

DAILY TRUST

Trust Is A Burden

VOL. 1 NO. 97

TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2001

RABIUL-AKHIR 12, 1422 A.H.

N50



HEAD OFFICE
General Shehu Musa Yar'Adua House.
7/9 Bank Road, PMB 2180, Kaduna.
Tel: 062-245140-9
Website: <http://www.habibnigeria.com>
E-mail: info@habib-bank.com

RC. 50750
Habib Nigeria Bank Ltd.
An Affiliate of
Habib Bank Ltd., Pakistan

51 branches across the country.
...the bank with a difference

TUESDAY COLUMN
Abubakar Sokoto Mohammed on:
West is the worst Africa
Page 5

STAR INTERVIEW
Our purpose is to break down all barriers
— Cooperation and Integration Minister
Page 17

Support National IT Policy
Patronize Nigerian Software
ABACUS COMPUTER SERVICES LTD.
(Software Developers)
Oracle Database Development, Tuning, Warehousing and Optimization
We strive to stay on the cutting-edge
No. 53 Airport Road, Kano. ☎: 637785, 644322

All-Africa Games to gulp N8bn

From Abdulfatai Olajide, in Lagos

Nigeria is to spend about N8 billion to host the 8th All-Africa Games tentatively fixed for April 2003 in Abuja.

Executive-Director of the Organising Committee for the 2003 All Africa Games (COJA), Dr. Amos Adamu, gave this hint while briefing media executives on the preparation of the committee for the event in Lagos last weekend.

Dr. Adamu explained that government would provide part of the fund while the remaining would be sourced from local and international sponsors, sales of tickets and broadcast rights and merchandising.

He hinted that Daimler Chrysler, makers of Mercedes Benz vehicles, has already agreed to provide about 1,500 vehicles needed for the games free, adding that the company would sell the vehicles to Nigerians at give-away prices after the games.

Tagged *Abuja 2003*, Dr. Adamu said the games which would feature 22 sporting events would be attended by 53 countries, 6,000 athletes, 1,200 officials, 1,500 journalists and over 2,000 dignitaries.

According to him, the Abuja stadium complex, which is still under construction, would have been completed before the April 2003 date for the games.

He stated further that about 5,000 volunteers would be engaged by COJA for its operations to ensure a successful hosting of the games.

Dr. Adamu also hinted that his committee has established a unit to monitor Nigerian athletes with a view to ensuring that the country tops in all the sporting events at the games.

contd. on pg 2

Obasanjo for 2003

By Reuben Yunana



Alhaji Kashim Ibrahim Imam addressing the press on Obasanjo's second term bid, in Abuja... yesterday. Pix: Felix Onigbinde.

Official presidency sources have confirmed that President Olusegun Obasanjo will run for a second term in 2003.

Presidential Liaison Officer (PLO) to the Senate, Alhaji Kashim Imam, who broke the news to Senate correspondents yesterday said with all certainty that Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) would re-present President Obasanjo for the 2003 presidential polls.

Reading from a text titled: "Second Year of Executive - Legislative Partnership for Good Governance: The Dividends So Far," Imam also revealed that Obasanjo would once again pick Atiku Abubakar as his running mate.

His words: "President Olusegun Obasanjo will contest again in 2003 and I am confident he will win. I am convinced that when the time comes our party will re-present President Obasanjo and Vice-President Atiku Abubakar for a second term.

"It is conventional

worldwide that you do not change a winning team. More than that, they have worked hard enough to merit it."

The confirmation by Kashim Imam yesterday has put to rest media speculations on whether or not President Obasanjo would re-contest his position in the 2003 elections.

Imam went on: "contrary to the wish of our critics, the president will certainly run with Vice-President Atiku.

contd. on pg 2

FG warned against Liberian refugees

By Suleiman Mohammed

The Global Human Rights Alternative (GLOHRA), a non-governmental human rights organisation based in Abidjan, Cote D' Ivoire, yesterday warned Nigeria to be on alert in accepting refugees from West Africa especially Liberians in view of the escalating conflict in the sub-region.

The group which had audience with President Olusegun Obasanjo at the State House yesterday in Abuja said the warning became imperative as the Nigerian government recently accepted 156 Liberian refugees into the country "on humanitarian ground" without thorough scrutiny.

President of the group, Comrade Ibrahim Nuhu, who spoke with State House correspondents shortly after an audience with President Obasanjo, described Liberians as "heartless human beings that must be isolated from others."

"We made it clear to the president (Obasanjo) that the Nigerian government should be on alert in accepting these

contd. on pg 2

26 die in auto crash

By Mustapha Isah Kwaru

No fewer than 26 lives were lost in an auto crash along Sabon Birni Local Government Area of Sokoto State, forcing residents in the area to suspend their commercial activities to sympathise with the families of the bereaved.

According to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Hausa Service reports monitored in Abuja, the driver of the vehicle, who is among the lucky three survivors, Alhaji Mohammed Sani said, "it is not my habit to load both goods and people in my vehicle. But this time, due to the shortage of goods I decided to carry people also.

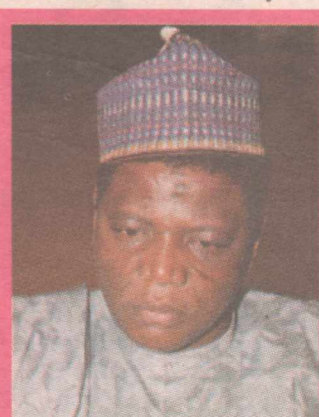
"I loaded 65 bags of flour, besides people. Then as we were approaching a bridge the tyre of the vehicle exploded. I tried my best to save the lives on board but the lorry lost control and fell off on the bridge."

Asked how he managed to escape, Alhaji Sani disclosed that it was Allah who saved his life "because I was not the only one in the front sit."

Four Nigerians sentenced to death in Libya

The Federal Government is using all diplomatic channels to plead for clemency for four Nigerians sentenced to death by a Libyan court in May, according to a source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Seven persons, including four Nigerians, were sentenced to death on May 21



Alh. Sule Lamido, Foreign Affairs Minister

"You see today we all abandoned our commercial activities, our main activity now is discussions on this ugly accident and commiserating within grief-stricken relatives.

for their involvement in last September's deadly clashes between African immigrants and Libyans in the North African country.

The others were two Libyans and a Ghanaian.

The seven were found guilty of plotting against the Libyan authority's leading role in Africa, and of murdering Libyan citizens.

They were also accused of theft and undermining the aim of the "Libyan Jamahiriya" of creating a United African entity and of disturbing public order.

"We are using all approved diplomatic channels to appeal for clemency, and we are hopeful that our plea will receive sympathetic ears in view of the excellent relationship between our two countries," the source told

the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Abuja last weekend.

The convicts had 30 days to appeal against the judgement, but the source said the charge against them was a grievous offence and that the Federal Government did not believe the issue could be resolved through the appeal court.

"Since they have already been adjudged guilty by a court, we believe the best thing to do is for us to plead for clemency and this is being taken up at a very high level," he said.

Two hundred and ninety Libyans and 41 foreigners were tried in connection with the clashes last year, which Tripoli said led to the killing of six people — a Libyan, two

contd. on pg 2

NEWS

Politicians lobby for posts at FCSC

Intense lobbying has commenced at the Presidency in Abuja by politicians and National Assembly members from all the three political parties to fill the 13 vacant posts of commissioners at the Federal Civil Service Commission (FCSC). *Daily Trust* has authoritatively gathered.

The posts became vacant when penultimate Friday, June 22, the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Chief Ufot Ekaette, issued relieve notices to the 13 commissioners whose four-year tenure has since elapsed. Only the chairman, Alhaji U.G. Galtimari, and Dr. S.O. Irueme, who represents Edo, Ondo and Ekiti, States at the commission were not affected.

It was gathered that some of the relieved commission-

By Sani Babadoko

ers have served between eight and 12 years, having been appointed in 1989 and 1993. Alhaji Galtimari and Dr. Irueme were, however, appointed during the General Abdulsalami Abubakar administration.

The commissioners affected in the exercise are: Alhaji Shehu Sulaiman (representing Kaduna and Katsina States); Alhaji A.M. Magaji (Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara States); Alhaji Ibrahim Baba (Kano and Jigawa States); Alhaji J.K.G. Imam (Borno, Yobe and Bauchi States); Alhaji I.K. Maigoro (FCT and Niger); Alhaji U. Dewa (Adamawa Taraba and Gombe States) and R.M.A. Ogenyi (Benue, Plateau and Nasarawa States).

Others are: Chief B.

Kotun (representing Lagos and Ogun States); Prince A.O. Omojowolu (Osun and Oyo States); T.N. Amudu (Imo and Abia States); Chief D. O. Dede (Delta, Rivers and Bayelsa States) and Prince A.B. Odey (Akwa-Ibom and Cross River States).

All the commissioners are, however, still in their offices pending the reconstitution of the commission, the list of which is being compiled by the SGF's office and is expected to be submitted to the Senate for confirmation any moment from now by the president.

A presidency source told *Daily Trust* that President Obasanjo has been eager to reconstitute the FCSC because of his concern over the performance of the civil service. It said the main consideration would be to reinvigo-

rate the civil service on which the government relies to deliver democracy dividends via policy implementation.

The source said the president was not satisfied with the administration's mid-term report which the SGF had earlier directed all ministries and departments to compile.

The source added that the president's dissatisfaction stemmed from the fact that his policies have not filtered through to the rank and file.

The FCSC is the clearing house for all entrants into Federal Civil Service and is responsible for all promotions, retirements and discipline in the service. It is also expected to give effect to the Federal Government's policy of Federal Character in the service.

At a workshop for Federal Permanent Secretaries at the inception of this administration, President Obasanjo had accused the service of "lack of focus and strategic direction, inability or reluctance to provide quality service to the public, mass demoralisation and corrupt impulses."

He promised then that his administration would make the civil service treat citizens as "customers, the one who is always right and whose wishes come first." He said that a customer service standards would be evolved and faults reporting and ratification units set up.

"It is our intention to introduce a citizen's character spelling out the rights of citizens vis-à-vis public bodies," he declared.

At the FCSC offices in Wuse last Friday, *Daily Trust* confirmed the issuance of the relief notices but could neither get the chairman, Alhaji Galtimari, nor the permanent secretary, Dr. Adewale, to comment as they were said to be out on official engagements.



Alhaji Ahmed Yayale, Head of Service

movement," the source said.

He said that unless the missions were aware of the presence of Nigerians in those countries, there was no way the mission could act to protect them or defend their interest whenever they were in trouble.

"As a global human rights organisation with the sole objectives of promoting diplomacy and peace, we felt it necessary to alert any nation prone to crisis," he said, and advised the Nigerian government to be careful and beware of activities of organisations that have foreign backing."

According to him, President Obasanjo has given assurance of government's commitment to defending Nigerian sovereignty, against intrusion by foreigners, adding that adequate security network had been put in place nationwide.

The Yoruba Council of Elders (YCE) has at the weekend set up a nine-member committee to facilitate the re-election of Obasanjo in the 2003 presidential polls.

Its Secretary-General, retired Justice Akinade Thompson said, after a meeting at Ibadan, that the council unanimously endorsed the view that Obasanjo should seek a second term.

He said the decision of the council was borne out of its conviction that the president had discharged his duties creditably, and that a second term was necessary to consolidate his achievements.

Bamaiyi, Diya blamed for 1997 coup

By Uwem Umo

The Chief Security Officer (CSO) to the former Chief of General Staff (CGS) and the former boss of the Directorate of Military Intelligence have both confirmed that the 1997 coup plot was real and that Oladipo Diya and Ishaya Bamaïyi were the facilitators.

Retired Major Seun Fadipe, CSO to former CGS, Oladipo Diya and retired Brigadier Sabo, former boss of the DMI yesterday reiterated that the 1997 coup plot was real but that Oladipo Diya and Ishaya Bamaïyi were phantom Generals because they did not live up to their Generalship.

The former boss of the DMI, who was giving evidence in respect of the 1997 coup plot told the Human Rights Violations and Investigation Commission (HRVIC) yesterday in Abuja that the coup should be re-designed Diya/Bamaïyi coup plot.

According to retired Brigadier-General Sabo, General Bamaïyi initiated the 1997 coup plot and when it leaked and the plotters were arrested, Bamaïyi started another plot entirely because he had the ambition of becoming the head of state.

He revealed that coup plotters usually engaged the services of marabouts and spiritualists to pray for them and their colleagues adding that General Bamaïyi in the 1997 coup plot engaged the services of one Malam Saidu who lived somewhere in Ojo, Lagos State.

The former DMI boss said that the issue of money has always been the central theme in all the coup plots that have ever taken place in Nigeria adding that people have always been induced by financial rewards and the promise of some to participate in coup plots.

According to General Sabo, there were facts and figures to show that the activities of the former Chief of Army Staff, General Bamaïyi were inimical to the armed forces.

He lamented the early

and vindictive retirement of some officers and accused General Bamaïyi of retiring one General Ulazi of the army medical corps over the issue of \$2.9 million ECOMOG fund that was earmarked for the evacuation of wounded troops and which was signed for collection but never released for the purpose.

He also decried the early retirement of one other Colonel who was in charge of Ordnance Corps because the officer queried the performance of a contractor who was allegedly paid N20 million to refurbish the ordnance depot which was poorly executed.

Concerning the retirement of former General Lawrence Onoja, the former boss of DMI said Onoja's retirement was vindictive because the officer had openly canvassed that the office of the Chief of Army Staff should be occupied by an intellectual.

According to Sabo, the list is endless, adding that the list has not yet been heard of the 1997 coup plot.

Meanwhile, the former CSO to General Oladipo Diya, Major Seun Fadipe, confirmed that the 1997 coup plot was real adding that he got wind of the plot on December 9, 1997.

According to him, the December 13, 1997 bomb blast at the Nmandi Azikiwe International Airport was targeted at the master planner of the 1997 coup plot and that Diya lied when he denied knowledge of the plot.

He agreed with a defence counsel that late General Abacha was the only military ruler who did not execute coup plotters even after they have been found guilty, adding that "if Abacha did not execute me, then he must have saved my life" although I had pleaded guilty as charged.

Four Nigerians contd. from pg. 1

Chadians, two Nigerians and a Sudanese.

Meanwhile, a source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has advised Nigerians travelling abroad to always endeavour to report their presence to the nearest Nige-

rian embassy.

"Many Nigerians travel to or even live in foreign countries without the knowledge of the Nigerian missions in those countries, and this makes it difficult or even impossible to monitor their

FG contd. from pg. 1

refugees because they can do anything," Comrade Ibrahim Nuhu declared.

The 156 Liberian refugees whose boat berthed at the Apapa port last week after three weeks at sea across the West African coast, were, however, taken to the Oru refugee camp in Ogun State for rehabilitation.

Comrade Nuhu alleged that the Liberian government was not happy with the development, and as such, began subterranean moves to cause trouble in Nigeria. "Charles Taylor has been trying to subvert peace in

some major African countries," he declared.

According to him, the Global Human Rights Alternative had in South Africa met with Foreign Policy Analysts in Africa and discovered that Liberian President, Charles Taylor has a hand in most crisis-ridden countries in the West African sub-region.

He described Nigeria as the most peaceful nation, not only in Africa but globally, stressing that in view of this, some countries (not mentioned) were not happy with Nigeria.

Obasanjo contd. from pg. 1

They have the best report ever between a president and his vice in the history of Nigeria."

The PLO also re-echoed Chief Tony Anenih's remarks last year that there is no vacancy in Aso Rock because there is no alternative to Obasanjo. "I want to restate that there is no credible alternative to Obasanjo. He has been totally selfless. At 64, President Obasanjo routinely puts in between 18 and 20 hours daily 7 days a week."

On what would happen after Obasanjo's second term, in 2001, Imam explained that the position would then rotate back to the North.

"And when it comes back to the north, my zone which is North-East would insist that it is our turn. This is because the North-West had already had their turns through Generals Murtala Mohammed, Muhammadu Buhari, Sani Abacha and Alhaji Shehu Shagari.

"The North Central zone also got its turn with General Yakubu Gowon who ruled for nine uninterrupted years and Ibrahim Babangida who ruled for eight years uninterrupted," Imam stressed.

He claimed that already, President Obasanjo is grooming "well tested and honest Nigerians" from the zone to succeed him, the PLO said.

All Africa contd. from pg. 1

He said coach Fanny Amun has been drafted in to identify and train new talented football players that will represent the country in the football event at the

games, while coach Yusuf Alli has also been engaged to train athletes.

According to Dr. Adamu, Nobel Laureate Professor Wole Soyinka will

coordinate the opening and closing ceremony of the games, while Akin Euba will compose the theme music for the event.

NEWS

Nigerian couple convicted for selling bush meat

Following the conviction of a London-based Nigerian couple for selling the meat of animals considered to be endangered species, the Nigerian High Commission in the U.K. has advised Nigerian bush meat traders and restaurateurs to



Alhaji Sule Lamido

form an association to protect their business.

The High Commissioner, Prince Bola Ajibola, who gave the advice at a meeting with the traders and restaurateurs in London over the weekend, said that forming the association would enable them to speak with one voice and present a common front on issues affecting their businesses. He said that the high commission would find it easier to take up their matters with the British government or other relevant authorities if they formed a

group. "You can address the issue of the eggs and mushroom importers of bush meat by setting standard rules and regulations of the association," Ajibola said.

He requested the traders to supply the high commission with a list of animals which they sell as bush meat, explaining that the commission would also request the home office to provide it with a list of animals prohibited or allowed to be used as bush meat.

The high commissioner charged Nigerians to always strive to be law-abiding and avoid breaking the laws of their host country, stressing that the way forward was to brace up and conduct their businesses legitimately. He noted that the government and people of Britain were very worried about problems concerning animals, in view of the BSE, which led to the death of about 100 people, and the recent foot and mouth disease which led to the culling of millions of animals.

"You have to be sensitive to their concerns and not do anything to worsen the situation," he charged the traders, and pledged the commission's commitment to protect and pursue the interests of Nigerians in the country.

NAN reports that some of

the traders, who spoke at the meeting, accused British customs officials of ignorance as they could not identify any type of bush meat, while others claimed the authorities were picking on Africans, particularly Nigerians, while their Asian counterparts make similar importations unmolested.

Other speakers described the clamp-down on bush meat sellers by the British authorities as another form of colonialism in which people are denied the right to eat their own type of food, while some argued that the bush

meat vendors were being made scapegoats in view of the foot and mouth disease.

Other issues highlighted at the meeting included the need for both importers and traders to observe the laws of simple hygiene, infiltration of the bush meat market by wives of Nigerian key government officials, including ministers as well as the need to set up a task force to look into other areas in which Nigerians were facing threats.

NAN reports that an interim committee, under the chairmanship of Nathaniel Ode, an exporter and restaurateur, was set up to formulate guidelines for the establishment of an association.

Search for oil in the north still on - NNPC

By Ahmed Shekarau

The Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mr. Jackson Gaius-Obaseki has allayed fears that the corporation has stopped prospecting for oil in Northern Nigeria, affirming that "the search continues."

The issue of oil exploration in the Chad Basin and Benue trough in the northern region of the country has generated so much controversy in recent times, with the NNPC receiving a lot of bashing over its perceived reluctance on the issue.

Barely two months ago, a member of the Senate Committee on Petroleum Resources, Senator Salisu

Musa Matori, alleged that the issue of oil exploration in the region has been suspended for certain political reasons.

The NNPC GMD, however, told newsmen after declaring open the 22nd class of the Chief Officers' Management Development Course yesterday in Abuja, that the NNPC is still prospecting for oil in the north.

According to him, "on the search for oil in the north, the search continues." Obaseki reiterated NNPC's commitment to exploration activities in the region, stressing that the corporation has accumulated "so much data" after series of studies on the prospects of having oil in the north over the past 20 years.

He said the NNPC has advertised for consultants to integrate such data together in order to ascertain the prospects of having oil within the region.

He emphasized the need for the corporation to be allowed to handle such issues in a "professional way."

Meanwhile, the Presidential Adviser on Petroleum and Energy

New Islamic NGO prepares ground for tolerance

By Austine Odo

A new Islamic organization which aims at promoting national unity through dialogue and religious tolerance, has emerged in Abuja. The organization, known as Assembly of Muslims in Nigeria (AMIN), also seeks to guide muslims of all professions to live as muslims and participate actively in the development of Nigeria, as well as reach out to other faiths with a view to encouraging tolerance, harmony and peaceful coexistence.

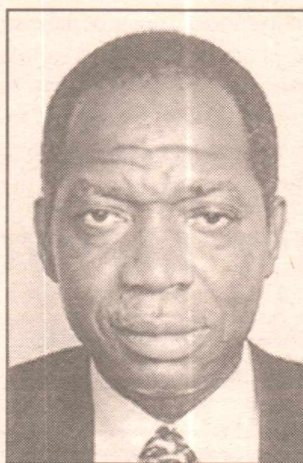
Speaking with newsmen on the activities of the new body in Abuja yesterday, the

Chairman of the organization, Sheikh Sherif Ibrahim Saleh Al-Hussaini, said AMIN would soon institute committees that would pragmatically tackle the basic problems facing muslims and the nation.

According to Sheikh Al-Hussaini, the committees which would be made up of experienced people would insist in carrying out programmes on education, enlightenment, socio-economic development and inter-faith dialogues. He stated that besides uniting and empowering muslims, the programmes would encourage the pursuit of justice, tolerance and peace across the nation.

The chairman said AMIN is structured to have a board of trustees, a management committee, an executive committee and a working committee which would focus on enlightenment, education, publicity and mobilization respectively.

Sheikh Al-Hussaini pointed out that the committees would soon be inaugurated in Abuja and that the board of trustees has Dr. Sulaiman Kumo, Prof. Dawood Shittu Nobi, Maj.-Gen. Gado Nasko (rtd) and Alhaji Abdul Aziz Udeh, as members.



Chief Gaius-Obaseki

Operation focus relief kicks off Sept 1

By Hammel Bello

The third phase of the United States-Nigerian military partnership tagged: "Operation Focus Relief" is to commence on September 1st, the U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria, Howard Jeter has disclosed.

The ambassador who said this recently in Abuja, explained that the partnership will go a long way in strengthening, not only the peace keeping role of Nigeria in Africa but its combat readiness.

Speaking further, the ambassador said in the third phase of the operation,

American forces will work and train with 1 battalion in Kebbi, 20 battalion in Serti and 222 (2-2-2) battalion in Ilorin.

In a related development, A U.S. defence spokesman, Lt.-Col. V. Nelson who told journalists in Abuja recently that the operation was at the request of President Obasanjo, added that the U.S. was to provide training and equipment for Nigerian troops on peace keeping mission to Liberia and Sierra Leone.

... High Commission to appeal against conviction

The Nigerian High Commission in the United Kingdom may appeal against the conviction of a Nigerian couple for trading in products made from python and lizard skins as well as selling the meat of a tandalus monkey, considered as endangered species.

The High Commissioner, Prince Bola Ajibola who gave the indication over the weekend in London at a meeting with bush meat traders, said the commission had requested for records of proceedings on the case. He said the commission had engaged the services of a lawyer from Morgan and Walkers Chambers, who would study the records and advise the commission on whether to go ahead with the appeal.

Ajibola who disclosed that the high commission learnt of the case only after

the couple were found guilty, explained that the appeal may be based on facts or the law. He stated that the couple were set-up into committing the offences for which they were convicted, and lamented that the front man used by a newspaper to nail the couple was also a Nigerian.

He said he visited the couple in prison before they were sentenced, and said he would visit them again soon. Ajibola pledged that the high commission would do everything possible to look after the three young children of the convicted couple, stressing that the welfare of all Nigerians in the U.K. was of paramount importance to the commission.

NAN reports that Mobolaji Osakuade, 40, and his partner, Rose Kinnane,

35, were sentenced to four months in jail on June 15 for attempting to sell the meat of the monkey and a head bag crafted from the skin of a lizard. The couple, who were charged under the British customs management act of 1979 and the international convention on the protection of endangered animals would spend two months in jail and the remaining two months on probation.


A former Mayor of London Borough of Wardsworth, Chief Lola Ayorinde, who led several demonstrations against the conviction of the couple, had challenged the Nigerian government to make a statement on whether it signed the international convention under which Osakuade and Kinnane were convicted.

"FOR A LIFETIME, THIS PRODUCT HAS HELPED ME, MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS, IN 60 YEARS GIVEN TIME, I HAVE NEVER SEEN IT FAIL ONCE IN HELPING DO SOME GOOD FOR THE PEOPLE USING IT." KARL JURAK.

WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF STOCK DUE TO THE VERY HUGE DEMAND FOR MATOL ALL OVER NIGERIA (LAUS TIBI CHRISTE), PICK UP YOUR BOTTLE TODAY UNFAILINGLY AND YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU DID.

REMEMBER AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE. HELP NIGERIA TO BE A HEALTHIER AND WEALTHIER NATION.

TEL NOS: 01-610091, 492-1747, 492-5229, 774-3842, 545-1961, 09-523-1479, 523-1931, 09-231-0215, 09-314-1064, 052-450-135, 052-257-029, 084-572-114, 01-545-5251, 084-230-388, 02-241-3596, 052-600-383, 062-240-547, 02-810-7224.



950 mL

(OVER 29 MILLION BOTTLES ALREADY SOLD)

NEWS

**Stop begging for assistance
- Igbinedion counsels police**

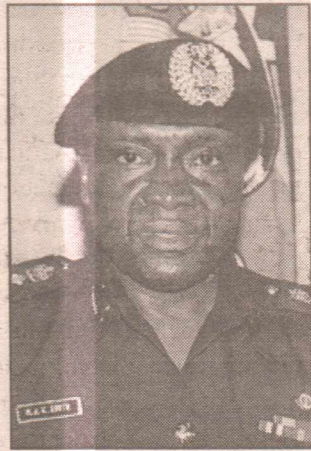
The Governor of Edo State, Chief Lucky Nosa Khare Igbinedion, has advised the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) to stop begging for assistance as it is the responsibility of the Federal Government to fund the force.

"It is the responsibility of the Federal Government to fund and equip the Nigeria police and not that of the states and local government areas."

"It is so disheartening to see the police which is supposed to be well-funded and well-equipped, moving about and begging for funds

From Shehu Abubakar, in Benin City and equipment."

Governor Igbinedion made this remark in his office



Mr. Smith, IGP

yesterday when the newly posted Assistant Inspector-General of Police (AIG), Mr. Raimi Odoin, paid him a courtesy call in his office.

Governor Igbinedion, who said he does not believe in the clamour for state-police but the continued existence of a centrally-controlled federal police, called on the Nigeria Police Force to regard all criminals in the society as bona fide human beings who should be corrected and rehabilitated instead of outrightly eliminating them.

"I grew up in a police barracks that used to be clean and not the types we have

now that have no water and no amenities," he added.

The governor said Edo, which enjoys tremendous peace and very conducive atmosphere, is creating sporting villages and establishing libraries to engage the youths in doing meaningful things with their lives.

Earlier, the Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Zone 5 Benin City, Mr. Raimi Odofin, promised to keep the state crime-free, and called on the governor to assist the Nigeria police with vehicles and communication gadgets to enable the command to cope with the anticipated flurry of political activities.

2003 elections would be devoid of malpractices - Atiku

Vice-President Atiku Abubakar, at the weekend in Damaturu, the Yobe State capital, assured Nigerians that electoral malpractices that beclouded previous elections in the country, would be allowed to repeat come 2003.

He said the Obasanjo-led government would do everything possible to ensure a peaceful, fair and just election, devoid of malpractice, even as he said the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was determined to return to power by popular vote.

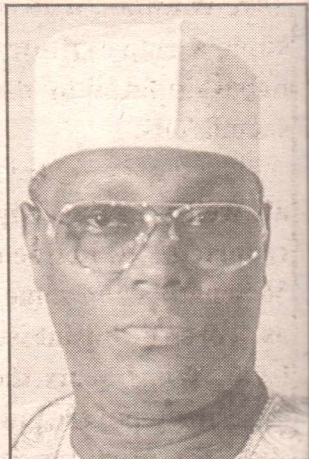
Vice-President Atiku declared, "we shall, Insha Allah ensure that elections are conducted fairly and just because our party (PDP) stands by that," he told thousands of PDP supporters at the flagging-off of the North-East zone rally of the party in Damaturu, Yobe State.

Reacting to reports of alleged electoral rigging during the 1999 gubernatorial elections in Yobe State and some North-Eastern states, Vice-President Atiku declared that so long as PDP in the state fielded a competent, and trusted candidate, "we, at the federal level, will ensure that PDP capture Yobe, and forms the government."

He expressed disgust that despite the increase in allocation from the federation

From Suleiman Mohammed, in Damaturu

account, Yobe State could not deliver democracy dividends to the people. The vice-president who had earlier paid a courtesy call on the Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Mustapha El-Kanemi and the Emir of Damaturu, Alhaji Umar Ibn



Vice-President Atiku Abubakar

Ali El-Kanemi, assured that government was mindful of the need to enhance the status of traditional rulers, "so that you can be more relevant and respected by the society."

The PDP National Chairman, Engr. Barnaba Gemade in a brief remark, assured of the party's commitment to capture all APP controlled states in the North-East, stressing that the launching of the rally tagged: "Operation totality in 2003" was the beginning of such commitment.

I am not demolishing churches - Kwankwaso

Kano State government has refuted allegations made by the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Kano State branch that churches were being demolished by Kano State Environmental Protection Agency (KASEPPA).

Kano State Governor, Dr. Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso told members of the Guild of

From Musa Umar Kazaure, in Kano

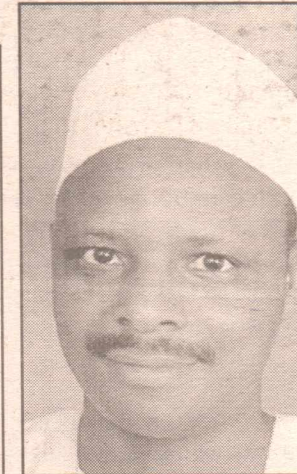
Editors, who paid him a visit, that, what was demolished were make-shift structures illegally erected at unauthorised areas of the city, especially Bompai area. He pointed out that the rock converted to churches by Christian worshippers had been earmarked for the

construction of a water tank since 1971, adding, "there is no way we can give approval to anybody to build a church or a mosque on that rock."

Shedding more light to the demolition exercise, the Managing Director of KASEPPA, Engr. Rabiu Suleiman Bichi told newsmen that before the structures, mainly made of zinc were demolished, the illegal

squatters were given notices to vacate the place and were given additional two weeks extension to vacate but to no avail.

Alhaji Rabiu said other churches in Kano which were built legally are going on peacefully with their activities, adding that the demolition of illegal structures in Kano



Gov Kwankwaso

metropolis by his agency was a routine exercise which should not be misrepresented by religious zealots who always hid under religion to foment trouble.

**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
PRE-QUALIFICATION OF TENDERS FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF PAVILLION AND MINI
MARKET OF THE KANO INTERNATIONAL
TRADE FAIR COMPLEX**

Applications are invited for pre-qualification to tender for the following works at the Kano International Trade Fair Complex, located on the Zoo Road, Kano:-

- (i) Completion of 1 No. Pavillion
- (ii) Construction of Mini Market

Applications for pre-qualification should be accompanied by the following documents:-

- (i) Certificate of Registration of the Company;
- (ii) Evidence of Registration with the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing in the appropriate category;
- (iii) Current Tax Clearance and VAT registration Certificate;
- (iv) List of Plants, Equipment and Technical Staff available for tenders;
- (v) Proof of experience in similar projects.

The applications, which should be addressed to the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Commerce, Old Federal Secretariat, Area 1, Garki, Abuja, should be received not later than two weeks from date of this advertisement. Applications received beyond this date shall not be entertained.

PERMANENT SECRETARY

Support victims of Nasarawa crisis - Cleric

The Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Makurdi, Most Rev. Athanatius Ushu, has called for concerted efforts by both the government and the church to cater for displaced persons from the communal clashes in Nasarawa State.

In a statement made available through the Catholic

Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN) in Lagos at the weekend, which stated that the displaced people in various camps, need well coordinated relief efforts, camp organisation and management as well as adequate supply of food, water and medicines.

He said the diocese has set up an emergency relief committee under the auspices of the Church's Justice and Peace Development Department.

According to him, the committee's first task is to get a true assessment of the situation. He said 36,000 people have so far been registered in the two relief camps set up in Daudu and Uikpiam by Benue State government and about 2,000 registered at Gbajimba among others. He commended the state government's efforts in bringing the situation under control and appealed for government's collaboration with the church and other organisations to ameliorate the sufferings of the displaced people.

COAS advises ambitious officers to resign

By Hammed Bello

The Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Maj.-Gen. Alexander Odareduo Ogomudia, has advised politically ambitious army officers to resign from the army or face the wrath of military law. He said this in Abuja recently while briefing newsmen on the activities marking this year's army day celebration.

The general, who said the Nigerian Army is determined to restrict itself to its professional role of defending the nation,

added that "the re-professionalisation of the army depends on individual attitude to adapt to change and added that "the need to imbibe the new spirit of change is necessary for a disciplined and virile army."

While expressing satisfaction with the maintenance of internal peace in the country, he indicated the willingness of the army in assisting the police in fighting armed banditry prevalent in our country today, when called upon to do so.

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

Squandering of riches

Recently, it was reported that some nine governors travelled to London to attend the birthday party of one Terry Waya, a businessman and the representative of the Chagouri family in Abuja. For the governors to have considered it appropriate to embark on such a trip without regard to the endless hardship faced by the people is to say the least scandalous.

The trip is worthy of total condemnation by all well-meaning Nigerians, after it was also reported that beside the nine governors, about 30 Senators and some 40 Representatives as well as scores of businessmen were at the birthday bash. What beats the imagination is how the governors and the lawmakers could still find the time for partying in spite of the myriad of problems confronting the electorate.

Certainly, the chief executives do not expect us to believe that they have successfully provided clean drinking water in their rural areas, or made erratic electricity supply a thing of the past. Neither have they provided sufficient drugs to hospitals. To have turned a blind eye to the problems awaiting their attention and fly to London for a birthday party makes a huge joke of the federal government's call for debt relief from our foreign creditors.

