

Now, NIDB acquired

THE Nigerian Industrial Development Bank (NIDB), is now to be fully owned by the Federal Government.

This follows the acceptance by the Federal Military Government of the recommendation of the committee appointed to examine the country's financial system in relation to NIDB.

The Central Bank would however continue to own shares in the Institution.

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30 CUSTOMS OFFICIALS CHARGED



MR OYEBO OYELEYE

**Malpractices,
corruption alleged**

AT least 30 employees of the Department of Customs and Excise have been charged to the Corrupt Practices Bureau on various allegations including corruption and malpractices.

by Sam Effiong

Going to Lagos or Port Harcourt? Yes!!

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A hint to this effect was given by the director, Mr Oyebo Oyeleye while addressing correspondents at the Port Harcourt airport yesterday shortly on arrival to undertake a four-day tour of his department's locations in the Rivers State.

Mr Oyeleye who was answering a reporter's question, said desperate efforts were being made by the department to ensure that some "bad eggs" there were completely removed.

The purge, the director went on, was to eliminate all traces of corruption in all facets of the department.

So far, about 30 cases of corruption and malpractices levelled against some staff of the department had been referred to the Corrupt Practices Bureau for prosecution, Mr Oyeleye told the media representatives.

It will be recalled that during the last nation-wide purge a number of employees of this department were relieved of their posts.

According to the Customs and Excise boss, another clean-up operation was likely to take place there.

Commenting on the incidence of smuggling in the country, the director stated that although smuggling could not be eliminated so easily, efforts were being intensified by the authorities to eradicate it.

Speaking on the welfare of the workers, he observed that some employees had spent many years without promotion, adding that one of the reasons for his visit to the Rivers State was to conduct an interview on all categories of workers from Imo, Anambra, Cross River and the Rivers states.

While in the state, Mr Oyeleye will visit a number of places of interest including the Nigerian Petroleum Refining Company, Alesa Etene and pay a courtesy call on the military governor, Colonel Zamani Legwot,

**ALI'S
MESSAGE
TO
AFRICAN
SCOUTS**

Africa has been called upon to develop a sense of integrity, unity, vision and ability to give welfare services to the community without thinking of reward and self-advancement.

The call was made by the Federal Commissioner for Education, Col Ahmadu Ali, in an address he delivered to the current Third African Scout Conference in Lagos at the weekend.

Col Ali urged the Scout Movement to continue to develop in its members the spirit of national consciousness and international understanding, stressing that the future of a nation depended on her youth.

The commissioner also called upon scouts to assume leadership responsibilities by participating in community development activities.

They should, he added, be committed to the development of the spirit of tolerance, harmony and honest endeavour that would inspire others to greater achievements.



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Diseases prevention mounts

PILOT projects on the expanded programme of immunisation against common infectious diseases in the community are being undertaken in Oyo and Ondo states.

Announcing this in a broadcast to mark the World Health Day celebration in Lagos, the Federal Commissioner for Health, Dr Peter Ogburn, said that the experience gained in the two states would be used by his ministry to plan similar programmes to cover all the states of the federation.

The commissioner explained that under the programme, children of five years and below would be protected by immunisation against diseases like measles, tetanus, tuberculosis, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and diphtheria.

He said that although Nigeria had been declared smallpox free by the World Health Organisation, immunisation against the disease would be included in the country's programme.

This is to ensure that the high level of protection already achieved by vaccination in the community was maintained, and, fresh importation of the disease, was guarded against until the scourge was completely eradicated in the world, he noted.

TASKS BEFORE CORP MEMBERS

COMMANDER Godwin Kanu, the Military Governor of Imo State has called on members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), not to limit their achievement to the construction of bridges, roads, maternity homes and markets but to gear up towards motivating the spontaneous education and co-ordination of the people's efforts to work together as a team in solving their common problems.

Governor Kanu made the call in his address at the launching ceremony of the 1977/78 Community Development Programme for the NYSC to the state.

He said that before the advent of British rule, self-help projects formed a greater part of the life style in Nigeria.

Ambassadors

Our fore-fathers, he went on, under communal labour, constructed roads, bridges, markets and village halls in order to make life worth living.

The governor pointed out that they must interact freely with their host community, work as a team and above all be good ambassadors.

Commander Kanu told

them that they had been grouped into smaller units to work on each project in collaboration with their host communities.

Supervision of their job, the governor assured them, would be carried out by the inspectors of the National Youth Service Corps Secretariat and the officers of the Community Development section of the Ministry of Local Government and Social Development.

Governor Kanu assured them of the support of the government and the people of Imo State saying: "You will work hand in hand with the local communities in the various local government areas of the state".



GOV. GODWIN KANU



Comdr. Husaini Abdullah

Bendel plans new colleges

FOURTEEN new secondary schools will be established in the Bendel State within the current financial year.

This and other educational projects will absorb N16.6 million allocated to education in the Bendel State recently announced by the Bendel Military Governor, Commodore Husaini Abdullah.

A provision of N2 million has been made towards the establishment of five new technical institutions.

The governor disclosed that the Auchi Polytechnic, College of Education, Abraka, and the College of Physical Education at Afuze will be rapidly developed.

On health, he said that a grant of N13.2 million, out of which N3 million would be spent on the purchase of drugs, had been allocated to the State Hospitals Management Board and that new specialist hospitals in Benin City and Warri plus the School of Nursing and Midwifery in Benin would be built with ample provision of N5 million for each of the new specialist hospitals.

Civil service needs changes

THE growing critical comments on civil servants and the civil service in the daily press indicate that the Nigerian society has become aware of the need for a change in the pattern of administration in the public service.

This view was expressed by the Oyo State Commissioner for Establishments and Training, Alhaji Daji Oyeokanmi, while declaring open a three-day meeting of the National Council on Establishments at the Premier Hotel, Ibadan.

"If the public service is to be transformed into an effective instrument of social and economic change, your country should not only confine itself to harmonization of gradings and salary scales but should also look into how to improve the quality and efficiency of civil servants at all levels", the commissioner declared.

He also stated that to provide an effective solution to the development problems of the society, the civil service, as an agent of change, should

be well equipped to meet the new challenges.

The commissioner emphasised the need for an effective training programme so that the civil service could be equipped for its role in the new style public service.

Alhaji Oyeokanmi further appealed to the council to look into the ways and means of infusing discipline within the civil service as well as reorientating the attitude of public servants towards honesty, selfless service, transparent loyalty and high productivity.

BIZMAN BECOMES EZEJI OF NGWALAND

A Nigerian business man, Chief A. W. Ibe, has been installed as "Ezeji" (yam king) of Ngwa land.

Chief Ibe thus becomes the

third living Ezeji in the Ezekiwu and Obuda, traditional line-up of yam kings in the Aba-na-Oharu area of Ngwaland.

During a colourful ceremony marking his installation, Ezeji A. W. Ibe urged all urban and country dwellers in Nigeria to team up to make the Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) campaign a success.

Earlier, a huge crowd of dancing groups and traditional rulers, as well as other ezejis had joined in a procession to the Ezekiwu market square, where the new ezeji danced to the various traditional tunes.

Seen in the picture is Chief A. W. Ibe (second from right) leading a procession to the Ezekiwu market square where he danced to traditional tunes as an ezeji.

On his right is the head of the Ezekiwu, Chief Douglas Wige.



EDITORIAL

We march on (2)

FEEDING the teeming millions of our population is an assignment which has attracted the attention of the governments of Nigeria.

EARLY in our journey since independence a number of agrarian schemes, aimed at ushering in an era of satisfaction in the production of food for the masses, had been launched.

THEIR efforts were halted by the events of January, 1966 and thereafter, as well as the activities of the Gowon regime which did not think seriously about how to feed the people.

THE Operation Feed the Nation, launched by the Federal Military Government, aims, among other things, to provide food for the Nigerian wherever he is. The programme, we are aware, has had its teething problems and efforts are being made to solve them.

IT is with this in mind that we welcome the decision of the Rivers State Government to spend a total of N6,223,940 on Agriculture and for the development of our natural resources during the new financial year.

WE are happy that the government is still seriously facing the challenge posed by famine and would continue to plead that attention should be shifted from research to productive agriculture in the public sector.

WE have said it repeatedly that in order to feed our people, the various governments should consider restructuring and reintroducing the farm settlement scheme.

THIS is why we also have to, once more, repeat the Head of State's Onne statement that "Nigeria needs farmers, not agricultural officers," and reject the oil-peddled argument by some highly placed professionals in our ministries of agriculture that "government cannot produce food for the people."

THE advantages of reintroducing the farm settlement scheme are many. It will ensure that our able-bodied young men who could not get gainful employment but roam our cities are kept busy, while at the same time, the country advances forward in the race for mechanised farming.

NO country can successfully feed the people when there is no network of roads connecting the food producing and the consuming areas.

TO take care of this aspect of the economy, the government has set aside a total of N19.8 million for road development and N647,246.90 for the construction of bridges during the year while N7,109,818 is provided for sewerage and drainage projects in the urban areas, construction of which is expected to begin in October.

COMMENDABLE as these programmes are, it is essential, once again to recall that the various governments in the federation have been having uneasy times in executing their construction projects because contracts were often awarded to people either not groomed for the type of jobs they tender for or are simply unable to execute these contracts.

AND there are many of these "black sheep of contractors" who have embarrassed the governments and their sponsors. This has made it demanding that efforts should be made to ensure that contractors of repute are engaged.

OUR teeming population must be fed to satisfaction and it is our place to see to it that crooks, who parade our streets as contractors, do not get road contracts they can't execute.

PRODUCTIVITY SHOULD BE THE YARDSTICK

ONE should commend the Federal Government for the opportunities they rendered to everybody to express his/her views on the Draft Constitution and those who have contributed their quota towards it.

