

STATEMENTS BY: Oyakhilome, Jennifer Madike, Doris Obi, Source X and Goyea The Landlord.

Newbreed

APRIL 1 1991 N10

Nigeria's **Fortnight**

EXCLUSIVES

● **Shoot-out at Odillibe's House** — Policeman, nightguard wounded

● **Gambo is not my boyfriend** — Mrs. Udeaku Shaldas

● **Odillibe and Senator Adegoke's cocaine connection**



WHY OYAKHILOME WAS REMOVED

■ **Why we cannot arrest Ejiogu & Co** — NDLEA boss laments ■

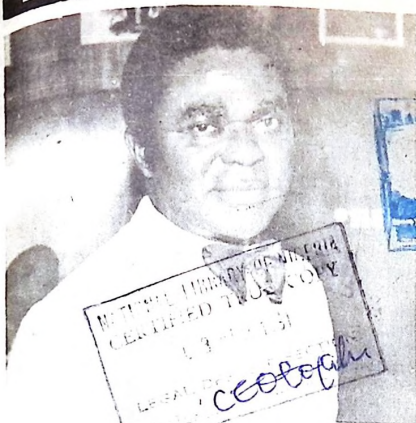
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WHY OYAKHILOME WAS REMOVED

A FORTHNIGHT ago, Newbreed's cover story: *Drug Scandal, the full case file uncovered, Oyakhilome Fights 'Lover' received popular endorsements and acclamations for incisiveness, sound and investigative reporting.*

We promised then to continue the investigative thrills and to give readers further insight into the Oyakhilome/Madike Saga. Within the fortnight which led to the suspension from office of the former Deputy Inspector General of Police, Fidelis Oyakhilome has further heightened public interest in the matter and has generated further burden on the need to explain to the public why the Federal Government suddenly broke faith with Oyakhilome.

The terse information that accompanied the removal was a late night news flash on Friday, March 8, carried on national television and reported next day by the print media, without anyone giving incisive reasons.

On Saturday, March 9, the Editor-in-Chief, Chris Okolie, and Associate Editor, Miss Toyin Egunjobi, began investigations. Neither Oyakhilome nor the retired A.I.G. Abubakar who is the Director of Investigations at the NDLEA could venture any clue on the retired DIG's removal. Said Oyakhilome, "I was not given any elaborate details as to why the action was necessary nor was I invited for any form of questioning before then. Nevertheless, Newbreed Editors were able to authoritatively gather information on why he was removed. Whether his removal marks his final exit from Public Service, or whether he will be assigned to a new job.

In addition to this vital information, this issue reports in detail, the defence strategies of Jennifer Madike, which defence lawyers told *Newbreed* would be erected on the affidavits sworn by Doris Obi in Suit No. 1D/ATM/91, and additional statements by Doris Obi in an exclusive interview granted to *Newbreed* and published in this issue.

Defence lawyers are expected to abandon the earlier statement made by Jennifer Madike, which is also published in this issue. On the other hand, the prosecution is expected to build its case around the statement made by Fidelis Oyakhilome which is embodied in the exclusive interview granted to *Newbreed* and also published in this issue.

The Landlord who confirmed to *Newbreed* in an interview report in this package that he sold the controversial property Jennifer lives in at Ilupeju, may be subpoenaed to testify in court.

Included in this exciting package is the full text of Greg Odilibe's letter which was one of the reasons, which, as could be seen, contributed to the removal of Oyakhilome. An exclusive interview report on Mrs. Udeaku Shaldas who wrote the deadly petition that brought down Oyakhilome and Jennifer also reported. Miss Shaldas also told *Newbreed*, former IG Gambo is not her boyfriend, but a family friend. Also included is an interview with source X who gave an insight into cocaine operations in Nigeria and Senator Adegoke's drug connection with Greg Odilibe, as well as the unreported shoot-out at Sunny Odilibe's house which led to the wounding of a policeman, and a nightguard.

For this incisive package, documented only in *Newbreed*, turn to our cover story page.

End in sight for Maradona

Diego Amando Maradona, the most breath-taking footballer in the world is sinking with problems. Napoli his club is suing him for wanting to break up a contract which still has 3 years to run.

A Neapolitan girl alleging that the Argentine superstar is the father of a four-year-old son has succeeded in getting a court ruling that Diego undergoes a DNA test.

In January the star who wept when Argentina lost in the last World Cup final to Germany was fined £5,000 (about ₦100,000.00) for failing to appear before the Disciplinary Committee of the Italian Football Association.

However, the worst and latest trauma to assail the world's most popular still active footballer is the linking of his name to a drugs and prostitution syndicate run by the Naples Mafia.

Vigorously questioned, and though Maradona defended himself vigorously, this damage to his image could lead to an early retirement. Read about the travails of the superstar on our sport pages in a story titled **End in Sight for Maradona**.

Inferno in the Desert

An Awesome battle looms in the Kuwaiti desert to quell one of the worst fires in history.

The fire set to Kuwaiti oil wells by defeated and retreating Iraqi soldiers is—according to Paul 'Red' Adair an oil spill and fire expert who has tackled over 2,000 oil blow outs—expected to burn for at least two years.

Although the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation has had contingency plans ready to fight such fires, expectations fell short since nearly every oil-producing well was set on fire.

Maria Kelmas who is a specialist writer on energy issues in our Environment page story analyses the costs and techniques open to the world to fight an inferno that is threatening human life and the delicate world ecosystem already abused by the everyday existence of man.

Snapshots

- For Augustus — a feather Nigeria's Vice-President bags an honours doctorate
- A capful of millions Alumni of Nigeria's think-tank donate for upliftment of the alma-mater

News

NDA braces up for professionalism
Nigeria's army officer training school gets set for the new army.

Politics

- Return of the Prodigal? Plateau State debates a return to the northern political fold

Health

- Studies into incidences of malaria in various locations throughout Nigeria point to the fact that the killer disease is going to thrive among the populace for a long time to come.
- The torturing disease would not bow as long as environmental sanitation and public education remains low in the country. The story on what the nation continues to lose through malaria and what can possibly be done is carried in our story: "malaria here to stay."

Nation

- As Abuja, Nigeria's future capital city continues to suffer setbacks in its development, *Newbreed* looks into the problem of land allocations and allottees' failure to develop their properties. The story embodies an interview with the Minister, and Director General of the Ministry of the Federal Capital Territory.

Scene

- Kubwa Hill: Centre of the nation
Is a hidden hill on the outskirts of Nigeria's new capital the centre of the country or just a tourist resort.

Re: Why Many Nigerians Are Dying

10 Ogburu Rears Ugly Head Again

At the Press Party Given to Honour a Certain Accountant and Should to See

Newbreed



I read your most recent publication, *Newbreed* February 18, 1991. One of the articles included therein originated from one Isiyaku F. Karofi and it was supposed to be a rejoinder in reaction to an original comment by Dr. Segun Aromolate.

Though I did not read Dr. Aromolate's original statements, but what prompted me to write this rejoinder was the most indignifying way he went about an innocuous observation.

I will be very glad if you can publish these few lines for me in your respected weekly.

Firstly, Mr. Karofi reminded all Nigerians that hospitals up north are for northerners. I agree with him.

How this explains the desecration against southern doctors is difficult to understand. His subsequent comment on recruitment of medical personnel easily gives his reason out. For one, northern hospital will give preference to northern doctors. Despite the parochial nature of this argument, I am compelled to agree with him. For one, I realise the relevance of petit "geo-political regionalism" in this geographical expression called Nigeria.

One erroneous impression Karofi has is that its because of the better conditions of service up north that attract southern doctors. I suggest he swiftly disabuses his mind of this. The truth is that like most people of southern origin, southern doctors will never mind living anywhere if anything, to experience a new environment. Afterwards, the salary grades are the same and the harsh environment coupled with insecurity is enough contradiction to go beyond River Niger.

The wrong impression that southern doctors want to flood northern medical services must be corrected. I do not think that even northern governments think so. Let me remind him of the not-too-long ago plea by Borno state government begging southern doctors to come up north. Well, Borno wasn't too lucky and that gave birth to the Cuban doctors politics.

The most derisive of the comments is that southern doctors divert public equipment to private practice. This compels me to imagine the kind of background Karofi has - primary school, college, Bayero.

Never a time has he lived close to the ocean. This certainly explains his plight, that is ignorance.

His suggestion that southern doctors can migrate to Niger, Bourkina Faso etc is most ridiculous. It certainly belittles his person. Well, if Niger can afford \$150,000 p.a. there they go. Until then its Middle East.

Finally, I will dwell in Mr. Isiyaku Y. Karofi. He is supposed to belong to an Academic Community, the Bayero University as conveyed by his address. Though I do not know his status there, but its hard to think he isn't an office help. It only suffices to remind him that his sense of responsibility, dignity and honour can't be improved in a

closed society. People like him must be denied access to publicity.

To Dr. Segun Aromolate, whom I don't know, I implore him to ignore Karofi's rattlings. They are just as good as Karofi.

Anuka, Limus,
Medical Student Hostel,
College of Medicine,
University of Lagos, Lagos

Re: I am A Sacred Cow Of God

The above story made interesting reading. From the story, I really can see that Okogie is a man of peace. The truth they say is bitter and Okogie is speaking the truth.

Nigeria is a big country with different tribes and religions. The issue of if Nigeria should join the OIC or not should not arise at all. The best the issue can do is to further strengthen the divide between christians and moslems. North and South.

On the issue of both the governor and deputy governor of Lagos being moslems, I agree with the Archbishop's views. It is a mistake. It can cause disaffection, and it is the duty of government to see that the country is at peace.

I thank the Archbishop for laying bare the facts.

Kate Odhomi,
P.O Box 6939,
Lagos.

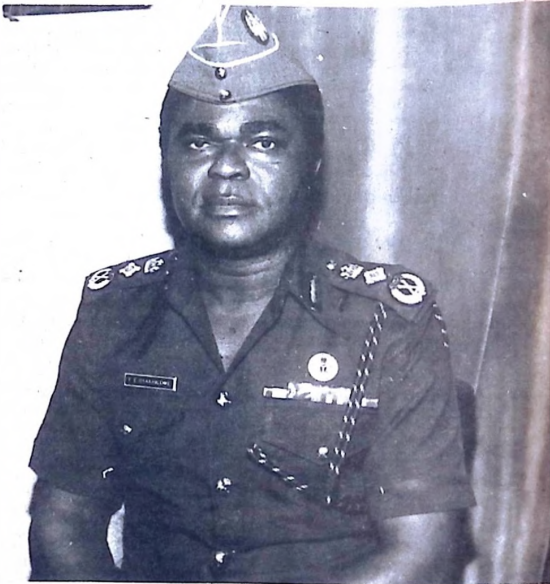
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR should be addressed to: *Newbreed* Magazine, New Breed Organisation Ltd, Plot 14, Western Avenue, Alaka Estate, Surulere, P.O. Box 5414, Lagos, Nigeria. Telephone 831443. *Newbreed* Volume 3, Number 21 1990. ISSN 0331 - 1414. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. Letters must include writer's full name, address and telephone numbers, and may be edited for clarity or space.

WHY OYAKHILOME WAS REMOVED

The former chairman of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) would not have expected to end his career as a drug fighter in this manner, but there are strong indications that he has seen the last of the office which he vacated on Friday, March 8, this year, following the 'stay away from work till further notice' order he received over the Jennifer Madike scandal. A terse statement from the Presidency, signed by Mr. Nduka Irahor, Chief Press Secretary to the Vice-President had announced the decision by the government. As a matter of fact, his close associates say he still reels with shock at the sudden U-turn made by the Federal Government after he had earlier been cleared.

However, *Newbreed* team of investigators was able to establish that Oyakhilome was removed because of the leakage of the security report he wrote to the Vice-President, retired Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, on the detention order of Jennifer Madike. Dodan Barracks is said to be spitting fire that on the strength of that document, dated 17th January, 1991, the names of the Head of State; President Ibrahim Babangida and his wife, Maryam, are now being bandied around in connection with the drug scandal.

To government's chagrin, the damaging document is currently making the round of media houses, having carelessly gotten into the hands of Jennifer's lawyers. In spite of strong efforts to restrict its circulation, it was conspicuously attached to a new affidavit filed on Jennifer's behalf by her cousin, Doris Obi, a National Youth Service Corps member and sent to various media houses.



■ Oyakhilome: Shown the door

It was gathered that at the moment, the leakage is the subject of a high level investigation by intelligence officers, as Dodan Barracks is determined to get to the root of it all. Warnings have also gone out that the culprits, if uncovered, will be seriously dealt with. "It doesn't matter how long it takes, but the culprit(s) will be uncovered

and punished," said an aggrieved party. It was government's disappointment this leakage and the determination to punish anybody who spreads the word that informed the angry closure of *Lag Evening News* on Saturday, March 9, this year. Its banner front-page headline "IBB, MARYAM NAMED IN JENNI



The Many Lives of VWON

Does VOLKSWAGEN OF NIGERIA have as many lives as a cat? This question has been asked by many who have watched the company respond to adversity with more strength. What VOLKSWAGEN OF NIGERIA does have is a management committed to Nigeria, and determined to producing motor vehicles in Nigeria not only for today's Nigerian but also for tomorrow's Nigerian. How do we hope to achieve this objective of continuing to provide jobs and skills to Nigerians and contributing to Nigeria's industrial development? The VOLKSWAGEN OF NIGERIA promise is to do it through product diversification, increased local sourcing and increased adaptation of products to meet Nigerian requirements.

LOCAL SOURCING

Thanks to support from the Raw Materials Research and Development Council, we are breaking new grounds with local component production. A lot more could be achieved if our production level could provide proper economies of scale for these local components manufacturers. Unfortunately, the importation of used cars, some of which have only a few months of active life in them is adversely affecting the volume possibilities that suppliers can take advantage of. Even more sad is the defrauding of the Nigerian consumer who soon finds that after sales service possibilities may reduce the span of service of his car as was the experience during the "Home Delivery" era in the 1970s. Certainly the Nigerian consumer deserves more than this "penny wise but pound foolish" solution to his transportation problems.

Many of these imported used cars are scraps in Europe. They in fact constitute road hazards, endangering those who are not guilty of such purchases.

Our extensive surveys of local content manufacturers for the purpose of immediate commission resulted in the following findings. After visitation to 69 companies, 19 companies were found to be ready to produce. Another 19 were of adequate standard but needed further support to produce for VOLKSWAGEN OF NIGERIA.

We are therefore building our local content thrust on the first 19 companies while still keeping in touch with the others.

RESTRUCTURING

We also saw the sense in SAP at VWON and embarked on our own restructuring. This has made us more efficient and has boosted our earnings to wipe off our past cumulative losses. Restructuring has also reached our range of models. Today we have a range of buses from the Kombi through 32 to 41 seater buses. This response to Nigeria's more relevant needs follows the tradition of modifying such parts as shock absorber, ground clearance and suspensions to make our cars more manoeuvrable and durable than those built in Europe and the Americas.

OUR PLEDGE

We believe that by its very nature, an automobile industry is a germinal industry with immense potentials for stimulating diverse industrial and economic activities. VOLKSWAGEN OF NIGERIA is proud to have contributed positively and shall remain committed to an industrial era which encourages investments in automotive components manufacture in Nigeria.

Our only request is support to attain our goal. This can come through tariffs that are more appropriate for industrial development and efforts to ensure that Nigerians are not short-changed in the quest for used cars from Europe.



Volkswagen-The name you can rely on

ER'S DEAL," attracted so much wrath in government circles that, for the first time in the history of Nigeria, the highest echelon of the police force had to physically effect the seal-up of the newspaper premises, between the hours of 1.30 and 3.30 in the morning.

To show the weight of Dodan Barracks anger, sources said the IG, Alhaji Aliyu Attah, accompanied by the Lagos State Police Commissioner, Alhaji Sani Daura-Ahmed and a Deputy Police Commissioner, Alhaji Mohammed Nguru, personally supervised investigations into the genesis of the story. After holding a brief meeting with the publisher, Alhaji Lateef Jakande, who referred them to the Editor, the policemen were said to have broken into the Editor's office after waiting in vain for him to arrive. They reportedly went away with some vital documents.

Alhaji Jakande told *Newbreed* how he personally "arrested" the Editor of the paper, Mr. Ade Alawode, on Sunday, March 10. He said, "I then called the police and handed him over to them. I know that my boys are very courageous and will stand up to their professional responsibilities". At the time of going to the press, the premises of the newspaper were still sealed-up.

If Oyakhilome knew the reasons for his suspension, he is not saying. If anything, he complained that he had real difficulty understanding the basis of the government action. He, however, admitted that he was officially informed about the suspension order shortly before it was made public. Nevertheless, he claimed that he was not given any elaborate details as to why the action was necessary, nor was he invited for any form of questioning before then. He claimed that the same terse, brief message read to the public was delivered to him.

Although as at press time, the ex-Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police was still occupying his official residence at No. 2, Second Avenue, Ikoyi, sources believe the 'suspension from work until further notice' order is likely to metamorphose into a retirement, or at best, a new job, if at the end of the Jennifer Madike trial, he emerges victorious and his credibility has not been damaged beyond repairs. According to a Dodan Barracks source, his chances of being reinstated is "fifty-fifty", but others argued that it is almost certain that he would not be back at NDLEA's No. 2, Ruxton Road, Ikoyi Office.

Presidency sources disclosed that the suspension order was actually govern-



■ Attah; Supervised closure of Lagos News



■ Jakande: My boys are courageous



■ Daura: Was in Attah's entourage



■ Beko Ransoke-Kuti: Crying foul

ment's 'nice' way of permanently taking Oyakhilome off the rather tough and prestigious seat — a necessity, if the credibility of the agency is not to be completely eroded. It was argued that his continued stay at the NDLEA may rip the seams of seriousness and dedication carefully sewn around the agency since its inception over a year ago.

"It became imperative to remove him, because the image of our drug fighters must be right. The men at the agency's helm of affairs must be seen as shining beacons; they must be seen to be above board," the sources pointed out, adding that, for now, the former chairman does not present the picture of a chief-drum fighter, due to the celebrated and raging mud-slinging between him and his erstwhile intimate friend, with whom he had admitted a long-standing relationship, dating back to about ten years.

Newbreed was told that against the

background of his earlier clearance, a straightforward retirement, or dismissal of the ex-NDLEA boss would have amounted to the Federal Government eating its own words.

In the heat of the controversy, Mr. Nduka Irabor, on February 19, had issued a statement clearing Oyakhilome of any impropriety, and explaining that Jennifer was "a vital link" to a hard-drug trafficking ring whose barons are now at large. Insisting that Oyakhilome was "doing a good job", government had then described Jennifer as "a blackmailer". The 'stay away from work' order was therefore the wisest step to take. Not only would it help government and Oyakhilome save face, it is also expected to facilitate investigations and reduce tension and press controversy which the case has generated.

In fact, it was also reasoned that if the former chairman is left on the job, it would not only escalate the controversy

between him and Jennifer, it would also leave the government open to bitter criticisms. "In trying to reach Oyakhilome, observers believe that government itself may be endangered." Indeed his removal "may be motivated by Federal Government's desire for self-preservation." *Newbreed* investigators were told.

Apart from the leakage, another reason being touted for Oyakhilome's removal is the ex-chairman's failure to investigate a petition purportedly written to the agency by suspected runaway drug baron, 36-year-old Greg Charles Odilibe who is at the centre of the Oyakhilome/Madike controversy. The letter dated 12th December, 1990 and titled: "Complaint Against Mr. Kabiru Ibrahim DSP, Mr. Ahmed, and Mr. Henry Abang ASP," was addressed to the chairman of the NDLEA. Below, details of the petition is published exclusively for the first time only in *Newbreed*.

Greg Odilibe's Letter

12th December 1990

The Chairman/Chief Executive,
National Drug Law Enforcement Agency,
2, Ruxton Road,
P.M.B. 40004,
Ikoyi - Lagos.

ATTENTION: FIDELIS E. OYAKHILOME NPM Mni

Dear Sir,

COMPLAINT AGAINST

MR. KABIRU IBRAHIM DSP,
MR. AHMED, AND MR. HENRY
ABANG ASP

I would like to start by commenting on what led to the incident as I was told that happened in my residence at No. 15 Rasmon Street, Ajao Estate, Ikeja, Lagos on the 4th of October, 1990.

On the 28th September, 1990 at about 8.30 p.m., a young man, a fellow indigene of Awka Etià in Anambra State by name Emeka came to my house with a young man he introduced to me as his friend. After offering them drinks, Emeka continued his introduction by saying that he has gone to the Murtala Mohammed International Airport to check in his friend on a Nigeria Airways flight to New York. After finishing his drinks, the same Emeka said that he was going to check on his friend's cousin who was supposed to bring some samples of textile materials from Cotonou for this his friend who was supposed to travel to New York that night. Emeka specified that his

friend's cousin in question was to stay in one hotel at Ibeju in Surulere area of Lagos. It was then that Emeka pleaded with me to allow his friend to wait for him in my house pending the time he would take him to the Airport based on his supposition that my house seems to be closer to the Airport and he left about 9.15 p.m.