The amount of money expended in foreign currency on flight tickets, hotel accommodation and estacode for the governors and their official and unofficial aides is enough to execute one or two viable projects that would go a long way in bringing succour to their people. As free citizens, they cannot, of course, be denied the opportunity to indulge in partying and other social activities even with the responsibility of leadership entrusted upon them.

During the three-day retreat on poverty eradication programme in Abuja President Obasanjo expressed displeasure at the action of the partying officials, describing them as those 'who leave their people here and go to London to spend their states' hard-earned money'. *Daily Trust* believes that even if the 'celebrant' picked all the bills, the governors and other elected officials should take into consideration the parlous nature of our economy, and suggest a more prudent way of spending that money within Nigeria. Or was there any other ulterior purpose for ferrying such important government officials to London of all places?

We believe that the kind of wasteful spending that became the hallmark of the civilian government of the Second Republic and military regimes must not be allowed to characterise the present democratic dispensation. Our new democracy will indeed suffer if such recklessness and insensitivity on the part of our elected leaders and other public office holders is allowed to go unchecked.

TUESDAY COLUMN

West is the Worst Africa

Abubakar Sokoto Mohammed

This article is inspired by the terrible human condition in the West African sub-region which may threaten the population with extinction or recolonisation in the contemporary unipolar world. The sub-region contains three of the poorest countries in the world. It has some of the most intense conflicts on the continent especially if the untold hardship which such conflicts produce with reference to lost of lives, limbs, livelihood, displacement of people, the disruption of productive activities, the arrest of social development, destruction of the future of some of the nations through the phenomenon of "child soldiers", etc. The sub-region contains some of the most corrupt governments in the world going by the indices of Transparency International. Similarly, the West African sub-region is plagued with natural disasters, some of which are the consequences of human activities, such as desertification, soil erosion, deforestation and pollution in all its ramifications.

Given the above uncomplimentary situation there has to be an imperative for stabilisation and human development in the sub-region. The truism that there cannot be prosperity without peace is most instructive now in the West African sub-region. All the natural and human assets of the region with all the structures of governmental authorities become irrelevant as long as they do not have some significant positive impact on the quality of life of the majority of the population in the region.

The current conditions in the sub-region have very obvious negative and unsalutary implications for the majority of the population of the community. In virtually all the indices of human development the sub-region is at the bottom, namely in life expectancy, literacy level, availability of physical infrastructure, provision of social amenities, employment generation, per capita income, creation of wealth, the digital revolution, etc.

In reality the overall consequence of this condition is that the sub-region is virtually excluded from the present prosperity spread across ordinary people in many regions of the world. Most regions of the world are creating economies of scale in order to maximise economic, political, security and diplomatic advantages for their regions with positive and concrete benefits for the majority of their peoples. In our region there is a lot of heat without light just as there is tremendous motion or commotion without progress.

The West African sub-region and the rest of sub-Saharan Africa are more like devastated disaster zones in need of rehabilitation and reconstruction as was done for Europe through the Marshall Plan after World War II. Similar efforts are being exerted to develop and implement the Balkan Reconstruction Plan by the European Union right now. I must quickly enter a *caveat emptor* that the onus and responsibility for the so-called "African Renaissance" is the primary duty of the leaders and people of the sub-region. After putting our acts

together then the rest of humanity can come to our assistance.

The weak and seemingly hopeless condition in the ECOWAS sub-region is sharply confronted with the innate strengths and resources of the community. The region has a population of over 200 million which is predominantly youthful whereas other regions of the world are facing the crisis of an ageing population. The West African sub-region has a vast territory which covers coastal, forest, savannah and sahel vegetation. Other regions of the world are in short supply of land which is abundant, blessed with favourable agro-climatic conditions, fertile land for agricultural production as West Africa. The availability of strategic minerals for the production of energy, steel and nuclear technology is a natural advantage which has so far been exploited only for the benefit of some nations and peoples other than those of the sub-region. The precious stones which are as multifarious as the ethnic groups in the sub-region have, instead of becoming sources of prosperity, turned into a curse exemplified by the "blood diamonds", which are the motive force for the senseless and destructive conflicts in West Africa.

If this negative trend continues in the ECOWAS community, notwithstanding all the apparent unproductive hyper-activity of the staff and authority of the community, the consequences for our sub-region and population are unpalatable and unacceptable for humanity in this age of global prosperity and the revolution in information/communication technology. Without peace the conflicts shall continue to decimate and displace large portions of the population increasingly. The deepening poverty, environmental degradation and near absolute marginalisation of the sub-region from the forward march of the rest of humanity can only result into the extinction of the sub-region at one extreme or the recolonisation of the sub-region by others for their own strategic advantage at the other extreme.

The foregoing discourse has tried to establish a case for the stabilisation, nay pacification of the ECOWAS sub-region, as a primary prerequisite for addressing the shameful and paradoxically unjustifiable human condition in the community. The alternative to responsible, humane governance is anarchy and deepening poverty. In order to translate the innate strategic advantages of the West African sub-region into prosperity for the community and to develop living conditions that are worthy of human dignity for the people of the region, the leaders, people, institutions, businesses, NGOs, intellectuals, professionals, workers, etc. of the region all have a basic duty to set the ball rolling in reversing the situation otherwise we shall lose hope and disengage from the progress of human civilisation in the new millennium.

Postscript

The rest of humanity as represented by the prosperous nations of the world, who are benefiting from the resources of the sub-region, and the international organisations, which were created to foster peace and goodwill amongst mankind, have a responsibility also to assist the ECOWAS community after its leaders and people have started to demonstrate positive achievements towards changing the current unacceptable human condition. The declaration of a decade committed to the establishment of peace and prosperity in Africa by the United Nations Organisation shall be a good starting point.

Similarly, coming closer home it will be to the strategic advantage of the community to convince Mauritania to return to the fold and to extend an invitation to the Republics of Chad, Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea to join the community. This shall be to the economic and security advantage of the ECOWAS community.

Abubakar is a Senior Fellow at the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPPS), Kuru, Jos.

LETTER OF THE DAY

Sharia and security

I have long suspected that one of the major reasons why Muslims have been agitating for the implementation of Sharia legal system is that they are frustrated with the judiciary and the police.

Armed robbers and other capital offenders are on the prowl day and night without fear of the police even in the Sharia states. If this continues, I wonder what the situation will be during the

next election.

Since one of the aims of Sharia is to reduce the level of crime, I advise the governments of these Sharia states to start interfering in such cases of crime in police stations and courts so as to ensure justice and equity are maintained.

Please don't let Uncle Sege be right when he said this Sharia is political.
Yusuf Rabiu Rimaye
No. 45 Bakori Road,
Funtua.

Opinion

Fire on General Buhari, we are right behind you

AbdulHadi A. Bawa,

For long our co-habitants of this British colonised and amalgamated territory named Nigeria have been taking us for a ride, in other words their shallow brains made their thinking always very myopic, and this made them to believe that they are more qualified to have the singular 'honour' of being called Nigerians.

Their attitudes, behaviours, comments, commentaries and utterances depict either hatred for us or on us, however, what they fail to realise and will never realise is all because of their 'intelligence' is that all these atrocities never had and will never have any deleterious effect on our psyche. But rather they made us get closer, to like and love ourselves more.

The way and manner we were and are still being treated by these people has been very iniquitous, whereby from our own part we tried our best at all times to be our brothers' keeper; very hospitable and accommodating, what do we get in return? We all know the answer, need I say more?

On the back page of *Thisday* of June 12, 2001, I saw an intemperate statement made by one Senator Sunday Fayinmi against General Buhari which my morals can never allow me to repeat, however, it is proof and confirmation of what I enumerated above. I don't know whether the 'distinguished' Senator has ever contributed meaningfully on the floor of the Senate towards the development of this great country, because I am coming across this colonised name (Sunday) for the first time since the advent of this militarised civilian administration.

If Fayinmi feels at home to call the former Head of State unprintable names for expressing his opinion on national issues, I want to believe that minnows like me should have the privilege to call Fayinmi 'fine' names like; stupid Senator, etc but I will not call him that, even though what he did was naked stupidity of the highest order. After all what is wrong with a Muslim-Muslim ticket, what matters most is justice and fair play.

The only thing that will be wrong with an all-Muslim ticket is when it is not initiated by their kith and kin, this is because when late Chief Abiola nominated Ambassador Kingibe to be his 'handbag', these same people who are now castigating us for clamouring for a Muslim-Muslim ticket never saw anything wrong with that arrangement for the simple reason that it was made by them.

These people have a very shallow memory of history, but we all know that in the transition programme that ushered in the Obasanjo administration, we were forced to accept or vote for only candidates that came from the south, even from the south the candidate must be a grandson of Oduduwa. As if that was not enough, besides all these 'qualifications' this candidate must be a Christian; that was how we had Obasanjo and Falae as the only candidates even though INEC registered three political parties.

We agreed to this unfortunate arrangement in the name of peace and brotherhood. I therefore see no justification for all these hues and cries because we are clamouring for a Muslim-Muslim ticket - what is good for the goose is also good for the gander.

Let me make it unequivocally clear that this people hate us just because we are Northerners, we are Hausa/Fulani (even though I know there is nothing like that, just a caricature of the situation), or perhaps to put it more succinctly because we are Muslims. They started this inglorious venture right before independence and have been enjoying its dividend ever since.

However, let me drum it into their ears that the honeymoon is now over, we are now ready to face them for we have now overcome our only shortcoming. Right before independence, they have been using the *Ngbat* press to suppress and ridicule us. As merciful as the Almighty is, He enriched and blessed us with the two trusts (*Weekly* and *Daily*) through which we can fight back.

We will now match them fire for fire. As for the few misguided ones amongst us, (Dangiwas, Uba Sanis, Mandaras etc.) we shall take care of them. Whoever thinks that he has the large mouth and audacity to castigate our elders/leaders let him know that he will never go scot-free, because we know and believe that respect for elders is the beginning of wisdom, so fire on General.

Bawa is of 22, Bayajidda Road, Kaduna.

My visit to Oputa Amusement Centre

By Balarabe Abubakar

Nigerians are lovers of pleasure, and they unendingly refute any system which does not permit them to exhibit their flair for fun-seeking, which is the only way to survive in an atmosphere too charged with political uncertainty, economic mishmash, social disequilibria and cultural confusion.

In seeking fun, Nigerians can go to any extent to manifest the unusual. What is important, as far as they are concerned, is that whatever provides fun is rushed at, even when it is only superficially funny. We love to fight back tears which have threatened to assail our days because of so much political confusion which has brought so much frustration, disappointment, social menace and stagnation. And since fun is not even simply available here, whatever serves as a vehicle for same is immediately embraced.

I have great respect for Justice Chukwudifu Oputa, in whose name a panel is set up by the federal government to champion the interest of the sufferers, the menaced, cheated, maimed, exiled, frustrated and dehumanised, when General Abacha's regime was in the land. But I am afraid, the old man might not be able to function well.

For one, the offenders are so many and have widespread tentacles, and are so bold in their assertion of evil that reconciliation and establishment of truth may never be achieved.

Again, already some Nigerians have decided to turn the panel into some big fun. They have turned it into a comic show, a trade fair (of words) where drama becomes the order of the day. Let us face it: Some of those meant to confess to Nigerians all the brutalities and inhumanities they visited on Nigerians, have simply decided to dance away the opportunity, and even have hired applauders to "emphasise" their "points". Al-Mustapha, the major who served as the CSO to Abacha, has made Nigerians look like fools because we allowed him to "confess" to us. Full of pride and arrogance, he simply gave it back to us that we all mean nothing to him. To him, he had not offended anyone. Not even Abacha did. So all of us seeing him as a bomb-planter, killer and enjailer, must be fools. He is good in language. And of course, good in drama. He is an excellent performer, who would have scored good marks as a stage actor, or as one of the

actors in our numerous home videos. I do not think anyone is really better off than Mustapha in a show, the razzmatazz which the panel symbolises. He showed gimmicks, verbal acrobatics and good semantics. He twisted questions, and made the questioner look like a fool. And some of us simply clapped for him. So we are the audience too.

Drama is complete only when there is an audience, and the clapping for Mustapha, simply means we are all clowns. And for making him look like a brilliant student of history, we all look like cowards, still fearing to antagonise the name of Abacha, even in death. He turned all of us into inconsequential beings.

And let us face it: Most Nigerians have started seeing the panel as an effort by the government of the land, to erase the legacies made by powerful northerners, so as to appear not credible enough for future elections, particularly that of 2003. They reasoned that Obasanjo simply set up the panel to rubbish the integrity and reputation of powerful northerners, notably General Ibrahim Babangida and Abdulsalami Abubakar. While IBB was called the killer of Dele Giwa, (the journalist who was killed in 1986 when IBB was in power), Abubakar has been called the killer of MKO Abiola. It was even reasoned that the questionable integrity of the panel was responsible for Babangida's resort to the intervention of a court of law to prevent him from appearing before the panel.

The suspicion is quite glaring everywhere. First, the future election (2003) is coming close, and the fear is that the pro-Obasanjo forces, do not want to allow strong, powerful and credible northerners to be above board, so that they will face total failure should they emerge.

For one, IBB and Abubakar are northerners who have been most respected in Nigeria. They were strong and acceptable military leaders and they are strong opinion moulders in the country. They delivered powerful political legacies to the nation. They worked assiduously for the entrenchment of some political and social and economic programmes, which subsequent regimes generously imitate. They are still unquestionable forces to reckon with in the north, and by extension, Nigeria. In the future, as well as today,

they represent the vision which Nigerians looked up to; the dream which embraced their daily existence. And since this government of Obasanjo does not think highly of such qualitative beings, it becomes imperative for it to put up various agenda to tarnish their names. The Oputa panel is a sure way of doing so. And that is why the panel is seen as sectional, and for that matter, evil. Which is why it is dangerous to the political sanity which Nigerians really crave. Coming at this time when the regime has spent half its time, and only remains 50% more of its time frame, the panel is a process at eliminating supposed rivals to the members of this regime who are still interested in contesting in future elections.

Understandably, this position is not shared by some Nigerians. Yohanna Madaki, a retired colonel, lawyer and a chieftain of the ruling PDP, does not see it from a sectional point of view. He only wants the panel to be empowered to punish people indicted of human rights abuses. Even then, such a voice could have come only from the Middle Belt where there are a few pro-southern sentimental people. Already that belt is noted for its confused status in Nigeria. And obviously, for confused people, too.

What is important now is that most northerners have come to see the panel as pure drama to entertain Nigerians, since there is political stagnation in the land. The regime is bent on providing succour to frayed nerves. And it thus becomes a reality that the Oputa panel is nothing more than an amusement park - a fun-realising resort where Nigerians can go and relax themselves, after a full day's job. Those who have the time can go there in the morning, or watch the programme in the evening on television. They can laugh and laugh; they can fall on their carpets and rugs as they laugh. Tears will flow freely. It is the entertainment of the year.

But should it be so? If we know what is good for us, we should disband the panel, and let the old man, Oputa, go and rest. He is a serious-minded Nigerian, and highly respected. His effort, at his age, should not be turned into entertainment. I know his son, Charley Boy, is an entertainer. We would have loved it if he is the one doing the work. Not the old man. This is the truth. The old man should not be pursuing a vain idea.

Abubakar is of Ajiya Avenue, Minna

The hullabaloo about tobacco

By Tunji Olusola

I have been following with interest recent media debates on tobacco issues. However, we must realise that one man's meat, it is said to be another man's poison, and so is the controversial issue of tobacco that has given anti-tobacco groups, lawmakers, health authorities, tobacco companies, advertising agencies, and individuals sleepless nights in a bid to win an imaginary war.

A war not against nations, continents or provinces but against a legal product that is completely optional. The question is, are they fighting for a majority or a vocal minority? It is left for them to answer.

The war against tobacco in terms of banning sales, promotions, advertisement, and consumption of cigarettes, raises pertinent questions. The smoker, who is at ease with his brand, is not moved because as far as he is concerned he can choose whatever lifestyle pleases him.

It is worthy of mention that Western countries - the UK for instance - who were in the vanguard of those advocating for a total ban on tobacco advertising have quietly dropped the move. The Queen's speech read at the state opening of parliament recently, to the disappointment of anti-tobacco groups, was silent on the tobacco bill, but rather focused on more pressing socially relevant issues such as education, crime, and healthcare which the re-elected Labour government is anxious to tackle head-on.

The Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), a leading anti-tobacco group in Britain described the UK government's capitulation on the tobacco bill as 'negligent and hypocritical backsliding'.

Furthermore going by recent media reports, the Bush administration in the US is now seeking an out of court settlement regarding numerous lawsuits filed by Clinton's administration against major tobacco companies. This development again indicates that the Bush administration is shifting its attention to socially relevant issues rather than pursuing politics-driven attacks against the tobacco industry.

Then, why are we in developing and poor countries dissipating energy on issues that are not adding probative value to the well being of the majority?

The World Health Organisation (WHO), attempt to "curb smoking" through the creation of an international framework on tobacco control to help member countries tackle such issues as cigarette smuggling, advertising, tariffs, finding alternatives to tobacco farming, is yet another classical example of misplaced

priorities.

Sovereign national governments, and definitely not the WHO whose primary mandate is disease control and prevention, are better placed to regulate issues of such nature. The WHO will better utilise its resources and expertise on tackling dreaded diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, smallpox, polio, etc. at their regular Geneva jamborees. It is an irony that the same WHO is having a sweet romance with western pharmaceutical companies that have failed to make available to developing and poor countries, cheap HIV/AIDS retroviral drugs which could save lives of thousands of Africans who are increasingly dying from AIDS.

I watch beautiful tobacco adverts, my *maiguard* sells cigarettes, I have friends who smoke but all these factors combined have not made me for a day consider smoking, although I indulge in other habits which on reflection, are equally risky to one's health.

An undeniable fact of life is that smoking is a matter of choice. The choice of an individual who derives pleasure and satisfaction from inhaling a stick of cigarette, is a freedom that cannot be effectively regulated by the government, anti-tobacco groups, WHO, and the media. Similarly smokers, and smokers alone, must take absolute responsibility for their habits which they are already forewarned could cause injury to their health.

WHO estimates that over four million people die each year from smoking. However recent research findings published by a British research journal - *Public Health* - have established that obese people who indulge in the habit of eating junk and fatty foods, have more health problems than either daily smokers or heavy drinkers.

In the same vein, do we ban the manufacture, marketing, advertising and consumption of hamburgers, pizzas, ice cream, doughnuts, hotdogs etc, or require a health warning to be put on such products?

Let us take a cue from developed nations and face squarely the real issues that affect our lives. Our roads are death traps, armed robbers maim and kill in broad daylight, our children do not enjoy qualitative education, public health services have collapsed, the telephone is for the rich, garri is now out of the reach of the average Nigerian, our professionals are emigrating abroad, our industries are closing down and our youths are jobless, and restless. Lest I forget, majority of Nigerians lack access to potable water supply, and electricity.

Life in Nigeria, to borrow the words of William Shakespeare is, brutish, nasty, solitary and short.

Olusola is of 12c Strachan Street, Lagos

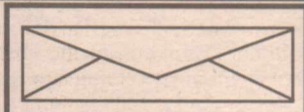
WHAT DID BUHARI NOT SAY
— ODUWA PRESS

WHAT BUHARI ACTUALLY SAID
— ACF PRESS

WHAT BUHARI MUST HAVE SAID
— THIS DAY



Abiodun 2001



YOUR LETTERS

No room for self-succession

Nigeria is a nation which is bestowed with abundant natural and human resources more than any other nation in the African continent. These resources seem to be useless to the average Nigerian because despite the resources the country falls among the 19 poorest nations across the globe. Wonderful!

This is due to the inefficiency of our leaders and their inability to discharge their responsibilities with justice and fairness.

For several years, Nigeria has been ruled by just a clique of people who

are prepared to protect their interests and always struggle to enrich themselves with public funds. It is their negative attitudes that led us to such abject poverty that an average Nigerian has no command over the basic necessities of life. The masses cannot afford three square meals a day, what a disaster! Unemployment rate is persisting, lack of shelter has accelerated to the extent that some people live in mud matcher houses with 30 people in a house and there are vagrants wandering in the street with nowhere to rest their heads. This, of course, causes an increase

in crimes but the elite do not care, knowing fully well that if they fail to write justice with black on white paper, violent, ignorant men will write it with blood on sand.

Fellow masses, by virtue of our resources we are entitled to as good a standard of living as the average American if our leaders were competent and patriotic enough. Oh! We will never have such leaders if the current trend persists. But the ruling class doesn't want to hand power over to fresh blood. That is why the system of self-succession known as *Tazarrce* has become popular.

Some past leaders have tried to actualise this system but failed woefully, but the current actors still want to try. I doubt if it is going to work in Nigeria, as the masses have recorded all the blunders they have committed so far.

Such is the conspiracy between government and the imperialists to exploit Nigerians that the naira has been devalued, reducing our purchasing power to that extent. Corruption pervades the National Assembly, there is hyper-inflation, ASUU and medical doctors are on strike, NLC threatens nationwide strike should there be deregulation, militocracy, insecurity inadequate infrastructure which are the order of the day. Self-succession will mean more of the same.

Ahmed Garba,
Department of Political Science,
Usman Dan Fodiyo University,
Sokoto.

S.O.S. to Governor Dariye

Since Chief Joshua Chibi Dariye assumed the mantle of leadership in Plateau State, many areas have felt his impact in many aspects of life. The administration has so far constructed and rehabilitated some major roads in the state, provided potable water and rural electrification, etc.

One area that lacks the government's attention is Bauchi Road, despite the fact that the road is one of the oldest and the only gateway to the people coming in from the north-eastern part of the country. The road has not received any attention since this administration came into power two years ago.

Bauchi Road lacks good drainage system and culverts and there are potholes everywhere, and motorists find it difficult to ply the road whenever it rains. One area that needs urgent attention is the side near Total filling station.

Other problems facing the road are erosion, digging of the road by the contractor handling the project of T.T. and T digital phone system. The construction firm handling the project has done more damage to the road. It took the contractor two years to cover a distance of only 100 to 150 metres. Apart from damaging the road, the side has become accident-free zone almost every day. The contractor should be asked to remove his parked caterpillar to stop the crimes being committed beside the parked caterpillar.

I am therefore appealing to Governor Dariye to please come to our aid, drainage and culvert should be built to curtail the menace of erosion.
Auwal A. Abba,
J.M.D.B. Shopping Complex,
P. O. Box 889,
Jos.

Re: Dr. Bala Usman's war against the south

I humbly write the heading above of a rejoinder written against an initial publication as an opinion on the cover page of *Thisday* of 20th May, 2001.

I totally disagree with the writer, and I hope I have said enough to merit publication in the appropriate column.

Sani Ibrahim Taura,
P. O. Box 4832,
Murtala Mohammed Way,
Kano.

www.IBBFORPRESIDENT.TILDE/2003

I read your comment on IBB's presidential ambition, and I feel the person who gave you that advice wanted to deregulate your dignity.

Even if IBB is the best candidate, I believe it is better for you to save the idea in your *intellecnet*, at least for now. And if by the year 2003 people themselves realise he is the best option, then you can make the website available to us.

Muhammed Jameel Yushau
Department of Mass Communication,
Bayero University,
P.M.B. 3011,
Kano.

Attention Kafur Local Government chairman

You have gone half way in your administration as the chairman of Kafur local government, yet nothing tangible has been done in Kafur and Masari in terms of projects of any kind. Where are the windfall allocations of February and March 2001?

The threat of Yar'Adua to take any local government chairman suspected of embezzlement to a Shari'a court is a welcome idea.

Ibrahim Iliyasu Kafur,
Investigation Department,
NEPA Dala District,
Kano.

A cause for alarm

The recent barbaric and animalistic action taken by some group of Igbos in the east against non-Igbos residing in their state for refusing to accept the illegal Biafran currency, is something of great concern.

They let their irrational emotions have unrestrained reign that is in line with Chief Ojukwu's 1966 unprecedented line of solution. Now that we are developing from the costly misadventure and human tragedy caused by Chief Ojukwu's declaration

these notorious gangs want the same experience.

The federal government should intervene promptly to circumvent the impending catastrophe.

A. Isa Ibrahim,
Bakin Kasuwa, Brigade, Kano.

FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE BIRNIN KUDU

BIRNIN KUDU JIGAWA STATE NOTICE OF INTERVIEW

The below listed candidates are hereby invited to attend interview at the Conference Hall of the Centre as shown below:-

Category A.

Cadre: Medical Officers

Date and Time: Thursday 12th July, 2001. All Candidates should report at the Federal Medical Centre Birnin Kudu, by 8:30am for a written examination.

S/NO	NAME OF CANDIDATE	STATE OF ORIGIN	ADDRESS	POST FOR INTERVIEW
1.	Dr. Sani Ibrahim Umar	Kano State	C/o Dr. Sani Ibrahim Umar H.M.B. Zone 1 (SBZMH)	Prin. Medical Officer II
2.	Dr. Charles Ogboma	Anambra State	C/o Digitech Microsystem Ltd. Suite 106/127 10 Zumba Plaza, Area 10 Garki Abuja	Prin. Medical Officer
3.	Dr. Haruna Usman	Jigawa State	C/o Gumel General Hospital, Gumel	Prin. Medical Officer I
4.	Dr. Yakubu Yusuf Balami	Borno State	Dept. of Obs. & Gynae C/o Aminu Kano T. H. P.M.B. 3452 Kano	Snr. Medical Officer II
5.	Dr. Nya Bassey Anwanane	Akwa Ibom State	C/o Mr. Bassey B. Anwananen, Specialist Asst. to the Governor, Governor's Office Uyo	Senior Medical Officer
6.	Dr. Nwadioha Samuel Thennacho	Imo State	C/o Dept. of Medicine Federal Medical Centre Nguru, P.M.B. 02, Nguru, Yobe State	Senior Medical Officer
7.	Dr. Salahuddeen Sikiru Abdul-Rasheed	Kwara State	C/o General Hospital Hadejia, Jigawa State.	Senior Medical Officer
8.	Dr. Akabudu Ogunna Frank	Anambra State	C/o General Hospital Hadejia, Jigawa State	Medical Officer
9.	Dr. Abdulkadir Yukubu	Jigawa State	C/o Ringim General Hospital Ringim, Jigawa State	Medical Officer
10.	Dr. A. O. Ahmed	Kogi State	C/o N. T. Unit AKTH, P.M.B. 3452, Kano	Medical Officer
11.	Dr. Abdullahi Rasak Bamidele	Ondo State	C/o Arc. T. Adeleke Adewale, Savannah 19, Durbin Katsina, 11928, Kano	Medical Officer
12.	Dr. Ibrahim Muhammad	Kano State	C/o Murtala Muhd Specialist Hospital P.M.B. 3200, Kano State	Medical Officer
13.	Dr. Muzammil M. Yakasai	Kano State	C/o No. 184 T/Maliki, Zoo Road, Kano P.O.Box 5476 Kano, Tel: 064-661707 P.O.Box 13815, Kano	Medical Officer
14.	Dr. Ali Baba Umar	Kano State	Sheih Muhd Jiddah General Hospital, Fagge Kano	Medical Officer
15.	Dr. Hussaini Shu'aibu	Kano State	No.118 Hadejia Road, Nassarawa Kano	Medical Officer
16.	Dr. Mahamman Hafsin Bahafsine	Kano State	C/o Kazaure Gen. I. Hospital Kazaure, Jigawa State	Medical Officer
17.	Dr. Yau Garba Abbas	Jigawa State	C/o Yospis, P.O.Box 11406, Kano	Medical Officer
18.	Dr. Musa Baba Maiyaki	Niger State	C/o Mr. Kazim, A. D. Kazim, P.O.Box 555 Kano	Medical Officer
19.	Dr. A. B. Abdulganiyu	Osun State	C/o General Hospital Hadejia, Jigawa State	Medical Officer
20.	Dr. Abdullahi Abba Habib	Kano State	C/o General Hospital Hadejia, Jigawa State	Medical Officer
21.	Dr. Henry O. Akingba	Ondo State	C/o P.O.Box 94 Enugu, Enugu State	Medical Officer
22.	Dr. Chukwuemeka Ogbonna N. Ezinwa	Enugu State	C/o General Hospital Babura, Babura, Jigawa State	Medical Officer
23.	Dr. Okeke Izuchikwu Henry	Anambra State	No.45 Ahmadu Bello Way, Box 11723 Nassarawa Kano	Medical Officer
24.	Dr. Ahmadu Mohammed Inuwa	Kano State	C/o Nigerian Airforce Base, Hospital P.M.B. 2104, Kaduna	Medical Officer
25.	Dr. Zibiri Sulaiman Ozoya	Delta State	C/o Dr. Bashir Zubair Dept. of Paediatrics, AKTH Kano	Medical Officer
26.	Dr. France Josepa Belga	Republic of Cameroon	C/o Dr. Bashir Zubair Dept. of Paediatrics, AKTH Kano	Medical Officer
27.	Dr. Bello Ahmed Kumo	Gombe State	C/o Department of O & G AKTH Kano, P.M.B. 3452, Kano	Medical Officer
28.	Dr. Kenedy N. Kane	Adamawa State		Medical Officer
29.	Dr. A. N. Vicene	Edo State		Medical Officer

Category B.

Cadre: Nurses

Date and Time: Friday 13th July, 2001. All Candidates should report at the Federal Medical Centre Birnin Kudu, by 8:30am for a written examination.

S/NO	NAME OF CANDIDATE	STATE OF ORIGIN	ADDRESS	POST FOR INTERVIEW
1.	Sa'adiyya Adamu Aliyu	Jigawa State	C/o Aminu Aliyu District Head Office, Birnin Kudu Jigawa State	Senior Nursing Officer
2.	Cecilia Jude (Mrs)	Imo State	C/o Dr. Anwanani Kano Capital Hospital, No.11 Zaria Road P.O.Box 241, Kano 064-661224	Senior Nursing Officer
3.	Edith I. Alle	Edo State	C/o General Hospital Dutse, Jigawa State	Senior Nursing Officer
4.	Jibrin Habu	Kano State	Sheta Dong Nig. Ltd. P.O.Box 6247 Kano	Senior Nursing Officer (Orthopaedics)
5.	Isiwat Iyabo Awopeju	Ogun State	C/o Alh. S. A. Ainopeju, Fast Clear, Nig. Ltd., 2A Murtala Mohammed Way Box 12210 Kano	Senior Nursing Officer
6.	Mrs. Cecilia Chima Obi	Imo State	C/o E.U.I. Obi Gongoni, Company Ltd., 1 Bompai Rd., Kano State	Senior Nursing Officer Anesthesia Nursing Officer
7.	Inuratola T. Jegede	Ekiti State	C/o Mr. T. A. Gbadamosi H.O.D. Laundry AKTH, Kano State	Senior Nursing Officer
8.	Suleiman Idris Gezawa	Kano State	C/o Isa Bayero School of Nursing Birning Kudu	Senior Nursing Officer (Orthopaedics)
9.	Mustapha I. Wurno	Jigawa State	Gwaram Cottage Hospital MOH B/Kudu	Senior Nursing Officer (Pscoperative)
10.	Theresa Decmua	Rivers State	Jahun General Hospital MOH Birnin Kudu	Senior Nursing Officer
11.	Faustina Theme Irete	Kogi State	C/o P., Box 2774 Kano	Senior Nursing Officer
12.	Abubakar Ahmed	Jigawa State	C/o Ministry of Health General Hospital Gumel	Nursing Officer I
13.	Maimuna Yusuf	Kano State	C/o Abubakar Muhammad Dan Bichi FMC Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer I
14.	Abdullahi Isa	Jigawa State	C/o Bakin Kasuwa Gujungu Taura Local Govt., Jigawa State	Nursing Officer II
15.	Aishatu Abdullahi	Kano State	C/o Alh. Haruna Abubakar Sule, Min. of Works Old Secretariat Dutse, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer II
16.	Suwaidat Farouq Dau	Kano State	C/o Sa'idu Fagge Snr. Lacturer School of Nursing P.O.Box 266 Kano State	Nursing Officer II
17.	Kendo Hannatu	Taraba State	C/o A.S.P. Musa Nehemigh Prisons Farm Centre Birnin Kudu, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer II
18.	Martha Patric (Mrs.)	Kaduna State	C/o Mr. Jonah A. Bonet Peoples Bank Plc., Birnin Kudu Branch, Jigawa State.	Nursing Officer
19.	Bala Ishah	Jigawa State	41 Guruza Street, Madakanchi Sabuwa, Birnin Kudu	Nursing Officer
20.	Musa Mohammed	Jigawa State	Gangare Road No.27 B/Kudu Local Govt., Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
21.	Mohammed Abdullahi	Jigawa State	Bala Madaki B/Kudu Medical Health Dept. Birnin Kudu LGA	Nursing Officer
22.	Yusha'u Dahiru	Jigawa State	Itakanku Qtrs. Yakubu Rd., No.51 Birnin Kudu Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
23.	Maryam Adamu	Kano State	C/o Malam Minjibir, School of Nursing Kano State	Nursing Officer
24.	Garba Adamu	Jigawa State	Kukuna Kofar Fada House No. 1 Buji L.G. Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
25.	Bashir Ali Dodo	Kano State	C/o Sani A. Nasidi Dambazau Qtrs., Box 910 Kano	Nursing Officer

Category B. (Continuation)

Cadre: Nurses

Date and Time: Saturday 14th July, 2001. All Candidates should report at the Federal Medical Centre Birnin Kudu, by 8:30am for a written examination.