I would venture to suggest that perhaps the thorniest problems in our political jigsaw is the issue of revenue allocation which ironically has been clearly sidetracked by the CDC.

When Alhaji Shagari suggested that a system of revenue allocation of the states be enshrined by popular on, one's impression is that he has not given cogitance to the problems which population census figures have posed to this country, even without them being solely used as the determining factor in sharing funds among the States.

Every census that has been conducted in this country since independence has resulted in a fiasco.

And the mere mention of the words "Population Census" is enough to raise eyebrows in uniformed circles throughout country today.

Oil politics is not only a national time-bomb, but regarded as internationally inflammable.

Can we not just imagine the situation that it will be if we accept Shagari's proposals that population be the sole yardstick for revenue allocation to the States.

One can go to those oil producing areas. The people in these areas have been reduced to nothingness.

Their fishing ponds dried up, the farming land completely devastated, the drinking waters pollu-

ted, their crops destroyed

What is more since their means of livelihood have been greatly hampered?

They are now exposed to danger and poverty.

These people have remained silent since they cannot contend against the whole country or states' government hoping that their saviour may come one day to save them from these present problem.

Let's take Rivers State as an example. If you visit oil producing areas like Bugama, Billo, Soku, Okrika, Bonny, one can equally weep with the natives of the peculiar problems these poor citizens are facing due to the frequent pollution.

But the authorities concerned have forgotten that these are the areas that today, give Nigeria the

PUBLIC OPINION FORUM

Naira-power reputation.

Why then should these areas not be considered for facilities to make the people feel a sense of belonging.

Some situations could make a small but potentially productive area unproductive because it's share of the national cake is determined by its small population.

The population size can never be a suitable and acceptable method of determining the distribution of revenue to the states.

This is politically unacceptable and economically unrealistic.

The ideal revenue allocation should be a source of production. Thus making these affect areas feel they are being compensated for the loss they suffer as a result of oil exploration.

Consequently, population should not be the yardstick for revenue allocation system. Because it will look like enriching the strongman to the detriment of the weak.

N. CARRIE

Port Harcourt.

PCB, extend functions to rural areas

THE new Price Control degree promulgated by the Federal Government of Nigeria early this year is to be reckoned with.

But to what extent is this degree effective within the rural areas, is the question.

Through careful observations, this board tends to overwhelm its powers only within the major cities leaving behind the ru-

ral areas.

This will go a long way to frustrate the good efforts of the Federal Government to bring down prices of our essential commodities.

For instance, within some rural areas a bottle of stout beer is sold at 55k instead of 40k, milk at 17k instead of 10k and so with other essential commodities.

THAT JUDGEMENT ON PH OWNERSHIP

I am directed to refer to the publication at page 16 of April 14, 1977 issue Vol. 7 No. 856 where it was said that "OKRIKA PEOPLE WIN PORT HARCOURT LAND SUIT" — "Okrika people are the owners of the land now known as the mainland of Port Harcourt, capital of the Rivers State." A Port Harcourt High Court Judge, Mr. Justice R. P. G. Okara ruled yesterday.

I must say that this publication is mischievous and calculated to bring disputes amongst the people of the Rivers State. A correction must be made immediately to correct the impression already given to the people.

It must be noted that the issue before the Court was whether the

interpretation of the West African Court of Appeal judgment in the case of Wobo Vs. Attorney-General is WACA at page 132 the agreement between the British Colonial Government and the Okrika people and various other communities made in 1913 was valid and subsisting, and whether the Okrika people were also entitled to a variation of the compensation payable on that agreement.

It was not a matter of who owned Port Harcourt and the Court never gave decision as to who owned Port Harcourt. An immediate correction should therefore be made to correct the wrong impression conveyed in your publication.

F. N. N. ICHOKU

The PCB should please carry out surprise raids to most of these shops in the rural areas, to make the whole movement a success.

YAYI ABRIRIGBA
Dlobu, Port Harcourt

NPRC probe overdue

May I implore the Panel set up by the Federal Military Government to look into the affairs of the Nigerian Petroleum Refinery at Alsea Elema near Port Harcourt to hasten up their duties and submit their report (which is quite overdue) as demanded.

In its announcement, although the Federal Military Government did not specify when the result will be formally released, but only quoted "early this year" and since the year is fast running out, I feel something should be done immediately to find out the cause of the delay.

Finally, the Federal Military Government should realise that the more the result is kept delayed, the more damage the refinery suffers.

T. T. Ikemaruja
Port Harcourt.

Increase power supply, NEPA told

ABOUT 2,000 prospective electricity consumers now apply for power supply monthly in Ibadan.

To this end, the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) has said that no new service connections would be made in the three areas of Oyo State capital of Oyo, Ado, Adoju and Ojo which have already been overloaded with power until necessary reinforcement work, currently going on, was completed.

A release issued at Ibadan by the authority's district manager for Oyo and Ogun States, Mr Olatokun Olatunji, explained that the authority expected that the authority would improve soon with the new computerisation system of bills.

He said at the moment, about twenty distribution substations were overloaded but efforts were being made to replace them with larger ones for power reliability and flexibility.

The NEPA chief said, out of about 150 projects currently being executed in the state capital, only sixteen were completed and commissioned.

He warned against illegal installation of equipment without approval as this tends to overload the distribution network.

On the delay in receiving consumer monthly bills, Mr Olatunji said the situation

Fairan visits health centres

The U.S. State Commissioner for Health, Dr A. Fairan visited some health facilities in Ibadan. (Photo shows Dr Fairan (fourth from left) being shown a chart by the permanent secretary, Ministry of Health, Mr. Teju Akintola (third from right) while others look on.



BENDEL BUDGETS ₦466.3m FOR ITS SERVICES

THE Bendel State government is to spend a total of ₦466.3 million on its services during the 1977/78 financial year.

This is made up of a capital expenditure of ₦268.2 million and recurrent expenditure of ₦198.1 million to be raised from internal and statutory sources.

To this end, the sum of ₦223.3 million is expected from recurrent revenue. The sum of ₦159.3 million will come from Federal Statutory Allocation, ₦24.3 million from internal sources and ₦39.7 million from the Federal Government as recurrent grants.

These revelations were made by the state military governor, Commo-

dore Husaini Abdullahi in his Budget speech broadcast to the people in Bonin City.

A breakdown of the budget shows that the ministry of Works and Transport has the largest allocation of ₦165.51 million, Education came second with ₦116.58 million while the ministry of Local Government came third with ₦44.72 million.

Other ministries are Health ₦35.78 million, Lands and Housing ₦24.55 million, Agriculture ₦22.84 million while unspecified other services have ₦41.45 million.

On the whole the budget shows an increase of 37% over that of last

year. Another significant improvement in this budget is that the situation is only Capital estimates against that of last when the deficit was both the recurrent and Capital estimates.

The governor said was confident that sources gap would greatly narrowed the course of the year. strict control of recurrent expenditure by all tries and other departments, such as statutory boards and

The governor also ped to improve the situation by taking advantage of the federal government's decision to low state government and Local Government borrow money from the capital

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Ososo

THE Ososo community in Akoko-Edo Local Government area of Bendel State has provided a total of ₦5,600 for the expansion of Ososo Grammar School.

The community has also contributed ₦2,273.89 for the construction of a link road between Ososo and Okene in Kwararafa State.

A spokesman of the people, Mr. P. S. Okogbo, explained at the fund raising ceremony, that the satisfactory execution of the project would reduce the distance from Ososo to Okene from 60 to 16 kilometres.

Enugu

THE Federal Military Government has decided to merge the Nursing Council of Nigeria and the Midwives Board into a single body.

The body which will be known as the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria will take over the functions now being performed by the two bodies.

Announcing this in Enugu while performing the formal opening of the School of Midwifery of the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, the Federal Commissioner for health, Dr Peter Ogburn said this was one of the steps taken by the FMG to bring about lasting unity within the professional group.

Akure

THE Ondo State Government has established a Rural Roads Development Unit to assist all the local governments throughout the state in the execution of their engineering works.

This was disclosed by the state Commissioner for Works and housing, Mr Sola Fapohunda, in Akure while addressing the supervisory councilors for Works and Local Government of the state.

Abeokuta

THE acting military governor of Ogun State, Lt Col Aliyu Mohammed has said that only the inculcation of sense of leadership and patriotism in Nigerian youths could eliminate the present wave of lawlessness in our schools.

The acting governor made the call in Abeokuta while he was welcoming the Ogun State contingent to the recent 1st All-African Scout Jamboree which has just ended in Jos, Plateau State.

Earlier, the resident of the state Scout Council and chief judge of the state, Mr Justice Eberzer Salawanya Craig had expressed gratitude to the state government for making it possible for such a large number of participants from the state to attend the jamboree.

Armed robbery accused to wait in prison

TWENTY-SEVEN armed robbers, who have been in Owerri Prison Custody for various offences of armed robbery have appeared before the Iwo State Armed Robbery and Fire Arms Tribunal, headed by Mr Justice F. E. Ukatshah.

The accused persons who were arrested from various parts of Iwo State, were alleged to have remained in the prison custody for three or four years.

Some of the accused persons, Alayinka Maduka Okoro, Bartholomew Dara and Sylvester Mbulawa were unable to get a defence counsel.

Mr Justice Ukatshah assigned a female lawyer, Mrs Amadi to advocate for them. He told the accused persons to assist Mrs Amadi with all facts relating to their cases when she could call on them at the prison custody.

The accused persons who looked very well cared for, were again ordered to be remanded in prison custody pending the final trial of their cases in Iwo, Monday, June 27 to Thursday, June 30.

Local government system to foster democracy

THE Local Government Review is meant to generate intimate communication between the government and the governor, in order to foster the principle of democracy and political responsibility for all Nigerians.

