

# DAILY TRUST

Trust Is A Burden

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## MONDAY COLUMN

Danfulani Ahmed on:  
**Passion, reason  
and unreason**

Page 5

## STAR INTERVIEW

The U.S. is not  
on a spying  
mission  
- *Batagarawa*

Page 16

## SUJUD FOUNDATION

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## Doctors strike worsened health care - CBN

The prolonged strike by resident doctors last year took the shine off increased budgetary allocation to the sector, leading to a deterioration in the health indicators, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has said.

The bank said in its annual report for 2000 that the nationwide strike hampered the provision of adequate healthcare delivery while it lasted and rubbed off on activities during the year.

It said that the population per physician increased from 4,479 in 1999 to 4,529 while that per hospital bed rose to 1,611 from 1,564.

The population per nursing staff also rose from 906 to 920, the report says, adding that the figures indicate a worsening condition.

It said the sector also witnessed problems of poor nutrition and hygiene as well as limited access to safe water, resulting in guinea worm infection among other unsafe conditions.

The report says, however, that success was recorded in the area of immunization against the six childhood-killer diseases, with its coverage rate reaching 72.7 percent from 51.9 percent the previous year.

Meanwhile, efforts by national and international agencies to expand population activities in the country appear to be paying off as demographic statistics released by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) indicate a measure of stability.

The CBN annual report mentioned such efforts to include radio and television jingles, adverts and free family planning services during the year.

It said that the country maintained a growth rate of 2.9 percent during the year, bringing its estimated population to 115.1 million. The National Population figure, *contd. on pg 2*

# KADUNA RIOTS Committee says 1,500 killed

The Kaduna State Government has confirmed that 1,500 people were killed last year during the anti-Sharia riots in the state.

A British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Hausa service report monitored in Abuja quoted the state government as saying in a press statement that the figure was given by the committee instituted by Governor Ahmed Makarfi to identify lives lost and to make recommen-

By Suleiman Mohammed,  
Ahmed Shekarau and  
Mustapha Isah Kwaru

ditions on how to forestall future occurrences and ensure lasting peace.

However, the statement said that the governor has rejected part of the report in which the committee recommended that compensation be paid to the families of all the victims of the two riots in February and May last year.

While explaining its position, the government said

that there would be no compensation for anybody because the activities of the participants and the crises itself were a breach of the law.

The government also rejected the committee's report alleging that some religious leaders were involved in the crisis and should be queried.

According to the government, any attempt to query religious leaders may trigger off another round of

crisis in the state.

While acknowledging that lives and properties worth millions of naira were lost during the crises, the state government insisted that many religious organisations took the law into their hands and acted as authorities themselves.

The government maintained that it would neither pay compensation nor query anybody for any roles in the crisis in the spirit of reconciliation.

The Kaduna religious crises which began in February, and repeated in May last year followed reports of alleged plan by the state House of

Assembly to pass a law introducing Sharia legal system of government in the state.

The situation which led to series of pro-and anti-Sharia demonstrations by both the muslim and christian youths in the state turned violent leading to killings, looting and burning of properties across the state.

Most areas affected in the state include, Kachia, Kafanchan, Jema'a, Kaduna North and South Local Government Areas where villages like Nasarawa, Malali, Barnawa, Ungwar Muazu, Ungwar-Television, Ungwar Sarki, Sabon-Tasha and a

*contd. on pg 2*



The Chairman of the Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission, Engineer Hamman Tukur (r) presenting report of the new Revenue Allocation Formula to President Olusegun Obasanjo at the presidential Villa, Abuja ... recently

Pix: Kennedy Egbonodje

## 2003: PDP endorses automatic ticket for incumbents

All offices presently occupied by elected members of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the three tiers of government may not be vacant in the next elections after all, the party has declared.

The national chairman of the party, Chief Barnabas Gemade, who made the declaration at the weekend in Minna, the Niger State capital, said all political offices, including the presidency, governorship and local council positions would not be contested for within the party for the 2003 elections. Speaking at a rally

By Henry Omuonu with  
Agency Reports

organised by the North-Central zone of the party, Chief Gemade advised all PDP members nursing political ambitions to wait until 2007, as the party has endorsed a

## ... Supports use of I.D. card for elections

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has given its full support for the use of the National Identity Card in future elections in the country.

The ruling party's position on the controversial issue was made known by its national chairman, Chief Barnabas Gemade who said

By Reuben Yunana with  
Agency Reports

using the I.D. card to vote would eliminate what he called "institutionalised electoral malpractices."

Speaking in Minna after a rally organised by the North Central Zone of the PDP, Gemade said "the National I.D. card will be good for elec-

## Army rejects Biafran soldiers

There are strong indications that soldiers who fought on the side of the defunct Republic of Biafra may not be absorbed into the Nigerian Army, despite their several years of agitation.

The Minister of State for Defence, Army, Mallam Lawal Batagarawa said in an exclusive interview with *Daily Trust* in Abuja at the weekend that several years of agitation by ex-Biafran soldiers to be re-absorbed into the Nigerian Army would not be feasible because they were not Nigerian soldiers.

"Let's face it. The Biafran Army was involved in treason, because to fight your country or against your country is treason, alright? These people were not staff of the Nigerian Army, so how do you re-absorb them?" the minister queried.

Although the Federal Government has granted general amnesty to ex-Biafran soldiers, it was however, silent on the issue of absorption.

On their part, the ex-Biafran soldiers had mounted sustained agitation for re-absorption, including petitions to successive governments, international organisations and commissions of enquiries.

Their agitations have been informed by the desire to be paid several years of gratuity and pension, an obvious implication of an absorption.

However, the Minister of

*contd. on pg 2*

## NEWS

**C'tee** *Contd. from pg 1*  
host of others were set ablaze.

President Olusegun Obasanjo who visited Kaduna shortly after the crisis described the phenomenon as "unfortunate," and likened it to the Nigeria civil war of 1967-70 where millions of lives were reportedly lost.

**2003:**

case of non-performance by the incumbent.

"Those who want to challenge the PDP governors in their states and all other elected office-holders must do a lot of homework to prove that they are better than those in position of authority today."

The PDP national chairman added that, "the party has performed creditably in offering democracy dividends to Nigerians, contrary to what the opposing parties would want people to believe."

He said the party decided to hold the Minna rally, in order to map out strategies for the winning of future elections, and challenged political associations presently seeking registration to hold their own rallies.

State, Army, maintained that the Biafran soldiers were not staff of the Nigerian Army, arguing therefore, that it was not possible for them to be reabsorbed.

According to him, reabsorption means that you were in the Nigerian Army before and you are now being taken back after disen-

*Contd. from pg 1*

"We challenge the new associations seeking registration to organise counter-rallies, so as to test their command of supporters in the country," Gemade added.

Earlier, the Niger State government had announced a donation of three station wagons to the zonal office of the party.

the I.D. card for the elections are doing it out of the fear that their tactics of swaying elections in their favour would be blocked," the party chairman declared.

He said the PDP was determined to support the federal government on the I.D. card project because it had already consumed a colossal amount of money from the previous administrations.

The position of the party which is the same as that of

**Army** *Contd. from pg 1*

gaging for a while, specifying that Biafran soldiers have never been in the Nigerian Army before and, therefore, cannot be reabsorbed.

He said, "unless you are saying that we should go and recruit former Biafran soldiers that is a different ball game altogether," stressing that, "they cannot talk about reabsorption because they were never part of the Nigerian Army. So you cannot reabsorb soldiers from another country into your own country."

The ex-Biafran soldiers are apparently asking for a permanent pardon and reabsorption so that they could have entitlements in the form of pension and gratuities, especially that the Ministry of Defence had announced

**Supports** *Contd. from pg 1*

the government is at variance with that of prominent politicians and notable Nigerians and INEC.

Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Dr. Abel Goubadia, told the Senate Committee on INEC early this year that the I.D. card would not be used for elections in the country contrary to rumours.

the increase, by about 600 percent, of the pension of ex-service men.

Earlier on July 25 and 26, Ohaneze Ndigbo, an Igbo socio-political organisation, had petitioned the Human Right Violation Investigation Commission (HRVIC), christened "Oputa Panel," for compensation for the 1967-70 civil war which, according to them, consumed about two million people of Igbo origin.

In addition, Ohaneze demanded for N8.6 trillion as reparation for alleged injustices and losses suffered by the Igbo during and after the war, citing the alleged marginalisation of the Igbos as one example of such injustices.

Reacting to a question on

the cause of the delay in the payment of pension to ex-service men, the Minister said that due to the increase in the amount to be paid as pension, by about 600 percent, the volume of money to be paid has become 'so large that extra care has to be taken to avoid discrepancies.

Secondly, he added, that because of the meagre amount paid in the past, legitimate pensioners who became disinterested have now rekindled their interest, following the increment, illegitimate pensioners have emerged as well, necessitating a careful study to flush out bad eggs. This, he said is also responsible for the delay.

While differentiating between the budgetary systems in the military, which was authoritarian and that of

would only begin the issuance of I.D. cards to Nigerians in 2003, which is too close to general elections.

Said he: "Recent indications are that the DNCR may not be ready for their own exercise until 2002. Therefore, though rather belated, INEC has decided to commence the registration in November if it can get the required funds to do so."

President Olusegun Obasanjo recently said dur-

the present civilian government, which has to pass through the National Assembly for scrutiny and approval, causes a slight delay in the payment of the pension, the Minister, however, assured that the difficulties involved in the payment of the pension would be solved between now and December, 2001.

**Doctors** *Contd. from pg 1*

however, puts the current population at 118 million.

It said that the fertility rate per woman remained at 5.2 while maternal and infant mortality rates stood unchanged at 10 and 75.1 per 1000 live births respectively.

It also said that crude birth and death rates remained at 49 and 14 per 1000 respectively.

ing his presidential media chat that contract for the I.D. card had been awarded to SAGEM, a French firm at a cost of \$218 million. He also confirmed that the cards would be used for the next federal and state elections.

The Federal Executive Council also announced after its weekly meeting that the cards would be used for future elections, the announcement was made by Internal Affairs Minister, Sunday Afolabi.

## The Debate Continues

For the past nine months in Lagos, Kano, Enugu and Abuja you have watched and read some startling revelations as well as accusations and counter-accusations at the Human Rights Violations Investigation Commission (HRVIC), otherwise known as Oputal Panel. Some VIPs have been invited and while some honoured the summons and attended, others refused to do so and President Obasanjo had advised them to attend. In continuation with its debate on national issues, *Daily Trust* is now giving you the opportunity to air your views on the topic:

**OPUTA PANEL: RECONCILIATION OR RECRIMINATIONS?**

You invaluable contributions on this topic are awaited. Write today and let others know your point of view.

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NEWS

## Nigeria to establish trade office in China

In a bid to sustain a dynamic export development programme, the Federal Government has concluded plans to establish a Nigeria trade office in the Peoples Republic of China.

The Minister of Commerce, Engr. Mustafa Bello, disclosed this in a message to participants at a seminar on: "Nigeria Export Promotion Council (NEPC) activities and current export incentives in Nigeria," organised by NEPC in Kano at the weekend.

The minister, who spoke

From Jamilah Nuhu Musa, in Kano

through the Director of Commodities and Export Trade, Alhaji Mohammed Abbass, said the trade office would be opened in Shanghai, the industrial nerve centre of China. This is with a view to assisting Nigerian exporters to effectively penetrate the vast Chinese market.

The pilot schemes for the project are to be established in conjunction with UNDP and ITC Geneva and will be located in Kachia in Kaduna for ginger production and other towns.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Secretary to the Nigeria Export Promotion Council Board, D.I. Adulugba Esq, said the seminar is one of the dividends of hardwork and focused commitment of the board and management of NEPC.

He stated that the efforts of NEPC indicates that the dividend of democracy is not limited to a particular sector of the economy.



Engr. Mustafa Bello

## Rainstorm wrecks havoc in Adamawa

No fewer than hundred people were rendered homeless in Lamude Local Government Area of Adamawa State, following a rainstorm that wrecked havoc in the area.

Daily Trust learnt that the area was also thrown into darkness when the rainstorm swept away about 40 electric poles and damaged the secretariat and a local police station.

Although no life was lost, many people including an old woman, were injured as a result of the disaster.

The state House of Assembly has resolved to send a delegation to visit the affected areas. The Chairman of the Local Government Council, Mr. Crowder Seth, who visited the affected areas, expressed his sympathy to the victims.

He told Daily Trust that the council had to take prompt action to minimise the level of structural damage and the distress of the victims.

Mr. Seth said the council would compile a comprehensive report about the disaster and

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, in Yola

forward it to both the federal and state governments for possible assistance.

He, however, appealed to the state government and other well-meaning bodies to offer immediate assistance to the victims, most of whom have lost their homes.



Vice-President Atiku Abubakar (middle) flanked by FCT Minister, Engr. Mohammed Abba-Gana (left), the Minister of Police Affairs, Mr. Steven Akiga (right), Engr. Barnabas Gemade and the Chief Justice of the Federation, Justice Muhammadu L. Uwais, cutting the tape to commission Louis Edet House, the new police headquarters in Abuja, recently. Pix: Kenennedy Egbonodje

## "Power to hire, fire still resides in FCSC"

By Abubakar Ibrahim

The power to appoint and exercise disciplinary action on officers in the federal civil service, including retirements, still resides in the Federal Civil Service Commission (FCSC), Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SFG), Chief U.J. Ekaette has said.

According to a press release signed by the SFG, he was clearing media reports that the power to relieve officers in the federal civil service of "their appointments in the public interest has now been ceded to the presidency."

Chief Ekaette averred that the powers conferred on the FCSC were contained in Part 1 (D), Third schedule of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 and



Chief Ufot Ekaette

2001.

The new amendment reads: "Notwithstanding the provisions of this

chapter (Chapter 4), if the Federal Civil Service Commission, acting on reliable information, considers it desirable in the Public Interest that an officer shall retire from the Service, the commission shall take appropriate action to effect the retirement of the officer within two weeks. In every such case, the question of pension and gratuity will be dealt with under the Pensions Act, Cap. 346, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990."

The FCSC has been empowered by this amendment, to "deal expeditiously with disciplinary cases in the federal civil service, some of which had lingered for so long, because of the bureaucratic nature of the former provisions of Civil Service Rule 04601, which has been replaced by the new provision," the statement added.

## Zamfara official remanded in prison

From Salisu Zakari Maradun, in Gusau

Barely ten days after two of the Zamfara State senior government officials exchanged blows over an ex-female corps member (name withheld), another top government official has been remanded in prison custody by the Sharia Court for allegedly camping a lady by name Grace Anore.

The top government official, according to the prosecution, resides at the catering rent house in Gusau where he committed the offence on 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2001. This, according to him is contrary to Sharia penal code.

The prosecution also told the court that the accused person, Mallam Haruna Ibrahim, was arrested by the local

vigilante group at about 12.00 noon on August 4, 2001, in company of the said lady.

Testifying before the court, the leader of the vigilante group, Mallam Yahaya Gwamna, who



Gov Ahmed Sani

arrested the culprit, said when the vigilante group accosted the accused, he could not explain himself satisfactorily.

He narrated that on the fateful day, at about 8.00 a.m, a staff of the catering rest house came to the vigilante group headquarters to inform them that the accused had brought a woman into the rest house.

He further explained to the court that he led the team of his men and cordoned the premises of the rest house and waited until 12.00 noon when the accused came out and was immediately arrested.