S/NO	NAME OF CANDIDATE	STATE OF ORIGIN	ADDRESS	POST FOR INTERVIEW
26.	Baraka Ibrahim Habib	Kano State	C/o Sagir Mohd Sani Kila Govt. College B/Kudu P.M.B. 1002, B/Kudu, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
27.	Egbunu A. Florence	Kaduna State	C/o Yusuf Musa, Federal Road Safety Corps., Dutse Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
28.	Habiba M. Lawan	Kano State	C/o Usman Tsoho FMC Birnin Kudu	Nursing Officer
29.	Khalid Muhd Dahiru	Bauchi State	C/o Mal. Idris Aliyu, Sch. of Nursing Edu. P.O.Box 165 Bauchi State	Nursing Officer
30.	Bala Abdu	Bauchi State	C/o Musa Bulama Bulai, Sch. of Nursing Edu. P.O.Box 165 Bauchi State	Nursing Officer
31.	Abu Bolale Rafiat	Kano State	C/o Suleiman Hussaini Dept. of Ophthalmology AKTH Kano State	Nursing Officer
32.	Maryam A. Yusuf	Kogi State	C/o Haj. Habiba S. Dabi Millennium Village Comm.	Nursing Officer
33.	Saminu Muhammed	Kano State	C/o Abdulwahid Labbo Sch. of Nursing P.O.Box 216 Kano State	Nursing Officer
34.	Unsula E. Obikansi	Imo State	C/o Jahun General Hospital P.M.B. 1002 Jahun, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
35.	Babangida Aliyu	Katsina State	C/o Sa'adatu Suleiman Ante-Natal Care Unit AKTH Kano	Nursing Officer
36.	Lawan Dauda	Kano State	C/o Isa Bayero Sch. of Nursing B/Kudu, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer (Ophthalmology)
37.	Rachael Yisa	Niger State	C/o Mr. Rueden Tsado FMC Bida, P.M.B. 14 Niger State	Nursing Officer
38.	Sani Ibrahim Babale	Plateau State	C/o Riyadhul Quran Medical Centre P.O.Box 7117 Dorayi Karama Kano	Nursing Officer
39.	Murtala Rabiu	Kano State	C/o Ado D. Ririwai Accident and Emergency Dept. AKTH P.O.Box 3452, Kano	Nursing Officer
40.	Ashiru Muhammad	Kano State	C/o Ado D. Ririwai Accident and Emergency Dept. AKTH Kano	Nursing Officer
41.	Victoria Umunneoma Ejimofor	Kano State	C/o Mr. Daniel N. Ejimofor Terytex Nig. Ltd., P.O.Box 2756	Nursing Officer
42.	Ahmad Isma'il	Kano State	C/o Ado D. Ririwai Accident and Emergency Dept. AKTH P.O.Box 3452, Kano	Nursing Officer (Othopedics)
43.	Bunmi Asha Akwi Wurni	Kwara State	C/o Dr. Nya Anwanane No.11 Zaria Road P.O.Box 241 Kano	Nursing Officer
44.	Timna Gabas	Gombe State	C/o Abdullahi (Store Keeper) Birnin Kudu General Hospital, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
45.	Nusirat O. Adeyanju	Ondo State	C/o Kuburt Nasiru, AKTH Kano	Nursing Officer
46.	Usman Garba Chibiyayi	Bauchi State	C/o Ibrahim Gideon Tol P.O.Box 65, Azare Bauchi State	Nursing Officer
47.	Ada Adakole	Benue State	C/o Sgt. Ferdinand A. Ijagi HQ 3 Mot BDE Ambulance Bukavu Barracks	Nursing Officer
48.	Abdullahi Ahmad	Kano State	C/o Suwaiba I. Sani AKTH Kano	Nursing Officer
49.	Isa Abdullahi	Jigawa State	C/o Tamburawa Qtrs., Kafin Hausa Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
50.	Fati Bala	Kano State	C/o Yakasai Qtrs. Opp. Rimi Market Kano State	Nursing Officer
51.	Amina A. Umar	Kano State	C/o Fatima Muhammad Hassan Data Processing Unit, Bank of the North Ltd., Kano State	Nursing Officer
52.	Franca Ekechuwu	Anambra State	C/o Abdul-Hamid Sadiq Tropical Commercial Bank Birnin Kudu Branch, Jigawa State	Nursing Officer
53.	Stella Abu	Benue State	C/o Mr. D. Y. Abu Department of Human Anatomy, College of Medical Science University of Maiduguri	Nursing Officer
54.	Mrs. Lydia Audu Ibrahim	Benue State	C/o No.138 Yelwa Qtrs., Goron Dutse Off. Aminu Kano Way Kano State	Nursing Officer
55.	Christina N. Peter	Abia State	C/o Classic Clinic Ltd. 1A Abbas/Arakan Avenue, P.O.Box 9098 Kano	Nursing Officer
56.	Joyce Abubakar	Gombe State	C/o Charles Abalogo Abalogo 58A Tafawa Balewa Rd., P.O.Box 580 Kano	Nursing Officer
57.	Binta Umar Muhammad	Kano State	C/o Comrade Baffa Sani Gaya Permanent Sec. Min. of Agric, Government House Kano State	Nursing Officer

2. Candidates should please note the following:-

- Candidates are required to come along with both original and photocopies of all their credentials.
- Ensure that all their referees have sent in their references on them before the interview.
- Candidates are responsible for their accommodation and transportation in respect of attending the interview.
- Candidates are required to submit four (4) Passports Photographs.
- Candidates are required to purchase and fill formal application forms at a cost of N200.00 before the interview (Payments are to be made at the Accounts Department of the Centre).

A.M. Sulaiman
Asst. Director of Admin.
For: Medical Director

TRUST INTERNATIONAL

Foreign & Diplomatic

Milosevic's trial: Implications for Yugoslavia

By Musa Aliyu

Former Yugoslavian leader, Slobodan Milosevic will appear in court today to face war crime charges. In what Dejan Anastasjevic, a journalist persecuted by Milosevic's regime in Yugoslavia, put as "a Melodrama more than a tragedy," the travail of the former first family is taking a turn for the worse, each minute. And much like Lady Macbeth whose encouragement provided the base on which Macbeth carried out his cold-blooded murders, Mira Markovic may have been a reliable support for her husband, Slobodan Milosevic, in his war against humanity.

Until April 1, this year, former President Slobodan Milosevic, whose reign of terror will haunt Yugoslavia for years to come, was a freeman despite his "tumble from Olympus," October last year.

Yugoslavia, which was once the richest, freest and most economically advanced of all the communist countries may not be in any hurry to forget its experience. About 10 years ago, a war that nearly tore it to shreds began under Milosevic's government. Soon after managing to survive, in spite of losing lives in their hundreds of thousands and property worth millions of dollars, it found itself under a United Nations' pressure.

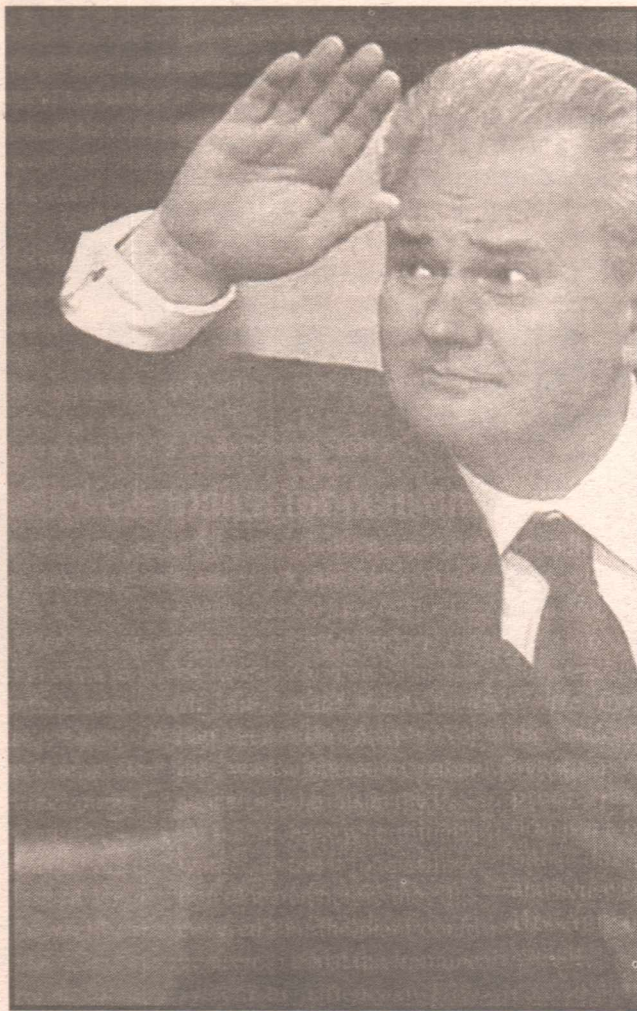
Perhaps, before June 29 when the authorities in Belgrade chose to compromise the former hard-line president in return for a breathing space, a financial sanction from the international community dangled over the fragile country.

Slobodan Milosevic, a man whose extradition to Hague to face charges of crimes against humanity has provoked protests and political turmoil in Yugoslavia, is not new to news headlines the world over. For instance, between January and May 1999 his government was reported to have taken part in a series of widespread and systematic offensives in Kosovo. This led to the expulsion, by means of force and shelling, of several thousands of Kosovo Albanian civilians whose homes had been destroyed. Hundreds of individually named Albanians were said to have been murdered by Serbian soldiers and militias. With their homes looted and or destroyed, survivors fled for dear life.

In the village of Racak, Bela Crkva, Velica Krusca, Mali Krusa, Djakovica, Crkolex and Izbica, callous massacres were also said to have been carried out by Milosevic's men.

Milosevic may not have been alone in his deeds and supposed misdeeds. Behind him was a woman with whom he shares a common past, including an unpleasant childhood. She is Mira Markovic, a PhD holder, a political associate, a trusted friend, an influential adviser and above all his wife for 36 years.

A relationship that could best be described as an



Former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, before his arrest.

extraordinary personal and political partnership, the two fruits Marko, a son, and Marija, a daughter, are not left out of their parents' woes. Marko, who is accused of illegal business, has been on the run since his father's fall from power. Marija also risks being charged for firing several shots at the scene of her father's arrest on April 1. That could fetch her a place in jail if found guilty.

For Dr. Mira Markovic like her husband, Slobodan, parental love meant next to nothing to her. Her mother, a famous partisan had been executed by the Gestapo over an unproved allegation of treachery against her comrades. Her father, a top communist official never actually acknowledged her. For Slobodan it was a similar tale, loosing both parents and an uncle to suicide earlier in life.

Anastasjevic, a victim of the Milosevics sees their case exactly as Shakespeare's Macbeth where Lady Macbeth's hands were drenched in blood from Macbeth's killings. According to him "Mira Markovic had an enormous influence not only over her husband but over some key institutions, including the police."

"I wouldn't be surprised at all," he continued, "if she was behind some of these murders, or maybe it was her less direct influence."

Despite such speculations on her involvement in her husband's alleged misadministration, Dr. Markovic is unlikely to be sent to the Hague to join her husband in jail. However, she may not be so lucky as to escape justice in Serbia.

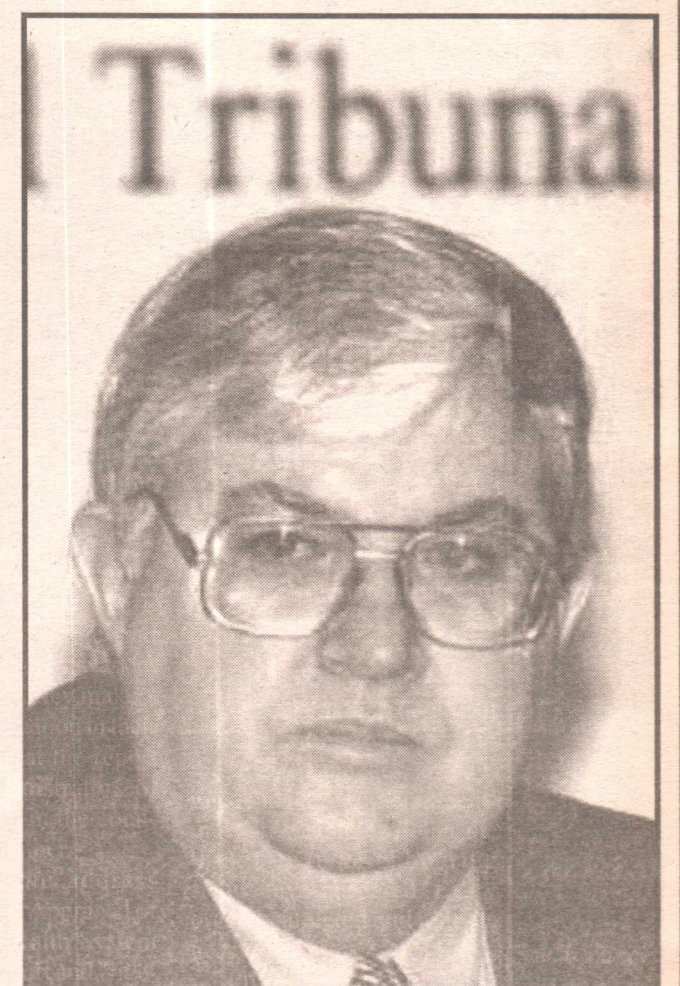
Although Milosevic is due to make his first appearance in court today, the trial is likely to last over one year. Meanwhile, he has dismissed it as a politically motivated trial and has vowed to deny all the charges preferred against him.

If the tribunal established by the UN Security Council in 1993 to cover genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity since 1990 finds the deposed leader guilty, he may spend the rest of his life without his freedom. Already, he is being kept in isolation, away from the 38 other war crimes suspects from the former Yugoslavia.

For Yugoslavia this may mark the beginning of the long awaited but dreaded end. Milosevic's extradition fall-out more than the violence it sparked has led to the further weakening of the fragile coalition government. His successor, President Vojislav Kostunica, who despite an earlier refusal handed him over, has not impressed the fallen president's supporters. Neither has Zarko Korac, Serbia's deputy premier, who seems delighted by this development. Mr. Korac considers Milosevic a vampire whose political death has not stopped him from sucking his country's blood.

Prime Minister, Zoran Zizic (Djindjic) does not appear to agree with them. This position shared by all the Montenegrin members of the coalition has led to their mass resignation from the coalition, including Zizic.

While the cloud keeps gathering momentum on the future of Yugoslavia pitched between Serbia and Montenegro, seven countries are already in agreement with the UN to provide prison shelter for convicts, including Milosevic if convicted. Norway, Sweden, Finland, France, Spain, Italy and Austria are these countries.



Flashback: Graham Blewitt, deputy chief prosecutor of the UN war crimes tribunal at the Hague, Netherlands, attends a conference in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, Friday, March 16, 2001. Blewitt, part of a team of international investigators has spent years sifting through Balkan mass graves in search of bones and bullets and going after lower-level culprits. Now they have their most wanted man: Slobodan Milosevic

Milosevic may not have been alone in his deeds and supposed misdeeds. Behind him was a woman with whom he shares a common past, including an unpleasant childhood. She is Mira Markovic, a PhD holder, a political associate, a trusted friend, an influential advisor and above all his wife for 36 years.

TRUST INTERNATIONAL

AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST

Six killed in Algeria attack

An unidentified armed group has killed six people in eastern Algeria in an attack on a hotel nightclub in the town of Tebessa, on the Tunisian border.

After shooting the hotelkeeper's brother, the attackers abducted six young women.

The bodies of five were later found with their throats cut - the sixth woman, who was pregnant, had been kicked and left for dead.

Armed groups, often identified as Islamic extremists, but also thought to include renegade elements of the security forces, have killed

thousands of Algerians in recent years.

The troubles started in 1992 when the army cancelled elections that a Muslim party was set to win.

Tanzania needs \$1bn to fight AIDS

Tanzania's President Benjamin Mkapa has said that his country needs \$1bn a year to fight AIDS.

In an end of the month address, Mr Mkapa said his government would make anti-retroviral drugs available to all those infected with HIV.

Tanzania has an estimated three million AIDS sufferers.

The president also urged pharmaceutical companies to support Tanzania's efforts to fight the disease.

"We must now rise up to the challenge and (take) collective responsibility for saving ourselves and our society from imminent extinction," said Mr Mkapa in his speech broadcast by state-owned radio and television.

"This is a very heavy burden for us because the amount (needed) is equivalent to the government's annual revenue collection," he added.

Tanzania has a GDP of \$9.3bn.

President Mkapa said the best way to stem the spread of HIV/AIDS was through a change of sexual habits.

Uganda is now ranked third most corrupt country in the world, according to a survey conducted by Transparency International (TI). According to TI Corruption Perception Index for 2001 released last week.

Bangladesh is the most corrupt nation followed by Nigeria amongst 91 nations surveyed.

TI said that Uganda has slipped further and overtaken

Uganda, third most corrupt nation

Kenya as the most corrupt country in East Africa as compared to the 2000 Index.

On the TI index, which ranks countries starting with the best to worst, Uganda has slipped nine places to the 89th position from 80th last year.

Kenya has retained last year's ranking at 84th but Tanzania has also slipped from 76th to 82.

But corruption around the world could be worse than is reflected in the report, according to TI chairman, Peter Eigen.

In a statement issued together with the survey, Eigen said the survey did not reflect "secret payments to finance political campaigns or the complicity of banks in money laundering or bribery by multinational companies."

Eigen added that the perceived rise in corruption among African nations struggling against the HIV/AIDS pandemic further worsens the situation. "It is essential that corrupt governments do not steal from their own people. This is now an urgent priority if lives are to be saved," he said.

TI index for 2001 rates Bangladesh as most corrupt with a score of 0.4, while Finland is the least corrupt with 9.9.

Each nation is given a mark out of 10 to indicate a lack of corruption in public life.

Uganda scored 1.9 down from 2.3 last year, Kenya scored 2.0 from 2.1, and Tanzania scored 2.2 down from 2.5.

The index, reflects the

perceptions of business people, academics and country analysts."

The 2001 index drew on 14 surveys from seven independent institutions, Eigen said.

Eigen said: "Just as public discussion and debate in the media have shed new light on the abuse of power, it is crucial that the flow of words is followed by action. Which means governments and business must heed the voices of civil society organisations who are campaigning, often at great personal risk, against corruption."



Israeli soldiers cry during the funeral of Aviv Iszak in Kfar Saba military cemetery near Tel Aviv, on Sunday, June 24 2001. Iszak was one of two Israeli soldiers who were last killed Friday, June 22, when a booby-trapped jeep exploded near the beachside Jewish settlement of Dugit, in the Gaza Strip.

Car bombs explode near Tel Aviv

Two car bombs have exploded in the central Israeli town of Yehud near Tel Aviv, following clashes between Palestinians and the Israeli army.

Four people were reportedly lightly wounded in the first explosion. Police said they were 90 per cent sure the blasts were "terrorist" attacks.

The blasts followed the deaths of five Palestinians, including a prominent activist from the Hamas militant group, in two separate incidents in the West Bank on Sunday.

A senior Israeli military official said three people died when an Israeli helicopter gunship attacked the car of Mohammed Besharat near the town of Jenin.

Israeli officials said the attack was a preventive measure to stop a "terrorist" strike Mr Besharat was planning in Israel.

The incident followed the deaths of two Palestinians - one of them a policeman - in a gunbattle with Israeli forces in the same area.

The continuing violence is threatening to undermine the latest Middle East peace

plan brokered by the United States, which calls for a seven-day period of calm before moving to the next phase.

Since a truce mediated by the CIA Director George Tenet took effect on June 13, at least 13 Palestinians and seven Israelis have been killed.

Palestinian spokesman Nabil abu-Rudaynah said that Israel's policy of pinpointed assassination attacks would lead to the collapse of the ceasefire.

The two men who died in the earlier incident were also linked to Hamas.

According to the Israeli military, they had been planning to plant a roadside bomb near a military base.

Palestinian security officials, who said the target was a procession of Jewish settlers due to take place later in the day, confirmed this.

On Thursday, US Secretary of State Colin Powell and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon agreed that a weeklong test period was needed to see if the Palestinians were ready to comply with the US-brokered ceasefire.

But the Israelis and Palestinians disagree sharply over the agreement's timetable.

Under the plan, the week without violence is intended to lead to six weeks of cooling off, followed by confidence-building measures.

The Israelis insist the period of calm has yet to begin, while Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said the seven-day countdown began last Wednesday.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who met Mr Arafat in Lisbon on Friday, said the United States had agreed it was up to Israel to decide when things were calm enough for the peace plan to take effect.

UK officials to visit arrested nationals in Dubai

British officials are hoping to get permission to visit eight Britons arrested in the United Arab Emirates in connection with illegal surveillance equipment.

The seven men and one woman are being held in Dubai after police swooped on four companies in the city and Abu Dhabi on June 26.

The detainees have said they are being treated well in conditions comparable to any British prison, with reading material provided and access to lawyers.

Eight other foreign workers were also arrested in the raids, which took place last Tuesday.

Consular staff have made telephone contact with the

US appeals for restraint in Middle East

The United States has called for restraint from all sides following Israeli air-raids against Syrian radar positions in eastern Lebanon.

An Israeli Government statement said the raid in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley was in retaliation for a Hezbollah rocket attack two days ago in which two Israeli soldiers were wounded.

Israel accuses Syria of supporting Hezbollah guerrillas who on Friday wounded an Israeli soldier during an attack in the disputed Shebaa farms area of Lebanon.

A BBC correspondent in Jerusalem said the exchange was the most intense on Israel's northern border since Israeli troops withdrew from Lebanon last year.

In Washington, White House spokesman Scott Stanzel

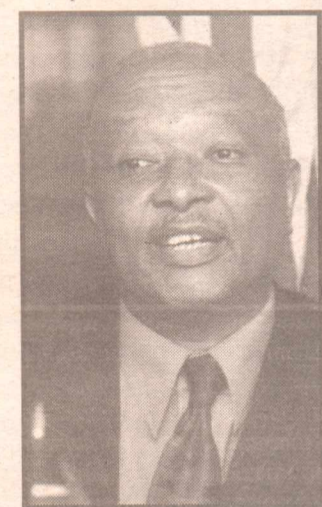
said the United States was in touch with all sides and was urging maximum restraint.

Three Syrian soldiers and a Lebanese conscript were injured in the raid according to Syrian police.

After the air raid, a Lebanese officer reported that "more than 30 mortar bombs and rockets fell on four Israeli positions in the Shebaa Farms."

Hezbollah responded quickly to the air raid, firing on Israeli positions in the disputed Shebaa Farms area where Friday's violence took place.

Israeli helicopter gunships returned fire on Hezbollah positions and its warplanes have reportedly been overflying the Lebanese capital Beirut and the coastal city of Sidon.



Apolo Nsibamb, Ugandan Prime Minister.

Britons, and a Foreign Office spokeswoman said: "They are being held in groups, allowed to talk freely and mix freely, conditions are very good."

"They have been allowed to use the telephone, they have had parcels and newspapers delivered and talked to their lawyers."

They have also been allowed to contact their families and employers.

A report in the *Sunday Times* said the police raid followed alleged complaints from ruling clans about the tactics and equipment used by some British expatriates who work as private investigators.

Some British firms in the Gulf state are licensed to gather economic information to help

fight against the booming market in counterfeit luxury goods.

Those being held include Michael Sixsmith from near Faversham, Kent, a former officer in the army's Intelligence Corps, who worked for the Middle East Research Group.

Five of the arrested came from another British-managed business, SSS Corporate Research.

The *Sunday Times* named Peter Lockhart-Smith as another of the Britons being held.

There are now fears that the arrest of the group could lead to a diplomatic row between the UK and the Emirates despite the traditionally good relationship between the two governments.

TRUST INTERNATIONAL

World Report



A Macedonian policeman patrols the village of Aracinovo, June 30, 2001. In Brussels, NATO said it had given final approval to a plan to send up to 3,000 troops to Macedonia to collect and destroy the weapons of ethnic Albanian rebels.

Fighting rages in northern Macedonia

Heavy fighting has erupted around the northern Macedonian city of Tetovo following the capture of four nearby villages by ethnic Albanian rebels.

One Macedonian soldier was killed when mortar shells slammed into an army position on a hill overlooking the city.

A US State Department envoy, James Pardew, met top politicians in Macedonia yesterday in an effort to secure a truce.

He is joining his European Union counterpart, Francois Leotard, in a mission to negotiate a general ceasefire in the four-month-old conflict. That could pave the way for NATO troops to disarm the rebels.

The hills around Tetovo have been a battleground since February.

Macedonian helicopter gunships went into action at Radusa near the border with Kosovo and there was also fighting near rebel-held villages north of Kumanovo.

Eyewitnesses said that some 600 residents of four villages near the Kosovo border - Setole, Varvara, Brezno and Otunje - were moved out by armed men with balaclavas and blackened faces.

Local media reported that

a 58-year-old former army officer was killed in Brezno after refusing to leave.

The BBC correspondent in Skopje says that with the rebels attacking and occupying new territory the Macedonian government is highly unlikely to make further concessions to them.

But without a proper ceasefire in place NATO will not deploy troops in

Macedonia.

NATO has almost completed preparations to send more than 3,000 troops to help disarm the rebels.

But the rebels say they will only surrender their weapons if a political settlement is reached which grants substantial concessions to the Albanian community.

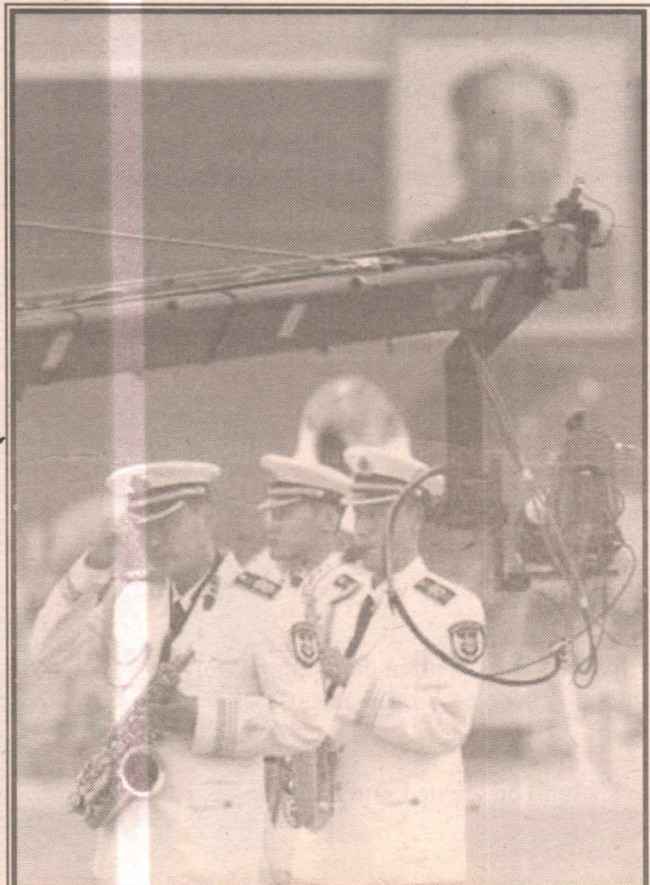
Mr Pardew has Balkan experience as a senior regional adviser at the US State Department.

He was involved in

negotiating a peaceful end to the conflict in Serbia's Presevo Valley, where ethnic Albanian guerrillas recently laid down their arms.

Reuters news agency quoted German Defence Minister Rudolf Scharping as saying on Sunday that Bonn would send several hundred troops to Macedonia as part of the force.

The US State Department has already said Washington is prepared to offer logistical, medical and other support to the NATO force



Military musicians prepare for a live telecast program to celebrate China's Communist Party's 80th anniversary.

Northern Ireland debates Trimble's exit

The Northern Ireland Assembly is due to meet in Belfast to debate the political crisis caused by David Trimble's resignation as first minister.

Mr Trimble carried out his threat to step down at the weekend over what he saw as IRA's failure to meet the terms of the Good Friday Agreement by decommissioning its weapons.

Intensive talks are expected over the coming weeks in an effort to resolve the impasse.

The British and Irish government officials have been working behind the scene in recent weeks to try to help the parties find a settlement on the issues of paramilitary arms, the new police service and demilitarisation.

Speaking after his resignation came into effect on Sunday, Mr Trimble conceded that throwing the province into political uncertainty at this time was a "risky" strategy.

Northern Ireland Secretary John Reid and Irish Foreign Minister Brian Cowen will host this week's multi-party talks against the backdrop of the start of the controversial Protestant Orange Order marching season.

Prime Minister Tony Blair and Taoiseach Bertie Ahern also plan to become directly involved in the talks.

It will be the first time that the two governments have attempted to continue negotiations during the time of the year when sectarian tensions are highest in the province.

The speaker will officially announce Mr Trimble's resignation to assembly members at Stormont during the sitting.

Deputy first minister Seamus Mallon of the SDLP will also officially lose his post in the joint assembly office.

The assembly now has six weeks to re-install the Ulster Unionist leader as first minister

or replace him before the devolved institutions collapse under legislation brought in under the Agreement.

Mr Trimble has nominated party colleague and Economy Minister Sir Reg Empey to fulfil the administrative functions of the office of first minister at the assembly as a caretaker minister.

It is understood that the two governments do not want to allow the negotiations to carry on as long as six weeks and are aiming to get a deal in place before the 12 July climax of the marching season.

Argentina arrests former naval officer

Police in Argentina have arrested the former naval officer Alfredo Astiz, who was a key figure in the 1976-83 military regime.

Captain Astiz gave himself up to police in the capital Buenos Aires on Sunday after a judge ordered his arrest.

Italy has requested that he be extradited to stand trial there over the kidnapping and torture of three Italians.

Mr Astiz, who is known by human rights groups as the "blond angel of death," has been blamed for the torture and disappearance of thousands of people.

He has already been condemned to life imprisonment in absentia by a French court in 1990 for his involvement in the kidnapping of two French nuns in 1976.

An Italian court has linked him with the 1976 kidnappings of Angela Maria Aieta and the 1977 kidnapping of Giovanni Pegoraro and his pregnant daughter Susana Pegoraro.

The BBC's correspondent in Buenos Aires says Mr Astiz will try to avoid extradition and stay in Argentina where he is sheltered under immunity laws.

The extradition process will be long and complicated, observers say.

Political crisis grips Yugoslavia

The Serbian Prime Minister, Zoran Djindjic, has warned that Yugoslavia is in "deep crisis" following the extradition of the country's former president, Slobodan Milosevic.

Mr Djindjic pledged continued backing for Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica, despite their bitter row over the extradition.

Mr Djindjic said he would "like Kostunica to remain a strong president, one who received the direct support of the people, and for him to solve the problem between Serbia and Montenegro".

The transfer of Mr Milosevic to The Hague to face war crimes charges led to the collapse of the Yugoslav federal government, when angry Montenegrin members walked out.

Talks aimed at forming a new federal administration, which were due to begin yesterday, have been postponed for 10 days.

The Montenegrin members

of the government - key allies of Mr Milosevic - included the Yugoslav Prime Minister, Zoran Zizic.

Mr Djindjic said the federal constitution binding dominant Serbia to much smaller Montenegro was in desperate need of reform.

Mr Djindjic told German television that if Montenegro rejected this then a "peaceful separation" was in order.

Odd World:

Drunk dancer can sue

A topless dancer who got tipsy and had a car accident can sue her club for encouraging her to drink with customers, a Texas appeals court ruled.

The court overturned a lower court decision forbidding the lawsuit, which dancer Sarah Salazar filed after a 1998 traffic accident resulted in her being charged with driving while intoxicated.

Salazar contended that she was impaired when she left work because her employer, Giorgio's Mens Club in San Antonio, urged the dancers to drink with customers so they would buy more drinks at inflated prices.

For Enquiries

Contact: Isa M. Shuaibu

No. 14B Tunis Street Zone 6 Wuse, Abuja

Tel: 09-5238726

Capital City Classified

BUSINESS CENTRE

Bumai & Sons Ltd.

(General Contractors & Merchandise, Import & Export,
Custom Licenced Clearing Agent Warehousing)

- Business Centre
- Photocopy
- Internet
- E-mail
- Binding
- Lamination
- Type setting
- Scanning

OFFICE ADDRESS:

Suite 107 GF, Fabdal Plaza, Constantine Street,
Wuse Zone 4, Abuja
Tel: 09-5234519.
E-mail: bumai73@hotmail.com

COMPUTER IN ABUJA

At Lagos price

COMPLETE SYSTEMS

P.233 MMX, 32 MB, 10 GB, 4MB SVGA, MON	-	N57,500
P.II 266 MMX, 32 MB, 10 GB, 4MB SVGA, MON	-	N58,500
P.II 500 CEL, 64 MB, 10 GB, 8MB SVGA, MON	-	N63,500
P.II 566 CEL, 64 MB, 10 GB, 8MB SVGA, MON	-	N67,000
P.III 733 MMX, 128 MB, 20 GB, 8MB SVGA, MON	-	N85,500
P.III 800 MMX, 128 MB, 20 GB, 8MB SVGA, MON	-	N94,000
P.III 866 MMX, 128 MB, 20 GB, 8MB SVGA, MON	-	N95,500
P.III 1000 MMX, 128 MB, 30 GB, 8MB SVGA, MON	-	N105,500

(Add N7,500 for full multimedia)

For Printers, Monitors, UPS and other items/configurations please call

DATA PLUS LIMITED

Inwade House, Jere Street, Off Funmilayo Ransome Kuti Road,
Behind Rita Lori Hotel, Garki II, Abuja. Tel/Fax: 09 - 2348016

This Space is for Sale

FURNITURE

NIKE INTERIORS

A subsidiary of Billy Inv. Ltd.

- * Curtains
- * Settees
- * Wardrobes
- * Marbles
- * Doors
- * Beds & Beddings
- * Security Door Handles
- * Wrought Iron
- * Kitchen Units

We start where the Builder stopped

Suite A.15, Kenaz Plaza, Wuse II, Abuja (:09-5233792)

TRAVEL AGENCY

Delight Travel Agency Ltd.

We make your journey hitch free

Suite 23, Lozumba Plaza
Beside UTC Area 10
P.O. Box 2195, Garki
Abuja.

(09-2347369

E-mail: delightravel@hotmail.com

ELECTRONIC

VISIT

RAHMA SYSTEMS LIMITED

For your reliable TV, Stabiliser,
Standing Fans (with Remote Control)
Video/Audio Cassettes, Refrigerant
Gases, Car Stereo/ Speaker, etc.