This was stated by a member of the Ondo State Consultancy Review Commission, Chief Bola Kumpayi while delivering an address to the local government chairman and councilors at Treacher Hall, Ibadan University.

Chief Kumpayi announced that apart from establishing the local governments, the state government was responsible for the final approval of elected chairman and supervisory councilors.

He said that staffing of local governments was the ability of the Local Government Board, which has been empowered to appoint, transfer and dismiss officers of local governments.

He said the state government has the power to suspend or solve any error in government and to appoint a person to take over the functions of the suspended councilors for a period not exceeding months.

He called on all the government's to generate internal resources to support the generous grant from FMG to local governments.

Rivers briefs

Isiokpo

Social Welfare officials in Ikwere District have successfully distributed second-hand clothings to 100 out of 1,000 destitutes recorded in a recent survey of disabled persons in the area.

This indication was given by the Social Welfare officer in charge of the district, Mr L. A. Johnson at Isiokpo.

While processing the distribution, Mr Johnson urged the beneficiaries to appreciate the humanitarian efforts of the state government in seeing to their welfare.

Ahoada

Councillors and members of staff of the Ahoada Local Government Authority in the Rivers State have been urged to embrace their responsibilities towards the progress and development of the area.

The chairman Mr Abbot E. Ogiobula made the call while addressing the councillors during their second meeting. The meeting was scheduled to consider the nominations of candidates for the Constituent Assembly held at the council's temporary hall. He appealed to the members to be united and to work as a team in order to tackle the task before the council.

Bonny

Communities in the Bonny Local Government Authority area have been called upon to utilize the current campaign on the change-over from imperial to metric system.

The call was made in Bonny by the assistant secretary to Bonny Local Government Authority, Mr E. M. Rembo while addressing the people on the change-over following their arrival there of the metrication committee.

Further members of the metrication committee had re-emphasised on the need for the change-over to metric system. The team leader left for Degema Local Government Authority (DELGA).

Okrika

A team of twenty-one youth corps members has arrived Okrika Local Government District to embark on a month community development programme.

The programme involves clearing and roofing of market stalls.

Speaking at the project site, the higher rural development officer for Bonny Local Government Authority, Mr S. K. D. Osho urged the corps members to accept in good faith the challenges of community development to which the nation is deeply committed.

Youth centres for all states

YOUTH centres are to be set up in all the 19 states of the Federation to give vocational guidance to youths. This is to enable them to be absorbed into Federal Government schemes such as the Universal Free Primary Education (UPE) and the Operation Feed the Nation (OFN).

Disclosing this in Port Harcourt, the Federal Commissioner for Social Development, Youths and Sports, Mr Danson Isokrari said the Federal Military Government had, as a result of this policy strengthened its positions with some specialised agencies of the United Nations Organisations such as the UNESCO, the UNICEF, the International Youth Organisations, and the World Youth Council.

The government had already sent some of its social welfare workers abroad to study in various fields to facilitate the smooth running of the

youth when they become functional.

Mr Isokrari added that youths of the country who acquired skills would gain self employment or im-mense help through the schemes.

Already he stressed, some personnel, recruited from abroad for the purpose had arrived in the country. "The idea is to provide vocational or national training centres for youths and make them meaningful citizens of the society", he concluded.



MR ISOKRARI

Two months festival ends

ONE of the longest traditional festivals staged in the Rivers State, the Nnaji festival, has just ended at Omualaga village of Ikwere/Etche local government authority area.

It lasted two months. The end was marked with the traditional sacrifice to the yam god. In the photograph below, Chief Ogbu Wihoku, is performing the ritual, being watched by the owner of the umji, Chief Michael Woku.



Baker accuses cop of seduction

A baker, Mr Isiah Ogbara of Ovom in Yenagoa Local Government area (YELGA) of the Rivers State has instituted a civil suit against a policeman, Isaiah Biedima Baniga, of the Yenagoa Police Station in the Yenagoa magistrate court for alleged seduction.

He is claiming N400 damages. The plaintiff, told the court that on October 29, 1975, the defendant came to his house to ask for charcoal after the defendant had introduced himself as a policeman.

After that day, the plaintiff said, both of them became friendly.

He told the court that on May 11, 1976, his wife requested to be allowed to go to her mother's place at Ikolu village for two days.

This he granted and gave her N5 for transport, but she stayed more than two days.

On the fifth day, he went to Ikolu to find why the wife had not returned. It was then he discovered that the wife Zima was not in the father's house. He was told that she had been visiting a policeman in the village.

On November 23, 1976, the plaintiff said that he was sitting around his compound at Ovom when Zima and Baniga passed and he went to Zima and asked "where are you going?" She replied, "We are going to the police quarters", while Baniga

CLAIMS 400 NAIRA DAMAGES

she laughed. He reported the incident to the father-in-law who promised to look into the situation.

Plaintiff said he later reported the matter to the welfare office in Yenagoa and also informed the welfare officer that his wife was pregnant.

After the welfare officer had spoken to them, Zima and Baniga were asked to pay her an arbitrary fine after which Zima's hand was sent back to the husband.

He said-up to date, his wife has not returned. He had reported the entire incident Baniga to the boss of his wife's services and company.

In his evidence, Mr Ogbara said, Zima's father said that when his daughter was pregnant the days granted to her, on the arrival of her husband on the fifth day he told his daughter to follow her husband.

He said when the plaintiff complained later that he saw his wife with Baniga, he went to Yenagoa Police Station to see Baniga. On arrival, he said that Baniga told him to get away or he (Baniga) would lock him up. Being afraid, he said, he left.

Mr Fafa said that he received no dowry from Baniga and that it was not known to him that Baniga had married his daughter.

"I know Isaiah Ogbara as my in-law" he said. Hearing was later adjourned to May 6, 1977.

LADY TEACHER'S ARREST ORDERED

A Lady teacher in the Yenagoa Local Government Authority area of the Rivers State (YELGA) who failed to appear before Magistrate S. E. Soloma after being summoned as a witness in a criminal case has been ordered to be arrested and brought to court.

Miss Rosaline Madu of Government Teacher Training College, Okordia in Yenagoa Local Government Authority was to appear in a case of malicious intention to claim a child involving one George Ben.

When the case was called up, the court was told that Miss Madu was attending an induc-

tion course for teachers currently going on in the area.

Magistrate Soloma later issued a bench warrant for her arrest and warned that his court must be respected.

Prosecuting Sergeant Joel Kalabor, told the court that on September 13, 1974, at the Kilo Health Centre in Yenagoa, George Ben (alias Ibo) 29, with intent to claim a five year old child, Ate Patrick, presented himself as the father of the child to the midwife in charge of the health centre, Mrs Fidelis Osum, with a false document for a change of surname and caused the mid-wife to arrest her, both teachers.

1977

Professor Tam David-West, Rivers State Commissioner for Education has been touring areas newly merged with the Rivers State.

At the weekend, he was in Andoni and Opobo, visiting historic places and

schools. He also went to Nkoro, Asarama I and Asarama II where cheering women forced him to visit their area.

Tide cameraman Wilson Onwuegbata recorded some of the commissioners activities, on this page.

David-West in Opobo



Gift

Always setting example, Professor Tam David-West above, right presents a gift to little Ufi Moses at Ataba in Andoni.

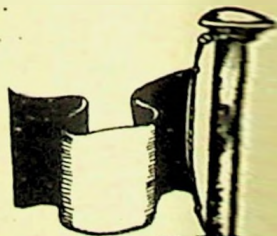
AT OPOBO

And at Opobo, Commissioner David-West visited the historic monument of King Jaja of Opobo with some members of his team

above left.

At Ngo I, in Andoni Professor Tam David-West visited the town's school building, which is

roofed with mats below and on the right he discusses with the school's headmaster in the building.



THE WORLD

Debate on French aid to Zaire

French communist party leader, George Marchais demanded a full debate in parliament on French aid to Zaire. He told the European press club in Paris that there had been a "flagrant violation of the French Constitution" and

that France was involved in an internal conflict and was interfering in the internal affairs of another people. On the presence of Cuban Forces in Angola, Mr Marchais said the situation in Angola could not be compared with Zaire. He said it was "completely legitimate" for the ruling Angolan People's Movement (MPLA), at the moment when Angola became independent, to appeal for outside help to guarantee that independence.

In Zaire, however, the problems were internal and must be resolved by the Zairese people themselves without foreign intervention, he said. Zaire's Shaba province was reportedly invaded last month by a force of former Katangese gendarmes. Morocco has sent an expeditionary force to bolster Zairese troops and France put transal transport planes at Morocco's disposal to airlift equipment to Zaire.

LEADERS DIVIDED

OVER ISSUE OF DETENTE

European socialist leaders, who held a two-day "summit" appeared divided on whether to give priority to detente of human rights.

A number of speakers on Saturday said they preferred maintaining detente to accusing the Soviet Union of human rights violations. West German Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt was particularly explicit on this point. He said that thanks to detente and "step-by-step policy", nine million West Germans were now able to visit East Germany every year.

Swedish delegate Suvan Anderson defended the same point of view on tactical grounds. He said the people of Eastern Europe consider the Helsinki agreement (which guaranteed existing European frontiers in exchange for a promise of freer movement of men and ideas) to be an encouragement, and not a surrender by the West. The East Europeans could be hampered in their struggle for freedom if there were too much foreign pressure on the Kremlin, Mr Anderson said.

But the Danish, Dutch and Israeli delegations took a different line.



Italy sends envoy

The new Italian Ambassador to Nigeria, His Excellency Dr S. Cattani, presented his letters of credence to the Head of State, Lt General Olus-gun Obasanjo at Dodan Barracks in Lagos on April 7, 1977. Photograph shows the Head of State receiving the letters from the new envoy.

ETHIOPIA SILENT OVER ARMS DEAL



Lt-Col Mengistu Haile Mariam Ethiopian Head of State.

