented. In the next few weeks, the ban on politics will be lifted. We should, as a people, ruminate over our experiences of the past two Republics and be wiser by them. Politics should not be seen as an end in itself, but as a means to achieve an end. In this state, like any orderly and well-organised society, politics should be concerned with the improvement of the standard of living of a large majority of the citizenry. In other words, it should serve as a spring-board for development, not for destruction. Therefore, in your choice of the people to serve you and to represent your interests in the emerging political arrangements, efforts should be made to carefully screen contestants to pick men and women of integrity who are

ready to serve selflessly. I must also emphasise that followership is equally important in the scheme of things. The leadership should not be saddled with frivolous demands which might result in misplaced priorities. As for the requests which were highlighted by your chairman in his address, I wish to assure you that this administration will be fair in the distribution of amenities. No area will be neglected in any of our programmes. May I point out that the good gesture which this community showed in supplementing government's efforts in your water project is well appreciated. I can assure you that before the end of this year, you will enjoy good and potable water. There are other demands in the areas of transportation and communication which your chairman mentioned but which are the responsibilities of the Federal Military Government. They are noted and they will be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

Before I end this speech, I wish to commend the people of Irepo for the peace and tranquility that has consistently reigned in this area. You should not allow religious extremists to penetrate you and disturb the peaceful atmosphere. We should all learn to live together and tolerate one another in spite of our religious differences.

Moreover, in the enviable role of the food basket of Oyo State for which this area is acknowledged, you should continue to take advantage of the facilities being offered by various institutions to enhance food production. As I mentioned during my familiarisation tour of the state last year the labour intensive agriculture will be introduced soon. In fact, preparations for it are at an advanced stage and I hope that you will not renege on your promise to embrace it. It will obviously be for the overall benefit of all of us.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure and honour to commission this beautiful and imposing edifice, the new secretariat of Irepo Local Government, to the glory of God and the well-being of the people of Irepo Local Government area in particular and Oyo State in general.

### EDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT COMMISSIONED

*We should now imbibe the culture of maintenance if we are to check the wastages which have characterized our economic development. For this reason, all local governments in the State should make budgetary provision annually to maintain their secretariat buildings.*

*At Ede on March 2, 1989.*

It affords me a great pleasure to be here this morning to commission the new secretariat building of Ede Local Government. This commissioning ceremony is significant in some ways. In the first place, this is the second occasion in one week when a local government secretariat building project will be commissioned. In the second place, unlike the one commissioned at Kisi last Sunday which was one of the seven such projects whose contracts were determined and reawarded, the original contractor of this project succeeded in completing it.



*Gov Oresanya commissions the New Ede Local Government Secretariat complex at Ede*

The contract for this project was first awarded in December, 1977 at a cost of ₦368,000.00 and a completion period of 24 weeks. However, like it happened to many of the other local government secretariat building projects, this target could not be achieved. Indeed, but for the magnanimity of the State Government and the steadfastness of the contractor, the contract should have been determined and handed over to another contractor a long time ago. That we are gathered here today to witness the commissioning of the gigantic edifice is a tribute to the patience and understanding of the parties involved in the execution of the project.

The local government secretariat project is a product of the long-standing co-operation between the state and local governments in the state. The project, which was funded from the defunct Joint Local Government Account, was designed to provide uniform and befitting accommodation for all the local governments in the state. Although it suffered a lot of delays and set-backs in the process of execution, it is a great relief that definite steps have now been taken to complete the project. I should like to assure the other communities where uncompleted secretariat buildings are located that the projects will be completed before the end of this year.

I wish to congratulate the Ede Local Government and the people of this area, for benefitting from this laudable project. It is, however, essential to emphasise that this edifice should be well-maintained so that it does not become another symbol of neglect which many projects in this country have been. As I had cause to emphasise a few days ago, we should now imbibe

the culture of maintenance if we are to check the wastages which have characterised our economic development. All local governments in the State should make budgetary provision annually to maintain their secretariat buildings.

When this building is handed over to Ede Local Government a few moments from now, it will no doubt provide more accommodation for its functionaries. However, the impact of this new building should go beyond the luxury of providing spacious accommodation for the functionaries. It should reflect in greater efficiency in the delivery of service to the people. You should resist the temptation of making yourself inaccessible to the people simply because of the new accommodation.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, as we draw nearer to the lifting of the ban on partisan politics, it is necessary for me to stress the need for the people of Oyo State to steer clear of irresponsible and dubious characters who will try to bring religion or ethnicity into politics for their own selfish reasons. Let us strive to play the game according to the rules. I should warn that government will not hesitate to deal ruthlessly with anybody who wants to foment trouble in the state.

At this juncture, I wish to state that in the area of provision of amenities, Ede Local Government area is receiving its fair share. The Ede/Osogbo Water Project is virtually completed and will be commissioned soon. Furthermore, work is progressing satisfactorily on Iwo/Oshogbo Road. As a matter of fact, the Iwo-Ede section of the road will be completed by June this year. I have also approved renovation of some medical institutions in the state, one of which is Ede District Hospital. Work on this will commence in a matter of weeks. On the issue of availability of agricultural inputs, you are no doubt aware that Oyo North Agricultural Development Project is going state-wide. By the time this new arrangement takes off next month, all parts of the state will benefit from improved distribution of inputs. Other demands made by the chairman in his address are noted and will be given attention by the appropriate departments of government.

Finally, I wish to advise the people of Ede Local Government area to remain peaceful and law-abiding. You should not allow religious fanatics who are bent on causing confusion and polarising the people in your midst. I should also take this opportunity to appeal to wealthy indigenes of this area to complement government efforts by establishing projects that will provide employment opportunities for our young school leavers. The programme will not only provide employment opportunities in the state, but it will also boost food production. Arrangements are at an advanced stage to start the labour intensive agricultural programme in the state. All local governments will be involved.

Honourable Commissioners, Kabiyesi, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I now have the honour and pleasure to commission this local government secretariat building to the glory of God and the well-being of our people.

Thank you.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE COMMISSION INAUGURATED

*The period between now and the return to civil rule will be replete with many important functions which will tax the energy of public functionaries. Staff of local governments will, therefore, be required to give their best in terms of dedication, honesty and integrity.*

*-- Ibadan, May 3, 1989.*

The inauguration ceremony of this morning is sequel to the dissolution of the last local government service commission a couple of weeks ago. After a five year tenure by the chairman and members of that commission.

Oyo State, as we all know, is very rich in men and women of wide experience and it is the desire of this administration to make use of as many of them as possible, in the governance of the state. Hence we have here this morning this new crop of gentlemen with varied background and credentials.

Your appointment at this particular time is singular, because, apart from your normal functions of appointing, transferring and exercising disciplinary control over members of the Unified Local Government Service, there is the additional responsibility imposed by the transition to civil rule programme. The success of the programme will, to a large extent, depend on the performance of your staff. Because local government staff are the nearest to the grass-roots, they are, more than any other group of workers, most suitably placed to interpret the programmes of government to the people. They occupy unique positions in facilitating important governmental activities particularly those relating to census and elections.

The period between now and the return to civil rule will be replete with many important functions, which will no doubt tax the energy of many public functionaries. The staff of the various local governments will be required to give their best in terms of dedication, honesty and integrity. It is, therefore, the duty of this new commission to impress on local government staff, the need for probity and loyalty in everything they are called upon to do. They must be made to realise that it is not in their interest to be involved in political activities during the transition period. Rather, they should be prepared to participate in strictly official matters which will make the programme hitch-free.

For the first time in the history of this country, local governments are being accorded their rightful positions as the third-tier of government. This is reflected in the increased powers and the enhanced positions accorded local government chairmen and the councillors. For this to be meaningful, the apparatus of local governments must be beefed up by a collection of experienced, versatile and patriotic staff. The new commission, therefore, has a duty to embark on staff development as a way of deriving the best from the human resources at its disposal and making local government staff react positively to the challenges ahead.

In exercising your powers, you must familiarise yourselves with Section 78 of Part 9 of Caption 66 of the Local Government Law under which the local government commission was established. This also includes Local Government Staff Regulations, Financial Memoranda and relevant circular letters. There is need to reward honest and dedicated employees with promotions, subject to the usual guidelines and availability of funds. By the same token, your commission should not spare indolent and dishonest employees by applying the relevant provisions of the staff regulation.

Let me emphasise that you have not been appointed on the basis of any political, religious or sectional consideration. You must, therefore, be seen to be above board and regard the whole of the state as your sphere of operation by treating everybody equally and without undue preference. If you adhere to this advice, I have no doubt in my mind that your tenure of office, like that of your predecessors in office, would usher in progress, and success in local government administration. At this juncture, I wish to acknowledge the dedicated, loyal and untiring service rendered by the chairman and members of the last commission. I assured them that as occasions arise, the government of the state, may still call on them to serve. I congratulate you on this well-deserved appointment and hope that you will bring to bear in the discharge of your duties, the attributes of dedication, honesty and loyalty.

Thank you.

## OYO STATE NOW HAS 42 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS

*The Federal Military Government, had earlier announced the creation of 149 additional local governments country-wide. Eighteen of these were created in Oyo State bringing the number of local governments in the State from 24 to 42*

*— Broadcast on May 10, 1989.*

As you are aware, the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, General Ibrahim Babangida has, in a nation-wide broadcast on Wednesday, May 3, 1989 announced the lifting of ban on political activities. This move is another testimony of the commitment of the present military administration to hand over the reins of political power to the people.

You will recall that the ban on political activities came into force on 31st December, 1983 when the military effected a change in the leadership of the country. Before the intervention, there were violent political upheavals and unrest in almost all the states of the Federation and most especially in Oyo State. The incidences were generally believed to be reactions against the results of the 1983 general elections. Members of different political parties were of one another and the entire populace lived in fear. The premium on political power became so high that politicians regarded victory at elections as a matter of life and death and were determined to capture or remain in power by all means. The result of their intolerance is now history.

As you have heard in the speech of Mr. President on Wednesday, 3rd May, 1989, all those who are eligible and interested can now take advantage of the

lifting of the ban on partisan politics to move out and join others or enlist the support of like-minded people from other parts of the federation in the formation of political associations. May 1, at this juncture, reiterate, for the benefit of all, that the military administration will not allow any violation of the guidelines and rules of the game as enunciated by the National Electoral Commission. In addition, Oyo State Government will from time to time provide more rules and regulations that would guide the operations and activities of political associations in Oyo State. There will be freedom of speech but not freedom to smear. There will be freedom of movement but not freedom to trespass. There will be freedom of action but not freedom to destroy.

The following simple directive will, therefore, apply in Oyo State.

Political associations in the conduct of their rallies and campaign for support will not make any reference good or bad to anybody who is not a member of their association. By *anybody*, I am referring to individuals dead or alive, political parties defunct or existing, associations defunct or existing, religious bodies and past governments.

You will recall that the Federal Military Government also last week announced the creation of one hundred and forty-nine additional local governments throughout the country. Eighteen of these were created in Oyo State thus bringing the number of the local governments in the state from 24 to 42. The 42 local governments and their headquarters are as follows:

#### *Local Governments*

Afijio  
 Aiyedade  
 Aiyedire  
 Akinyele  
 Atakumosa  
 Boripe  
 Ede  
 Egbedore  
 Egbeda  
 Ejigbo  
 Ibadan  
 Ibarapa  
 Ido  
 Ifelodun  
 Ifadapo  
 Ifeloju  
 Ife Central  
 Ife North  
 Ife South  
 Ila  
 Ilesa  
 Iseyin  
 Irewole  
 Irepo  
 Irepodun

#### *Headquarters*

Jobele  
 Gbongan  
 Ile-Ogbo  
 Moniya  
 Osu  
 Iragbiji  
 Ede  
 Awo  
 Egbeda  
 Ejigbo  
 Ibadan  
 Eruwa  
 Ido  
 Ikirun  
 Saki  
 Igbo-Ora  
 Ile-Ife  
 Ipetumodu  
 Ifetedo  
 Ila-Orangun  
 Ilesa  
 Iseyin  
 Ikire  
 Kisi  
 Ilobu

Iwo  
Kajola  
Lagelu  
Obokun  
Odo-Otin  
Ogbomoso  
Ogo-Oluwa  
Ona-Ara  
Ola-Oluwa  
Olorunda  
Oluyole  
Orelope  
Oriade  
Orire  
Osogbo  
Oyo  
Surulere

Iwo  
Okeho  
Iyana-Offa  
Ibokun  
Okuku  
Ogbomoso  
Ajawa  
Akanran  
Bode-Osi  
Igbona  
Idi-Ayunre  
Igboho  
Ijebu-Jesa  
Ikoyi  
Osogbo (Oja-Oba)  
Oyo  
Iresaadu

Details will be gazetted very soon.