Call at:

Suites B4-6 Abuja Shopping Mall
Wuse Zone 3, Abuja
Tel: 09 -5237625, 5230936

FASHION

VIC-JOE BONTIQUE

Dealers and Distributors Importers of all kinds of Fashionable
Clothes, High quality Laces Hollandis, Super Wax, English Wax,
Jacad Brocade, Children Clothes, Men Shoes and Designer Wrist
Watches of all kinds.

Head Office: Shop No.1 Block A 32, Wuse Old Market - Abuja
Branch Office: No.29, Area 1 Shopping Centre, Garki - Abuja

FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE, BIRNIN KUDU

(:-261009

INVITATION TO TENDER

CONSTRUCTION OF ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY UNIT

TENDER:

Due to poor response at the close of tender for the above project on the 26th June, 2001 we wish to hereby request for more tenders from interested contractors (those who have already submitted their tender need not to re-tender as previous submissions have not been opened and are still valid).

Details of the tender are as follows:-

1. Building Construction of OPD Complex (Records, OPD, Pharmacy, Laboratory & Specialist Clinics) LOT 1A (Phase I)
2. Building Construction of OPD Complex (Comprising Pediatric OPD, Pediatric Specialist Clinics, ANC & Gyane Clinics) LOT 1A (Phase II)

QUALIFICATION:

Interested companies must be duly registered contractors and must possess the expertise and experience required to handle the jobs.

TENDER DOCUMENTS:

Tender documents are obtainable from the office of the Head of Department of Works and Services of the Centre on payment of non-refundable processing fee of N20,000.00 for each of the contract. Payment is to be made in cash or certified bank draft (in favour of Federal Medical Centre, Birnin Kudu) at the Accounts Department of the Centre.

REQUIREMENTS:

Tender documents are to be returned along with the following:

- i. Copy of the company's corporate registration.
- ii. Tax clearance certificate for the last three (3) years.
- iii. Copy of receipt of payment of the tender processing fee.

SUBMISSION OF TENDER:

All tenders must be submitted in wax-sealed envelopes to the office of the Medical Director of the Centre clearly marked 'Tender of Building Construction of OPD Complex (comprising Records, OPD, Pharmacy, Laboratory & Specialist Clinics) LOT 1A (Phase I)' or 'Tender of Building Construction of OPD Complex (Comprising Pediatric OPD, Pediatric Specialist Clinics, ANC & Gynae Clinics) LOT 1A (Phase II)' respectively, boldly written on the upper left hand side of the envelope and addressed to the Medical Director, Federal Medical Centre, Birnin Kudu. All drawings and other documents received for the purpose of tender must be returned along with the tender.

CLOSING DATE:

Tenders are to be returned not later than 2:00 p.m on Monday 9th, July, 2001 as tenders would be opened immediately after closing time.

(Signed)

A. M. SULEIMAN

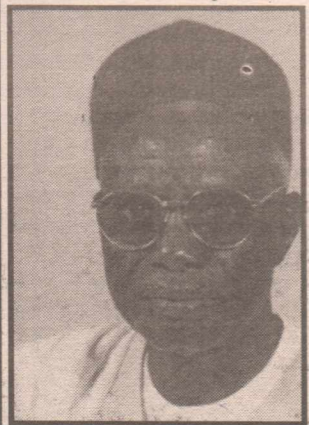
Asst. Director of Administration

For: Medical Director

BUSINESS DAY

Inflation hits 11.9%, says NACCIMA

A review of the first quarter performance of the economy reveals that inflation rate now stands at 11.9 percent.



Adamu Ciroma, Finance Minister

From Bose Musari, in Lagos

According to a release from the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA), the monetary and fiscal measures taken by government to maintain a single digit inflation rate, and address the excess liquidity overhang amongst others apparently failed to achieve the purpose.

Rather, it left the industry capacity utilisation below 30 percent in the face of lending rates assuring the level of between 30 and 35 percent.

According to NACCIMA, development in the money market during the first quarter has been of serious concern because it seems not to be in line with the achievement of a low but positive interest rate reduction in the cost of doing business in Nigeria as enunciated in the budget.

It stated that inefficiency of NEPA has not only forced some states into looking for possible alternatives through Independent Power Project (IPP), it also made the federal government to contemplate establishing an Energy Power Programme (EPP), as well as encourage the setting up of Merchant Power Plants (MPP).

These, the report stated was in spite of government's commitment and determination to the urgent rehabilitation and repairs of existing facilities to boost supply of electricity.

The telecommunication sector was full of activities beginning from January 2001 when the opening of bid for the Global System for Mobile (GSM) was announced by the Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC), signalling government's determination to join the league of nation's that have signed the GSM agreement.

The bidding which was acclaimed by international observers as the most transparent in African Continent, produced three core investors, Econet Wireless Nigeria, MTN Nigeria and Communications Investment Limited (CIL).

The assertion predicted that although the performance of the sector

was highly encouraging, the sector would soon have to grapple with the problem of interconnectivity as alarmed by the private Telephone Operators (PTOs) when the national carrier (NITEL) and the other two operators (Econet and MTN) fine-tune the modus operandi for effective take-off of the telephone system.

NSPMC poised to produce National ID card

The Managing Director of the Nigerian Security Printing and Minting Company (NSPMC), Col. Sambo Dasuki has reiterated the determination of the minting company to succeed where many others failed in the delivery of National Identity Card for the country.

Col. Sambo who led a team of the company's technical experts to the demonstration and bidding for the identity card project, told State House correspondents at the end of the exercise that the previous attempts to produce an acceptable card failed because it was not vested in reputable corporate body.

According to him, "all the principal actors could afford to behave the way they did because they had no corporate character." He agreed with President Olusegun Obasanjo that large scale corruption had bedevilled the identity card project which was conceived about 25 years ago and which has so far gulped about N25 billion. He also supported the President's decision to retrieve monies paid for some items ordered for the project which has not been delivered.

On the qualification of the NSPMC for the job, Col. Sambo said the company which has a growing asset based of over N50 billion has the professional experience, the commitment to the success of the scheme, as well as personal and corporate integrity.

"We have four factories located in Lagos and Abuja, we have the project management experience in security printing throughout the continent. We also have the experience of our technical partner Thomas De La Rue Company Plc which has 25 percent share in the company and which has produced national identity cards for over 50 countries,

By Suleiman Mohammed

including Malaysia, Egypt and Brazil," he said.

He stated that by its very nature, the National Identity Card project, is the height of security printing and sensitive information management bundled into one procedure (similar to the production of Nigerian passports—standard, diplomatic, pilgrim and laissez-passer), postal products—postal stamps, EMS label, currency, bank cheques and drafts, voters cards and ballot papers, revenue collection documents—licenses of all types, treasury bills, customs and immigration, tickets, vouchers, tax documents and official receipts.

As a renowned company which does its jobs under full proof security conditions that have established the MINT as a bastion of security and reliability in the Nigerian economy, he assured that the company cannot and will not fail Nigeria, adding, "we have over the years, justified this confidence with high level of integrity and professionalism."

According to him, "we will also bring this to bear on this project." He described the MINT commercial proposal as reflective of its professional commitment to offer the Federal Government cost effective solution.



Abubakar Rimi, Chairman, NSPMC

BON MD calls for lower interest on agricultural loan

By Osborne Adi JNR

The Managing Director of Bank of the North (BON), Alhaji Shetima Bulama, has advocated for the introduction of an optimum interest rate for the agricultural sector to stimulate lending and borrowing as a means of checking low production returns by farmers.

Besides, he canvassed for a consistent agricultural policy by the Federal Government in order to achieve stability in food market, adding that the unbanning and unbanning of importation of some food items is one policy summersault that has created

confusion in the sector.

Bulama, who spoke through the Deputy General Manager, Public Sector and Special Services of the bank, Dr. Yunusa Yusuf at the presentation of award to the best former of the year in the FCT in Gwagwalada, Abuja said government should evolve marketing support strategies for farm produce through effective storage structures, good rural roads as well as guaranteeing minimum prices for industrial crops like cotton.

According to him, if this steps were taken, they will ensure minimal loss by farmers in bumper years and adequate margins in years when production fails.

Bulama, who called for a ten percent tax relief for banks that are participating in the CBN sponsored Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund (ACGSF), also said funds liability under the scheme should be increased from 75 percent to 90 percent.

While asking the CBN to address the issue of settlement of debt claims, which is a major problem in the scheme he however suggested that verified claims should be settled within 90 day.

Why banking must be regulated - CBN

By Danlami Baban Takko

The ability of commercial banks to create credit and increase money supply, have been described as some of the reasons for controlling banking activity in the country.

The Deputy Governor (Domestic Monetary and Banking Policy) of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Dr. Shamsuddeen Usman stated this at a lecture he delivered at the 2nd international seminar on Islamic Banking at the weekend in Abuja.

Dr. Usman noted that although the degree of control might differ from one country to another, yet the need to control the banking industry became imperative so as to avoid the introduction of destabilising factors in the economy through the adoption of unsound credit and banking policies.

In a lecture he delivered titled: "Legal and Regulatory Issues of Islamic Banking in Nigeria," the Deputy Governor also identified some problems operators of Islamic banking would face in the country which include inadequate supply of trained and experienced staff and the abuses of accounting and auditing standards pertinent to Islamic banks among others.

He observed that given the developments in the implementation of Shari'a in the country, it is a matter of time before people would start asking for Islamic banks and this will surely pose a challenge.

Earlier in his opening address, the chairman of the occasion Chief (Dr.) Lateef Adegbite, secretary-general, Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs in Nigeria

commended the organisers of the seminar in view of the present political, social and religious atmosphere in the country.

Dr. Adegbite observed that in the past Islam's prohibition of interest (riba) was generally regarded as an almost impossible proposition earn among Muslim intellectual, but noted at present the growing trend especially in the western economics is the development of Islamic banking and finance.

He cited western multinational banks such as Citi Bank of the USA and

Swiss Bank of Switzerland. The secretary-general therefore described the time as now ripe for an alternative to the existing western style conventional banking and financial system.

The two-day lecture was organised by Ahmed Kyari & Co. (Chartered Accountants) based in Kano and was attended by distinguished Islamic scholars, academicians and professionals.

Among those who delivered papers at the seminar were Malam Sanusi Lamido Sanusi of UBA, Dato Mohammed Fadli Eosof of Takaful, Malaysia and Sa'ad Ibrahim Gidado.

NUB opens Apapa branch

From Bright Ewulu, in Lagos

The NUB International Bank Limited has opened a new branch in Apapa, Lagos State.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Lagos State Commissioner for Finance, Mr. Olawale Edun declared the readiness of the state government to encourage businesses in the state.

Edun, therefore, thanked the board and management of the bank for extending its services to Lagos, saying that its presence in the state will ultimately contribute to its development.

The commissioner urged NUB to automate and put its services on line so that it transacts worth while business for the government which is advancing in its computerisation drive.

Earlier in his speech,

NUB Chairman and Chief Executive, Alhaji Mohammed Yahaya stated that the opening of the Apapa branch was in continuation of his banks expansion drive.

Said He: "A unique feature of the re-engineering process embarked upon as part of our turnaround strategies is the planned development of our branch network across the length and breadth of the nation."

"The inclusion of Apapa branch in the first place of our branch development programme underscores the enormous economic potentials which abound in Apapa," he said.

Yahaya disclosed that NUB will soon spread its tentacles in Abuja, Victoria Island, Onitsha, Port

Harcourt and Kano.

Chronicling the history of the bank, its managing director, Alhaji Mohammed Dalhatu Zurmi said NUB International Bank was formally known as Nigeria Universal Bank Limited owned by Kaduna and Katsina State governments.



Mohammed Yahaya, NUB Chairman

BUSINESS \$ DAY

Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE)

Price List as at 2/07/2001

COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE	DEALS	VOLUME	VALUE
7UP	5.90	6.00	0.10	6	37,782	225,513.80
ACCESSBANK	1.20	1.25	0.05	8	3,088,794	3,858,468.62
ADC	2.69	2.69	0.00	1	2,000	5,380.00
AFPRINT	1.00	0.98	0.02	12	195,410	191,807.80
AFRIBANK	8.99	8.56	0.43	31	74,876	640,249.80
AGIP	31.99	31.53	0.46	31	59,607	1,901,385.77
AGLEVENT	1.18	1.18	0.00	1	5,000	5,900.00
AHICO	3.70	3.70	0.00	3	7,000	25,900.00
AP	19.34	19.34	0.00	18	55,011	1,064,072.74
ASHAKACEM	16.73	16.70	0.03	80	820,164	13,491,531.90
AVONCROWN	1.70	1.62	0.08	1	5,000	8,100.00
BCC	4.40	4.40	0.00	5	5,925	26,070.00
BERGER	2.65	2.65	0.00	6	60,292	159,773.80
C&ILEASING	1.37	1.37	0.00	1	25,000	34,250.00
CADBURY	25.50	25.00	0.50	50	325,848	8,108,210.09
CCNN	3.07	3.07	0.00	2	1,500	4,605.00
CHARTERED	8.24	8.49	0.25	33	1,146,020	9,442,06.20
CMB	0.72	0.72	0.00	6	27,937	20,114.64
CORNERST	1.80	1.80	0.00	6	106,000	190,800.00
COSTAIN	1.42	1.36	0.06	5	61,200	83,394.00
CRUSADER	2.29	2.40	0.11	6	51,915	124,596.00
DELTGLAS	6.40	6.40	0.00	4	4,879	31,215.80
DNMEYER	16.10	16.10	0.00	4	1,550	24,955.00
DUNLOP	3.43	3.27	0.16	32	411,224	1,369,959.03
EKOBANK	1.79	1.79	0.00	5	109,084	195,130.36
ENAMELWA	3.95	3.95	0.00	1	1,000	3,950.00
ETERNAOIL	1.12	1.17	0.05	2	18,000	21,060.00
FIRSTALUM	2.47	2.50	0.03	2	11,000	21,000.00
FIRSTBANK	32.35	33.20	0.85	244	1,044,645	34,150,840.00
FLOURMILL	18.00	17.98	0.02	34	178,989	3,185,740.96
FSB	6.92	6.58	0.34	9	91,200	600,096.00
GCAPPA	6.40	6.40	0.00	1	944	6,041.60
GUARANTY	5.70	5.70	0.00	16	260,000	1,482,000.00
GUINNESS	37.85	37.16	0.69	13	13,736	514,997.60
HALBANK	5.15	5.05	0.10	2	3,000	15,170.00
IGL	6.25	6.25	0.00	1	7,000	43,750.00
IMB	1.75	1.67	0.08	14	261,500	436,705.00
INLANDBANK	1.48	1.55	0.07	2	17,220	26,045.60
INTBREW	1.26	1.32	0.06	8	1,398,600	1,846,152.00
JOHNHOLT	2.63	2.50	0.13	17	107,206	268,015.00
JOSBREW	0.62	0.62	0.00	1	100,000	62,000.00
LASACO	1.35	1.35	0.00	1	1,003	1,354.05
LEVBROS	25.01	24.99	0.02	35	185,565	4,542,024.88
LIBERTY	2.22	2.11	0.11	2	11,000	23,300.00
LONGMAN	5.80	5.52	0.28	6	18,400	101,568.00
MANDRID	6.68	6.68	0.00	1	5,000	33,400.00
MANNYBANK	1.99	1.90	0.09	8	91,500	172,850.00
MAY&BAKER	3.60	3.60	0.09	4	11,669	41,408.19
MOBIL	64.00	64.00	0.00	13	37,523	2,396,599.60
MORISON	4.29	4.29	0.00	1	1,147	4,920.63
NAL	5.42	5.42	0.27	25	737,337	4,195,447.53
NB	27.85	27.85	0.15	49	295,595	8,238,264.43
NBC	21.90	21.90	0.90	39	127,226	2,655,242.00
NEM	0.61	0.61	0.03	3	6,120	3,916.80
NESTLE	64.90	64.90	0.90	16	92,209	5,864,035.50
NIG-GERMAN	2.53	2.53	0.12	5	498,552	1,201,552.56
NIGERINS	6.35	6.35	0.31	1	5,000	30,200.00
NIWICABLE	2.17	2.17	0.00	4	20,035	43,475.95
NOLCHEM	44.39	44.39	0.00	13	3,247	151,699.84
OKOMUOIL	9.45	9.45	0.00	5	4,278	40,427.10
OWENABANK	3.77	3.77	0.00	4	430,555	1,663,192.35
POLYPROD	0.50	0.50	0.00	3	1,000	500.00
PRESTIGE	2.55	2.55	0.00	1	10,000	25,500.00
PZ	14.12	14.12	0.38	31	166,198	2,372,597.54
ROYALEX	5.35	5.35	0.25	3	16,255	82,900.50
RTBRISCOE	1.35	1.35	0.00	5	3,000	4,050.00
SAVANNA	1.22	1.22	0.00	8	48,684	59,074.86
SKBEECHAM	2.52	2.52	0.04	10	56,684	144,257.84
TEXACO	64.00	64.00	1.00	9	10,555	668,291.00
TOTAL	65.00	65.00	0.00	12	7,430	482,950.00
TRIPPLEG	1.29	1.29	0.00	3	10,000	12,900.00
UAC-PROP	2.70	2.70	0.00	43	14,456,710	39,062,304.30
UACN	3.61	3.61	0.06	36	226,995	813,098.20
UBA	12.75	12.75	0.26	87	872,125	11,360,662.25
UBN	39.00	39.00	0.65	117	546,203	20,927,422.45
UNIONDICON	15.80	15.80	0.30	8	23,380	362,390.00
UNIPETROL	49.64	49.64	2.48	58	130,959	6,152,044.58
UNTL	3.15	3.15	0.15	3	30,959	93,252.00
UPL	4.00	4.00	0.00	4	10,050	40,200.00
UTB	4.70	4.70	0.23	23	169,396	800,084.20
UTC	1.44	1.44	0.00	2	5,000	7,200.00
VITAFOAM	4.15	4.15	0.05	12	73,179	305,541.45
WAPCO	42.38	42.38	2.11	24	166,900	6,721,063.00
WAPIC	1.36	1.36	0.06	1	131	170.30
WEMABANK	2.85	2.85	0.03	13	71,223	204,793.80
TOTAL				1,475	20,898,205	206,026,141.79

Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE)

Gainers/Losers as at 2/07/2001

Gainers			
COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
FIRSTBANK	32.35	33.20	0.85
PZ	14.12	14.50	0.38
NAL	5.42	5.69	0.27
UBA	12.75	13.01	0.26
CHARTERED	8.24	8.49	0.25
NB	27.85	28.00	0.15
CRUSADER	2.29	2.40	0.11
7UP	5.90	6.00	0.10
INLANDBANK	1.48	1.55	0.07
INTBREW	1.26	1.32	0.06
ETERNAOIL	1.12	1.17	0.05
VITAFOAM	4.15	4.20	0.05
ACCESSBANK	1.20	1.25	0.05
WEMABANK	2.85	2.88	0.03
NEM	0.61	0.64	0.03

Losers			
COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
UNIPETROL	49.64	47.16	2.48
WAPCO	42.38	40.27	2.11
NBC	21.90	21.00	0.90
MORISON	5.15	4.29	0.86
GUINNESS	37.85	37.16	0.69
FIRSTALUM	3.12	2.50	0.62
CADBURY	25.50	25.00	0.50
AFRIBANK	8.99	8.56	0.43
FSB	6.92	6.58	0.34
NIGERINS	6.35	6.04	0.31
UNIONDICON	15.80	15.50	0.30
LONGMAN	5.80	5.52	0.28
ROYALEX	5.35	5.10	0.25
UTB	4.70	4.47	0.23
DUNLOP	3.43	3.27	0.16
UNTL	3.15	3.00	0.15
JOHNHOLT	2.63	2.50	0.13
NIG-GERMAN	2.53	2.41	0.12
LIBERTY	2.22	2.11	0.11
MAY&BAKER	3.60	3.51	0.09
MANNYBANK	1.99	1.90	0.09
IMB	1.75	1.67	0.08
AVONCROWN	1.70	1.62	0.08
COSTAIN	1.42	1.36	0.06
AFPRINT	1.00	0.98	0.02

Summary of Transactions

DEALS	VOLUME	VALUE	No. OF COMPANIES
1,475	29,898,205	2,065,024,613.23	85

Source: NSE, Abuja Area Office

Bulls and Bears tie at NSE on 2/07/2001

Trading reports collected from Abuja Area Office of the Nigerian Stock Exchange indicated that a total of 18.62 million shares valued at N168.60 million in 1,796 deals were traded on the floors of the Nigerian Stock Exchange.

There were no transactions in the Industrial Loans/Preference Stocks sector and the Federal Government Development stocks sector.

Price Movement:

The bears won the bulls on the floor, with a total of 15 companies gaining and 25 losing in their share prices.

Gains were recorded in the Banking, Conglomerates, Breweries, Insurance, Food/Beverages & Tobacco, Petroleum Marketing and the Industrial & Domestic Product sub sector.

Firstbank Plc led the price gainers, as it appreciated by 85 kobo to close the day at N33.20 per share, followed by PZ Plc, which appreciated by 38 kobo to close at N14.50 per share.

Other price gainers include NAL (27 kobo piece); UBA (26 kobo piece); Chartered (25 kobo piece); NB (15 kobo piece); Crusader (11 kobo piece); Seven-up (10 kobo piece); Inlandbank (7 kobo piece); Interbrew (6 kobo piece); Eternaoil, Vitafoam and Accessbank (5 kobo apiece) and Wemabank and NEM (3 kobo apiece).

Losses were recorded in the Petroleum Marketing, Building Materials, Food/Beverages & tobacco, Healthcare, Breweries, Industrial and Domestic Product, Banking, Insurance, Printing and Publishing, Automobile and Tyre, Textile, Conglomerates, Chemical and Paint, Packaging and the Construction sub sectors.

Unipetrol Plc led the price losers, crashing by 284 kobo to close at and N47.16 per share, followed by WAPCO Plc, which lost 211 kobo, to close at N40.27 per share.

Other price losers include NBC (90 kobo piece); Morison (86 kobo piece); Guinness (69 kobo piece); Firstalum (62 kobo piece); Cadbury (50 kobo piece); Afribank (43 kobo piece); FSB (34 kobo piece); Nigerins (31 kobo piece); Uniondicon (30 kobo piece) and Longman (28 kobo piece).

BUSINESS \$ DAY

Maduekwe refutes alleged suspension of NPA's privatisation

The Minister of Transport, Chief Ojo Maduekwe has refuted media reports indicating that "NPA is not for sale" under the ongoing privatisation programme of the Federal Government.

The Nigerian Ports Authority Maduekwe explained, shall retain a regulatory function in the privatisation exercise while the other sectors of the national carrier would be privatised.

Speaking at the national workshop on Dock Labour Industry Council in Lagos on 'towards building an efficient dock labour industry in Nigeria,' the minister said the body was inaugurated to counter the terror on workers by the former trade union leadership which ranged from murder, extortion to delay in salary payments.

From Bose Musari, in Lagos

He described the event as a symbol of the renewal taking place in the dock labour industry and as well as the maritime sector to address its problems.

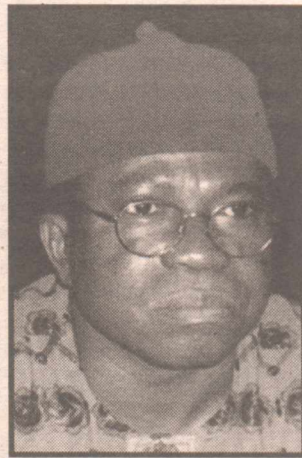
Admonishing Nigerians on transparency in administration, the minister said the dock employers should desist from corruption which he said could paralyse the activities of the sector. "If you choke the port with corruption, you choke the country," he said.

The minister also said the operations at the port now goes smoothly as workers' salary are increased as much as N14,000 and N20,000 in some cases from about N2,000 and pensions are given to retired workers.

The Managing Director, Radiant Consultants, Chief O. B. Babah, reacting to the

minister's speech, kicked against the privatisation of the ports saying "NPA is not supposed to be profit motivated or subsidised and so should not be commercialised," he said.

He advised the government to be careful not to convert foreigners into our ports keepers, stressing that this could have adverse effects on the naira. "Privatisation should be left to Nigerians. A Nigerian company can't be in charge of American ports," he said.



Ojo Maduekwe, Transport Minister

The Federal Government has abolished military clearance for civil aircraft operating regional or international flights.

Sources close to the Ministry of Aviation disclosed to *Business Day* that the decision of the government regarding this was communicated to the Ministry of Aviation by the Chief of Staff to the President, Major General Garba Mohammed recently.

The source hinted further that as a result, airline operators who were hitherto requested to get military approval from the Ministry of Defence, Abuja before operating international flights will no longer need such approval.

Business Day gathered

FG cancels military clearance of civil aircraft

From Shakirat Abdulmajeed, in Lagos

that the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON) - an umbrella body of Nigeria registered airline operators had before now protested to all the previous military head of state without positive response.

Three months ago, when the leadership of AON had an audience with President Olusegun Obasanjo, they seized the opportunity to renew and make case for the abolition of military clearance for civil aircraft operating international flights.

TOTAL's net profit drops by N300m

Total Nigeria Plc recorded a short fall in net profit in the year 2000 despite its N28.7 billion turnover achievement which outweighs its turnover of N21.5 billion in 1999.

During the company's Annual General Meeting (AGM) held at the Muson Centre, Lagos, the shareholders were informed that the N1.2 billion profit after tax (PAT) posted by the oil company fell short of the N1.5 billion achieved in the preceding year, showing a drop of N300 million in its net profit.

Nevertheless, this did not stop the directors of the company from recommending the total sum of N896 million as dividend for shareholders which comes to N4.00 dividend per 50 kobo share.

The dividend was a replica of what was paid to shareholders in 1999. Perhaps what enabled the company to do this was the reduction in the profit retained in the business.

While TOTAL retained

From Bright Ewulu & Rakiya A. Muhammad, in Lagos

a total sum of N622.4 million in 1999, it retained N273.6 million in the year under review despite the jumbo turnover it recorded.

Total's chairman, Mr. Francis Jan, however told the shareholders that despite the achievement in net profit that it has actually been advancing in the market place.

According to him, "your company led the industry with 10.8 percent of the market share on all products by 31st December, 2000, as against 9.7 percent for the same period in 1999.

He said TOTAL's book of accounts did not look so very impressive "owing to the significant amount of funds disbursed to staff who opted for the company's severance plan." The severance pay gulped N798.8 million, just as staff amounts took N706.4 million.

Jan maintained that in the future TOTAL hopes to tap the positive synergies

that are imperative from the merger between TOTAL Nigeria Plc and Elf Oil (Nigeria) Limited.

He called the government to ensure the availability of petroleum products for the market, saying that its in the long term national interest of the country.

TOTAL's net current assets stands at N853.4 million and the total assets less current liabilities is N2.7 billion.

Its capital and reserves stands at N2.4 billion. This, barring inflation could be said to be better than the N2.1 posted in 1999.

NEPA charges Nigerians over snapping of transmission lines

As a way of avoiding the damaging effect of accidental snapping of NEPA's transmission lines, Nigerians have been advised not to build houses under High Tension Lines.

Assistant General Manager, Public Affairs, NEPA Corporate Headquarters, Malam Muhammad Mousa-Booth gave the advice while answering questions from journalists in Lagos, when he paid a visit to Miss. Feanyi Ojei-Aigbohan who was badly burnt after a recent accidental snapping of 11kv transmission line at Orile-Oke area of the state.

Malam Mousa-Booth observed that a number of people still build houses under such lines, urging the populace to completely stir clear of such areas by not even buying land there.

He asserted that it is tantamount to breach of NEPA's right of way.

The NEPA Public Affairs boss, reiterated the need to avoid illegal connection describing the act as unhealthy for lines.

Meanwhile, Malam Mousa-Booth who led a team of senior NEPA management staff to the General Hospital, Lagos where the victim was

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, in Lagos

admitted, expressed regret over the incident, while consoling her on behalf of the management and chairman technical board.

He disclosed management's promise to foot all the hospital bills throughout Ifeanyi's stay in the hospital, even as NEPA made a donation of N100,000 for her upkeep. The money was given directly to her mother at the hospital.

The victim has started showing signs of improvement, according to the medical doctor in charge, her condition would improve greatly in the next two weeks.

UBA wins best bank award

The United Bank for Africa (UBA) Plc has been nominated the nation's best bank.

This nomination which was separately made by U.S. based Global Finance magazine and the Emerging Markets Investor, a U.K. based magazine, through an exclusive survey declared UBA as a bank of choice in the nation's domestic market and out side.

According to a statement signed by UBA's Principal Manager Corporate Affairs, Dr. Kabir Ahmed Global Finance magazine's exclusive survey on the "Best Trade Finance Bank's and Providers for 2001," which named UBA Plc as an award winner will be published in the magazine's July's issue.

He said the chance of the bank as this year's award winner was based on its contributions towards promotion of world trade, finance and economy.

From Bright Ewulu, in Lagos

Other criteria on which the survey based its choice include "transaction volume, scope of global coverage, ease of use, competitive pricing and innovative technologies."

The key export items were traditional products such as furniture, Natural Sesame Seed, Gum Arabic, Cotton Yam, Natural Rubber, Cocoa Products, Cow Horn and other goods classified finished products.

According to an export trade data released by the

Ahmed stated that the award presentation will hold on Tuesday, July 17 at Palace Hotel, New York, U.S.A.

The statement explained that while New York based Global Finance declared UBA Plc as the winner of it's "Best Trade Finance

Award," the Emerging Markets Investor nominated the bank as the "Best Domestic Bank in Nigeria."

It would be recalled that Euro-Money magazine awarded UBA Plc "Best Domestic Bank in Nigeria" in year 2000.

Non-oil export yields N680m in three months

The performance of Non-oil export in the first quarter of this year recorded N680 million (\$4.29 million) and DM 49,000 representing 92 percent or \$50.048 million decline over the first quarter performance in 2000.

The key export items were traditional products such as furniture, Natural Sesame Seed, Gum Arabic, Cotton Yam, Natural Rubber, Cocoa Products, Cow Horn and other goods classified finished products.

According to an export trade data released by the

National Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NCCIMA) in Lagos, performance of the non-oil exports indicated that cotton yarn, finished products and natural sesame seeds recorded the highest value compared with other items.

An analysis of the first quarter performance indicated that the non-oil export sector is still weak. Most of the export policies and incentives in the 2001 budget and the years before apparently assumed away

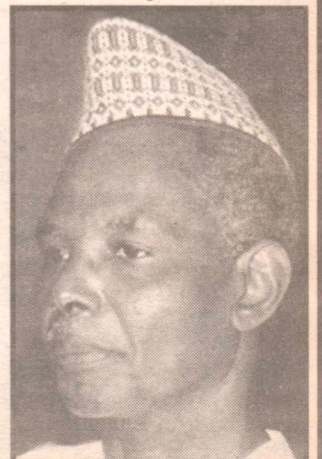
production and supply problems.

According to the data, high cost conditions arising from poor infrastructural support services, cost of compliance with regulations and illegal charges and poor administration of incentives put Nigeria exports at a serious competitive disadvantage.

"In order to cut cost and avoid delay associated with regeous export documentation, a number of expeditors are more resorting to smuggling," the report stated.



Joseph Makaju, NEPA boss



Rilwanu Lukman

Benue Electrification and Rural Development Agency (BERDA)

Our scorecard at half-time

Dr. Emmanuel Ikume Yuwa:
The engineer Behind the BERDA revolution

Engineer (Dr) Emmanuel Ikume Yuwa is what many call an engineer's engineer. He is not the well-dressed arm-chair engineer you are likely to meet in an air-conditioned office behind an oak-panelled table.

He is a field engineer who braves the elements in casual wears quite unlike the conventional proto-type. And his experience spans engineering designs, supervision and consultancy. And on the 25th of November 2000, the Carolina Christian University of America, in recognition of his immense contributions to the engineering industry awarded him an honorary doctorate degree in civil engineering.

Until his appointment as the executive a Director of BERDA in June 1999, by George Akume, Engr Yuwa was the principal partner of a Kaduna based firm of consulting civil/structural engineers: **Yuwa Ikume and Partners.**

Yuwa was born on January, 1952. After his primary school in Gboko, Benue State, he proceeded to Government College, Katsina-Ala for his secondary school education. For his Higher School Certificate (HSC), Engr. Ikume went to Mt. St. Michael's Secondary School, Aliade.

Between 1973 and 1976, Yuwa was at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, where he obtained his first degree in civil engineering and from October 1978 he bagged his M. Eng. in civil structures from the same University.

Dr. Yuwa is a member, Nigerian Society of Engineers (MNSE) 1984; member, council of the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) 1985; member, Association of Consulting Engineers of Nigeria (ACEN) 1997; Fellows Institute of Management Consultants (FIMC) 1997.

Engr. Yuwa is a native of Tse-Yuwa village in Ikurav-Tiev District of Katsina-Ala Local Government and is happily married. His hobbies include: Photography, Philanthropy, reading and counselling.

PREAMBLE

It is generally agreed that

Governor Akume's strategy of rural development is one of the very best things that have ever happened to the good people of Benue State.

The Government and the good People of Benue State have decided, therefore, to act in concert to make the noble strategy work so as to deepen and broaden the dividends of democracy. The watchwords, thus, are involvement, participation and the resolve to achieve concrete results state-wide.

MANDATE

On assumption of office and with the zeal to transform the rural areas, thereby keeping faith with electoral promises, the Executive Governor of Benue State, Mr. George Akume, through his policy thrust programme in the Benue Action Plan gave (BAP) gave BERDA the multi-throng mandate:

a) Mobilize Local Government Councils, Development Associations and Rural Communities for sustained rural development activities.

b) Construct and maintain rural roads and bridges.

c) Provide electricity to communities

d) Execute relevant projects that will impact positively on agricultural activities in the state especially food production.

e) Mobilise local government councils and communities to go into Counter-part funding of projects either initiated by them or by the state government.