Ethiopia maintained an official silence on reports that it had recently taken delivery of about 40 Soviet tanks. The Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram carried the report and said that Libya had bought them for Ethiopia.

While treating the report with some scepticism, in view of the strained relations between Ethiopia and Egypt, sources in Addis Ababa recalled speculation that 30 Soviet T-34 tanks were recently delivered to Ethiopia's socialist regime.

According to these reports the tanks were shipped through Aden, South Yemen, to Ethiopia's Red Sea port of Assab. From there they were reportedly sent to Gondar province which borders Sudan.

The province has been the scene of serious clashes between Ethiopian troops and forces of the rightist Ethiopian Democratic Union (EDU). Ethiopia alleged the EDU is actively backed by Sudan.

Until recently Ethiopia was totally dependent on the West, chiefly the United States, for its military aid. But the US decided to suspend its free military aid from October this year while remaining ready to sell weapons.

In February, Lieutenant Atmala Abate, Vice-President of Ethiopia's ruling military council, said that in future, Ethiopia would turn to socialist countries for its arms.

Sources said thousands of Chinese-made rifles and light arms from socialist countries had reportedly already arrived in the country.

Statistics showed that in 1976 Ethiopia had a 45,000-50,000 strong army equipped with 124 armoured vehicles, including 74 tanks.

ECC's loan to Italy

European Common market (EEC) finance ministers are expected to approve plans for about \$900 million in Luxembourg.

Plans to float the loan on the international capital market have already been endorsed by the European Economic Community (EEC) monetary committee, made up of central bankers and high government officials of the nine member countries.

The loan, which would be subject to certain changes in Italian economic policy, was approved in principle by the finance ministers several months ago.

It would complement the international monetary fund (IMF) loan of 450 million special drawing rights about \$645 million granted to Italy and be aimed at bolstering the country's ailing economy.

FORIEGN BRIEFS

Dacca

India and Bangladesh made progress in Dacca over talks on sharing disputed waters from the Ganges. Indian defence Minister Jagjivan Ram said.

Mr Ram, leader of the Indian delegation, told newsmen that first round of talks had "narrowed down the area of difference" on access to the river at Farakka. West Bengal, and that negotiations would resume later in the day.

Kinshasa

Moroccan troops went into battle alongside Zairese government forces fighting an invasion of Shaba (ex Katanga) province by rebel Katangese units infiltrated from Angola, the state news agency (AZAP) reported.

AZAP said that even before Moroccan troops joined in the combats the government side had driven back the Katangese 20 kms during an engagement last Wednesday night.

AZAP said "losses had been heavy on both sides, but the Zairese army had recaptured the initiative in the combats".

New Delhi

About half a million children die every year in India from diseases caused by malnutrition.

This figure was given by the director of the National Institute of Nutrition, Dr S. G. Srikantiah, in an address at the Indian Council of Medical Research.

Dr Srikantiah said 70 per cent of children belonging to poor families suffered from growth retardation due to mild and moderate form of malnutrition.

Rawalpindi

Mrs Nasim Wali Khan, a leading opposition figure in the north-west province of Pakistan, defied house arrest orders to lead an anti-government rally in Peshawar, reliable sources said.

The sources said police posted outside Mrs Khan's house made no attempt to stop her when she left and she drove unhindered.

London

The British Government alleged reports claiming that the seven leading exporters of nuclear technology had secretly agreed to halt rates of reprocessing plants for radioactive waste.

A foreign office spokesman said there was no such agreement. "We in Britain have not a century years exported such sensitive equipment and technologies," he added.

Aircrash victims

compensated

The families of 43 Japanese citizens killed in the Turkish airlines DC10 crash in Ermenoville forest near Paris in 1974 will reportedly share \$3 million after an out-of-court settlement in Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles Times said the relatives of the dead passengers had agreed to withdraw their suits against the Los Angeles-based McDonnell Douglas and General Dynamic Corporations in return for the settlement.

Three hundred and forty-six passengers and crew were killed when the US manufac-

turned Jumbo jet crashed shortly after take-off from airport when a freight compartment door fell out causing the depressurisation of the aircraft and the destruction of part of its pilotage system.

The majority of suits against the manufacturers, amounting to approximately about \$30 million, were settled out of court and were largely met by British insurance companies.

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GHANA: BRIGHTER ECONOMIC PROSPECTS AHEAD



General I. K.

IN the face of world-wide inflation and the ever-rising costs of living, due mainly to the high prices of imported commodities, particularly industrial inputs, Ghana had to battle through 1976 on her limited foreign exchange earnings to sustain the economy.

Nevertheless, some progress was made and the future does not look too gloomy. The increase in oil prices ate deep into the Ghanaian kitty, and in 1975 the country imported C900 million (about N300 million) worth of goods and exported only C600 million (about N330 million). The indications are, however, that the figures for 1976 will be an improvement on the 1975 performance.

Perhaps the most important development in the economic field during 1976 was the enactment of the Ghanaian Investment Policy Decree which sought to place the "commanding heights of the economy" firmly in Ghanaian hands.

At the end of the year, 33 out of the 35 alien companies that came under the terms of the Decree had been bought by Ghanaians. Beside these companies, the large majority of foreign-owned concerns such as the United Africa Company of Ghana Ltd, the Union Trading Company, and the major oil companies have all complied with the provisions of the decree and have gone public.

The rationale behind the Decree is to involve Ghanaians in the operation of the country's economy so that ordinary citizens should have a stake in the economic welfare of their own country.

To assist Ghanaians to purchase shares in these companies a Trust Holding Company was established by the National Investment Bank to raise funds to help citizens to buy their shares in the affected companies.

The second most significant development in the economic field during the year was the massive inflow of foreign capital in the form of loans, grant-in-aid, and technical expertise into Ghana.

During barely six weeks from mid-May to the end of June 1976,

Ghana gained millions of cedis in international aid from such diverse sources as China, Canada, West Germany, Yugoslavia, and the United States.

The development projects enriched by this massive aid scheme basically centre on agriculture with special attention to rice production.

Ghana also signed an agreement with seven international financial institutions for £250 million sterling to finance the construction of the Kpong hydro-electric scheme beginning this January.

The institutions are the World Bank, the European Development Fund, the European Investment Bank, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and three Arab banking institutions — the Kuwait-based Fund for Arab Eco-

nomic Development, the Saudi Fund for Arab Development, and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDA).

These foreign loans and grants helped Ghana to a considerable extent in financing major projects, some of which could not have got off

the ground for lack of foreign exchange.

The prospects for Ghana in the economic sector, particularly in her foreign trade and international commercial links, for 1977 are not gloomy because of her membership of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Lome Convention, which links 46 African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries to the European Economic Community (EEC).

Beside her membership

of ECOWAS, Ghana has established bilateral commissions with neighbouring West African countries — the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Togo, Benin, Guinea, and Mali — to broaden the basis of her inter-African trade, and to exchange scholars, students and other technical personnel in related fields.

Similarly, her membership of the ACP-EEC community will benefit her, as she is entitled to refunds under the Lome Convention's STABEX arrangement. Under this scheme Ghana can recover some foreign exchange on the price of such commodities as timber, cocoa, and coffee if the world price fluctuates below certain agreed limits.

In the domestic sphere, Ghanaians are responding to the call of the Supreme Military Council to "go back to the land".

by John Dumoga

African lab leads fight against

WHEN a comparatively small Human Nutrition Unit started work in The Gambia in the 1940s few could say for certain that it was to be the forerunner of a vast and complex research organisation. Yet the Fajara laboratories of the British Medical Research Council rank among the best known in the world today.

Although research into other diseases such as cirrhosis, cancer, measles, marasmus, elephantiasis, and bilharzia goes on at Fajara, the centre is best known for its work on malaria. A former Director, Dr I. A. McGregor, is today a leading authority on the disease.

Research workers come from far and wide to Fajara to use the modern facilities available, which include a sophisticated machine which counts human white blood cells. Among the visiting scientists has been Professor A. C. Allison of the Centre for Clinical Research in Mallow, England, who is experimental work on the drug BCG opened up a new avenue for malaria research.

The work of the laboratories is geared towards a scientific understanding of the problems of disease, which, actually,

leads to their treatment. Researchers are at work in different parts of the country.

A significant breakthrough was achieved in the 1960s with the discovery that Gambian mothers exposed to malaria between an immunity of between six and nine months to their newly-born babies. It appears that added protection is also given by the nature of the child's red blood cells and also its behavioural patterns, which reduce exposure to the mosquito. Work is being carried out to determine

the cause of the incomplete immunity.

One method tried involved infecting mosquitoes bred in the laboratory. The parasites considered incapable of germinating and then injected into the body in the hope that an attack of malaria will be made impossible. The first attempt proved unsuccessful but other attempts are being made. Research is by its very nature a long-drawn-out process of trial and error.

The Fajara laboratories gave the world the natural placental antigen which received the approval of the World Health Organisation.

With the development of a new experimental technique at Fajara, it is now possible to investigate the stage of the malarial parasite that infects the mosquito. It can now be demonstrated that

the multiplicity of parasite components confuses the patient's immune response and contributes to the persistence of the infection and the frequent re-infection suffered by children before immunity is fully developed.

It is now known that the mosquitoes responsible for the transmission of malaria in Africa are a complex of different species, each with its own characteristic behaviour patterns and consequent

contribution to malarial transmission. The laboratories are hopeful of coming up in 1977 with a new vaccine.

Engaged in this work is Dr Mitchell of London University, who is trying to separate the merozoites of human malaria with the aim of developing a vaccine to immunise against the stage of malaria parasite which oc-

curs in the blood and gives rise to the morbidity and mortality of the disease". Already it has proved effective in monkeys, and work is now concentrated on its use in humans.