At about 10.30-11.00 p.m., I had already gone to bed when my wife came and reminded me that Emeka's friend was still waiting in my living room and had asked her if it is possible for her driver to drop him off at the Airport since Emeka who brought him in my house was not forthcoming and moreover his flight time was getting closer. I then told my wife to tell my driver to drop him off at the Airport and come back immediately. That was all I knew about Emeka's friend.

On the 3rd of October, 1990, I travelled to Aba by road because I and my wife were to sponsor a couple who wedded on the 6th of October. I was to meet my wife and my younger daughter at Port Harcourt Airport on the 5th of October, 1990.

On the 4th of October being Thursday, I telephoned my house in Lagos from Aba to find out from wife about her flight arrangements. It was then that she told me that some un-uniformed Policemen came to my house on that Thursday afternoon (4th October, 1990) and took my driver away with the 504 Peugeot car that belongs to the company of which I am one of the Directors and claimed that the car is suspected stolen. I told her over the phone that she shouldn't mind what they have alleged for I know that car was not stolen and that she should proceed with her arrangements and come down to the East for the wedding and that I would see the people as soon as I come back to Lagos.

On Friday being 5th October, I drove down to Port Harcourt Airport to pick my wife as previously arranged. After waiting for Lagos-Port Harcourt bound flights and did not see my wife I rushed down to Aba and phoned my house in Lagos. It was then that she (my wife) told me again that the same set of un-uniformed policemen came to my house that same morning (5th October) and searched my house and took away a Santana car belonging to my wife.

On the 6th of October, I had to cancel my plans with the wedding and flew back to Lagos. When I got back to my house in Lagos, my wife told me that those un-uniformed policemen that searched my house made away with some of my photographs and some of my business documents and dropped their names and address and that I should reach them at NATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

(NDLEA) office at Ilupeju. It was then that I met my nephew JOHN OKPALA who took me to NDLEA office at Ilupeju. On getting to Ilupeju, we saw some mobile policemen at the NDLEA premises' gate and enquired from them about the officers that came to my house. One of the mobile policemen told me that all the officers that dropped their names in my house for contact viz: KABIRU, AHMED and ABANG had all gone home. The policeman further told us that they normally work half-day on Saturdays and that their closing time is 12.30 p.m. It was then that Mr. John Okpala suggested that we should go and see Mr. Emeka Chikeluba whom he said knows Kabiru and where he lives. When we got to Mr. Chikeluba's house, we were lucky to meet him in and after narrating to him why we came to him, he suggested that we should allow him to see Kabiru first of all and that he will get back to us as soon as he has contacted Mr. Kabiru.

At about 10 p.m. on the 6th of October (Saturday), Mr. Chikeluba phoned my house telling me that he had met Mr. Kabiru and Ahmed too, was in Kabiru's house when he got to his house (Kabiru's) and that Kabiru suggested that he (Mr. Emeka Chikeluba) should bring me on the 7th of October being Sunday between 1-2 p.m., at the Bar Beach opposite International Merchant Bank (IMB). I then contacted my younger brother, Sunny to go with us. We waited for Sunny at Emeka Chikeluba's place for quite sometime (up till 2.30 p.m.) without seeing him, but later learnt that he went to Church service outside Lagos. So, Emeka Chikeluba and I decided to go at about 2.30 p.m. to meet with Kabiru and got there at about 3.05 p.m. and met Kabiru and Ahmed in a light green Peugeot 504 car.

Kabiru was on the steering and he told Emeka Chikeluba and I to ride behind them. We got behind Eko Le Meridien Hotel opposite Maroko, parked and they asked us to come inside their car. We went into their car, and sat on the back seat. Then Kabiru frisked my body while Ahmed did same to Emeka Chikeluba. It was then that I enquired from them why they had to frisk us and Kabiru replied that he wanted to know if we had any tape recorder hidden on us and we all laughed over it. It was then that Mr. Kabiru asked if I was Mr. Greg and I answered him yes and he asked again if I was sure I am Mr. Greg and I said yes.

I asked them that I learnt they were in my place and made away with my car and my driver alleging that the car is suspected stolen. At that point, Ahmed came into the conversation and said youngman, the car is not the issue at stake, and that a youngman was arrested at the Murtala Mohammed In-

International Airport on the 28th of September, 1990 for drug trafficking and asked if I know Emeka.

I answered him no because I couldn't remember having known any Emeka other than the Emeka Chikeluba who was there with me at that particular time. Ahmed sternly warned that I shouldn't joke with them and that they meant what they were talking and that I should think back and recollect the youngman Emeka dropped in my house on the 28th September, 1990. It was then that I realized the Emeka they were referring to. They further said that the youngman Emeka dropped in my house was caught at the Murtala Mohammed International Airport trying to export hard drugs and that the youngman claimed that he took off from my house and that I was the person that gave him the hard drugs. I denied the allegation and told them that I don't know what the drug looks like whatmore giving it to him and as such, I don't deal on hard drugs. It was then that I asked them the whereabouts of the youngman who alleged that I gave him the hard drugs and that I would like to see him to confirm his allegation, Kabiru said that I won't see him and that he is somewhere and that they have been trailing me for something now with some Americans. I then asked them why it took them so long a time to break into my house since the youngman in question was held on the 28th September and the day they came to my house was 4th October, and they said that the youngman told them that he doesn't know me and as such cannot recognize my house but rather gave them Emeka's car number and told them that if they would be able to get hold of Emeka, that he Emeka will be in a position to take them to my house.

At this point, Ahmed cut in again and said that this is, something that involves American government and that they would go as far as putting my photographs on the pages of newspaper and television screen. Then I asked him why a thing like that should be done to me and Kabiru answered saying that he wouldn't say anything to that effect until their Chairman (NDLEA Boss) comes back, for he is out of the country.

At this point, Emeka Chikeluba cut in and asked about Mr. Henry Abang whom he said was one of those that came to my house on the 4th of October, Kabiru replied Emeka saying that Henry travelled home to sort out the problems he has with his wife. Ahmed asked me what I had in mind as regards what they have told me about the case. I told him that for all I know, I don't have any case with them and both of them laughed (Ahmed and Kabiru). Emeka Chikeluba asked them

if they were willing to discuss the case in the absence of Henry, Kabiru said that they would like to know my mind first of all and I told him that I would want to know what they were up to first of all too since I don't know what they had in mind. Kabiru then said that he has every right to detain me there and then.

He further said that since he had assured Emeka Chikeluba that he would allow him go with me and that he is an Hausa man and as such he must keep to his words.

At this juncture, Emeka Chikeluba cut in and told me not to disappoint him (Emeka) and that I should come out straight with them (Kabiru & Ahmed) and that they were ready to co-operate. It was then that Kabiru said that I should go and get them One Million Naira (N1m). I then asked him for what reason would I do that and Ahmed said



■ Gamba: A close friend to Odilibe's lawyer

that I was asking as if I never knew what I was facing and that even if I deny that I wasn't the person that supplied the hard drug to the youngman held at the Airport, that they would charge me for conspiracy for the mere fact that the boy took off from my house.

At this point in time, I was scared (intimidation) and Ahmed/Kabiru asked if I would be happy to hear and see my face on television and on the pages of newspaper for drug offence. It was on the strength of this imminent scandal that I offered to give them Twenty thousand Naira (N20,000.00) and Kabiru asked me if I was sure I am an Ibo man and that I am behaving like an Ijebu man. Ahmed said that the least amount of money they would collect from me will be One hundred thousand Naira (N100,000.00).

At this point Emeka Chikeluba cut in again and asked them (Kabiru/Ahmed) if the money they are demanding was meant to close the case entirely and Kabiru replied saying that they wouldn't say until their colleague Mr. Henry Abang comes back from his village. I then suggested to Kabiru and Ahmed that if that is the case, I would rather give both of them fifty thousand Naira (N50,000.00) so that they would be able to talk to and convince their other colleagues so that they can accept One hundred thousand Naira (N100,000.00) to dispose of the case. Kabiru reminded me that I should remember—that I, Ireg is an Ibo man and as an Hausa man he is telling me the truth.

1. That Ibos have no strong base as far as Governmental jobs are concerned.
2. That if I want my good name preserved, as according to him, people see me as a wealthy youngman and are jealous of me.
3. That I have already stained my name by allowing the young man Emeka brought to my house to stay, that I should not have consented to that request since it was a trap set for me.

At this point, Emeka Chikeluba pleaded with them and Kabiru said that it was alright and that they have heard what he (Emeka) has said and specified that they would like to have the money in dollars. I and Emeka were asked to bring the money to them and I asked if it was necessary for me to come back with Emeka Chikeluba, but Kabiru said No. They told Emeka to bring the money to them at Eko Le Meriden Hotel and that they should be waiting for him at the Casino Hall of the hotel.

As we were about leaving their car, Kabiru said that I should not worry myself coming to their office to make statement but rather I should ask my wife to see them in the office at Ilupeju the following day being Monday the 8th of October, to make statement of which they (Kabiru and Ahmed) would tell her what to write in her statement.

Then I left with Emeka Chikeluba to my house and gave him the agreed fifty thousand Naira (N50,000.00) and he left with the money. He later called me on the phone at about 8 p.m. and told me that he has given Kabiru/Ahmed the money after changing the Naira to dollar. He (Emeka) emphasized that Kabiru said that I should not worry myself and that I shouldn't fail to ask my wife to come to their office at Ilupeju on the 8th of October to make the statement.

One Monday being 8th of October, I asked my wife to go and make the statement at their Ilupeju office, but she was afraid to the NDLEA office alone and considering the fact that Kabiru had already told me not to put up appearance at their office I had to

phone my immediate senior brother, Gabriel Odilibe at Aba to come over and accompany my wife to the office. On the 10th of October, my wife and my senior brother went together to the NDLEA office at Ilupeju. At Ilupeju office, wife testified that Ahmed was very kind to her for he even dictated what she wrote in her statement.

During this period Emeka Chikeluba was getting in touch with Kabiru and Ahmed since I was instructed not to bother myself putting up appearance.

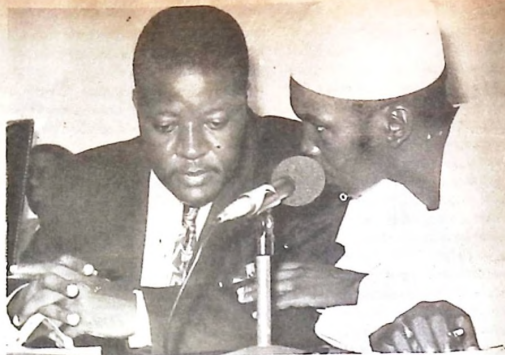
On the 14th of October, Emeka Chikeluba came to my house personally between 2 and 3 p.m. and said that he was coming back from Ahmed's house and that he met with Kabiru and Ahmed and both of them told him that Henry Abang was back and that they should schedule to meet again on the 16th of October. Before then I had agreed with Ahmed/Kabiru through Emeka Chikeluba that I would bring to them while coming, one hundred and fifty thousand Naira (N150,000) which will be enough to close up the case.

Later, I contacted my nephew, Mr. John Okpala and told him that I hadn't such money to give to Kabiru/Ahmed. On the 16th October as scheduled I and Emeka Chikeluba went to the venue of the meeting when later Mr. John Okpala joined us. We had already spent about 15 minutes when Kabiru/Ahmed came in. It was at this meeting that Ahmed introduced me to Mr. Abang as the "youngman".

Then Emeka Chikeluba went downstairs and told me and John Okpala that they (Kabiru, Ahmed and Abang) needed all the money (N150,000) and that they needed the money to enable them get rid of the case before their Chairman comes back from his overseas trip.

It was at this point that John Okpala told Emeka that he had some money in his house and the police officer we were meeting in his place ordered somebody to go along with Mr. John Okpala to his place and collect the money (N150,000) making the money given to Kabiru/Ahmed/Abang that day One hundred and fifty thousand naira (N150,000). After this, I was asked to go home and that they Kabiru, Ahmed and Abang would take care of the case.

On the 17th of October being Wednesday, I was surprised and embarrassed when I heard my name broadcasted over the radio at 4 p.m. network news for a drug offence I am innocent of. As soon as I heard this malicious broadcast, I quickly telephoned Emeka Chikeluba and asked him to get in touch with Kabiru and Co. and find out why I was being declared wanted when previously they had asked me not to put up appearance.



■ Nduka Irabor with Mamman Yusuf: A

Later Emeka came telling me that he met with Kabiru and Co. at about 6 p.m. and they said that the broadcast was made to please their American counterpart and that was the only way they know they can close the case and also since they are working with their American counterparts and if I was in doubt of what they have said, I should come to their office and see their American counterparts and some British customs that came to lecture them on how to detect drug pushers by the type of car they drive. That he (Emeka Chikeluba) should tell me not to worry myself and that the only thing I shouldn't do at this period is to put up appearance in public gatherings, but for they themselves (Kabiru and Co.) are not coming to my house to look for me and ever since, they have not done so.

The first and last time they came to my house was on the 4th and 5th of October respectively. These were the days they collected my car and searched my house as I was told by my wife.

I am appealing to you Sir, to use your good office to ask these staff of yours — Kabiru, Ahmed and Abang why I should be declared wanted for an offence I never committed while in actual fact I was getting in touch with them. Also ask them how and where they obtained the hard drug they claimed was recovered from the youngman held at the Airport since they were able to say that it was a set-up with their American counterparts.

Ever since I was declared wanted by the NDLEA, my children have been suffering from undue molestation, mockery and embarrassment from their school mates. A mere mention of their surname in their schools attracts such mockery and embarrassment from their fellow school mates.

As a last resort, I have changed school for my children as a result of the constant molestation and mockery meted on them by their fellow school mates, talkless of my close neighbors and my landlord who doesn't answer to greetings from my house. What is more my staff in the office have since left and opted for other jobs elsewhere.

I am pleading to you in the name of God Almighty to please do something to restore the glory of my name and my family in your good book which has been tarnished as result of this false declaration.

The question I am asking again is why should these young staff of yours declare me wanted while I was getting in close contact with them. If they should deny that they didn't collect money from me, why didn't they arrest me all the days I was meeting with them.

Thanking you for your maximum cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

GREG C. ODILIBE

15 Rasmon Street,
Ajao Estate,
Ikeja - Lagos.

This petition, allegedly written by Greg Odilibe, creates the impression that Odilibe was making a deal with Kabiru and company at a time the NDLEA agents ought to have effected his arrest. Given the grave and vitriolic allegations contained in the petition, the NDLEA Chairman, to whom it was addressed, was expected to have taken steps to get to the bottom of the matter.

Surprisingly, Oyakhilome insisted that he did not receive the petition. He claimed that he read it for the first time in the March 11, 1991 issue of *Newbreed*-Oyakhilome fights 'Lover'.

In an exclusive interview with *Newbreed* a day after his suspension, in the presence of two of his aides — Idonjije and one Chris — who had come to help him clear his desk, he said: "After reading about the letter in your magazine, I started investigations on it and I was able to trace it to the Ilupeju office. The letter was never sent to us here at Ruxton, it ended up in Ilupeju. I was in the process of retrieving it when I heard about my suspension".

Critics of NDLEA point out that it is amazing that a letter written to the chairman of the agency is intercepted and killed. They wonder how many of such letters must have been lost in transit.

Oyakhilome swore that if he had received the petition he would have immediately taken Kabiru Ibrahim, Ahmed, and Henry Abang off the case and transferred it to another team of investigators. He also said that he would have instituted a probe into the matter, using the agency's monitoring intelligence unit. He said a lot has been done to maintain the integrity of NDLEA officials, knowing that powerful, rich drug lords, the world over, are always looking for ways to corrupt drug fighters. He disclosed that the agency even goes as far as sending its officials on anti-corruption courses from time to time to keep them on their toes.

However, the Director of Investigations, Alhaji A.G. Abubakar, mni, the man at the helm of affairs at the Ilupeju office of the NDLEA insisted that he too did not see the letter. According to him, at no time was anybody in Ilupeju office in possession of the Odilibe letter. "How could we have received it when the petition was addressed to No. 2, Ruxton Road, Ikoyi?" he asked.

Observers believe that the contradictions between Oyakhilome's claim and Abubakar's assertion again raises serious questions concerning the organisation of the NDLEA. For instance, why should a letter addressed to the chairman not reach him? As alleged by some, are there actual syndicates in NDLEA who suppress the flow of information so that serious issues such as the one raised by the Odilibe petition does not actually get to decision makers, so that syndicate members can profit from it? Or could this particular case have been a deliberate act by the accused



NDLEA officials to stifle information to save their own necks?

Some of these questions may remain unanswered for a long time. However, Abubakar defended his men, whom he claimed he had verbally queried on the subject, following *Newbreed's* initial enquiry into the letter on Sunday, February 24, this year. He said that they all claimed not to have come across the document before. He also attested to the integrity of the three officials whom he described as high calibre officers who were placed in the Special Task Force because of their sterling qualities. If anything, he argued that Odilibe's letter may be part of a carefully orchestrated campaign by drug

barons to smear NDLEA officials.

Observers, however, believe that if the drug war is to be fought and won, incidents like this must not be allowed to go uninvestigated to ascertain the authenticity or otherwise of the claims made by the suspected drug baron. Moreover, the findings of such investigations should be made public because of the overwhelming public interest this case has engendered.

Another side to the case, as argued in an earlier issue of *Newbreed* is that drug business is big business. Odilibe who has been described as an enormously wealthy young man, with enormously wealthy connections could have set up a counter-

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intelligence, gathering operation through the offering of financial inducements to some NDLEA officials. Aware that as a suspected drug baron — a grave charge which could destroy him and his family name — he could have paid unscrupulous NDLEA officials to gather inside information with which to discredit the officers, including Kabiru, Ahmed and Abang who had been responsible for his being busted.

NDLEA Director of Investigations, Alhaji Abubakar stated that to all intents and purposes the letter could have been written without being sent. NDLEA sources told *Newbreed*, however, that if this is indeed so, how come the letter is part of the bundle of documents already put together by the commission in connection with the Odilibe drug case?

Curiously, information at our disposal indicate that the Odilibe family have had a running battle with the police.

Just before the Greg Odilibe drug scandal broke out, his younger brother, the wealthy, young upward mobile architect, Sunny Odilibe, had himself been embroiled in a controversial shoot-out, wounding one of the two policemen who claimed they were on a mission to prevent the commission of a crime in his (Sunny's) house. The two policemen are PC Godwin Okechukwu (Force No. 135917) and PC Emmanuel Okeshola (Force No. 123762). Both were attached to Pedro Police Station, Shomolu, Lagos.

In a petition dated 31st August, 1990, and addressed to the Commissioner of Police, Lagos State, PC Okechukwu had alleged that Sunny Odilibe used his position and money to influence his unlawful dismissal from the police force.

The petition tells the story of how the accused (Sunny Odilibe and others) — charged with "Attempt to commit felony and unlawful possession of prohibited arms" — suddenly switched position to that of a complainant when the case was transferred from one police station to another at his request. Overnight, he and the others put his accuser — the two policemen mentioned above — on the defensive, accusing them of attempted robbery.

Like the ₦800,000 drug scandal between Jennifer and the Odilibe family, the case is now shrouded in controversy. (See — SHOOT-OUT AT ODILIBE'S HOUSE: POLICEMAN, NIGHT-GUARD WOUNDED.)

In their petition, Okechukwu and

Okeshola drew attention to what they call "the unusual protocol" on 5th June, 1990 when they were marched to interview the Commissioner of Police at about 1500 hours. "Something strange happened. A man later identified to be the Director of IKB soap (Chief Igboanugo) appeared and entered the commissioner's office. The officer in charge of the C.I.D. entered the office with Dan Austin and Sunny. We were (barred) from interviewing the Commissioner of Police there and then consequently, we were detained by the C.I.D...."

The IKB chairman's connection with the Odilibe family had also featured in an interview conducted by *Newbreed* in connection with Greg's drug scandal. Mr. X, one of the major actors in the crisis had alleged that it was IKB who introduced Mrs. Shaldas who was later to write the petition that sent Jennifer Madike to detention and ruined Oyakhilome's career

She further revealed that the former Inspector General of Police, now National Security Adviser, is not her boyfriend. I said, "He is a family friend. Gambo has been close to my father from when he was CPS. I have not seen him since last year and I never approached him through anybody on Greg's case". To explain her connections, she stressed, "I lived my life in Kaduna, and I am married to a Northerner — Shaldas." Investigations reveal that the said Shaldas is popularly known as 'Major'.

When the petition Mrs. Shaldas signed on behalf of the Odilibe family first broke out, we telephoned her, but getting her to talk was an arduous task. In fact, the first attempt to interview her on the phone was unsuccessful. Below is the telephone conversation with her:

Newbreed: This is *Newbreed* magazine. Can I speak to Mrs. Shaldas?

Mrs. Shaldas: What do you want?



■ Aikhomu: A clean slate then a suspension

with NDLEA. According to Source X, "It was IKB who introduced the woman. There was a time when IKB had some problems, the woman introduced him to an Inspector General of Police, Alhaji Aliyu Attah, and helped him solve the problem. Later, when IKB (who is from the same village with the Odilibes) heard about Greg's problem. He introduced them to the woman. It is the woman who is now handling the case for the Odilibes".