The percentages are as follows BERDA 60%, local government councils 30%, while the community pays 10% of the total amount on the identified projects.)

f) Liaise with the Federal Government ministries and agencies in respect of rural development programmes and projects.

g) Encourage the implementation of physical development plans at the community levels in order to increase rural accessibility.

h) Acquire, purchase, lease machinery for or in connection with the function of the agency.

i) Supervise and monitor on a continuous basis the entire range of rural development activities carried out by the agency.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Benue Rural Development Agency (BERDA) was created by an Edict No. 1 of January 1996 in response to public demand for an agency that would aggressively address the nagging problems of rural infrastructure deficiency in Benue State especially after the demise of the erstwhile Directorate of Food, Road and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI). The creation of the agency also became imperative as a result of the apparent inadequacy of conventional ministerial approach towards the opening up of rural roads and bridges as well as rural electricity. By this action, Benue state remains one of the very few states in the country that have demonstrated such unwavering commitment to rural development.

ment Agency (BERDA) was created by an Edict No. 1 of January 1996 in response to public demand for an agency that would aggressively address the nagging problems of rural infrastructure deficiency in Benue State especially after the demise of the erstwhile Directorate of Food, Road and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI). The creation of the agency also became imperative as a result of the apparent inadequacy of conventional ministerial approach towards the opening up of rural roads and bridges as well as rural electricity. By this action, Benue state remains one of the very few states in the country that have demonstrated such unwavering commitment to rural development.

Benue Rural Development Agency is under the office of the Governor and has a board of governors headed by the Secretary to the Government with five Commissioners, the Special Adviser on Local Government Affairs, the Executive Director of BERDA and the agency's secretary as members. The secretary of the agency also serves as the secretary of the Board.

The day-to-day administration of the agency is carried out by the Executive Director who is responsible to the Governor. The management, which implements the decisions of the board comprises:

1 Zaki-Biam-Afia-Gbeji road Ukum LGA (A). On-going

2 Wannune-Ijormenger- Tse road

COMMUNITY MOBILISATION SECTION

As soon as this administration took-off, it identified the issue of community mobilisation as one of the vital strategies of achieving a meaningful rural development.

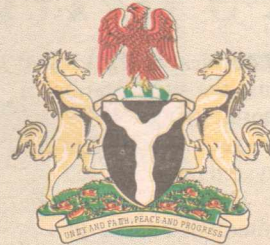
This is borne out of the fact that any project initiated to be executed in any community that does not receive the communities' blessing will not succeed. Therefore, BERDA went on radio, newspapers and television to inform the public about the new dispensation.

Hitherto, most communities had lost confidence in the modus operandi of the Agency. These had to be explained to all. The Community Development Officers in the Local Government Areas who had been idle for a long time due to lack of direction have now sprung to life and are on a day to day brief with communities to come together for development. In the process, the following have been put together within the period.

1. 1600 Community Development Associations have been registered.

2. 23 Community Development committees have been formed.

During the period, 72 community projects were identified for assistance. Out of these, 23 of the projects have been selected for assistance. The selection has been on projects of immediate impact on the commu-

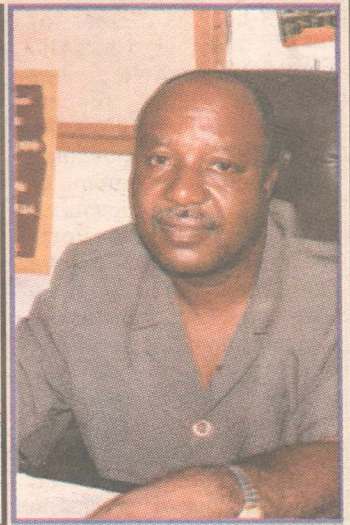


nities. These are Bridges, Electricity and access roads. Ten Million Naira has been released for this purpose. Materials for the construction have been acquired and physical implementation has started and some completed.

Also in the spirit of creating awareness to our rural dwellers towards mobilisation on Government projects, the Government of GEORGE AKUME has hosted the 23rd National Conference of Directors of Community Development in Nigeria on the 30th May 2000, at Benue Hotel Banquet Hall, Makurdi.



Mr. George Akume, Executive Governor of Benue State



Engr. (Dr.) Ikume Yuwa, Executive Director of BERDA

Sections	Heads
1. Administration	Mrs. J.M. Shango
2. Roads	Engr. Lorfa Ajir
3. Rural Electricity	S.S. Kershio
4. Mechanical	Mr. J. Adingi
5. Community Mobilisation	S Aboh
6. Public Relations	Peter Orfankwagh
7. Finance	Mr. E. Abaagu
8. Progress Engineering	Mr. G.K. Chia

DETAILED ACTIVITIES OF BERDA (1999-2001)

S/NO	PROJECT DESCRIPTION (RURAL ROADS)	LOCATION	REMARK
1.	Zaki-Biam-Afia-Gbeji road	Ukum LGA (A).	On-going
2	Wannune-Ijormenger- Tse road	Tarka L.G.A (B).	Completed
3	Adum East -Oyini road	Obi L.G.A (C)	On-going
4.	Harga-Afeagh road	Katsina-a1a LGA (A)	Completed
5.	Mkar-Chile road	Gboko LGA (B)	Completed
6.	Adaka-Agena road	Makurdi LGA (B)	-do-
7.	Adikpo-Ajio-Koti	Mbaduku Kwande LGA	-do-
8.	Obotu Eke road market -Obodu Eke road	Okpokwu LGA (C).	-do-
9.	Rehabilitation of Sam Oron road	Makurdi (B)	-do-
10.	Extension of Iorkyaa Ako Street	Makurdi (B)	On-going

BRIDGES & CULVERTS

S/NO	PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS (BRIDGES)	LOCATION	REMARK
1.	Rehabilitation of Kastina -Ala bridge	Katsina -Ala LGA	Completed
2.	Laceration of Kereke Bridge	Guma LGA (B)	-do-
3.	Box culvert behind Makurdi Plaza Hotel (Construction)	Makurdi LGA (B)	-do-
4.	Gbugbu Bridge	Konshisha LGA (A)	on-going
5.	Wurukum Market flood control	Makurdi LGA (B)	Counter-part Funding Completed

ELECTRIFICATION

S/NO	PROJECT DESCRIPTION (ELECTRIFICATION)	LOCATION	REMARK
1	Rehabilitation of vandalised Transmission lines		
2	Daudu 11 KY line	Guma LGA (B)	Completed
3.	Upu London	Otukpo LGA (C)	-do-
4.	Otukpo Ichu	Otukpo LGA (C)	-do-
5.	Otukpo -Ugbokolo 33kv line	Otukpo LGA (C)	-do-
6.	Ochobo Electricity	Ohimini LGA (C)	-do-
7.	Eke-Olengbecho	Otukpo LGA (C)	-do-
8.	Eke-Ajide	Otukpo LGA (C)	-do-
9.	Replaced stolen insulators at Agasha 33kv line	Guma LGA (B)	-do-
10.	Replaced transformer at Akperan Orshi College of Agriculture Yandev	Gboko LGA (B)	-do-
11.	Replaced transformer at G.S.S Gargboughol	Buruku LGA (B)	-do-
12.	Replaced transformer at Zaki-Biam Township	Ukum LGA (A)	-do-
13.	Rehabilitated Korinya Generator Plant	Konshisha LGA (A)	-do-
14.	Installed a new transformer at Orshi Kur St.	Gboko LGA (B)	-do-
15.	Installed new Transformer and provided Electricity at Mt. Carmel Sec. Sch. Makurdi,	Makurdi LGA (B)	-do-
16.	Installed a new transformer and provided electricity at St. Vincent Hospital Aliade	Ower LGA (B)	-do-
17.	Installed a new Transformer and provided electricity to communities along Makurdi-Gboko road	Makurdi LGA (B)	-do-
18.	Work is progressing on Abwa Adikpo electricity project	Kwande LGA	on-going
19.	Electrification of Gboko road new layout	Makurdi completed (B)	
20.	Rehabilitated Taraku mill electricity line	Gwer LGA Completed (A)	
20.	Refurbished gboko-Akpagher electricity line	Gboko LGA Completed (B)	

Key = A,B,C, stand for each of the three senatorial zones.



Adikpo Electricity Project (Kwande Local Government)

Star Interview

Our purpose is to break down old barriers

--Cooperation and Integration Minister

Chief (Dr.) Bimbola Ogunkelu is the Minister of Cooperation and Integration in Africa In this interview with Musa Aliyu of our Foreign Desk, Chief Ogunkelu holds forth on the mandate of his Ministry, Nigeria's trade with France, the African Union, Africa as the centre-piece of our foreign policy and much more. Excerpts:

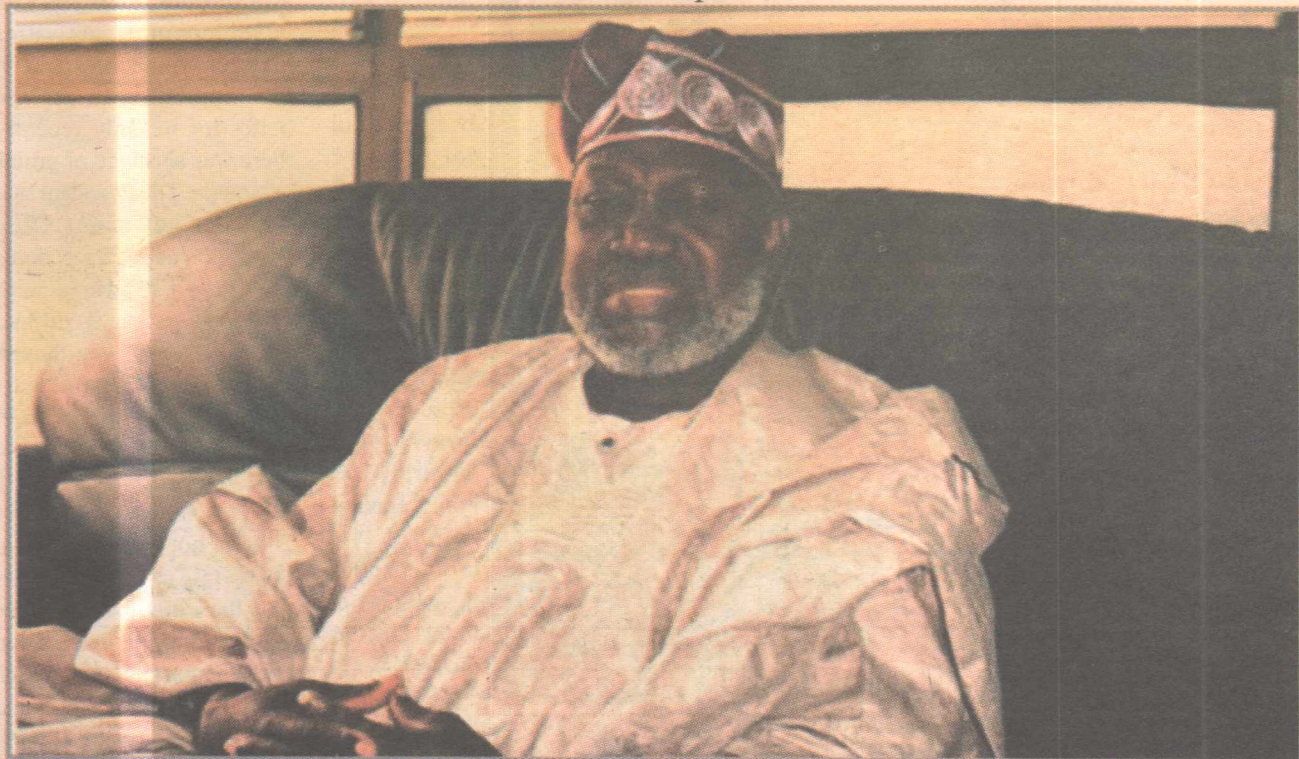
Your Excellency, your ministry is one of the ministries charged with the responsibility of properly articulating Nigeria's interest abroad. What has it been doing in this respect?

Well our ministry, the Ministry of Co-operation and Integration in Africa, is concerned with the development of the African continent and with the co-operation of the different countries and the integration of the economic and structural infrastructures of the African continent. So, that, in short is the mandate of our ministry.

From what you have said about your ministry, a layman would see it as a duplication of the function of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. How would you react to this?

It is not true that it is a duplication of function. There may be some overlapping in our functions but that is for effectiveness rather than duplication. From the time ECOWAS was established in 1975, ECOWAS' functions have never been in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was under the National Planning Commission and sometimes the National Planning Ministry, and the Ministry of Cooperation and Integration was established in July 1999 to take over the functions of looking after our interest in the ECOWAS countries, and, of course, with the extra mandate of co-

operation and integration. Sometime ago Daily Trust had an interview with a lawmaker in the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He claimed that his committee had been sidelined. In fact he raised



Dr (Chief Abimbola Ogunkelu, Minister of Cooperation and Intergration in Africa

the issue of Nigeria promising to put its men and resources towards realising the African Union dream. His argument is that there was no bill sent to that effect so it was not possible. If I may ask, what is your

relationship with other establishments with similar functions?

Similar functions in the Executive or the National Assembly?

Both.

Well, the Ministry of Cooperation and Integration in Africa works very closely with the Committee on Cooperation and Integration in the House of Representatives. And also, it works very closely with the Senate Committee on cooperation and Integration. So, we have no problem at all. We are working with these committees of the National Assembly. Of course, we are working very closely also with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in matters that re-

late to Africa, and other ministries like the Water resources and so on. So, the work of our ministry is not a duplication. But it's looking into the areas of integration, infrastructural development, and economic development, bringing people together rather than bringing governments together. The real plan of the work of our ministry is private sector involvement because the programme that we have in terms of economic integration are to be worked on by people themselves, that is Nigerians and other West Africans and Africans, so that they can improve their working conditions and living conditions.

At the opening ceremony of the Nigeria/Tunisia joint commission last week, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Chief Dubem Onyia, made a call to businessmen in Nigeria and Tunisia to have a closer cooperation, which is the surest way Africa could have the much desired development. I don't know if you have the record of cooperation between these businessmen in the various countries and the level at which businessmen have been having that interaction.

But as you would know, trade in Africa and in West Africa has always been between our people. There is what is called informal trading between African countries

for a very long time. In West Africa for example, people come all the way from Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana and other places to buy things in Nigeria at the Oke-Are market in Lagos. And of course, Nigerians also go to these other countries to buy goods. These are at the informal level. What we are trying to achieve is economic integration in West Africa. It is to ensure that the African people themselves create a plain-level ground and have an economic forum where what was an informal thing can now become a formal thing. Thus, people can move freely. We have the trade liberalisation scheme and part of that is the free movement of people and goods in West Africa. There should be no road block. People should not be harassed, they should be able to go about their business. We also have free trade areas between adjoining countries so that people can move across borders and carry on their business. Also, we are trying to ensure that when people move from one country to another the border formalities of the immigration and customs are reduced to the barest minimum, such that there will be no delays for transaction.

Recently you mentioned that every African leader should concern himself with

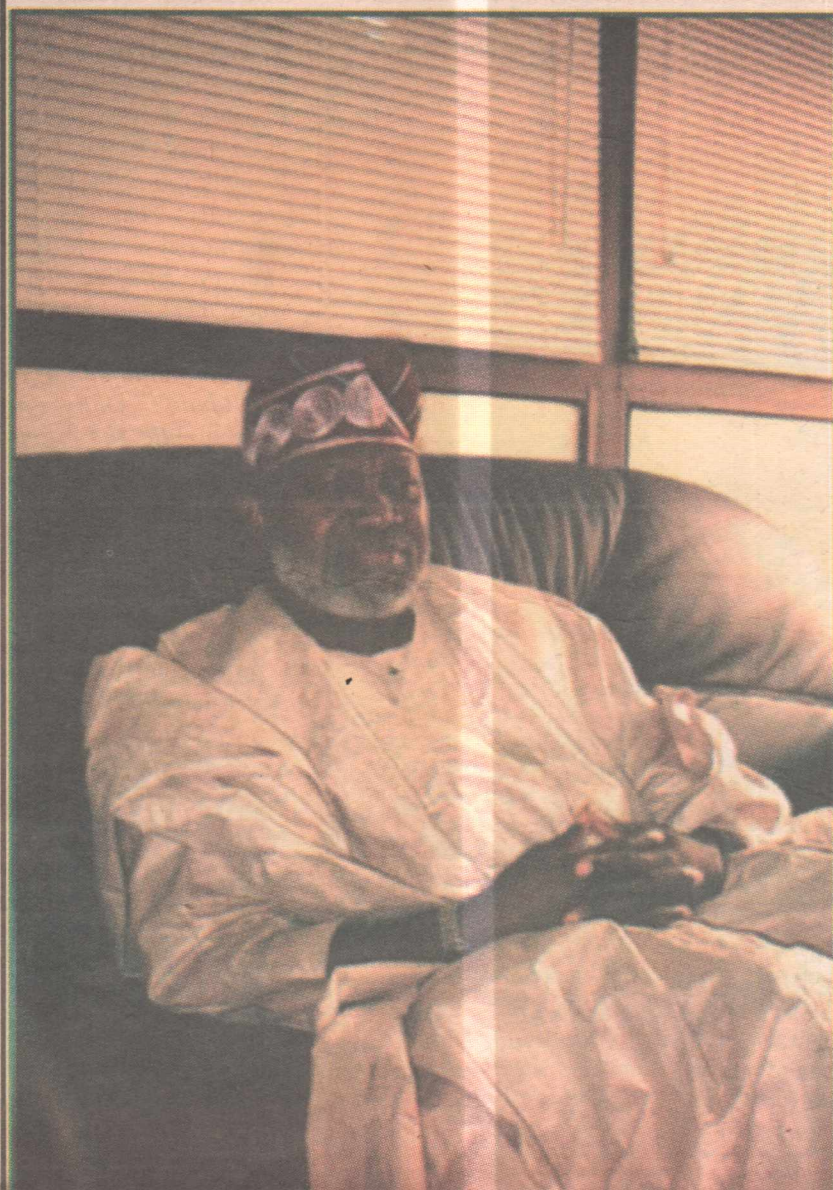
severing the umbilical cord attaching us to our former colonial masters. But the problem has always been with the Francophone Africans. They prefer to trade with their former colonial masters. What is the mechanism put in place to take care of this kind of problem?

It is not true that the Francophone countries would want to trade only with their former colonial masters in France. The Francophone countries trade a lot with Nigeria. Nigeria trades a lot with Francophone countries. The whole purpose of trade liberalisation in West Africa which is made up of Francophone countries, Anglophone countries and Lusophone countries (the Portuguese speaking countries) is that they should work closely with themselves, trade with themselves, move freely and all that, and achieve their commercial objectives. It's not true that only the Francophone countries trade with France. Nigeria had a lot of trade with France and we are not a Francophone country. As a matter of fact there are statistics that the amount of bilateral trade and investment between Nigeria and France is much more than that between France and all its former colonies in Africa put together. So, France is doing more business with Nigeria than it is doing with Francophone countries.

In May this year, you hosted the conference on the African Union. Now that the African Union has taken-off, signalling the end of O.A.U., what are the mechanisms you have put in place to make the African Union workable, so that what happened to O.A.U. wouldn't happen to the African Union?

The O.A.U. has transited into the African Union and if one is aware of the Abuja treaty of 1991, which is the plan on which the African Union is built, it is that we are going to have the Economic Community of Africa (ECA). We are going to have the African parliament, the Africa Central Bank, eventually, the Africa Monetary Unit, and an African Court of Justice. These are all institutions that were not present in the OAU, but which would be present

Contd. on pg 18



Star Interview

Break down old barriers - Cooperation and Integration Minister

Contd. from pg 17

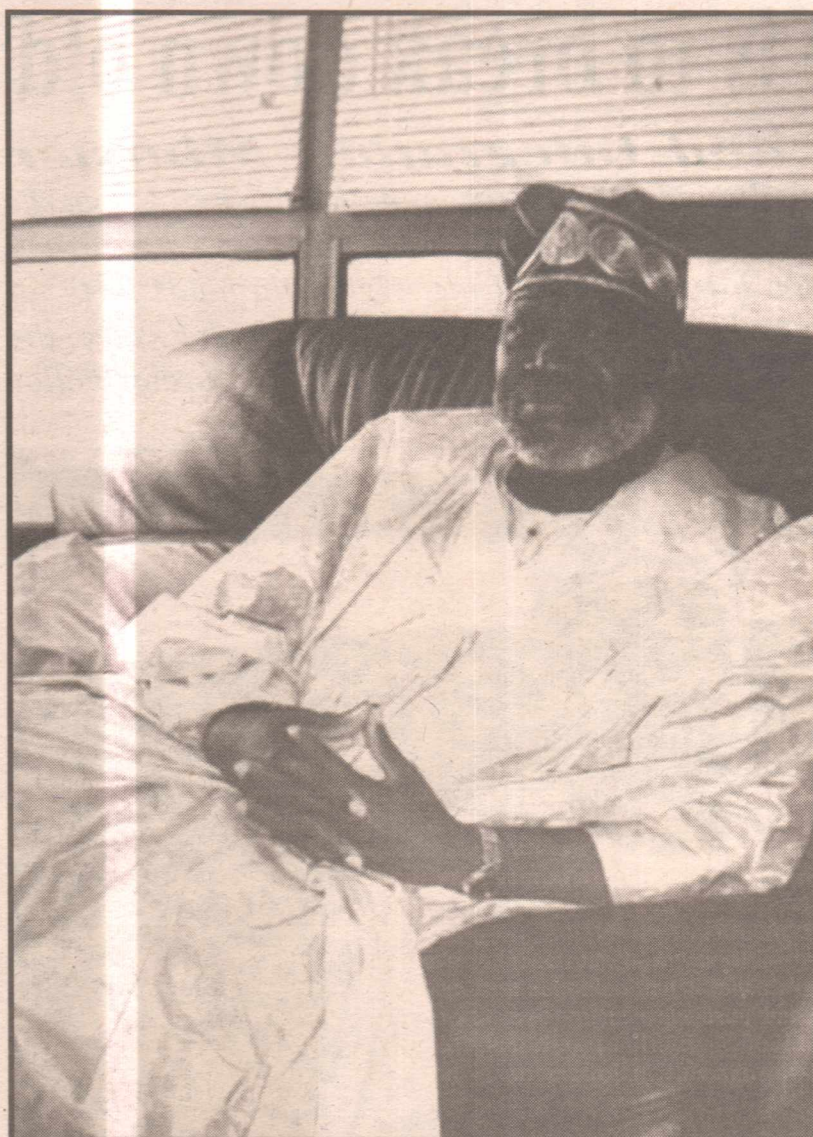
in the African Union process. And the process is on. We are now in a kind of transition period of moving from the organisation of African Unity to the African Union. So, all these institutions we are talking about will be put in place. Next month in Lusaka, Zambia there will be the meeting of the African Union and a lot of these institutions we are talking about will be put in place. Definitely the African Union will achieve far more than the OAU has achieved in a very short period of time.

Due to the active role played by Col. Ghaddafi of Libya and the current economic status of South Africa, some Nigerians are of the belief that the African Union is the brainchild of Col. Ghaddafi and that the leadership role of Nigeria will be hijacked. Could you enlighten us more on this?

It is not disputed anywhere that Nigeria is the leader of Africa. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and endowed with rich human and material resources. So, the leadership of Nigeria is not contested even by South Africa. And Col. Ghaddafi like other African leaders have played significant roles in the establishment of the African Union. We cannot take it away from Ghaddafi. He has put a lot of his material resources into it, he hosted two summits that ushered in the African Union. But that does not make the African Union the work of Ghaddafi alone. As a matter of fact, is it conceivable that there can be the African Union without the leading participation of Nigeria? It is not possible. The role of Nigeria in the African Union is that of a leader, and it is cooperating with other African countries to achieve this.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Alhaji Sule Lamido, on assumption of office posited that Nigeria's foreign policy will shift from Africa being the centre-piece to other issues like multilateral and multinational cooperation and the like. How would this affect the mandate of your ministry?

I am not sure that you are quoting my dear friend and brother, Alhaji Sule Lamido right. The centre-piece of Nigeria's foreign policy remains Africa to the extent that our President, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, has even established a whole ministry to prosecute the process of making African



countries to cooperate and to integrate their economies and infrastructure. I think it has never been so aptly demonstrated than now, that Africa is the centre-piece of Nigeria's foreign policy. So, it is both in words and in action that Africa remains the centre-piece of Nigeria's foreign policy.

Since Africa is the centre-piece of Nigeria's

foreign policy and right from the days of Nigeria's first Prime Minister, Late Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Nigeria has been spending, helping other African countries, playing the big brother role. Unlike the United States of America

that spends a lot of money helping other countries for what it will gain, Nigeria has not properly come out to determine what it is going to gain from this gesture. Is Nigeria just being a "father Christmas" without gains?

Well, it is inconceivable to consider the fact that Nigeria by assisting other African countries has not gained. This cannot be true.



foreign policy and right from the days of Nigeria's first Prime Minister, Late Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Nigeria has been spending, helping other African countries, playing the big brother role. Unlike the United States of America

that spends a lot of money helping other countries for what it will gain, Nigeria has not properly come out to determine what it is going to gain from this gesture. Is Nigeria just being a "father Christmas" without gains?

goodwill? Can you quantify the goodwill Nigeria enjoys with its neighbours? Nigeria has gone to great extents to ensure that there is peace and prosperity in the West African sub-region. When there was war in Liberia it had to establish and form a pact with other West African countries. And Nigeria is still active in Sierra-Leone. Do you think it is a waste of

resources? Can you imagine that if there is war in another part of West Africa the people of that part would move into Nigeria? And there is no army you can use to stop the coming of refugees. And when they come you use your material resources

and your facilities. Your infrastructures will be overrun by a large population and you are the worse for it. But if you help them to maintain peace in their own country, you help them to develop and improve their economy then you don't have this onslaught on your infrastructure. And in the long run your neighbours grow as you are growing and you prosper, then you can have economic activities between yourselves and in the long run you are the better for it. Only recently there was shortage of grains in Nigeria. The President said why not get beans from Burkina Faso. If we don't have good relations with Burkina Faso can we just go and take beans even though we are going to pay for it? You don't buy things from your enemy. And also recently Nigerians made a huge outcry, why should Nigeria not buy beans from Burkina Faso? Forgetting that the rams that Muslims slaughter during festival and Christians at Christmas come from Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad. Why should Nigeria not buy beans from Burkina Faso when they are buying rice from Pakistan and Thailand? Africans must learn to work with themselves. We must move out of the colonial mode in which when you want to trade you trade with colonial masters. That is the whole purpose of this ministry, to breakdown old barriers. To

make sure that African people, work together and trade among themselves and integrate their structures. In any case, if you say you are a Nigerian, I don't know which part you come from that you don't have relations with your neighbours,

people of the same linguistic affiliation. If you are a Hausa man they speak Hausa in Chad and in northern Cameroon and in Niger. They speak Hausa in Northern Benin Republic. They speak Hausa all the way up to Mali and Senegal. If you are a Yoruba man we have people in Benin Republic that speak Yoruba. And Yoruba speaking people are all over West Africa up to Cote D'ivoire and Sierra Leone. So, what are we talking about here? Africa was one continent that the white people adjusted at the Berlin conference of 1884. They considered it as one big cake. They put their knife through it and cut Africa into pieces. And the colonial masters took pieces of our continent and imposed their culture and language. What we are trying to do is to bring these brothers who have been separated together, so that they can now take their lives in their hands, their destiny in their hands and work together for their own development.

Could it be right to say that the logic behind the Burkina Faso beans is in line with Cooperation and Integration?

Well, it is in line with Cooperation and Integration. The integration of infrastructure, commerce and the economy. It's in line with it very much. And they come here and buy products from Nigeria. If you go all the way to even the Central African Republic, the richest traders in far away Central African Republic are our Ibo brothers and sisters. They have taken over the richest trade of that country. And, anywhere where there is business you will find Nigerians.

How would you assess President Obasanjo's African policy?

President Obasanjo's African Policy is a forward-looking policy that is based on the need for Africa to develop. President Obasanjo's African policy is a policy that argues that Africa must come of age. It is a policy that is going to ensure that the black man, the black person, and black world must catch up with the rest of the world and develop and flourish. That is what our president's African policy is all about. And that is what he is working towards. That is even one of the reasons why he set up this ministry to ensure that Africans must develop and grow.

NEWS

NAPEP gets N6b for programmes

The sum of N6 billion has been approved by the National Assembly for the successful prosecution of the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) across the country.

Alhaji Kunle Sulyman, Kwara State Coordinator and Chairman, of NAPEP, disclosed this in Ilorin at the maiden meeting of the state NAPEP committee held at the federal secretariat.

The chairman said the amount, meant to take care of NAPEP programmes for the remaining part of the year, would be allocated to each state of the federation, including Kwara, for its programmes which are expected to commence fully by August this year.

According to him, the committee would supervise, monitor and coordinate all

From Abdul Laro, in Ilorin

federal government projects in the state and submit monthly reports to Abuja.

Alhaji Sulyman disclosed that NAPEP had been directed to either sink a borehole each in all the 16 local government areas of the state or put in

place a rural electrification project within each local government area before the end of the year.

He said the committee would also organise a retreat for state and local government officials in order to discuss the modalities of ensuring the success of the programme.

Katsina PDP chieftain is dead

A chieftain of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Katsina State, Alhaji Haruna Dangani, is dead.

A News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) correspondent in the area who visited Marabar Musawa, Musawa Local Government Area, the hometown of the deceased, reports that late Dangani died on June 27, in Katsina General Hospital. Aged 65, Dangani was buried on Thursday according to Islamic rites.

He is survived by four wives, 22 children, grand children and relatives. NAN gathered that hundreds of people have been trooping to Marabar Musawa to condole the family of the deceased.

Early callers included the Senate Leader, Alhaji Sani Zangon-Daura, former Environment and Agriculture Ministers, Speaker and Majority Leader of the Katsina State House of Assembly, Alhaji Sani Saidu and Alhaji Surajo Damari, respectively among others.

Government constitutes reconciliation committee

The Bauchi State Governor, Alhaji Ahmad Adamu Mu'azu, has constituted a 16-member committee to reconcile and resettle victims of the recent religious clash in Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area of the state.

A news release signed by the Secretary to the State Government, Alhaji Muhammad Nadada Umar, said the government took the decision to set-up the committee in order to adopt confidence building measures towards the re-establishment of harmonious co-existence.

The committee, which is headed by the Special Adviser to the Governor on Security Matters, a retired AIG, Alhaji Muhammad Yusuf, is also required to make efforts towards reconciling the various warring communities displaced in the recent bloody clash which has so far

By Danlami Baban Takko

left more than 20 people killed while houses and properties worth thousands of naira have been destroyed.

According to an eye-witness account, trouble started in the town on the 15th of June when a bus conductor attempted to make a special sitting arrangement separating the male from the females passengers. A group of youths opposed to the



Gov Adamu Mu'azu

implementation of the Sharia legal system (recently introduced in the state) objected to this and culminating protest that subsequently led to the breakdown of law and order on Monday, 18, June 2001.

In another development, the state government has warned those bent on breaching public peace to desist from such acts or face the wrath of the law.

In a press release issued by the Director of Press Affairs, Mohammed A. Abdullahi, the government cautioned the people against taking the laws into their hands as it would not tolerate any act capable of disrupting the cordial relationship existing among the various ethno-religious groups in the state.

The release further condemned those it described as "disgruntled individuals hiding under the guise of the Sharia legal system to molest the Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area Chairman, Mr. William Wadni and the village head of Bununu, Malam Shuaibu Mohammed.

FG urged to create employment agencies

The Federal Government has been urged to create employment agencies similar to the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) through which youth corps members can seek self-employed after their national service.

The Managing Director of Wave Length Communication Limited, Ilorin, Kwara State, Major Lanre Obalisa (rtd) made the call at a sendforth

ceremony of corps members who served in the company on Friday.

He said such agencies would go a long way to help reduce the high rate of unemployment in the country. Major Obalisa also commended the Federal Government for increasing corps members' allowance to N7,500 monthly, saying it would boost their morale during the service year.

He commended the youth corps members who

served under his company, saying that they made their impact felt during their service and prayed for their success wherever they may find themselves in life.

Responding, one of the corps members, Engr. Chuka Egbe, commended the organization for allowing them to gain the practical experience in the field of communication, adding that "the director related with us like members of the same family," he said.

As ethnic hostility threatened socio-economic activities in parts of the country, Senator Haruna Aziz, representing Southern Kaduna Senatorial District, has called for 'practical measures' by the authorities concerned to stem the tide.

In an exclusive interview with *Daily Trust*, Senator Aziz noted that ethnic hostility was gradually becoming a major source of discouragement for potential local and foreign investors in the warring zones in particular and the nation in general.

He observed that the dangerous dimension the ethnic clashes had assumed was what he called the unjustifiable and mischievous indictment of some innocent personalities from the two fighting communities all with the purpose of inflaming the

FG told to check ethnic crisis

From Ibrahim Ka-Almasin, in Kaduna

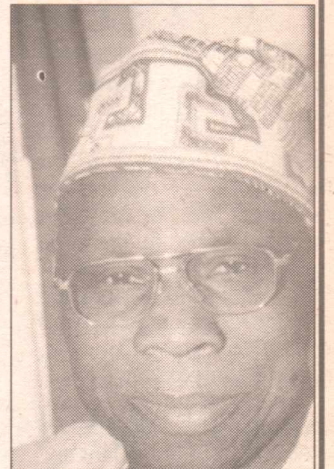
crisis.

Specifically, he said, the recent indictment of the Minister of State for Works and Housing, Mr. Charles Garba Ali Madaki, over the recent Ikulu/Baju crisis, was an "unfortunate lie," because according to him, the minister, like other members of the elites from Southern Kaduna, had rather build a bridge between different tribes from the Southern Kaduna.

Senator Aziz, therefore, called on the authorities responsible and the prominent sons and daughters of the warring communities to use their powers and influence to ensure peace and, therefore, socio-economic development in the troubled areas.

He attributed the near lack of commercial culture in the area to lack of money due to

non-government patronage of the people of the area. "No individual in Nigeria has become so rich without



President Obasanjo

the government's input into his business; so if that is the case, how can our people who have virtually not being in government let alone being rich enough to establish large or even cottage industries," the senator remarked.