During cross-examination, the accused told the court that he only gave a lift to Grace in the night, but on getting to

the house, they met the doors shot.

The accused, however, told the court that he knows Grace as a food vendor in the office of the Deputy Governor where he does eat.

The judge, Mallam Dahiru Mohammed, told the accused that it was illegal for him to convey a lady to a house that has no married women.

Mallam Dahiru also stressed that the Sharia legal system frowns at the practice of finding men and women in secluded places, especially when they are not married or related.

He ordered the accused to be remanded in prison custody until August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2001 for further hearing.

## Adesanya warns AD governors

From Olumide Bajulaiye, in Abeokuta

The leader of the Afenifere, the Pan-Yoruba socio-cultural group, Senator Abraham Adesanya, has given a strong warning to Alliance for Democracy (AD) governors.

According to him, "any governor who dumps Afenifere for Alliance for Democracy will have himself to blame."

Pa Abraham Adesanya, who spoke on Saturday in an exclusive telephone chat with Daily Trust in Abeokuta, said, "all AD governors rode on the back of the Afenifere to become government, and cannot dump the group now."

His words: "Afenifere has been a rallying point in the South-West and Awolowo as the leader and one of the founders of that organization is held in high esteem. Although, we contested elections under the platform of AD, we campaigned vigorously under the Afenifere banner."

"If there is any governor who feels, perhaps, that he is falling apart from that past, he will have himself to blame. Afenifere is as strong as ever. It is an umbrella for the whole of the Yorubas. If there is anybody who wants to get out of the umbrella alone, let him be the one to be beaten by rain and sunshine," he said.

The Second Republic Senator explained that Afenifere has never indicated any intention to leave AD nor has it asked any governor to leave Afenifere or AD.

Commenting on his conspicuous absence at government functions in Ogun State in the last two years, Adesanya said he has never been invited. "And even if I were invited, that is not a place I should just be going junketing about," he added.

"My not attending government functions in Ogun State is no question of discrimination against Ogun State or favouring Lagos more than any other state. When Bisi Akande was commissioning roads in Oshogbo, he invited me and I went there, ditho with Ondo. In fact, there is nothing improper about my not attending functions where I am not invited."



Pa Abraham Adesanya

## NEWS

## Nigeria, Niger border disputes end soon - officials

Nigerian officials and their Niger counterparts have at a seminar in Sokoto brainstormed over the pending border disputes and security lapses, and vowed to vigorously embrace dialogue towards promoting socio-economic integration.

The seminar, which centred on Nigeria-Niger trans-border management and cooperation, organised by the National Boundary Commission, was aimed at evolving measures towards addressing border conflicts among villages as well as fighting the on going trans-border crime.

Participants converged at the Giginya Hotel, Sokoto, includ-

By Suleiman Muhammed,  
just back from Sokoto

ing the Vice-President, Atiku Abubakar, the Niger Prime Minister, Alhaji Hamman Ahamadu and top government officials of both countries, and resolved to, notwithstanding, border demarcation, embrace dialogue rather than confrontation.

They noted that with the current globalisation and demands for proper economic integration among African nations, a greater harmony in Nigeria-Niger relations was crucial, "if the many progressive transborder projects and plans jointly agreed upon by both countries, are to be successfully implemented."

At the opening session, Vice-President Atiku Abubakar stressed the importance of dia-

logue to conflict resolution, saying the seminar was organised to demonstrate government's determination in seeking peaceful solutions to border problems "with all our neighbour."

"It is expected that at the end of the seminar, the roles and responsibilities of government agencies from our two nation's in the management of transborder cooperation will be enhanced for the greater benefit of our people," adding that Nigeria's door is open, especially to Cameroun for a more constructive engagement of each other for a speedy resolution of all outstanding border problems.

The seminar, which was a follow-up to the one held in 1989 in Kano, was attended by over fifty participants from both countries.

## Gov Aliero to investigate LG activities

From Kabir Dogon-daji,  
in Birnin-Kebbi

Apparently disturbed with the poor performance of the local government council chairmen in Kebbi State, Governor Adamu Aliero, has set up three powerful committees to investigate the alleged reckless spendings of the councils.

The three committees which were set up over the weekend have in their terms of reference

the investigation into the over one billion naira they had so far received as statutory allocation from the federal government in just 2 years.

According to him the committees would look into the performance of the council chairmen through the execution of projects they had executed since inception to date.

Governor Aliero, made this disclosure when he received members of the state local government councillors forum last week on a courtesy call at the government house Birnin-Kebbi, he explained that the actions was to bring sanity and to ensure prudent management of public funds bestowed on them.

He added that "I just found it necessary to set up of this committees after receiving series of petitions and complaints from the public on the poor performance, truancy and recklessness of the council chairmen in the state."

Aliero further assured the people of the state that any chairman found wanting would not be spared, that he shall be brought to book and a disciplinary action would be meted on him, "we cannot fold our arms and watch how public funds were been diverted, misappropriated and squandered."

While urging council chairmen in the state to embark on execution of meaningful projects that have direct bearing on the lives of the electorates in order to justify the confidence reposed on them by the people of their localities, he said.

Earlier the leader of the delegation, Alhaji Abubakar Sabo, had appealed to the state government to intervene on the massive deduction from the source of the councils statutory allocations that started about three months ago.

Abubakar Sabo, argued that the serious cut in their subvention has rendered them handicapped, a situation he said that had force many local government in the state not to pay their July salary, tackles of settling some of their liabilities.



Alhaji Sule Lamido,

## Oputa Panel: Emir urges IBB, others not to appear

The Emir of Gwandu, Alhaji Al-Mustapha Jokolo, has enjoined three former Heads of State, Muhammadu Buhari, Ibrahim Babangida and Abdulsalami Abubakar, not to appear before the Oputa panel, "As the panel is a place where our leaders are desecrated."

Exchanging views with the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) team leader, Sen. Olusola Saraki, on Thursday in his palace during a courtesy visit, Jokolo said, "the most disturbing thing to me and majority of our people is the Oputa Panel."

"If it is a place where people can go and make disclosures, that will be alright, if it is not one sided.

"Oputa Panel to me, is virtually a place where our leaders are desecrated and we jump and clap. It is unfortunate that we are the same people, destroying ourselves."

"I watch with dismay when military officers like Brig.-Gen. Sabo and Capt. Mustapha, who is not even a Major, fire insults on our leaders, making statements which nobody had bothered to verify.

"Now, we have changed the law in Nigeria, it is a situation where the innocent have the onus to prove his guilt not his innocence because he had already been condemned and we, in the north, are laughing about it and enjoying it, a bunch of clowns ridiculing themselves, ridiculing their system," he said.

The royal father further said, "I thank the ACF for its firm stand, I thank you for standing for our leaders, that no Nigerian leader from the north should appear before the Oputa panel, they should never appear before the panel."

He reminded the ACF and Nigerians that "the case of Buhari is unconnected to Umaru Dikko, he had made his case clear that the incident happened somewhere outside Nigeria, it is not the mandate of Oputa to investigate cases outside Nigeria, so why is everybody making noise about it."

"In the case of Babangida, he has been cited because of the death of Dele Giwa, this case was tried in a court and it was dismissed, while in the case of Abdulsalami, we have discredited officers, making wild allegations, insulting our leaders."

Jokolo said, "We have someone like Chief Bola Ige, who was asked to appear before the senate and he refused to appear and nobody made any noise about it."

He commended ACF for speaking its mind freely and its defence of the northern interest and enjoined it to ignore those calling it names as "they are a bunch of cowards and bootlickers."

Earlier, Saraki had said that they were in the state to seek ways of fostering unity among northerners and to let them know about the aims and objectives of the forum.



## NIGERIA EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES AUTHORITY (NEPZA), ABUJA

### ORGANISES A ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON: OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FREE ZONES SCHEME

#### AIM:

The Honourable Minister of Commerce, Engr. Mustafa Bello, has directed as part of his strategic initiative, the mounting of the One-day seminar to facilitate a better understanding of the Free Zones Scheme in Nigeria. The Seminar will enlighten participants on the requirements for establishment of Free Zones/Export Factories, licensing procedure and operational format.

#### FOR WHOM:

- Honourable Commissioners of Commerce/Trade
- Officials responsible for Commerce/Trade
- Interested Private Sector Groups

DATE: 22ND AUGUST 2001

TIME: 10.00A.M.

VENUE: SHERATON HOTEL AND TOWERS

REGISTRATION FEE: N25,000 PER PARTICIPANT

KEYNOTE ADDRESS WILL BE DELIVERED BY:

ENGR. MUSTAFA BELLO

HONOURABLE MINISTER OF COMMERCE

For further information call:

09-2343060

09-2349250

Signed

Management

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

## Making the ban work

Recently, the Advertising Practitioners Council of Nigeria (APCON) announced a ban on the advertisement and promotion of cigarettes and alcoholic products on television and radio with effect from January 1, 2002. Chief Olu Falomo, the council's chairman, disclosed that pitch panel displays of the products would not be allowed in sporting arenas and stadia and that their advertisement in newspapers and magazines would be restricted to inside covers and inside pages.

On the surface, the measure adopted by APCON seems well intended and goes to show the council's concern for public health and the need to discourage society, especially the young, who have hitherto not taken to the harmful habit, from being encouraged to do so. Looked at more closely, it is however doubtful if indeed APCON, the umbrella body for all advertising practitioners in the country, can succeed in enforcing the ban and in the process, bring about the change in attitude and behaviour it anticipates.

APCON seems unmindful of the fact that several other social factors contribute in conditioning the habits of consumers of cigarettes and alcohol. If, for instance, some people are dissuaded from indulging in the use of these products, one wonders what becomes of the many more for whom cigarettes and alcohol have become a part of their lives and whose habits some minors are bound to emulate.

The federal government in 1990 enacted the Tobacco and Smoking Control Decree which states in Section 2(1) that "no person shall advertise tobacco products to the general public in a bid to encourage tobacco smoking through any of the means specified in schedule two in this decree unless the advertisement contains a warning that tobacco smoking is dangerous to health". In line with the provision of this decree, stakeholders in the tobacco and alcohol industries have protested the ban by APCON, arguing that since the decree has neither been repealed nor amended, the body has acted *ultra vires*.

In as much as we recognise that despite their shortcomings, the tobacco and alcohol industries contribute their quota to the economy of the country by employing a significant number of Nigerians, we also strongly believe that Nigerians, young and old, must be protected from the dangers these products cause. Measures that will curtail their sale, promotion and consumption must be encouraged. Without a doubt, overindulgence by youths in the use of these products has greatly contributed to the decline in the level of morality and discipline in our society today.

It is therefore, the duty of not only APCON but government and all its agencies to ensure that public health is protected and decorum maintained in the country. We urge APCON to make representations to the National Assembly to seek for amendment of the existing decree to include alcohol consumption which it is clearly silent about and also seek for its enforcement. Nigeria is after all under democratic governance where not even any of the three arms of government is allowed to usurp the functions of others.

## MONDAY COLUMN

# Passion, reason and unreason

By Danfulani Ahmed

These are very hard times. Hard not because things are out rightly bad. But hard by the nature of the environment and the relatively unhealthy climate of politics in our beautiful land. Only last week, was a serious 'retreat' lasting for three days, held in Abuja. The major highlight of that presidential retreat was that given the rather poisonous political climate, our national security dynamics need a more serious approach. Reliably, some diagnosis were made, and necessary efforts will be online to straighten out rough edges. We shall have a time in the very near future to delve on some hard realities of this phenomenon. Our reference to the retreat is to buttress the subject of our concern this week, with the national security dimension of our socio-political landscape – especially given that Mr. President, in company of all our security experts, with some traditional rulers took the matter with the seriousness it deserves. It must however be highlighted here, as we have done elsewhere, that defence and security issues are not the sort of material that should be handled carelessly. National security issues, in as much as they concern our collective survival, and in line with the practice in some older foreign democracies, are strictly the preserve of experts, and others that actually understand the implications of security issues on our body politics. Let us resist the temptation for going further. Our 'piece of meat' – *nos muttons* – as would say the French, is strictly on a subject bordering largely on the traps of our current democratic order.

Given the unfortunate and painful experiences of the previous decades of military rule, opportunity was provided for the establishment of a 'Truth and Reconciliation Commission' dubbed the Oputa panel – so named after the Justice heading the panel. In no uncertain terms, the commission, going by the instrument of its operationality, has been declared as NOT being a court! Not being one, the commission is but a pseudo-judicial contraption, intently crafted to establish the truth and allow for genuine reconciliation between and among Nigerians, in God's own country.

So far the commission has been quite as fortunate, as to be the first victim of its success! Nigerians from all walks of life – some driven by passion, some by reason, yet others propelled by 'unreason' have besieged the commission with several presentations, argumentations, claims and counterclaims. Issues extended from 1914 to the present; and each party at play – with great passion and undissimulated forthrightness – has strongly defended their case, with legal luminaries at hand to buttress a point or two, and even several. That is democracy in action, which indeed corresponds solidly to the expression of opinion, ideas, consent, dissent and attrition in a plural democratic polity. The array of issue touched and most times extremely serious problems, were brought to the fore. 1960 was quite a long time to now, yet Nigerians dug deep into the archives, exhumed and dust up several files, some of them bordering on our national security and stability. We must here commend the adroitness with which the panellists, especially the chairman of the commission, Honourable Justice Oputa, have been handling the day-to-day affairs of the commission. In the strict tradition of transparency, the Nigeria Television Authority has also lived up to its expectation. Unfortunately, not many people have television, some even when they do, don't have electricity. Yet others – my parents from the creeks to the desert – don't even have TV or NEPA; the villages are yet to enjoy the basic rural infrastructures. So, a section of Nigerians are those concerned by the 'Oputa fever'!! They are those that can read or write in English, not Arabic, Igbo, Hausa or Yoruba, and they are those with access to NEPA and a TV. Of course, in its wider ramifications, the Oputa commission concerns all of us. Imagine that the *Ohaneze* and their Arewa brothers (can anyone remember Azikiwe and Balewa, Yakubu and Odumegwu, Shagari and Ekwueme?) were all present at the village square!! Ranging from the man who came to complain that he was locked up in a crate ready for shipment, to the men and women who were imprisoned, maimed or even those whose relations, brothers, sisters were killed, or those that frame or were framed in a botched coup, down to those that came to complain of marginalisation, alienation, discrimination, dehumanisation – Nigerians heard and had it all. Passion flowed, reasons were demonstrated and sometimes 'unreason' crept into the fray. Happily and even sadly once again, it was dialogue among Nigerians, between Nigerians for Nigerians and their country. It was democracy in action and could anyone imagine that barely two years ago – or even much earlier, it was actually impossible to express an opinion, to form a political party or even to secretly complain about our 'unusually' powerful and sometimes power drunk dealers and leaders that had the singular honour of being chosen by the gun to rule? When therefore we were as fortunate as to be given a chance to express ourselves, bare our minds, exhume the dirty files and wash our dirty linen in the open, little wonder then, that Nigerians, God's own children, were as alert as to bring out all the skeletons in their cupboards. Nobody can beat us! And in line with a Yoruba proverb (oh don't let Adesanya hear me):

### LETTER OF THE DAY

#### NNN staff deserve demo dividends too

It is very unfair that we the staff of the New Nigerian Newspapers have not started enjoying the minimum wage introduced by the federal government.