Mrs. Udeaku Obiaha Shaldas, a hot-tempered and aggressive legal practitioner, who is reputed to have connections in high quarters — both in the police and the armed forces — has since told *Newbreed* that the story about IKB is false. "I never introduce me to the Odilibes. It was Sunny Odilibe who personally met me and asked me to take up his case. It was on that ground that I wrote the petition to Oyakhilome."

for?

Newbreed: Can I speak to her in view of her petition. We want to know her own side of the story.

Mrs. Shaldas: So, you are telephoning her, eh?

Newbreed: We have phoned her off this morning.

Mrs. Shaldas: And what happened?

Newbreed: They said you were not in and that we should continue to phone.

Mrs. Shaldas: Who told you to phone me?

Newbreed: Madam, you are free to talk and I am telling you, you are free to talk. You don't want to talk say so.

Mrs. Shaldas: Let me tell you, you can never intimidate me, please. You can quote me in your newspaper or magazine. Whether you are *Newbreed*, whether you are *old breed*, if you want to get information from me you don't start threatening

Mrs. Shaldas: Bang!

Another effort to fix an appointment with Mrs. Shaldas proved abortive. It was during the third telephone encounter that Newbreed succeeded in arranging for an interview. However, when Assistant Editor Steve Raymond, who was detailed to interview her came back from the assignment, he filed in this report:

"When I called at Mrs. Shaldas' office, she was in a bad mood and said I should postpone the interview. She was very pressive and I learnt she had just had a fight with (a) *NewsWatch* reporter who also came for an interview. She also turned the reporter out.

"However, I cooled her down and she came back to her house. She pleaded that I would not grant me recorded interview, but would explain the background of her petition. She said I was the first journalist she had spoken to and pleaded that I should not destroy her reputation as a married woman, and a lawyer. I left her house late at night (on Tuesday, February 19, 1991)..." However, apart from the issues already discussed, she also furnished information on the following cases:

On why she wrote 'WITHOUT PREJUDICE' on the petition against Jennifer Madike, Mrs. Shaldas explained that the comment was meant for the exclusive attention of the NDLEA boss, Oyakhilome, to enable him investigate the matter. She reiterated that it cannot be tendered in court, but specifically, she argued that the petition was not meant to destroy anybody. She also denied any involvement with the late Onwuazor, a relation of Chike Onwuazor who is presently being detained in the Emeka Chikeluba in connection with the drug scandal. She said that, contrary to Mr. X's assertion, she did not charge the man any money to help get his peoples lease. Rather, she insisted that she turned him down because she was already representing the interest of Greg Odilibe.

In the petition to Oyakhilome, Mrs. deaku Shaldas had boasted about her bankers, Udeaku Obioha and Co.: "We have at our disposal... information about Jennifer Madikes' (sic) fraudulent activities in Lagos. She has exhorted money from people purporting to assist them in respect of matters/cases with your Agents..." But when confronted by Newbreed, she was not forthcoming with the information.

Nevertheless, she gave reasons as to why she believed that her clients cannot be held guilty of bribery in connection with the N800,000 drug deal. She said that they

did not give Jennifer the money out of their free will, but through coercion. However, legal pundits challenge this argument, saying that, if indeed the Odilibes were coerced into parting with their N800,000, what efforts did they make to seek assistance from the police during and after the event? Why did it take them so long to act?

Since the last issue of *Mrs. Newbreed*, we have received interesting telephone calls and angry letters, some praising us for our efforts, others accusing us of covering up drug barons. Some proffered more information on some of the major actors in the N800,000 drug scandal — particularly, on the Odilibes and Chief Sam Ejiogu.

Some angry readers who claimed they know Chief Ejiogu very well accused us of being "too nice" to him.

Another caller, (name withheld), complained that we did not finish up our investigations on the drug story, otherwise, we would not have 'exonerated' Ejiogu from the drug scene. She said we were busy covering up for him, extolling his rich dressing sense when in fact, "he has been involved in drugs right from the time he was in the United States of America in the 1980s". She volunteered an avalanche of information on the young wealthy man, who is said to have linked the Odilibes with Jennifer Madike.

All efforts to reach him to comment on the allegations levelled against him failed. The only time we got through to him on telephone number 967460. *Newbreed* team of investigators were outwitted. The dialogue:

Newbreed: Hello, can I speak to Chief Ejiogu? I'm speaking from *Newbreed*.

How It All

Jennifer Madike's family feel betrayed in the ongoing drug scandal enveloping the 31(?) year old mother of four. Her cousin, Doris Obi spoke to Newbreed on the genesis of Jennifer's troubles. In the interview she referred to Jennifer as 'My Sister'

Newbreed: If the relationship between Jennifer and Oyakhilome was for such a long time, (as you told us), what could have propelled him to take the action he took against her?

Doris: I came here (from Ibadan) on Tuesday, January 7, I went to the office because I arrived early. On Wednesday, both of us, (Jennifer and I) went to Oyakhilome's office, but, I didn't know what they discussed. We just left for home. Then on Thursday, there were these cassettes which my sister borrowed, and the owners were asking her to bring them back. I said, 'why don't you go to the office and I watch them. I will bring them later in the day. She said, okay! I should go ahead. She went to the office.

When it was 5 O'clock and I didn't see anybody, I started wondering. Around 7.45 p.m. or thereabout, my sister arrived with three men (including) Abubakar Adamu, Boniface Atabu, ASP (Assistant Superintendent of Police) all. They said they were from CID interpol. My sister said yes, (They were). She said they turned her office upside down; searched her (and searched everywhere). She said she really didn't know what was going on; that they failed to tell her why they wanted to arrest her. She said they wanted to search the house, and she has

seen the search warrant.

The men said if I liked, I could search them to see that they had not come to plant anything (on) her. I did. I called some boys. My sister said it wasn't necessary. I insisted that it was good to take such steps. Later, the men now searched and turned the house upside down. But they didn't find what they were looking for. All they were after were documents that have anything to do with my sister and Fidelis Oyakhilome.

My sister, in her usual way, trying to protect the man, said that I should go to the man (Oyakhilome) and tell him that they had taken all documents relating to her and him. I wondered what was going on. I went to him that night, and he said I should tell my sister to cool down; that everything was under control, I said okay.

By the time they detained her, it was about 11.45 p.m. It was so late when we went to the CID, Alagbon. Oyakhilome lives at 2nd Avenue, Ikoyi, very nearby. So, by the time I spoke with him and went back to CID (Alagbon), they had already locked up. So, I didn't see her. That was how the detention started.

On Friday 5, I had to get somebody to bail her. They refused her bail. Then, the accusation, they failed to say. I called up a lawyer and took the case to court. I swore to an affidavit. I really want to know the real reason why she's being detained. There were certain documents they made us sign, my sister and I. **Newbreed**: What kind of documents? **Doris**: I can't remember. I have to find

Ejiogu: (After the phone was passed to him from the first person who picked it.) Yes?

Newbreed: We are from *Newbreed*, Sir. We want to talk to you about Jennifer Madike. Could you tell us how you met Jennifer?...

Ejiogu: I can't tell (you) by phone.

Newbreed: Okay, Sir, can we come and see you now?

Ejiogu: Emh. We're having a meeting now.

Newbreed: Can we come later after your meeting tonight, because we're pressed for deadline?

Ejiogu: Okay. What time do you want to come?

Newbreed: What time is convenient for you, sir?

Ejiogu: Make it 9.00 clock or 9.30 p.m. Phone by 9.00 p.m. to know if we are still

here

Newbreed: Can you give us the description of how to get there (Ejiogu's office)?

Ejiogu: From your office, right?

Newbreed: I have it somewhere. But can I just write it somewhere... What is your home number? The number we have is an Ikeja number.

Ejiogu: Meet me at 61 Bode Thomas (Surulere)...

Newbreed: So we meet you at 9.30 p.m. at Bode Thomas.

Ejiogu did not keep that appointment. Two senior editorial members of *Newbreed*: waited outside the No. 61 Bode Thomas, Surulere address till it became dangerous to continue the fruitless waiting of the Invisible Ejiogu

Some of the things we had waited Ejiogu to comment on included the allegation that, he was declared wanted in the

US in 1987 for drug offences. While in that country, he was said to have lived at Huntsville, Alabama, and ran away to Mexico in 1987 after he was declared wanted. It was from Mexico he was alleged to have returned to Nigeria in December, 1989.

On his return, he allegedly built a house in his home town, Nhwere, Imo State within six months, and somewhere along the line, he also 'bought' himself a chieftancy title.

It was further alleged that, Ejiogu, who is said to have a chain of cars which he shipped from Mexico and other places, recently bought for himself, a Volvo 474 SR, though his parents still live in a one-room apartment in festival village (FESTAC), Lagos. He is said to live near the traffic lights off Opebi. He is reported to have four brothers and a sister.

(We want to assure our readers that we are not on any cover up mission, and we will continue to present the truth as we unearth it where possible.)

Another caller told us that Sunny Odilibe who lives at 5A, Adebayo Mukuolu Street, Anthony Village, Lagos also is believed to keep an apartment in the government owned 1004 Victoria Island. He frequents and cruise around 1004 in Olive green Toyota Laurel with registration number LA 11 AR.

His brother, Greg who is currently on the run is said to be a close associate of Senator Adegoke who is currently serving a jail term in New York for drug related offences.

A close associate of the Odilibes, Source X (see interview: Everybody uses Oyakhilome's name) told *Newbreed*: that "Greg is already involved in Senator Adegoke's case. He is the owner of the cocaine Adegoke carried..."

Calls were made by commentators to the Federal Military Government, to institute a high level probe into the activities of all those mentioned in the Jennifer Madike scandal to determine their level of involvement into the volatile, but rich terrain of drug business. They believe that nothing much is being done in this respect at the moment.

For instance, there is no evidence that the assets of suspected drug barons are being probed in the Odilibe case as recommended by retired Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG) Abubakar, NDLEA Director of Investigations, who has since told *Newbreed*: that assets investigation is a long and slow process. "The suspected drug offenders will first have to fill certain forms, indicating what they have. Then we start investigating to deter-

Started

out, because it's among the things he asked for.

Newbreed: In connection with getting your sister released or what?

Doris: I think it has something to do with arresting her. They promised they were going to release her after we signed. I think it's an arrest warrant... I could remember Mr. Oyakhilome kept sending people there, (to Alagbon), of which I was one of them. He sent for me. Then, he said I should tell my sister to keep her mouth shut and maintain the statement she has written, that Oyakhilome is an upright man. Nobody knew what was happening. I didn't know. Probably they both knew what was going on.

Newbreed: They both? Whom are you referring to?

Doris: When he said I should go to her, he said I should tell her that everything is under control. She should maintain the statement and keep her mouth shut. If I started asking him what this was all about, he would not, naturally, have given me an answer. I didn't feel there was any need to ask him. And when I told my sister, she appeared to understand. I said, well, let's watch and see.

By Monday, nothing was going on. Tuesday, Wednesday, nothing was going on. I ran back to Oyakhilome and asked what the hell was going on. I told him some people came, telling my sister to re-write her statement and say the truth.

"That these people were the Odilibes. He said "Emh" Did the Odilibes come telling your sister that?" I said, yes. They

said she should write the truth; that she gave you the money and every other thing. He said "Uhm". I said well, if you know that is not the truth, that I wouldn't like these people to be seeing my sister, because under her condition, she might be forced to write what is not true. He said, 'Ah! I agree with you, I will do something about it. What he did about it was transfer her from Alagbon to Kirikiri, where she was held incommunicado till this date. I haven't seen her. I haven't spoken to her. They have totally refused me passage to talk to her.

Newbreed: I want to take you back to the 9th of January. What documents were taken away by the three ASP?

Doris: You see I could only say the ones they removed when I was in the house because I wasn't there when they searched the office. The only thing I knew is that they removed her photograph with Oyakhilome.

Newbreed: Which photograph?

Doris: When my sister had her birthday, Oyakhilome was there on the 22nd (of December, 1990), at the Lagoon on Victoria Island. Most of the photographs they removed were those he was with my sister in public functions.

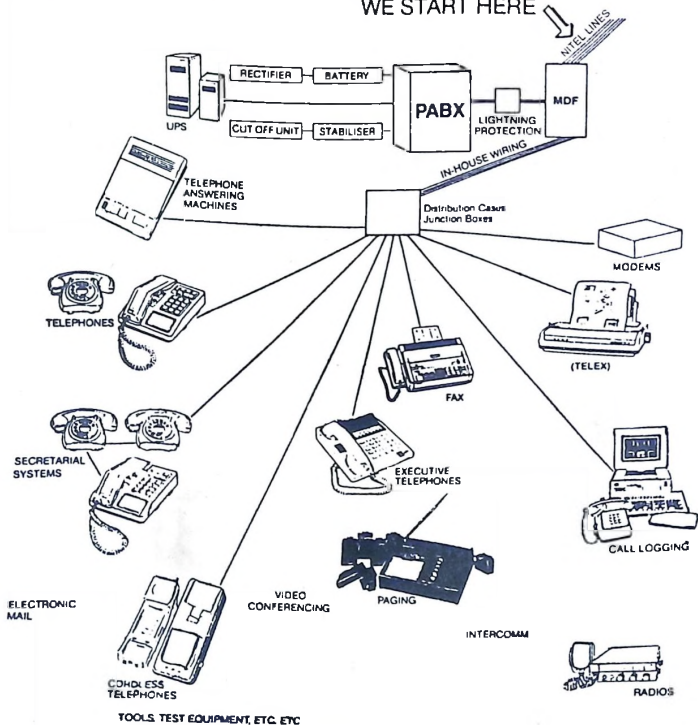
Newbreed: With Oyakhilome?

Doris: Yes they also took the one of her, Oyakhilome, the Health Minister (Prof. Ransome-Kuti), and Shehu Musa. They also removed Oyakhilome's picture that was in the board room, the conference room, actually. He is supposed to be a director and chairman of the company. Naturally, we owe it to him, to put his photograph there.



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mine what they really have. It takes time," he said, however, this is deemed absolutely necessary to enable the NDLEA meet the legal requirement and thoroughness needed in any asset investigations.

With the development, it would appear that the assets of Greg Odilibe and others currently at large may not be probed until they are found since they have to declare their assets first. But this waiting has been criticized by many *Newbreed* spoke to as evidence of NDLEA wavering on its responsibilities. They argue that, nothing short of an urgent probe of the assets of these men can restore sagging public morale in the agency.

the voice of the society. A ready reference is the election of Mr. Nimingo Smith West as the Chairman of Asari Toru local government council in Rivers State on the ticket of SDP.

According to the relaunched Lagos-based newspaper, *Weekly Metropolitan*, the election of the ex-drug convict has left a trail of bitter controversy in its wake. In fact, it is said to be a pain in the neck of NEC (the National Electoral Commission).

It is stated that Nimingo West's story started some 13 years ago, while he was a 27-year-old, fourth year student of hotel

FROM: THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
SR. 3000/RS/C15

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION
LAGOS

B. M. Kasi
DSP
I/C Criminal Intelligence Bureau
The Nigeria Police
Rivers State Command
State Headquarters
Moscow Road
PORT HARCOURT

2 November 1990

Dear Sir,
MR NIMINGO S. WEST

I have been asked to reply to your letter of 31 October.

We have made some enquiries in the UK and I can confirm that the information given in the copy of letter from the High Commission enclosed with yours appear to be accurate.

A Mr Nimingo Smith West (Nigerian Passport No. 234545, issued on 17.5.74) appeared before the Oxbridge Magistrates Court on 18 September 1978 and was found guilty of importing 4410 grammes of Cannabis at Heathrow Airport the previous day. The only discrepancy is that, according to the records we have checked, Mr West was given a £500 fine. It is possible that after so many years, the records may not be wholly accurate in this regard and I cannot rule out that 60 days detention was imposed in lieu of payment of the fine.

I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yours faithfully,
T. G. Harris

Found guilty of charges of illegal importation of drugs by the Oxbridge Magistrates Court, London, West was sentenced to 60 days imprisonment after which he was deported to Nigeria. There is a letter dated 9th October, 1978, attesting to this fact.

Also, there is another letter reconfirming that the allegation that "A Nimingo West (Nigerian passport number 234545 issued on 17th May, 1974 appeared before the... court on 18th September, 1978 and was found guilty of importing 4410 grammes of cannabis". But according to this letter, it is possible that West paid a fine of 500 pounds in lieu of serving jail sentence.

Another letter (dated 2nd November, 1990), written by Mr. T. G. Harris, the Deputy British High Commissioner to the Criminal Intelligence Bureau of the Nigerian Police (see below), updated a previous one endorsed by Mr. B. Donabson, the immigration attache to the Rivers State Ministry of Education. This letter contained a notice to the ministry that West, under Rivers State scholarship was

FROM: THE DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER



B. M. Kasi
DSP
I/C Criminal Intelligence Bureau
The Nigeria Police
Rivers State Command
State Headquarters
Moscow Road
PORT HARCOURT

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION
LAGOS

2
DISQUALIFICATION OF MR. NIMINGO SMITH WEST, CHAIRMANSHIP CANDIDATE FOR ASARI TORU LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA ON THE GROUNDS OF DOUBLE REGISTRATION.

This office has investigated an allegation from your LGA that you registered in two different wards during the registration exercise that ended on the 5th of May, 1990.

Records in my office confirm that:

- 1) You registered as West Zone 5 in ward one with registration number 504356 and serial number 18 in Port Harcourt Local Government Area.
- 2) You registered as West Hill in ward 4 with registration number 2858 and serial number 236 in Asari-Toru Local Government Area.

This obviously amounts to double registration and you have been DISQUALIFIED from continuing as a CHAIRMANSHIP CANDIDATE for Asari-Toru Local Government Area.

I GR inform you and all ward chairmen of Asari-Toru hereby directed to advise your constituents.

MR NIMINGO S. WEST

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We have made some enquiries in the UK and I can confirm that the information given in the copy of letter from the Commission enclosed with yours appears to be accurate.

A Mr Nimingo Smith West (Nigerian Passport No 234545 on 17.5.74) appeared before the Oxbridge Magistrates Court on 18 September 1978 and was found guilty of importing 4410 g of Cannabis at Heathrow Airport the previous day. The only discrepancy is that, according to the records we have checked Mr West was given a £500 fine. It is possible that, after so many years, the records may not be wholly accurate in this regard and I cannot rule out that 60 days detention was imposed in lieu of payment of the fine.

I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yours faithfully

T. G. Harris

Government was also advised to carry the battle against drug barons beyond jail terms. Their activities, it was stated, should be monitored after conviction and even after they had served their jail terms, so that they do not end up determining the political future of the country. With their wealth, it is ascertained that they could easily manoeuvre their ways into positions of power and influence, thereby becoming

management at South East London Technical College, on the Scholarship of Rivers State. While he was returning to London on 17th September 1978 after a holiday in Nigeria, he took with him some commodities to sell. He was in possession of one pound of cannabis. He successfully smuggled this through the Murtala Mohammed International Airport, but he ran out of luck on his arrival at Heathrow Airport, London.

being deported to Nigeria on drug charges.

DISQUALIFICATION OF MR NIMINGO SMITH WEST: CHAIRMANSHIP CANDIDATE FOR ASARI-TORU LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA ON THE GROUNDS OF DOUBLE REGISTRATION

1. This office has investigated an allegation from your LGA that you registered in two different wards during the registration exercise that ended on the 5th of May, 1990.
2. Records in my office confirm that:
 - a) You registered as West Nimie S. In ward one with registration number 304295 and serial number 185 in Port Harcourt Local Government Area.
 - b) You registered as West Nimie in ward 8 with registration number 285500 and serial number 230 in Asari-Toru Local Government Area.
3. That obviously amounts to double registration and consequently you have been DISQUALIFIED from contesting as a CHAIRMANSHIP CANDIDATE for Asari-Toru Local Government Area on the SDP platform.
4. LGA chairman and all ward chairmen of Asari-Toru LGA are now hereby directed to ignore your candidature.

Dr. M. O. Momah
State Chairman
SDP Rivers State.

This offence, coupled with West's double registration into the SDP earned him a disqualification from contesting the local government election. He defied the order. He contested election and won. He is today the chairman of Asari-Toru local government council in Rivers State.

That many more drug convicts, and in some cases, drug barons, have schemed themselves into positions of power and authority may not be far-fetched. But many wonder how some of them — including those who have been declared wanted in Britain, the United States and other countries — manage to stay within the ambit of law in Nigeria, when in fact, their nefarious activities in other countries are well known to the drug agency. They are left alone to roam the streets in their flashy, status and luxury sports cars; to be ferried to other countries through 'eager to be rich' couriers.

Perhaps this is why some observers accuse the NDLEA of not being effective enough to counter the hard drug menace that is slowly, but surely, enveloping the country. Even in government circles, it is said that there have been worries over the activities of the agency. Government is said to believe that it is not making as much impact as it should. "By now," said

Jennifer's police statement

THE NIGERIA POLICE
STATEMENT OF WITNESS/
ACCUSED*

..... Station Province
Name JENNIFER MADIKE Nationality/
Tribe NIGERIAN — IBD
Age 31 Occupation MED. LAB. TECH
Religion —
Address 43, ADENIYI JONES, IKFIA.