It is our hope that the creation of more local governments will usher in better development and progress in the state.

It is also hoped that our directive to political associations will put a stop to political intolerance and destruction of life and property.

Let peace reign.

Thank you all and good night.

#### ISEYIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT COMMISSIONED

*A good office complex provides the necessary congenial atmosphere which boosts the workers' morale and enhances productivity.*

— At Iseyin on May 11, 1989.

I feel highly delighted to be here today on this auspicious occasion of the commissioning of the new local government secretariat complex in this historic town of Iseyin. Today's event is remarkable because it marks the beginning of a new era in local administration in Iseyin Local Government area. That the secretariat project was completed at long last and is being commissioned for use today is a matter for joy to all and sundry, particularly the people of this local government who, I believe, have anxiously waited for today's occasion.

The history and development of local government administration in Nigeria cannot be completed without reference to the Local Government Reforms of 1976 which for the first time, recognised local governments as the third-tier of government. It is relevant to mention that shortly after the Federal Military Government at that time introduced the reforms, the then

Oyo State Government under the leadership of Major-General David Jemibewon (rtd) conceived the idea of providing suitable and befitting administrative headquarters for local governments in the state.

The actual construction in 23 out of the 24 local governments started between 1978 and 1979 and although the process of executing the secretariat building projects has been slow and tortuous, there is no gainsaying the fact that the end has justified the means. As at today, twelve local governments (including Iseyin) have got befitting administrative buildings under this arrangement while two others have had their complexes completed and these will be commissioned soon. It is the intension of this administration to complete the remaining local government secretariat complexes before the end of this year, notwithstanding the prevailing economic situation and the attendant inflationary pressures. The completion of the local government secretariat buildings, which had been threatened with total abandonment, will, no doubt pave way for the provision of other amenities to further consolidate the position of local administration.

I cannot but say a few words about the intrinsic value of secretariat complexes for administrative purposes at the state or local level. A good office complex provides the necessary congenial atmosphere which boosts the workers' morale and enhances his productivity. A worker in a clean and spacious accommodation will be happier and more efficient than his counterpart in a dingy environment. He is, therefore, likely to be motivated to work harder and be more productive. It was partly for these considerations that the state government has embarked on the renovation of its office buildings both at the secretariat in Ibadan and in other locations in the state. The secretariat complex which is being commissioned today, not only provides a healthy working environment and security of government property, but will also enhance good communication among the members and staff of the local government who will now be brought under the same roof. Furthermore, the secretariat's strategic location makes for easy accessibility by both the indigenes and visitors who have to transact official business with the local government. It is, therefore, obligatory on the staff of Iseyin Local Government to maintain the building properly and use it judiciously so as to justify the huge investment that went into its construction.

At this juncture, I like to acknowledge before this august gathering, the commendable performance of Iseyin Local Government in 1986 which earned it the first position in the Council-of-the-Year Award. I am particularly impressed by the consistent efforts of the successive administrations in Iseyin to improve the lot of the people in spite of many odds. It is my hope that the local government will strive very hard to sustain this enviable position. It should dawn on local governments in Oyo State and indeed all over the country to demonstrate diligence and high sense of responsibility in their performance to complement the efforts of Federal and State Governments in the development of this country. It is by doing this that local governments especially in the rural areas can be seen as true partners in progress. Indeed, local governments must, through their performance, justify the increasing attention being focussed on them by the Federal and State authorities.

The state government, on its part, will continue to co-operate with the

local governments in the state to alleviate the living conditions of our people. In this connection, a sum of ₦120,000.00 was released recently to the local governments to assist them in land preparation for their labour-intensive agriculture programme. Other inputs such as implements, improved seedlings and fertilizers are being supplied at subsidized prices. Furthermore, with the active support and encouragement of the state government, farmers have started to establish their markets in strategic locations in the state to minimise the interference of middle-men in the sale of farm produce. These measures are designed to enhance production and sale of farmer's products at reasonable prices.

I wish to seize this opportunity to assure the people of Iseyin Local Government that the area will continue to attract its fair share of the state government's attention. In this connection, you are aware of the contract for the improvement of Iseyin Water Works awarded recently. The improvement is an interim solution to the water problem in Iseyin. The long-term solution, however, lies in the completion of the Ikere Gorge Dam and as the Federal Minister of Agriculture stated publicly during his recent visit to Oyo State, a sum of ₦60 million has been earmarked by the Federal Government and work should resume on the dam site before the end of the year. I shall not relent in my efforts to ensure early completion of the dam which is the only viable solution to water problem in Iseyin and Kajoia Local Government areas. I also wish to state that Iseyin General Hospital is one of the four health institutions in the state to be funded by the European Economic Community (EEC). The hospital will cost ₦1.7 million and the processes for awarding the contract for its construction are on. The state government and the towns benefitting from this programme are grateful to the EEC for its gesture in providing assistance in this vital area.

Let me seize the opportunity of this occasion to appeal to the entire citizens of this state for their co-operation during the transition period from military to civilian administration more especially now that the ban on politics has been lifted. You will agree with me that the transition programme fashioned out by the present military administration has been packaged to provide stable and virile civilian administration come 1992. Thus, the programme produced the first set of elected councillors in December, 1987,

who have since been functioning effectively under the supervision of the Military Government. It is the duty of all well-meaning Nigerians to co-operate with the government to ensure smooth and successful transition since the survival and progress of this country is the responsibility of all of us. To this end, it is incumbent on all Nigerians, irrespective of age, status, position and place of abode to be law-abiding in their daily interactions. Furthermore, the people of Oyo State should resolve that never again would they allow unpatriotic elements to use the state as the epicentre of destabilisation and confusion. I, therefore, enjoin you all to exercise the greatest vigilance and quickly expose trouble makers and lawless citizens. I trust that all concerned will heed this advice but I should warn that the law-enforcement agencies will not hesitate to deal ruthlessly with anybody who intends to cause trouble in the state.

Members of the State Executive Council, Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to commission the new Iseyin Local Government Secretariat to the glory of God, the prosperity of this historic town and the use of the local government as part of the essential infrastructure in the work of governance.

### WORKSHOP FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TOP FUNCTIONARIES OPENED

*The application of Civil Service Reforms in the Local Government Service is a deliberate attempt to ensure that local governments benefit from the gains of the reforms. They should, however, reflect in higher productivity and the speed of action with which decisions are taken and implemented at the local government level.*

*At Parliament Building, Ibadan on May 15, 1989.*

It is with great pleasure that I am here this morning to declare open this orientation workshop which is the first in the series organised for local government top functionaries in the state on the Implementation of the Guidelines of Civil Service Reforms in the Local Government Service.

The workshop could not have been held at a more auspicious time having regard to the recent developments in the country especially in the area of local government administration. You are, no doubt, aware that one of the basic policy thrusts of the present Military administration is to strengthen the local governments in the country to allow them to occupy their proper position in government relationship. To achieve this end, certain far-reaching measures were taken by the Federal Government. These include:-

- (i) scrapping of the Ministry of Local Government to give the local governments the desired autonomy; and
- (ii) direct funding of local governments.

These measures were designed to enhance the position of local governments as a third-tier of government and correct the mistaken impression that they are an appendage to other tiers of government.

Some of the measures introduced in the implementation guidelines are novel in the history of local government administration. For example, a new office of Director of Local Government Audit has been created in the state. The post shall be comparable in status and terms of appointment with the state's Auditor-General. Furthermore, a Local Government Audit Alarm Committee is also being established by each state under the Chairman of the Director of Local Government Audit. Another feature of the guidelines is the introduction of spending limits by the local governments which are tied to the internal revenue generation capabilities of the local governments. These measures are designed to instil financial prudence and probity in the local government administration. You will agree with me that this has

become necessary in view of the huge sums of money that have been passing to the local governments from the Federal and State sources. Moreover, the functional relationship between spending limits and internal revenue generation efforts of local governments should turn out to be a blessing as they should now strive to generate higher internal revenue which will enhance their spending limits.

You are not entirely new to the guidelines as they have been in use for the past six months. However, this workshop will afford you a good opportunity to fully understand the guidelines and give you an insight into the necessity for the reforms. It will also assist in clearing any grey areas in the implementation of the guidelines.

Distinguished participants, let me appeal to you to take this workshop seriously. The reason for this is not far to seek. In the first place, the application of Civil Service Reforms in the Local Government Service is a deliberate attempt to ensure that local governments benefit from the gains of the reforms. This should reflect in higher productivity and the speed of action with which decisions are taken and implemented at the local government level. More importantly, however, is the fact that with the lifting of ban on politics and the election, later in the year, and of councillors on political party basis, the reforms will operate in a partisan political atmosphere for the first time at the local government level. This is an experiment which must not fail. A good understanding of the guidelines by you should prepare the ground for the in-coming politicians and minimise possible areas of friction. It is, therefore, imperative for you participants, especially the local government officials, to use the opportunity of this workshop to understand the reforms and internalise them.

A development-oriented local government system which will be a pride to all, especially the grass-root populace which it is expected to serve, should be the concern of every well-meaning Nigerian. In order to bring this about, there has to be a sharp departure from the old ways of carrying out the roles and responsibilities of local governments. This emphasises the need to apply the structural reforms (which the civil service has already started to implement) down the line to local government service level, hence the mounting of this workshop. In addition, it will enable you, as the operators of the reform, to achieve the desired objectives of the Federal Government which are aimed at building an efficient, productive and resourceful local government system. Considering the list of eminent guest speakers who are scholars and experienced practitioners in the field of local government, I have no doubt in my mind that by the end of the workshop, you will have all acquired useful knowledge which will equip you for the onerous task ahead of you.

It is necessary for me to use this forum to emphasise once again, the importance which the present Military administration attaches to rural development. Local governments in the country are the agencies through which the Federal Military Government prosecutes its rural development programmes. These programmes include improvement of agricultural production, development of rural roads, rural water supply, environmental sanitation and adult education, among others. It is my hope that as leaders of your

various communities, you will vigorously pursue all the programmes of rural development assigned to you by the Directorate of Rural Development. It is by so doing that we shall all realise the dream of better life for the vast majority of our people who live in the rural areas of the country.

I also wish to emphasise the need for you to ensure that your interest in the implementation of primary health care delivery programme is sustained. Some of the local governments have been selected as pilot projects for the implementation of the programme while others will benefit in the near future. The grant of ₦100,000.00 to every local government in the federation to purchase drugs is a testimony to the high premium which the Federal Government places on the programme.

Finally, I want to seize this opportunity to congratulate the Office of the Chief of General Staff and the Department of Local Government Studies of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, for organising this workshop. While wishing you all successful deliberations, I have great pleasure in declaring open the Orientation Workshop for Local Government Top Functionaries on Implementation of Guidelines on the Civil Service Reforms in the Local Government Service. In the words of the Chief of General Staff, Vice-Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, "It is my hope and prayer that the operators of the local government system will, with determination and diligence, abide by and be guided by these guidelines".

Thank you.