Therefore, on behalf of the entire staff of the company, I appeal to the federal government and the National Assembly to, as a matter of urgency, come to the aid of the company.

We are of the belief that if enough funds are made available to the organisation, the morale of the workers will be boosted and production will surely improve.

Musa H. Gumel,  
New Nigerian Newspapers Limited,  
Box 254,  
Kaduna

*Orisiri obe l'anri nijo iku erin*, meaning: 'on the death of an elephant, different sorts of knives would surface', there was no limit to the subjects and issues raised, so long as they border on the abuse of the fundamental social, political and economic rights of the citizenry.

Of this 'fantastic' daylight dance of the 'titans' of our national political 'who and who', the most serious were doubts expressed on whether or not our past leaders (three of them – and incidentally soldier, from the North) would/could/should appear in person at the Oputa panel. Opinions were expressed as to the legality or otherwise of such an action; as to whether or not the commission has a force of law to summon or compel these gentlemen to appear before it. In all these battles of logic, wits and nerves, passion, reason and unreason actually saw the light of day! Let us pick one or two of these arguments and exchange some truths – since we don't need a commission to talk to ourselves; and since of course, we owe ourselves the challenge of upholding and jealously protecting our rights of expression.

On the principle of the legality of action, Oputa panel is justifiably and legally empowered to summon these 'gentlemen' to appear before it. Students of law and public administration, and possibly 'other students of other things' know all too well the distinction between the power to summon and the power to arrest or force the summoned to the summoner. So far, the Oputa panel is consciously acting on the instrumentality of its *raison d'etre*, and quite brilliantly, it has tactfully distinguished between summoning and arrest. In sum, the panel, as had been admitted by all, is NOT a court of law, and by implication, it could only function on the principle of goodwill. Not being a court, the commission is diplomatically disrobed of the functions of the former, and by extension; outside the pure expression of passion and reason, and possibly 'unreason', the commission cannot force the man on the road, not even to talk of former heads of state, to appear before it. Legally speaking, and founded on what has been universally accepted as the 'rule of law', our distinguished gentlemen (one paper referred to them as extinguished) know all too well that they could enjoy their rights of expression, consent, dissent and silence with the full cover of the law. No more, no less. When and where therefore passion is laced with 'unreason', everybody's guess is right, but the fundamental truth will remain immutable. Here too, we must all thank our stars (and all our former first citizens, including the incumbent are the first beneficiaries) that the country is finally on the right path. Democratic governance affords all and sundry the exercise of the fundamental political, cultural and socio-economic rights in a plural political order. Imagine an Oputa panel under a military administration! Imagine the inhuman treatment meted to one Olusegun Obasanjo, and his late deputy Shehu Musa! Imagine what happened to Afrifa, Akufo and Acheampong in Ghana – all former military heads of state. God forbid and glory be to Him alone for giving this country another Mandela, Mr. Mathew, who graciously and committedly appreciates the values of pardon and forgiveness.

If we agree that legally speaking 'our gentlemen' could/should/will exercise their fundamental rights of dissent and silence, as entrenched under the constitution, could we agree that from the viewpoint of morality those distinguished fellows should respect public opinion and submit themselves to the 'humiliation, abuse, disrespect, verbal attacks' and what have you, that we have witnessed so far at the commission? The unequivocal response will not be in the affirmative. First, what is public opinion? Second, whose opinion is public? Third, is a public opinion totally or sectionally collective? Fourth, at what point is public opinion the yardstick of justice and fair play? If we admit that justice must be transparent and that each person is equal before the law, could we also admit that the doctrine of equality cannot be partial? To be fair and effective, even efficient, it has to be total. If it is therefore total, that is, no sacred cows, then it goes for admission that in as much as nobody is superior to the law, NOBODY also must be inferior to it. To therefore expect a former head of state, in a country the size of Nigeria with her power and potentials, to be reduced to an object of verbal assault, **outside a competent court of law**, is to underplay the essential ingredient of political and diplomatic immunity enjoyed by those concerned. If we must tell and admit the truth – only a court of law, and even then, with high reservations and respect to the institution of the occupant, could effectively 'order an appearance' before it; and this applies to the mechanic as it does to a professor or journalist, and *aposteriori* to a former first citizen.

In sum, and kudos to the great man sitting in Aso Rock, who intelligently opined that in the name of posterity, each of our distinguished gentlemen should endeavour to clear their names of any allegation. This is the domain of logic and political morality. Anybody holding that office is assumed to be working in the interest of the nation. Unfortunately, that office can only be held by human beings who could be moved by reason, passion and at times 'dispassion' and unreason. Unfortunately too, in law, we have no parameter of judgement as to the utility of public morality. Government is composed of the executive (implementing the laws) the legislative (formulating the laws) the judiciary (interpreting the laws), and at no time should/could any branch of government interpret, formulate or enforce its own laws. We must follow the constitution to the letter, and therefore must run the nation under the rule of law if it stands to reason that we must all consciously and collectively be ruled by law, as opposed to the gun, then it goes for submission that 'passion, reason and unreason' fall in the domain of public morality. Having come this far, (1914 – 2001), and having tolerated this much, even having been as fortunate, the challenges before Nigerian leadership and the entire citizenry are far greater than the issue of Oputa or Akanbi. Our collective survival in the community of nations is at stake. Our tomorrow must be greater than yesterday and today. Our greatness should not be compromised, we must forge ahead and keep the words of Ahmed Talib – one of our distinguished citizens – in mind when he wrote (in 1981 in the *New Nigerian*) a sentence which I memorised and has repeated several times since then. It goes thus: 'whatever a man believes or disbelieves is entirely his/her conviction. But NOBODY's position of the mind can ever change the truth. And with time, the truth will triumph. *Gaskiya za ta tabatta.*' No more, no less.

## Opinion

## Nigerian democracy and sustainable development

By Joseph Aiyejoto

The term democracy has variously been defined and phenomenally considered as one of the systems that could salvage the destitution of man in the area of fashioning a veritable model for governance. The word is almost a cliché that has lost its meaning in the euphoria of election victory. It is in fact, a conundrum of sort. Moreover, the most popular definition of democracy as government of the people by the people and for the people has lost its value in the shadow of inordinate political ambition of the elected representatives. For the record, democracy goes beyond the electioneering procedures and processes. Indeed, it should be seen as a challenge to man's idea and know-how about organising the society in such a dignified way that would lead to not only the survival of the fauna but also the flora.

Well, because much have been written on the meaning of democracy and how to make it work without much success, I will like to consider it from the point of view of a lay man who would like to equate the term with the aftermath of elections. The period that will bring to fore the ability of elected officers to proof their mettle in the area of meeting the desires and aspirations of the masses. I will like to consider democracy from the angle of how much the elected representatives are able and willing to maximise opportunities there are for every citizen of the polity to be part and parcel of governance. A situation, which enables not just the few, but the majority to take decisions that will positively impact on the well being of the entire citizenry. Indeed, democracy should be seen from the perspective of fashioning deliberate policies that would involve the populace in the affairs of the state and consequently lead to the liberation and full realization of the potentials of the people.

Going by the above position, one would say that Nigeria's, in fact, world's idea and practice of democracy can be said to have fallen short of many ideals that could bring man to the desired goal of good governance. In Nigeria, because democracy has not been considered in term of what the elected representatives can do for the people but rather as a means of amassing wealth and building sophisticated walls to shield the individual's ambition, one could see the negativity of democracy in the spate of power politics by the executive, legislative and judicial arms of government (at national, states and local governments levels) at the expense of the masses. More of the other side of the term could also be seen in the number of abandoned projects; such as embarked upon but jettisoned as a result of selfish interests.

However, democracy and sustainable development if considered as intertwined and therefore inseparable, can bring more respite to the lot of the masses. This is because; sustainable development goes beyond party manifestos and elections as it seeks the articulation and incorporation of not only human needs but also the environmental needs of the people in the pursuit of economic growth and development. Hence therefore, it would only thrive when there is a major focal point and interest between the leaders and the led. In effect, sustainable development adopts a notion of a process of development that is equitable and socially responsive, taking into consideration poverty, deprivation and inequality at local and national levels. The emphasis of sustainable development therefore suggests that what is needed is a policy effort aimed at making development efforts and achievements last well into the future.

If the above analyses are basic and true about democracy and sustainable development, then one could understand the reasons why the two concepts have failed to work in our society. This is because many of the elected leaders have not considered themselves as representatives of the led but as people given every opportunity to amass wealth and make name at the detriment of the citizenry. No wonder their policy thrust and project executions are always tilted towards such that could masquerade as having to do with development. But far from it, their present moves have no lasting solution to human endeavour. Most of them are involved in blowing their own trumpet. They execute projects and name it after themselves as if they have done that with their own money. Reports from most of the states and local government areas of the federation revealed that the names of their governors and local government chairmen respectively, sound louder than the number of projects on the ground. Housing estates are built at state cost but named after the governor. Mass transit buses are purchased and what you see on them is not the name of the state but that of the governor. Institutions are established and named after the governor. The examples are innumerable. One may not need to mention names of states that such exist. They are not hidden.

One thing that must bother one, however, is the sustainability of such projects as some of them are just executed in such a way that would make them to last for a while and collapse after a short time. Most of them would definitely crumble shortly after their originators bow out of office. If this is the case, I think the nation need a redefinition of democracy in term of its enhancing sustainable development that would eventually lead to socio-economic and political growth.

In view of this, there should be a massive enlightenment campaign and awareness creation, to wit, the establishment of a re-awakened and rejuvenated political elite and citizenry that would be highly disciplined to the extent that their aim would be the promotion of good governance. On this premise, transparency, credibility and accountability would become the greatest societal ideals to be promoted. To this end, the purpose of governance should be focused on the establishment of structures that would respond to the essential needs of the people, including the provision of food, shelter, clothing, good health, security and the respect for human rights, among others. If all these are in place, democracy can be more meaningful to the people and sustainable development can be attained. Rather than basking in the shadow of seemingly socio-political achievements therefore, elected officers should strive more towards achieving feats that will thrive even after the expiration of their tenure. They should stop their unethical romances with political offices and concentrate on how they can leave a lasting legacy for the present generation and posterity to enjoy.

## Re: Rimi and disrespect to Obasanjo

By Habeeb Idris Pindiga

Ever since former governor of old Kano State and one-time Minister of Communications, Alhaji Abubakar Rimi declared his intention to contest for the presidency, to the consternation of the no-vacancy apostles, a broadside has been launched on the astute and canny politician. One of the recent criticisms against the idealist, apparently for the candour of his challenge to Obasanjo for dereliction, was posted by one Idang Alibi, who, writing in *Daily Trust* of July 11, 2001, promised to ensure Rimi "loses ten votes". Strange.

Alibi's grouse could be recapitulated to include what he interpreted as Rimi's disrespect to Obasanjo, his desperation for power, pursuance of a vendetta against the president and fuelling the North-South cleavage. Based on the foregoing, Alibi resolved not to vote for Rimi "even if the whole world votes for him." Thought provoking.

Now Idang Alibi could not provide cogent illustrations of where or how Rimi by commission or omission disrespected Obasanjo, despite the cocksure stance with which he fumbled in his article. But he argued that Rimi "speaks in a very derogatory manner about the president", and "uses his mouth to desecrate the stool he desires to occupy". Here, Alibi is referring to Rimi's criticism of Obasanjo for ineptitude. To me, there is even much civility in the way Rimi criticised the president. The gentleman merely said he wanted the electorate to substitute him for Obasanjo because he believed he could perform better than

the incumbent, who has failed. Period. What is disrespectful there? Is there any wrong in calling a spade a spade? I think by merely mentioning the palpable, Rimi has been subtler, compared to those who dismiss Aremu as a wastrel and a miscarriage. Obasanjo has, the greatest mandate ever given to a single politician in the whole of Africa, add this to the unprecedented pecuniary back-up he has, one wonders what else he needs in order to deliver. Idang Alibi posited that "whatever may be the weakness of the occupant of that seat (Nigeria's presidency) he is entitled to respect and decent treatment". If respect to Obasanjo must mean applauding his misdeeds, then we are in trouble.

On the issue of desperation for power, which in Alibi's diatribe qualified Rimi to be a go-getter, the writer was just trying to cut the ground from under Rimi's feet. The idea is no human being should be so besmirched for having an ambition that is not inordinately. A politician who has been a governor and a mini-sters has all it takes to consider himself eligible for the presidency, which is in no way desperation. Add this to the untainted credentials he has, and you have a good presidential material. In fact for his audacity to declare his ambition, to the chagrin of the pro-status quos like Alibi, Rimi needs to be commended, and not condemned. It takes gargantuan honesty to declare such an ambition even when a legion of others are procrastinating. Had Rimi

been desperate, would he have conceded to the PDP zoning formula of 1998/99 which led to the suspension of his ambition? But he did.

And then what vendetta would Rimi pursue against Obasanjo? Idang Alibi brazenly claimed that "from what I hear, Rimi is also pursuing a personal vendetta against Obasanjo" because Rimi's initial ambition was scuttled to accommodate Obasanjo, and because he was afterwards shunned by the president. For embarking on his anti-Rimi crusade, relying on clacking tongues, Alibi qualified himself to be a rumormonger with a warped mind. For his information, Rimi was not prevailed upon to shelve his ambition in order to pave way for Obasanjo, but for power shift. Therefore, if he were to have any one culpable for that, it would have been the PDP and its leadership of that time, and not Obasanjo who was a later entrant. Hence to say Rimi harbours any grudges against one individual, or that he was "trying to get back at the man he thinks wronged him" is not only a pulsating falsity but also a chicanery.

On the North-South divide which Alibi insinuated that Rimi is trying to widen by mobilising against a southern president, nothing could be further from the truth. Rimi has a chronicle antecedence of pathological association with southerners. The rapport between him and Olu Falae cost his fellow northerners crucial votes in 1992 presidential primaries. Similarly, with Rimi backing him, Moshood Abiola beat Bashir Tofa in Kano, during the 1993

presidential election. Moreover, Rimi worked assiduously in favour of *Afenifere's* fusion to PDP, to ensure his Yoruba friends made it to the presidency. When this failed, he was in the forefront in the Obasanjo-for-president bandwagon. What could be more glaring in terms of facilitating national cohesion? This aside, Rimi ranked among the top northerners who fought Abacha, something which earned him a fierce manhunt and eventual confinement. It is thus indecorous, incongruous and invidious for Idang Alibi to say Rimi "would not dare to treat a northern president in the cavalier manner he treats Obasanjo."

I want to implore Idang Alibi to be chary of his ill-advised caprice and mischief. He is of course at *carte blanche* when using his vote, but let him be tolerant of the burgeoning healthy competition. On the president, who Alibi believes is our best alternative, he should be aware that inheriting a "rotten system" is not a *force majeure* to Obasanjo's failure. The president is neither "a unifying figure" nor does he "represent our best hope for now", especially if we are honest enough to consider the lacklustre treatment he accords the OPC pogrom among others. For now Rimi is evidently not disrespectful to Obasanjo, just as he himself is not head over heels irreproachable. But this must not rob him of the freedom to tell the truth about the incumbent administration at the centre, nor of vying for the presidency. No.

Habeeb writes from A18, Bajoga Quarters, Gombe.

## Lere elders are peace lovers, not killers

By Abdullahi Lawal Lere

I wish to bring to the notice of our able governor, Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi, the serious political intrigue that is rocking the Lere Local Government Area of Kaduna State, which is posing a serious threat to the peaceful coexistence of the peace loving people of the local government.