"Unprotected sexual intercourse responsible for HIV/AIDS"

Over 85 percent of HIV/AIDS patients in Nigeria acquired the disease through unprotected sexual intercourse. A medical consultant and Chairman of the Anti-AIDS Committee in Adamawa State, Dr. Aliyu Danburam, disclosed this in Yola at the Anti-AIDS lecture organised by a non-governmental organisation, the Youth Alert.

"It has been acknowledged that unprotected paratrative sexual intercourse is the most common mode of

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, in Yola

transmission of HIV/AIDS in



Prof. A.B.C. Nwosu

Nigeria, accounting for well over 85 percent of cases," he said.

The other modes of transmission, such as transfusion of infested blood, mother-to-child transmission and using unsterilized instruments, he said constituted the rest.

Dr. Danburam said with the absence of AIDS vaccines so far, the most effective means of checking the spread of the disease is the promotion of safe sexual behaviour.

This, the consultant said, could be achieved through encouraging chastity before marriage, mutual fidelity between married couples, condom use for all casual sexual intercourse and integration of HIV/AIDS in school curricula.

He called on government to enact a law that would make it an offence to transfuse unsterilized blood, and provide adequate and equitable distribution of HIV screen facilities throughout the country.

Speaking at the occasion, the state Commissioner of Information, Alhaji Bappa Madagali, warned against laxity in the fight against the disease, pointing out that HIV/AIDS poses the greatest danger to human survival, especially in Africa.

The coordinator of the programme, Usaina Banshika, said lack of awareness of the dangers of the disease, particularly among the youths, prompted the establishment of the scheme.

NGO condemns communal mayhem in Nasarawa

By Victor Akobundu

A non-governmental organization, Conflict Resolution Stakeholders Network (CRESNET) North-Central Zone, has condemned the recent communal mayhem in Nasarawa State, which has resulted in a serious refugee crises.

In a statement signed by Clement S. Wajeh and made available to *Daily Trust* recently in Abuja, the non-governmental organization said the aftermath of the mayhem has left grave consequences on the social, political and economic activities of the areas.

"We are afraid that if the situation is not arrested, the crisis would soon assume a national dimension as refugees in their hundreds are flooding the neighbouring states of Kogi, Benue, Plateau as well as the Federal Capital Territory (FCT)," the statement added.

CRESNET, therefore, enjoined all warring parties to shun violence and pursue the path of peace so that the contending issues can be resolved amicably.



Gov Adamu Abdullahi

NEWS

Nasarawa/Plateau crisis: 54,000 refugees report to camp

Following the outbreak of violence in parts of Nasarawa and Plateau States, over 54,764,000 displaced Tivs have so far registered as refugees at the temporary refugee camps at Ukpaim and Daudu in Guma Local Government Area of Benue state and, "more are still arriving," said Alfred Ikyemtyo, Co-ordinator, Daudu Refugee Camp.

The Benue State government has sent relief materials like mats, blankets, assorted foodstuff, cooking utensils, bathing and washing soaps as well as clothing for children.

Armed policemen have been detailed to guard the camp and the FSP Clinic, Daudu has been converted to a First Aid Centre for the refugees, while complex medical cases are referred to Federal Medical Centre Makurdi for treatment on government account.

Scores of humanitarian organisations, philanthropic and religious bodies have visited the camps, with promises of assistance.

However, the explosion in the population of the refugees has posed a number of problems while construction work in the permanent refugees camp at Mbawa is being hastened, effective accommodation of the over 35,000 refugees at the Daudu camp is a serious problem.

Ikyemtyo stated that "some of the refugees are squatting in nearby houses," others sleep on bare floor, eat once a day and no meat is supplied to them for now.

Dr. Sunday Ochoga, medical officer, in charge of the Medical Team in Daudu Camp said, they have recorded four deaths, treated over 1,000 persons and six person were presently on admission adding that the patients were mostly treated of wounds and injuries from gunshots, knives and matches.

He pointed out that children are worse hit by the scourge as most of them now vomit and exhibit symptoms of diarrhoea as a result of exposure to bad water and food, stressing that the absence of toilet facilities in the camp compels defecation in nearby surroundings

From Terna Doki, in Makurdi



Gov Akume

which is a major health risk.

Meanwhile, Benue Development Movement, a non-governmental organisation has donated drugs and a 25 seater civilian bus to the camp so as to facilitate the evacuation of refugees from the transit camp in Yelwata to either of the temporary camps.

Dr. Alex Gaadi, president of the movement, lamented the inadequate accommodation in the camp, which has exposed children to rain and cold, and appealed

for assistance from the Federal Government.

According to Mike A. Gbawuan, President Tiv Youth Organisation (TYO) Nasarawa State, the crises have totally eliminated some families, claimed over 500 lives and burnt over 27 villages.

Also lamenting, Hon. Boniface Ortese, administrator Ukpaim and Daudu camps and members of the Taskforce on the Resettlement of Displaced

Persons, said: "It is unconstitutional for a whole tribe to be exterminated in a place they have lived for over 400 years in the guise of indigeneship, I believe there is a hidden agenda on the issue."

Meanwhile, Mr. Peter Ugbe, a displaced person just back from the warring area has hinted that a contingent of mobile policemen sent to quell the war from Lafia, allegedly invaded Abaagu village in Keana Local Government Area. He expressed fear that the mobile policemen, who are now biased, will encroach into Benue State boundary in continuance of the ethnic cleansing agenda.

Kogi governor warns on fertiliser

By Victor Akubundu

The Kogi State government has threatened to deal with officials of the State Agricultural Committee involved in the diversion of fertilisers or selling of same above approved prices. The governor, Prince Abubakar Audu, gave the warning while launching the State's Food For All Programme, in Lokoja. Prince Abubakar announced that a special committee would be set up to monitor the distribution and sale of fertilisers to ensure probity and accountability.

The governor, therefore, urged the officials to perform their duties with utmost honesty and diligence.

Governor Abubakar, also disclosed that the state government has set aside N20 million for the purchase of the commodity. According to him, the state has taken delivery of 2,460 metric tonnes of various brands of the fertilisers out of 8,200 metric tonnes ordered.

Under the state government's Food Supply Programme, Governor Abubakar explained that 100 hectares of land would be distributed to prospective farmers at subsidised rate. He said the programme is to encourage certain farmers, civil servants and horticulturalists who want to venture into mechanised farming to do so.

Rivers LG chairmen told not to harbour ghost workers

From Aisha Momoh, in Port Harcourt

Local Government chairmen in Rivers State have been warned not to harbour ghost workers in their respective councils, as it would amount to frustrating the present fight against corruption by President Olusegun Obasanjo's administration.

Dr. Peter Odili stated this at a civic reception organised for him at Unuaturu in Utehe Local Government Area after the commissioning of an N80 million Umuaturu-Akpoku bridge.

The Governor said the bridge, which connects two

vital areas of Etche land, was destroyed during the Nigeria Civil War, and no administration since then had bothered to reconstruct the bridge.

As a result, the indigenes of Etche had to travel through Abia and Imo States each time they are to visit their home town from Port Harcourt.

According to him the state government would throw its weight behind the council chairmen in the state to end problems associated with zero allocation.

The governor, said the state government would write off the bill for the construction of the bridge and announced the first instalment of N50 million and urged the people to protect its projects because it is for their own good.

Odili said that has become imperative because of the alleged harassment of contractors by youth in some communities and enjoined them to create enabling environment for the rapid execution of projects by contractors in their respective areas.

He then commended the tidy completion of the project by the council despite its poor revenue base and called on other local government councils to borrow a leaf from the Etche Local Government Council.

Earlier, the Etche Local Government chairman, Mr. Nnamdi Okere, told the governor that the bridge would further boost the economic base of the area, he, therefore, urged the people of Etche to exercise patience and continue to live in peace.



Gov Audu

Arzika now Shettiman Tambuwal

From Abdulfatai Abdulsalami, in Sokoto

In recognition of his immense contribution to social and economic development of Tambuwal



Arzika

within the two years he served as Minister of Communication, Alhaji Muhammed Arzika has been honoured with the title of Shettiman Tambuwal.

This was disclosed to the former minister recently, during his courtesy call on the District Head of

Tambuwal after his return from Abuja. The District Head, Alhaji Muhammadu Muhammadu Attihiru, commended the former minister for his foresight and selfless service to the nation in his capacity as minister of communication.

He described Arzika "as a man of honour and achievement who deserves the acclaim of the Tambuwal people.

Responding, Alhaji Arzika Tambuwal, thanked the people for coming out in large number to welcome him home.

He enjoined the Arzika people to always have the fear of God in their heart in whatever position they find themselves as human destiny was in God's hands.

He promised to use his position as Shettima to contribute more to the development of the town in particular and Nigeria in general.

NCCE set-up to standardise programmes

From Mamman Akpena, in Lokoja

The National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE), was established to standardise all programmes of teacher education and accredit their educational certificates, the Executive Secretary of the commission, Dr. Kabiru Ishyaku, has said.

He stated this in Okene while declaring open the workshop on the Second Review of the Minimum Standards for NCE Teachers at Federal College of Education, Okene.

Dr. Kabiru noted that before the establishment of the commission, various universities through their



Prof. Borisade

instrument of affiliation catered for academic and certification needs of colleges of education.

The Executive Secretary explained that in order to bring the academic and other related requirements of training of teachers under one umbrella, the commission gathered academics to brainstorm on the guidelines for accreditation of colleges of education in the country.

Dr. Isyaku Kabiru revealed that the present workshops was ever more crucial as "it is the first in this millennium and it is expected to be all embracing and urged the participants to give consideration to introduction of new courses.

UNICEF rep praises Bauchi state govt

From Audu Abdullahi Hazzad, in Bauchi

The UNICEF representative in Nigeria, Dr. Christian Voumard has praised the efforts made by the Bauchi State government towards eradicating the six child killer diseases in the state.

The representative, who was in Bauchi State during the week as part of his nation-wide assessment tour, was happy with the rural transformation of the villages as it has improved the lot of the common man.

Dr. Voumard expressed happiness also that the scourge of guinea worm in rural areas has steadily dropped from 13,000 cases to 7,000.

He told Governor Mu'azu that with the cooperation of his government, the scourge could be eradicated altogether.

Dr. Voumard commended the Federal Government for removing tax on insecticides, which has brought the cost of mosquito nets to an affordable price of N450 a piece.

The UNICEF representative then presented a Toyota Hilux, a computer, bags of cement and other items to assist government in its efforts to eradicate polio.

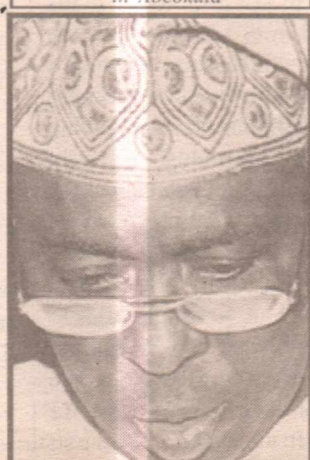
Plank sellers send SOS to Osoba

From Olamide Bajulaiye, in Abeokuta

Members of Plank Sellers Association of Ogun State (PSA) have sent a Save-Our-Soul (SOS) message to the state Governor, Chief Olusegun Osoba, over an alleged exploitation from operators of saw millers in the state.

According to a petition, which was signed by the state chairman of the association and its secretary, Alhaji Raheem Bakenne, appealed to the state government to procure sewing machines for them in order to stop the exploitation.

"The above named



Gov Osoba

association hereby appeal to the state government under the leadership of Governor Osoba to please come to our aid by rescuing thousands imminent of people from joblessness," the petition stated.

In particular the association wants the state governor to intervene in the face-off between plank sellers and sawmillers, which led to the current strike to save the general public from buying wood at a high cost.

"The arbitrary hike, if allowed to stay, will not only frustrate many of our members out of business but

also will have negative impact on the masses as the already near unaffordable price of plank.

Shall be hiked once more, thereby disrupting governments policy of providing houses for the masses," the association also noted.

The association also implored the state government in implementing government's earlier proposal to relocate them and sawmillers to an alleged site in order to save the environment from pollution from sawdust burning.

NEWS

Kebbi APP chairman resigns

The APP chairman in Kebbi State, Alhaji Sani Zauro, has resigned following sharp disagreements between him and the state governor, Alhaji Adamu Aliero.

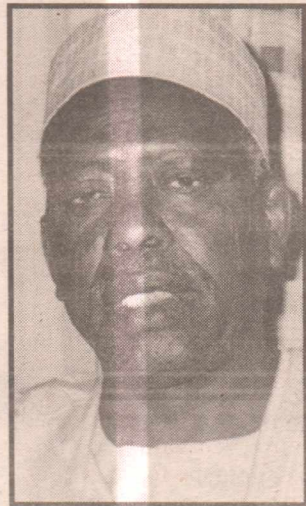
Zauro, who announced his resignation at a news conference at the weekend, said he was also considering leaving the party "because of some disagreements between me and the authorities."

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) learnt that the state deputy governor, Alhaji Abdullahi Argungu, and some other influential individuals in the state met with the former chairman with a view to prevailing on him to change his mind.

It was gathered that the

former chairman insisted that his decision was final, although the meeting persuaded him to remain in the party for now.

Confirming the development, the party's public relations officer, Alhaji Idris Usman, said the party had



Yusuf Ali, APP Chairman

accepted Zauro's resignation, and that the former chairman had pledged his continued loyalty to the party.

Zauro, a businessman, is a founding member of APP.

Kwara APP crisis deepens

The crisis in the Kwara State All People's Party (APP) has assumed a new dimension as members of the two factions of the party in the state have threatened to carry out reprisal attacks on each another.

Addressing a press conference in Ilorin, a chieftain of Dr. Saraki's group, Hajia Nimota Ibrahim appealed to the federal government through the inspector-general of police to call Governor Lawal and his supporters to order, as the group has vowed to resist any further attacks on its members.

"We shall resist any further

The Centre for Environmental and Political Education, based in Port Harcourt, has called on the federal government to re-introduce the "option A4" method in choosing political leaders in the country.

In a communiqué issued at the end of its conference

From Abdul Laro, in Ilorin

attacks to our last man. It's a fundamental right as guaranteed in the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, to belong to any association of our choice.

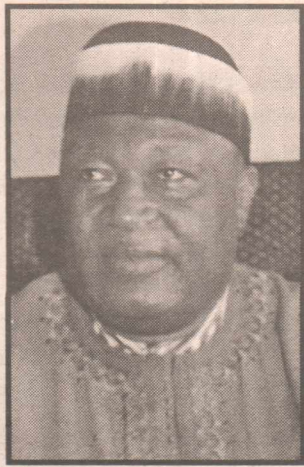
"There is no feed for cohesion as politics is a game of number, if governor Lawal believes the deceit that he and his programmes are popular, let him hold on to his supporters and leave Dr. Saraki's group alone. We shall definitely meet on election day," she stated.

Hajia Ibrahim alleged that they were aware that thugs have been hired by Lawal's camp to intimidate and attack supporters of Saraki, even as she said the group has petitioned the police over the likely break down of law and order in Kwara State.

She alleged that evidence of physical assault on Dr. Saraki's group became obvious when on June 23, thugs invaded the meeting venue of a political association called Saraki Warrior group at Ile Orisankoko, Popo Igbonna area of Ilorin, with guns, cutlasses and bottles leaving a number of people severely injured.

Similarly, she disclosed that on the same day about 40 thugs invaded a youth meeting holding at Sabo line, Ilorin, during which many people were injured while on the next day, June 22, three members of the group were again attacked by suspected thugs on their way to attend the Jumat prayer at the Ilorin central mosque.

"We see all these actions of Governor Lawal as a desperate move to bite the fingers that fed him, and destroy the institution that took Dr. Saraki more than 30 years to build, after being a beneficiary of the institution," Hajia Ibrahim said.



Gemade

From Bala Mohammed Nasir, in Dutse

governor's wild goose chase project was his desire to industrialize the state, but that ironically the industries he inherited from his predecessors have all stopped functioning while he cannot be credited with establishing any."

But this industrialisation issue is being used by the governor to siphon money belonging to the state either through doubtful means or by using his international business associates who always come to Jigawa posing as investors who have come to invest in the state, while the truth is they only come to take money away," he said.

For them to save Jigawa State from this era of deceit, Alhaji Gambo said, it is duty bound on the PDP to brace up and bring the state back

Jigawa PDP regroups for 2003

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Jigawa says it has set machineries in motion to win the 2003 gubernatorial elections in the state, thereby preventing the incumbent Governor, Alhaji Saminu Turaki from being re-elected.

Administrative secretary of the party in the state, Alhaji Gambo Sale Unguwar-Shuri who made the boast said already, the PDP has started regrouping and that members of the party have been tasked to prepare for the battle ahead, adding that the incumbent governor was a disaster to the state.

He stated that, "posterity will never forgive us if we allow this man (governor) to lead Jigawa again for the second time."

According to him, the PDP has given the governor enough time to perform creditably in the state but instead, he has wobbled for the two years he has been in office.

The governor's policies he added were nothing but jokes, as according to him "none of these policies has benefited the people of the state."

According to the administrative secretary, the governor's primordial ambition from the beginning was to become a governor, but could not perform.

All the governor could offer, according to Alhaji Gambo Sale, was the irrelevant policy of relocation, a calculated attempt to strangle the centre and pave way for his self-styled equal development drive thereby stunting the development of Dutse, 10 years after its becoming a state capital.

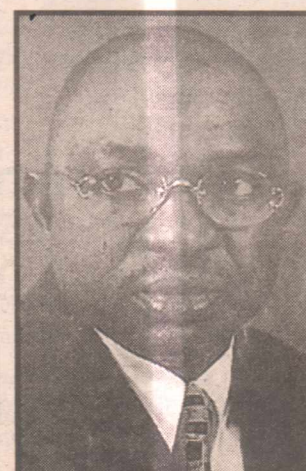
Another area Unguwar-Shuri described as the

on the right track in order for the people to start reaping the dividends of democracy in the state. This is the major reason why the party is embarking on a statewide tour in order to re-awaken its supporters on the challenges ahead, Gambo added.

He therefore, warned the governor to sit up and serve the state because there is general apathy against his mode of leadership in the state.

Nassarawa crisis: Abubakar wants FG to assist refugees

Former deputy senate president, Senator Haruna Abubakar has called for immediate federal government assistance for those displaced by the six-weeks old ethnic clash in Nassarawa State.



Senator Abubakar

By Reuben Yunana

Addressing journalists in Abuja yesterday, Abubakar, himself an indigene of the state said efforts aimed at ameliorating the suffering of the over 50,000 refugees have been of little effect.

He said though the federal government had assisted in the control of the crisis, indications are that all is not over yet in parts of Keana, Awe, Obi and Lafia local governments as the number of refugees continue to grow daily.

"I am therefore appealing to the federal and government to once again demonstrate its determination to protect lives and property of its citizens by immediately reinforcing the security operatives in the state,"

Abubakar said.

On the fate of the thousands of refugees he said: "The fate of those affected by the crisis is pathetic. Most of the affected families are currently in schools and other government institutions while a few have managed to secure temporary shelter from some individuals scattered all over the state."

He pointed out that while the Nassarawa State government and the four affected local government councils and some individuals are rendering assistance through the provision of food and medication to the affected families, "there is urgent need for the federal government to provide substantial funds to ameliorate the suffering of the refugees."

Centre wants "option A4" re-introduced

in Port Harcourt at the weekend, the centre said that "option A4" had proved to be the most reliable method of choosing political leaders in Nigeria.

"Considering the cloud of uncertainty in the political landscape in the country, the most viable method to choose people to rule in the country should be the "option A4 method," it said.

It frowned at the "no vacancy" statement of some political leaders, in reference to some elective offices, saying that such statements were dangerous in a country learning the democratic process like Nigeria.

It said that adoption of the A4 method had become more pressing in view of the thinking by some public office holders that the offices they were holding had become their birth right, pointing out that the use of the

A4 method would make popular leaders to be known.

"The A4 method will also save the country millions of naira in constructing ballot boxes and eliminate problems of multiple voting and hijacking of electoral boxes, as well as falsification of results," it said.

It said that the system would also curb frivolous petitions and litigations as well as engender the growth of sustainable democracy in the country.

The communiqué further called on the National Assembly to give serious attention to the issue of "option A4", describing the method as the best way to ensure grassroots participation in democracy.

The communiqué was signed by the executive director of the centre, Mr. Joe Ikiri.

Rivers Assembly to pass development bill

The Rivers State House of Assembly has concluded arrangement to pass into law, the long awaited physical planning and development bill.

Consequently the urban and regional planning division of the ministry of works and housing formerly charged with the responsibility of town planning and development has ceased to exist in the state.

Disclosing this to *Daily Trust* yesterday in Port Harcourt, the chairman, land and housing committee, Mr. George Tologari after briefing the House on his committee's report stated that, "the bill may be cited as the Rivers State Urban and Regional Planning Board Bill 2000."

Tolofari in a chat with *Daily Trust* further said that by veto of the bill, the urban and regional planning board has been dissolved and "the provision of the schedule to this law shall apply in relation to the employees in the division, the assets and the other matters connected with the division set out therein."

The bill which was introduced by the house majority leader Mr. Jaya Gogo after series of debates at its second reading was committed to committee stage, while the speaker directed it to the house committee on land and housing for study.

After the committee's deliberation, it stated as follows: that in section 2(1) (a) of the bill, the chairman of the state physical planning and devel-

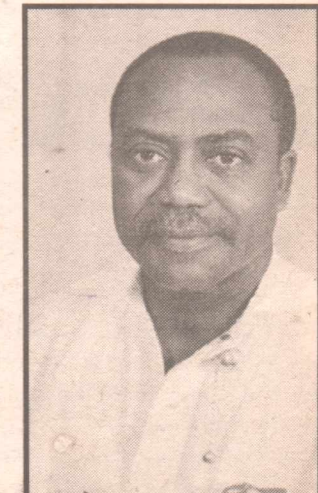
From Wisdom Patrick, in Port Harcourt

opment bill shall be appointed by the governor on the recommendation of the committee.

The committee also recommended that, the chairman, secretary and members of the board shall be paid such remuneration, fees and allowances as may be approved by the governor from time to time.

It also stated that the chairman and the secretary appointed by the governor must be members of professional bodies like the Town Planners Registration Council (TOPREC) with at least five in active practice.

The committee which received contributions and memoranda from members of the public, including professional bodies in the course of performing its duties was however reminded that the bill was long over due for signature.



Gov Odili



THE PRESIDENCY
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PRIVATISATION
Secretariat: Bureau of Public Enterprises

On behalf of

MINISTRY OF FINANCE INCORPORATED

Offer for Sale

of

177,289,351 ORDINARY SHARES OF 50K EACH AT N2.50 PER SHARE

in

CEMENT COMPANY OF NORTHERN NIGERIA PLC
RC 9111

ALLOTMENT RESULT

Liberty Merchant Bank Plc and Profund Securities Limited with respect to the prospectus dated 5th September 2000, announce the result of the Public Offer for Sale of 177,289,351 Ordinary Shares of 50 kobo each at N2.50 per Share in **CEMENT COMPANY OF NORTHERN NIGERIA PLC ("CCNN")**, on behalf of the National Council on Privatisation and the Ministry of Finance Incorporated."

1. A total number of 177,289,351 Ordinary Shares of 50 kobo each were offered in **CEMENT COMPANY OF NORTHERN NIGERIA PLC ("CCNN")** by the National Council on Privatisation ("NCP") on behalf of the Ministry of Finance Incorporated.
2. 154,915,741 Ordinary Shares of 50 kobo each were preferentially allotted to a core investor, **SCANCEM INTERNATIONAL ANS**, at N4.02 per share.
3. 22,373,610 Ordinary Shares, were provisionally allocated to the 360 federal constituencies such that each Federal Constituency received a provisional allocation of 62,149 Ordinary Shares.
4. A total of 10,271 applications for 232,908,265 Ordinary Shares were received in respect of the offer.
5. 1,278 Applications for 15,623,924 Ordinary Shares were rejected for not complying with the terms and conditions of the offer.
6. 8,993 Applications for 217,284,341 Ordinary Shares were found to be valid and therefore accepted.
7. The offer was over-subscribed with a subscription rate of 122%
8. Eleven States: **Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Benue, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Ekiti, Nassarawa, Ondo and Taraba**, applied for less than their provisional allocations. In these 11 States, 1,256 valid applications were received for 3,453,800 Ordinary Shares. A total of 2,683,025 Ordinary Shares were allotted. All applications were allotted in full subject to a ceiling, on individual allotments, of 0.1% of the shares on offer. The excess, representing un-allotted shares in these 11 States, totaling 2,537,484 will be warehoused for the NCP and sold at a later date.
9. In the CCNN Public Offer, the remaining 25 States and the FCT applied for more than their provisional allocations. In these 25 States and the FCT, 7,736 valid applications were received for 58,914,800 Ordinary Shares. A total of 15,293,513 Ordinary Shares were allotted. These States also had a balance of 1,859,588 shares that were un-allotted.
10. For the entire offer, a total number of 172,892,279 Ordinary Shares were allotted. A total excess of 4,397,072 un-allotted shares will be warehoused for the NCP and sold at a later date.

The Allotment has been prepared as advised by the Bureau of Public Enterprises and approved by the National Council on Privatisation in line with the Public Enterprises (Privatisation and Commercialisation) Act of 1999.

This allotment has been cleared with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Abuja. Cheques for the rejected and surplus applications will be dispatched through the Post at the applicants' risk by the Registrars, United Bank for Africa Plc, 97/107 Broad Street, Lagos not later than **April 26, 2001**.

Share Certificates and dividend warrants will be dispatched to the successful subscribers through the post at the applicants' risk by the Registrars, United Bank for Africa Plc, 97/107 Broad Street, Lagos not later than **May 17, 2001**.



LIBERTY

LIBERTY MERCHANT BANK PLC

BELLO DANGOTE HOUSE RC 151925
31, Bishop Oluwole Street, P. O. Box 74608, Victoria Island, Lagos.
Tel: 2617937, 2619279, 2616879, 2616874
Fax: 2616873, Telex: 28105, 28251
E-Mail: LMB@Infoweb.abs.net

Joint Issuing Houses



**PROFUND
SECURITIES
LIMITED**

RC 187277

Investment & Funds Managers

7TH FLOOR, PC 1 ENGINEERING CLOSE,
OFF IDOWU TAYLOR, VICTORIA ISLAND
TEL: 01-264365, 2646366, FAX: 2646408
P. O. BOX 56202 FALOMO-KOYI, LAGOS.

May 9, 2001

Arts & Entertainment

Jackson seeks past glories

Michael Jackson's forthcoming album has taken three years and a reported £20m (\$28m) to make but critics are already questioning if he can recapture his glory days.

The Peter Pan of pop produced the biggest-selling album ever with *Thriller* in 1982, which has sold about 42 million copies.

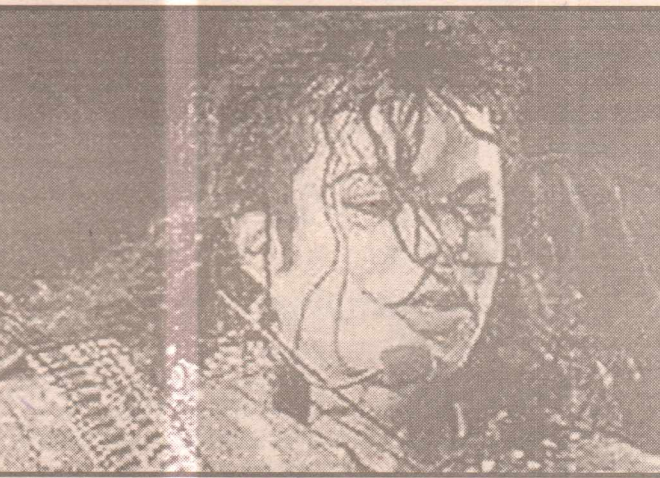
But his career has long been dogged by scandal and tabloid speculations about his private life.

He is expected to release his new album *Invincible* in September.

Reports have said Jack-

Daily Telegraph music critic Neil McCormick believes Jackson's Sony record label is worried about how the album will be

received. Speaking to BBC Breakfast, he said: "They are trying to sell this to kids and he is a 42-year-old, twice-divorced father of two, who looks like a waxwork from Madame Tussauds."



Jackson has sold 42 million copies of *Thriller*

Michael Jackson fans are eagerly awaiting the release of *Invincible* as

Internet message boards buzz with talk of his big comeback. At the MJ Internet fan club, Vince writes: "I just wanted to say that Michael Jackson is awesome, I love him to bits."

He then married nurse Debbie Rowe, with whom he has two children, Prince and Paris, but three years later they divorced.

"He has never got back to the days of *Thriller*.

While Shawn writes: "Fear nothing, 'cause Michael will triumph once

"After *Thriller* there was *Bad* and that sold 30 million but he still got the hugest audience in the world to tap into and if he can tap

again. I just can't hold the anxiety to view the new video and hear the new Superb music."

again. I just can't hold the anxiety to view the new video and hear the new Superb music."

Jackson was married to Lisa and hear the new Marie for three years superb music.

Jackson started his musical career at the age of five alongside his brothers in the Jackson

After signing to Motown the group had a string of hits including *I'll Be There* and *I Want You Back*, before Jackson went solo.

His marriage to Elvis Presley's daughter Lisa Marie Presley ended in 1996 after two years.

He then married nurse Debbie Rowe, with whom he has two children, Prince and Paris, but three years later they divorced.

He is now heavily involved in charity work with children, coming to Britain to speak at the Oxford Union in March this year.

Airport renamed after Lennon

Liverpool is to honour one of its greatest sons by renaming the city's airport after the musician John Lennon.

It will be called Liverpool John Lennon Airport when a new terminal opens in the spring.

This is the first time an airport in the UK will have been

the murdered star.

The new terminal will feature a self-portrait of Lennon with the words "Above us only sky" taken from his classic anthem *Imagine*.

A sculpture, commissioned from Tom Murphy, will stand inside the building.

Airport owners Peel Holdings saw the move as a "fit-



The move is a "lasting tribute" to John Lennon

named after a famous person.

The former Beatle's widow, Yoko Ono, is due to visit the airport on Monday to be presented with a specially commissioned statue of

ting and lasting tribute" to the murdered star.

Ono, who has been given an honorary doctorate from Liverpool University, said: "As a gateway to the region, this will be seen by millions of passengers and is a fitting



Jackson has been in the limelight since the age of five

son recorded more than 50 tracks for the album, before settling on the final 16.

The first single is tipped to be *Rock My World*.

His last remix album *Blood on the Carpet* only sold around a quarter of a million copies, while the history greatest hits album of 1995 sold around 15 million.



Jackson was married to Lisa-Marie for two years

Guitar legend dies at 77

Chet Atkins, who was acknowledged as one of the five most influential guitarists of the 20th century, has died in Nashville, Tennessee, at the age of 77.

He had been battling cancer for several years.

more than 75 albums of guitar instrumentals and selling more than 75 million albums.

He played, with his unconventional technique, on some of the biggest hit records of all time, including Elvis Presley's *Heart-*



Yoko Ono: "Delighted"

tribute to the memory of my late husband."

The Beatles regularly used the airport on their travels in the early days of the band.

The couple's son, Sean Lennon, said: "It is a great honour for my dad and for our family."

"My mom and I are very proud and would like to thank the people of Liverpool for all their warmth and support over the years."

And John's son Julian said: "I am very happy to see that Liverpool has taken the opportunity to remember one of its most famous citizens in a way that reaches millions of people."

"It seems that the name John Lennon will be around for a very long time - one way or another."

Lennon joins figures like John F Kennedy (New York), Leonardo Da Vinci (Rome) and Josef Strauss (Munich) who have had airports named after them.

He was murdered in his adopted city of New York in December 1980.



Chet Atkins influenced a generation of rock musicians

Atkins was one of the giants of country music, both as a guitarist and as a record executive, and he helped modernise country music in the 1960s.

Dubbed "Mr Guitar Man," Atkins was instrumental in creating the so-called Nashville Sound, collaborating with a chorus of other country music artists.

He helped develop the careers of such stars as Roy Orbison, Jim Reeves, Hank Williams and later Dolly Parton.

But he was also a star in his own right, recording

break Hotel and the Everly Brothers' *Wake Up Little Susie*.

He learned to play by listening to music shows on a home-made radio set. His elder half-brother and his father also taught him the basics.

But his first paid job in music was as a fiddler on a radio station in Knoxville, Tennessee. His boss said his fiddle playing was horrible, but he reportedly heard him play guitar during the break and persuaded him to concentrate on that.

P	M	F	J	U	L	Y			
A	O	P	R	I	O	R	A	C	
S	O	O	N	R	R	E	S	T	I
T	D	E	E	T	E	O			
E	L	A	P	S	E	D	N	E	V
A	Y	T	U	R	V	K			
S	O	V	E	R	N	O	E	L	
T	E	R	M	E	A	R	N	O	W
E	U	S	U	A	L	L			N
E	R	E	L	U	D	T	I	M	E
	N	O	O	N	Y	E	A	R	D
U	N	D	R	A	M	A			
N	A	G	A	I	N	A	L	R	E
T	P	A	S	E	Y	W			
D	I	A	R	Y	L	P	L	D	A
L	I	D	A	I	L	Y	A	E	
S	L	O	W	N	Y	K			



Health



Gowon advises communities on guinea-worm

Former Head of State Yakubu Gowon has advised communities in Dekina local government area of Kogi state to take necessary precautions to stop further spread of the deadly guinea-worm epidemic in the area.

He gave the advice at the weekend in Dekina, when he paid an assessment visit to Olubojo and Ajenejo villages, following an outbreak of the disease last week in the area.

He urged those already infected to avoid stepping into the source of public water, adding that "they must also filter their water before drinking."

The former head of state called on all stakeholders in the guinea-worm eradication programme to be up and doing to ensure that the disease was eradicated soon.