#### TRANSITION COMMITTEE FOR NEW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS INAUGURATED

*The task before this committee is to ensure a swift and orderly take-off of the new local governments in the state and should, therefore, make recommendations in matters of deployment and posting of appropriate staff to the affected local governments as well as sharing of assets and liabilities*  
— At EXCO Chambers on May 19, 1989.

In my state-wide broadcast to the people on Wednesday, 10th May, 1989, I announced the creation of eighteen (18) new local governments to the existing twenty-four (24) local governments, thus bringing the number of local governments in the state to forty-two (42).

I want to reiterate once again that the creation of additional local governments in the state should be seen as a practical step by the Military administration towards bringing about meaningful development at the grassroot. The people of this state should complement the gesture by giving all necessary assistance and support for the smooth and peaceful take-off of the new local governments. I promised in the broadcast that government would take every step necessary to ensure that the new local governments settle down without any further delay to the art of governance, so that their impact to the socio-economic advancement of the state should be felt in the immediate future. As a practical step in that direction, I am today inaugurating a five-

member transition committee of reputable public servants under the chairmanship of Colonel Oduwole.

Let me state at this juncture that the task before your committee is to ensure a swift and orderly take-off of the new local governments in the state. In pursuance of this goal, the transition committee will consider and make recommendations to me in matters of deployment and posting of appropriate staff to the affected local governments as well as sharing of assets and liabilities. In addition, the committee shall also be responsible for the supervision of the new local government administration for a period of three months after which it would submit the report of its stewardship to me.

As you are aware, local government is the closest administration to the people at the grassroot, and we should endeavour to nurture the new local governments to maturity within a record time. I am charging the committee to give the assignment its due priority. The Government of Oyo State has implicit confidence in the committee which is composed of reputable public servants. I implore the chairman and members to execute the assignment with dedication, loyalty and despatch. I want you to feel free to approach me at any time in case there are difficulties in executing any of your assignments. We cannot afford to fail in this important national assignment since local government has been identified by this administration as the cornerstone of development.

In this same vein, I will equally appeal to the people of the affected areas and indeed to the entire citizens of Oyo State to co-operate fully with the transition committee on local governments so that it could accomplish its assignment with ease. Petty rivalries and jealousies should not be allowed to disturb the work of the committee since it has a limited time within which it must complete its job.

I congratulate the members of the committee on their appointment. It is also my hope that you will do everything to justify the confidence reposed in you by the state government.

Thank you.

*Members of the Transition Committee*

1. Colonel L. A. Oduwole — Nigerian Army — Chairman
2. Mr. Amupitan — State Security Service — Member
3. Mr. M. K. Ariori — Nigeria Police Force — Member
4. Mr. Bode Fadare — Civil Servant — Member
5. Mr. M. A. Oyero — Civil Servant — Member/Secretary.

## ACTING CHAIRMEN OF NEW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SWORN-IN

*The election of the 18 acting chairmen of the new local governments through electoral college in an orderly and peaceful manner has demonstrated to the entire country that this nation can hold very peaceful elections. At the House of Assembly, Secretariat, Ibadan on May 29, 1989.*

On Friday, May 19, 1989 I inaugurated a five-man transition committee for the take-off of new local governments in the state. The committee, which is charged with the responsibility of ensuring a swift and orderly take-off of the new local governments, has commenced its assignments in earnest. The committee would make recommendations to me in matters of deployment and posting of appropriate staff to the affected local governments as well as sharing of assets and liabilities. In addition, the committee is also responsible for the supervision of the new local government administration for a period of three months. That committee's assignment cannot take-off without the election of chairmen to the new local governments.

In consequence, the Oyo State Government had to call for the election of acting chairmen in the eighteen (18) affected local governments in the state. Based on the guidelines from the Federal Military Government, the electoral college system of election involving councillors of the local governments involved was conducted on Wednesday, 24th May, 1989. The acting chairmen of the eighteen (18) local governments just sworn-in today emerged as a result of that election.

Reports received from the field on the conduct of the elections were quite favourable and satisfactory. They indicated the maturity and understanding displayed by the people of the affected areas before, during and after the conduct of the elections. I want to, on behalf of the government and people of the state, thank and congratulate all those who have in one way or the other, contributed to the orderly and peaceful conduct of the elections. Your approach was highly patriotic and nationalistic. Through this orderly behaviour, Oyo State has, once more demonstrated to the entire country that this nation can hold very peaceful elections. All it requires is to show understanding and tolerance thereby removing bitterness, rancour and acrimony that have long been associated with elections in this country. I have no doubt in my mind, that the people of this state will allow peace and order to reign supreme in all future elections thus creating an atmosphere needed for the successful implementation of the transition programme of the present Military administration.

I want to reiterate at this juncture, that your elections are based on your personal merits. They are also a mark of the amount of confidence the people in your local government areas have reposed in you. In this regard, it must be clearly pointed out that you have not been elected to serve some narrow, parochial or sectional interests. Yours is a call to duty to bring rapid development to the areas you have been elected to look after. That itself calls for hardwork, sincerity and honesty of purpose.

Let me at this stage re-emphasize that no local government councillor is allowed under the present dispensation to join any political association(s). Anybody who cannot comply with this simple directive is enjoined to relinquish his post. Today's ceremony should be seen as another important landmark in the history of local government administration in the state. May I seize the opportunity offered by this occasion to implore all chairmen and those of you being sworn-in today, to discharge your duties selflessly and efficiently with a view to bringing to the grass-roots the much desired socio-economic development. I am appealing to you and the people of the new local governments and, indeed, the entire citizens of this state, to co-operate fully with the transition committee for the take-off of new local governments so that it could accomplish its assignments within the stipulated time. I implore you not to place any obstacle in the way of the committee for you are partners in progress.

I want to assure you that the directive that the affected local governments should not disburse money until further notice, is not meant to strangle the local governments. It is meant to ensure that whatever is available by way of assets, are deployed fully for the benefit of all the local governments in a given area. Once you cooperate with the transition committee this embargo should be lifted very soon.

I congratulate you on your elections. It is my fervent hope that you will do everything to justify the confidence reposed in you.

Thank you.

#### IFEDAPO LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT COMMISSIONED

*When a project is abandoned and later re-activated, the loss to the nation is not just the escalated cost of its eventual completion, but the delayed benefit to the people, which sometimes may not be quantifiable.*

*At Saki on July 2, 1989.*

I am most delighted to be here this morning to perform the commissioning of yet another local government secretariat building project in the state. The history of the secretariat building project is now well-known that it needs no recounting. Suffice it is to say that during my familiarisation visit shortly after my assumption of office last year, Ifedapo Local Government area was my first port of call. On that occasion, I had the opportunity of inspecting this building and those of you who were present then would recall that it was in such a pitiable stage of neglect. Indeed, but for the dogged determination of this administration to ensure completion of as many abandoned projects as possible, we would not have touched, let alone completed this project.

Abandoned projects take their toll on a people and government in terms of mental torture and a feeling of physical and psychological helplessness

occasioned by the financial loss and reckless waste which they symbolise. When a project is abandoned and later re-activated, the loss to the nation is not just the escalated cost of its eventual completion, but the delayed benefit to the people, which sometimes may not be quantifiable. That we have succeeded in completing another abandoned project gives me an immeasurable joy and satisfaction. I am sure that those of you who saw this building in its dilapidated form will marvel at its transformation into this imposing edifice which will be commissioned shortly. I, therefore, wish to congratulate the entire people of Ifedapo Local Government area on this memorable occasion.

One interesting development in the completion of the abandoned local government secretariat projects is that with the exception of one, all the contractors to whom the seven projects were re-awarded were unknown quantities in the construction industry. Yet they all performed satisfactorily. This is no doubt the essence of the Structural Adjustment Programme which emphasises self-reliance and the need to make the best use of our local resources. While congratulating these contractors, it is my sincere hope that they will remain diligent and not rest on their oars.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I must use the opportunity of this address to emphasise, once again, the importance of maintenance culture to us as individuals and as a nation. You have just heard that the cost of this building is about one million naira. Even after allowing for inflation and the falling value of the Naira, this is a lot of money. This edifice must be properly maintained so that it will be a thing of pride to generations unborn. Furthermore, the present members of staff of Ifedapo Local Government who will have the singular honour of being the first set of workers to occupy the building must ensure that congenial atmosphere to be provided reflects positively on their productivity. Members of the public who will have cause to come here must be attended to with courtesy and despatch.

It is the avowed policy of this administration that no part of Oyo State will be neglected in the scheme of things. This is why Oke-Ogun and other areas which had hitherto been disadvantaged are receiving close attention of government. The importance of roads in an area which is the food basket of the state cannot be over-emphasised. This is why the state government has embarked on the construction of some roads in this area. However, as you are aware, most of the inter-town roads in the area are federal roads. I have noted the concern of the people on the slow pace of work on the Iseyin-Baasi Road. The state government shares this concern and that was why I have had cause to complain publicly about the performance of the contractors. I wish to assure you that the state government will not relent in its efforts to see to the successful rehabilitation of this and other federal roads around here.

I have taken note of the request of the Chairman of Ifedapo Local Government for the splitting of the local government. The exercise of creating new

local government is a continuous one and at the appropriate time, the request will be given due consideration.

In the meantime, all concerned should co-operate to make the present arrangement successful.

In ending this address, I wish to reiterate the challenges ahead of all and sundry during this period of transition to civil rule. You are aware that the federal government attaches importance to the programme of transition which is being implemented in stages. While the ban on politics has been lifted as part of the transition programme, there is need for caution on the part of the masses to exercise vigilance and resist the temptation to be used by trouble makers. The present administration's commitment to the successful implementation of the transition programme is total and any group, associations or individuals that may attempt its disruption will surely regret ever doing so. It is, therefore, in the interest of the survival and stability of this country to choose the path of cooperation rather than fomenting trouble in the process of transition to civil rule in 1992.

I am, however, happy with the peaceful atmosphere prevailing in the entire Oyo North area and I hope you will keep this up because it is by so doing that you can derive the best from the emerging political arrangements. This administration is always ready to listen to genuine grievances if and when communicated through the right channel rather than resorting to cheap black-mail and vandalism.

Members of the State Executive Council, Chairman of Ifedapo Local Government, Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to commission the new Ifedapo Local Government Secretariat to the glory of God and the progress of the people of Ifedapo in particular and Oyo State in general.

### OYO LOCAL SECRETARIAT BUILDING COMMISSIONED

*The people of Oyo and Afijio Local Governments should live together peacefully remembering that there are more things that unite them than those that divide them.*

*— At Oyo town on July 15, 1989.*

Last Saturday, I performed the commissioning of Ifedapo Local Government Secretariat building which was thirteenth secretariat complex to be commissioned for use of twenty-three similar projects awarded between 1978 and 1979. Previously, I have had the honour of commissioning local government secretariat buildings at Ilobu, Kisi, Ede and Iseyin which had been under construction long before my assumption of office in Oyo State. It is, therefore, a great pleasure for me to be here this morning to commission yet another secretariat building project in the on-going effort to provide befitting secretariat complexes for the 23 of the old 24 local governments in the state.

The decision to complete these secretariat building projects was informed by the desire of the present administration in the state to complete as many on-going projects inherited by it as possible. This is because, in these days of unstable prices, the earlier a project is completed the better. Furthermore, it is more rewarding to complete an on-going project and turn it over for the people's use than embarking on a new one which may ultimately join the list of abandoned projects. I, therefore, wish to congratulate the people of this ancient town of Oyo and its environs on their fortune in joining the local governments whose secretariat complexes have been completed and commissioned for use.

The complex which is being commissioned today is another symbol of the co-operation between the state government and local governments. The beautiful fence around the complex was built by Oyo Local Government at a cost of over ₦93,000 00. This is how it should be. The three tiers of government essentially serve the same citizenry and their programmes and projects should synchronise with one another since the ultimate aim of governance at each level is to improve the well-being of the people. The Oyo Local Government deserves to be commended for executing the fence project on its own, without any prodding from any quarters, high or low.