I am making reference to the attempt by the council chairman, Alhaji Aliyu Sale Raminkura to indict the most senior and highly respected citizens of Lere local government. These include Alhaji Dabo Lere former governor of the state, Brig Gen. Garba Mohammed (rtd), former military governor of Sokoto State, Alhaji Ahmadu Zaki Saminaka, Kaduna State Commissioner for Rural Development, Hon. Ibrahim Lawal Nuhu, two members of the Kaduna State House of Assembly and a host of others.

Indeed, none of these respected individuals will think of sending armed robbers to the newly acquired houses of the chairman either to kill him or intimidate him, as he wants the world to believe.

The truth of the matter, Your Excellency, is that Aliyu Raminkura became apprehensive with the patriotic attempt by some young indigenes of the local government who felt that the chairman has a case to answer at the Anti Corruption Commission considering the stupendous wealth he and some legislator cronies were amassing at the expense of the poor electorate. When, therefore, attempt was made to identify, photograph and record 20 of the beautiful mansions spread within Tudun Wada, a suburb of Kaduna, which were acquired by the chairman within 26 months of his tenure, he quickly laid a criminal complaint with the police, alleging that the youths were sent to identify his houses with criminal inclination. He also alleged that the listed personalities were behind the move.

Incredibly, he wants the police, and the world to believe that these important personalities who have excelled themselves in various fields and retired with their integrity intact will descend so low as to send young men to kill a self-serving village chairman and his family. And how can somebody in his right senses who wants to commit murder arm himself with video cameras and still cameras instead of guns and other weapons?

What is baffling here is how the chairman came about these houses and the unprecedented wealth he brazenly displays to the consternation of his hunger-stricken electorate? We knew quite well that he is not and was never a gambler and would therefore not have won any lottery neither did we hear of him winning any jackpot recently.

One wonders how a council chairman whose earning is not more than two million naira per annum could acquire landed

property worth more than 200 million naira within 26 months. This questions the integrity and ability of the Nigeria Police Force to protect the poor masses of this country.

It is really sad that the police chose to be blinded by the chairman's frivolous complaint instead of asking the natural question of how the chairman came to own such extensive property in the first place. One will also want to believe that in the spirit of the anti-corruption posture of the present democratic administration, the police would have swung into action with a view to determining the veracity of his complaint, rather than clamping innocent people into detention.

The dumbfounded citizens of Lere are asking themselves if the police is not helping Raminkura to cover his shameful acts through bogus investigation as means of intimidating and subsequent submission of patriotic youths into final silence?

One is also tempted to ask equally and rightly too if Governor Makarfi is encouraging Raminkura by condoning his undemocratic high handedness?

It is on record that this chairman was one of the council chairmen recently suspended for offences of financial misappropriation and embezzlement and later reinstated. Till date, neither Alhaji Aliyu Sale Raminkura nor the review panel set up by Governor Ahmed Makarfi has been able to clear the chairman of allegations of misappropriating more than 50 million naira for which he was suspended.

Surely, the people of Lere Local Government voted for Ali Raminkura and indeed Governor Makarfi with the belief that their living standards will improve, but the reverse seems to be what is happening today: palpable agony, dashed hopes and obvious despair are what one will see on the faces of citizens of Lere. We did not vote for Raminkura to cause confusion amongst us, neither did we vote for him to detain, harass and intimidate our brothers.

No amount of intimidation, coercion, falsehood and manoeuvres at high places will stop these personalities from towing the path of honour, righteousness, and pursuit of equity and justice. Indeed, no amount of provocation will make them lose their sound sense of judgment.

Your Excellency, our elders are peace loving people and not killers.

Meanwhile, if we cannot get justice, the slogan of the ruling PDP at Lere Local Government and Kaduna State, it is our firm belief that the Anti-corruption Commission led by the eminent jurist and nationalist, Justice Mustapha Akanbi will give us just that. Indeed, the people of Lere are yet to see democracy dividends.

Abdullahi is of Plot 516, Sultan Abubakar Way, Wuse Zone 2, Abuja.

AFENIFERE REACHES OUT TO NORTH NEWS

IF NOT FOR THE 2003 OIO'UN I WILL NEVER STEP MY LEGS INTO NORTH AGAIN!

GOOD BYE TO KADUNA



EVEN MYSELF TOO, IT IS BECAUSE AWOLOWO IS NOT ALIVE!



NO, IF AWO HAD KNOWN THE IMPORTANCE OF 2003 TO US HE WOULD HAVE DECLARED THE JOURNEY MUCH EARLIER!



MEH!!!



YOUR LETTERS

Re: Buhari 'Muslim president' controversy

Since the advent of the Daily Trust, I have taken keen interest in your daily columns of page five. The columnists I must admit have been very wonderful indeed, even though I used to have reservations and sometimes disagree with some of the opinions expressed in these columns, this I know is very normal. Keep it up.

Aminu Iyawa has been one writer that I appreciate very much, however, his column of June 28, 2001 made me feel that maybe

someone wrote it for him and he did not have the time to read through before going to press. Because after I read through, I came to the painful conclusion that for the first time, my favourite has disappointed me (sorry for using this word). General Buhari's statement is very proper and timely, it needs no retraction or apology, or has

it now become a sin for one to align or speak in favour of his religion? I can't understand why Aminu Iyawa of all people should even contemplate going to General Buhari just to spoil his day with this unnecessary request of apology. Apologise to who and for what? A real Muslim can never retract such a state-

ment, because retracting it one is impliedly calling for the election of a non-Muslim and we all know the implication of such a call. I sincerely hope that what the general's associate told Iyawa is not correct, because if it is true then I will feel really bad. My reason is that when I first saw the noisemakers' headlines:

Vote only for a Muslim candidate - Gen Buhari etc. my joy knew no bounds. I felt that at least we ('the fundamentalists') are not alone, and that there are highly placed Muslims that have enough guts to say their minds no matter whose ox is gored just like the Mbangs. One fundamental thing I want us to understand is that

the more we try to forget our differences the more our problems become complex, the earlier we understand our differences the better for us; Muslims and Christians alike not only in Nigeria but all over the world. AbdulHadi A. Bawa, 22, Bayajidda Road, Kaduna. abdulhadi@hotmail.com

A good start for NACRDB

My gratitude goes to the management of the NACRDB (i.e. the new NACB) for granting loans to those who deserve them - mechanics, petty traders, carpenters, and so on. This is a good start, and we hope it will reach every corner of the country.

I also seize this opportunity to advise the management of NACRDB to please waive the interest of the former NACB beneficiaries.

This is very important because there are good clients, but due to economic situation in the country they cannot afford to pay all their outstanding.

By giving waiver to the good one, it will encourage farmers and other people to feel the impact of the NACRDB.

We thank you very much for the good start, and keep it up. I also wish you God's guidance.

Yusuf Sani Yaqanta, P. O. Box 249, Funtua Katsina State.

Thank you Gov Boni Haruna

Mid last year, I booked an appointment to see Governor Boni Haruna of Adamawa State. I in fact protested the non-inclusion of GSS Fufore, the only secondary school in my hometown, among the 16 schools he picked for complete rehabilitation. He told me that the programme was divided into phases. The

first 16 schools he picked were the grade A schools. He also said GSS Fufore was peculiar because it was not even completed, as a matter of fact it was less than 20 percent completed. He promised not only to rehabilitate the hitherto dilapidated structures but to complete the entire school per its original plan. Today, I am happy to say that His

Excellency has lived up to his words. One only needs to take a trip to my village to see what I am talking about.

Before then, His Excellency rehabilitated the greater Fufore water scheme with overhead tanks and electricity generators. We presently enjoy 24-hour pipe-borne water supply. His Excellency also completed the almost abandoned cottage hospital which was started more than 20 years ago and made it functional. Note that successive regimes made it a conduit pipe. I learnt that in not too distant future he will convert it to a full-fledged specialist hospital.

I must tell enemies of democracy to visit my village to see the democracy dividends in action.

Once more I say a big thank you to the governor. Let me also congratulate him on the rapport that exists between him and his deputy as opposed to the crisis of confidence found in some other states. He is a good commentary for the young generation. Keep up the good work.

Umaru Hammantukur, 2, Justice Mohammed Street, Asokoro, Abuja.

Re: Lack of representation on the Ashaka Cement plc.

I wish to commend the efforts of Funakaye Elders Forum as advertised on page 9 of Daily Trust of Thursday July 12, 2001. I am referring to the letter written to Ashaka Cement plc board of directors through the managing director.

I am indeed very glad of this move initiated by Funakaye Elders Forum in the presentation of their demands to the distinguished cement manufacturer in Nigeria. It is long overdue. Since the commencement of cement production by this company in 1979, nothing was done to develop the community. The community was denied basic social amenities. No good road, no potable water, no electricity.

The village called Ashaka was left only to bear the company's name. As this company continued to make good profit/turnover year-in year-out, the host community continued to suffer neglect.

In my opinion, let Ashaka Cement plc cement good solid structures for community development, even as they continue to cement solid structures for the nation. The time to act is now. Kudos to Funakaye Elders Forum, more grease to your elbows. May almighty Allah help you in this total fight for your rights.

Mohammed Aminu Adamu, Engineering Department, Finetex Textiles Limited, P. O. Box 276, Kaduna.

Adieu McVeigh

After almost six years of playing the ostrich, the 'world police' - the United States - has finally but reluctantly executed the Oklahoma City Bomber, Timothy McVeigh, who brought mainstream terrorism into the heart of the United States of America. And up to the very day and time McVeigh was executed, he remains - as usual - unrepentant and unapologetic, even stressing the fact that he is the master of his fate and the captain of his soul.

The execution of McVeigh heralded a turning point in world politics, whose 'soap box' remains in the United States. McVeigh is indeed a victim of world politics, not because he was guilty of heinous crime he committed, but for being the first federal prisoner executed in 38 years. McVeigh could not have been executed by the United State, but for his case being a celebrated one, the world police had no choice.

However, questions wagging in the mouths of many international political observers are why it took the U.S. up to six years to execute McVeigh and why he has been the only one. The answer is not far-fetched. Perceived Muslim terrorists, alleged to be the followers of the Saudi dissident, Osama bin Laden have been languishing in U.S. prisons for being charged with the bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998. Also, suspects of the Lockerbie bombing of 1992 are still undergoing 'trial' in Dutch courts (supervised by the United States), though the verdict is already at hand; they are finally going to be dispatched to the great beyond for being guilty automatically.

Therefore, with McVeigh in prison enjoying the hospitality of the prison wards for six years, executing these perceived terrorists obviously amounts to great injustice on the part of the US. For that, McVeigh had to go. I was little surprised when I heard 24 hours after executing McVeigh that one of the Libya-born Lockerbie suspects was sentenced to death by a Dutch court. McVeigh's execution is also a signal to what awaits Osama bin Laden and his cohorts whether guilty or not. Adieu, McVeigh.

Abdullahi Salihu Abubakar, Anguwan Hausawa, Abuja.



# NEPA

## NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY

### Invitation To Tender For Transmission Projects

The management of National Electric Power Authority invites Tenders from reputable Engineering contractors to submit their bids for the under mentioned projects

#### 1.0 PROJECT CLASSIFICATION

- 330KV Transmission Lines projects
- 132KV Transmission Lines Projects
- 330/132KV Substations Projects
- 132/33/11KV Substation Projects
- Supply of Transmission Line towers
- Supply of conductors
- Supply of power Transformers & Reactors
- Supply of Disc insulators
- Instrument transformers

#### 2.0 SCOPE OF WORKS

This comprises the design, manufacture, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of

##### A. 330KV Transmission Lines Construction projects

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
A1/1	Enugu-Aliade 330KV line	ET/230.119L3
A1/2	Jos-Markurdi 330KV line	ET/230.119L4
A1/3	Gombe-Damaturu 330KV line	ET/230.126L1
A1/4	Damaturu-Maiduguri 330KV line	ET/230.126L2
A1/5	Alaoji-Enugu 330KV line	ET/230.136L2/3
A1/6	Afam-Port Harcourt 330KV DC line	ET/230.135L
A1/7	Benin-Benin (North) 330KV S/C 330KV line	ET/230.143L1

##### B. 132KV Transmission Lines Construction Projects

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
B1/1	Ajaokuta-Lokoja 132KV Line	ET/230.129L1
B1/2	Ondo-Okitipupa 132 KV line	ET/233.131L1
B1/3	Aja-Epe 132 KV line	ET/230.130L
B1/4	Onitsha-Nnewi DC 132 KV line	ET/230.138L
B1/5	Owerri-Orlu 132 KV Line	ET/230.144L5
B1/6	New Haven-9th Mile DC 132 KV line & 9th Mile-Oji river S/C 132KV line	ET 230.119L.5&16
B1/7	9th Mile-Nsukka-Anyangba 132KV line	ET/230.119L7
B1/8	Ohafia-Afikpo 132 KV line	ET/230.115L1
B1/9	Afikpo-Ikom 132KV line	ET/230.115L2
B1/10	Benin (North)-Agbor-Asaba 132 KV Line	ET/230.143L
B1/11	Oshogbo-Ogbomosho 132 KV line	ET/233.131L2
B1/12	Markurdi-Yandev DC 132KV line and Yandev-Vandekyia-Ogoja 132KV S/C Line	ET 230.150L.1&12
B1/13	Okene-Kabba-Isanlu 132KV line	ET/230.129L2
B1/14	Eket-Ikot Abasi 132KV S/C line	ET/230.135L3
B1/15	Afam-Ikot Abasi 132KV DC line	ET/230.135L2
B1/16	Rehabilitation of vandalized Jos-Makeri 132KV line	ET/230.121L1

##### C. 330/132KV Substations Construction Project

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
C1/1	1x90MVA 330/132KV S/S at Makurdi	ET/230.119.84
C1/2	1x90MVA 330/132KV S/S at Damaturu	ET/230.126.81
C1/3	1x90MVA 330/132KV S/S at Maiduguri	ET/230.126.82
C1/4	2x150MVA 330/132KV S/S at Port-Harcourt	ET/230.135.8
C1/5	1x150MVA 330/132KV S/S at Benin North	ET/230.143.81
C1/6	2x330KV line bay & 1x330KV line Bay at Alaoji	ET/230.136.82/3
C1/7	1x330KV line bay extensions at Jos, Gombe	ET/230.119.85
C1/8	2x330KV line Bay extension at New Haven S/S & 1x330KV line bay at Benin	ET/230.136.82/4

##### D. 132/33KV Substations Construction Projects

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
D1/1	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Lokoja	ET/230.129.81
D1/2	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Okitipupa	ET/233.131.81
D1/3	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Epe	ET/230.130.8
D1/4	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Nnewi	ET/230.138.8
D1/5	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Orlu	ET/230.144.85
D1/6	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Nsukka	ET/230.119.87