Dr R. S. Bray, director of the laboratories, recently said that the incidence of malaria was lessening rapidly in Bakau, a village a mile away, thanks to the availability of drugs and insecticides.

The first in-depth study of liver diseases resulting in cirrhosis and cancer was carried out at Fajara by the late Dr Antony Coady. He was able to narrow down the causes to two possibilities — an infective due to toxin from mould in food or to a long-term effect of infection of the liver. Dr Coady's work will be published posthumously and the world will have to wait for its appearance.

Just before he died last year Dr Coady said it was too early yet to

make... ing... ce... for... stud... nes... sple... am... the... Af... con... by... ques... res... n... to... Un... is... m... is... co... m... im... Com... ven... in... to

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E, AFRICAN CO-OPERATION ON RIVER MANAGEMENT

A JOINT commission for the management and development of the Kagera River basin is to be formed by the governments of Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania.

The formation of the commission, to take effect as soon as the proposals are ratified by the three governments, will be the culmination of efforts which started in 1968.

At its recent meeting here, the co-ordinating technical committee put forward the recommendation for the establishment of the joint commission.

The proposed organisation will be under the authority of a three-man commission, with a commissioner from each partner state, and will have its executive secretariat based in Kigali, Rwanda, with regional offices in Bujumbura for Burundi and Bukoba for Tanzania.

According to the recommendations, the executive secretary, who will serve a term of four years, will be appointed by the commission from each of the countries in rotation. And under this executive there will be three main directorates — research and data, administration and management, and engineering — to be headed by people with appropriate qualifications from any of the partner states.

The commission will supervise all multi-national projects, whose profits the partner states will share. Any national schemes in

the basin that are likely to interfere with joint interests will be discouraged.

Speaking after the Dar es Salaam meeting, a senior official in the Tanzanian Ministry of Water, Energy and Mineral Resources said that the proposed organisation will also be responsible for the development of water and mineral resources; land, air and

management commission.

According to a spokesman of the co-ordinating committee, the project is being approved by the three countries for separate national interests. Burundi is in it for the eventual production of hydro-power to satisfy her greatly expanding needs, in view of recently-discovered nickel deposits. The priority for Rwanda is, apart from power for industrial development, the possible reclamation of swamps for agriculture and settlement.

For Tanzania, commit-

by A Correspondent

water communications, wildlife, fisheries, agriculture, forestry, tourism, land reclamation, environmental protection, and development of industries as well as control of diseases and pests in the 60,000-square kilometre area.

Uganda was a staunch supporter of the exercise until January, 1971, when Dr Milton Obote's civilian rule came to an abrupt end in a coup. Kagera was not one of the new regime's priorities. A spokesman of the co-ordinating committee told me that Uganda would always be warmly received back into the fold "because, like the rest of us founding states, she is a natural partner to the scheme".

The proposals also hint at the commission's membership extending to such countries as Egypt, Sudan, and Ethiopia, which might be affected by the project. Thirty per cent of the River Nile's outflow from Lake Victoria at Jinja comes from the Kagera River, making it the Nile's most important single water source.

There is however no hint at the moment that under the development proposals, which are receiving keen government scrutiny in Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia, there will be any adverse effects to them.

The need to coordinate the development of the Kagera River Basin was realised at a series of consultations between representatives of Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda in 1968. Tanzania and Rwanda approached the United Nations Development Programme for assistance in planning the development. The UNDP sent experts who identified the various areas which are to be developed by the joint

led to transforming the living conditions in the rural areas where most people now live, the list of expectations is longer. They include electric energy supplies for all the regions around Lake Victoria, the development of agriculture, the utilization of cheap electric energy for fertilizer production, mining and rural industrialisation.

Of the 60,000 square kilometres, 14,000 fall in Burundi; 20,000 in Rwanda; and another 20,000 in Tanzania. The remaining 6,000 square kilometres belong to non-participating Uganda.

PROJECTS

DEVELOPMENT

The project's development is expected to attract attention in the developed countries with the technology for possible participation. Already, Belgium has undertaken to finance the feasibility studies of the proposed Rusumo hydro-electric power project in Rwanda, part of the development.

To Tanzania, the realisation of the Kagera River Development Commission becomes the fourth successful bid at fostering co-operation with her neighbours as a stepping stone to the greater cause of African unity. The others include the now problem-riddled East African Community in which, about a decade ago, she joined forces with Kenya and Uganda; the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority which manages the newly Chinese-built "Uhuru" Railway that stretches 1,860 kilometres from Dar es Salaam to Kapiri Mposhi in Zambia; and the Permanent Economic Commission with Mozambique.

N B C Programme

05.40	Drum Signal	RSP TAPE
05.44	National Anthem	"
05.50	Morning Prayers	RSP TAPE
06.00	News at dawn	NP
06.03	Wake up	"
06.07	From the Nigerian Editorials	"
06.10	Music at dawn (comm)	RSP CGR
06.30	State news summary in English	RSP LIVE
06.35	FAF	RSP TAPE
06.40	My day of the day (comm)	RSP CGR
06.45	Personal paid announcement (comm)	RSP LIVE
06.55	Wake up	NP
07.00	The News	"
07.10	Your Government and You	"
07.15	Africana (comm)	RSP LIVE
08.00	News on the hour	NP
08.03	News summaries in Edo, Ebi, Fulfulde and Hausa	"
08.15	A date with B.15	RSP CGR
08.45	Educational Service	NP
09.00	News summaries in Igbo, Ijaw, Kouri, Tiv and Yoruba	NP
09.15	Music till ten	RSP CGR
10.00	The News	NP
10.10	Educational Service	NP
10.15	Educational Service	"
10.30	Educational Service	"
10.45	Educational Service	"
11.00	Educational Service	"
11.03	Educational Service	"
11.18	Educational Service	"
11.33	Educational Service	"
11.48	Educational Service	"
12.00	News on the hour	"
12.18	Educational Service	"
12.30	Kengema Siki (Kalabari Magazine)	RSP TAPE
	Kiriko Chiri (Orika Magazine)	"
	(Rept. from Mon. 20.30 hours)	"
13.00	The News	NP
13.10	Editorial	"
13.15	Juke Box (comm)	"
15.00	News on the hour	RSP CGR
14.03	Music at lunch time (comm)	RSP CGR
15.00	News on the hour	NP
15.03	Music at lunch time (comm)	RSP CGR
	(Concluding Part)	"
15.30	State News in English, Ikwere and Kalabari	RSP LIVE
16.00	The News	NP
16.10	News Talk (Rept. 1910)	"
16.15	For Children	"
16.30	Educational Service	"
16.45	News in Edo, Ebi and Fulfulde	"
17.00	State News in Khasa and Kukulama	RSP LIVE
17.20	Ue Jogh	RSP TAPE
17.25	FAF	RSP TAPE
17.30	Women Magazine	"
18.00	News in Hausa, Igbo and Ijaw	NP
18.15	Your Government and You	"
18.20	Let's go farming	"
18.25	Personal paid announcement	RSP LIVE
18.35	Kpamoi	RSP LIVE
19.00	The News	NP
19.10	News Talk (From 1610 hrs)	"
19.15	News in Kouri, Tiv and Yoruba	"
19.30	Educational Service	RSP LIVE
19.45	Agri Quarter Hour	RSP TAPE
20.00	State News in English	RSP LIVE
20.10	State news summaries in Ikwere, Kalabari, Khasa and Kukulama	RSP LIVE
20.30	Lan-Ula (Magazine programme in Ekpote)	RSP TAPE
21.00	Nigerian Newsletter	NP
21.00	Fact and Figures	"
21.25	Interlude	"
21.30	Drama (Play of the week)	"
22.00	The News	"
22.10	Weather News	"
22.15	The music of (A date with a Nigerian Artist)	RSP CGR
22.30	Year Card & Statistics	RSP LIVE
23.00	News on the hour	NP
23.03	Announcements	RSP LIVE
23.15	Evening Worship (Edo)	NP
23.23	Servants	RSP LIVE
00.00	News at Midnight	NP
00.05	Close down	RSP LIVE

ria

the relation of malnutrition to infection". For decades it has been known for granted that malnutrition is the result of insufficient food, or the absence of an indispensable ingredient in it, or a combination of the two. It is now infection, making a child too ill to feed properly, is not ruled out as a possible cause. Investigations take the form of regularly feeding children in the small hospitals in the laboratory grounds with specially prepared food and keeping detailed records of progress or the lack of it. The World Health Organisation is planning a special programme to combat the six major tropical disease endemic in Africa. It is not surprising that Dr Bray was able to say recently: "It is generally expected that when this plan is implemented, the first laboratory to be involved will be the M.R.C. Laboratory at Forajara."

Before civilian rule

I SUPPORT the political programme of the Muhammad/Obasanjo military regime because man's basic physical needs and opportunities for man to grow in cultural, intellectual and political stature, are the goals of organised and civilised society. If these goals are corrupt it is because democratic control has been lost.

Democracy as a way of life has to be cultivated and nurtured like seedlings in a vineyard. Its aims should include the public interest and long-range interests of humanity; and public interest is best determined by the people not by a class or by a clique.

I accept the published Draft Constitution as a brilliant working paper and a fitting feeler of public reactions to the subject-matter.

But without a written constitution, men can live together in a political milieu to serve God and save humanity including themselves. It is therefore not the excellence of the words of a written constitution that supplies answers to human drives and motivations in society. The answer lies in the availability of the right type of men who can fashion a society alright and make a constitution live and work.

In this respect the culture of the entire society comes into play: the individual, the family unit, the interest group, the spiritual force of religion, the organising power of business, the intellectual penetration of the philosophy and ethics, the free expression of cultural media, the effectiveness of good government; and the vitality and essential decency of common humanity; all these must be called into play each in its own particular way.