I the above name and address having been duly cautioned in English Language that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so but whatever I say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. I voluntarily elect to state as follows: My father is Professor Madike, my mother is Mrs Madike (Teacher). I went to Germany and studied Med. Lab Science. I went to Ebenezer African Church School Oke-Ado, Ibadan; Secondary School — Owerri Girls. I came back to Nigeria 1981 and worked in Owerri General Hospital in the Lab.

Then came to Lagos 1985 and worked with Mangrover Ltd. in Apapa and left there to establish L-Links International and later Biofrika. Pius Okoli who is my brother's friend came to me with Sunny Odilibe and said I should help them that they gave money to someone to give to Mr. Oyakhilome and the person gave him the money and refused to release their people in detention and they did not give me the name of the person or that I should say to the police. (not clear) the money so that they can put him in trouble. I warned them that Mr. Oyakhilome is the last person to take bribe from any of them, and that am close to some police people and that none of them can take anything from anybody. So they said am the only person who can nail Mr. Oyakhilome is me, and naturally I refuse, they even said they met Gambo (rtd. IG) and Ike Nwachukwu (the minister) and that he told them, that this is the third time Mr. Oyakhilome is taking money from people without doing the job. They promised me money I refused, one lady lawyer Mrs. Obiora telephoned that if I don't do it I'll be in trouble, in fact I visited the IG (the present one Alhaji Atta) and told him that some people said I should lie against Mr Oyakhilome, we just did not know how desperate they are to nail an innocent man.

So eventually they said we will see. I never took any money from Mr. Sunny Odilibe for anybody, they are lying. I nev-

er knew they could be so petty.
Finished.

(Signed)

Additional statement:

I, Miss Jennifer Madike (f) having been duly cautioned in English language that am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, whatever I say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. I voluntarily elect to state as follows:

I was born in Ibadan 1959, I attended Ebenezer African Church School Ibadan. Then got admission into Owerri girls, finished in 1974 and went to West Germany to study Medicine but decided to study Med. Lab. Technology, Blood Transfusion, and Morbid Anatomy. I came back to Nigeria in 1981, did my Youth Service and internship. I worked in Owerri General Hospital and later from there I came to Lagos and worked as a director of Public Relations of Mangrover and Co. Ltd., Apapa, I met a lot of nice people I started contract after I resigned from Mangrover and went back to W. Germany and United States, did some real estate and came back in 1984 back to Benin and from Benin to Lagos in 1985, started my own business, J-Links International a real estate business, made some money, through contracts and also took some money from UBA. Ikorodu Road to start Biofrika, infact up till this minute we are still owing UBA, so started operating account with Ikeja Republican Bank, Lagos, Union Bank: Minna, Ifjora ACB, Chartered Bank, Ikeja, LOBI Bank, Ikeja. These accounts are not all closed but I can assure that there is no money there.

I do not know Chief Sam Ifeanyi Ejiofor, neither do I know who Mr. Linus Odilibe. Mr. Okoli came with Mr. Sunny Odilibe on October 28th, and they, my senior brother's friends, before my senior brother Theodore Madike travelled back to Phillipines, they all studied there together. They came to report to me that Mr. Fidelis Oyakhilome took money from them, through his agents, and refused to release his brother and 2 of their relations I warned them that Mr. Oyakhilome is the

Drug Offence, I new knew any of his relations or in fact anybody else. So Sunny and Mr. Okoli refused mentioning the agents they gave the money to. I phoned Mr. Oyakhilome and he warned that those Drug dealers are very dangerous and that I should stop dealing with them. So Mr.

Okoli alone when my mother was there and I refused to see him. He later left. October 22, was my birthday and I did not go to the office. I did not collect any penny from these people at all, how (and they allege that they gave me money without a receipt. I have never phoned Mr. Odilibe's office, neither did I collect ₦800,000 and ₦200,000 respectively to influence the release of their vehicles and their relatives. I Jennifer have never phoned Mrs. Udofia or Sunny Odilibe's office or his secretary's office or discuss about any money.

I did not know that the people were released or re-arrested again. I think why they came is because Mr. Pius Okoli knows that Mr. Oyakhilome respects me a lot, he has infact when visiting my brother Dr Theodore Madike met Mr. Oyakhilome in my place, they know through my brother's wife who is a Phillippino like Mr. Pius Okoli's wife, they (Mr. Okoli have also been told by my brother's wife (Vangi) that we visited Mr. Oya's house in her company My Mother (Parents) has know Mr. Oya's in Ibadan when I was a kid. Mr. Oyakhilome is my parents friend, infact he and his family.

The Source of the Eight Thousand recovered from my office is from the furnishing contract we got from NDLEA: since we are furnishing a house for them on No 38 Abiola crescent In Ikeja, (we) also import of the wellcozyin (Aids kits from 'Welcome Diagnostic Britain) that come from the Federal Ministry of Health. There's motive behind displaying the photos Mr. Oyakhilome, Alhaji Shehu Musa and the hon. health minister, Prof. Ransome-Kuti in my company's conference room. The photos were taken during the opening of our company on 22:12:1989 infact displays photos, for remembrance of the opening of Biofrika. Mr. Oyakhilome portrait was given to me by his honorable self after his retirement from the police, when he packing both of the police quarters. There are same top Govt officials telephone numbers in my Diaries because am very much respected because my comportment intelligence and approach to issues. I don't misuse them, influence issues or business. These people are people I know before they become whatever they are now they know my character am not a talkative, that's why they know and believe in me. I make whatever I have to say honest means, some people even call me a workaholic. Am not crazy about money. Infact if not that I work hard, I won't be where I am today. I still maintain that I have not taken any penny from any Odilibe's family, talk less of 1 million Naira. I have not bought a house, even Biofrika Compound is on Rent, till date.

The two passports (photographs) in my possession bearing my name NRS-A574491 and A205583 (old, with bad photo) are my possession because when I wanted to travel sometime ago I was refuse visa because the photograph on the passport Nr. A 205583 is faded and not my I don't associate with men of the underworld or Cocaine peddlers they just wanted to use me against Mr. Oyakhilome, when they found him unbribeable, they must have been suprised to see him at my birthday party, because the map doesn't attend parties it shocked them when I refused to take there money and lie again Oyakhilome, as they promised to do anything to put Mr. Oyakhilome into trouble. I could also remember that one Johnny Okpara came to my office and filled a form (visitors) that he's from Dodan Barracks so I told them to tell him to come in. He came with a not from the first lady according to him, to Mr. Oyakhilome. So I told him to go and see Mr. Oyakhilome, but I asked him why he did not go to Mr. Oyakhilome straight with letter, he said, he just waited me to know that he has been told that their cars (seized b) of the Drug suspects is supposed to be released. What beats my imagination is why he came to me. But I did not see him with the letter. I did not know where he went eventually, because I did not enquire again. I did not know his identity except that he filled the form that he's from Dodan Barracks. I Jennifer Madike (f) having been duly cautioned in English language that I am not obliged to say any thing unless I wish to do so. But whatever I say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. I voluntarily elect to state as follows: I don't have any property, both at home and in Lagos, even where am staying is a rented house. I don't have any account overseas. I don't have any private account in (Lagos.) Nigeria In Addition to my earlier statement of 11th January 1991, I wish to give additional state ment as follows, regarding the house rented from me by the NDLEA, is that I rented the house on 38 Abiola Crescent from Miss Ilori who lives some where in Victoria Island at a cheaper prize and rented it to NDLEA at another prize which I can't remember at the moment, and NDLEA asked us to furnish the house for the which we just completed. I the above name and address having been duly cautioned in English language that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so but whatever I say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. I voluntarily elect to state as follows: In addition to my statement of 11. 1. 91 I wish to state as follows that, that my Bank accounts cannot be discussed until my Lawyers Falana, Okey Ahawotu and Co are here including Udeaku Sheldas, Mr. Beko Ransome Ransome-Kuti,

a source, "we thought that a good number of those barons would have been unmasked". Perhaps, this is one of the reasons why an imminent restructuring of the agency is being planned.

Alhaji Abubakar, nevertheless, explained the difficulties that make for an almost impossible arrest or detention of notorious drug gangs, despite the fact that they are known to be on the wanted list of various countries. He explained that unless the NDLEA is formally briefed to tackle a case, it does not have the authority to arbitrarily order anybody's arrest, unless he is caught with drugs here in Nigeria. "As of today, the United States government has not formally requested the NDLEA to arrest Ejiogbo or Greg Odilibe. If they want us to arrest these people, they have to forward a formal request with a complete case file for us to do so."

"The brief from any other country (concerning Nigerian citizens) would have to be formally channelled to the Agency, through the External Affairs Ministry, and then, the Ministry of Justice, before action could be taken," he said.

Abubakar also explained that there is still much left to be done between Nigeria and the countries co-operating with her over the drug war concerning extradition issues "we cannot just arrest and detain our citizens, waiting for them to be sent for citizenship abroad, without the proper moves being made first," he said.

Last week Friday, March 15, both the defence and the prosecution concluded their cases in an action brought by Jennifer Madike's lawyers to secure the release of the society woman and the payment of ₦850,000, being damages for unlawful incarceration.

Jennifer's lawyers had argued stridently that Miss Madike, who is President and Chief Executive of Biofrika Ventures was suffering heavy losses because of her continued unlawful detention under Decree 2 by the federal authorities. Government lawyers, however, argued that Miss Madike was not entitled to any damages since the military decree which put her in detention was superior and takes precedence over and above the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Meanwhile, defence lawyers and the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), are putting finishing touches on how to prosecute their various cases and defences.

Sources close to *Newbreed* indicate that Jennifer Madike will abandon her first statement to the police which completely exonerated Oyakhilome from

asking for or receiving the bribe of N800,000 which is now the subject of controversy. (SEE JENNIFER'S STATEMENT PAGE 000) Defence lawyers claim that the statement made by Jennifer was on the instruction of Oyakhilome, which Jennifer obliged to carry out without suspecting that Oyakhilome would abandon her. They claim that the statement was made when Jennifer was under distress, and that her signature cannot be said to have accompanied the document.

In fact, it was gathered that Jennifer Madike would be adopting the now famous or infamous affidavit of Doris Obi which was exhibited in suit number ID/MO 40M/91. It was this affidavit which narrated how the N800,000 was collected and allegedly handed over to Oyakhilome.

Newbreed spoke with Doris Obi concerning her affidavit and how Jennifer's ordeal started. Doris is supposed to be a

star defence witness and her evidence will be among other jokers be anchored as argued along the lines of this interview granted to *Newbreed*. (SEE INTERVIEW: HOW IT ALL STARTED — DORIS OBI), published exclusively in *Newbreed*.

On the other hand, investigations reveal that the thrust of the prosecution's case will be built around Oyakhilome's story. Incidentally, *Newbreed* has this story in form of another exclusive, long-length interview (see interview: I NEVER KNEW IT WOULD COME TO THIS — OYAKHILOME).

According to prosecution sources, Mr. Samuel Goyea is also expected to be summoned to court to give evidence in relation to controversial Ilupeju property he sold to Jennifer. During the course of investigations, Goyea told *Newbreed*. (See interview: "I SOLD MY HOUSE TO JENNIFER FOR N250,000).

Meanwhile, the nation awaits justice. But justice must not just be done, it must be seen to have been done. A situation whereby Miss Madike was bundled to court without notice, without any counsel whatsoever and was made to take a plea has been seriously criticized by human rights activists and constitutional lawyers. They claim it was an unfair procedure to have adopted against Miss Madike.

Government sources has countered this criticism pointing out that, only the bad side of government is spotlighted, whereas the good sides are usually not highlighted. One would have expected an acknowledgement of government gesture in allowing Jennifer to travel to court in a salon car, and the prison ambulance on the two occasions she was brought to court. Surely, if she was brought to court in a Black Maria, this would have earned the government another round of criticisms. ■

I sold my house to Jennifer for N250,000

— Samuel Goyea

In October, 1990, barely two months before her arrest and detention, society hostess, and President of Biofrika Ventures, Lagos, Jennifer Madike purchased a plush house at Ilupeju. Newbreed spoke with the man who sold the property. The excerpts...
Newbreed: Is it true you sold the house on No. 27, Obalodun Street, off Coker road, Ilupeju, to one Miss Jennifer Madike.
Goyea: Yes, I am the landlord. I sold the house to her. I (already) went to Alagbon (police station) and made statement
Newbreed: Where are the particulars of the sale of the house
Goyea: All the particulars are with Jennifer.

Newbreed: When was that house sold to her?

Goyea: Last year.

Newbreed: You don't know the exact month?

Goyea: About October.

Newbreed: How much did you sell the house to her? We heard it was about N250,000

Goyea: It is correct.

Newbreed: You don't have photocopies of the papers with which you sold the house

Goyea: No, no! I got all the documents of the mortgage company and gave it to her.

Newbreed: If we contact the mortgage company can we have the photocopies of the papers.

Goyea: You can't have them. We dropped the mortgage because the interest was getting too high. (The house was sold cheap).

It is a sort of dash, because, that house was much more than that. But because Jennif-

fer has been a good lady, and a good tenant to me, (I sold the house to her).
Newbreed: She's been living there before she bought over the house?

Goyea: She's been my tenant for years.

Newbreed: About how long?

Oh well, about five years now.

Newbreed: You don't know the exact time she parked into your building.

Goyea: Oh, no, no, But she's been an old tenant, for five or six years.

Newbreed: So, last year, she decided to buy over the house. And you are saying that N250,000 is almost a dash, why did you have to sell it to her at the rate. Because she's been a good tenant?

Goyea: Ah, now the point is this; I want to relieve myself of the taxation of the house, the interest was getting too high.

Newbreed: What is the name of the mortgage company?

Goyea: It has nothing to do with the mortgage company. Because already, I have given all the necessary things to Jennifer, nothing more.

Newbreed: How well do you know Jennifer?

Goyea: She's my tenant, that's all. One day, when I went there to see how the house was being kept, I saw the mother and at another time, the father came. I was not able to see the father. The mother said they live in Benin. I said the Oba of Benin is my friend. I told her to greet him.

Newbreed: You heard about her case?
Goyea: I heard she was detained. I don't know why.

Newbreed: Was the mortgage company worrying you that you had to decide to sell

the house

Goyea: What they wanted was their money. If I had the money, I could have relieved myself of that interest that was mounting and mounting. So, the best for me was to arrange to sell the house. When I told her (Jennifer), she asked why, and I told her. Then she offered to buy the house.

Newbreed: You made the proposition to her?

Goyea: Yes.

Newbreed: Can we get the proof of her payment, — that is, a copy of the receipt you gave her when she paid?

Goyea: Everything is with her.

Newbreed: You don't have your own copies?

Goyea: No. I told her that she had to get a lawyer to process it. So she got a lawyer who processed it.

Newbreed: Do you know the lawyer or the chambers that handled it?

Goyea: No. She employed the lawyer I know the lawyer, we have met in the office.

Newbreed: Are you a retired public officer?

Goyea: Yes, I am

Newbreed: You retired from where?

Goyea: From the Railways.

Newbreed: When did you retire?

Goyea: Ah, no, no, I can't answer.

Newbreed: How long did you serve the railways?

Goyea: For many years. I don't want to bother myself with that.

Newbreed: In what capacity did you serve?

Goyea: I was a local inspector.

Newbreed: How old are you now?

Goyea: I am 76

I never knew it would lead to this

Newbreed's interview with Fidelis Oyakhilome
on his association with Jennifer



Newbreed: Can you tell us your own side of the story in this Jennifer Madike affair?

Oyakhilome: Information came to me that somebody was talking about me in Festac (Festival Town, Lagos), saying I collected money from people and would not release the people (those detained on drug charges) from whose families I collected money. They said, "Look at this chairman in the press, condemning drug trafficking everywhere. He's a wicked man. If we can get rid of him, we better do. You cannot take a man's money, and yet, what he asked you to do, you cannot do".

Now, having taken money, she (Jennifer) puts pressure on me, saying that she was asked by dignitary A or dignitary B, to approach me and ask me to release (people) on bail. She was threatening, saying that these important personalities would be after me if I did not carry out their wishes. She also said they did not want to talk to me directly because they were scared of my reaction, and that they wouldn't want me to expose them. Now, the blackmail went on and on and it became necessary for me to check. It was when I cross-checked that I found that it was nothing but blackmail. Nobody had sent Jennifer on any errand.

It was coincidental that a little after this, a petition came in (from the Odilibes) that somebody had been collecting money. They were angry with Jennifer because they believed that she had been collecting their money and had not been passing anything to me. The petition itself says so.

They said Jennifer told them that I was in her apartment with the American drug attache, and that I was asking for an additional N200,000 after they had given her N800,000 to make up the N1 million she

said I demanded for. She told them that she still had the former N800,000 with her, and that if they did not bring the remaining N200,000, they should come and take back their N800,000.

The secretary delivered Jennifer's message to them (the petitioners) when they returned. They doubted her story because of the mention of the American Drug attache being in her apartment with me to collect the money. So they said that, since they had sold their property and paid so much money, they were not in a position to raise the N200,000 within that period of time. They suspected something was wrong therefore, since things were getting worse and worse, instead of getting better — the suspected drug baron was still being chased up and down; the arrested boys (Emeka Chukwuodo Emmanuel and Chike Onwuazor) were still in custody, the impounded vehicles were still there. Nobody aided them... They refused to give Jennifer the remaining N200,000 for the fact that they didn't have it, and they didn't believe it. The petitioners said she told them that the N200,000 was not for me, but for the American drug attache.

Newbreed: But we gathered that the boys escaped.

Oyakhilome: None of them escaped. They are still in detention, all of them. What happened was that they were granted bail earlier, by my subordinates when I travelled — unknown to them that these were special people that I wanted because they were people (suspects) who had been known worldwide (in connection with drug trafficking). When I returned, as soon as I knew they were on bail, I ordered that they should be brought back into detention. They were brought back.

This happened in December. It did not take three weeks before they were brought back. They were released by my subordinates because, according to them, a legal advice came from the legal department, saying that the two boys should be released on bail. Because Jennifer knew that they had been released on bail, she further deceived them that the money they gave her was working. Perhaps they thought while on bail, (the suspects) could run away. I eventually rounded them up with their sureties and all. But she didn't know the time they put them back in jail. She was now deposing to the fact that the people have been enabled to run away.

After re-arresting the suspects, those who gave Jennifer money for their release started suspecting that no money was given (to me), and that it was not because of the money that those people were released in the first instance. Now, having intensified the operation (on drug barons), they now came to demand for their money back from Jennifer. After all, she had told them that if they could not bring the N200,000 balance, they should come and take the initial N800,000.

Newbreed: At what point did Jennifer tell you to release the detainees?

Oyakhilome: Three days after my return from the United States (that must have been in October, or thereabouts) I published (Greg) Odilibe's photograph as a wanted person. Three days after the publication, Jennifer's telephone calls started coming, urging that these boys that were in custody be released, and that these were messages from important dignitaries in the country. She had given the impression to people that, all the time, she had been interacting with those dignitaries. She had even feigned telephone calls.



pretending to be talking to dignitaries only to impress people — the typical blackmail method. They all thought she had those connections, (especially with the way she dropped names)... Names she used included Alhaji Shehu Musa, the Professor (Olikoye Ransome-Kuti) and mine. My photographs came in handy. When I was a governor, she asked for my photograph, and I gave her. She displayed all of them in her room. When I attended her birthday party, I did not suspect anything wrong with being photographed (with her), because it was a public function and other people were there.

When the lawyer who brought the petition from the family of the drug man came, that was exactly what she told me; that this woman (Jennifer) is very close to me, and whatever she says, people would believe her. She had been going about telling people she is the only person who can reach me. (All the time she was putting pressure on me) I had insisted that she should tell those dignitaries that this is a matter that would destroy the image of the country abroad.

Newbreed: What is the issue now, based on the affidavit written by Doris Obi, Jennifer's cousin?

Oyakhilome: That is if there is a Doris Obi, because the affidavit is not sworn to...

Newbreed: Do you have a business relationship with Jennifer Madike?

Oyakhilome: It is not a business relationship in the sense that is argued... We needed a house for the Agency (NDLEA). I knew Jennifer to be an estate agent before she became this multi-complex industrialist or whatever. I told her, as an estate agent, that we were looking for a house to hire for our directors. She told me that she was going to look

around. Then, she later told me about an (available) property at 38 Moshood Abiola Crescent, Ikeja. She said that she had the landlord's permission to stand in, having been given power-of-attorney over the house as the landlady.

Newbreed: She told you that the house belonged to her?

Oyakhilome: Yes. She said that the house belonged to her, and that she was standing in for the owner of the house. The matter is between herself and the owner now. She (the owner) has come to dispute that it is not Jennifer who owns the house, but that she was granted powers to represent her as the landlady.

Newbreed: Sir, with due respect, did you ask her for the power-of-attorney?