D1/7	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at 9th Mile	ET 230.119.85
D1/8	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Avangba	ET 230.119.88
D1/9	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Afikpo	ET 230.119.82
D1/10	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Ikom	ET 230.116.8
D1/11	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Agbor	ET 230.143.81
D1/12	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Asaba	ET 230.143.8
D1/13	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Ogbomosho	ET 230.132.82
D1/14	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Ogoja	ET 230.130.81
D1/15	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Vandekyia	ET 230.131.8
D1/16	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Kabba	ET 230.129.8
D1/17	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Isanlu	ET 230.130.8
D1/18	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Amukpe (Sapele)	ET 230.134.8
D1/19	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Yelwa	ET 230.130.81
D1/20	1x30MVA 132/33KV S/S at Makeri	ET 230.136.8
D1/21	2x5 132KV Switching station at Ikot Abasi	ET 230.135.82
D1/22	1x132KV line bay extensions each at Owerri, Eket and Ohafia Substations & 2x132KV line extensions at Afam	ET 230.131.8
D1/23	1x132KV line bay extensions at Ondo, Ajah, Oshogbo Substations	ET 230.137.81
D1/24	2x132 KV line bay extensions each at Onitsha, New Haven & Oji River	ET 230.139.81
D1/25	3x132 KV line bay extensions at Yandev and 1x132KV line bay extension at Okene	ET 230.144.81

##### E. Supply of Transmission Towers

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
E1/1	Supply of 330 KV Transmission line lattice towers	lines supply 1
E1/2	Supply of 132 KV Transmission line lattice Towers	lines supply 2

##### F. Supply of conductors

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
F1/1	Supply of 350 mm <sup>2</sup> ACSR Conductor	lines supply 3
F1/2	Supply of 250mm <sup>2</sup> ACSR Conductor	lines supply 4
F1/3	Supply of Steel earth wire	lines supply 5

##### G. Supply of Power Transformers

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
G1/1	Supply of 330/132/33 KV Power Transformers & 330KV Reactors	S/S Supply 1
G1/2	Supply of 132/33KV Power Transformers & 132KV, 33KV Reactors	S/S Supply 2
G1/3	Supply of 330/0.415KV earthing Transformers	S/S Supply 3

##### H. Supply of Disc Insulators

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
H1/1	Supply of 330KV Disc Insulators with fittings	lines supply 6
H1/2	Supply of 132KV Disc Insulators With fittings	lines supply 7

##### I. Supply of Instrument Transformers

Lot No	Project Description	Project No
I1/1	Supply of 330KV Capacitive Voltage Transformer	S/S Supply 4
I1/2	Supply of 330KV Current Transformers	S/S Supply 5
I1/3	Supply of 132KV Capacity Voltage Transformers	S/S Supply 6
I1/4	Supply of 132KV Current Transformers	S/S Supply 7
I1/5	Supply of 33KV Voltage Transformers	S/S Supply 8
I1/6	Supply of 33KV Current Transformers	S/S Supply 9

##### 3.0 PURCHASE OF BID DOCUMENT

Interested, experienced and reputable manufacturers, contractors or their accredited representatives should purchase the bid documents for the above works from the office of the Secretary/Legal Adviser, NEPA Corporate Headquarters,

P.M.B. 338, Plot 441 Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja. The project specifications for each project classification are contained in volumes I, II & IV of the tender document and can be obtained at a cost of N250,000.00 (non refundable), payable from the date of this publication, the price schedule (Volume III) for each project can be procured at a cost of N100,000.00 (non refundable). Payments are to be made by certified cheque or bank draft payable to NEPA at NEPA Cash Office, Wuse 2, Abuja. Prospective bidders are free to quote for any combinations of the lots.

The tender document will be available for purchase in accordance with the following schedule:

Lot No	Project Description	Date
I	Supply of instrument Transformers	Sept. 4, 2001
H	Supply of disc insulators	Sept. 4, 2001
E	Supply of Transmission line towers	Oct 24, 2001
F	Supply of conductors	Aug 31, 2001
G	Supply of Power Transformers & Reactors	Aug 27, 2001
B	132 KV Transmission Line Projects	Oct 12, 2001
A	330 KV Transmission Line Projects	Oct 12, 2001
D	132/33/11 KV Substation Projects	Oct 12, 2001
C	330/132 KV Substation Projects	Oct 12, 2001

##### 4.0 SUBMISSION OF BID DOCUMENT

The completed bid documents per project should be sealed and marked with project number at the left hand corner of the envelope, and submitted to the office of the Authority's Secretary/Legal Adviser, NEPA Corporate Headquarters, Plot 441, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja on or before 12 Noon of the following dates

Lot	Description	Date:
F	Supply of Instrument Transformers	Oct. 4, 2001
H	Supply of disc Insulators	Oct. 4, 2001
E	Supply of Transmission Line towers	Nov. 23, 2001
F	Supply of Conductors	Oct. 2, 2001
G	Supply of Power Transformers & Reactors	Sept. 27, 2001
B	132KV Transmission Line projects	Nov. 12, 2001
A	330 KV Transmission Line projects	Nov. 12, 2001
D	132/33/11KV Substation projects	Nov. 12, 2001
C	330/132 KV Substation Projects	Nov. 12, 2001

##### All tenders must be accompanied with the following:

Evidence of incorporation registration in Nigeria or Overseas and possession of current tax clearance certificate in case of a Nigerian Company.

A bid bond valued at 1% of the total offer from the company. Bid bonds should be from reputable Banks or Insurance Companies as specified in the tender documents.

Company profile and evidence of previous experience on similar jobs with NEPA or other organizations.

Documentary evidence of joint venture or agreement in the case of a Nigerian registered company with foreign partnership affiliation.

##### 5.0 OTHER CONDITIONS

Validity of offer shall be 180 days from the closing date of the submission of the tender.

All tenders shall be electromechanical contractors or equipment manufacturers.

Complete tender documents for each project must be submitted as a separate package

Bidders are welcome to submit, in addition, a contractor financed alternative offer for the projects. Partial contractor financing will also be considered and reasonable financing plans will be an advantage.

The bills of quantities shall be submitted in computer diskette (s) in Microsoft Excel format in addition to the signed hard copy

For further information and/or clarification, please contact the General-Manager (Engineering Transmission) Corporate Headquarters, Plot 441, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja.

##### 6.0 Tender Opening

Tenders will be publicly opened beginning September 20, 2001, Starting at 13.00 hours on the day the submission of the particular tender closes in accordance with the schedule given in section 4 above

Management



TRUST INTERNATIONAL

Foreign & Diplomatic

Angola: A tale of landmines and ruins of war

Recently, a serene and mountainous part of Angola became the witness to an act of carnage and cold-blooded murder.

This involved a train, which ran across a landmine that had been planted in its path, 250 lives were lost in the event. The continuing face off between UNITA and MPLA in that country repeatedly throws up gruesome slimes of this kind. Musa Aliyu of our Foreign Desk explores the intricate details of the Angolan crisis in this account.

Between mountains, the train roared past filled with passengers, about 500 of them, who were mainly civilians – men, market women and children. The number of soldiers on board, obviously acting as escorts, accounted for less than a percent. Heading for Dondo, a town 150 km south-east of Luanda, the capital city, the train hit a landmine buried on its track in anticipation of its coming. Almost immediately it exploded in an overwhelming inferno aggravated by the oozing fuel from its burst tank. Wailing while battling to escape from death, the helpless passengers were soon to be confronted by a bloodthirsty army of rebels that had waited in ambush.

In moments, the wailings had faded into agonising gasps for breath as bullets shattered life out of the poor, defenceless civilians. A good number died of injuries sustained from gunshots. Many more were roasted alive. Not a few are yet to be found, with their conditions still unknown.

Angolans have had to put up with such macabre scenario for several years now. This being a typical scene in Angola, the loss of more than 250 lives, is therefore not a new phenomenon in the troubled land.

For more than 25 years, peace has simply evaded Angola. Since independence from Portugal in 1975, bitter rivalry sowed by wanton greed for power has germinated into a war that has claimed close to half a million lives. With several thousands more still paying the supreme but avoidable price, the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and UNITA, its archrival, are yet to decide on putting a halt to hostilities.

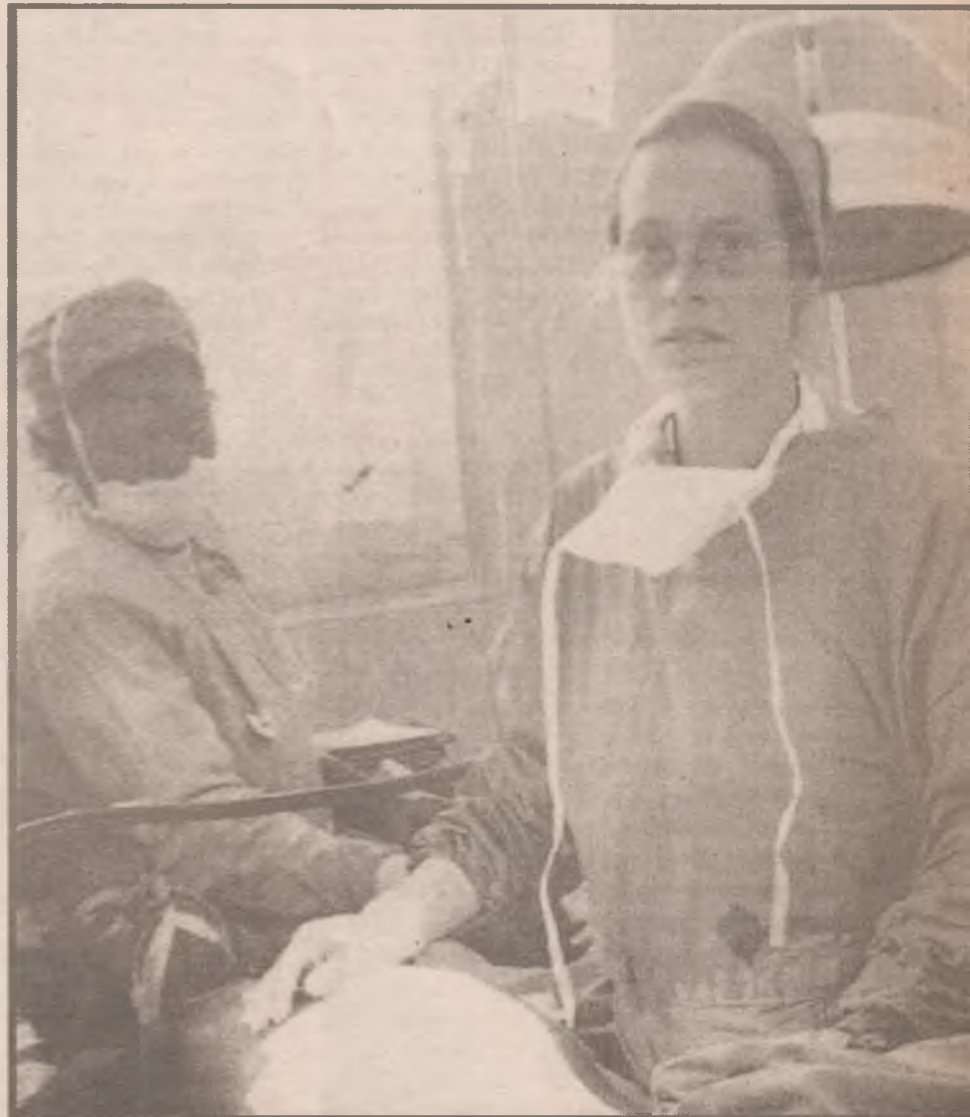
Although the MPLA and UNITA have from the onset been embroiled in a power tussle, complicity on the part of some “first” and “second” world countries cannot be denied. After Angola’s independence for example, MPLA’s communist tendencies were encouraged by the defunct Soviet Union and Cuba. The US and the then white ruled South Africa supported UNITA. Their differences rooted in their ignorance were exploited by

these super powers to settle old scores and test the destructive prowess and precision of their latest successes in the art of war technology. For 16 years, this unholy legacy they handed over to Angola.

Led by Agostinho Neto (Angola’s first president), after independence, Angolans felt that they deserved nothing less honourable than peace. Peace, given the oil-rich country’s resource advantage, was the much-needed environment to foster growth and development. To their rudest shock, however, their dividends of self-rule are far from that. Wasting little time the legacy of violence cultivated by the superpowers and nurtured by their leaders’ ignorance fuelled by greed grew to become the monster preying on them. The question of peace now jettisoned, neither growth nor development could be addressed. How to survive became the pertinent question.

In 1992 the hope to record an end to the crisis only paved way for a new and worse form of violence. Jonas Savimbi, UNITA leader had lost by a narrow margin in the presidential election to Neto’s successor, Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Rejecting the result, Savimbi dashed into the bush and resumed his guerrilla war. Santos, himself being an MPLA guerrilla since the age of 19 had his training in the Soviet Union to fall back on. Before 1994 when another peace initiative was brokered, enough blood had been spilled. Even then the UN peacekeepers presence did very little. By 1999, frustrated perhaps by their failure to secure peace for the anxious Angolans, the peacekeepers withdrew leaving behind the people at the mercy of gunmen.

UNITA, routed in 1999, has since regrouped and operates increasingly as a guerrilla force. Frequently its fighters would strike at marked Angolan Government owned heartland. Uige, a provincial capital north-east of Luanda had its turn in June 2001, though its eastern part had until the third week of June been the rebels’ base for 10 years. Often on such invasions, kids, women and other disadvantaged ones suffer most.



Dr. Rosemarie Lopez poses with an unidentified patient at a hospital in Kuito in this undated photo. It took five-days after an Angolan rebel attack for a badly wounded nine-year-old girl to reach the nearest hospital, suffering a gunshot wound and a broken leg. The girl needed emergency surgery and Dr. Lopez is the only surgeon in the province.

Cases of children being captured and used as shield or carriers of rebels’ loots are reported. In Coxito, the capital of Bango province, 60 children were said to have been abducted. At some other occasions they would raid a town and remain there holding everyone hostage for several hours. They, however, make good their escape on sighting the government forces. While leaving, a government source said, they carry whatever they could – weapons, food and clothing.

International sanctions have been imposed on UNITA in an effort to cripple the structure. But the contradiction is that it is far from being effective. UNITA is estimated to be earning a yearly income of 100 million dollars (about N140,000m) from the illegal sales of diamonds. Furthermore, it is believed to retain a substantial weapons stockpile both within and outside Angola. From within, it replenishes its stock through raids on military bases and also through diversion of those meant for the government forces. Outside Angola brokers based in other parts of the South African sub region provide an easy market for purchase.

UNITA, having owned up to the Luanda-Dondo bound train attack, has vowed to continue with its offensive even on innocent people. This is in defiance of international calls for peace. On his part President dos

Santos does not see UNITA working towards peace. According to him, “Savimbi knows only how to kill, destroy and divide.” Operating on this premise, dos Santos has urged his army to remain at red alert, and even take the offensive, if necessary. Savimbi who spoke eloquently on the need for peace in 1999 has since rescinded on this. Now he takes a détente being possible only if MPLA takes the first step. In the meantime, Savimbi does not foresee the possibility of a total truce, and thus vows to continue with the guerrilla action.

Putting both dos Santos and Savimbi in perspective it is apparent that peace may elude Angola for a long time to come. Miss Barbara Stocking of the International Humanitarian Organisation, OXFAM, shares this view. “Peace moves in Angola would take time,” she conceded even as she campaigned for the rehabilitation of the over 100,000 people displaced by the Angolan war and heavily dependent on aid.

The fact is that even if MPLA and UNITA decide to embrace peace and lay down arms the country will never be the same again. No with landmines littered everywhere and everyone, young, old, male or female, forced to bear the painful memories of the gruesome scenes.

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President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola



Jonas Savimbi, UNITA Leader

## TRUST INTERNATIONAL

AFRICA &amp; THE MIDDLE EAST

## Israel attacks Palestinian post

Israeli forces have launched a missile attack on a Palestinian security post in the south of the Gaza Strip, injuring three people.