The transfer of political power entails three principal elements: the giver, the receiver and the instruments of transfer. The Armed Forces of Nigeria as distinct from a particular military government, being the giver, still have to associate themselves irrevocably and in their entirety with the issue of transfer. That interest group consists of some 250,000 trained, disciplined and armed citizens of Nigeria.

Man being a political animal their commitment and assent should be clearly spelt out in the preamble of an instrument of

Transfer and decreed to that effect. Before the decree is enacted the polled-consensus of the giver has to be ascertained democratically among them.

The result of the polled consensus should be exposed to the public and dissidents among them should be given unfettered option to withdraw with impunity from the soldiery of chivalry in our country. What concerns all must be made to involve all. It is a palliative; it is a preventive; it is a spiritual commitment.

The Constituent Assembly shall be a receiver of this transfer of political power should be the principal element in the instrument of transfer. The assembly should not be an ad hoc organ. It should have continuous life renewed once a decade from grass-root authorities.

In the Constituent Assembly shall be a standing nucleus known as the Transitions Commission the main duties of which shall be:

(1) To receive and preserve on behalf of all citizens of Nigeria-giver and receiver alike — this transferred power;

(2) To serve as transitional government for no more than three months each time between one regime and another and between one elected government and its valid successor; and

(3) To be the peace-keeping fountain of the realm.

The Transitions Commission shall consist of accredited cultural hierarchies from traditional institutions



CHIEF H. J. R. DAPPA-BIRIYE

in the country and accredited hierarchies of Nigeria's armed forces and Police.

In several semi-military communities local military hierarchies constitute a chieftaincy cadre. There is a deep-seated longing among those concerned that this interest group be properly placed in every political milieu. The Commission shall remain a constant catalyst in the corridors of power but shall be insulated completely from participation in normally elected governments during the constitutional span of each.

Such a provision would obviate a situation like Watergate. It would eliminate the basis of suspicion that an out-going head of government had opportunities to rig elections. It would prevent the problems now plaguing Pakistan. It would enhance the credibility of all in coming governments at all levels: national, state and local.

Membership of the Transitions Commission shall be limited to two consecutive terms. The headship of the Commission shall be styled Patriarch and shall rotate within a century to involve every state in the Federation. The Patriarch reigns while the President rules.

A wing of the Transitions Commission shall be established in each State for the same functions stated above. Headship of each wing shall rotate every five years to reflect the participation of all basic units of each state.

In every Local Government Authority Area a relevant panel of the Transitions Commission shall be instituted to replace existing committees now serving as scaffolding to the councils.

Paragraph 2—3 (1) of

tion 212 (4) of the draft constitution are not necessary in a constitution for civilian rule. Once an enabling clause of this nature exists in a constitution, military rule is legalised as part of our political culture and untoward accidents could be designed to thwart the swearing-in of a duly elected President thus perpetrating the irregular continuance of an unaccredited Government.

Those two entries in the report and draft constitution should be expunged. A military government and a constitutionally elected government have no common denominator. The transfer of political power between the two parallel elements requires an institutional bridge which the Transitions Commission supplies and satisfies.

For easy reference section 212 (4) of the draft constitution reads:

"Notwithstanding the provisions of this section the Federal Military Government shall continue as the executive authority for Nigeria and shall continue to have power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of Nigeria or any part thereof until the date when the President takes his oath of office".

A design to ensure that there is no break in the chain of authority in the process of transfer from military to civilian government can be achieved by the concept of a Transitions Commission proposed above.

All questions of transfer of power, of transitional governments at the Federal, State and Local Government levels should be settled once and for all time in the Constituent Assembly decree.

The date of transfer should be spelt out as October 1, 1979. On that

missions, its panels take over Supreme Military of the Armed the country.

Within three thereof the Election mission can proceed ners of elections ted under its assume appropriate outlined for the Constitution.

The Transitions mission, its its grass-root shall be inviolate violable. It receives and despatches symbols, embassies wands of federation, state natural identity, peace faith and progress the constitution ed in appropriate dules. It shall with any wand ury to save to accredited govern by the constitution blished.

After the Assembly inst ratified by a census of the ces and decreed draft constitution is approved Constituent Ass further assume Federal Govern force or by unco nal methods and shall be deemed for legitimate dience by the out loss of right lic functionaries ting in the safe it never come go in any gen

Sound po tion is indis the attainment ideals. Formal is absolutely for sound and statemanship citizenship.

Formal ed apprenticeship develop some penetration into human and dives the capacity study and anal cietal problems

Traditional and incumbents amenable to training in that duty. Interest should couple al training knowledge of zenship.

Political confine them and fair election simple admin chinenes for feeds from the cles. The comm in good time mes for some education in

NYSC members work in twenty-six projects

1,380 Youth Corps members presently serving in Bendel are on one-month Easter community development assignments. In the nineteen local government areas are making tremendous progress in all their sites.

NYSC members who are in conjunction with the various communities are engaged in about six different projects. These include the construction of halls, access roads, stalls, children nursery centres and a recreational park.

They include the construction of drainage systems, shops, centres, cottage hospital, and of pipe borne water supply and the moulding of

facts, released by the Corps Office Benin also that when officials of the secretariat, Benin visited the project sites in Benin City were to have cleared a town at Uze as well and had the foundation of a hall.

Group moulded some for the construction of a classroom block at Ewale, the remaining group fixed some drainage systems Unwan-Utaha-Road.

Local Government they were engaged in the range of the Nursery Day centre at Agbor. Also

Local Government they have dug the foundation of the Day Care Women Centre at Ovwachile. At Ojimi Local Government Area, they were in the construction of a National Park at Awaba. Report further stated there was progress in the government area. The community development projects were bringing members closer to off the various communities where they worked.

New mosque for Benin

THE foundation stone of a new Central Mosque, Benin City was laid on Sunday, March 27, 1977 by the Emir of Gwandu. Alhaji Haruna, who represented the Sultan of Sokoto.

Photo shows the Emir of Gwandu, (standing) while sitting on the right, is the Military Governor, Bendel State, Commodore Husaini Abdulahi.



MORE TIME TO WIN STALLS

ALLOCATION of shops at the Tafawa Balewa Square in Lagos has been deferred for the time being.

Announcing this at a press briefing in Lagos, a spokesman for the Allocation Committee, Architect Fola Alade, said this was to accommodate more applicants.

He said that his committee believed that it was better to delay and accommodate more Nigerians than to rush to satisfy a few.

Mr Alade revealed that at the close of entry, a total of 1,019 applications were received by the committee for the 17 shops available in spite of complaints in some quarters that the rental

rate was too high.

He pointed out that in order to accommodate more applicants, the committee decided to restructure the shopping facilities into 17 shops on the ground and 17 shops on the higher mezzanine floors.

This, he added, increased the applicants chance by 100 per cent.

Mr Alade disclosed that all short-listed traders should apply for the stalls.

Also those who were given genuine quit notices, particularly those affected by government actions or development should apply as well.

He pointed out that the committee eliminated wives or close relations of top members of the armed forces and civil servants, except where their very livelihood was at stake.

He said many applications were rejected because they were found to be commercial speculators, while some applicants shamelessly gave false information and still swore to it.

Mr Alade added that it was also discovered during the short-listing that many big businessmen and women were regular tax evaders, while many others had no registered businesses.

Four on threat charges

FOUR persons from Asaingbani village in the Yenagoa Local Government Council area have appeared before Magistrate S B Williams at the Yenagoa magistrate court charged with causing a breach of peace.

According to the prosecution, the four accused persons, Parker Orufa, Frank Orufa, Rudolf Orufa and Gebeno Orufa on February 2, 1977 at Asaingbani village drove away one Marcus Ekpokero from Asaingbani village and threatened to kill him.

The accused persons pleaded not guilty and were granted bail in the sum of N100 with one surety each. Hearing was adjourned to May 2, 1977.

Ngwa councillor wants unity

The supervisory councillor in charge of development planning and works in the Obioma Ngwa Local Government, Mr Benjamin Ojogho, has called on all councillors and people of the area to join hands and work in unity in order to justify the status accorded their area under the new system of government.

Speaking at Obioma Ngwa Local Government headquarters, Mr Ojogho described the new system as a power-packed programme designed to ensure the participation of the people at the grass-roots.

To make the reform a great success, he remarked that sufficient fund had been made available for

the initial repair of the temporary headquarters at Ohanze and for the permanent structure at Mgboko Halt.

Mr Ojogho called on all contractors now handling the jobs to put in all their best to ensure a fast and successful completion of their assignment.

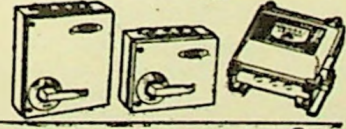
He disclosed that arrangements were underway to get the temporary local government headquarters at Ohanze electrified.

He further urged the people to step up their self-help projects.

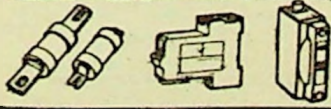


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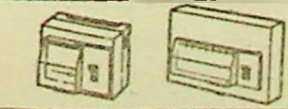
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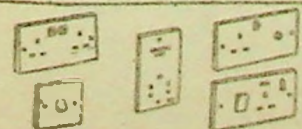
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MRS. NENAI M. AKAKU

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MRS. G. WAKANA

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Mrs C. A. Oke

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Mrs Helen Oronard

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Millers are required for immediate appointment.

Qualifications: City & Guilds Certificate or Government Trade Test in the related trade. Previous working experience as a Miller is essential.

Salary and Conditions of Service are attractive and also training facilities for advancement.

Intending applicants should write, giving qualifications and experience, to the above address.