It is well-known that there is a functional relationship between provision of befitting office accommodation and efficient and effective performance of duties. I, therefore, expect that this new complex will result in increased productivity of the staff of Oyo Local Government Council. However, it must be emphasised that this relationship will not develop automatically except a conscious effort is made by all the functionaries of the local government, whether political office-holders or careerists. This is where the recent policy-decision of the Federal Military Government to introduce the Civil Service Reforms in the Local Government Service becomes relevant. I enjoin all the staff of the local government to assimilate the philosophy and the principles of the reforms and also use the opportunity of this beautiful and more spacious accommodation that will shortly be turned over to Oyo Local Government to improve the lots of the people.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I wish to express, once again, my appreciation to the people of Oyo State for their acceptance of the new local governments recently created in the state by the Federal Government. I dare say that the exercise has provided an ingenuous solution to some of the seemingly intractable political problems in the state and I enjoin all concerned to co-operate fully and ensure its success. It may well be that some people have some anxiety about certain issues relating to or arising from the exercise but I wish to assure you that all such anxiety will be put to rest by the time the transition committee completes its assignment. It is my appeal, therefore, that all the local governments and people affected by the recent exercise should co-operate fully with the transition committee to facilitate its work.

I want to use this opportunity to offer some words of advice to the new local governments. Judging from the way the creation of local governments was received in all parts of the state, it was clear that the new local governments met the yearnings and aspirations of the people. However, creation of local governments in itself is not, and should not be regarded as the panacea

of all the ills of any particular area. Very soon, the euphoria surrounding the exercise will disappear and we will be faced with the stark reality that new local governments do not automatically solve the problems of an area. Indeed, there have been instances in the past when creation of local governments merely succeeded in marginalising the people whose lot it was supposed to improve. Admittedly, the pain-staking efforts that went into this last exercise should minimise this possibility but we may be unrealistic to imagine that such an experience cannot recur. This is why beneficiaries of the new local governments must resolve to work very hard and be prepared to make maximum sacrifice for the success of their councils.

I wish to appeal to all the local governments affected by the exercise to co-operate fully by ensuring a smooth transition. The sharing of assets and liabilities must be devoid of unnecessary bickerings and acrimonies. It must never be forgotten that local governments that were split comprise basically the same homogeneous people and the exercise was just an effort to further enhance grass-root development. This leads me to the controversy that initially surrounded the commissioning of this project. The issue of boundary is a tricky and potentially explosive one and this was why government had to handle the controversy with caution. In deciding to allow Oyo Local Government to have the secretariat complex, a number of factors which need not be recounted here were taken into consideration. It is, however, important to emphasise that now that the matter has been resolved, there is no victor, no vanquished. The people of Oyo and Afijio Local Governments should live together peacefully remembering that there are more things that unite them than those that divide them.

In ending this address, I like to appeal to the people for continued co-operation to ensure that this critical stage of transition to civil rule is trouble-free in the state. The recent lifting of ban on political activities should not be regarded as a licence to foment trouble and disrupt the tempo of socio-economic development which the various tiers of government are grappling with. Constructive and sensible utterances during electioneering campaign would be welcomed while destructive and provocative speeches would be frowned at and the individuals or groups of individuals involved would be dealt with accordingly. Furthermore, the recent riots in the country should give us food for thought. While it is legitimate for people to express their opinion, must they resort to violence and wanton destruction of property? All well-meaning people should, therefore, ensure that such unpatriotic acts do not recur in this country.

Members of the State Executive Council, Chairman of Oyo Local Government, Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to commission the new Oyo Local Government Secretariat to the glory of God, the progress and prosperity of the people of Oyo town in particular and the state in general.

Thank you.

## TWO DIRECTORS--GENERAL SWORN--IN

*Directors-General have ceased to be civil servants as they now hold political appointment. And although they no longer hold civil service appointment, it is their duty to lead and motivate civil servants under their supervision to achieve desired results.*

*— Executive Council Chambers, Ibadan, on September 7, 1988.*

The ceremony which I have just performed is in continuation of the implementation of the new Civil Service Reforms announced by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. It also brings to 19 the number of Directors-General in Oyo State. I congratulate the two newly-appointed Directors-General and wish them successful tenure of office.

As Directors-General, you have ceased to be civil servants as you are now holding political appointment. In the spirit of the reforms, I expect you and indeed all the Directors-General to dedicate yourselves for the service of the state in particular and the country in general. The new structure is intended to usher in a fundamental change in the civil service and the state. Its objective is to remove administrative bottle-necks, streamline procedures and increase productivity. It is for the promotion of efficiency and eliminating of deadwoods. I am sure you are familiar with the details of the reforms which should henceforth guide you in the day-to-day performances of your duties. Although, Commissioners are now the Chief Executives and Accounting Officers of their respective ministries, they will continue to count on Directors-General for objective analysis of issues, professional advice and systematic appraisal of situation. It is for this purpose that Commissioners are obliged to delegate substantial powers to their Directors-General who should be seen as partners in progress.

The civil service should be an effective instrument for social and economic growth especially in a developing country like Nigeria. As Directors-General assisting and complementing the efforts of the Commissioners, it will be your duty to ensure that the civil servants under your supervision are mobilised to carry out their assignments loyally, satisfactorily and effectively. You should always strive to improve productivity and efficiency of those under your supervision. You should yourselves be an example for your subordinates to emulate. This country now needs efficient, disciplined, loyal and dedicated civil service especially at this crucial period when concerted efforts are being made to salvage the economy.

Although you are no longer holding civil service appointment, it is essentially your duty to lead and motivate civil servants under your supervision in the performances of their duties. I need not emphasise that in the end, you will be judged by the results which your respective ministries or departments achieve. Since you are no longer civil servants, your continued stay in government will, therefore, depend on your ability to achieve the desired goal, and your loyalty to the administration. As I mentioned earlier, the Commissioners and the Directors-General are expected to work together as team

leaders to achieve the desired goal. Probity and accountability should be your watchwords. Remember that even after leaving the government as an accounting officer, a Commissioner can be called upon to defend himself against any impropriety, fraud or mismanagement.

Since my assumption of office, I have observed that although the generality of the civil servants appear dedicated, and many of them are hard-working, there is still room for improvement. I, therefore, enjoin all civil servants to dedicate themselves anew for the task ahead. They should do away with loitering, indolence and late coming. I have to emphasise that while hardwork, efficiency, loyalty and dedication will always be adequately rewarded, I shall not hesitate to deal with recalcitrant civil servants

Once again, I congratulate the newly sworn-in Directors-General and wish them happy and successful tenure of office.

Thank you.

### THREE DIRECTORS—GENERAL SWORN—IN

*Much as accountability is the corner-stone of the new Civil Service Reforms, both the Commissioners and Directors-General as political appointees should work together as partners-in-progress for the smooth and efficient running of their ministries. Specifically, the Directors-General has the responsibility to ensure achievement of targets set for every department in the ministry.*

— Executive Council Chambers, Ibadan, on January 11, 1989.

The short swearing-in ceremony of the three gentlemen which I have just performed as Directors-General is a further testimony of the determination of the Oyo State Government to implement the on-going new civil service structure. It is also an affirmation of the recognition accorded the civil service in the scheme of things.

Although, under the new dispensation, the post of the Director-General is a political appointment. It is significant to note that in Oyo State all the Directors-General appointed so far were former career civil servants. This is a clear testimony of the quality and the high level of performance which the Civil Service of Oyo State has attained over the years.

I wish to observe that while it is true that the new civil service structure provides for a "professionalized civil service", the fact still remains that the service will continue to be a well-knit machinery for the execution of government policies. The civil service constitutes the machinery for economic and social growth and for mobilising human and material resources. In view of this, performance should be the guiding principle of all categories of civil servants, high or low. All civil servants must be aware that members of the public will watch and judge them on what contributions they are making to the social and economic development of Oyo State.

As you are all aware, accountability is one of the main pillars of the Civil Service Reforms. I wish to emphasise, therefore, that under the new dispen-

sation, the financial regulations have not been jettisoned, rather provisions are made through the Audit Alarm System to detect non-compliance with the regulations and deal with them promptly. It will, therefore, be a grave misconception if any public officer should believe that financial regulations are no longer important under the reforms.

I am happy to note that the Commissioners, as Chief Executives and Accounting Officers, are working harmoniously with Directors-General in the formulation and implementation of policy decisions. Much as accountability is the corner-stone of the new Civil Service Reforms, both the Commissioners and Directors-General as political appointees should work together as partners in progress for the smooth and efficient running of their ministries. Specifically, the Directors-General has the responsibility to ensure achievement of targets set for every department in the ministry.

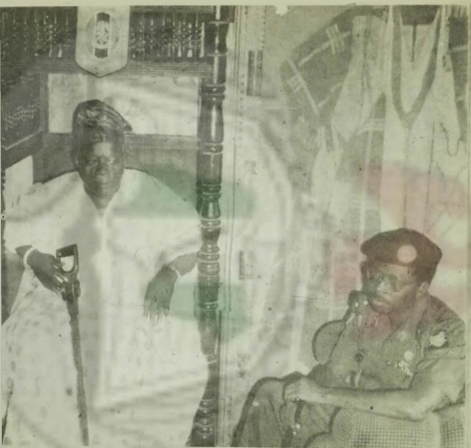
Furthermore, the new structure provides that all chief accounts officers in all ministries and extra-ministerial departments shall ensure collection of internally-generated revenue and shall continue to account for them and render returns to the Director of Audit in accordance with the existing financial regulations. The Director of Audit has power to sanction and surcharge any defaulting officer as stipulated in the relevant guidelines.

As we settle down to implementing the first budget of this administration, I enjoin all public officers to perform their duties with absolute devotion and dedication. The performance of each department in the areas of target achievement, speedy and efficient execution of projects and revenue generation will be closely monitored during the year. Those who excel will be given due recognition and reward. On the other hand, those who fail to perform should not expect anything less than rebuke and reprimand. Government on its part will ensure that within the limited available resources, adequate provisions are made for each department.

I congratulate Messrs Bola Obakin, E.O.A. Taiwo and Dr. M. A. Aboderin on their appointment as Directors-General. I pray that you may have wisdom and good health to discharge the onerous duties attached to your new offices.

Thank you.





*Col. Oresanya's courtesy call on Olubadan*

## NEW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SWORN-IN

*We need men and women of exceptional talent and ability, through whose performances, solid foundation will be laid for the Third Republic.*

*— Executive Council Chambers, Ibadan, on February 10, 1989.*

Following the dissolution of the Executive Council of this state last Tuesday, a new one had been constituted and its members have just been sworn-in.

You will observe that some of the Commissioners in the defunct executive council are among the new cabinet members. This is considered desirable to ensure that there is continuity in the work of government, particularly now that we are moving towards a return to civil rule.

It has also been considered necessary to inject new blood into the executive council as a way of revitalising the council and providing opportunity for more people to participate in the governance of the state. Each of the six new Commissioners had been chosen purely on personal merit.

One unique feature in the composition of the present executive council is the increased number of females. This is the first time in the history of this state that as many as three ladies are appointed Commissioners at a time. This is a manifestation of the high premium which this administration places on our womenfolk and the confidence it has in their ability to discharge themselves creditably, if given the opportunity. It is my belief that the female members of this council will do everything possible to justify the confidence reposed in them.

I must emphasise at this stage that the appointment of the present set of Commissioners is an invitation to service. More than before, this state and indeed the whole federation is in need of public functionaries whose watchwords will be patriotism, honesty and above all, dedication to duty. In our march to a return to civil rule, we need men and women of exceptional talent and ability, through whose performances, a solid foundation will be laid for the Third Republic. As you are all aware, the Military Government is out to utilise the lessons and experiences of the First and the Second Republics in the on-going effort to evolve a stable and resilient civilian administration.

This being the case, I will not tolerate bickerings, polarization or anything that may divert the attention of this government from its chosen objectives.