The attack - reports said at least two surface-to-surface missiles were fired - has seriously damaged the post, which is just east of the Khan Younis refugee camp.

In a separate development, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has indicated that talks are underway about how to implement a ceasefire.

An eyewitness told the BBC that surface-to-surface missiles were fired at the security post.

The attack follows an Israeli incursion into Khan Younis on Friday night in which a Fatah member was shot dead.

Israeli defence sources said the missile attack was in retaliation for "repeated" mortar attacks on Jewish settlements in Gaza.

Earlier on Saturday, Israeli troops so called retaliation for such attacks on a nearby Jewish settlement, led to a Palestinian baby being injured.

In another incident, a seven months old baby was shot and wounded by Israeli troops at a checkpoint in the West Bank.

Elsewhere, Israeli public

radio reported that a bus came under fire north of Jerusalem. Two Israelis were injured in the incident, it said.

Earlier, thousands of Palestinians took to the streets near Khan Younis, amid calls for revenge at the funeral of the Fatah member shot dead by Israeli soldiers.

Palestinian hospital officials said 29-year-old Abdel Rahman Abu Bakra died from a shot in the head.

Ten other Palestinians were injured, three of them seriously, after Israeli tanks, bulldozers and armoured personnel carriers moved about 150m into Palestinian territory near Khan Younis.

The Israeli army said it entered the area and "identified a squad of armed terrorists on their way to carry out an attack".

Mr Abu Bakra was said to be among the men who opened fire on the Israeli soldiers when they entered the refugee camp.

Israel said it is braced for further suicide bombings by Palestinian militants and has tightened its grip around three cities in the West Bank - Bethlehem, Ramallah and Qalqilya.

Israeli military incursions in the Gaza strip have taken place on numerous occasions in recent months.

Earlier this week, there was also an unprecedented incursion into the centre of the West Bank town of Jenin, described by Israel's army chief Shaul Mofaz as a "city of bombers".

Palestinian cabinet minister Saeb Erekat complained on Saturday that Israel was sending conflicting messages.

"We hear [Israeli Foreign Minister] Shimon Peres

speaking of a dialogue and we welcome that and then we see tanks in Khan Younis in the night and one dead. We cannot continue with this double language," Mr Erekat said.

Palestinians have launched a series of suicide bombings against Israeli targets in the past month, including a devastating bomb which killed 15 people at a Jerusalem restaurant nine days ago.

Speaking on Israeli television, Mr Peres indicated that Israeli and Palestinian representatives are in talks about how to implement a ceasefire.

Mr Peres said he expected to meet the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, but he did not say when such a meeting might take place.

An Israeli official confirmed to the Reuters news agency that Mr Arafat had passed a message back to Mr Peres through a foreign envoy that he was ready to meet the foreign minister at any time.



The mother of six-month old Palestinian baby boy cries as her son undergoes surgery in Rafeedia hospital in the West Bank town of Nablus, August 18, 2001.



Six-month old Palestinian baby Noor eldeen Odeh lies under surgery in the operating room in Rafeedia hospital in the West Bank town of Nablus.

## Briton held over orphan abuse

A British man has been arrested in Ethiopia on suspicion of trafficking and sexually abusing orphans.

David Allen, 59, was detained after arriving on a flight from Zambia, where he was believed to be planning to set up a children's centre.

Mr Allen was a former aid worker in Ethiopia for the Swiss-based aid agency Terre des Hommes (TDH), but was dismissed in 1996.

The charity said he was suspected of abusing children at a centre he ran for them, for children orphaned by famine.

It said three Ethiopian boys had filed complaints with the police.

TDH said Mr Allen, who lived in the UK, had changed his name from Christie after leaving the charity.

"But following a positive identification in London two

weeks ago, Terre des Hommes Foundation became aware of his intention to open a centre for children in Zambia," it said.

TDH said it had worked with the Zambian and Ethiopian authorities to detain Mr Allen.

It helped Zambian police arrest him in the capital city of Lusaka on 14 August.

He was put back on a transit flight to London, via the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, where he was arrested on Friday.

"On the basis of the precise information supplied by Terre des Hommes, the

Ethiopian police were able to intercept the suspect during his return flight from Zambia to the UK during a transit at Addis Ababa."

A Foreign Office spokesman said Mr Allen had been visited by consular staff and given a choice of lawyers.

"We understand that he is being held in connection with charges of trafficking in, and sexual abuse of, children in Ethiopia," he said.

Mr Allen is due to appear in court in Addis Ababa today.

## Iran police to begin moral campaign

The Iranian authorities are planning a crackdown on loose morals on the streets, targeting shopkeepers who play loud western music and cafe owners who serve women wearing heavy make-up.

In an official statement, police warned shop owners that their stores would be shut down during a campaign starting yesterday if they were found to be displaying "the signs and symbols of depravation".

The "symbols" to be singled out by the police include the display of lingerie and naked mannequins in shop windows as well as the sale of objects featuring western stars or women not fully covered.

The police announcement follows a series of recent public floggings, mostly of young men for drinking alcohol or illicit sexual advances.

A ban on the sale of dogs

or monkeys, which have become increasingly popular as pets in parts of Iran, is to be enforced during the police campaign.

Restaurant and cafe owners have also been warned of trouble if they are discovered serving women who are not adhering to the strict Islamic dress code or are wearing heavy make-up.

And the police will be

listening carefully to the tunes tinkling in shopping malls, switching off illegal western music and music that can be heard outside.

"Regarding the spread of decadent western culture in society, police have seriously risen up against the propagators of corruption," said the statement carried by the official INRA news agency.

## Angolans protest against UNITA attacks

Thousands of Angolans have marched in Luanda in a protest against last week's attack on a train by UNITA rebels, which killed at least 250 people.

About 2,000 people assembled on the Angolan capital's central Kinixixi Square on Saturday morning, before making their way down the hill to the United Nations building.

There, Angolan Minister for Women and the Family Candida Celeste handed over a letter to the UN representative in Angola, calling for tougher action against Jonas Savimbi's UNITA rebel movement.

It was an orderly procession, reflecting the fact that the government had called

it. Children's football teams, lined up in their team colours, led the march.

A row of traffic police in uniform, representatives of women's organisations, cultural and religious groups and political parties carrying banners followed them.

UNITA Renovada, a breakaway faction from Mr Savimbi's movement, was represented among the political parties, but other pro-peace UNITA members were not there.

But the ruling MPLA party was by far the dominant presence at the march.

Demonstrations against government actions are

regularly banned in Angola and the protest was not spontaneous.

The slogan that was chanted throughout the march, "He who kills our people may not talk of peace", reflected the government's refusal to enter into negotiations with Savimbi until he lays down his arms.

But the sentiments expressed were nonetheless real.

"We want peace, we are tired of war, we have been struggling too long," one elderly man said.

Last Friday's attack, in which UNITA laid a landmine on a railway track about 150 km southeast of Luanda and gunned down passengers as they fled the burning train, has prompted outrage that transcends political divisions.

## Zambian Police arrest Editor for accusing Chiluba

In a letter addressed to the President Frederick Chiluba, Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF - Reporters Without Borders) protested against the arrest of Fred M'membe, editor-in-chief of *The Post*. RSF asked the President to do everything in his power to secure the immediate release of the journalist.

"According to our information, Fred M'membe only used his right to inform as guaranteed in several international treaties ratified by Zambia" said Robert Menard, the General Secretary of RSF.

The organisation reminded Mr. Chiluba of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Mr. Abid Hussein's recommendation.

According to him in a document published in January 2000: "In the case of offences such as 'libelling', 'insulting' or 'defaming' the head of State and publishing or broadcasting 'false' or 'alarmist' information, prison terms are both

reprehensible and out of proportion to the harm suffered by the victim".

According to information gathered by RSF, Fred M'membe was arrested by policemen on 17 August 2001 and taken to the central police station in Lusaka.

He is accused of defaming the President because of the editorial published in the morning entitled "A thief for President".

In this opinion, the editor-in-chief of the independent daily said that Frederick Chiluba "diverted money from legitimate purposes to his own personal use".

The journalist also asked "How are people supposed to deal with a lying and thieving President?"

In a press release, *The Post* noted "no form of harassment or intimidation will stop [them] from making those in authority account for their activities to the electorate".

Fred M'membe could be sentenced to up to three years' imprisonment under Section 69 of the penal code.

TRUST INTERNATIONAL

World Report

# Explosion rocks Spanish resort

A young British woman and an Irish tourist have been treated with 11 others for injuries after a car bomb exploded outside a busy hotel in Spain's Costa Dorada. A warning meant the building was evacuated - the last of holidaymakers were being moved out of the hotel as the bomb exploded, causing minor injuries with flying glass. However, dozens of tourists - many of them British and Italian - are said to be badly

shaken. Spain's tourism chief has called for calm after the latest attack. The UK Foreign Office has already warned British tourists to beware of possible future bomb blasts. Police said the warning came from the Basque separatist group Eta, who have recently threatened to target tourist areas. The blast went off at about 0600 GMT at the Cala Font hotel in Salou, just south of Barcelona and one of Europe's

most popular resorts. Guests were evacuated after police received a call an hour before the blast, a spokesman for the region's Interior Ministry said. Eyewitness Martin Ballard was in the resort when the bomb detonated. He told BBC News w4: "Plumes of black smoke rising high above the resort could be seen from quite some distance." A group of 200 holidaymakers were evacuated from the 300-room Cala Font hotel to the nearby Negresco hotel.



Philippine government workers count victims of a hotel fire in Manila, August 18, 2001. At least 75 people died in the Saturday hotel fire, many of them found asphyxiated in their bathrooms after a blaze which apparently started in a karaoke bar

## China Jails 45 Falun Gong Organizers

Chinese courts have jailed 45 alleged Falun Gong organizers for up to 13 years for helping the spiritual movement battle an intense government effort to wipe it out, an official newspaper reported yesterday. The Beijing Daily said they were sentenced in Beijing over the past few days for organizing protests, making banners and printing leaflets in defiance of a government campaign against a movement it outlawed and declared an "evil cult" in 1999. The newspaper said the heaviest sentence was imposed on Zhang Hongli, jailed for 13 years on charges of renting a safe house, organizing the manufacture of banners and printing Falun Gong leaflets. Others were sentenced for their roles in what were once almost daily protests in Tiananmen Square, China's political heart, which are now rare. The Beijing Daily said Shao Qiang and Qiu Xiuxin were each jailed for 10 years for making banners and organizing people to try to raise them in the square, where a heavy police presence meant few such attempts were successful. It gave no personal details of those sentenced beyond calling them "diehards," but when the Communist Party began its crackdown on Falun Gong, it found adherents almost everywhere. In the party's war against Falun Gong organizers have been jailed while recalcitrant followers have generally been sent without trial to labor camps.

An employee at the Negresco hotel said that the group included British, Irish, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch and German holidaymakers. The police were trying to defuse the device when it went off. Provincial police chief Rafael Navarro said: "The only good thing is that fortunately there were no victims." Another eyewitness told the BBC that the bomb had made a "hell of a mess" to the hotel and that if there had not been a warning the toll might have been much worse. He said shocked guests were calling home to reassure their families that they were safe. Eta, whose name stands for Basque Homeland and Liberty, has killed 12 people so far this year, and about 800 during their 33-year campaign.

# UK unionists want child farm labour banned

Union leaders are calling for a ban on children under 16 working on farms amid concern about accidents during the summer holidays as youngsters help with the harvest. In the last six years, 27 children have died on UK farms and most accidents occur during the summer holidays. Children should be protected from working in what can be dangerous industry, the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) told BBC One's Countryfile programme yesterday. Yet many farmers say this is a further threat to the survival of the family farm. Tony Gould, of the TGWU, tells the programme that the government should adopt international labour organisation conventions by raising the minimum age for working on a farm to 18. "Farming is one of the most dangerous industries". He says that one person is killed each week in farming in Britain. Last year four children were killed.

And he blamed this death toll partly on people not separating the industrial from the domestic on farms. "To exploit the labour of children and to expect young people, very young people, to be working on farms is quite wrong," he said. But the farming community said this is a step too far. Phil Holborow, Gamekeeper for Temple Farming, has three sons who have worked with him and he views it as a tradition having worked alongside his own father. "He thinks it's ridiculous to try to stop children working on the farm. I think my sons should have the same right that I have. They are always with me," he said. Chris Musgrave, estate manager for Temple Farming, says: "You will always get children going with their parents and working on farms."

Instead he insists the focus should be on making farms safe and educating children about the dangers as well as fun of farming. While accepting there will always be risks, he added: "But I think we are aware that children have been killed on farms in the past and we, as adults, have to do everything we can to make sure it is a safe environment." It may be that putting a case for new legislation will prove difficult. Graham Walker, an inspector for the Health and Safety Executive, tells the programme that the death tolls were not necessarily caused by children working on farms, rather than them just being on the premises. "Farms are people's homes, children happen to be there. So, I think the call is obviously a highly moral one but in terms of the figures over the past few years it would be hard for us to change the law on that basis," he said. Countryfile is broadcast on BBC One at 1130 BST on Sundays.

THE WEEKLY TREASURE AUGUST 27, 2001

# THE WEEK

OPUTA PALAVER

## PANIC GRIPS IBB

- WHY HE SHUNNED BIRTHDAY BASH
- WHY OBASANJO SUMMONED HIM
- MAY OPT OUT OF 2003 RACE

### NIGERIA'S BIGGEST BANK FRAUD EVER

THE STORY OF FCMB, CSL & KWAJAJA'S DAUGHTER

THE WEEK ...your weekly treasure N100 ONLY

## Three die in cottage fire

Two children and a man have died in a fire at a cottage in Scotland. Fire-fighters rescued two women and an eight-year-girl from the house in Barry, near Carnoustie, when the fire broke out early yesterday. Paramedics treated the women, aged 39 and 70 and the young girl, for smoke inhalation at the scene. The bodies of the victims, who were all from the same family, were found later in the house. Tayside Police said the cottage was "well alight" when fire crews arrived at 0430 BST. A police spokesman said: "The cause of the fire and identities of the bodies found in the house have still to be determined and a full investigation into the circumstances is underway." He added that all the victims were related.