Oyakhilome: These are not matters at my level. You can be the landlord without necessarily being the owner of a house, anyway. We did not bother about ownership.

Newbreed: But the letter (in connection with the housing transaction) is addressed to you.

Oyakhilome: We have a Tenders Board... We entered into tenancy agreement with Jennifer to rent the house. She also put in a bid for furnishing the house. Her bid was compared with other companies' bids by the Tenders Board. She was given the job for two reasons: As the landlady, she would be in the best position to furnish the house so that no structures there are destroyed (to her dissatisfaction). She would also be in the position to get the right furniture for the house. She said that because of the Agency, she had got some extra amenities put in the house.

The Agency too had a Principal Maintenance Officer to go there and supervise the furnishing in such a way that the quality of the materials would be up to required standard. He was also expected to see to what extent he could beat down the cost.

Newbreed: Who was chairman of the Tenders Board?

Oyakhilome: One of my deputies: A.J. Abubakar.

Newbreed: Concerning your business relationship with Jennifer, are you Eddie Edose, who is supposed to be chairman of her company, Biofrika Ventures?

Oyakhilome: I am not. That is not my name. I answer EDOSIE (not EDOSE).

Newbreed: You also have your name as Eddie?

Oyakhilome: Yes. Edward is one of my names.

Newbreed: The Biofrika Venture's Eddie Edose has the same signature as yours.

Oyakhilome: I have never used the name anywhere. And that signature you are talking about is fake.

Newbreed: You say your name is Eddie and Edose, and the signature is fake even though it looks similar to yours. How do we reconcile those?

Oyakhilome: That (signature) is what I call a good forgery. You can stage-manage a signature, paste it anywhere and make it look clear. I think it was all done to bring Oyakhilome into (this). When did Jennifer ever send an invitation to me as Eddie Edose to attend the board meeting? How many shares did Eddie Edose buy in Biofrika Ventures, and where is my share certificate? Where are the minutes of the board meeting of the entire board that sat and appointed Fidelis Oyakhilome of No 2, Second Avenue, Ikoyi, as Chairman of Biofrika Ventures.

Newbreed: She appointed you Executive Chairman of the company in January, 1990.

Oyakhilome: I declined. At the time of appointment, I was not engaged. The gesture was appreciated by me as I had just been retired then. I was very grateful to Jennifer. As soon as I was appointed into the Agency, I had other things to do. I never sat for one day as chairman. I never had anything to do with Biofrika. It was a paper appointment. There could not have been an Executive Chairman, because the company already has a President in Jennifer. You can not have the President of a company and at the same time, have an Executive Chairman... I wrote back (declining). I did not know that someday, we would talk about this matter... I never thought there would be a quarrel between Jennifer and me.

Newbreed: Is Jennifer your girlfriend?

Oyakhilome: No way! No!

Newbreed: Have you ever been to Jennifer's house?

Oyakhilome: Yes.

Newbreed: How often?

Oyakhilome: Maybe once in about... depending on how much time I have. Maybe once in two months, three months or perhaps as long as six months — I might not be there.

Newbreed: When last were you in her house?

Oyakhilome: During this period of drug (money collection)? I was not there... Oh, my God! I went for her birthday (celebration).

Newbreed: November or so?

Oyakhilome: Yes. Before then, I was there two months before her birthday... I

cannot remember exactly when last I was there. It has been quite some time before this matter cropped up.

Newbreed: Do you know Jennifer's mother?

Oyakhilome: Yes.

Newbreed: The last time you went there (to Jennifer's house) did you see the mother?

Oyakhilome: I saw the mother and we exchanged greetings. Is the mother telling you I was Jennifer's lover? How did she come to that (conclusion)?... I am their uncle. Jennifer's father is the person I respect so much, and the mother. He addressed a letter to me, thanking me for (looking) after Jennifer and her younger sister called Franca... Franca did her Youth Service in Port Harcourt, and Jennifer pleaded with me to give her a place in government house since she had no accommodation. I accepted Franca into the family... Jennifer would not tell anybody that I am her lover... The fact that I address her as 'My darling' or 'My darling sister', or 'Sugar Jennifer' (does not matter). Jennifer will even call me 'Honey'. She calls everybody that answers her the phone 'Honey'. So, it has no meaning to us... I am always standing in the position of her uncle... Even at her birthday ceremony, I was asked to speak on her behalf as her uncle.

Newbreed: Those letters that were attached to the affidavits were purportedly written by you. Jennifer was addressed as 'My sugar', 'My darling', 'President Jennifer'. Did you write all those things?

Oyakhilome: Yes, they have no meaning whatsoever.

Newbreed: Did you see Doris Obi following Jennifer's arrest?

Oyakhilome: No, I have never seen Doris Obi.

Newbreed: After the arrest?

Oyakhilome: The person I saw is the girl who told me that she is the daughter of Jennifer's aunt.

Newbreed: Can you describe her?

Oyakhilome: She is light complexioned. She came in here and told me that Jennifer was being pressurized by the police at Alagbon Close to change her statement that she gave money to me, otherwise, she would not be released on bail. So, she said Jennifer wanted to know what she would say and what she would do; that the action of the police was not directed towards her, but to get rid of me, and that she didn't know that Aliyu Attah, (the Inspector General of Police) hated me to the extent of getting her to implicate me. So, I quiet-

ly told the girl to tell Jennifer to say what she liked, and warned her not to come and talk to me about what was happening at Alagbon again; I did not want further blackmail. All she was saying is to tell me to ask the police to stop further investigations as the case was now directed against me. She wanted me to rescue her.

Newbreed: How did you come to know Jennifer since you said she's not your lover?

Oyakhilome: Jennifer was brought to me at Owerri when I was Commissioner of Police, by her parents — Dr. and Mrs. Madike. They were introduced by one Mr. Kadiri who was working at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital laboratory. The Madike family has told Kadiri, who was their next door neighbour, that their daughter Jennifer had marital problems. They said that she was chased out by her husband who was threatening her life and property. Jennifer claimed that she had just returned from Germany with her husband and that there was plenty of trouble between both of them. So, Kadiri offered to bring the family to my house to solicit for advice. First, they wanted to protect Jennifer's life since she was being threatened. Secondly, they wanted to see how possible it was for her to take her property out of the house since she was planning to sue for divorce. I was sitting with my wife when they came pleading. Kadiri is my cousin... After helping them to solve the problem, Jennifer became a frequent visitor to my house, and played with my children. My wife received her any time. Even when she had financial difficulty, she came, I gave her money. I introduced her to people who would take care of her... The father wrote to express his gratitude. Even when I was in Port Harcourt, she was coming to visit us... When she moved to Benin, she was coming to visit us... The father wrote to me saying that what baffles him is that I take care of his children without taking advantage of them. He said he was full of admiration for me. It was when I was retired that this offer (Executive Chairmanship of Biofrika) came. Believe me, the gesture was wonderful. From then on, I felt that Jennifer was a really special person to my life, and that she was dear. It was from then on that I started addressing her as my 'Darling Jennifer'. She filed those notes. I didn't sense blackmail (in the air). I wouldn't file notes she sent to me for instance because they meant absolutely nothing.

She got us Biofrika products — soaps,



towels and so on. I sent a note thanking her for these products of Biofrika. I said I would enjoy (the products) more than 1 million naira dividends assuming I was named chairman of the company... I said "now that you are doing very well Jennifer, carry on with the good work..."

Newbreed: So that was the whole thing?

Oyakhilome: Yes.

Newbreed: Why were you cited in a divorce case?

Oyakhilome: Because I was the one who sat over the question of allowing Jennifer to collect her property.

Newbreed: No, not that. Why were you cited?

Oyakhilome: Did I appear in the divorce case? I never appeared and I was never served. I am not aware. Maybe the husband wanted to smear my name... I attended a hearing for the first time that I was cited. I knew that I was cited, I would have insisted on being served with a subpoena to attend.

Newbreed: From her statement, Jennifer admitted that she took money from the Odililes. Even the affidavit by Doris Obi admitted same.

Oyakhilome: I am glad her (admission) tallies with the allegation made against her.

Newbreed: It was stated in the affidavit that she gave you the money.

Oyakhilome: ...Jennifer herself known in her heart of hearts that chairman doesn't take bribes... In fact, she said that one of the lessons she knew was going to learn from me is that, it is possible to be a police officer, to have worked in the service and not collect a bribe. Jennifer said that when it comes to moral latitude, I was the one she was going to emulate. Unfortunately, I didn't know

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Everybody Uses Oyakhilome's Name — Source X

Source X is a middle aged man who is one of the actors in the on going Oyakhilome-Jennifer Madike drug saga.

He knows a lot about the principal actors, including Greg Odilibe who is still in the run. He also knows a lot about the field operation of the NDLEA.

In this interview he talks about the large-scale corruption at the NDLEA office at Ilupeju, where officials sell excreted drugs for a commission. Source X also gives an insight into how Chike Onwuazor and Emeka Okoro who is known to the police as Emeka Chukwuedo Emmanuel, met a supposedly planted courier who led the NDLEA to effect their arrests.

In his own evaluation, Source X believes that it is improbable that Mr. Oyakhilome could have demanded money to sweep the Odilibe case under the carpet. However, he says Jennifer Madike showed pictures suggestive of sentimental involvements with Oyakhilome to convince people of the stronghold she has over the drug buster. He also spoke of how cocaine-filled condoms are hit against walls to check strength so as to prevent leakage in the tummy which could lead to death. Durex Gossamer he says, are the most popular and this is why this brand is scarce in the country.

Source X spoke with *Newbreed* at our Alaka Estate Offices in a six-hour interview that spanned two days, Tuesday, February 19, (8 p.m.- 10 p.m.) and Wednesday, February 20, (8 a.m.-12 noon).

Question: What have you to tell us?

Answer: I will tell you how the boy who carried the thing met Emeka. How the case connected Chike who is in jail now with Emeka. They are the agents that connected with Greg.

Question: Greg Odilibe seems to be the king leader of these barons.

Answer: Greg himself is saying that they implicated him... that they arranged with the drug agency.

Question: How did it all start?

Answer: There is a boy who says he has

visa and that he's looking for people to go to America for. That is, he wants to be linked with a baron. The boy has visa. He is one of the NDLEA boys. The case started with this boy. They didn't know that he is Oyakhilome people. He went and met Emeka Okoro that he is looking for somebody whom he will go to America for to carry cocaine for him. Then Emeka Okoro contacted Greg. Greg agreed to sponsor the boy to America. He gave the boy his account number where he will pay the money. The boy swallowed the cocaine in Greg's house. The NDLEA arrested the boy, but the boy cannot identify the house (Greg's house), because when Emeka was carrying him there, they went in the night... They would have gotten Greg, but the boy can't identify Greg's house... Greg is already involved in Senator Adegoke's case in America. He is the owner of the cocaine Adegoke carried. Greg is one of the barons and that is why (because he's already involved in a case in which America is interested) Oyakhilome may not agree to collect any money. He would do anything to work to catch Greg. It is even better for him to catch Greg than to take N5 million. He likes to show America that he is working. That is my own view.

Question: How did they catch the boy?

Answer: Emeka Okoro used Chike's car. Chike's surname is Onwuazor. Emeka used Chike's car to drop the boy at the airport. I don't know the name of the boy. But you know all these people have nicknames. They used to call him one name. The number of the car that Emeka used is LA 1995 XX.

Question: How did this boy know Emeka and Chike?

Answer: You know all these NDLEA people know the drug people. They play with them go out with them, if they want to catch them, they know how to catch them. They can play together, smoke together... when they want to catch them.

When Emeka dropped this boy at the airport, he was arrested, with the intention that they had caught him. Then the

boy couldn't know where to get Greg because he couldn't trace the house where he swallowed the cocaine. He mentioned Chike's car. That was when they started looking for Chike and Emeka. They got them at Falolu, (Surulere) near the Unity Hotel junction where they went to make a phone call.

Question: What's the relationship between Emeka and Chike?

Answer: Both of them are very good friends and they are ... from Awka Etiti. Greg gave the boy about N40,000 (\$4,000) for his expenses to go to America. He also gave him his account number where he will pay in money from the cocaine.

The boy did not go to Emeka's house when they caught him because Emeka does not have a house. He is either staying with Chike or with one of his brothers. Because they used Chike's car, they were looking for Chike, not even Emeka.

The day they got Chike, they got Emeka. Emeka was with Chike in the car. They took two of them together somewhere in Surulere. They took them to their station, I think, Ilupeju. It was Emeka that now took these people to Greg's house. Greg's wife, (I don't know her name) was arrested. They live somewhere in Ajao Estate. The wife was later bailed out by, (I think), Mr. (John) Opara. The day they came to arrest Greg, they carried some of his cars. They took 2 cars — a Peugeot 504 and a Santana. I don't know the numbers, but they are still parked now at Ilupeju office of NDLEA. They didn't see Greg and they have not arrested him yet. But the news is that he is in town.

Question: How did this issue of money come in?

Answer: Somebody came and said he knows somebody who knows Oyakhilome. It was Sam Ejiogu. He says he knows one woman, (Jennifer Madike) who knows Oyakhilome who could help to solve the problem. Sam Ejiogu and the Odilibes are friends and they all come from the same village. Sam told Sunny, Greg's junior brother about this woman, and they went to see her. This woman

promised to see Oyakhilome. She was always talking to somebody (a man) on her open phone. She showed them photographs of herself and Oyakhilome. (Cuddling each other), she even told them that Oyakhilome was going to marry her very soon. Later, she said that Oyakhilome has agreed to help Odilibe family and that the agreement fee was N1 million.

They paid N700,000. Not long after this, Emeka and Chike were released. Everybody thought that the money was working and that Oyakhilome must have received the money.

Greg's cars were not released. Greg now confronted Jennifer (through Sunny Odilibe) and demanded for his cars. It was John Opara, Sunny Odilibe and Sam Ejiogu that were the ones who were always meeting the woman (Jennifer). The woman was always talking on her (open) phone for everybody to hear.

The N700,000 was supposed to have been paid to Oyakhilome. And when Emeka and Chike were released, it was thought the money was working. Later they said the woman was complaining, that Oyakhilome was asking for the remaining N300,000.

It was when they came to order re-arrest of Emeka and Chike that we suspected that the money was not paid to Oyakhilome.

Question: Why is Chike's brother called Bulldog?

Answer: He's about 6ft tall and he's rich. All these boys are rich and they're from the same place.

Question: Tell us about the Ilupeju office of the NDLEA.

Answer: They keep all drug suspects there. They have 3 cells and there is a big hall. The women are supposed to have 1 cell and the men 2 cells, but the women and men all sleep together at Ilupeju. The women don't go into their cell. Everybody sleeps in the hall.

Question: What unusual things happen at Ilupeju?

Answer: At Ilupeju, so many people use Oyakhilome's name, to make money. Even the officials. Before anybody can leave that place you must have spent one hundred thousand, two hundred thousand... When they arrest you at the airport, they give you something to shit the cocaine.

These cocaine they usually package in expensive special type of condoms and swallow with delicious okro soup. Usually, they mould the cocaine like food and throw against the wall to determine how it can withstand pressure in the tummy. If

you throw it against the wall and it breaks, that means it is not good for swallowing. If it does not break, then you swallow with okro soup. It can stay in the tummy for more than 8 days. If they arrest you at the airport, you can shit about 3 if you have 5 in your tummy. When they take you to Ilupeju, you can shit the remaining 2 and do business with it with the officials or the policemen on duty. They take it out and sell. They have their own commission on everything they sell. They also collect their commission on anything they help you to buy — including beer, soap etc... There is big business going on between the NDLEA people and all these drug people

but that everybody should contribute to it to make up the N1 million required to settle the case. I was told that it was IKB who introduced the woman. There was a time when IKB had some problems, the woman introduced him to Attah and helped him to solve the problem. Later when IKB (who is from the same village with Odilibe) heard about Greg's problem, he introduced them to the woman. It is the woman who is now handling the case.

Question: Do you have any reason to believe that Oyakhilome was involved in collecting the money, in qu a?

Answer: I cannot say. it will be

“If they arrest you at the airport, you can shit 3 if you have 5 in your tummy. When they take you to Ilupeju, you can shit the remaining and do business with the officials or the policemen on duty. They take it out and sell. They have their own commission on anything they sell.”

arrested. At the airport, they shit about 3 which they use for sample. They shit the other later.

Question: How do they know that people carry cocaine in their tummies?

Answer: They know through X-ray.
Question: How do they even suspect these people?

Answer: The NDLEA know these people. They know all these cocaine pushers. At the airport. If you give them N200,000 or N300,000, they will leave you to pass through. But the only problem you have will be in America.

Question: How did the second woman (Shelda) get involved in this case?

Answer: She is the daughter of Qbioha. She is very influential and they say she asked for N1 million to get our release. (He confessed that he didn't know whether it was for her fees or for bribery). The woman charged, N130,000 to get those of us detained out. Later, she said Sunny Odilibe should not pay the money

difficult to collect the money for Oyakhilome because the Greg case was a joint venture between Nigerian Drug Agency and America.

Question: The Profile of Principal actors?

Answer: — Chike sells carpet at 33 Ojuelegba Road. He has no children, and he is not married. He lives in Anthony village.

— Emeka has no house, no wife, no children. No visible means of livelihood. He hangs around his brothers.

— John Opara (Oki) has a Rolls Royce. He lives in Anthony village. His wife has 3 cars. He is in his early 30s.

— Chief Sam Ejiogu is a well-dressed man. His dressing at once can amount to about \$10,000. No information on what he does for a living. He is in his early 30s.

— Sunny Odilibe is not yet 30. Perhaps 29. He has about 16 cars. He is perhaps richer than his elder brother, Greg.

— Greg Odilibe is about 32. He is very rich and has several cars.

Shoot-out At Odilibe's House: Policeman, nightguard wounded

Barely four months before Greg Odilibe fell into the dragnet purportedly set for him by the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) last October, his younger and more wealthy brother, Sunny Odilibe who is said to be in his late twenties was embroiled in a controversy of his own.

In the early hours of June 3, 1990, at about 3.00 a.m., he was allegedly engaged in a shoot-out that attracted six policemen and two soldiers into his premises. In the process, a policeman, Godwin Okechukwu, and Sunny's nightguard, Dan Austin were wounded. Ultimately, the shoot-out landed him at Pedro Police Station where he was charged with attempt to commit felony and illegal possession of arms.

But the table was soon to turn when the case was transferred at his request to another police station. His former accusers, PC Godwin Okechukwu and PC Emmanuel Okeshola suddenly became the accused, and he, Sunny Odilibe, the complainant. By 31. August, 1990, Okechukwu had written a petition to the Commissioner of Police, Lagos state alleging that Sunny Odilibe had used his position and money to influence his unlawful dismissal from the police force.

Godwin Okechukwu had stated that on June 2, 1990, he was on duty at Ajao Estate Police Post, which is a sub-station of the Shomolu Division, when a case of stealing was reported by one Prince Jide Adeniyi (Poatson). The case was against his houseboy and some unknown thieves. After on entry had been made in the crime diary, he said the case was referred to him for further investigations. He reported that the complainant, Prince Adeniyi had given him and his colleague, PC Emmanuel Okeshola with whom he was investigating the case of a vehicle with registra-

tion No OD 7717 KA for case of movement since there was none in the outpost.

As the story goes, on the June 3, 1990, at about 0230 hours, Okechukwu and Okeshola left the station for Bariga on enquiry into the case of stealing. On their way back to the station, they got to Graz Hotel, also in Anthony Village and noticed a man standing beside a Peugeot 504 salon car. The two policemen stopped, came out of the car and enquired from the man what his business was at that place at such an ungodly hour — 2.30 a.m. in the night. The man said he was a "kabukabu" driver, and that he had brought a man from Airport Hotel, Ikeja to a house opposite Graz Hotel. Suspecting that he could be a car thief, they decided to verify from the house he pointed at — that is, No 5A Adebayo Mukuolu Street.

Okechukwu stated that he knocked on the gate of the house, the security man answered. "We introduced ourselves to him and even told him that we were not satisfied with the explanation of (the man). At this point, the security man opened the gate and told us to wait so that he could go and call somebody upstairs. At that moment, a voice came from the upstairs balcony, asking the security men to tell him the people he was discussing with. The security men told the man that we are police officers."

Okechukwu added that at this point himself and Okeshola were convinced that the "kabu-kabu" driver was there for a purpose. He said they were leaving when they suddenly heard gun shots from upstairs. He and his colleague started shouting that they were policemen. The security man called on his master not to fire or kill us, all to no avail. Sunny Odilibe, as later discovered his name, boastfully told some officers in Pedro Station that he commanded his Junior Brother, Chris Odilibe to



■ Aliyu Attah: More problems

take his own gun and fire. This made it clear that they used more than one rifle on us", said Okechukwu who added that one of their bullets hit him on the neck. Because of the heavy firing, he added that they ran for their lives leaving behind their now bullet-ridden vehicle.

The policeman claimed that at this time he had on him a chief revolver Pistol with serial No 8D44203 with loaded six rounds of ammunition but he refused to fire back.