I also wish to remind you that you were not appointed on the basis of any ethnic, religious or political affiliation or as a representative of any part of the state. You should, therefore, be guided by the fact that you represent the whole state and in your assessment of issues and situations, you should be objective.

All the reappointed and the newly appointed Commissioners should be reminded that the main objective of this administration is the development

of this state. In the fulfilment of this laudable objective, ideas and projects should be evaluated on their own merit rather than on other extraneous factors. As you are all aware, the highest expenditures of the state are on education, roads, agriculture, health and water supply. These multifarious development programmes call for utmost dedication, sacrifice and diligence by all.

I demand from each and everyone of you, a superlative degree of performance in your ministry, restraint in your utterances and decency in your comportment.

In all your actions and speeches, you must not behave as if you are not part of the larger Nigerian society. You must avoid extravagant life style in your public and private capacities. Government is fully aware of the pains imposed by the Structural-Adjustment Programme and it is your responsibility to explain to the people the various steps being taken to minimise the sufferings of the masses. It will be a negation of government's efforts if you, as Commissioners, display opulence at this time when moderation and prudence should be our guiding principles.

While congratulating you on your appointment, I urge you to see it as a rare opportunity for you to carve a niche for yourselves and leave an enviable record for the succeeding administration.

Thank you.

#### WING COMMANDER WUYEP SWORN-IN AS EXCO MEMBER

*The swearing-in of Wing Commander J.D. Wuyep will further enrich the Oyo State Executive Council and broaden its areas of diversified experience.*

*— At the Executive Council Chambers, Secretariat, Ibadan on March 1, 1989.*

Members of the newly constituted executive council of this state were sworn-in on Friday, February 10, 1989. The addition of a new member is informed by the need to reflect on the council's composition, the presence of the Nigerian Air Force in this state.

As you are aware, a Military Air-Lift Command was located in Ibadan a couple of months ago and since then, efforts have been made to deploy the personnel required for an effective take-off of the command. Now that the command has been firmly entrenched there can be no excuse for not having an officer of the Nigerian Air Force on this executive. It is my belief that the swearing-in of Wing Commander J.D. Wuyep will further enrich this executive council and broaden its areas of diversified experience.

I want to seize this opportunity to impress on you all, the need for a cordial relationship between civilians and members of the Armed Forces. We should try at all times to avoid situations which may make civilians and

# OYO STATE EXHIBIT

JULY 1988 - FEBRUARY 1989



**COL SASAENIA ADEDEJI ORESANYA**  
*Military Governor*



**DR ADEMOLA ARIYO**  
*Commissioner for Finance  
and Economic Planning*



**ALHAJI MUDASHIRU BALOGUN**  
*Commissioner for Social Development,  
Youth and Sports*



**LT COL MUHAMMED ALHAJI ABU**  
*Commander, 2 Mechanised Division Garrison  
Nigerian Army*



**MR JOSEPH MAPOLASERE ADEROJU**  
*Commissioner for Special Duties*



**MRS OYEWUMI ABIMBOLA**  
*Commissioner for Commerce  
and Industry*

# EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1989



**MR. ACHIBONG NKANA**  
*Commissioner of Police, Oyo State*



**MR. HENRY BANKOLE FABUNMI**  
*Commissioner for Justice and  
Attorney-General*



**ALHAJI ADEGBOYEGA ARULOGUN**  
*Commissioner for Information and Culture*



**ALHAJI MURITALA LAPADE**  
*Commissioner for Education*



**DR. EMMANUEL OLUWOLE ALABI**  
*Commissioner for Health*



**ALHAJI WAHAB TITILAYO ADENIJI**  
*Commissioner for Lands  
Housing and Survey*



**SOLOMON ALAO ADIGUN**  
*Commissioner for Works  
and Transport*



**ALHAJI BASSIR ADEBOLA ASAFA**  
*Commissioner for Agriculture  
and Natural Resources*



**MR. J. A. ADEKUNLE**  
*Secretary to the  
Military Government*

# OYO STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



LT. COL. MUHAMMED ALIJI ABI U.  
Commander, 2 Mech. Div., Garrison, Nigerian Army



MR. OLUSEGUN ADEBIYI AYINLA O. AJOLO  
Commissioner for Justice and Attorney-General



MRS. LYDIA OYEWUMI A. BIMBOLA  
Commissioner for Education



COL. SASANIA ADEJIJI ORESANYA  
Military Governor



WING CDR. JONAH DOWA BUYEP  
Commander, Air Transport Group  
Military Air Force Command, Nigerian Air Force



MR. ACHIBONG NKANA  
Commissioner of Police, Oyo State Command



ALHAJI ADEGBOYEGA ARULOGUN  
Commissioner for Information and Culture

**OYO STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**



**DR. ADEMOLA ARIYO**  
*Commissioner for Commerce and Industries*



**MR. SIJUWADE OLADOKUN**  
*Commissioner for Special Duties*



**MR. ADEMOLA SADIPE**  
*Commissioner for Agriculture*



**ALHAJI BASSIR ADEBOLA ASAFA**  
*Commissioner for Lands, Housing and Survey*



**PROF. (MRS.) TOMILAYO OLUFOLAKE ADEKANYE**  
*Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources*



**ENGR. (ALHAJI) SHAIAB GBADEGES IN GBADAMOSI**  
*Commissioner for Works and Transport*



**MR. JOSEPH MAFOL SERE ADEROJU**  
*Commissioner for Health*



**DR. (MRS.) MOJI OYEBOLA**  
*Commissioner for Social Development, Youth and Sports*



**CHIEF JAMES AFOLABI ADEJIJI**  
*Secretary to the Military Government*



*Col. Oresanya pays a courtesy call on Major-General Joshua Dogonyaro.*

Armed Forces personnel treat themselves with distrust and mutual suspicion. It is enchanting to note that both officers and the other ranks of the various arms of the forces have been living together in harmony with their civilian counterparts in this state. I sincerely believe that everything will be done to sustain this happy co-existence.

According to the programme for transition to civil rule, the ban on political activities will soon be lifted. The period following the lifting of the ban, calls for vigilance and cooperation on the part of all Nigerians. The present Military administration is sincerely committed to handing over power to civilians and it will not take kindly to any attempt to disrupt the transition programme.

I like to remind you that it is not the intention of this regime to transfer power for the sake of doing so. Rather, it is the genuine wish of the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, to see that a very solid foundation, is laid for a lasting and an enduring civilian administration. One of the ways of doing this is to entrust the governance of this country in the hands of honest, patriotic and virtuous Nigerians, whose commitment to service is not in doubt. A country deserves the type of leaders it chooses. This is why the Nigerian electorate must exercise its power with the greatest discretion at the next opportunity.

Selection of candidates for the various elective offices should be based on proven ability to perform and not on tribal or religious sentiments. Voters should avoid the temptation of receiving gratification from those who will be canvassing for their votes, otherwise, they will lack the courage to criticise such candidates for wrong doings if they are eventually elected.

It is expected that Nigerians will see the Third Republic as a rare occasion to show the world that this country is rich in men and women of superlative abilities who can use their talents to raise their nation from backwardness to eminence. We cannot afford to fail a third time and this is why we must be able to separate the wheat from the chaff.

Before ending this address, I want to assure you that government will do everything possible to achieve a smooth transition to civil rule and I have no doubt whatsoever that you all will, in your different capacities, contribute to the achievement of this goal.

I congratulate Wing Commander Wuyep on his appointment and wish him good-luck.

Thank you.

## TWO DIRECTORS—GENERAL SWORN—IN

*Directors-General are agents for public enlightenment and because of the unique positions they occupy, they like Commissioners, are suitably placed to be effective liaison between government and the people.*

*At Exco Chambers, Secretariat, Ibadan on March 6, 1989.*

Today, we are witnessing the swearing-in ceremony of two new Directors-General. Coming so soon after similar appointments made in January this year, the exercise lends credence to the saying that there is always room at the top for the diligent, devoted, loyal and honest workers.

In recent times, there had been noticeable expansion in the functions and activities of government. This phenomenon makes it imperative to create new departments, boards, agencies, etc. The growth in the work of government has also made it desirable to review staffing position at the top with a view to ensuring that chief executives are not stretched more than the limit of their elasticity.

Beyond the euphoria which had accompanied the series of appointments made in recent times, is the reality of contemporary Nigeria. It is a good thing to reach the acme of ones career, but it is perhaps more difficult to retain a topmost position than to get there. The attractions and the trap-pings attached to your new offices, call for corresponding degree of sacrifice and self denial. More than before, you will now be the cynosure of public attention. For this reason, you must watch your actions and your speeches, because they will, more often than not, be a search light on government.

This administration expects nothing short of absolute loyalty and dedication as it cannot afford to be distracted from its avowed intent to hand over power to democratically elected representatives of the people starting with the local government election coming up towards the end of this year. The ban on political activities will soon be lifted and politics should be left for politicians when the time comes.

It is the duty of all of us to place at the disposal of all those who will be participating in politics all the human, financial and material resources which will facilitate the attainment of their goals. It is believed that political aspirants will, on their part, eschew those things which may lead to a repeat of the ills of the first and the second republics.

At this juncture, I wish to emphasise the role of Directors-General as agents for public enlightenment. Because of the unique positions they occupy, they like Commissioners, are suitably placed to be effective liaison between government and the people. This role is more desirable in present day Nigeria when the country is passing through harsh times. You should be able to explain to the masses that government is not indifferent to their problems. For example, they should be informed of the various steps being taken at the Federal and the State levels to combat unemployment. Tax payers have a right to know that the Structural Adjustment Programme is not designed to deliberately impose hardships on the people, but that it is an inevitable strategy for economic survival.

Decisions of government need to be carefully explained to the people to ensure that there is no communication gap between them and the government. However, it is not sufficient to be in constant and effective dialogue with the people. There must be leadership by example. If your behaviour is inconsistent with what you tell them, there will be mistrust and disobedience on the part of the masses.

Nigerians should be made to think less of the pains of the Structural Adjustment Programme, but they should be made to spare some time and reflect on the gains it has brought. The citizenry must be made to know that the maintenance culture now cultivated by most Nigerians, the preparedness to improvise where necessary, the upsurge in the number of privately owned nursery and primary schools, fashion designers shops, medium scale shoe factories, etc., are few of the indelible prints which SAP had left on our lives.

I cannot end this address without a word of commendation for the citizens of this state and indeed all Nigerians for their maturity and understanding at this trying period of the country's history.

I congratulate the new Directors-General on their appointment and wish them success in their new positions.

Thank you.

## THE NEW SECRETARIAT COMPLEX COMMISSIONED

*The present Military administration in Oyo State believes that a successful transition from the Military to civilian rule, as already planned by the Federal Military Government, requires not a solid base which should rest on constitutional arrangement alone, but availability of infrastructural facilities which aid social relationship and enhance efficiency and productivity at the appropriate level.*

*At the Secretariat, Ibadan on June 23, 1989*

When states were created in 1976 the erroneous impression gained ground that, with the departure of Ondo and Ogun States to their respective capitals at Akure and Abeokuta, office accommodation facilities used by the former Western State which were inherited by Oyo State would be surplus, that there would be so much unused office space within the secretariat, that some people openly canvassed the idea of renting out some of the existing blocks out to private users. Such ideas were, however, clearly misplaced and myopic. For, it failed to take into consideration, the fact that, all the organs of government used by the former Western State, for the maintenance of law and order, and the good governance of the state generally, would be needed by the new emerging state. Indeed, the state had to create new additional institutions, to meet new areas of pressure usually attributable to development administration. It is, in response to these demands, that the Oyo State Civil Service continued to expand, both structurally and laterally, no sooner than states were created.