## Odd World

### People stone ex-military ruler

Sierra Leoneans, who have found great pleasure in stoning former military ruler, Valentine Strasser, have been urged by the government not to throw stones or jeer at him anymore. Strasser, who has been down on his luck since being deported from Britain last year can often be seen pacing the streets of Freetown and has clearly lost weight since he was overthrown in a bloodless coup in 1996. He became Africa's youngest head of state when he seized power in 1992 aged 25. "Captain Strasser...has been facing embarrassment by some members of the public by throwing stones at him as well as booing him and it is a great concern to the nation," the government said in a statement. After being overthrown, Strasser went to study in Britain. But he lost the right to stay in the former colonial power after dropping his studies and was refused entry last November after a trip to the Gambia. Sierra Leoneans had hoped Strasser's coup might end a war that broke out in 1991, but his regime failed to either defeat or reach a deal with the rebels. They have now begun disarming under U.N. supervision following a cease-fire



# NEPA

## NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY

### PRESS RELEASE

## NEPA Weekly Situation Report (20)

### OUR BULLETIN FOR WEEK NO.20:

(05/08/2001 TO 11/08/2001)

#### 1. PEAK DAILY GENERATION FOR THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS

PREVIOUS WEEK (29/07/2001 TO 04/08/2001)			CURRENT WEEK (05/08/2001 TO 11/08/2001)	
DAY	DATE	GEN(MW)	DATE	GEN(MW)
Sunday	29/07/2001	2215	05/08/2001	2337.0
Monday	30/07/2001	2190.7	06/08/2001	2344.0
Tuesday	31/07/2001	2213.2	07/08/2001	2362.1
Wednesday	01/08/2001	2188.2	08/08/2001	2397.2
Thursday	02/08/2001	2181.5	09/08/2001	2396.7
Friday	03/08/2001	2275.4	10/08/2001	2379.3
Saturday	04/08/2001	2303.2	11/08/2001	2397.5

#### 2. PROJECTED AVERAGE PEAK GENERATION FOR THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS

PREVIOUS WEEK (ACTUAL) (05/08/2001 TO 11/08/2001)	CURRENT WEEK (FORECAST) (12/08/2001 TO 18/08/2001)
<b>2373.4MW</b>	<b>2500MW</b>

#### 3. PEAK WEEKLY GENERATION FROM EACH POWER STATION IN THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS

STATION	PREVIOUS WEEK (ACTUAL) (29/07/2001 TO 04/08/2001)	CURRENT WEEK (FORECAST) (05/07/2001 TO 11/08/2001)
KAINJI	187MW	190MW
JEBBA	274MW	300MW
SHIRORO	418MW	420MW
EGBIN	873MW	876MW
SAPELE	252MW	255MW
AFAM	95MW	95MW
DELTA	294MW	308MW
IJORA	NIL	12MW
CALABAR	1.0MW	1MW
ENRON	61MW	61MW
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2455.0MW</b>	<b>2510MW</b>

#### 4. PROJECTED AVERAGE DAILY GENERATION FROM EACH POWER STATION IN THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS

STATION	PREVIOUS WEEK (ACTUAL) (05/08/2001 TO 11/08/2001)	CURRENT WEEK (FORECAST) (12/08/2001 TO 18/08/2001)
KAINJI	176.8MW	190MW
JEBBA	202.4MW	300MW
SHIRORO	415.1MW	420MW
EGBIN	870.0MW	876MW
SAPELE	250.0MW	255MW
AFAM	81.0MW	92MW
DELTA	290.7MW	300MW
IJORA	NIL	12MW
CALABAR	0.48MW	1MW
ENRON	52.17MW	61MW
<b>AVERAGE TOTAL</b>	<b>2338.6MW</b>	<b>2510MW</b>

#### 5. AVERAGE ESTIMATED DAILY NATIONAL DEMAND FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2001= **3500MW**

##### HYDROLOGY

The impounding operations of Kainji, Jebba and Shiroro lakes for the year 2001 is progressing. This is expected to bring about rise in water level and gradual improvement in power generation availability and capability.

##### ENERGY SAVING

BELOW ARE SOME USEFUL TIPS ON HOW YOU CAN SAVE ENERGY, BY:

- Ensuring, for example, that when they are in use, your refrigerator or freezer is not overfilled. They operate more efficiently and economically only when filled to capacity.
- Making sure that your refrigerator or freezer is not set to run colder than necessary. We recommend that you always follow the manufacturer's Instructions.

- Ensuring that when using the oven for meal cooking, try to use it for a full meal rather than using both oven and surface units. If you have three dishes to be cooked at slightly different temperatures, pick the mean temperature to cook all three. (For example, the mean of 325, 350 and 375 degrees temperature is 350 degrees).
- Making sure you do not use oversized water heaters. The oversized water heater wastes energy heating unneeded water. It should in fact be avoided to reduce your initial cost.
- Switching off all appliances not in use. Especially, when you are not home, remember to switch off your water heater, air-conditioners, television sets or indeed all lights you do not need before dark.
- Switching off security lights.
- Switching off street lights during the day
- Ensuring that when cooking with the electric cooker you use pots or pans that match the ring sizes.
- Using energy-saving bulbs
- Ensuring that you do not fill the electric kettle just to make a cup of tea. Use just enough water to cover the ring. Hot water kettles come in different sizes, you may choose the one to meet your needs.

Next, we serve you the power demand and energy consumption of some domestic appliances:

APPLIANCE	TYPE	RATING	POWER DEMAND IN KILOWATT (KW)	RATED CURRENT IN AMPERES (AMPS)	NO. OF HRS. TO CONSUME ONE UNIT OF ELECTRICITY (Le. 1 KWH)
Water - heater	50 litre	1200watt	1.2	5.2	0.8
	100litre	2500watt	2.5	11	0.4
Cooker (4-plate With oven)	Small	6000watt	6.0	26	0.2
	Regular	8000watt	8.0	34	1.2
	Large	10500watt	10.5	45	0.1
Single-plate Cooker	Portable	1800watt	1.8	7.7	0.6
Fan	Table	0.08HP	0.06	0.25	1.7
	Standing	0.1HP	0.7	0.3	1.4
	Ceiling	0.3HP	0.2	0.9	4.5
Air-Conditioner	Small	1.5HP	1.1	4.7	1
	Medium	2HP	1.5	6.5	0.7
	Large	3HP	2.2	9.0	0.5
Refrigerator	Small	0.2HP	0.15	0.6	7
	Medium	0.25HP	0.19	0.8	5
	Large	0.3HP	0.22	0.9	4.5
Television- (Black & White)		200watt	0.2	0.9	5
Television (Colour)		300 watt	0.3	1.3	3

- 1000watt = 1 Kilowatt (1KW)
- 1 HP = 0.746 Kilowatt
- 1KWH = One unit of electricity = 1KW x 1 HR. i.e. 1 Kilowatt used for 1 hour.

Finally, we appeal to all our esteemed customers and all good Nigerians to endeavour to report faults promptly wherever and whenever they occur. There are faults sections and complaints centres in all our 56 district offices spread across the country. Only such prompt reports can enable us attend to faults promptly to make life a lot easier for you.

*We thank you for your understanding and patience.*

**LET US CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GREATER GOOD OF OUR COUNTRY.**

*Management*

# BUSINESS DAY

## MMA terminal reconstruction commences soon

The construction firm handling the Murtala Mohammed International Airport terminal building will commence the construction of the terminal mid-September when the deal for the project is expected to be formally signed between the government and Royal Sanderton, the construction firm handling the project.

The Minister of Aviation, Dr. Mrs. Kema Chikwe who disclosed this to Business Day in an exclusive interview stated that he contract being a pioneer 'Build Operate and Transfer' (BOT) in Nigeria, government is addressing the fundamental issues that were not tendered by the construction firm at the initial stage.

She stated that the first phase of the construction, which was the clearing and removal of debris from the site of the burnt terminal building had been completed adding that these was never a disagreement over the period of operation as the construction firm "asked for 10 years after excreting all financial involvement and when it could recoup its money," and so contented with the period.

The Minister who disclosed that mid-September deadline has been given to the contractor to commence work on the project stressed that all paper works concerning the construction of the terminal have been completed with imputes received from the aviation, justice, works and housing ministries and management of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN).

Explaining that the government is set to make the new terminal a model in Africa adding that to this end the management of FAAN has travelled to Istanbul in Turkey to study the model there "to make sure that government is not short-

From Shakirat Abdulmajeed, in Lagos

changed by the developer."

The head, Sanderton Ventures Limited, Mr. Ron Hake, the project developer told Business Day in a telephone interview that the project was likely to begin by the middle of September and would be completed in 18 months.

He however attributed the delay in the commencement of the construction work to



Kema Chikwe, Aviation Minister

## ...As association decries porous security at airports

Nigeria Airport Car Hire Association, Murtala Mohammed International Airport branch has called on the Federal Government to ensure adequate security at the nation's gateways, describing the security at the airport as 'porous'.

Briefing newsmen at Murtala Mohammed International Airport Lagos late week, chairman of the association, Mr. Saula Soile lamented that his association had written series of letters complaining about the insecurity of the airport to both Commissioner of Police and authorities of Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN).

Mr. Soile disclosed that over six of their members had been attacked by armed robbers in recent times, saying his association has not receive any positive response from FAAN to curtail the insecurity.

Apparently reacting to the allegations levelled against them by the Minister of Aviation, Dr. (Mrs.) Kema Chikwe indicting car hire operators of robbing innocent people, Mr. Soile denied the allegations, wondering how his association can work against themselves.

According to him, "Some of us have been here for over 20 years as car hire operators. We took loan to

buy our cars, how on earth are we going to work against ourselves."

He recalled how some of their members returned about N2 million to a passenger as well as some luggages forgotten in their cabs, assuring that they have a monitoring system which guarantees the safety of their passengers.

Mr. Soile disclosed that most of the robbery incidences occurred in the early morning flight, attributing it to the activities of touts and miscreants trailing innocent passengers to their destinations. To

FAAN's inability to provide technical drawings of the buildings to the contractors.

He hinted that as soon as the management of FAAN provides them the wherewithal needed, work will commence on the new terminal.

The Managing Director of FAAN, Mr. John Sule Ozenua had said during the foundation laying ceremony for the construction of the terminal, that the new terminal would accommodate 15,000 passengers during peak period and has 22 check-in

counters to cater for more airlines.

To be built at a cost of about N2.65 billion on B.O.T. basis, the building when completed would be run by the contractor on commercial basis for 10 years and after this period transfer it to the management of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria.

It would be recalled that before the ill-fated building was razed on May 10, 2000, arrangement had been completed by the former management of FAAN under the leadership of Mr. Peter Igbinedion to rebuild the building at the cost of N3 billion.

## PEF, DPR, PPMC move to tackle fuel diversion

By Ahmed Shekarau

The Petroleum Equalisation Fund (PEF) Management Board has resolved to work in concert with the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and the Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC) to put an end to fuel diversion and smuggling in the country.

The Head of Public Affairs of PEF, Mr. Goddy Nnadi who disclosed this in a chat with Business Day in Abuja noted that the depot managers of the fund have been directed "to make effective use of the newly created data processing units in the depots to expose marketers who engaged in diversion."

Specifically, the PEF depot chiefs, he said have been directed by the fund's executive secretary, Alhaji Abdulkarim Gurin to use a "metre ticket" to take adequate records of the volume of products loaded by each marketer, as well as the destination each truck will off-load its products.

By this new development, therefore, a PEF official will take stock of the volume of one product offloaded at the destination to ensure it corresponds to what was lifted initially, Fulani which the marketer will be held responsible.

This measure, according to Nnadi, "will help PEF to identify all truck-load of products that were not delivered at their destination points."

The PEF spokesman said even though the fund cannot take any punitive measure against defaulting marketers "we will stop payment of their regular transportation claims, and we will publish their names and make recommendations to the DPR and PPMC to take appropriate punitive measures against them." The DPR can seal-off the premises of such marketer while the PPMC can refuse to make further allocation of fuel to the defaulting firm.

He also emphasised that this new measure will also ensure transparency in the actions of the fund's staff at the depots and the marketers themselves, stressing that "the joint committee of our (PEF's) Zonal Coordinators will begin to supervise these new operations, with the "metre ticket" after ensuring that the correct value of products are delivered."



Alhaji Abdulkarim Gurin, PEF Executive Secretary

## Customs begins non-clean report inspection

The Nigeria Customs Service, Murtala Mohammed International Airport command has commenced the clearance of non-Clean Report of Inspection (CRI) goods.

A statement issued by the command and made available to Business Day stated that the zonal coordinator zone 'A' Assistant Comptroller-General Onyewenwa Augustine Azubuike has inaugurated a committee headed by Comptroller Isiogugu for the clearance of non-CRI goods.

The statement signed by the Public Relations Officer of the command, Mr. Rhodes N. O'Naps explained that

under the arrangement, the importer or his agent shall complete a voluntary import declaration form which shall



Ahmed Mustapha, Customs Boss

state among others: Name of the importer, description of goods/cargo, quantity, name of airline and airways bill no., location of the goodshed and marks/numbers of goods.

The importer or his agent is to sign the declaration and submits it in duplicate, one to the PAIA and to the sub-..... for immediate action.

Based on the information submitted, a joint 100% examination will be carried out on the good so declared but this does not preclude participation by other relevant agencies.

In pursuance to the guidelines, the importer or his agent presents the Single Goods Declaration (SGD) at the Customs Processing Centre (CPC) for one hour. The goods would subsequently, be released as soon as the processed SGD sails through the CPC.

The Customs, Murtala Mohammed Airport command is basically characterised by the clearance of passengers' baggages and personal effects that could not accompany them onboard.

However during the 100% examination, if there is merchandise in baggage, duty is assessed and the passenger pays the duty and goods are released to him/her.

## 189,223 'Tokumbo' cars imported in six months

More vehicles were imported into the country between January and June this year compared to the previous year.

Statistical figures from the Roll-on-Roll-off (RORO) port showed that a total 189,223 imported cars popularly referred to as "Tokumbo" were imported between January and June this year. While only 16,810 cars were imported in the previous year.

Also, a total 191,954 containers were imported between January and June this year.

Commenting on the exemplary feat recorded by RORO port this year, the Head of Public Relations Department of the port, Mrs. Josephine Moltok attributed the performance to the government's policy which

From Tokumbo Oloke, in Lagos

she described as a favourable one to the maritime sector.

On the adequate handling equipment in RORO port, she said, presently, the port is sufficiently equipped with modern RORO handling equipment, adding that as a

result of this improvement, the turn around of vessels had tremendously improved.

Moltok however appeal to the port users and clearing agents to always cooperate with them by forwarding their genuine documents to the port on time to enhance smooth clearance of their cargoes.

## NITEL condemns media reports on Lagos fire

Deputy General Manager, General Services, Nigerian Telecommunications Limited (NITEL), Architect Shamsuna Ahmed has said that media reports on the fire incident at NITEL's NECOM House in Lagos last week was overexaggerated.

The DGM who took journalists on inspection tour

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, in Lagos

of the building stressed "there was a small fire but not to the extent reported" adding that the reports were a misrepresentation of what happened.

He also said it was a minor incident that did not impact on the building which is still under rehabilitation.

Arch. Shamsuna explained that the fire

incident was an external one which occurred when a piece of red hot rod fell on a suspended wooden platform outside the 26th floor of the building.

According to him, though the incident happened without the knowledge of the workers working on the rehabilitation, as they had closed for the day, when the fire was detected, it was put

under control within 20 minutes.

When journalists inspected the affected floor and other floors, no trace of any damage was seen on the building.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Communication, Dr. Bello Mohammed on Monday paid an inspection visit to the NECOM House following the reported fire outbreak in the building.