At Pedro Police Station where the sought help, the DCO, Mr Chris Duro DSP, who was the incident duty officer

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Commercial Enterprises Stall Abuja's Development

Industrial organisations and commercial enterprises have been identified as part of the draw back to the full development of the new Federal Capital, Abuja. These organisations, allocated land in Abuja several years ago, were identified as the impediment to the city's progress by government officials who noted their persistent refusal to build up plots allocated to them, despite having received certificates of occupancy (C of O) several years ago. They also have failed to open functioning offices which would have heightened the commercial tempo of the developing city.

Newbreed investigations in Abuja revealed that many of them, till now, have not taken seriously, the warning of the Ministry of the Federal Capital Territory (MFCT) that plots not developed after two years of receipt of certificate of occupancy would be revoked and given to other, more interested people to develop. Consequently, they keep demanding extensions of time to enable them begin development, but even this has yielded little fruit.

On display in the Central District, where important complexes such as the party secretariats and the Women Development Centre are situated, are signboards showing the plots of land allocated to several companies which, as yet are developed.

Interestingly, a recent guided tour of parts of the city, organised by the MFCT (in Abuja) and the Presidency (in Lagos) drew the attention of newsmen to commercial enterprises. On that occasion, features editors and other top-level journalists based mainly in Lagos, went round to assess facilities on the ground, in readiness for the movement of the seat of government by the end of the year to Abuja. And both the Secretary to the Federal Government (SFG), Abuja, Aliyu Mohammed and the Director-



■ Gordian Oranika: Director-General MFCT.

General, (MFCT), Mr. Gordian Oranika noted the haphazard nature of the contributions of the private sector.

Also, in an exclusive interview in Abuja, the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Major-General Muhammadu Gado Nasko (rtd) told *Newbreed* that the action of the private companies, in allowing their plots to overgrow with weeds, was responsible for the seemingly slow development of the Central District. He explained that the pace at which the Central District develops, does not lie solely with the Ministry.

The minister said, "it is not a deliberate plan on the part of the ministry, for the Central District to be the slowest developing area of this city. It is the private sector that is (supposed to be) there - the centre for business enterprise. And many of them, despite repeated extensions, have still not done anything on their land."

Talking about the inescapable role of their commercial enterprises, Major-

General, Gado Nasko revealed that the development of the city is supposed to be shared between government and private companies. "The development," he clarified, is supposed to be 60 and 40 per cent, respectively. Forty, the private sector and 60, the government; and government has fulfilled its obligations fully.

In the ministry's 1991 budget speech, owners of commercial and industrial plots, as well as multinational corporations and other corporate bodies were castigated for their attitude towards the progress of the city. Expressing gratitude to mainly individuals and a few private organisations for responding to their call to start developing their land, the minister said, inter alia, that "the situation, however, is different with respect to commercial and industrial plots. The various plots of land allocated to multinational corporations and other corporate bodies in the Central Area, for the building of their head offices, are yet to be developed. In view of the fact that the central area is meant to be the econ-

omic nerve centre of the city, the failure of these companies to commence site development has seriously retarded the city's development plan."

However, in an effort to gear them up to start development, the Federal Capital Development Authority, about a year ago, issued notices to all private organisations to quit various government quarters they were occupying, as soon as their tenancy agreement expires. This, the Authority hoped would do two things. One, make them realise that they must start building their plots, if they have any, as it is now obvious that they cannot use government quarters indefinitely. Second, make space available for government parastatals who need them, both residential and accommodation-wise.

Of this measure, retired Major-General Gado Nasko said about 80 per cent success had been achieved because "we are recovering the houses based on the termination of the agreement. We are not just illegally ejecting people."

The Ministry has now resorted to appeals to different segments of the Nigerian society to come and be a part of the fledgling city. The minister said to *Newbreed*, "we're not building a barracks... we're building a city, and it is the citizens of a country that build cities. So, plead to Nigerians that there is every opportunity here. We will provide all the infrastructure, the water, the sewage system, the electricity, and all our roads. There is to come and put up the buildings."

Various other incentives are being offered to real estate agents and other interested people. Plot allocation has been greatly liberalised.

Newbreed gathered that harsh times await those whose certificates of occupancy were awarded more than three years ago, because the Ministry has adopted the policy of not warning any more allottees.

"We will revoke any certificate of occupancy on failure of the individual or company to begin immediate development of his own property," warned the Minister. He added that his ministry was looking into all the records to see "those ones that must have exceeded the time limit, and we will not hesitate to revoke and give to more serious companies that would want to develop such properties."

Yemi Ogunmodede

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The primary responsibility of the officer will be to assist the Business Manager achieve corporate objectives in areas such as:

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- Formulation and execution of business strategies.
- Expansion and motivation of the staff of the unit.

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Return of the prodigal?

Plateau State debates a return to the northern fellowship

The race to occupy the Government House in Rayfield, Jos, is also a battle over whether Plateau State should join the Northern Political fellowship or retain its image as the opposition state in Northern politics. The radicals — those who want the state to change have grouped themselves in the National Republican Party (NRC). This group, whose rank is swelling, argues that Plateau State, especially Jos, has not developed despite its friendly climate because the people of the state have not towed the line of the powerful northern oligarchy.

Sale Bayari, the publicity secretary of the National Republican Party in the state put the issue clearly when he told *Newbreed* that "the people of Plateau are tired of being marginalised. Most federal government projects and companies, he disclosed, which ought to be sited in Jos had been moved to Bauchi. These he said include the zonal headquarters of the Central Bank, the Nigerian Industrial Development Bank and the Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Company. The non siting of these companies in Jos, he said was due to the confrontational politics of the people of the state to mainstream northern politics. While the Federal Government had been penalising Plateau State, the "South" whom Plateau state had been in political league with had not been of much help to the people of the state. This attitude formed the background of the almost desertion of Ibrahim Mantu by Plateau State delegates at the Abuja Conference of the Party. Mantu was accused of being a spoil sport for presidential ambitions of the north. An unsigned statement which was distributed among northern delegates at the conference in Abuja had said "Mantu's Chairmanship would mean a southern presidential ticket."

In the ranks of the radicals today are several Plateau men who were once leaders of the opposition party, (NPP) — these include, S.S. Gofwen former secretary to the administration of Solomon Lar, Aliyu Akwe Dana, Lar's deputy, Idris Yakubu, a former commissioner, Hanatu Chollom,

Ezekiel Yusuf, the wealthy former boss of the Jos International Breweries and Dakum Shown, speaker of the dissolved Plateau State House of Assembly. Though, they made less than expected strong showing at the recent local government polls, the radicals who want to transform Plateau politics to that of a close association with the mainstream northern politics believe they can deliver Plateau state to the NRC. They are banking on the perceived frustration of the 'indigenes' of Plateau State with the "confrontational attitude of the state to the mainstream

and Laguja where the NRC led, the gap was overwhelming. Hopes of the NRC were further boosted January, this year when a prominent civil servant, Mr. Bagudu Hirse resigned his federal appointment to join the NRC. Both parties had made open overtures to Hirse, a former editor of the *Sunday Standard* who is perhaps one of the most popular civil servants from the state because of the assistance he gives to job seekers from the state.

As a strategy the NRC does not seem to be interested in picking any candidates from the lower Plateau. Dr. Datha



■ Sati: SDP has not zoned the governorship

northern political fellowship. Another strength of the NRC is the fact that it received more total votes cast during the last local government elections than the SDP. NRC's Sale Bayari insists that in areas where the NRC was beaten by the SDP, the gap was small and often insignificant, whereas in areas such as Nasarawa,

Araf, a former secretary to the state government who came out to openly canvass for a Lower Plateau Governorship has withdrawn into his shell. Another aspirant whose ambitions were dashed by the outcome of the local government elections is Mr. Ezekiel Yusuf, who could not deliver even a seat in his Langtang Local Government Council to the NRC. Though the NRC is banking on the popularity of Bagudu Hirse, other aspirants such

"The Kafanchan religious riots, the statements of Abubakar Gumi and the controversy surrounding the removal of Domkat Bali from government have all given the impression to the people that they are not accepted by the mainstream northern politicians."



■ Lar: Echoes of the NPP

Miss Kom Puppet, a Jos-based lawyer and John Akson, an NPP legislator in the Second Republic. Other candidates are Mr. Davou Zang, son of Mr. D.E. Zang, the chairman of the NPP in the Second Republic and Madam Hanatu Chollom a stalwart of the NPP.

Independent observers in the state are however, discounting the threat these former aides of Solomon Lar pose to the SDP, which by the confession of NRC's Sale Bayari is regarded by the people as the defunct NPP — a party people held very highly.

The SDP to date has no clear cut decision on the Governorship race. Its publicity secretary, Alhaji Bashir Musa Sati insists that the Party is busy at the election tribunals looking into complaints of contestants. According to him the SDP will turn its attention to the Governorship election only when it has disposed of the election petitions. He admitted but would not name those candidates that have been



■ Mantu: Spoilsport of Northern presidential ambitions

declaring intentions. He denied rumours in the state that the party had zoned the Governorship to the Biroms inhabiting Jos and its environs. According to Sati "the Governorship is not zoned to any zone. All aspiring candidates will contest the elections and the one with highest vote wins." Sati who says the SDP will win the Governorship elections in the state with little effort because of the "progressive" nature of Plateau discountenances any choice of a wrong candidate. "The question of fielding a wrong candidate in the SDP does not arise. Every card-carrying member of the party has a right to help in choosing the candidate."

What may help the state SDP is the absence of the bitter conflict between the PSP and PFN factions of the party. The party members seem to have accepted the fact that it will serve the party most if they unite behind one candidate. As with the NRC, the lower Plateau does not seem to be making a serious effort at clinching the Governorship ticket. The two candidates

from lower Plateau, Joseph Mallum, a lawyer from Akwanga local government area and Nana Byanyiko, a former staff of the Jos International Breweries are not seen as serious contenders by most observers. Though no definite reason was given, their chances were not highly rated.

The most prominent candidates in the party are Michael Bot, a Birom and former marketing manager of the NTC Zaria, Professor Umaru Gomwalk, a Vice Chancellor and Mr. Fedelis Tapgun, a serving director-general whose candidature is believed to be backed by Yahaya Kwande and the PFN. His interest and the backers could however not be confirmed. Another candidate who is said to be backed by the PFN group is Chuwang Rwang Pam, son of the first Chief of Jos. Other names often mentioned are Umar Shittin, a lawyer and former member of the Constituent Assembly from Shendam Local government area and Dr. Sonni Tyoden, a lecturer at the Federal University, Abuja.

The NRC which is smarting from its defeat at the LG polls believes that it has done quite well, given the fact that people often associate it with the defunct National Party of Nigeria (NPN). According to Sale Bayari, the SDP benefitted from its close association with the NPP. He says that civil servants, traditional rulers and the generality of the people so regarded the SDP as the NPP that, they did not want to disappoint the SDP.

Unlike the NRC, the SDP believes that the problem of the state is because the people have been taken for a ride by those who control the state politically. The state, the party leadership insists can only progress if the people take their full destiny into their hands. This it is believed cannot be done when the people of the state got only crumbs from the table. The campaign of the SDP has been helped in no small by the recent past events in the north. The Kafanchan religious riots, the statements of Abubakar Gumi and the controversy surrounding the withdrawal of Domkat Bali from the government have all given the impression to the people that they are not accepted by the mainstream northern politicians. The fact that several government projects and companies are sited in Bauchi is also a complaint that is helping the SDP. In the words of a youth "should we sell our right to freedom of thought before we get our rights?" For now, nobody can tell whether the radicals or the conservatives will laugh last.

Rima Shawulu ■

NDA Braces Up For Professionalism



■ NDA's Administration Black: A need to blend academics and soldiering

One immediate fall-out of the current purge of personnel from the armed forces is the drastic reduction in the number of Cadets to be admitted into the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), the only institution in the country that trains fresh officers for the three arms of the armed forces. The Commandant of the NDA, Major-General Garba Duba told *Newbreed* in Kaduna that "the number of Cadets we are to produce must be reduced". According to him, the NDA recruits Cadets based on the needs of the armed forces which is communicated to it by the various chief executives of the three arms of the armed forces, namely the Army, the Navy and the Airforce.

The logic of the military authority at the NDA is that, since the NDA graduates would be absorbed by the three wings of the armed forces, it would be an effort in futility to train more officers than is required.

Another immediate result of the restructuring process is the shifting of the curriculum towards the needs of the armed forces as defined by the military authorities. General Duba who spoke at length on this to *Newbreed*, disclosed that when the NDA was initially upgraded into a degree-awarding institution, the curriculum were "the same in contents as is obtained in our traditional universities. In other words, the curriculum in, and what is taught in the department of geography, in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria or Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife or University of Nigeria, Nsukka is the same syllabus which we lifted and recruited staff to teach". This had to give way.

"Now," according to General Duba, "we are training military officers". The emphasis, he says, is now on military practice. "Most of our teaching is to be purely on the needs of the armed forces.

Now, if we are going to get somebody to come out with a degree in geography, he should be able to make maps, produce sketches for defence or for attacks as the army needs, not town planning". The main setback with this ambitious programme is the inadequacy of manpower.

According to him, the NDA cannot start a military degree (programme) because there are no experts to teach these subjects. "The lecturers we got from Ife, Nsukka, and Ibadan don't teach military geography or history" he said, adding that efforts are being made to ensure that the situation changes. Already, some steps have been taken to introduce these new changes to military-related courses at the NDA. Engineering students at the NDA for instance, would be more concerned with explosives, building bridges and other military-related aspects of engineering. The aim of this, in the words of General Duba, is to turn out "combat-ready and tested officers".

Established in 1964, the Nigeria Defence Academy which was then known as the Nigerian Military Training College, was set up to meet the training needs of the armed forces. It was reasoned that sending people abroad for training was not only expensive but that the security of the country could be easily compromised.

When it was initially established, Cadets were trained to sit for the Nigeria Defence Academy Certificate of Education (NDACE) which was the equivalent of General Certificate of Education Advanced level. It was moderated by the University of Ibadan.

To meet its manpower needs, the military recruited university and polytechnic graduates through its short service course. An officer recruited through the short service only underwent a nine-month course and was usually a professional whose rise in the military hierarchy was restricted. Those short service officers who wanted to take the military as their career usually applied to be converted into the combatant units.

This arrangement, *Newbreed* learnt, became a source of friction between those officers who went into the military through the short service commission and those who went through the academy. While those who went into the military through the short service courses saw themselves as highly educated soldiers, those who went through the academy saw themselves as being more professional. Besides, there was the additional factor of the short service officers not exceeding certain ranks until they convert into combatants. As the commandant of the NDA, Major-General Garba Dubs told *Newbreed*, it is possible for a Cadet in the institute to supersede an officer of the rank of a major, and become the commanding officer of the major. In the words of the general, there is no way such a short service officers can become commandants of military institutions, G.O.C. or even military governors, or commanding officers.

The phasing out of the NDACE and its replacement with the degree programme was said to be partly in response to the need to remove all areas of friction. This move was seen as a victory for those senior officers who had argued that the upgrading of standards at the institution will increase the efficiency of the officers' corps as well as prepare necessary grounds for the introduction and application of modern military research and



technology. Those who did not want the NDA to be upgraded had warned of the danger of "a situation whereby future graduates of the academy become mere theorists".

The objective of the programme that arose out of these debates took into cognisance the merits of both sides. Hence the programme as is presently run is aimed at relating all activities of the institution to the socio-cultural and economic needs of the people of Nigeria, to encourage the advancement of learning, and to teach and research into those aspects of the various disciplines which would improve the overall efficiency of the services as well as the leadership qualities of the officers corps.

At the NDA, Kaduna, there is excitement that with improved educational standards, especially in the sciences, Cadets would learn skills that would fit into the modern practice of technological warfare. This would also help in reducing the dependency of the military on its direct short service course officers who are accused of taking longer periods to assimilate military orientation.

To achieve this objective, the NDA authorities insist that standards for recruitment of Cadets would not be lowered. A secondary school leaver who seeks admission into the NDA must have five credits, three of which must be in the field the prospective Cadet hopes to study. After passing the entrance

Sandhurst Nostalgia

“Officer Cadet Akinyemi was awarded the best overseas Cadet prize at the Sandhurst Military Academy in 1975. Akinyemi received his prize from Sir Hurry Tuzo, commander-in-chief of the British Army of the Rhine and NDA has Sandhurst as its ideal.”

examination, those who scale through must face the Armed Forces Selection Board (AFSB) which conducts the final tests. The AFSB's screening involves, a medical examination, a written test, individual obstacle exercises, group obstacle exercises, planning exercises, screening of credentials and personal interviews. These tests are designed to bring out the individual candidate's ability to reason intelligently and quickly. Through this, the individual's honesty and ability to persevere are determined.

Before the upgrading of the NDA to a degree-awarding institution, most of the time of the Cadet was spent on military drills. But since the upgrading, there has been a change. Eighty per cent of the time during the first four sessions is spent on the academic programme and 20 per cent of the time on military training. In the last session, this position has been reversed with the military functions taking 80 per cent of the time. The Cadets are dispersed to their various fields - Army Cadets go for intensive military drills at Kachia, Kaduna State, and Shere Hills in Jos, while Airforce Cadets go to the Airforce Base in Kaduna, and Naval Cadets go to Orme, Rivers State, for naval duties. After this period, the Cadets are expected to come out of their services well-equipped for all forms of military duties.

In spite of this emphasis on military duties, Cadets are not commissioned if they do not pass their academic examinations, which are also assessed by external examiners. Among the academicians, who have assessed the degree examinations of the NDA are Professor J.S. Odama from ABU who once served as President Shehu Shagari's Economic Adviser, Dr. Ezo-Eson, a radical economics lecturer at the University of Jos, Professor Ologe of ABU, Zaria, and Professor Afigbo of the University of

Nigeria Nsukka.

Conversely, a Cadet who fails in his drills cannot be expected to perform his military duties, and as such, cannot be commissioned.

Legions of Cadets have been unable to pass this test of will and perseverance. A source which sought anonymity at the NDA told *Newbreed* that several rich men succeed in getting admission for their children. But these children, who are not used to hardship could not withstand the rigours of training and had to drop out. When asked about the alleged dominance of the children of the rich at the NDA, Major-General Duba disclosed that among all members of the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC), only the Chief of Naval Staff had a son there. According to him, no minister, or military governor has a son at the NDA. An independent source told *Newbreed* at the NDA that "disciplinary standards have not actually fallen. Same methods and processes that took place while the institution was established in 1964 are still in use".

But these efforts to train intellectually equipped combat-ready officers may come to naught if the current problem of brain-drain affecting the NDA is not arrested. Though the Commandant could only admit that NDA is not insulated from the problem of lack of teachers, it was gathered that since September, last year, over 20 lecturers had left the institution because of the poor working conditions of civilian teachers. Most of these lecturers, it was further gathered, left for the Federal University of Abuja. From the strategic geography department, seven key staff, including the head of department, were understood to have left for greener pastures.

Answering a question on this, General Duba said everything possible had been done to make the lecturers comfortable. According to him, the lecturers are provided with accommodation and all other benefits. To arrest the problem of lack of academic staff, he disclosed that the institution last year sent ten youth corpsers each with a good first degree to go and do a postgraduate course. In addition, he said military officers with good degrees in relevant courses, are being encouraged to go for further training to take up the challenges of training Cadets.

Rima Shawulu ■

Continued from Page 26

ordered the anti-crime team led by one Inspector Akinmolalu to follow them back to the Odilibe house. This, he alleged, fuelled another round of shooting. It took the presence of Mr Duru to later stop the shooting. Sunny and Chris Odilibe were arrested and taken to Pedro Police station and the guard was shot on the left arm and stomach.

An entry of "Attempt to commit felony" was reportedly made while the rifle used by them was taken. Within the period of producing their licences, Sunny's younger brother, Chris, vanished. All efforts by officers of Shomolu Police Station and Area 'H' to trace him proved abortive. Sunny Odilibe and one Mr Dan Austin (Chris guard) made the allegation that both the Area Commander and his officers were biased, hence, Mr C. Adele (ACP) transferred the case to the CID Ikeja. Surprisingly, the statement revealed that at the CID Ikeja, there were sudden reversals of fortunes. A complete turnabout of the case was instituted. An entry of "Attempted Robbery" was made against the two others policemen.

In the new statement now submitted at Ikeja, both Sunny and Odilibe and his guard claimed in their statements that they saw Okechukwu climbing their gate with intent to come and rob them. Odilibe went further in his own statement to add that Prince Jide Adeniyi (who lent the policemen his car) had hired Okechukwu and Okeshola to kill him because of a piece of land he had earlier bought from Prince Adeniyi.

The interesting feature of this story is how the table has now turned on two policemen. Sunny Odilibe and two others who had earlier faced two charges of (i) Attempt to commit felony (ii) and unlawful possession of prohibited arms (that is, a single barrel semi-automatic rifle with five rounds of ammunition and serial number K236792) now become the complainant. When the case was transferred at his request, in the ensuing battle between him and the policemen who had now been charged with 'attempted robbery', the policemen have lost out and they are now crying foul that money changed hands between the Odilibes and the investigation officers to change the course of justice. "There are talks (sic) that Sunny, Chris and Dan Austin (the guard) have bribed the I even witnessed C.I.D men shring money which they alleged (sic) got from Sunny and the others", Okeshole and Okechukwu alleged in a joint statement dated June 13, 1990 and addressed

to the Director of Military Intelligence, Bonny Camp, Victoria Island, Lagos.