*Col. Oresanya took time off to visit the various ministries in order to familiarise himself with their operations and assess on the spot, the problems facing them. Photograph shows the Governor at the machine room of the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey.*

This expansion was initially contained within existing facilities. But, the situation soon got out of hand, as the facilities were taxed to breaking point. In fact, within the last couple of years, office accommodation problems have become so acute that the shortage made nonsense of the well-ordered secretariat complex which the state inherited from the old Western Region. Attempts were made to cushion these shortages, through the construction of prefabricated buildings and conversion of motor garages into office accommodation. Even then, these could not go far in alleviating the shortage. There was, therefore, a felt need for an office complex which can accommodate quite a sizeable number of officers of all categories.

That is the concept that gave birth to the idea of the new secretariat complex which will shortly be commissioned for us by the General Officer Commanding, 2 Mechanised Division of the Nigerian Army. The complex has been designed in a way that can meet the taste of all times. The complex, whose total cost is ₦9,294 million, has 8 self-contained executive offices, which could conveniently be used by State Commissioners or Directors-General. It contains 311 general office units and 2 large conference rooms. There are conveniences at the end of each wing. In all, there are 63 water closets. The complex also has other facilities which include 32 covered parking spaces and 138 open car parks. The building will share the existing facilities of the secretariat power house in case of NEPA outage. But, it has its own pump house for water storage. It is, therefore, an office complex built in the 20th century, but with all the facilities of the 21st century.

The completion of this complex ranked high in the list of priorities of this state government. This is because the present Military administration in the state believes that a successful transition from the Military to civilian rule, as already planned by the Federal Military Government, requires a solid base which should not rest on constitutional arrangement alone. Indeed, it is only if infrastructural facilities which aid social relationship and enhance efficiency and productivity at the appropriate level are available that the ensuing civilian government can rest assured that it has a good chance of success. While the constitutional arrangement for transition to civilian rule is going on at the national level therefore, this state government has decided to vigorously pursue welfare programmes, as a basis on which this constitutional arrangement will be predicated.

It is also a mark of the high priority accorded the project that a personality, no less than the General Officer Commanding, 2 Mechanised Division, Nigerian Army, Maj-General. Joshua Dogonyaro has been approached to kindly commission the complex for use. This state government is immensely grateful to you sir, for considering our invitation worthy of acceptance, and for sparing the time to be personally present here.

I like to sincerely congratulate the main contractors, Messrs. ADECENTRO (NIGERIA) LIMITED and the sub-contractors for a job well-done. I also take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation to the Managing Director of ADECENTRO for his understanding during the critical stages of negotiations on the contract. The Ministry of Works and Transport which designed the complex and supervised all the stages of construction also

deserve commendation. But, I implore you not to rest on your oars, until we are able to write success story on all other projects being handled by the ministry.

I now have the honour and privilege to invite the General Officer Commanding, 2 Mechanised Division of the Nigerian Army and Member of the Armed Forces Ruling Council, Major-General Joshua Dogonyaro, *FSS, psc, mni*, to deliver his commissioning address.

Thank you.  
The G.O.C. Sir.

### THIRD NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE CUP FINAL ENDED

*If we want to join the hockey league of the world, we must as a nation re-double our efforts not only in the training of our youths in the sport, but through investment in the equipment and infrastructure required for the sport.*

*— Liberty Stadium, Ibadan on December 10, 1988.*

I am delighted to be here this afternoon at this closing ceremony of the Third National Hockey Clubs League Competition for the Major-General Jerry Useni Trophy. It is always a pleasure for me to find myself in the midst of people who appreciate the importance of sports. Sports, as we all know help to develop a sound mind in a sound body and also serve as a national unifying factor. Outstanding performance in sports is also a source of national honour and prestige. This is the reason why all the governments of the Federal Republic of Nigeria accord great priority to the development of sports.

Hockey as a sport helps its enthusiasts not only to develop a sound mind in a sound body but, being a rugged sport it also helps to develop ruggedness in its enthusiasts and players. I hardly need to say that ruggedness is a character trait required for success in any profitable enterprise. Hockey is a sport which should be given every encouragement. It is a sport which is capable of bestowing robust health on its enthusiasts. It is not surprising that the donor of the trophy which is the subject of this competition is a man of robust health. In hockey, as in many other fields of sport, Nigeria has a long way to go: If we want to join the hockey league of the world, of which countries such as Pakistan, India, New Zealand, Zimbabwe and Great Britain (to mention only a few) are members, we must re-double our efforts not only in the training of our youths in the sport but through investment in the equipment and infrastructure of the sport. Our sports coaches and administrators must also be up and doing in promoting the sport at every level of the society. It is a sport which could be played in villages with improvised bats and balls. If the game is to be boosted at the primary school level, there is need for creativeness and improvisations. This is a challenge which I hereby throw to all hockey enthusiasts, sports councils and administrators in the country. It is my hope that all sports enthusiasts in the country (particularly the philanthropist who donated

the trophy being competed for) will not relent in their efforts until Nigeria becomes a force to reckon with in the field of hockey.

I also hope that in the course of this week-long championship it has been possible for our sports administrators to identify hockey talents who would be groomed for the All-Africa Cup of Clubs Hockey Championship coming up in 1989.

I want to assure you that the Government of Oyo State will continue to give active encouragement, in cash and kind, to the development of hockey and all forms of sports not only in Oyo State but throughout the Federation. We shall redouble our efforts particularly in the field of hockey to ensure that the Jerry Useni Cup becomes a permanent property of the Oyo State Sports Council.

I want to end this speech by thanking all those connected with the organisation of this competition. I should also thank the participants and in particular all the eminent personalities who have graced this occasion with their presence. I am sure that you must all have had rewarding time during the period of the championship. As you return to your respective states I wish all of you journey mercies.

The Chief of Army Staff, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, with these few words, I have the unique privilege and honour to declare the Third National Hockey Clubs League Championship 1988 closed.

Thank you.

### SPORTS COUNCIL INAUGURATED

*This administration and the people of Oyo State believe that with the right type of leaders who are committed to sporting activities backed up by the wherewithal with which to operate, the State's Sports Council will lead Oyo State in sporting events and activities to enviable heights.*

*— At Oyo State Executive Council Chambers on November 23, 1989.*

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you here to the inauguration ceremony of the Oyo State Sports Council.

A review of the performances of the state in sports from 1976 would reveal that Oyo State was among the best two or three states in sports from 1976 until about the middle of this decade. Since the last five years or so however, there has been a rapid downward trend. First, it was the relegation to the second division of the I.I.C.C. Football Club, then the snatching from the Oyo State Hockey Team by another state, the much coveted Audu Bako Gold Trophy and then in the 1988 National Sports Festival, Oyo State was placed 10th. It never rained but poured. Even, in spite of the promotion of the I.I.C.C. Football Club to the first division following the team's relatively improved performance in the 1988 league encounters just concluded, we should all be convinced that all is not yet well with us in sports.

In the face of these failures and unimpressive outings, this government has

deemed it necessary to give sporting activities in the state, the necessary fillip and encouragement so that the state might regain its pride of place in sporting events in the country. As a first step, the state government has decided to develop into a games village the former Divisional Teacher Training College, Ijebu-Jesha. Work of renovation and construction in the village will start in earnest in December, 1988. The village is to provide athletes, footballers, tennis players etc., opportunities and facilities to train intensively and on regular basis. I am convinced that we have enough talents that could be developed to first rate sports men and women in this state. All that is needed is well programmed training and practice throughout the year. The games village will be available all the year round.

We are here, this morning, to witness the second step towards a transformation of sporting activities in Oyo State. It has become necessary to reorganise Oyo State Sports Council, inject new blood into its veins so as to make it more effective. In the course of our search, we have succeeded in locating eminent men and a woman who are genuinely interested practitioners and who are teachers or organisers of sports to direct the affairs of the council.

The council that is being constituted here, this morning, has been brought in to provide the leadership which games and sports require in this state. This government and the people of this state believe that with the right type of leaders who are committed to sporting events and backed by the wherewithal with which to operate, your council will lead Oyo State, in sporting events and activities once again to enviable heights and ensure that she remains there. You have all been chosen to work for the improvement of sporting activities in the state and in the course of your assignment, it may be necessary to review and reorganise the machinery for the development, promotion and administration of sports. You should also promote healthy relationship between your council on one hand and the various associations on the other and also among the various associations in the state. You will be expected to provide adequate facilities for the various games and you will be expected to be managers of materials, money and men including women, of course.

At this juncture, I wish to draw attention of the council that is being inaugurated this morning to one or two issues which I regard as being areas of greatest pay offs. The training of any sports man or woman cannot be accomplished overnight. Training should be gradual and continuous and it should gather momentum and intensity as it progresses so that the trainee, be he a sprinter, a pole vaulter, a footballer, a weight-lifter, a boxer, has a period of "running-in". I have observed that in this country athletes and other sports men and women are assembled a couple of days before a championship event the result, more often than not, is woeful and disgraceful failure. Let me reiterate, your council should expose all your sports men and women to regular and continuous competitive training. I have deliberately used the word "competitive" to stress the importance of improving on performances which could be promoted through competitive training. Your council should avoid, at all costs, the 'fire fighting' type of training enough of which we have witnessed in this country. In order to have a reservoir of well-blended athletes, you should consciously search for young athletes to train. Your council

should, therefore, carry sports to schools so as to identify young and virile talented boys and girls who could be trained. And they should be trained. You should aim at "catching them young" before they become dried fish that does not lend itself to bending". The government of this state is fully aware of the onerous assignment which your council is being given. Let me assure that on our part we will provide you funds within the limit of our resources. We will provide your council with institutional support and we will provide you with the encouragement with which to carry out the tasks ahead.

Before I conclude this inauguration address, I wish to publicly acknowledge the immense contribution which the members of the dissolved sports council made both as individuals and as a team and the sacrifices they made to promote sports in the state during their tenure of office. On behalf of the government and the people of this state, I thank them all and hope that they will not hesitate to answer future calls to duty.

Members of the State Executive Council, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to inaugurate the Oyo State Sports Council for the glory and development of sports in this state.

Thank you all.

### OLUYOLE MARATHON '89 OPENED

*A concerted effort at implementing the lofty and laudable objectives of the commemoration of the founding of Ibadanland to their logical conclusion would usher in an era of peace, tranquility and progress, not only in Ibadanland, but in Oyo State and, indeed, in the country as a whole.*

*— At Mapo Hall, Ibadan on April 15, 1989.*

The commemoration of the founding of a place is a significant landmark in its annals. The event we are witnessing today — the commemoration of Ibadan 160 years (1829 - 1989) is, therefore, unique in the history of Ibadanland. I am delighted to be your special guest of honour.

Today's occasion is auspicious and important for many obvious reasons. First, it is an empirical realisation of one of the aims and objectives of the organisers — the Committee of Oluyole Marathon. Secondly, it will help to bring into focus, the achievements of your founding fathers and the various developmental processes which spanned over 160 years. Thirdly, whatever information is gathered here can be repository of knowledge for many generations to come. And lastly, it is a worthy attempt at expressing appreciation to the founding fathers and other pillars of Ibadanland, who have contributed tremendously to the socio-politico-economic development of the land.

I am informed that the Oluyole Marathon is just one of the events lined up to commemorate the occasion. It is gratifying to note that the cardinal objectives of COOMA are multidimensional. These include, the promotion of oneness among the citizens of Oyo State in general, and of Ibadan in particu-

lar; the fostering of unity among the Yorubas, and the inculcation, in the coming generation, of a progressive society. Others are the creation of awareness for the upliftment and development of our cultural heritage; the learning from the past traditional endeavours, and the promotion of sports and social activities.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is my conviction that a concerted effort at implementing these lofty and laudable objectives to their logical conclusion would usher in an era of peace, tranquility and progress, not only in Ibadanland, but in Oyo State and, indeed, in the country as a whole.

At this juncture, I wish to commend the efforts of the committee responsible for organising this event, and hope that they would not rest on their oars. I also want to use this forum to appeal to individuals and organisations to seek ways of contributing their quota to the socio-economic development of our fatherland.