He commended the Kogi state governor, Alhaji Abubakar Audu, for the achievements so far recorded in the state and charged the

people to continue to support him to enable him move the state forward.

Earlier, the state commissioner for health, Alhaji Suleiman Baba-Ali, had informed the ravaged communities that the state governor had approved the sinking of boreholes as interim measures to serve as source of drinking water.

Baba-Ali also assured the communities of government's readiness to flush out the disease from the state as soon



Yakubu Gowon

Local pharmaceutical company may produce for WHO

The World Health Organisation (WHO) may sign on a pharmaceutical industry in Zaria to produce syringes and needles for its use worldwide.

The chairman of the board of directors of Zaria Pharmaceutical Company (ZPC), PC, Prof. Idris Abdulkadir made this known while presenting the four prestigious awards on environmentally-friendly industry won by the company to the members of staff in Zaria at the weekend.

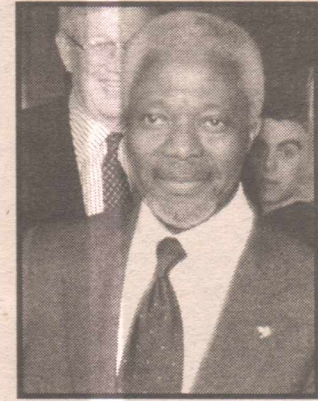
He disclosed that the WHO officials were attracted to ZPC, because of its high quality products which had been confirmed through extensive clinical trials in two university teaching hospitals.

He asked the workers to redouble their efforts in sustaining the achievements,

saying that they could not afford to fail at this critical stage.

He assured that the board would continue to introduce policies and programmes aimed at boosting the morale of workers as well as to increase ZPC's market shares.

Earlier, the managing di-



Kofi Anan

Hospital engineers brainstorm on equipment maintenance

Hospital engineers have been called upon to see themselves as a key component of the health sector, going by their importance in the sector's scheme of things.

At a three-day medical equipment workshop at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, (LUTH), which ended at the weekend, several speakers described health care delivery as a teamwork in which the engineers were of great importance.

"Engineers are very important in health care delivery. In every sector of hospital work, they are felt. They should see themselves as vital to this teamwork," said LUTH Chief Medical Director, Prof. Tolu Odukoya, at the opening.

Also in his opening remarks, Mr. A.O. Faluyi, a former head of the hospital's engineering department who chaired the workshop, told the participants that health work was teamwork and no particular group could do it alone.

Dr. R.A. Arogundade, consultant radiologist at LUTH said in a paper entitled Modern Trends in Medicine: Technological Development of Medical Equipment in Effective Patient Management that "failure to recognise and emphasise the important role of the other disciplines such as engineering has led to difficulties and frustrations."

"I believe that the concept of health team is a vital one for achievement of an integrated system of health care

as possible.

Also speaking at the occasion, the Chairman of the council, Mr. Joshua Igonoh, commended the former Head of State, the state governor and the commissioner for health for their prompt action and care for the affected communities.

Gowon was accompanied by representatives of the UNICEF, WHO and UNDP.

NGO launches campaign for consumption of local plant

The New Hope Agency (NHA), a non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Zaria, has commenced an intensive enlightenment campaign to popularise the eating of a local plant, drumstick or horse radish tree, popularly known as "zogale" in Northern Nigeria to boost the immune system of Hiv/Aids victims as well as healthy individuals.

An agricultural scientist and a patron of the NHA, Dr. Samuel Abdullahi Booth, made this known at the

The late Diana, Princess of Wales, was to be accused of treating AIDS patients "as though they were in a zoo" in a television documentary to be screened in Britain on Sunday, the day that would have marked her 40th birthday.

Michael Adler, the chairman of Britain's National AIDS Trust, related how he changed his opinion of her and says that working with the glamorous princess became more trouble than it was worth.

In "Diana: Story of a Prin-

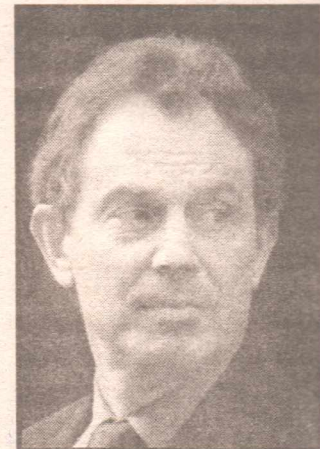
AIDS worker critical of Diana in 40th-birthday

cess", Adler tells how Diana insisted on bringing the U.S. heiress Aileen Getty, an AIDS victim, and her entourage of friends and the media, to a seminar with patients.

"She can't just bring all these people in. These are patients that we are dealing with. This is not a zoo. This is not an aquarium," Adler said.

"It was just an example of

how she lost focus, how she would try sometimes to use an event that was very serious for a completely different agenda, and it was highly inappropriate. We were very bit-



Tony Blair

ter about it. "And frankly, if people try and misuse the opportunities, then it is not worth the candle. Frankly, it is just not worth it," he said.

Nostalgia for the princess, once an icon for her work with AIDS patients and landmine victims, is waning fast in Britain. Many insist it is "time to move on" as the fourth anniversary of her death in a Paris car accident approaches. As the media comb over her life, an image of the princess is emerging that shows an angelic public Diana and a depressed woman in private, vicious and manipulative towards her servants, although skepticism over the role of the wider royal family in her depression remains.

Her humanitarian work has continued through the Diana Memorial Fund which channels cash into charities and causes championed by her at home and abroad.

launching of the campaign/workshop on Hiv/Aids organised by the NGO for students of the Alhuda-Huda college in Zaria on Saturday. He said that the plant which had been nicknamed "never die" was subjected to extensive clinical trials in the U.S. by researchers who initially wanted to use it for sterilization of water, before they discovered that the plant could be used to boost the immune system of patients of Hiv/Aids.

He also stated that the plant was discovered to contain "anti-oxidants" which stop the death of cell, saying that all the three vitamins in the plant namely 'A', 'C' and 'E' were all anti-ageing vitamins.

He revealed that arrangements had reached an advanced stage for the launching of the plant in Senegal as part of crop intervention towards Hiv/Aids prevention and control, adding that over \$70 million dollars had so far been spent on the research work.

Booth disclosed that his

foundation, booth foundation, was working on a food menu for Aids patients in Nigeria in order to minimise their sufferings.

He, therefore, enjoined the students as well as all healthy persons to assist in promoting the eating of drumstick or zogale so as to boost our immune system and hence help in controlling Hiv/Aids infections in the society.

Speaking earlier, the president of NHA, Mrs. Kiboigo disclosed that the Agency had employed the services of religious and traditional leaders in its campaign against the alarming spread of Hiv/Aids in Nigeria.

She stated that the campaign was being extended to secondary schools because youths had been identified to be more vulnerable to the Aids epidemic than any other age group in the society.

She however, called on the ministries of education, health and information to join hands with the agency in its campaign against the dreaded disease.

WHO presents 2000 reports

A three day programme aimed at "improving the performance of healthcare systems implications for public health workers as part of World Health Organisations 2000 report opened at Sheraton Hotels and Towers, Abuja yesterday.

In his message at the occasion, the Minister of Health Prof. Alphonsus Nwosu who was represented by the permanent secretary Mr. Shehu Suleiman said the presentation would be useful to health development in Nigeria.

He noted that the Nigerian health care system has been bedeviled by lack of adequate funding, poor facilities, incessant strike actions, adding that the sector was in dire need of appraisal to make it more result oriented.

In his own speech, the Director, department of Health Planning and Research in the

By Ikenna Emeka Okpani

health ministry Dr Shehu Sule said the objective of the Health and development dialogue on the reports was the development of sustainable health policies in Nigeria.

The Director, African regional office of WHO, Dr E Samba in his message said the WHO 2000 report was designed to give policy makers a system of evaluation in their work, noting that the report will help administrators of health agencies in the country to work together.

In a keynote address titled a, "critical Appraisal of the Nigerian Health System (WHO 2000 report and Nigeria), Prof. Adetokunbo Lucas of Foundation Council Global Forum for Health Research, Geneva said a clear indication of the poor state of health in Nigeria is the persistently high mortality rate

in children under five years.

According, to the professor, shortage of human resources, failures within the public sector, poor infrastructures and neglect of civil society were responsible for failure of the Nigerian health system.

"The Nigerian health care system is sick, very sick and is in urgent need of intensive care. It is blind, lacking vision of its goals and strategies. It is deaf, failing to respond to the cries of the sick and dying. And it is impotent, seemingly incapable of doing the things that neighbouring states have mastered. Every organ is affected and ailing", he said.

Prof Lucas prescribed the rebirth of the civil service; improvement of professional standards; strengthening of management skills and empowering the public as panacea to our health sector problem.



Fear grips patients over Nurses strike

Fear has taken the better part of patients in public hospitals over the proposed July 6 deadline for the strike action threatened by the National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives.

The patients who were taken care of by the nurses and midwives during the 18-day strike embarked upon by the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) were most scared of the proposed strike by Nurses.

Some patients were seen in small groups or with their families discussing the issue at the Wuse and Garki hospitals in Abuja.

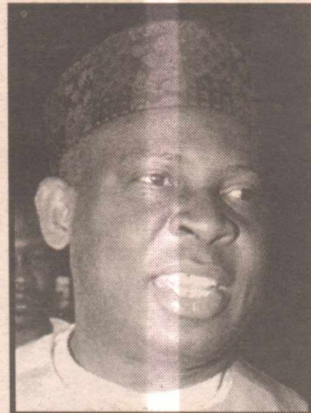
The National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives had met in Enugu penultimate week and declared that it will embark on the strike as from July 6 if government refuse to acknowledge their protest over alleged short-changing in the approval of call duty and other benefits for the Nigerian Medical Association.

The nurses say globally, the ratio of 1.6 to 1.0 is used in fixing wages between doctors and nurses. The ratio

Stories by Ikenna Emeka Okpani

used by the federal government, according to them is unfounded and capable of igniting industrial unrest in the health sector.

The association is demanding that government should implement 3.4% of basic salary per unit of call for nurses and midwives doing call duty and implement sixty percent of basic salary as shift duty allowance for



Prof. A.B.C. Nwosu

nurses and midwives performing shift duty and other agreed items in the last agreement reached between the health professionals and government agencies.

They are also demanding that the fragmented new

scheme of service for Nurses and Midwives be harmonized into one, taking into consideration the gains made by the profession through the industrial arbitration panel award.

In a swift reaction the Minister of Health, Prof. Alphonsus Nwosu had met with the nurses but could not broker an agreement.

In a statement last week the ministry had pleaded with all health unions which had

issued it with strike ultimatum to discard the idea as they have all been taken care of by the new approved allowances for doctors.

The ministry urged the unions to embrace dialogue and accept the Asom Bur recommendations especially with the release of the circular, adding that it would not like to use the remaining two years in resolving conflicts instead of improving basic health care in the country.

Medical students applauds NMA

The Nigerian Medical Students Association (NMSA) has expressed its gratitude to the Nigerian Medical Association, Federal Ministry of Health and the elders of medicine for resolving the doctors strike.

In a statement, the body noted that, "the maturity displayed by the health minister, the elders of medicine and the NMA executive to see to the end of the strike early, looking at the antecedents protraction in recent strike actions in Nigeria is commendable."

The students observed

that the demands of the Nigerian Medical Association were justified as their counterparts in other countries were enjoying that level of working condition.

"Doctor cannot perform the divine process of healing without processing a critically clear and healthy heart towards the art he is indulging in and as such the doctors deserve relative comfort," it said.

The association also expressed delight that normalcy had returned to the health sector and also noted that there were great expectations in the health sector.

Part of the expectations is the standardization of eight teaching hospitals in Nigeria to a five star and world-class health centres aimed at discouraging people from overseas trips for health services.

Furthermore a hospital elevation project which will upgrade 109 hospitals to standard hospitals nation wide is underway. This also involves collaboration with states and local government.

According to them, over 10 billion US dollars is expected from outside Africa to fight HIV/AIDS in the Continent.

USAID cry deteriorating health facilities

The mission director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Mr. Thomas Hobgood has described as regrettable the deterioration of health structures supported by USAID in the country.

The deterioration, he said has led to decrease in immunization coverage rates, the increase in mortality rates from communicable diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDS and the re-emergence of tuberculosis.

According to Mr. Hobgood, USAID's programme on Combating Childhood Communicable Diseases (CCCD) has helped the development of disease surveillance and data management capabilities at federal and state levels; policy, quality of care, and monitoring and evaluation standards for immunization and malaria.

"The CCCD project played a central role in strengthening the capacity of staff from selected focus states and local government areas to plan, implement, and monitor the impact of focused primary health care intervention," Mr. Hobgood who was speaking at the just concluded stakeholders meeting in the primary healthcare sector said.

Recounting the successes of USAID in Nigeria, the mission director said it has been providing support

for activities in immunization and the management of childhood illnesses.

"USAID also made contraceptive commodities and services available through contraceptive social marketing and private and NGO health facilities as well as promoted education in the prevention of HIV infection and mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS through care and support for persons living with the disease," he said.

Assuring that USAID will continue to support Nigeria

to achieve optimum health, he added that USAID is supporting the BASICS project to work in collaboration with the National Program on Immunization (NPI), UNICEF, WHO and other donors in polio eradication efforts in Nigeria.

On the primary health care situation in the country, Mr. Hobgood told the stakeholders that Nigeria can succeed in achieving her aims if she has a, "common purpose, speak the same language and implement focused activities that are responsive to the needs of Nigerians."

South Africa ready to test new AIDS vaccine

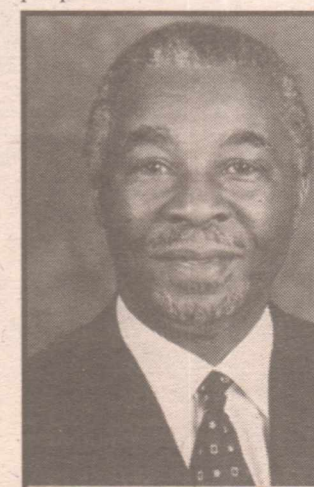
Human trials of a unique South African vaccine that could make AIDS as preventable as measles or hepatitis B are likely to be approved within months, the *Sunday Times* newspaper reports.

The paper quoted *Time* Tucker, head of the South African AIDS vaccine initiative, as saying in a recent interview that it was hoped that South Africa's new candidate vaccine would work against all types of HIV infection, although it was based only on genetic samples of the predominant Southern African strain of HIV.

The vaccine, which scientists hope will activate the body's immune system to kill

HIV, has been developed with the help of blood samples from HIV-positive prostitutes in the eastern province of KwaZulu-Natal.

Vaccine testing sites have already been chosen, and 48 people there will receive the



Thambo Mbeki S/A President

first dose, probably early next year, together with another group in the U.S., said Salim Karim, head of the South Africa Medical Research Council's vaccine research.

This means South Africa is one of just a handful of nations to advance to the stage of human trials. It puts the country at the forefront of pioneering a life-saving AIDS vaccine. The news follows years of collaborative research by a team of South African and foreign scientists on several candidate vaccines.

With the highest AIDS infection rate in the world, South Africa has 4.7 million AIDS sufferers, or one in nine of its population.

Nature's Pharmacy



With Zainab Ujudud Shariff

The significance of water

The human body -

A man weighing 150 pounds is almost 75% water, 80% of blood and 75-80% of muscle are water. The grey matter of the brain is 80% water.

Water, which is plain and unadulterated, has frequently been called the world's cheapest medicine.

Hypocrites and his disciples treated innumerable ailments with water. The purest form, rainwater, then spring water, well water, snow and ice.

History records that Emperor Augustus was cured of a fatal disease with water, when all other remedies failed.

Functions of Water

1. Water helps to cleanse and flush impurities from the body.
2. Water is the universal biological solvent which loosens waste matter in the bodily organs and dissolves poisons in the blood. Through kidneys, lungs, and sweat glands. It eliminates toxic substances and diseases organisms.
3. Hot water expands the blood vessels, cold-water contract them- more safely and speedily than any drug known to science and this is the dual property that makes water unique.
4. This simple basic Principle of cold contracts, hot expands, is the foundation of *water cures* all over the world.
5. The *sitz* bath which is a German term for sit, when taken hot- is an effective pain reliever for patients suffering from inflammation of the bladder, uterus, ovaries, vagina, inflamed haemorrhoids, and prostate disorder.
6. Cold *sitz* inhibits menstrual flow, hemorrhaging of bowels, uterus, constipation, impotence, inflammation and vagina discharge-
7. Neutral temperature relaxes the blood vessels, and excess blood away from the brain and the spinal cord and relief for nervousness and excessive irritability.
8. Cold water over the body in the form of a bath or a shower is considered by many folk cultures the best all around external tonic, it retards wrinkles, Stimulate the blood, muscles nerves, and the glands, thus increasing hormone production.
10. Alternate hot and cold *sitz* bath is good for abdominal disorders, blood poisoning, congestion, foot infection, headache, and swollen ankles. Pure natural water, therefore plays a role in assisting the AID's patient to manage the disease as seen from above,
11. However, Hypothermia is a useful way of hydrotherapy which involves inducing fever in the body to stimulate the body's immune system to produce the antibodies for fighting germs. This involves a hot-immersion bath which is a very effective method for AIDS & cancer patients.

Environmental Factors: (rehabilitation) the Aid's patients should be given a change of environment. Separate building or Hospitals should be constructed where they could be away from the cities. A village environment is conducive, where they could be close to Nature. There should be availability of natural products: (Such as fruits and vegetables). Away from city pollution. Basic facilities could be made available to them. The patients should engage themselves in religious activities, games and other pleasurable activities which encourage positive thinking, confidence and natural healing to the patients. Visits by family members, NGOs, and governmental agencies is desirable and encouraging.

Health Bits

With Ikenna Emeka Okpani

How well do you sleep?

How well do you sleep at night after the days toil? Some lie calmly and have sweet rest while others toss and turn till daybreak. Have you ever bothered to find out why you cannot sleep?

The following are practical aspects of aiding sleep from a book, **A GUIDE TO FAMILY HEALTH:**

- (i) Avoid stimulants such as coffee, tea, and smoking or alcoholic night caps.
- (ii) Avoid watching exiting

- (iii) TV Programmes and films or reading thriller books
- (iii) Avoid a heavy meal at dinner.
- (iv) Take a short walk and/or warm bath before retiring.

General health measures are that you should avoid mental and emotional exhaustion, endeavour to limit responsibilities so that it is possible to cope with each day's demands without stress. Come to terms with emotional crises, domestic strife and inner anger or resentment.

Furthermore keep physically fit and pay attention to exercise and diet.

So, as you sleep today, try our bits and have a sound one.



Consumer Guide



Flights

Albarka Air Services
Lagos-Abuja:
Mondays to Fridays
7.00am, 10.30am, 1.00pm
3.00pm, 4.45pm

Abuja-Lagos
8.45am, 10.30am, 1.00pm,
3.00pm, 6.15pm

Abuja-Maid (1.30pm)
Abuja-Maid (4.30pm)
Maid-Abuja (7.30pm)

Chanchangi Airlines
Abuja-Lagos:
8.00am; 11.45am;

1.40pm; 3.00pm; 5.30pm
Kaduna-Lagos (8.30am)
Kaduna-Abuja-Lagos
(12.40pm)
Lagos-Abuja;
7.15pm; 10.00am;

1.10pm; 3.30pm; 4.45pm.

Lagos-Abuja-Kaduna
(10.00am)
Lagos-Kaduna (5.00pm)

Nigeria Airways
Abj-Lagos: 8.30am
Abj-Lagos: 2.00pm;
3.30pm; 5.30pm.

Lag-Abj: 7.00am;
12.30pm
Lagos-Phc: 9.00am
Lagos-Enu-Phc:
4.00pm
Abuja-Yola: 3.30pm.
Yola-Abuja: 4.45pm

Eas Airlines
Abj-Jos 11.00am
Abj-Jos-Lagos-
11.00am
Abj-Lag: 10.30am;
4.30pm
Lag-Abj: 7.15am;
9.30am; 2.45pm.

Bellview Airlines
Abj - Jos 11.00 am
1 p.m, 5.20 p.m
Lagos - Abuja 6-50 a.m,
11.15 a.m
Lagos - PHC
7.40 a.m, 3.15 a.m
PHC - Lagos 9 a.m.
5.05 p.m

Sosoliso Airlines
Lagos - Abuja
12:30 p.m
Lagos - Enugu 10 a.m, 4.30
p.m
Lagos - PHC 4.30 P.M
PHC - Lagos 8.30 a.m
Enugu - Lagos 7.30 a.m
11.30 a.m

Kabo Air
Lagos - Kaduna 10.00 a.m
Lagos - Kano 10 a.m, 2p.m
Jos - Lagos 8.30 a.m
Kano - Lagos
7.30 a.m, 12 p.m, 4p.m

ADC Airlines
Abuja - Lagos
8.30 a.m, 4.40 p.m
Lagos - Abuja 7 a.m,
3.15p.m
Lagos - Calabar
10.30 a.m, 12.15 p.m

Masses and the soaring prices of foodstuffs.

Nigeria consumers should be aware that the prices of foodstuff are sky-rocketing and this time around, it seems that even the skies cannot limit these prices.

Without food, we cannot sustain ourselves and this makes it rather disheartening when this basic human need is turned into an unaffordable commodity, due to poor policy formulation by our leaders.

This makes it a bit difficult for consumers especially the masses to plan adequately. For instance, garri which used to have the reputation of being the poor man's food, has suddenly become a commodity for the well-to-do.

A bag of garri now sells for N5,500, a far cry from what it used to be, a bag of rice sells for N3,800 in Abuja and N3,150 in Lagos.

Because of the high cost of foodstuff, many of us just take in carbohydrates, especially garri and rice. Now garri, the commoners' staple food has turned gold.

This scenario will discipline us to know who to vote into power in future elections.

Beans, which can be taken in form of *moimoi*, boiled beans, beans cake or

By Emmanuel Doo Ande

as a supplement to other foods, now sells for a ridiculous N7,500 per bag in Lagos and N6,800 in Abuja.

In order to save ourselves from early death we could decide to reduce our level of intake of these "common" foodstuff and try our hands on other local alternatives.

Cassava readily come to mind. Many people take it in form of *fufu* or in pounded form. Other foodstuff like *semovita* could be explored. We also have sweet potatoes which some people see as the elites, food but it is not as expensive as



Karmo market Abuja: foodstuff prices are soaring higher beyond people's reach.

Avoid some consumables

In an age of junk foods snacks and other consumables are not

meant to be taken frequently. The advice is to avoid eating some of them and stick to vegetables and fruits for our good health.

Taken indiscriminate water and food can lead you to diseases that can be dangerous to your life.

Although the public has been warned about the packaged liquid known pure water, they continue to buy them. Now drinking water poses the greatest threat to public health.

It is very necessary for government to take a hard look at the issue of water poisoning. Several water sold in tins and bowls are equally affected. For now, water is still best when boiled and filtered before drinking to destroy the deadly germs.

Items	Measures	Prices
Gari	mudu	N80.00
	abag	N4,200.00
Maize	amudu	N65.00
	abag	N4,500.00
Beans	amudu	N80.00
	abag	N4,800.00
Rice	amudu	N120.00
	abag	N3,200.00
Millet	amudu	N40.00
	abag	N2,800.00
Sugar	amudu	N100.00
	abag	N2,700.00

Bus Schedules

Ifesinachi Nig. Ltd.
Berger Junction by Sassandra Street and Nyanya Unipetrol Filling Station
Abuja to Lagos
Departure 8pm

ABC Transport
At Utaku District
Abuja - Lagos
Departure: 7.00am - 8am

Chisco
At Utaku District
Abuja - Lagos N1,810.00
Departure:
7:30am - 7:30pm

C.N.Okoli
Berger Junction,
Abuja - Lagos
Departure: 8:00pm daily

yam. We could add boiled sweet potatoes, to our diet and Irish potatoes which are better when fried with fried egg or without eggs.

Instead of eating only boiled beans, what of taking soya beans? It is equally nutritious and not so expensive. *Ogi* is another alternative which some people feel is meant for old people. But it actually adds variety to what we eat. It can be taken with *moimoi* or beans cake.

So, when shopping, prepare a different list from that which you have been used to. Shop for various foodstuff and don't stop at buying or eating your traditional meals alone.

The heartbreaking prices are simply telling you that it's time to try out food from other sources.

How to prepare editan soup

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 4 medium size snails
 - 1 large size dried fish
 - 1 medium size stockfish
 - 1Kg meat
 - 1 big bunch editan leaves
 - 6 medium heaps of water leaves
 - 3 tablespoons of crayfish (ground)
 - 1 tablespoon of dried pepper
 - 2 cups of periwinkles
 - 1 bottle of palm oil and potash
 - 3 maggi cubes
 - Salt to taste

Chop off the tail end of the periwinkles with a knife and wash thoroughly to remove dirt. Add some water and tablespoon of salt and boil for about six minutes till it foams.

Remove from fire and strain off the water, then, wash the periwinkles agains.

Pour 1/2 bottle of palm oil into a pot and add the water leaves. place the pot on the burner and cook for about three minutes. Stir and add the dried pepper, stockfish, crayfish, dried fish, pepper, maggi cubes and water. Allow to cook for another six minutes.

After 10-15 minutes, add salt to taste and then the editan leaves and allow to simmer for another four minutes.

Remove from heat and serve with *fufu* or pounded yam.

Courtesy of Madam Calabar Restaurant

Method:

Wash and boil the stockfish for about 45 minutes. Rinse and break open to remove the bones.

Cut the editan leaves, pour boiling water over the leaves and cut into tin pieces. Pick and wash the Odusa leaves, then cut into fine pieces, so also the water leaves.

Fruits

Unripe fruits is hard, green and bitter, slightly unripe. It smells sweet and "gives" slightly when you squeeze it.

Overly ripe. This has soft spots and scars.

Honey

Honey is good for you, it is not just sweet but nutritious. Honey contains vitamins and minerals, including calcium for strong bones and teeth. It also help to heal and prevent scurry.

Primary market auction held on June 28, 2001

Security	NTB
Tenor	91 days
Maturity date	27-9-01
Amount on offer	N16bn.
Total PS	N11.989bn
Total allotment	N11.989bn
Range of bid rates	N15.500%-17.000
Stop rate	17.0000%
True yield	17.7527%
MRR	18.5000%

Stock market as at Friday 29/6/2001

Volume	N18.6ml.
Value	N168.6ml.
Mkt. Cap.	N646.62bn
All share index	10,937.26

Top gainers

Stock	Price gain	Closing
NB	130 kobo	N27.85
Ashaka	79 kobo	N16.73
DN	70 kobo	N16.10
Flour mill	51 kobo	N18.00
Guinness	35 kobo	N37.85

Top losers

Stock	Price lost	Closing
Unipetrol	261 kobo	N49.64
Julius Berger	260 kobo	N49.46
Nolchen	245 kobo	N46.72
WAPCO	223 kobo	N42.38
NBC	106 kobo	N21.90



Some of the Abuja residents doing justice to highly tasteful dishes



Crime & Punishment



Okiro investigates killing of Hausa traders

Commissioner of police in charge of the Lagos Police Command, Mr. Mike Okiro has ordered a full investigation into the alleged extra-judicial killing of three Hausa petty traders and one other person by the police at Ajah police station in Eti-Osa Local Government Area of the State.

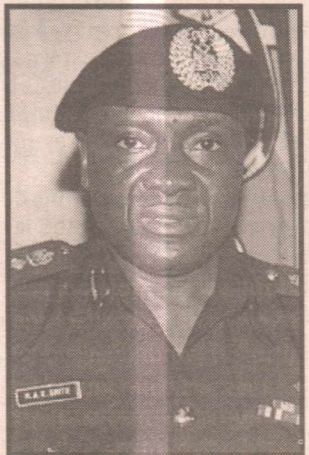
Daily Trust gathered that Mr. Okiro's directive was sequel to a petition sent to him on the matter by the law firm of S.A. Ahmed and Company on behalf of the Sarkin Hausawa, Alhaji Garba Ba'are and the families of the killed suspects.

The suspects, Alhaji Shu'aibu Bala, Mallam Mustapha Muhammad, Suleiman Idris and Lawal Olagunju were said to have been arrested by a team of plain clothed policemen from the Ajah police station on June 11, this year while selling their wares opposite the popular Eko Hotel in Victoria Island and at the Maroko market respectively.

Spirited efforts made by their colleagues led by one Alhaji Galadima Abubakar to secure their bail the next day were allegedly rebuffed by policemen at the station who told them that the suspects had been transferred to Area 'A' command head-

Abdulkadir Olajdo, Lagos
quarters, Lion Building, Lagos, for further investigation over alleged theft of a television set.

Following the enquiries at the command's headquarters and intervention of the Area Commander, it was



Musiliu Smith, Police Boss
gathered, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO), at the Ajah police station then told Alhaji Abubakar that the sus-

pects had been killed in a shoot-out with armed robbers when policemen took them out for a search.

Alhaji Abubakar who expressed reservation at the police's explanation told Daily Trust later that the shoot-out story could not be true since no policeman died in the alleged shoot-out.

According to him, efforts to retrieve the corpses of the deceased suspects have proved abortive as the police alleged that they have been buried along with others in an unidentified mass grave.

When contacted, the State Police Command Public Relations Officer, Deputy Superintendent of police, Victor Chilaka, confirmed that Mr. Okiro had directed the police X squad to investigate the matter.

He said the report of the investigation would be out within the next three weeks.

Residents of Lugbe Federal Housing Estate went through a harrowing experience as robbers embarked on a house to house raid over the weekend.

The men of the underworld numbering about ten took control of the one bedroom section of the estate at about 8:00 p.m. last Friday.

The gang first attacked operators at one Lewinsky Laundry and Video shop.

A victim, Mr. Thomas Moze told Daily Trust that he heard a knock and loud voices behind the door, and when he opened thinking it could be customers, a young man who he could not identify pointed a pistol directly on his head ordering him to bring out all

Resident loses N20,000 to armed robbers

By Mhii S. Selumun

the money in the house, and as his brother Mr. Gum Steve joined to beg that they had nothing, he received blows.

The robbers left for another house where they met the owner walking out the door and sighting them with guns, he began shouting thieves! thieves!! thieves to alert his neighbours.

The robbers who took to their heels and apprehended a car owner from whom they snatched twenty thousand naira (N20,000.00) as they

shot him on the left leg.

The Estate Zonal Security Officer, of the Federal Housing Authority, Mr. Raphael Igah when contacted over the incident, said, "really there was robbery in the estate by those unwanted elements They got in here about ten minutes to eight numbering about ten men.

Adding to him, when they did not succeed in the house to house search, they got on the estate road and made away with one man's N20,000.00 whom they also shot on the left leg."

Mr. Igah said the police were immediately informed of the incident and they conducted arrest, based on information given to them.

According to him, the proprietor of Zubis Beer Parlour as he is popularly known

Police seals off MMIA from thieves, touts

From Shakirat Abdumajeed, in Lagos

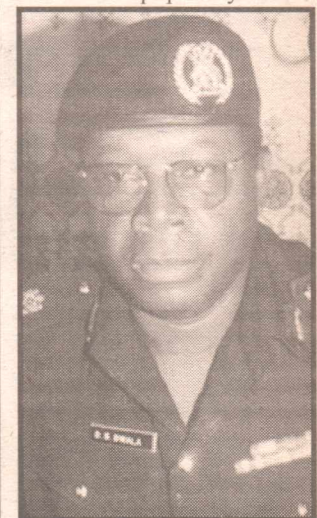
In a bid to eradicate theft and touting at the nation's airport, the Airport Police Command in Lagos is intensifying efforts to seal up all illegal routes used by criminals to gain entry into and escape from the airport. The Deputy Commis-

sioner of Police (DCP), in charge of the Murtala Mohammed International Airport Command, Mr. Edet Ilang, has assured airport users of safety of lives and property stressing that with the relative peace at the airport, investors can come into Nigeria without any fear or hindrance.

Speaking with newsmen at the Airport recently, Mr. Ilang revealed that the command has been able to deal with touts and touting activities adding that security had been restored to the airport with the flushing out of undesirable elements adding that no robbery incident had been recorded for some months at the Lagos Airport.

The Deputy Commissioner further explained that the command had intensified patrols while his men have been placed on alert to forestall any breakdown of law.

Mr. Ilang, however, decried the non functioning security lights within the airport car park, stressing that such dark areas could encourage the activities of hoodlums.



Dika Bwala, FCT Police Boss
and called had told the police had ordered to the station not to go anywhere since where they sat belonged to him.

Mr. Zubis was eventually arrested and up to the time of investigation, bail was denied him as requested by his lawyer.

Daily Trust gathered that a security officer who had gone to eat and subsequently sat over a bottle of beer is among the arrested persons.

Man to hang for killing prostitute

One Samson Emeka, who allegedly gouged out the eyes of a prostitute thereby precipitating her eventual death has been confirmed to die by hanging by the supreme court sitting in Abuja.

The supreme court upheld the decision of the lower

courts which found Emeka guilty of plucking out the eyes of pretty Salamatu Muhammad at Katako, Jos, 15 years ago, an action which resulted in the death of the victim.

According to the details of the prosecution, Emeka was desperate to make money and was told to provide two human eyes for the purpose among other requirements.

Accordingly, Emeka, on or about January, 14 1986, went to a beer parlour where he met the deceased who doubled as a prostitute and engaged her in a room for the night.

However, unknown to the deceased, the young man had already procured tranquillisers which could send anybody taking it to sleep within minutes.

While in the room, Emeka was said to have ordered more drinks where he succeeded in dropping some sleeping tablets into her beer and in no time Salamatu was fast asleep.

Meanwhile, the next morning the deceased did not wake up early and her door had to be forced open where the lifeless body was discovered without her two eyes. Emeka had fled.

Fortunately, Emeka was later arrested, arraigned before justice J. Oyetunde of the High Court of Plateau State, Jos, and charged for culpable homicide where he was found guilty and sen-

tenced to death by hanging.

Feeling unsatisfied with that judgement, Emeka went to the court of Appeal where the sentence was upheld and he proceeded to the supreme court.