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Applications are invited from qualified persons as trailer Drivers

Qualifications: Applicants should have at least 2 years experience and able to drive a 35 tons trailer (Mercedes)

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The Area Manager,
Crossette Nig. Ltd.,
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Vacancies

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the under stated posts—

- Accountant
- Operations Officer
- Secretary
- Traffic Officer

(QUALIFICATION):

- ACA, or ACCA, or a University degree in accountancy
- School Certificate with at least 6 years experience
- School Certificate with Shorthand and Typing R.S.A. Stage II
- School Certificate with at least 6 years experience

All applications should be directed to the

Manager,
Ekimper Ltd.,
16 Ohoeto Street,
Port Harcourt.

not later than 23rd April, 1977

Y. W. C. A.

Meeting Notice

There will be a general member meeting of the Young Women's Christian Association on Wednesday April 20th, 1977 at 4.30 p.m. at the Y.W.C.A. Members should please endeavour to attend as it is the 1st meeting of the year, and matters of importance will be discussed.

Management Committee will meet today Tuesday, April 19th.

Members please take note.

Thank You,

SECRETARY

Ahoada Local Government Authority

PUBLIC NOTICE

ELECTION TO CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

The Public is hereby notified that the closing date for nominations of candidates from within and outside the Ahoada Local Government Authority for election to the Constituent Assembly is on Tuesday, April 19, 1977.

Interested candidates should please note.

G. A. Horsfall
for : Acting Secretary
Ahoada Local Government Authority.

NIGERIAN NATIONAL OIL CORPORATION

VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following posts in our Port Harcourt Office—

- Accountants Grade I
- Accountants Grade II
- Accounts Supervisors

A. JOB

- Processing of invoices and payment of local suppliers
- Well and material accounting including costing
- Payment of Wages and Salaries of P.H. Staff
- Operation of the Corporation's bank account in P.H.
- Preparation of monthly statement of accounts
- Preparation of statistical data of financial operations

B. QUALIFICATIONS

- Membership of any of the following professional bodies:
 - The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, England & Wales, Scotland, Ireland or Canada
 - The Association of Certified Accountants
 - The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
 - The Institute of Cost & Management Accountants
- Graduates, B.Sc. Accounting and Accounting
- Intermediate of any accounting professional Body or RSA Stage II

C. EXPERIENCE

A minimum of 2 years post membership experience or a minimum of 2 years post graduation experience for posts (1 & 2)

D. REMUNERATION

The Corporation's salary scales and conditions of service are currently under review and will be attractive to successful candidates.

E. METHOD OF APPLICATION

Applications in form of curriculum vitae stating age, qualifications, experience, present salary and employer, with photocopies of relevant certificates should be addressed to:

Head Administration Division,
Nigerian National Oil Corporation,
P. M. B. 12650,
Lagos.

to reach him not later than 2nd May 1977. Only applications accepted for interview will be acknowledged.

Corps members lauded

THE military governor of Ondo State, Commodore Ismail Abdullahi, has described the National Youth Service Corps scheme (NYSC) as a great catalyst in the provision of much needed manpower towards the vital socio-economic development of the country.

The governor made the remark when he addressed the opening session of a two-day meeting of the NYSC Directorate at the Palm Royal Hotel, Igbowon, Benin City.

He said that the scheme has helped in strengthening the bonds of unity among the diverse peoples of the country and would therefore go down in the history of Nigeria as one of the major achievements of the military administration.

In his address, the Federal Commissioner for Social Development, Youth and Sports, Mr. Dan Isokrari, maintained that the scheme has fulfilled its objectives.



39 FARMERS, FISHERMEN GET LOAN

Thirty-nine farmers and fishermen in the Rivers State received a loan of N215,456 from the state government.

Here, the state Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Mr. G. H. Osarellor (left) presents a cheque covering the amount to one of the beneficiaries, Chief M. M. Mwakiorha, while the permanent secretary, Mr. V. A. G. Warmale looks on.

Oroworukwo elects new officers

THE Oroworukwo Welfare Association of Delta State has elected officers to run its affairs for the current year.

The officers elected are Chief S. I. Nda, chairman; Mr. G. N. Ezeunwo, vice-chairman; Mr. Monday Agho, general secretary; Mr. G. N. Oghondanai, assistant-general secretary.

Others are Mr. S. W. Mgba, financial secretary; Mr. S. G. Mba, treasurer; Mr. P. N. Oji, publicity secretary; Mr. Sunday Ogho, provost; and Dango Ogho, also provost.

In his address, the newly elected chairman Chief Nda appealed to the entire members for cooperation to ensure success of the organisation.

Government of the Rivers State of Nigeria:

1976/77 SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

POST SECONDARY MEDICINE

No.	Surname, Other Names	Qualification desired	Place where tenable	Institution Admitted
1.	Singabele P. Fabuku	M.B.B.S.	Nigeria	University of Ibadan
2.	Pinono F. Oron	M.B.B.S.	"	—do—
3.	Idafibia Nelson T.	M.P.B.S.	"	Ahmadu Bello University
4.	Peterside Sofiri	M.B.B.S.	"	University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
5.	Jebbin Nze Jepheth	M.B.B.S.	"	University of Lagos
6.	Apiafi Dienne I.	M.B.B.S.	"	Ahmadu Bello University.

EDUCATION

7.	Accrah Robinson C.	B. Edu.	Nigeria	University of Ibadan.
8.	Amonleah K. Kingsley	B. Sc. (Phy.) Health Edu.	"	Ahmadu Bello University
9.	Okaba G. Nutengha	B. Edu.	"	University of Ibadan

GEOGRAPHY

10.	Paibi P. Beruku	B. Sc. (Geo-geography)	Nigeria	University of Ibadan
11.	Ogbe Patrick Miepikumo	B. Sc. (Geo-geography)	"	—do—

CLASSICS

12.	Ogei Henry Ekiesi	B. Sc. Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Ibadan
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ECONOMICS

13.	Okere Akara	B. Sc. Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
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AGRICULTURE

14.	Beham T. Eve	B. Sc. Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
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PHARMACY

15.	Odill N. Elizabeth	B. Sc. Pharmacy	Nigeria	University of Ife, Ife
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SOCIOLOGY & POL. SCIENCE

16.	Kenkayere E. Lawrence	B. Sc. Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Ibadan
17.	Owonte S. Herace	B. Sc. (Pol. Science)	"	—do—
18.	Peterside Mawfief	B. Sc. (Sociology)	Nigeria	University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

LAW

19.	Dappa Scpirinye	L.L.B. Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Ife, Ife
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THEATRE ARTS

20.	Waidor Pregbagha Stephen	Diploma Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Ibadan
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BOTANY

21.	Mensah Stephen	B. Sc. Nigeria	Nigeria	Ahmadu Bello University
22.	Jaja Emylia Atemie	B. Sc.	"	Univ. of Nigeria, Nsukka

BIOCHEMISTRY

23.	Ugwen P. Jeremiah	B. Sc. Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Ibadan, Ibadan.
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HISTORY

24.	Jaja M. Dienne	B. A. Nigeria	Nigeria	University of Ibadan, Ibadan.
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25.	Dauememghan Philip Ebediewei	B. A.	"	—do—
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INSURANCE

26.	Uranta Justus Clinton	B. Sc. Nigeria	Nigeria	Ahmadu Bello University
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POST-GRADUATE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1.	Misimah Godwin C.	M. Sc. U.K.	U.K.	
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INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

2.	Daminabo Rommel, I.	M. Sc. U.K.	U.K.	Grainfield Inst. of Tech, Bedford, England
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Hotels board inaugurated

The newly inaugurated Board of Directors of Anambra Hotels Limited has decided to transform all government-owned hotels and catering services in the state to international standard.

The new board has also embarked on the development of Nike Lake in Enugu, into a first-class tourist attraction.

Already, over 80 hectares piece of land acquired in the periphery of the lake, have since been surveyed, and work on the site will start as soon as other necessary arrangements are concluded.

This is part of the board's assignment to carry out a wide range of business capable of providing international and local tourist attractions like amusement parks and holiday resorts for the growing urban centres, towards the development of tourist industry in the country.

The board, which consists of Lt Col Patrick A. O. Anwanah, Mr Isaiah Ani, Udegbonam, Mr N. Anya and Mr Don O. Egbue, with Mr Charles Nwachukwu Oniah as chairman, was formally inaugurated by Col Mike Ivenso, the Anambra State Commissioner for Industries, Co-operatives, Trade and Transport.

Anambra Hotels Limited now takes over the control of Hotel Presidential, Enugu and Paramount (formerly Phoenix) Hotels at Enugu, with branches at Onitsha, and Abakaliki.

Meanwhile, arrangements are underway to open two new plans and branches at the Paramount Hotel at Nsukka and Awka respectively.

Ondo to spend N107.9m on social services

THE Social sector took the lion share of the Ondo State budget for the 1977/78 financial year with an allocation of N107,979,130.

These facts were announced by the Ondo State Commissioner for Finance and Economic Development, Dr Abiodun Ijor, while briefing pressmen on the state budget for the 1977/78 year at Akure.

Out of this sum, Education got N27.97 million, Water Supply N39.6 million and Health N19.26 million.

The commissioner added that attention would be given to water projects among which was the Ero water supply scheme to which a sum of N11 million and Ikere-Ekiti and Ile-Oluji schemes had been allocated a sum of N4 million respectively.

Dr Ijor further announced the establishment of the Implementation Committee last financial year which was to ensure that capital projects were implemented on schedule.

He announced that a sum of N62,578,450 has been earmarked for the rehabilitation of roads and waterways development in Ondo State during the current fiscal year.

Out of this amount, N30,000,000 would be spent on either the bituminous surfacing, rehabilitation or construction of roads totalling just over 1,000 kilometres while the dredging, widening of canals and improvement of riverine areas of the state would cost N2,600,000.

TIDE SPORT

SUPERIOR SKILL ROB BONNY OF GOLDEN CHANCE

PORT Harcourt Zonal intermediate squad gallantly tamed their Bonny counterparts 3-1 in a tough final played at the Temporary Stadium on Sunday to mark the closing ceremony of the Third Rivers State Sports Festival.