In the 31st June letter of appeal to the Lagos State Commissioner of police, Okechukwu specifically described the investigation and recommendation of Inspector Shehu of the CID into this matter as shabby. He stated that deliberate effort was made to cover up the prosecution of Sunny Odilibe for unlawful possession of prohibited firearms. Because of undue influences, including bribery, he pointed out that the proceedings of the orderly-room trial where he and Okeshola were tried were far from being fair.

As part of the undue influences, he alleged that one Inspector Kadiri of the CID went to the MSD on August 4, 1990, at about 1300 hours and invited Mr. Akanji DSP who was the delegated officer to lunch at the Sheraton Hotel Ikeja — where Sunny and Greg Odilibe, and Dan Austin were waiting. When he arrived later, "he took his lunch and a parcel containing about N8,000... The adjudicating officer had earlier said that Inspector Shehu acted on instruction (sic) from above."

To buttress his point that the proceedings were not fair, he gave other lacunae that he believed made the case unnecessarily one sided: The delegated officer refused to call any of his four defence witnesses — the DCO, Mr. Duru DSP who was the incident duty officer; the IPO that investigated the case in Shomolu division, who obtained everybody's statement when the case was fresh; the IPO in Area 'H' and Prince Jide Adeniyi, the man that gave his vehicle out to the two policemen.

Moreover, he pointed out that Sunny's assassination story was not made in the crime diary at the CID office on June 5, 1990 when the case was transferred to CID Ikeja from Area 'H'. Also, the allegations were not made to the DPO Shomolu Division and Area Commander in charge of Area 'H'. He wondered how it now became an issue.

In their petition, Okechukwu and Okeshola drew attention to what they called the unusual protocol on June 5, 1990 when they were marched to interview the Commissioner of Police at about 15.00 hours. "Something strange happened. A man later identified to be the Director of IKB soap, (Chief Igboanugo) appeared and entered the commissioner's office. The officer in-charge of the CID entered the office with Dan Austin and Sunny Odilibe. We were barred from interviewing the Commissioner of Police there and then consequently, we were detained by the CID.

Inferno in the Desert

An awesome battle looms in the Kuwaiti desert to quell the fires raging at some 600 oil wells sabotaged by retreating Iraqi troops. The job will cost many millions of dollars, and experts fear it could cost human lives too.

The temperature around a single oil well fire is enough to melt a steel girder. With more than 600 wells ablaze in Kuwait, the task of guelling the flames is awesome. The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation has had contingency plans ready to fight such since late last year at the height of the Iraqi occupation, but no-one expected nearly every oil-producing well in the emirate to be sabotaged as part of the retreating Iraqis' scorched earth policy.

Before the Iraqi invasion last August 2, Kuwait produced an average 1.6 million barrels a day of oil. Today, analysts say that the sabotaged wells are losing oil at the rate of four million barrels a day. Not a drop is being exported — not will it be for a considerable time, some say 18 months.

Estimate for rebuilding the country's ravaged oil industry range between \$10 billion and \$20 billion — and experts fear that putting out the inferno is likely to cost lives as well as money. Even before teams can get to the fires, debris and Iraqi land mines must be cleared from around the wells and this alone could take a month, according to a specialist with Bowden Wild Well Control of Texas. Four American firms have been given the biggest fire-fighting task in the world, among them the company run by the legendary Texan, Paul, "Red" Adair. Asked in a TV interview how long the battle might take, Adair, 76, said, "We'll be lucky if we do it in three days." After flying over the blazing desert, an Adair assessor said it was the worst oil-fire disaster he has seen. Adair — nicknamed "Red" not only for

his ginger hair but his all-red working clothes — has tackled more than 2,000 oil-well blowouts since his first in Oklahoma in 1938. In 1988 he and his team battled for three weeks against the world's worst offshore oil disaster, the explosion and fire that destroyed the Piper Alpha platform off north-east Scotland.

The Piper Alpha accident, which set 36 wells on fire, killed 167 men. The first phase of the Kuwait operation requires seawater to be piped some 40 miles (64

km) inland from the Gulf. Hundreds of thousands of gallons will be used daily to cool the well pipework and surrounding areas so that the metal does not reignite escaping oil and gas. When the well can be approached — with the fire-fighters using some form of adapted bulldozer to protect themselves from the flames — the aim will be to snuff out of the fire by controlled explosion. Using about 500 pounds (227kg) of dynamite lowered on a crane boom, the blast is managed in such a way that the top of the well bore collapses in on itself and the fire is extinguished. Oil from the reservoir will still flow under its natural pressure, but this flow can be capped mechanically. Controlled explosion can be spectacular. During the 1950s a fire at Iran's Agha Jari oil field, operated then by British Petroleum, was put out in this way. One witness recalls seeing almost 6,000 feet (1,830 metres) of drill string — lengths of steel pipe which run down the well and at the bottom of which is attached the drilling bit — hurled in the air by the explosion, "just like a string of spaghetti."

Fire-fighters have perfected their techniques through tackling blowouts — when oil or gas suddenly explodes from a working well — rather than war sabotage. Vigilance in oil field operations and improved designs for blowout preventers, devices used to control during, have been developed only in past 20 years. London oilman who worked extensively in West Africa during the early 1960s said, "In those days a drilling ring was described as good if an accident with it killed only five people. "A bad accident was one where an explosion caused a crater of about 300 feet (91 metres) diameter and obliterated everything and everybody inside it."

Another industry oil hand recalls an explosion during drilling from a ship in the Bass Straits between Southern Australia and Tasmania. "Instead of sea, all you could see around you was foam," he said. "You can't swim in foam so there was no point in jumping overboard. But a ship doesn't float on foam either, so we had to get out of there. "The anchor was

so rusty that it stuck because on-one bothered much with maintenance in those days. We managed to get out eventually, and from a distance we saw that the foam was about 20 feet (six metres) thick." After on oil well fire has been extinguished, the oil flow must be stemmed. This is done by drilling a relief well to the original well-bore.

In practice this means the driller has to hit a hole about 9.5 inches (24cm) in diameter from a distance of about half a mile (805 metres) and several hundreds feet underground. This technique is known as directional drilling, invented in the United States in the 1930s, and used extensively in disputed border areas as a way of stealing oil from neighbours. Before the invasion, Iraq accused Kuwait of doing precisely this in the Rumaila oil field, part of which straddles the border between the two countries. Iraq claimed Kuwait had stolen oil worth \$2.5 billion, and used this as pretext late last July to mass troops on the border. The invasion followed less than a week later.

Many blowouts during drilling are caused by the well hitting a small pocket of high-pressure gas rather than the reservoir. This was the cause of the Bass Strait explosion, and is a common phenomenon in the Potwa basin in Pakistan. Luckily, Kuwait's oil field work under pressures which are not particularly high.

In the Burgan field, whose reserves of around 66 billion barrels make it among the largest in the world, average reservoir pressures is around 5,000 pound per square inch. In the early 1980s, however, Kuwait discovered light oil and condensate beneath the main reservoir at a depth of 22,000 feet (6,700 metres). Pressures here are up to 12,000 pound per square inch. "If that well is on fire, then they really have a big problem," said a former employer of Kuwait Petroleum Co. According to some experts, fire left to themselves could burn for several decades.

Maria Kelmas ■

Kubwa hill: centre of the nation

Speculations and arguments as to whether the newly developed capital of the nation, Abuja, is actually situated in the middle of Nigeria, has generated national controversy since the decision was taken to move the capital, fifteen years ago. But what many do not know is that within this same Abuja, another place has been described as, and called, "the national centre." Interestingly, it, too, has been an object of local controversy among residents, workers and visitors.

The National Centre is the name given (by whom, no-one knows) to a recreation centre on top of a hill on the outskirts of Wuse Zone, on the way out of Abuja, towards Kubwa, one of the outlying settlements. Anyone who has ever been to Abuja will recall that Garki and Wuse, in the main, make up Abuja, though there are other settlements outside the city which government is also developing, to ensure that the main city is not congested. Kubwa is one of these settlements.

That hill, on which the recreation centre is placed or created, I will refer to as Kubwa Hill for two reasons. One, it is directly off the road to Kubwa on the right side, on the way out of Berger Junction, in Wuse area (Zone 7). The road also leads to Suleja much farther on. Two, the next landmark, some kilometres away is Kubwa settlement. So, as you go off the "express" road and onto a seeming bush track, you see a path leading up a stone way with road marks by the side all the way up. And as you make slow progress up the hill, a hut with a round base appears on the horizon. Outside the hut are sets of stone seats positioned round a stone "table."

Not to many, is this place known as one of the tourist attractions of the Capital City, but to inquisitive journalists who forever search for "scoops," the National Centre has been found to be one sure place to relax, away from it all, if there are no deadlines to beat. So it happened that the Abuja NUJ Council "discovered" this place over a year ago but refused to popularise it, except that the Council is the only one who knows the place. Coincidentally, Cars like Peugeots can ride the way up the hill from that end



Mediamen get-together on Kubwa Hill

(there's only one), which means that the trekking visitor who badly needs to get away from the hurly-burly, won't find it as enjoyable as his car-owner counterpart who has been provided with road marks to keep him on the "straight road." And that is one of the sources of controversy!

Ask one of them what the place is called and he tells you "Julius Berger Hill," because that company, one of the most prominent construction outfits in Abuja, fashioned out the road and put the road marks all the way up the hill, "so that unsuspecting or drunk visitors do not tumble down the wrong end into oblivion." Ask another one, a journalist, this time, and he tells you "Strabag Hill," since this particular company built the hut, providing shelter from inclement weather. Strabag also provided the seats outside the hut "in case you want to relax outside," and put in place a local, oven-like structure for barbecues.

But many more people disagree with these two viewpoints, and the most prominent of those disagreeing is Mr. Kolawole Olumolu, Chairman of the Abuja Council of the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ). Kola Olumolu revealed that the hill is known as the "National Centre." And Newbreed demanded to know why,

"It's called that name because it is believed to be the geographical centre of Nigeria," he explained.

Attempts to corroborate this name from other residents through questions as to the person (s) who named the place, the period of naming and other background information yielded no other useful tips except the name "National Centre."

Said Camillus Eboh, of the Correspondents Chapel (Abuja), "That is the real name of the place, but we cannot entertain questions about proof as we did not name it, neither did we measure Nigeria. I imagine that no-one can contest this name unless they measure the whole nation and give us categorically another place which is more the centre of Nigeria than a place in Abuja." And that is authoritative, because Eboh has been covering Abuja since the Constituent Assembly days and probably knows more about the capital city from his time with Abuja Newsday, than the Gwari natives who have been pushed further inland.

And so the controversy continues. Is Kubwa Hill the centre of the nation? Only the citizens of what is now Abuja, if there are any left, can resolve the controversy over the National centre.

Yemi Ogunmodede

End in Sight for Maradona

Still, at his best, the most breathtaking talent in world foot ball, Diego Maradona is today an unhappy man. His club, Napoli, is suing him, vice police are investigating him and Maradona, now 30, says he's going to get out of professional football.

A couple of decades ago he was a cheeky, ebullient slum kid with such extraordinary footballing talents every scout in Argentina had heard of him by the age of eight. Today, Diego Maradona is an anguished, embattled veteran of 30 so scared by his career that he talks constantly of quitting. His talents, matchless in the modern era, have proved no protection against ill-will and envy, remorseless physical demands, pitiless public exposure, separation from his homeland — and his own mercurial temperament. The latest trauma to assail the Argentine superstar is the linking of his name to a drug and prostitution racket reportedly run by the Camorra, the local Mafia in Naples, South Italy, where Maradona lives and plays.

Police questioned Maradona as a prosecutor's report, leaked to the press revealed that his telephone had been tapped by drug investigators. There was speculation he may be required to hand in his passport pending the outcome of the large-scale police investigation. Maradona defended himself vigorously, giving two different theories. At a hastily-called news conference, he declared, "It's a set-up by some girls from whom I have distanced myself. I have never used drugs." Later he suggested an act of vengeance within the sporting world. "I immediately thought of a vendetta by someone, perhaps for some match which we should not have won, perhaps a match in the World Cup or the Italian championship. "That is only hypothesis about a spiteful said. "I don't mean in terms of players or coaches, but in terms of mentality and approach to the game and to each other." Napoli Moreno Ferrario said, "I think it might have been better to discuss these things in the dressing rooms." Later, however, Maradona was made captain

act within sport, nothing more." Asked if he was referring to the crucial match between Italy and Argentina during summer's World Cup finals, he said, "Maybe." Argentina knocked Italy out of the World Cup on penalties. The defeat was received in Italy as a national disaster. Maradona added to his lengthening list of threats to quit Italy or football or both.

His contract with Naples — Naples in the footballing world — ends in 1993 but the Argentine midfielder says he has no intention of staying with the club. "No contract is going to curtail my freedom," he vowed. On January 31 he said he was ready to stay in Italy providing he could transfer to Bologna, "where the pressure is much less." After the vice-ring story broke, Maradona said, "I am going back to Argentina at the end of the season and I won't play football again, ever, at least as a professional."

When Maradona joined Napoli from Barcelona in 1984 for £8 million, he was hailed as the saviour of a club whose passionate support has been rarely rewarded by achievement on the field. So great was the interest, Napoli quickly raked in more than £1 million in season ticket sales. But the South American messiah got off to a disappointing start. The team languished in the lower half of the league and Maradona, struggling to master Italian, had communications problems with his teammates — "I even have to take the interpreter into the dressing rooms." He did not enamour himself to club officials by speaking frankly about Napoli's problems during a return visit he made to Spain. "At Napoli everything must change," he and the team began to coalesce. His personal reputation was hugely enhanced by a dazzling performance in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico when he led Argentina to the title and was named Man of the Tournament. Returning invigorated to



Maradona

Italy and playing before huge crowds, Maradona propelled Napoli to the League and Cup double in 1987, beating back challenges notably from Juventus.

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■ Retired Admiral Aikhomu, being initiated into the academic cult. — LLD (honoris causa)

For Augustus — a feather

Vice President Augustus Aikhomu, a man who moves with the wind... But yet directs the wind. 51, added yet another bright feather to his privileged cap on Monday, March 11, when he was conferred with a Doctor of Laws degree (honoris causa) by the new generation Bendel State University, Ekpoma.

Since he enlisted into the Nigeria Navy in 1958, Aikhomu has collected almost all the career titles and professional ranks possible in the navy — culminating in his elevation last September, to a four-star Admiral of the Fleet. With that, a full Admiral, and also the first in Black Africa.

But the same could not be said of his academic or intellectual accomplishments — given the restrictions of the military profession where more emphasis is often placed on hardcore military training. Indeed, Aikhomu's academic pursuit ended at the Yaba Technical Institute (now Yaba College of Technology), where he took a diploma in 1958.

He enrolled the same year in Yaba Higher College to read architecture, but

abandoned the course soon afterwards to enlist in the navy; and military training took over. All these make Vice President Aikhomu's conferment of an honorary Doctor of Laws degree more interesting and remarkable.

The man himself recognised the degree as "a socio-intellectual asset," and confessed, in his usual frank manner, that it did not fall within the range of his general ambitions. "It hardly crossed my mind that an honour of this value would come my way," he said simply in his acceptance speech.

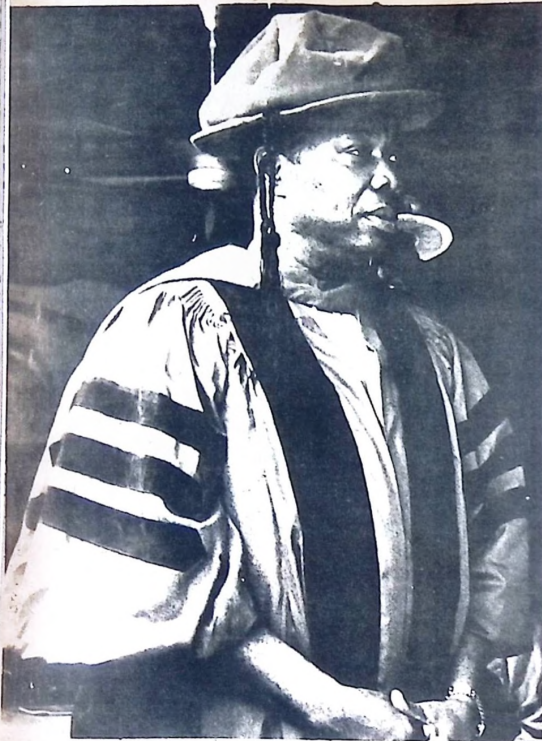
Far from being a mere symbolic gesture, Vice President Aikhomu's conferment of an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by BENSU was in full recognition of his sterling qualities, well-rounded professional attainments and overall contribution to national governance. The flowery citation in support of the award described Admiral Aikhomu as "a valiant son of Africa," who has "worked very relentlessly for the Navy and the Nation," and blazed "a trail (which) has no mark of infamy".

The citation went ahead to highlight

Admiral Aikhomu's positive qualities of infinite patience, humility, team-spirit and "unflinching loyalty to superior officers". These are, no doubt, the virtues which have enabled him to survive as the country's No.2 man since 1986 — by keeping up with the deft moves which the Grand Master President Ibrahim Babangida, makes on the unpredictable chessboard of our national governance.

BENSU orator, Professor B. I. Ijomah, summed up Admiral Aikhomu's duality by describing him as "a man who moves with the wind, but yet directs the wind". And that, in effect, captures his delicate but rewarding relationship with the President in steering the ship of state these past four years.

As the man on whose broad shoulders the implementation of the Political Transition Programme lies, Vice President Aikhomu never loses an opportunity to talk about it and canvass more support. He stressed that objectives of the government's reform programmes are to develop a viable democratic political system, ensure a more equitable allocation of resources and de-



centralise the power-base of the whole decision making process.

"These objectives no doubt, provide our people with multiple access to power structures," he declared.

He also reminded the University of their traditional roles of promoting research, acquisition of knowledge/skills, development of appropriate manpower and provision of intellectual leadership. By discharging these roles adequately, the Ivory Towers would be contributing their own quota towards ensuring "a better future for our people," said Admiral Aikhomu who has been described as "the veritable father—figure of the Babangida administration".

And, like a father admonishing his errant children, Dr. Aikhomu was quick to berate university students for their unhealthy romance with cults and secret societies.

"Bullets" issued forth from his mouth

■ **From White Drills to Academic Gown: A civilised Aikhomu.**

again when he thundered: "I condemn the existence and propagation of secret cults and all other negative activities which undermine and deviate from proper academic growth of Nigerian universities. I call on the students to eschew the propagation of secret cults and anti-social activities."

However, it was not only students that listened to Dr. Aikhomu's scholarly treatise. Indeed, gathered at the university town, Ekpoma, to grace the occasion were the *creme-de-la-creme* of society: retired and serving military top guns, eminent traditional rulers, state governors and ministers, wealthy captains of industry and commerce, powerful publishers, as well as ordinary Nigerians. It was easily the most distinguished crowd that could have

gathered in one place, in recent memory, in that part of the country.

Their presence also brought a handsome harvest of N20 million to BENSU to swell its N100 million, Endowment Fund which would be formally launched in May. Vice President Aikhomu gave a N10 million cheque from the Federal Government, with instructions that the money be spent in tackling some of the acute welfare problems of the university. These problems include: supply of potable water, transportation, library and laboratory facilities. And they are some of the major issues which often trigger clashes between students and university authorities in the Ivory Towers.

Bundel State governor, Colonel John Yeri, who was installed the University's Visitor, donated N5 million on behalf of the state. Prominent individual donations came from Chief Gabriel Igbinedion, the Esama of Benin, who endowed two professorial chairs with N1 million; Chief Michael Ibru, chairman of the Ibru Organisation (N1 million towards research on food development) and Chief Emmanuel Iwuanyanwu, Champion Newspapers Publisher (N500,000.00 for research in building materials). The BENSU authorities smiled all the way to the bank.

Mention must be made of eminent scholar, Professor Deborah Ajakaiye, who was honoured along with Admiral Aikhomu, although the Vice President took all the limelight. Mrs. Ajakaiye, the first female Professor of Physics in Africa, was conferred with the honorary Doctor of Science degree.

On a final note, one must observe that Aikhomu's delivery of his acceptance speech (although rather lengthy), was a little less hurried and more deliberate than usual — marking, perhaps, the beginning of the cultivation of "Professorial airs" as befits a doctor of laws. If he continues that way in checking the speed of his public speech deliveries, he would be able to speak with more assurance as befits the nation's Vice President, and, indeed, a Doctor of Laws.

Overall, the total civilianisation of Admiral Aikhomu — disengagement from service, transformation from Chief of General Staff to Vice President, civil doctorate degree, etc — is easily the most visible reaffirmation of the Babangida administration's commitment to return the country to democratic rule next year. And with that, one hopes that our soldiers will remain finally in the barracks — where they belong.