The history of Ibadan is very known to all of us. But it is necessary to talk about the history, in order to refresh our memories. We are all aware that the history of Ibadan has many versions to it. But it is generally agreed that there are "three Ibadan." The "First Ibadan" was founded by Lagelu and was originally known as "Eba-Odan" meaning "by the field". This grew up to a large settlement which did not last long. The "Second Ibadan" however, is usually associated with the time when Lagelu and his people were living on Eleiyele Hill. Lagelu and his people, it is said, were later joined on the hill by other people from many parts of Yorubaland. As they grew prosperous and then multiplied, it became evident that the hill could no longer hold them. They had to move down to the present site, which is the "Third Ibadan".

From the foregoing historical analysis of Ibadan, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, one will observe the uniqueness of Ibadan among Yoruba towns, because of the diversity of its inhabitants, comprising practically all Yoruba stocks, and considerable settlement of other Nigerians. This diversity is attributed by historians to the fact that Ibadan was originally a war camp which attracted people from far and near. Probably because of its centrality, Ibadan has grown to be the largest city in West Africa, and has the largest human concentration in Africa, South of the Sahara. This is in turn with the traditional belief in the divinity which has ordained the geographical spread of Ibadan as limitless. Luckily, too, there are no physical constraints as the sea and the ocean to limit the growth of the city.

The dual role of Ibadan as the headquarters of the largest local administration in the country, and also that of the former Western Region, Western State and now Oyo State, has given room for the concentration of infrastructural facilities befitting a state capital. This, by no means, has not been easy, particularly considering the high rate of urbanisation and diversity of the state as a whole.

Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, while the various levels of governments and institutions continue to strive to contribute their quota to the development of Ibadanland, you should use this occasion of your preponderant gathering today, to ruminate on issues that can uplift your fatherland. We should consider those issues that have negated your determination to contribute more positively to the imminent socio-economic changes.

In this connection, I would like to address you on an issue of national importance. It is common knowledge that Ibadan has played a significant role in the political evolution of this country. It has, indeed, remained a political nerve centre. The present Military administration has expressed the commitment to disengage the military from politics as from 1992. In realisation of this avowed objective, it has set a time-table for the transitional period, which is being implemented religiously. As a step forward, the lift of ban on politics is expected soon. This is another crucial experience in the political evolution of this country to which we should all address ourselves, reasonably and objectively. As a politically sophisticated people, we should ensure a smooth and successful transition period. We should always consider only those values and ideals that will ensure the peace, stability and progress of our country. We should abhor election malpractices and vices that can inhibit democratic growth in this country.

Finally, Kabiyesi, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I wish to express my gratitude to the organisers of this occasion for asking me to be your special guest of honour today. I commend the efforts of all the participants at the Oluyole Marathon'89, and hope that the spirit of the occasion will not be allowed to fade away in vain.

I wish you a happy celebration.  
Thank you.

#### FOURTH NATIONAL AMATEUR INTER-CLUB GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP CLOSED

*This administration places high premium on sports development because it realises and it is convinced of the importance of sports in nation building and their impact in foreign policy issues, international friendship and understanding.*

*— Ibadan Recreation Centre on May 7, 1989.*

I am delighted to be here this afternoon as the special guest of honour at the closing ceremony of the Fourth National Amateur Inter-Club Golf Championship. We are all privileged to bear testimony to the facts and happenings of today. More especially, I do congratulate the national golf chairman and other members for bringing this important competition to Oyo State. This has in fact added another feather to Oyo State's honours sportswise.

Versions of golf have been played for centuries all over the world — the Romans called it 'paganica'; in medieval England, it was known as 'Cambuca' or 'Brancy Bull', and in Holland as 'Kolf'. However, it was in Scotland that the game was firmly established in the 15th century. Since then, as Tom Scott showed, it has become an international sport. The game, as we know it, did not become popular elsewhere until the 19th century when the first great matches were played and golfers such as Tom Morris, at 18, the youngest ever open champion, and the 'Great Triumvirate' of Varou, Taylor and Braid, made their mark in the game.

Golf is one of the few sports regarded in some quarters as an elitist sport i.e. sports for the privileged. Most others agree, rightly, that golf is a lifelong sport. Whatever we may ask of a game, golf has all the answers; and those answers make us a little healthier, a little more alert, a little more considerate, and a little better equipped for everyday living. We can expect no more from any sport. Golf needs all that is required in any sport — serious mental and physical fitness and alertness. It is surely not as slow as most people think. The time it takes - as cricket too does — is surely worth the rewards. Ask a golf player of his satisfaction; joy and lightness of heart after a game of 18 holes. He feels on top of the world! The atmosphere most created by the player before and after the game has been generated by socialization and the community. We should, therefore, popularize the game of golf and bring it to the reach of all within our communities.

Nigeria of today does not believe merely in participating in major sports meetings, but expects every participant that takes part at such meetings to win medals. This is where discipline, dedication and determination come in. All players must, therefore, have self-discipline and be dedicated to the chosen course and be determined to win honours. I want to assure you that this administration places high premium on sports development because we realise and are convinced of the importance of sports in nation building and their impact in foreign policy issues and international friendship and understanding. We shall, therefore, continue to improve the facilities for sports at various centres, stadia and recreation spots throughout the state.

I take this time to acknowledge the support which various social clubs, service organisations, business houses and philanthropists have given to sports development in the state. The state government appreciates these kind gestures hoping these contributions will go a long way to make us achieve greatness in golf and other allied sports. No government in the world can on her own fully carry the burden of sports development and it is on this score I want to appeal to business houses and individuals to come forward to sponsor sporting activities and competitions.

I want to congratulate the Nigeria Golf Association in conjunction with the Golf Association of Oyo State on the efforts they have put into this championship which has turned out to be a huge success. I hope you will maintain the great height and develop our younger ones in the art of golf playing.

Lastly, I thank the host, Recreation Club of Ibadan, for providing the facilities for this championship. I also wish both the officials and the participants journey mercies to their various states and destinations.

Finally, I wish to congratulate those who have won laurels and charge them not to rest on their oars but to continue to strive harder for better performance in the future. To those that have won nothing, I wish you better luck next time.

Thank you and God bless you all.

## OGBERE BOREHOLE COMMISSIONED

*Water is life and the honorary chiefs by providing this borehole have provided life to the Ogbere community. It is highly gratifying to observe that our people are rising up to complement the efforts of the government in providing amenities for the populace.*

*At Ogbere in Oluyole Local Government on November 20, 1988.*

I am very pleased to be here on this memorable and unique occasion to commission the borehole project sunk by the Association of Honorary Chiefs in Ibadan for the Ogbere community .

We have witnessed the commissioning of borehole projects like this in the recent past but what makes this special is that it has been undertaken and financed by the Honorary Chiefs in Ibadan for Ogbere community that lack potable water.

There are several advantages of joint government/communities projects of this nature. First and foremost in this austere period, a combination of both efforts will certainly speed up things and cut tremendously the completion period. Secondly, and which is more important, government has come to realize that not only are its resources limited, those of the people, under the self-help principle is limitless as examples of several self-help schemes in education, health, road construction etc., would show. Time used to be when the people assumed that it is government responsibility to give them all amenities. It is highly gratifying to observe that our people are rising up to complement the efforts of the government in providing amenities for the populace. I, therefore, seize this opportunity to thank the Association of Honorary Chiefs in Ibadan for providing this borehole. Water is life and the honorary chiefs by providing this borehole have provided life to the Ogbere community .

The shortage of potable water supply in Ibadan and environs has been a great concern of this administration. The importance of potable water supply to the development of a state and the welfare of the citizens cannot be over-emphasized. It is in the realization of these vital roles that the state government has embarked on major rehabilitation of Ibadan water schemes.

As a first step in solving this acute water shortage in Ibadan, government has awarded contracts for the complete rehabilitation of Asejire and Eleyele Water Supply Schemes and the resuscitation of Osegere Water Treatment Plant which was abandoned in 1973. The rehabilitation will involve replacement of old pumps with new ones, refurbishment of the treatment plants and laying of new rising mains to some service reservoirs to improve distribution. The rehabilitation works have commenced and they are expected to be completed by November 1989 . When completed, the water supply to Ibadan will improve from the present 50 million litres per day (11 million gallons per day) to 121 million litres per day (27 million gallons per day). This is still a far cry from the actual need of Ibadan with a population of about 2 million. However, the second phase of the rehabilitation project will improve the situation considerably. The second phase will involve an extension of



*Opening of a borehole at Orile-Owu.*

Asejire Water Supply Scheme itself by doubling its production capacity. The design for this extension will soon commence.

I have been reliably informed that Ogbera community has been requesting the water corporation to extend pipe-borne water to its area, but this request has not been met because of the inadequate water to extend to your place. I can now assure you that as soon as the first phase of the rehabilitation of Ibadan Water Scheme is completed by this time next year, your request for pipe-borne water would be adequately met.

I have no doubt that the provision of this borehole will, for now, go a long way in improving the health condition and sanitation of this community. It is, however, pertinent to say that the advantages that will accrue from this amenity can only be fully enjoyed under an atmosphere of peace, co-operation and unity among the residents of this community.

While congratulating the people of Ogbera community on today's unique occasion, I will like to call on all well-meaning sons and daughters of Oyo State, philanthropic organizations and bodies to rally round government by actively participating in self-help and community development programme in order to bring basic social amenities like this within the reach of our urban and rural populace.

I wish to conclude by expressing the state government's appreciation and gratitude to the Association of Honorary Chiefs in Ibadan for providing this borehole and to commend the contractor for a job well done.

### AT THE BOREHOLE SITE

Kabiyesi,  
Chiefs,  
Community leaders,  
Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I have the honour and pleasure to commission this borehole for the benefit of the people of Ogbera and to the glory of God.

### OTU BOREHOLE COMMISSIONED

*Although at this period of economic recession, construction of gigantic water projects is not feasible and is being de-emphasised. However, the state government has embarked on sinking borehole in different parts of the state as temporary measures to provide potable water to the rural populace.*

*— At Otu in Iseyin Local Government on November 22, 1988.*

I am very delighted to be here to commission the borehole project which is sunk to provide potable water to the people of Otu.

It is a major pre-occupation of the present administration in Nigeria to open up the rural areas of the country by providing them with adequate infrastructures. The importance of provision of potable water can, therefore, not be over-emphasised as it is very vital to the well-being of the people. The Federal Military Government and all its agencies at various levels have, therefore, been doing their best within available resources to provide potable water to the urban and rural areas.

Although at this period of economic recession, construction of gigantic water projects is not feasible and is being de-emphasised, nevertheless the state government has not abandoned the proposed New Iseyin Water Supply Project. As soon as the economy picks up, the proposed water project will commence. However, the state government has embarked on sinking borehole in different parts of the state as temporary measures to provide potable water to the rural populace. Eighteen of such projects have been completed and put to use. The provisions of this amenity in this modest form is a continuing exercise.

On its part, the Federal Military Government reviewed the Federal boreholes abandoned by the last civilian government in different locations in the state and provided funds for their completion. Nine of them being the first phase were completed and commissioned in 1986, some of which were

located at Iyana-Offa, Bode-Osi, Ogboro and Iganna

The project being commissioned today is the fourth in the series of eight in the second phase of the programme in Oyo State. The fifth will also be commissioned this afternoon at Komu, also in this local government. The ones located at Araromi-Owu in Irewole Local Government area, Mefoworade and Omi-funfun in Oranmisan Local Government area were recently commissioned while the remaining three sunk at Imesi-Ile in Obokun Local Government area, Tapa in Ibarapa Local Government and Imini in Oyo Local Government area will be commissioned before the end of the year.

It is certain that the effort of the Federal Military Government in successfully completing these projects in those areas will further improve the living conditions of people in their areas of locations, thereby enhancing their increased capability to contribute to the economic progress of Oyo State.

I, therefore, seize this opportunity to call on the people of Otu whose main occupation is farming to grow more food by forming themselves into farmers co-operative societies in order to reap the full benefits of their toil and labour. This will also afford them the opportunity of embarking on massive production of food crops and improved dairy and livestock farming.