The first 20 minutes brought a hectic brawl for the two teams as they frantically fought out the fray for an early lead.

But, in the 21st minute of the first-half a shot came from the left flank outside the eighteen of Port Harcourt Zone which caused a goal-mouth struggle.

Another slap on racists

TEN people, five of them women, were arrested during anti-apartheid demonstrations during the Davis Cup Tennis tie in Newport Beach, California, between the United States and South Africa, the Local police there announced yesterday.

Monday had been marked by anti-apartheid demonstrations. Nine protesters were arrested after they ran onto the court and tried to unfurl a banner. And one of them was involved in a scuffle with the American non-playing Captain, Tony Trabert and at one stage, Trabert was injured.

REPORTS BY OKONMA SOKARI-GEORGE

The second half brought up Port Harcourt zonal squad charged up for the spree and in about the 15th minute of the half, eagle-eyed Kenneth Bayo accurately aimed at his opponent's goal post and



drove a smart and sharp shot which increased the score to two.

And even there was struggle for with Port Harcourt doing most of the ing. In fact, the of the Port squad became mendous thn them time and

In the melee that ensued, goalie Peter Jaja of Port Harcourt was bamboozled as it gave him a hectic time to differentiate the heads from the ball. It was then, in the 22nd minute when a sharp header came from one of the Bonny lads to put them in the lead.

With this one goal lead by their rivals, the Port Harcourt zonal squad were infuriated and made several frolic moves which gave them the chance of keeping the two teams on equal footing at the 25th minute as Hamilton Green, who was in the centre-half flank made an excellent, sharp drive which was too hot for goalie Peri Jack to save. The scoreline was unaltered till the interval.



The joy of winning knows no bounds, really. These four-some cut a pleasing scene, admire their hard-won medals.

Bori boys run into

a 4--0 wallop

BY LIVINUS NWIKANA

Port Harcourt whipped Bori 4-0 to clinch the Third Rivers State Sports Festival senior soccer gold medal.

It was the Port Harcourt soccer experts who first pointed up the attack, lambasting their opponents' defence as ineffectual. Their solid moves would have yielded dividends but either it was Bori's defensive stopping the grass or Bori's goalkeeper's pull-out negating the forward connection.

Just then, the attack changed hands. Bori, who in a hot tempo, pressed deep into the opposition, but their thrusts were characterised by wide up-and-down and not serious set-back moves at all.

The last interchange of defence attacking moves made it completely impossible to predict the eventual winners. One thing was however very clear — that who ever wanted to win the crown would have to lose his legs early.

the 33rd minute of play, George Akparanta started it all by driving in from the left wing in a dribbling spree, he found Chibbo Abasi who, in turn, outwitted two defences before releasing a fine ball which Joe Nartey perfectly headed home for P.H.'s first goal.

That was all the P.H. side needed to stampede their opponents who had very little resistance to offer. Sweeping on their opponents' like hawks on prey, they played football football goals while the P.H. team's commands how they wanted it to go. Abasi this wonderful display, Chibbo Abasi scored a header goal in the 37th minute. The second goal however

was Omereybe, playing at outside right, drew on a pass juggled past two Bori men before fixing a fine pull-out which Joe Nartey beautifully banged in for P.H.

These P.H. lads! They must have learnt much from the books. For how else could one describe their excellent soccer display? Scores at half time were two — nil in favour of the winners.

The resumption witnessed both teams in a frantic battle, but Bori sooner lapsed into the defensive. Then, in the 70th minute they conceded another goal. A fine combination from the right flank did the honour. Wrote the ball from a Bori defender. Agaladina started home a thunderbolt of a shot.

Barely ten minutes to full time, Isaac, in a mastery show of skill, overruled past four defences in a cluster and made no mistake from a move that a goal — the fourth and final for Port Harcourt.

However Bori junior team avenged this by thrashing Bony 4-2 to wear gold medals.



With every power in his fist, the boxer (right) thrashed his opponent's face during the festival's boxing events.

MEMOIRS ARE BEST MADE OF THESE



The goalkeeper already a pitiable wreck on the ground, the "bloody" ball goes to rest in Port Harcourt Intermediate's net (below). But that's how far the Bonny adventurers could go, because before the end, they conceded three others in their own net. And, now deservedly, the victors receive their gold medals from Governor Zamani Lekwot (left).



'..Till we meet in '79'

For grandeur and undying enthusiasm, the third Rivers State Sports Festival just

ended will be a central talking point.

For example, for one week from April 11, the Festival Flag (right) fluttered in the air inside the Temporary Stadium until the end last Sunday, when it was gradually lowered by the two Naval ratings (below) till another fiesta in 1979. What a nostalgic moment! Picture by our deputy chief cameraman, M. W. Omenazu.



They thrilled and the crowd responded... The two masquerades (above), aimed by the dancing damsels, added more cultural colour to the closing ceremony of the Fiesta of Friendship and Fun. And, below, it's a richly rewarding time

for these athletes — all members of three relay quartets. The gold winners receive their medals from Mr. Dan Isokrari, Federal Commissioner for Social Development, Youth and Sports. Picture by TIDEMAN B.C. Don Pedro, H. W. Okara and Joseph Mopho.



Tuesday, April 19, 1977

14 jailed for breach of the peace

FOURTEEN persons have been sentenced to three months imprisonment each by a Port Harcourt magistrate's court on a four-count charge of disturbing the peace.

They are Sunday Tarith, 22; Usama Quaji, 20; Basil

Onuoha, 19; David Pounoma, 19; Monday Mark, 19; Sunday Ogbuoagu, 21 and Michael Aboh, 25.

Others are Johnway Eze,

30; Andrew Chibwe Daniel Okpara, 21; James Oji, 21; Efu Oji, 21; Okon, 25 and Lawrence Oson 20. They were members of Fano Shipping Company.

They were said to have caused a breach of the peace on April 7, 1977 at 10, Lagos Street, Port Harcourt by breaking into the residence of Dr Isaac John I. and dragging him

by

Julie Jumbo

Sunday Tarith and others were on the scene. Tarith said to have wilfully and lawfully damaged one camera valued at N100,000 property of the Rivers State Newspaper Corporation.

They were also assaulting one Ekwubiri by giving him blows on his body.

In his judgment, the magistrate F. T. Erubi, although a "hungry and angry man" and the offence committed by the accused persons was a two years jail term, exercising leniency.

BEWARE OF RASCALS

by Lloyd Ajudua



● K. D. Mbadiwe

NIGERIANS have been warned against electing rascals to power in post military Nigeria.

"Rascality ruined the first Republic and anybody who wants to rule must live above board".

The warning was issued in Aba on Sunday night by a member of the Constitution Drafting Committee, Dr Kingsley Ozumba Mbadiwe, who said that anybody aspiring to lead must show, by example, that he was ready to accept the responsibility of office.

Dr Mbadiwe, who was speaking at a television programme "Face the nation" said it was with this in view that the Drafting Committee sought to entrench in the Constitution, a provision that to be elected president, a candidate must poll at least two thirds of the vote in majority of the states.

A president, Dr Mbadiwe said, should know his people and must have appealed to them during the electioneering campaigns.

"On securing the necessary majority", he should "satisfy the masses that he knows the country he is to rule", Dr Mbadiwe emphasised.

He also remarked that it was not enough for anybody to secure votes from his hometown and other friendly states and expect to be respected as the country's number one man.

Warning to the nation

Dr Mbadiwe made these remarks when a questioner had suggested that he appeared to be shifting from his 1974 statement in Enugu when he claimed he was through with politics.

He declared: "At 60, I may not have time for politicking about but I cannot see a rascal rule this country. Because if that is the case, I can never be neutral in matters affecting Nigeria."

Aims of LG reforms outlined

THE local government reform was meant to generate intensive communication between the governed and the governor, to afford political participation at the grassroots and thus enshrine the principle of participatory democracy and political responsibility for all Nigerians.

This was stated by a member of the Ondo State Chieftaincy Review Commission, Chief Bode Kumapayi while delivering an address to the local government council chairman and councillors at the Trenchard Hall of the University of Ibadan.

He also said that the Federal Government had both political and moral obligation to come out in a big way and assist local governments to achieve honour and prestige.

Chief Kumapayi announced this apart from establishing the local governments, the state government was responsible for the final approval of elected chairman and supervisory councillors.

The state government, Chief Kumapayi said, was indirectly responsible for the staffing of local government councils through the local government ser-

vice board. By section 80 of the edict establishing the board, it empowered the government to promote, appoint transfer and discipline officers of local governments, he said.

He also remarked that it was not enough for anybody to secure votes from his hometown and other friendly states and expect to be respected as the country's number one man.

Professor Awojobi, an urban development engineer, was delivering a lecture at the lecture at the weekend to mark the students union week of the University of Ife.

Professor Awojobi claimed that the continued stagnation of the armed forces strength a few years after the civil war was draining the country's

financial resources. He declared: "The relatively large size of the Nigerian army has become a night mare to the leadership of every military administration since the end of the civil war and the scope of the consequences of demobilisation has been like the sword of Damocles over successive surprise military councils".

He said that the large defence budget for the armed forces personal emolument including salaries, wages and fringe benefits should be used to purchase high quality equipment and for the training of operators and maintenance personnel for agricultural development.

Besides, he further suggested that a proper defence industry should be developed to engage scientists, engineers, technologists, technicians and artists for long term plans on self-reliance or non-de-

pendence on developed nations on matters of defence and national security.

Speaking on ideological differences between socialism and capitalism sweeping Africa in about ten years time.

This, he said would come necessary because of the conflicting interests of many African countries and their inability to show out for the good of an entirely new society suited to African conditions and behaviour.



BRIGADIER YARO, Chief of Staff Supreme

Don urges skilled, disciplined army

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