However, Justice SMA Belgore, E.O. Ogwuegbu Sylvester U. Onu, Umaru A. Kaltungo and Samson A. Uwaifo upheld the submission of the Appeal Court and confirmed the death sentence.

Justice Belgore, leading jurist held that the sum total is that there is no substance in the appeal. He dismissed the application in the appeal and affirmed the decision of the Appeal Court which had earlier upheld the conviction of the accused by the court below under section 221 of the penal code law.

Exhibits disappear from courts custody

The star witness in a theft case involving wrist-watches valued at N2.5 million over the weekend told a Lagos magistrate court how some exhibits disappeared from the court's custody.

Alhaji Wahabi-Yusuf, who was being led by prosecuting police Inspector, Ephriam Onyia, in his evidence told the court that he had seen the wrist watches (exhibits) in the court on one occasion, but when a new magistrate took-over the case, the exhibits could no longer be found.

According to the Alhaji, the three accused persons standing trial include; Boniface Ayogu, Bernard Adegba 36, and Augustine Obieze 40, who broke and entered into his shop on July 7, 1994 at 2:00 p.m. at No. 27 Idumagbo Avenue, Lagos and carted away his wrist-watches valued N2.5 million.

He told the court that before the accused persons could cart away his goods, they had overpowered him.

"I asked my junior brother to go and call the police," he said.

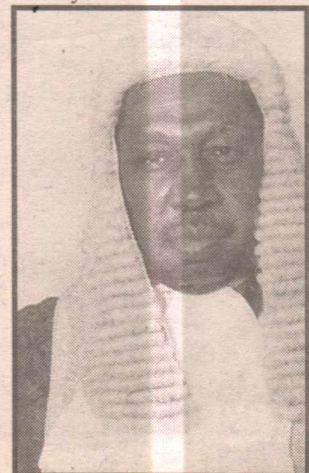
But before the police could arrive, the accused per-

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, in Lagos
sons had bolted with the loot.

Upon police investigation, a search was conducted at the house of one of the principal accused, Boniface Ayogu and some of the wrist-watches were found and taken to the police station as exhibits.

Daily Trust gathered that neither the exhibits nor the list containing the exhibits could be found.

It was further gathered that some of the accused persons had supplied wrist-watches to the complainant who had been helping to sell them and paying back some money.



Muhammad Uwais, CJF



Salute to democracy: Airforce personnel remove their berets in a three hearty salute to democracy recently.

Abuja News

Executive beggars rule Abuja functions

People popularly called Executive Beggars because of the corporate dressing and composure are fast taking over public functions in Abuja as they distribute paper to people to help the deaf and dumb and other less privileged people in the society.

By Ikenna Emeka Okpani
are either genuinely deaf or pretend to be thank them by waving and nodding their heads.

Daily Trust gathered that most of these beggars are on a frolic of their own and are just doing business with the emotions of the general public.

These beggars who wear suits, look healthy and well nourished distribute papers asking people to donate freely to deaf and dumb schools, motherless babies homes, refugee camps and other homes.

Unsuspecting members of the public write their names against their donations on the beggar's paper and hand over both money and paper. The beggars who

lic. "I want to tell you that these beggars are on their own. They represent no homes either for refugees or deaf people. They are doing their respective businesses," a lady said.

She explained that because of unemployment people do a lot of outrageous

things to keep body and soul together. However, she said it was better to beg than to be an armed robber or a burglar.

At a recent public function at Sheraton Hotels and Towers, one of the beggars was seen relaxing at a corner enjoying a plate of exotic food after his round of begging.

Efforts to get them to speak with *Daily Trust* proved abortive as they were deaf and dumb and could only speak with fingers which of course nobody was at hand to serve as a go-between.

Free drinks, as trailer overturns

From Habiba Adamu
It was a happy day for labourers working at Gwarimpa housing project who looted beer from a trailer loaded with star lager beer which had an accident along Abuja-Zuba express way last week.

KMC somersaulted and blocked the road after its front tyre bursted while travelling from Kaduna to Abuja when the accident occurred.

Seeing bottles and crates of beer scattered on the road gave the labourers working at

Gwarimpa housing project the opportunity to take time off work treat themselves to free drinks. Passers-by equally part took in the drinking spree.

A woman spotted by *Daily Trust* reporter and other passengers hold out her loot in a "cheers" manner to her teeming spectators.

Fake female applicants invade MFCT

By Emmanuel Ande

The secretariat of the Ministry of Federal Capital (MFCT), located at Area II, Garki, was taken-over last week by ladies who claimed to be unemployed seeking jobs in the federal capital city.

The ladies usually dressed in miniskirt, barricaded both the main entrance to the ministry and pointed out that when Obasanjo ministers gate in the early hours morning of Thursday, last week demanding an explanation from the authorities on why the employment forms of the ministry were not available.

Our investigation revealed that some of the ladies are always seen parading themselves in National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) uniforms to deceive

their victims that they are corps members, so that they can have easy access to offices of directors and other high ranking officers of their choice.

Daily Trust also learnt that the ladies' action is not unconnected with the recent pronouncement by the ministry that interviews are going on in the ministry to employ staff for both Asokoro and Maitama hospitals respectively.

The mostly fake over zealous graduates engaged the MFCT, local security personnel in fierce struggle to open the gate of the secretariat and prevented even the staff of the ministry from gaining access to their offices. Some of the ghost applicants were raining insults on the hungry looking security men in a badly spoken English proving that they have not been to any school.

Our reporter learnt that interviews have been going on in the ministry in the health department for the past two weeks now.

Applicants express disappointment over aborted ICPC test

Applicants invited for last Saturday's bungled pre-selection test to fill various vacant positions in the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), have expressed disappointment over the shoddy arrangement made by the commission's consultants KPMG consulting.

A correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that applicants who had arrived at the various centers for the interview were shocked when they were told by officials of KPMG, organisers of the test, that the question papers were insufficient and that there were not enough officials to serve as invigilators.

In spite of the shortage of the question papers, the officials went ahead to distribute them, leaving forms than 60 percent of the applicants without question papers.

The development was said to have angered some applicants who then decided to disrupt the test, while answer scripts of those who had already completed the test were torn to test.

We told to arrive the venue at 10:00 a.m. but at 3 p.m., we were still waiting for the officials to bring the question papers when applicant came to inform us of the riot by the angry applicants," she said, "some of them carried shovels with they chased the officials away."

WESTERN UNION

Wallet of Fortune

OFFER

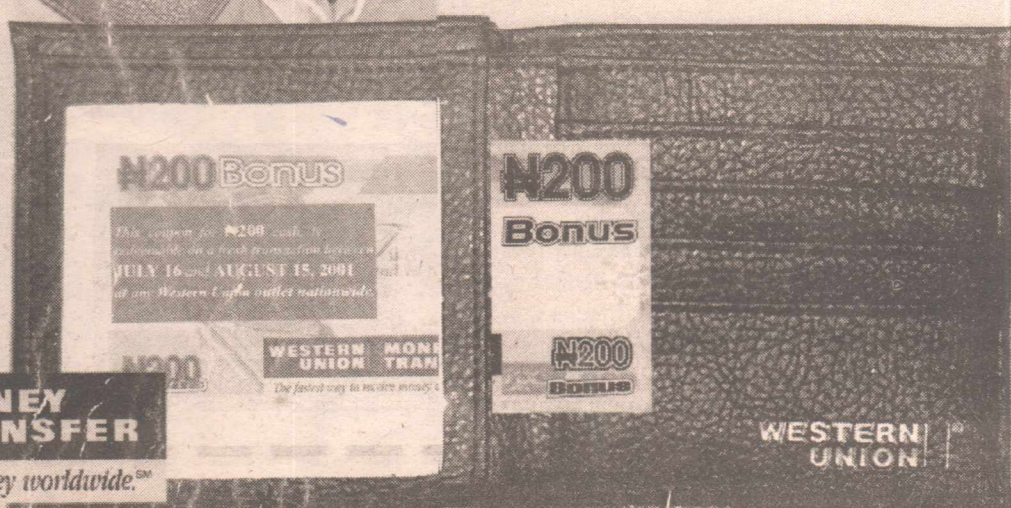
From June 18 To July 14 2001

Receive money through Western Union and win a branded wallet.

It comes with a N200 coupon redeemable on a fresh transaction at any Western Union outlet.

REDEMPTION FROM JULY 16 TO AUGUST 15, 2001.

The more times you receive money, the more you get in the Wallet of Fortune Offer. So tell your loved ones abroad to send you money through Western Union.



WESTERN UNION MONEY TRANSFER

The fastest way to receive money worldwide.™

WESTERN UNION

VACANCIES

A medium size successfully re-capitalized Commercial bank optimally recharged for the challenges of modern banking, wishes to recruit highly resourceful and focused personnel to fill the following existing vacancies:

Locations Port-Harcourt, Kano, Onitsha, Kaduna, Victoria Island

HEAD OF INPECTION (Ref: HOI)

Requirements:

First degree preferably in Accounting, Business Administration or any of the social sciences and must be a chartered Accountant i.e. (ACA). Possession of a Post Graduate degree will be an added advantage. Candidate must have a minimum of 8 years operations/inspection experience preferably from a Commercial bank out of which 5 years must be at Senior Management level.

Age bracket 32 to 40 years.

Grades: Manager to Principal Manager

HEAD OF SPECIAL ASSETS (Ref: HSA)

Requirements:

A first degree preferably in Accounting, Business Administration or any of the social Sciences. Possession of an MBA or Professional qualification will be an added advantage. Candidate must have a minimum of 8 years cognate experience in Loan Recovery and Assets Management from a reputable Commercial Bank out of which 3 years must be at a Senior Management level. Age bracket 32 to 40 years.

Grade: Manager or Senior Manager

BRANCH MANAGER (Ref: BM)

Requirements

Candidate must have a first degree preferably in any discipline. Possession of Post Graduate degree or professional qualification will be an added advantage. Candidate must have a minimum of 8 years cognate experience from a Commercial Bank and not below the grade of Assistant Manager. Age bracket 32 to 38 years old.

Grade: Assistant Manager to Manager

BRANCH HEAD OF OPERATIONS (Ref: BHO)

Requirements

A first degree with a minimum of 2nd class lower. Possession of a Post Graduate degree or professional qualification will be an added advantage. Candidate must have a minimum of 5 years cognate experience covering all aspects of branch operations including Cash and Teller, Funds Transfer, Customer Services, etc. Age bracket 28 to 35 years.

CREDIT & MARKETING OFFICERS (Ref: CMO)

Requirements:

A first degree in Business Administration, Marketing or any of the Social Sciences with a minimum of 2nd class lower. Possession of Post Graduate degree or professional qualification will be an added advantage. Candidate must have a minimum of 4 years cognate Credit/Marketing experience in a Commercial bank. Age bracket 28 to 35 years.

INTERNAL CONTROL OFFICER (Ref: ICO)

Requirements: A first degree with a minimum of 2nd class lower. Being a Chartered Accountant will be an added advantage. Candidate must have a minimum of 2 years cognate post-qualification experience in a Commercial Bank or from a reputable practicing firm. Age bracket between 28 to 35 years.

GRADUATE TRAINEES (Ref: GT)

Requirements:

A first degree in Humanities or Social Sciences with a minimum of 2nd class lower or HND with a minimum of lower credit. Possession of Professional qualification or higher degree will be an added advantage. Age: must not exceed 30 years.

In addition to the above requirements, all candidates are expected to have the following:

- Strong analytical and good interpersonal skills.
- Computer literacy
- Ability to work without or with minimum supervision
- A team player, focused and an aggressive drive for marketing
- Candidate should be able to work in any part of Nigeria
- A drive for Excellence and continuous self-improvement.

Applications should be sent urgently to:

The Advertiser,
P. O. Box 1066
Kaduna

Indicate the reference of the job being applied for on the envelope. Candidates should include daytime telephone numbers, if available.

Application closes two weeks from the date of this advertisement publication.



SPORTS



Argentina 2001 Reports

Ghana eliminates Brazil

With a golden goal netted by John Mensah in the 2nd minute of the first half of the overtime, Ghana beat Brazil in the quarter-final of the FIFA World Youth Championship 2001 and eliminated them from the tournament.

The encounter favoured the South Americans at the beginning, who took the lead over the final stage of the first half when Adriano converted after Maicon's pass and goalkeeper Maxwell Banahene's mistake.

However, Ghana improved their play in the second half and levelled the score with a left footed blast by Abdul Ibrahim, after a great play by Frank Osei on the right side.

Argentina advances to the semi-final

Argentina took an important step towards obtaining their fourth World Youth Championship title, since they beat the French team 3-1 in the José Amalfitani stadium, located in Buenos Aires. With this result, the team coached by José Pekerman shall have to confront Paraguay, who beat Czech Republic 1-0 in Mendoza, next Wednesday 4 July.

The home team scored an early goal. Forward Javier Saviola recorded the 1-0 score in the 4th minute, and allowed the Argentinean team to control the first half of the match. However, France levelled the score when Philippe Mexes' shot a volley inside the area just two minutes before the end of the first half.

Egypt beats Netherlands

Egypt will contest an African semi-final after their performance which surprised the football world. Egypt took another important step, they shut down Netherlands 2-1 in Rosario and advanced to the semi-final of the FIFA World Youth Championship Argentina 2001.

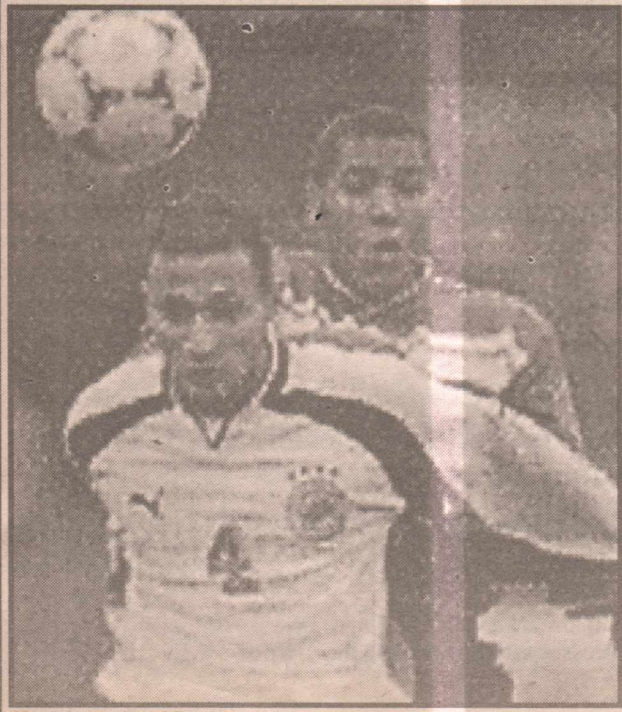
In spite of having suffered the worst outscore of the tournament (1-7 with Argentina in the first phase), the African team were able to recover and defeat, first United States and, now Netherlands in order to qualify among the best four teams of the world in this category. During the first half things were not easy, since a mistake by goalkeeper Mohamed Sobhi enabled Rafael Van Der Vaart to score the opener of the match.

Paraguay upsets Czech Rep

With one man down, (due to the expulsion of Julio González in the 26th minute) and the goal of Santiago Salcedo, Paraguay defeated Czech Republic and advances to the semi-finals of the FIFA World Youth Championship Argentina 2001.

The South American team attained their first qualification ever to the final stages of a world tournament and will face Argentina this Wednesday, 4 July in Buenos Aires.

The story became complicated early in the match for Paraguay due to the loss of Julio González; the goal scorer was shown the red card due to a serious offence in the 26th minute, which will make him miss the semi-final match against Argentina.



Hussein Amin of Egypt

Brazil suffers another set back

2002 World Cup

Brazil's hopes of qualifying for the 2002 World Cup suffered another setback after a controversial 1-0 defeat against Uruguay in Montevideo.

Federico Magallanes' 32nd minute penalty gave the home side the points.

But the Brazilians felt they had a legitimate goal disallowed five minutes from time.

A long-range free-kick from Barcelona's Rivaldo was held by goalkeeper Fabian Carini, who appeared to carry the ball over the line as he fell backwards.

But Scottish referee Hugh Dallas waved play on, much to the dismay of the Brazilians.



The defeat leaves Brazil level on points with Uruguay

The four-time world champions remain fourth in the South American qualifying group with 21 points - level on points with Uruguay. Brazil's record as the only

country to have played at every World Cup finals could now be in danger.

NBA Draft marks new era

This year's NBA Draft truly marks the beginning of a new era.

In years past, the top picks in the draft were reserved for the best players coming out of American universities.

More and more, however, teams are willing to risk those top picks on younger, unproven players who have never set foot on a college basketball court.

Of the first four players selected in the 2001 draft, none have ever played basketball above the high school level in the USA.

The Washington Wizards selected 19-year-old Kwame Brown with the first pick, making him the first high school player ever to be taken with the number one pick.

The draft then got even younger, as the Chicago Bulls took Tyson Chandler, 18, with the second pick.

It took a blockbuster trade for the Bulls to get Chandler. They dealt their best player, Elton Brand, last season's co-Rookie of the Year, to the Los Angeles Clippers for the rights to Chandler.

The Bulls continued the youth trend by selecting another high school player, Eddy Curry, with the fourth selection.

Drafting players straight out of high school is nothing new - the Lakers' Kobe Bryant and the Timberwolves' Kevin Garnett are two such players who have flourished in the NBA - but never before have so many youngsters been taken so highly.

For the Wizards and Bulls, these were risks worth taking. While they may be unproven at the NBA level, Brown, Chandler and Curry are all extremely talented, physically gifted players.

Brown, a 6ft 11in power forward from Glynn Academy in Georgia, is a versatile all-around player who is as comfortable on the perimeter as he is under the basket.

Chandler, from Dominguez High School in California, is a rare player, a

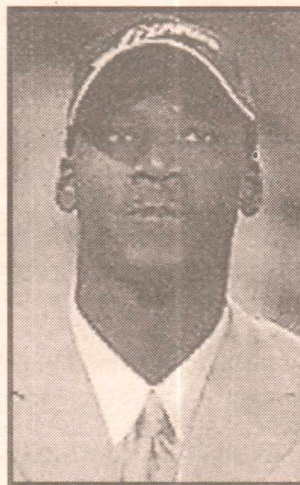
Basketball

7ft forward with tremendous defensive skills and a great outside shot who prefers to play away from the basket.

To complement Chandler's outside game, the Bulls drafted Curry, a 6ft 11in centre from Thornwood High School in Illinois, to give them a presence in the middle.

Another growing trend displayed in this year's draft was the selection of several talented foreign players.

As basketball's popularity continues to escalate outside the United States, the number of foreign-born players making their way to the NBA has increased as well.



Brown After agreeing to a trade that will send Shareef Abdur-Rahim to the Atlanta Hawks for the third pick in the draft,

the Vancouver Grizzlies selected Pau Gasol of Spain.

Gasol was highly coveted due to his 7ft frame and his ability to play like a guard despite his size.

In addition to Gasol, there were three other European players selected in the first round.

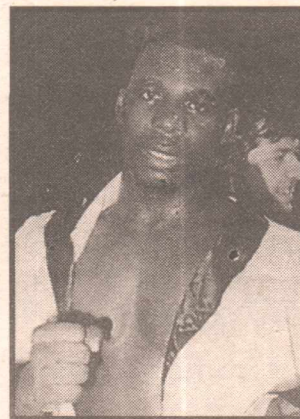
Seattle took power forward Vladimir Radmanovic of Yugoslavia with the 12th pick, the Utah Jazz selected Raul Lopez of Spain with the 24th pick, and San Antonio used the 28th pick on Tony Parker of France.

The lack of quality state-side point guards in this year's draft helped Lopez and Parker, as both play in that position.

Rahman stays with King

Boxing

Kushner's attorney, Richard Edlin, said his man could



Rahman

still make money off a King promoted rematch.

"In my view, he's working for us," Edlin said of King.



King

Samaranch admits doping war cannot be won

International Olympic Committee chief Juan Antonio Samaranch, who steps down after 21 years in charge later this month, has been quoted as saying he believes the war against drugs in sport can never be won.

"The war will never be won," Samaranch was quoted as saying in an interview with Spanish daily El Pais published on Sunday.

"You can only win battles. You can only talk about partial victories," he said.

Samaranch said one of the key moments in the fight against doping was the ban given to Canadian Ben Johnson after he tested positive for steroids after winning the 100 metres final at the Seoul Olympics in 1988.

"The IOC had the courage to sanction Ben Johnson, an Olympic champion who had broken the 100 metres world record in a race that dazzled the world.

"It was said, as it has been so many times, that it was the end of the Olympic movement.

"But the exact opposite happened. The sentence against Johnson was exemplary and it was the start of other proceedings against drugs."



SPORTS



Coast not clear yet for Super Eagles - Experts

The Super Eagles 4-0 whitewash of Sudan in a Group B World Cup qualifier at the El-Merrikh slaughter slab in Omdurman on Sunday has taken the team closer to a third consecutive appearance at the Mundial but the coast is by no means clear for the Nigerians.

The victory put Nigeria, with 13 points, on top of the table, but Ghana's 2-1 away win over former pacesetters Liberia in Monrovia has made the mathematical computa-

tions of the group more intriguing.

Liberia, who beat Ghana in Accra in January, are certainly not out of the picture as an away win against Sierra Leone in Freetown on July 14 would give them a total of 15 points and make them serious contenders for the group's sole ticket.

The same could be said of the Black Stars, who entertain Sudan at home on July 15. A home victory would take the Ghanaians to 11

points and with that they would be buoyed to upset Nigeria in their last game on July 28 in Port Harcourt.

Sudan are not out. If they can upset Ghana in Accra and record a home victory over Sierra Leone on July 29, then anything could happen.

With a possible six points to tier current nine, the Sudanese certainly have not yet ruled themselves out. Former Eagles skipper, Segun Odegbami, however,

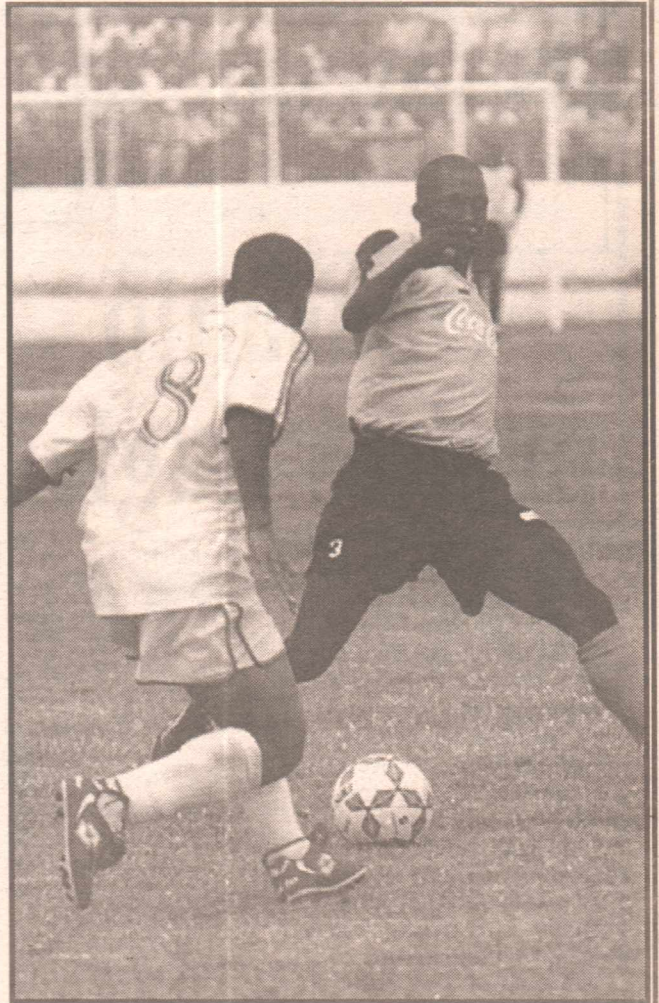
does not believe that the Ghanaians are capable of upsetting the Eagles in the second leg clash.

Told that Ghana could be eyeing the ticket by getting an away victory over Nigeria, Odegbami declared: "It's not possible. We will beat Ghana, I know it won't be easy but we'll beat them."

But Chris Eseka, a soccer analyst and agent, advised that the next match (against Ghana) should be taken seriously.

Eseka believes that Ghana and Liberia are still not out of the race. "We should forget the victory over Sudan and forget the Liberia lost at home.

"Ghana would be motivated by their victory in Monrovia and the possibility of beating Sudan cannot be ruled out. With a possible 11 points, that could be the tonic they require to come to Nigeria with the hope of collecting the three," he said.



Belkhir Aberrahmane of Algerian club CR Ben Tour challenging Niger Tornadoes defender Aliyu Mohammed during the CAF Cup second round tie in Minna.

Power Mike dreams big for combat sports

Combat sports, which have experienced sudden plunge into oblivion, may be revived and its lost glory restored if the plans of Chief Micheal Okapra (Power Mike) to that effect come to fruition.

Power Mike, the former World Heavyweight Wrestling Champion said he was disturbed by the sudden death of combat sports in the country and would work assiduously to ensure a return to the glorious days.

Consequently, the former mats-man turned promoter plans to relaunch combat sports chiefly wrestling and boxing sports which Nigeria had won world acclaim in the past by reproducing weekly championships.

The former World Champion said the weekly championship which will be held next month at the Power Mike

By Patrick Andrew
Sports Centre, Area I, Abuja will offer combat sports persons ample chance to shape up for continental and world championships.

Power Mike, therefore, called on philanthropists to identify with the quest to relaunch combat sports by donating trophies and belts to be competed for during the

weekly fiestas.

He regretted that only few promoters were working in concert with him to revive combat sports which have produced champions like himself, late Ben Lion Neant, Tarzan Eshiest, Eddy Ndukwu, Abraham Tonica, Charles Nwokolo, Jerry Okorodudu and several others.

Rampant Ivorians keep hopes alive

Ivory Coast's hopes of reaching the 2002 World Cup were kept alive thanks to an Ibrahim Bakayoko hat-trick against Madagascar.

Tunisia's 6-0 victory over Congo took the north African side to 17 points, three ahead of Ivory Coast, who have a game in hand over their rivals.

The Ivorians needed a big

2002 World Cup

score in Abidjan to improve their goal difference over Tunisia, who had a three point lead in Group D before Sunday's qualifiers.

Marseilles striker Bakayoko began the onslaught for the home side after 25 minutes, he added his second with a penalty on 39 minutes before concluding

his romp eight minutes from time.

The former Everton striker is the leading scorer in the African qualifying tournament with 11 goals.

Kader Keita, Gilles Yapi Yapo and Fadel Keita also got on the score sheet.

The Democratic Republic of Congo are third on seven points, ahead of Congo on four and Madagascar on three.

Kano govt donates N1m to nine football clubs

The Kano State government has made a donation of N1,000,000 to nine football clubs in Kano.

The football clubs are Wambai United, Cosmos, Kano United, Buffalo, Soccer Jet, Fan Milk, Bank of the North, Kano Eleven and Dabo Babes.

Announcing the donation on behalf of Governor Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso, the commissioner for Information and

From Jamilah Nuhu Musa, in Kano

Culture, Alhaji Mohammed Nura Dankade, said the nine clubs are to get N100,000 each, while the caretaker committee of the football association is also to get N100,000.

He explained that the cash donation is a reciprocation of government for the enormous contributions and the dedication of the clubs to

the game of football, through which they have been elevated to the upper divisions of the league.

Alhaji Mohammed Nura Dankade, said a similar gesture has also been extended to Kano Pillars, Football club for gaining promotion to the national league division one in the next football season.

The commissioner, expressed the hope, that both

players and officials of Kano Pillars would win the two trophies and represent the country at the next West Africa Football Union Competition.

He then called on various organisations and sports philanthropists, to assist the clubs in achieving their objectives as according to him "government alone cannot sponsor sports in all its ramifications."

The Commissioner, expressed dismay over the activities of hooligans and warned that government will not hesitate to take drastic measures against hooliganism. Adding that sports is for pleasure and the development of talents not for settling scores.

Meanwhile, Alhaji Nura Dankade said that the issue of the desolation of the leadership of Kano State Sports Council would soon be resolved amicably.

Responding, the chairman of the Caretaker Committee of the Football Association, Alhaji Hassan Na'abba, expressed gratitude for the gesture and stated that sanity in sports will be restored.

Tunisia stay in the hunt

Tunisia took a step closer to a place in next year's World Cup finals after a 6-0 demolition of Congo in Tunis.

With just one game remaining, the Tunisians still hold a three point advantage over second-placed Ivory Coast and have a superior goal difference.

But the Ivorians are still breathing down their neck, after recording a 6-0 victory on Sunday at home to Madagascar and they have a game in hand.

Tunisia opened their account against Congo with Khaled Badrasur's 28th minute penalty.

Ali Zitouni added a second

10 minutes later, with Hassene Gabsi adding a third just before the half-time interval.

Despite squandering numerous chances in the second-half, the home side still managed another three goals through Imed Mhedhbi, Zoubeir Baya and Riadh Jelassi.

Tunisia now have one more game against the Democratic Republic of Congo in two weeks and a victory there should guarantee them a qualifying place.

The Ivory Coast would have to win both their remaining fixtures against Congo and DR Congo by convincing margin to spoil Tunisia's party.

Abuja soccer fans celebrate Super Eagles victory

The excitement of football victory resurfaced on the streets of Abuja on Sunday evening, when the soccer fans took to the streets to celebrate Super Eagles 4-0 win over their Sudanese counterparts in a World Cup qualifying encounter.

A News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) correspondent who monitored the reaction of fans after the match reported that many of the football enthusiasts who were traders abandoned their business activities to join the jubilating crowd.

The fans were seen chanting victory songs in various pubs, while others blocked some busy roads in Garki district, causing a traffic hold-up.

Speaking on the outing which boosted Nigeria's chances of participating in Japan/Korea World Cup, a staff of Arab Contractors, an Abuja-based construction company, Mr. Aneru Gimba, expressed satisfaction with the Eagles' performance against the Falcons of Sudan.

Gimba pointed out that al-

though the country was fond of a "fire brigade approach" to preparations for such tournaments, it had become necessary for the Nigeria Football Association (NFA) to change tactics.

He blamed the previous poor outings of the Super Eagles on professionals who held the country to ransom." He called on the football house to intensify efforts in discovering soccer talents at the grassroots, so as to have proper replacements for the ageing Super Eagles.

A female football analyst, Miss Stella Ekezie, commended the efforts of the Shuaibu Amodu-led technical crew, which she said was the brain behind the successful outing of the national team.

Ekezie enjoined the Sports Ministry and the football house to concentrate on the use of indigenous coaches.



Lindsay Davenport makes a return against Silvia Farina Elia during their match at the Ladies International Tennis Tournament. She defeated Jelena Dokic in straight sets in the fourth round of Wimbledon Championship...yesterday.

This space
is for sale

DAILY TRUST

Sports
Illustrated

LIVAYA PALACE HOTEL

OFF IBB WAY
Phone 065-431165-9 Fax 065-432690
P. O. Box 816 Katsina, Katsina State.

- 104 (Fully Air Conditioned)
- Rooms & Suites
- Conference Hall
- Tennis Court
- Swimming Pool
- Coffee Shop
- Mosque

Unique Privacy

Liyafa Palace Hotel also offers
Weekend Package Rate (Fri-Sun Included)
Double Room - N3,000.00 Per Night
Suite - N4,000.00 Per Night

Obasanjo praises Eagles

Victorious Super Eagles arrived the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja yesterday into the warm embrace of President Olusegun Obasanjo who praised them for restoring Nigeria's pride of place in the podium of world football.

President Obasanjo, who was on his way to Gabon when the Eagles arrived, shook hands with each player noting that he was proud of their performances, especially at a time when the spirit of Nigerians was low.

The president said he was particularly impressed with the Super Eagles who trounced Sudan 4-0 in Omdurman to brighten

By Patrick Andrew

Nigeria's chances of qualifying for the 2002 World Cup.

President Obasanjo, who was brimming with smiles, as he was introduced to each Eagles by the NFA second Vice-Chairman, Barrister Nwagbufo Obienu, said with the victory, the Eagles have demonstrated Nigeria's soccer prowess in an astounding manner.

Members of the Eagles who later departed for Lagos included Nwankwo Kanu, Taribo West, Julius Aghahowa, two-goal hero Yakubu Aiyegbeni, Ike Shorunmu, Yobo Joseph, Eric Ejiofor, Victor Agali who is nursing a knee injury and some others.

President Obasanjo also lauded the technical crew, stressing that by their performance so far they have restored confidence in the technical efficiency of Nigerians in various disciplines.

Eagles shame detractors -NFA

By spanking Sudan 4-0 on Sunday in Omdurman in a World Cup qualifier, the Super Eagles have shame their detractors, Nigeria Football Association (NFA) spokesman has said.

Austin Mgbolu, NFA's Head of Protocol and Public Relations, told News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos yesterday that those who prayed for the Eagles' fall had been put to shame.

"They (detractors) have been told in clear terms that they are not God," he said.

Mgbolu said the NFA was aware that the final hurdle had not been crossed and would do its best to secure the World Cup ticket.

"The most important thing for now is that we have crossed a major hurdle," he said.

"We at the NFA are happy at the result but we are suspending our celebration until the final match, scheduled for July 28 tentatively at Port Harcourt."

He commended Governors Peter Odili of Rivers State, Lucky Igbinedion of Edo State and Rabiu Musa Kwankwanso of Kano State for their support for the NFA and the Super Eagles in the quest for the World Cup ticket.



Ghana's John Mensah (L) scoring a second goal against Edu Dracena (C) and goalie Rubinho Moedium of Brazil in the quarter finals of the FIFA World Youth Championship played in Cordoba on Sunday.



David Duval chips to the ninth green at the Tournament Players Club golf course in Cromwell, Conn., on Saturday during the third round of the Greater Hartford Open. Duval shot even par 70 for the day to finish the first three rounds of the tournament at seven-under-par 203.



Greg Rusedski races to make a return against Germany's Rainer Schurtler during the second round of the Samsung Open in Nottingham, England...recently.