While congratulating you, I wish to implore you to continue to keep the peace and to perform your civic duties promptly to justify government's concern for you.

In conclusion, I like to express the gratitude of Oyo State Government to the Federal Military Government who has made it a priority to complete the project. I also thank the Upper Ogun-Osun River Basin Development Authority for doing a good job and for being a partner in progress.

Thank you all.

*At the borehole site*

Kabiyesi, chiefs, Chairman, Iseyin Local Government, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour and privilege to commission this project to the glory of God and for the peace, progress and good health of Otu community.

### FIRST PHASE OF SEPETERI IRRIGATION SCHEME COMMISSIONED

*The whole Sepeteri Irrigation Scheme will, on completion, bring 2,000 hectares of farm land under sprinkler irrigation while the first phase covers only 12 hectares.*

*— At Sepeteri in Ifedapo Local Government on November 22, 1988.*

I am delighted to be here this morning to commission the first phase of Sepeteri Irrigation Scheme. The whole project, I understand on completion, will bring 2,000 hectares of farm land under sprinkler irrigation. However, the first phase about to be commissioned covers 12 hectares.

No doubt, today's commissioning ceremony is the outcome of months, if not years, of serious planning and hard work in the bold attempts of the

Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority to enhance farmers output in this part of Oyo State and at the same time complement the efforts of the state government in boosting agricultural activities.

Traditionally, agriculture is the fundamental means of livelihood of the people of Oyo State. As a matter of fact, ever before the rise of industrial economy, agriculture had contributed in no small measure to the economic development of the state. Today, even in the face of rapid socio-economic changes occasioned by progressive industrialization, the state government cannot afford to overlook the vital contribution of agriculture to a balanced economy in advancement.

Farmers in this state, the brains behind our agricultural products, to boost their productivity, have been applying many agricultural techniques and inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizers and agrochemicals. That notwithstanding, their agricultural practice is largely rainfed and thus production is confined to the rainy seasons. Aside from that, field works are mostly carried out manually. As a result, production is characterised by low productivity, uneven labour distribution, extreme price fluctuations and poor returns to the farmers.

Oyo North in which we are at the moment, being blessed with good soil, is obviously the state's bread basket the majority of our people here are farmers. Since their agricultural outputs are largely on subsistence level, as it applies to other states in the federation, food supply to the urban populace often runs short of demand. Cummulative effect of this is that Nigeria had become a food importer with an increasing gap of about 1.5% per annum between the rate of population increase and food production.

Unable to improve their standard of living, it has been observed that many farmers have abandoned their hoes and cullasses to seek "better" employment opportunities in the cities. This migration has caused under-utilization of arable lands thereby causing a low rate of increase in food production and consequent higher dependence on imported food. It is in recognition of this problem that the Federal Government established various agricultural development institutions such as Operation-Feed-the-Nation (OFN), Green Revolution, Agricultural Development Projects (ADPs) and River Basin Development Authorities (RBDAs).

The Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority, one of the 11 RBDs in the country, at the moment has as one of its cardinal functions, the development of irrigation schemes for the production of crops and livestock.

Sepeteri Irrigation Scheme, the first phase of which I am here to commission today, is one of such projects being executed by the authority in Oyo State.

Considering the amount of money, men and material which must have been involved in establishing this irrigation scheme here by the Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority, the Oyo State Government will like to commend the authority for a job well done.

More grease to their elbows.

As the chairman had advised in his welcome address, may I cease this opportunity to assure Sepeteri community that the state government will make all efforts to install water treatment plant and distribution pipelines as

soon as possible with a view to bringing potable water from the dams to the populace.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I will now proceed to commission the First Phase of Sepeteri Irrigation Scheme, to the glory of God and for the benefit of the people of Nigeria.

Thank you.

### KOMU BOREHOLE PROJECT COMMISSIONED

*The Komu borehole is electrically operated with a storage facility of 100,000 litres (25,000 gallons) and adequate drawing points for easy and comfortable operations by the people.*

*— At Komu in Iseyin Local Government on November 22, 1988.*

I am very delighted to be here today to commission the Komu borehole project.

Inadequate provision of potable water in most urban areas and the scarcity of this vital amenity in rural areas of the state have been of great concern to the Military administration of the state. The importance of potable water as a basic necessity in the development of the state and for the welfare of citizens cannot be over-emphasised. In the efforts to achieve this objective, this administration has continued to accord water supply a priority place in its financial allocations.

Apart from the direct involvement of the government in allocating funds to its major agent for provision of potable water, the Federal Government had engaged the services of the Ogun-Osun River Basin Development Authority in sinking a number of boreholes in different parts of the state. The various local governments and the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure are not lagging behind in this laudable crusade to improve the health and social well-being of our rural populace.

The result of all these efforts is what we are witnessing today as several of the borehole projects have been successfully completed out of which 18 had earlier been commissioned. I am informed that the Komu borehole project which is about to be commissioned officially in a few minutes is electrically operated with a storage facility of 100,000 litres (25,000 gallons) and adequate drawing points for easy and comfortable operations by the people. I hope you will make good use of it and protect it from damage and theft by unscrupulous characters.

I have no doubts that the provision of this vital amenity will greatly improve the health and standard of living of the people of Komu. Accept my hearty congratulations on this memorable occasion.

I wish to call on all well-meaning sons and daughters, organisations and social groups in and out of Komu to assist the government in the provision of basic social infrastructures through self-help for the well-beings of the rural populace.

It is also appropriate to call on all citizens of this state to fulfil their civic obligations by paying all government dues promptly so as to assist government in revamping our economy.

In conclusion, I wish to express the gratitude of the state government to the Federal Military Government, the Ogun-Osun River Basin Development Authority and all those who have contributed in one form or another to make the completion of the project a success.

*At the borehole site:*

Kabiyesi, Chiefs, Chairman, Iseyin Local Government, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour and privilege to commission this project to the glory of God and for the peace, progress and good health of Komu community.

## 11. IMESI-ILE BOREHOLE COMMISSIONED

*The Imesi-Ile water scheme and other projects all over the country clearly demonstrate the fact that the present Military administration in Nigeria recognises the rural setting as the fulcrum for effective take-off for any meaningful development.*

*IN IMESI-ILE IN OBOKUN LG. ON NOVEMBER 29, 1988.*

I am delighted to be among you today to perform the official commissioning of the Federal Government borehole located here at Imesi-Ile. This is one of the fifty of such borehole projects being handled by the Ogun/Osun River Basin Development Authority for the Federal Government of Nigeria at different locations in the state and at various stages of completion.

The water scheme and other projects all over the country clearly demonstrate the fact that the present Military administration in Nigeria recognises the rural setting as the fulcrum for effective take-off for any meaningful development. It is, therefore, no gainsaying to state that emphasis has been shifted to the grassroots level. For instance, the Directorate of Food, Roads, and Rural Infrastructure which is an agency of the Federal Government sponsors the rapid transformation of our villages through the local Governments by opening up erstwhile footpaths, thereby creating access roads which allow for easy passage of farm products to the urban centres. The directorate also sponsors the sinking of deep wells in villages as well as rural electrification.

Again, the importance of potable water cannot be over-emphasised, and this is why the Oyo State Government is also not relenting its efforts in ensuring that the rural populace have adequate supply of potable water. For Esa-Odo Water Works from where Imesi-Ile and most towns and villages in Obokun Local Government area get their water, efforts have been intensified to replace the old pumps and refurbish the generating set at the water works. Let me also assure you that the New Ilesa Water Project designed to supply potable water to Ilesa and about twenty-five other towns and villages in Obokun and Atajunmosa Local Government areas of the state has not been abandoned as negotiations have reached advanced stage in the reaward of the off-shore portion of the contract. In fact, the



*Commissioning of Federal Government borehole project at  
Imesi Ile by Col. Oresanya*

pumps for the project had arrived from the overseas suppliers and are now under key and lock for safekeeping.

Indeed the Oyo State Government is determined to provide, within the available resources, infrastructural facilities like access roads, electricity, improved seedlings and health institutions to meet the needs of its teeming population. For instance, efforts are being intensified to embark on the extension of pipe-borne water to all the nooks and corners of the state. To this end, the Water Corporation of Oyo State is being given the necessary assistance so as to improve on all the existing water works and to commence action on the design of mini water works for rural areas.

With the co-operation of the generality of the people, Oyo State will hopefully witness a revolution in the realm of agriculture as Oyo North Agricultural Development Project will go state-wide, and a labour-intensive agricultural scheme will be introduced. The aims are to feed our ever-increasing population and to provide employment for the school leavers and others.

One is particularly delighted with the catalogue of achievements credited to the present administration in the local government in the address just presented by the Chairman. While commending you for the achievements, I am also advising you not to relent your efforts in transforming Obokun Local Government area. At the same time, the entire citizens of this

community are enjoined to ensure a judicious use of the borchole project being commissioned today, and to pay your taxes and other government levies as and when due.

The road leading to the spot of the Great Kiriji War and the closed teachers' college mentioned by the chairman in his address have been taken note of, and they will be placed on our drawing board for action accordingly.

In conclusion, I wish to express the state government appreciation to the Federal Government, the Ogun-Osun River Basin Development Authority, and all those who have contributed to the successful completion of the project.

Thank you all.



Continuing the tradition of excellence in education, the Department of Education is pleased to announce the results of the 2010 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) for the state of Virginia. The results show that our students are performing at a high level of achievement, reflecting the quality of our education system. The Department of Education is committed to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to succeed and reach their full potential. We will continue to work with our partners in education to improve the quality of our schools and ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed.







Colonel Sasaenis Adejeji Oresanya who was sworn-in as the Military Governor of Oyo State on July 27 1988 by General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria, is the seventh person to assume the political leadership of Oyo State.

Col. Oresanya was born at Isonyin, Ogun State on Wednesday, March 13, 1946 to the family of Pa Simeon Adeyemi Oresanya (deceased) who was a retired school master and product of the reputable Saint Andrew's College, Oyo, while his mother is Madam Elizabeth Oluyombo Oresanya.

Col. Oresanya began his elementary education at Saint Mary's Primary School, Ijebu-Igbo and later moved to Emmanuel Anglican Primary School, Isonyin in 1954 where he completed his primary education. He attended Isonyin Grammar School.

While at the Grammar School, Colonel Oresanya was known for his brilliance and hard work. Also a sportsman, he was a football commentator and a volley-ball player.

Prior to his enlistment in the Army, Colonel Oresanya taught briefly at Catholic Commercials Secondary Modern School, Ijebu-Ode before he joined the then Electricity Corporation of Nigeria (ECN) now National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) and served at Ijebu-Ode and Shagamu for five years.

Colonel Oresanya was admitted to the Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna and was commissioned in 1970. He also received training at the ASC School and College of Military Engineering both in India and later attended the Army School of Transport, United States of America.

Colonel Oresanya holds a Diploma in Transport and another Diploma in Petroleum Technology.

He pursued a brilliant and distinguished military career. He had served in various posts and had held several appointments. Col. Oresanya was Assistant Adjutant, Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna. He was also 2ic 1 Supply and Transport Battalion and Commanding Officer, 2 Supply and Transport Battalion; Deputy Commandant, Army School of Supply and Transport and Commanding Officer, Army Headquarters, Supply and Transport Battalion.

He was also Colonel GS Supply and Transport Headquarters, Commandant, Supply and Transport Brigade, Acting Director of Army Supply and Transport Corps and Director-in-Chief, Command and Staff College, Jaji.

He had also been previously appointed Chief Instructor, Junior Division, Command and Staff College, Jaji, and Chief Instructor, Senior Division, Command and Staff College, Jaji, the post he was holding before he was appointed Military Governor.

His extra-regimental appointments include Managing Directorship, Nigerian Army

Post Exchange (NAPEX) and Sole Administration, Nigerian National Supply Company (NNSC).

He is married. His wife is Mrs. Dorothy Oresanya and the marriage has been blessed with children.