Special Correspondent □

A capful of millions

NIPSS Alumni launch endowment to uplift Kuru



■ President Bahangida: Listens to Major General David Jembhewon as he arrives for the launch

Gracing the occasion as chairman, was no other, than grand patron of the association and president of Nigeria, General Ibrahim Babangida who when declaring open the launching refused to say how much he was donating for reason he "would not disclose. Students will always be students, no matter what level or age one goes to school. Alumni of the National Institute proved this when during donations time they shouted aliases of their colleagues at the Institute. Sanni-Sanni, Chief-oo-up the Gun and fineman, fineface rented the air, making President Babangida remiscnt in a blue jacquered agbada rock with laughter.

As the donations flowed different individuals and organisations used methodologies the president later described as "advanced monetary technology" to announce their donations. Thus General Ibrahim Haruna made a donation of Twenty Thousand Naira plus plus and plus while mates of the 11th course made a donation of eleven thousand, one hundred and eleven naira eleven kobo, (N11,111:11) in display of their love for the one and one that makes eleven. The Nigerian Army School of Infantry donated 2 million kobo. However the donation that drew the biggest applause came from old warhorse Major-General Hassan Usman Katsina-old soldiers never die. He doled out N10,000.00



■ How much should I give? Former Alumni President Chief-Olabiyi Durojaiye (left) contemplates before writing his cheque

There is an adage: He that goes abegging goes asorowing. However, when the alumni association of Nigeria's apex institution, the National Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS), went around cap in hand to beg Nigerians to donate their widows mite to the Institute N100 million endowment fund aimed at the physical improvement of the almamater, there was no sorrowing.

At the conference hall of the expensive Abuja Sheraton Hotel and Towers, alumni filed in from all over Nigeria to drop their widows mite — if thousands and millions could still be tagged such —in the beggar's cap of the association.



this was the way things were going to turn out.

Newbreed: If you had no amorous relationship, what were you doing in her bedroom the last time her mother came to Lagos?

Oyakhilome: I know Jennifer so well that if she was in the bedroom and ask me to come in, I would. I enter the bedroom of my nephews, sisters' nieces etc.

Newbreed: You would have had some kind of disagreement with Jennifer to start this scandal...

Oyakhilome: We didn't have any disagreement, I invited Jennifer when I got this petition and I asked her if she actually took the ₦800,000 from the Odelibe family, supposedly to be delivered to me. I was recording (the conversation). In fact, she swore that she never took money. She said the drug people were inviting her, pressurizing her to join them. I reminded her that she had been pressurizing me to release those in custody, and now this ₦800,000 accusation. She told me that it was because she refused to join them to implicate me. Jennifer's point is very clear on tape, particularly on this issue. She even went on to say that a highly placed person in government was pressurizing her to put pressure on me. I later phoned to ask the dignitary. She said Jennifer was lying, and that she does not know Jennifer. Her reply was that if the dignitary claimed not to know her, I would find in her house the letters the dignitary had exchanged with her. I told her that the highly placed person did not even know her name. I asked in such a way that if the dignitary had known her, she would have said so. It is on tape. I recorded it. I have it as my trump card.

She brought a petition out saying, "Here is a petition written against you. The (dignitary) sent this petition through this drug 'boys'". She brought out a complimentary card saying that it was given to her by the dignitary, and I said, "Bring it let me see it". But she refused, although still insisting that the complimentary card came in the packet with the petition; that she should go and deliver it against me, and that they have been ganging up against me to punish me. She said, "I refused and because I refused, now, they are alleging that they gave money to me, and did not deliver the money and all that rubbish. I told Jennifer that unfortunately, the matter had been reported to the police.

■ Governors were not left out: Josiah Madaki explains a point to Lawan Gwadahe (above) while old soldier Major General Hassan Katsina Aek acknowledges greetings from Air Commodore Tony Ilhuzabor (below)

At the end of it all, the alumni association had made for their old school, a chunky ₦17.7 million proceedings at Abuja. Though drawn to a close, alumni patron, President Babangida says a ceasefire is not to be signed. According to him, the alumni army commanded by Air-Vice Marshall Mahmoud Yahaya (alumni president) has achieved air superiority. "What remains" he said, is a plan for the ground battle which he implored Brigadier Chris Garuba to submit with a promise that the Federal Government will fill the gaps by completing the projects.

On a more sober note, the president said the Nigerian society may not see the worth of the national institute now but in future, the public and private sectors will see the importance of Kuru on the Nigerian society.

Among dignitaries and alumni at the occasion were Air Vice Marshall Mahmoud Yahaya, Pharmacist Chief Julius Adulusi-Aduluyi, Journalist Yaya Abubakar, Professor Omo Omoruyi and Education Minister Babatunde Fafunwa and FCT Minister Gado Nasko.

Mike Nkanga ■

Malaria Here To Stay

Without improved sanitary conditions and greater public enlightenment, malaria promises to retain its number one (1) position as the prime cause of absenteeism and low productivity among students and workers. This is in spite of huge government expenditure meant to ensure its control and eventual eradication.

Studies into incidences of malaria in various locations throughout the country reveal that people will continue to be tortured by malaria as long as environmental sanitation and public education are not stepped up. Malaria accounts for over 60% of outpatient visits and is responsible for 80% cases of absenteeism.

Disclosing this to *Newbreed*, Dr. O. Walker, a Senior Lecturer in the Clinical Pharmacology Department of the University of Ibadan stated, "The first step towards the effective control of malaria is education. Every one needs to be educated, especially, illiterate people and rural dwellers, so that diseases are quickly reported to a health officer and quickly treated. The second step is to ensure that there is good environmental sanitation, so that diseases do not spread and become epidemic."

He emphasised the need to make sure that "there is no garbage in open places which provide the right atmosphere for the survival and multiplication of mosquitoes. Our gutters, too, need to be cleaned on a regular basis. And until we have good sanitary conditions, intense malaria transmission will be with us for a long time."

On the intense rate at which the disease has been spreading, Dr. Andrew Okafor of the Nigerian Air Force Medical Centre explained, "malaria has not been eradicated in tropical Africa primarily because of the degree of environmental sanitation. Government used to get people to sprinkle oil in the gutters so that it will be difficult for the mosquitoes to breathe, but that has been reduced. And as long as the vector responsible for the transmission of the disease is still



■ Agunbode: There is need for intensified education

around to maintain the parasites, the disease of malaria will be with us in full force. If we are not able to clear the bushes and remove stagnant waters, it will not be easy to control malaria. Okafor reiterated.

Coupled with this is the topography of most African countries and their climate. While malaria is seasonal in many Mediterranean countries, it is present all through the year in sub-Saharan Africa and more severe during the rainy season. Dr. Walker, who said eradication had been achieved in many Mediterranean countries, attributed such success to the island-like topographies of these countries. "Eradication has been achieved in most of these places because they are almost islands. Italy is almost an island, it is surrounded by mountains in the north, so widescale use of insecti-

cides is possible. Apart from that, malaria transmission in these areas is seasonal," Walker said.

"In contrast," he continues, "most of Africa, where malaria exists, consists of rain forests. Again, with poor sanitation, these afford maximal contact between man in the rural areas, a single individual can have as much as 40 mosquito bites a day. And if these mosquitoes are carrying sporozoids, you can then imagine the amount of sporozoid load that is unleashed unto the individual, and the consequent effect on mortality and morbidity."

Speaking of the futility of eradication efforts, Dr. Walker revealed that the World Health Organisation had tried an eradication programme in the 1950's in Africa but had had to abandon it because of two reasons. One, it was unwieldy and

second, the insecticides that were being used were very toxic and could affect the health of people around. In addition, it was extremely expensive and most of the countries of Africa can ill-afford that type of expenditure.

Education of the people is also expected to gear them up to early reporting of cases to health authorities, and as well, help to reduce complications which could arise out of self-medication. It will also reduce the number of deaths caused by malaria fever. The reported cases of parasitologic failures of recommended drugs will also be reduced because people would then have stopped downing drugs on suspicion of malaria without any medical consultations.

Affirming the merit of intensified public education, Prof. O Ogunbode of University of Ilorin said this argument informed the decision of government to transfer workshops from one town to the next, to brief medical practitioners on the guideline for the control of malaria, under the Primary Health Care (PHC) programme. To date, *Newbreed* gathered, workshops on malaria control have been organised both in Lagos and Enugu, while more are scheduled over the next few months.

The Federal government has also decided to intensify community mobilization alongside health education facilities so that proper and prompt use is made of existing health facilities in all areas of the country. It has also decided to support operational research leading to the improvement of malaria control.

A conscious effort is also being made to supply adequate quantities of recommended anti-malaria drugs, but these must be judiciously used. In the case of uncomplicated malaria, the recommended drug on the Essential Drugs list is chloroquine, because it is well-known, cheap and easily available. It is only when a patient is known to react to the chloroquine that another drug, classified as second line drug, is then prescribed. In all cases, however, to reduce the dangers of self-medication, citizens who feel unwell are first expected to seek medical consultation, before treating themselves, as what they assume to be malaria may not turn out to be so.

This issue of self-medication has, for long, worried doctors who have found it hard to convince patients not to pass on their drugs to their friends and relatives. They maintain that different persons have different allergies and may react separately to similar drugs.

As regards the side effects of chloroquine tablets, the advice is that peoples' past reactions be ascertained, to determine if an antidote would be sufficient or a different drug is needed. Dr. Okafor justified the large scale use of chloroquine on its availability and affordability. "A drug like camoquine hasn't been used for long and it too has a possible side effect. It could be damaging to the blood cells depending on your body's constitution."

Also re-affirming the efficacy of chloroquine remains the drug of first choice, despite reports that there has been some resistance to it in some areas. "In Ilorin, for example, we have not been able to detect resistance to the drug, whereas in some parts of Eastern Nigeria, there is a high prevalence of resistance, sometimes as high as 30%. Some parts of the North have high resistance while some areas don't show any. The clinical experience, however, is that chloroquine is still effective because what we have noticed are parasitologic failures and not clinical failure. Therefore," he concluded, "it should continue to be a first line drug in the management of malaria patients."

Attempting to shed some light on the noticeable trend of resistance in certain areas, the Chief Malariologist at the Federal Ministry of Health, Dr. Okokon J. Ekanem, said the way drugs are consumed sporadically, and without consultation, may be responsible for these trends of resistance. "In the Eastern part of the country (Aboh in Mbaise, Imo State) I discovered there was so much drug pressure because I found time to go round the patent medicine stores. All kinds of anti-malaria mixtures. They put chloramphenicol, they put paracetamol etc. If it is not malaria, it is typhoid. That is the thinking. While there is underdosage for malaria, there is also overdosage for the treatment of typhoid and this is quite dangerous. People just take anti-malarials at will. It's available, so they pay for it and take it. Anybody with malaria fever (and this they may not be sure of) takes chloroquine injection, and probably takes one dose. One dose of chloroquine injection is absolutely inadequate but the patient has already taken something, whether it's malaria he has or not. These may be some of the factors responsible. People take drugs without first ascertaining that it is the right drug to take. Then they take the wrong dose."

The penchant of Nigerians for de-



■ Okafor: Camoquine can damage the blood cells

manding different or more expensive drugs because of the belief that the more expensive the drug, the quicker and better it will cure, elicited this reaction from Unilorin's Professor Ogunbode: "the adverse effect, which should be obvious, is that if those drugs, which have not been found to have any pharmacological or therapeutic advantage over chloroquine, are used too often, then the resistance which may develop to them may be far greater than what we are saying of chloroquine after 30 or more years of use."

"So, this caution is just to prevent abuse and the rapid development of resistance without any obvious or significant advantage being enjoyed over chloroquine. We do not advocate using such drugs first. If they abuse them, what happens to them from chloroquine will happen to them sooner than later," he warned.

Apart from chloroquine, various medicinal plants are also being used in the treatment of malaria. In Nigeria, the *Dogonyaro* (*Azadirachta indica*) is one of the most widely recognised plants used in this area. There is now evidence to show that government is taking seriously the idea of traditional remedies. It has ascertained at least that the aqueous extract of the leaves has been demonstrated to have anti-malaria activity. Studies are presently on to compile the components of the *Dogonyaro*

Continued from Page 36

and the two Milan teams. It was the club's first-ever championship.

In 1989, Napoli won the UEFA Cup which Maradona had predicted on his arrival. But by then, relations were beginning to sour. Napoli accused Maradona of breaching his contract by travelling to Argentina too frequently and staying too long there. He chose a mid-season date to marry in Argentina. It was a spectacular ceremony to which he flew a plane-load of friends, personally paying the bill for the hired airliner.

He began to be plagued with paternity suits. His bank deposit box was robbed and he lost much of his wife's jewellery and the Golden Ball he was awarded as top player in the 1986 World Cup. Every game and Maradona's every move were analysed and criticised in detail by the Italian media. Although the Argentina star led Napoli to another league title in 1990, his relations with the club management remained prickly.

A good World Cup might have helped his image but Maradona performed spasmodically before his own fans at Napoli and before hostile non-Napolitans in other Italian stadiums in the June-July 1990 tournament. Though Argentina made it to the final for the second straight time, the team was widely unpopular. It had not played well nor, many believed, fairly and Maradona was received with derision when he lined up against West Germany for the final. He wept when Argentina lost, left the arena immediately after getting his runner-up medal and announced he would play no more international football. Soon after the 1990-91 season started Maradona was entangled in court action over a paternity suit and Napoli was suing him for breach of contract. On several occasions he missed training sessions and twice refused to travel with the team to away matches, including a Champions Cup visit to Moscow Spartak. On January 18 he was fined £5,000 by the disciplinary committee of the Italian football association for failing to appear before them.

The major action by Napoli was against Maradona's Liechtenstein-based promotions company, Diarma Establishment. The club, which contributes towards Diarma in exchange for a share in its earnings, sought to reduce its contribution because of Maradona's behaviour.

Napoli President Corrado Ferlaino said, "Following Maradona's tantrums, Napoli believe the player's image has been devalued and profits will not be as high previously forecast." Napoli expects its share to fall by some £3 million between now and 1993, when the contract ends. Maradona makes about £1.2 million a year from his contract with Napoli and at least three times as much from commercial sponsors in Europe and Asia. In his newspaper col-

umn, Maraona described Napoli's action as "a stab in the back" and "an act of cowardice." A Neapolitan woman, Cristina Singra, alleging that Maradona is the father of her four-year-old son, succeeded a court ruling that the Argentine should undergo a DNA test. As Maradona's departure from Napoli is ever more widely talked about — already Bologna's Lajos Detari and Tottenham's Paul Gascoigne are being touted as his successor — fans are mourning the effect on the Argentine's playing skills.

Maradona has traditionally played an exuberant, Latin American-style game governed by stunning ball skills. He can control affairs from his own half, weave through defences — as he did against England when he scored the greatest goal of the 1986 World Cup — deliver pitch-length passes with pinpoint precision, hit a dead ball with deadly accuracy and challenge effectively for high balls despite being only 5ft 6in. Born October 30, 1960 in Lanus, Buenos Aires, Maradona quickly became a street legend and was only nine when he signed for Argentinos Juniors. He chose the club because he had a schoolfriend there. It has been repeatedly claimed that the youngster was able to walk around bouncing a ball on his head 1,000 times.

Maradona made his League debut at 15 and only a year later won his first international cap, against Hungary. As a 17-year-old, Maradona was bitterly disappointed to be left out of Argentina's squad which won the 1978 World Cup on its home soil, but coach Cesar Menotti insisted he was too young. In 1979 Maradona captained Argentina to victory in the World Youth Cup in Japan and was voted Latin American Footballer of the Year. By now Maradona was out of Argentinos' class and he went on loan to Boca Juniors, the only Argentine club that could afford him. The 1982 World Cup in Spain was expected to confirm Maradona as the world's greatest talent but he was negotiating to join a European club and his performances did not match his ability. After a series of modest games, he responded to the attentions of Brazil with a bad foul and was sent off. His World Cup was over. Soon after, Barcelona paid a world record £5 million for the South American star and such was his reputation more than 60,000 people went to watch his first training session. If he wasn't already a millionaire, he quickly became one. His cut of the transfer fee was reported to be £1.5 million and his wages £9,000 a week. In his single season with Barcelona, the Catalan club won the Spanish Cup, but Maradona had decided Italy was the home of his dreams and he moved to Napoli — and an intensification of unhappiness — in 1984.

Gerard Longhran ■



■ Prof. Olikoye Ransome-Kuti: Emphasis on Primary Health Care

normally boiled into a mixture called *Agbo* in Yoruba, and also investigate the herbs being used to tackle malaria in other areas of Nigeria.

The Chinese had used the powdered roots of Ch'ang Shan (*Di Chroa Febrifuga*) to treat malaria for, at least, 2,000 years with undoubted efficacy. So also has the herb, *Quing Hao Su* (*Artemisia annua*) been used, but since 1972, the active component of this *Quing Hao Su* has been consistently extracted, characterized, formulated and tested. The active component of the South American tree, the *Chinchona*, was also isolated in 1820 and is the quinine which has been put to different uses all over the world.

Of paramount interest and concern is the capability of health workers themselves to diagnose ailments correctly and this was emphasised at the Lagos Workshop as well. A Consultant Malarialogist, Dr. Sadiq of the Federal Ministry of Health pointed out the dangers of hasty conclusions when she appealed to doctors to exclude malaria before treating the patient has typhoid and not malaria, when the patient does not respond to malaria treatment. Her grouse is that they sometimes do not test the patient's blood to verify the continued presence of malaria parasites, before starting him on typhoid medication. Said she, "when doctors assume that a malaria patient, who was not cured by the appropriate dose of anti-

malaria, must have had typhoid, they run the risk of complicating a simple malaria case and increase the possibility of mortality. The best way out is for the patient to do a quick laboratory test which will say whether malaria parasites are still present. If they are, then the patient simply needs another type of anti-malaria drug or probably did not follow the doctor's instruction on dosage. If the test shows no malaria parasite, then the doctor could further ask questions and know if typhoid is the real illness."

She warned, however a + (plus) doesn't necessarily mean the patient has typhoid. It may mean that he had typhoid before and now has developed the immunity.

Also contributing on the issue, Dr. Seyi Roberts, Vice-Chairman of the Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) told *Newbreed* that it is something a lot of people need to be aware of. "Many people are reluctant to call for laboratory analysis to cross-check their diagnoses or suspicions, and this could have a complicating effect on the health care delivery system. Some patients, too, are reluctant to do simple tests but are willing to pay to do the typhoid tests. What they may not know is that the malaria test is cheaper and simpler - one pin prick on your finger is all it takes - so that you can be sure. Whereas the typhoid test costs more money. So why don't they do the simpler, cheaper and more correct test?" he queried.

Another doctor who agreed with this analysis is Dr. Henry E. Akpan of the Malaria Division, National Institute of Medical Research, Yaba, who says that "more than half of the cases that were attributed to typhoid might have been malaria that were not well treated. This became rampant during the period of typhoid outbreak, and this is why we are drawing attention to it now, so that drug resistance is not developed through this avenue or complications arising out of improper treatment."

Could this be a matter of impatience on the part of doctors, *Newbreed* queried? But Dr. Akpan believes that sometimes, the health centres may not have the equipments with which to test, especially, if it is in the rural areas. "One may then have to settle for the clinical diagnosis alone since the laboratories are not available."

Explaining further, Unibadan's Dr. Walker said "Typhoid and malaria are regarded in medicine as the two great

imitators. They can imitate each other beautifully and imitate other diseases beautifully. Therefore, on clinical grounds, typhoid looks very much like malaria and malaria looks very much like typhoid. On clinical grounds, anybody could make that type of error.

"The lesson we are taking away is that the microscopic diagnosis of malaria must be made, otherwise we risk an increase in mortality and morbidity. The laboratory examination is absolutely important. It will reduce mixed diagnosis."

Also excusing doctors on grounds that symptoms are similar, Professor Ogunbode said "it is not a question of impatience. The reason they are confused is that they have common features. High temperature is common to both, though, that of malaria starts to fall a few days. In the case of typhoid, it's usually a re-current fever. It comes, and after two or three days, it comes again."

"What is happening, actually is that proper investigations are not being carried out. What we are saying is that after doctors have treated for malaria based on clinical examination, and the patient does not get well, the doctor as well should exclude the presence of malaria in a blood test, before now considering that the patient probably has typhoid. What we are trying to discourage, is the idea of treating typhoid on the basis that there has been no response for malaria, when it is possible that the malaria has not been adequately treated for some reasons."

The implications of this continued mix-up are grave, according to the Professor. "He could simply get worse, or serious complications, such a cerebral malaria, could result."

While efforts are on to educate the doctors and other health personnel, government needs to be mindful of the low literate level and undertake public enlightenment programmes, which may be integrated into other social programmes, so that the citizen is aware of where to go and that he needs to cooperate with the doctor, otherwise he may lead the doctor to a wrong diagnosis and worsen his case.

Yemi Ogunmodede and Chukwudi Ekezie ■

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