# BUSINESS DAY

## Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE)

Price List as at 17/08/2001

COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE	DEALS	VOLUME	VALUE
7UP	5.95	6.00	0.05	19	27,080	157,545.42
ABATEX	1.00	1.00	0.00	1	500	500.00
ACCESSBANK	1.20	1.20	0.00	4	17,700	21,240.00
ADSWITCH	1.06	1.11	0.05	3	11,900	13,114.00
AFPRINT	0.99	0.99	0.00	9	10,825	10,586.75
AFRIBANK	8.86	8.65	0.21	38	190,310	1,666,988.71
AGIP	31.00	30.05	0.95	34	86,676	2,616,033.95
AGLEVENT	1.18	1.18	0.00	2	1,373	1,620.14
AHICO	2.76	2.78	0.02	15	119,866	333,148.82
AP	19.34	19.34	0.00	19	53,904	1,042,503.36
ASABATEX	3.84	3.84	0.00	1	500	1,920.00
ASHAKACEM	17.62	17.62	0.00	16	61,135	1,074,304.90
BATA	0.25	0.25	0.00	3	35,000	9,050.00
BCC	4.79	4.79	0.00	2	687	3,290.73
BERGER	2.53	2.51	0.02	15	15,772	39,588.98
C&ILEASING	1.30	1.30	0.00	2	1,500	1,950.00
CADBURY	22.09	21.20	0.89	90	297,208	6,466,548.66
CAPALBETO	7.80	7.80	0.00	2	375	2,925.00
CCNN	3.07	3.07	0.00	4	4,825	14,812.75
CFAO	2.65	2.64	0.01	19	17,678	46,569.02
CHARTERED	6.94	7.28	0.34	13	660,716	4,810,012.48
CHALLARAM	1.05	1.10	0.05	1	404	444.40
CMB	0.61	0.64	0.03	4	27,092	17,338.88
COOPBANK	2.14	2.14	0.00	3	8,000	17,120.00
CORNERST	1.69	1.69	0.00	1	20,000	33,800.00
CUTIX	3.29	3.45	0.16	1	5,000	17,250.00
DELTGLAS	4.66	4.46	0.20	8	233,832	1,051,090.72
DNMEYER	6.38	6.40	0.02	5	2,798	17,875.48
DTIMES	0.56	0.56	0.00	1	126	70.56
DUNLOP	3.52	3.35	0.17	40	415,712	1,423,636.81
EKOBANK	1.51	1.58	0.07	20	357,450	564,445.50
ENPEE	2.44	2.44	0.00	1	500	1,220.00
EPICDYNAM	0.56	0.56	0.00	1	4,666	2,612.96
ETERNAOIL	1.49	1.49	0.00	6	8,160	12,148.40
EVANSMED	1.21	1.21	0.00	3	33,592	40,646.32
FIRSTALUM	1.85	1.92	0.07	13	79,430	149,084.10
FIRSTBANK	21.90	21.93	0.03	247	1,699,976	37,354,636.43
FLOURMILL	13.50	13.00	0.50	27	35,404	466,020.58
FSB	8.32	8.12	0.20	45	270,259	2,228,582.68
GCAPPA	5.79	5.55	0.24	5	4,700	26,120.00
GOLDEREW	0.62	0.59	0.03	4	5,489	3,238.51
GUARANTY	5.70	5.70	0.00	11	127,150	724,755.00
GUINNESS	37.45	37.45	0.00	30	42,089	1,577,565.60
HALLBANK	4.30	4.30	0.00	2	2,000	8,600.00
HALLMARK	0.83	0.83	0.00	1	100	83.00
IGL	5.09	5.10	0.01	10	34,948	177,968.74
IMB	1.43	1.36	0.07	20	177,800	260,509.60
INCAR	1.01	1.01	0.00	1	1,000	1,010.00
INLANDBANK	1.63	1.70	0.07	11	184,160	308,330.80
INTBREW	1.13	1.13	0.00	2	52,000	58,760.00
INTRAMOTOR	0.57	0.57	0.00	1	1,575	897.75
IPWA	1.20	1.20	0.00	1	1,375	1,650.00
JBERGER	62.69	59.56	3.13	3	5,600	333,849.00
JOHNHOLT	1.60	1.60	0.00	15	80,416	129,254.67
JOSBREW	0.54	0.54	0.00	1	200	108.00
LASACO	1.16	1.20	0.04	2	5,216	6,259.20
LENNARDS	0.26	0.26	0.00	2	2,500	650.00
LEVBROS	23.95	23.94	0.01	59	132,198	3,160,536.30
LIBERTY	2.60	2.59	0.01	1	2,000	5,180.00
LIVESTOCK	3.79	3.79	0.00	1	3,400	12,886.00
LONGMAN	5.40	5.40	0.00	5	20,300	109,779.00
MANNYBANK	1.94	1.90	0.04	7	60,500	115,140.00
MAY&BAKER	2.41	2.30	0.11	4	12,460	28,966.00
MOBIL	64.00	62.50	1.50	20	29,497	1,862,322.00
MORISON	3.44	3.27	0.17	1	10,000	32,700.00
NAL	4.83	5.00	0.17	26	565,059	2,752,104.63
NB	27.01	27.08	0.07	52	232,786	6,308,536.09
NBC	20.42	20.02	0.40	41	201,517	4,064,646.30
NCR	2.30	2.39	0.09	6	10,500	24,195.00
NEM	0.86	0.90	0.04	7	76,000	65,705.64
NESEF	997.00	997.00	0.00	1	100	99,700.00
NESTLE	65.00	65.00	0.00	26	259,339	16,564,463.25
NIG-GERMAN	2.60	2.60	0.00	4	9,125	23,725.00
NIGERCEN	0.54	0.54	0.00	2	3,500	1,890.00
NIGERCEN	5.30	5.05	0.25	1	5,000	25,250.00
NIWICABLE	2.17	2.17	0.00	1	1,000	2,170.00
NOLCHEM	29.01	30.46	1.45	34	20,639	600,393.29
OKOMUOIL	9.45	9.45	0.00	3	1,300	12,285.00
OWENABANK	2.06	2.00	0.06	17	66,809	137,333.00
PRIZER	5.44	5.44	0.00	1	5,000	27,200.00
POLYPROD	0.50	0.50	0.00	3	11,560	5,780.00
PRESTIGE	2.64	2.77	0.13	2	10,000	27,700.00
PZ	13.00	12.65	0.35	48	179,727	2,313,990.32
ROYALEX	6.70	6.70	0.00	11	101,829	689,019.30
RTBRISCOE	1.39	1.40	0.01	2	81,620	114,261.80
SAVANNA	1.41	1.34	0.07	11	296,000	404,340.00
SCOA	2.50	2.38	0.12	3	25,500	60,750.00
SKBEECHAM	2.18	2.10	0.08	17	199,907	422,658.43
TEXACO	62.99	66.00	3.01	14	14,143	893,150.02
TIB	2.74	2.63	0.11	2	100,500	265,315.00
TOTAL	67.10	67.10	0.00	20	32,316	2,168,403.60
TRIPPLEG	1.05	1.06	0.01	4	5,333	5,627.98
UAC-PROP	2.98	2.99	0.01	43	414,835	1,240,964.50
UACN	3.45	3.46	0.01	58	140,343	486,198.75
UBA	12.45	12.46	0.01	78	232,984	2,905,974.70
UBN	23.10	23.50	0.40	126	416,545	9,709,672.12
UNIC	1.68	1.65	0.03	11	51,389	85,857.08
UNIONDICON	16.03	16.03	0.00	5	1,780	28,533.40
UNIPETROL	36.01	36.00	0.01	55	92,104	3,316,329.97
UNTL	4.00	4.00	0.00	14	20,663	82,652.00
UPL	3.45	3.62	0.17	1	22,377	81,004.74
UTB	3.85	3.85	0.00	6	4,050	15,592.50
UTC	0.99	0.99	0.00	4	45,154	44,702.46
VITAFOAM	4.00	3.81	0.19	24	329,849	1,267,457.61
VONO	1.60	1.60	0.00	1	500	800.00
WAPCO	20.50	20.20	0.30	61	153,368	3,109,691.79
WAPIC	1.87	1.87	0.00	5	11,050	20,663.50
WEMABANK	2.48	2.54	0.06	52	1,701,018	4,231,059.92
TOTAL				1861	11,970,722	135,387,349.35

## Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE)

Gainers/Losers as at 17/08/2001

Gainers			
COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
TEXACO	62.99	66.00	3.01
NOLCHEM	29.01	30.46	1.45
UBN	23.10	23.50	0.40
CHARTERED	6.94	7.28	0.34
NAL	4.83	5.00	0.17
UPL	3.45	3.62	0.17
CUTIX	3.29	3.45	0.16
PRESTIGE	2.64	2.77	0.13
NCR	2.30	2.39	0.09
EKOBANK	1.51	1.58	0.07
INLANDBANK	1.63	1.70	0.07
FIRSTALUM	1.85	1.92	0.07
WEMABANK	2.48	2.54	0.06
CHELLARAM	1.05	1.10	0.05
7UP	5.95	6.00	0.05
ADSWITCH	1.06	1.11	0.05
NEM	0.86	0.90	0.04
LASACO	1.16	1.20	0.04
CMB	0.61	0.64	0.03
AHICO	2.76	2.78	0.02
DNMEYER	6.38	6.40	0.02
UAC-PROP	2.98	2.99	0.01
RTBRISCOE	1.39	1.40	0.01
UACN	3.45	3.46	0.01
TRIPPLEG	1.05	1.06	0.01

### Losers

COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
JBERGER	62.69	59.56	3.13
MOBIL	64.00	62.50	1.50
AGIP	31.00	30.05	0.95
CADBURY	22.09	21.20	0.89
FLOURMILL	13.50	13.00	0.50
NBC	20.42	20.02	0.40
PZ	13.00	12.65	0.35
NIGERINS	5.30	5.05	0.25
GCAPPA	5.79	5.55	0.24
AFRIBANK	8.86	8.65	0.21
DELTGLAS	4.66	4.46	0.20
FSB	8.32	8.42	0.20
VITAFOAM	4.00	3.81	0.19
MORISON	3.44	3.27	0.17
DUNLOP	3.52	3.35	0.17
SCOA	2.50	2.38	0.12
MAY&BANKER	2.41	2.30	0.11
TIB	2.74	2.62	0.11
SKBEECHAM	2.18	2.10	0.08
IMB	1.43	1.36	0.07
SAVANNA	1.41	1.34	0.07
OWENABANK	2.06	2.00	0.06
MANNYBANK	1.94	1.90	0.04
UNIC	1.68	1.65	0.03
GPOLDBREW	0.62	0.59	0.03

### Summary of Transactions

	OPENING	CLOSING	% AGE CHANGE
MKT. CAP.	607,625,976,750.60	603,837,807,794.76	-0.62
INDEX	10,277.54	10,213.47	-0.62
DEALS	VOLUME	VALUE	No. OF COMPANIES
1,861	11,970,722	135,387,349.35	108

# Privatisation UPDATE

**B**idding document for Nigerian Telecommunications Limited (NITEL) will be released tomorrow, Director-General, Bureau for Public Enterprises (BPE) Malam Nasir el-Rufai has disclosed.

He said NITEL privatisation was on course even as the presidential order to privatise the parastatals ends in September.

The BPE helmsman who was featuring on an NTA programme Point Black, expressed belief that a privatised NITEL will help bring down the high tariff of the Global System of Mobile Communication (GSM).

He however said GSM is not for common man but for those who can afford it, while raising hope that the common man might be able to have the mobile phone in

## NASI faults AON's stand on FAAN's privatisation

From Shakirat Abdulmajeed, in Lagos

**T**he Nigeria Aviation Safety Initiative (NASI) has faulted the position of the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON), on the proposed privatisation of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN).

According to a statement issued by the General Secretary of NASI, Captain Jerry Agbeyegbe, the planned privatisation of FAAN is not only in tune with global trends, but will result in improved and qualitative service to all users.

"It is indeed unfortunate that in this age of liberalisation, the AON which should be championing the campaign for the privatisation of FAAN, is indulging under the cover of airline security in its opposition to the exercise, especially when some of the issues have been adequately addressed at the recently concluded national civil aviation policy review workshop which was held in Abuja.

The National Civil Aviation Policy Review Workshop had recommended that FAAN should be transformed into a Public Limited Company (PLC), while government should determine the modalities of such transformation.

NASI emphasised that the AON got it wrong with its assertion that FAAN's operation has been economically viable, saying that even the management of the authority will disagree with such notion. "The poor services and dismal performance of the authority in the past can be directly traced to both its monopoly and the status it enjoyed as a government agency," NASI argued.

NASI argued that for the fact that FAAN is a government entity, many of the notion's airports would have been shut down for failure to meet with international acceptable standards.

## NITEL bidding document out tomorrow

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, in Lagos

future when the universal services imposed by Nigeria Communication Council (NCC) come to fruition.

Malam el-Rufai also commented on the \$285 million paid by the GSM licensed operators, disclosing that it went to the coffers of the three tiers of government for the empowerment of the populace.

Also speaking NITEL chairman, Dr. Martin Igbokwe said only 51 percent of NITEL shares would be sold to the core investor while the remaining would be held by the company.

He assured that it wouldn't affect NITEL's

GSM programme.

Meanwhile the Chief Executive, ECONET Wireless, Mr. Zachary Wazara has said his company will bring the GSM lines to Maiduguri in December while it commences operation in Port Harcourt next week.

Mr. Wazara who also appeared on the programme commended government's decision to go GSM saying it provides a lot of backbone for technology "it is the backbone upon which you go into internet banking, phone banking."

Defending the high tariff on the GSM, the ECONET CEO, maintained that they have certain objective set meet "first and foremost, we are deploring

national infrastructure."

He also said that the tariff they are charging is a national tariff speaking on rural telephoning, he noted that GSM might not be the cheapest form of providing it in the country.



Bello Mohammed, Communications Minister

**F**ollowing the recent advertisement for the Expression of Interest (EOIs) requesting consultants to provide advisory services for the privatisation of the Electricity Meter Company of Nigeria (EMCON), Zaria, Kaduna State, a total of 25 applications were received.

Of this total, 12 were consortia and others were individual firms.

The firms are expected to provide advisory services in the areas of: financial/lead/floating adviser, legal/solicitor to the issue, accounting; asset valuation, and technical/engineering advisers. After an evaluation carried out by a seven-man team, the technical committee approved six firms to be issued the request for proposal.

The firms are: UTB Consortium; African International Bank (AIB) Limited, Dele Otitutu & Co, Integrated Trust & Investment Limited, and

## NCP appoints consultants for EMCON

Diamond Bank Limited.

In the individual firms category, the technical committee approved another thirteen firms be issued the RFPs in their respective services areas.

For financial lead and floatation services, BGL Limited, Future View Securities Limited and Access Bank were selected, while Ora Egbunike & Co, Chike Egwatu & Co, Charles Adebisi & Co, and Fortune Ebie & Co were to handle asset relation.

Consolidated Management Consultants Limited, Abayomi Dosunmu & Co, Dele Abadurrahem & Co. and Ade Ogunjuboun were to take charge of accounting while Zik Chuka Obi were the legal advisors.



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Star In

**Did your appointment as Minister of State, for Defence, Army, come to you as a surprise?**

Well, I am not sure. I am competent to comment on my appointment, so I would rather leave the question.

**How have soldiers in the barracks fared since the advent of this regime in terms of welfare facilities, and so on?**

Well, first of all, I will split your question into two. One is how do the private soldiers in the barracks feel. The most competent person to answer that question is the soldiers in the barracks. On the issue of the dilapidation of the barracks, we are dealing with these problems at two levels.

First of all, there is a presidential committee on barracks rehabilitation, whose chairman is a senior officer from the Federal Ministry of Works, with representatives from the Army, Navy, Airforce and the Police. They are to handle and rehabilitate barracks for these four services. Their modus operandi is that for now they have taken one major barracks from each of the services and they are concentrating their activities on those barracks.

The idea is simple. It is to concentrate resources so that we have the maximum effect, rather than spread money in such a way that the effect is not felt at all. I will give you a very simple example. If you allocate N250 million, let's say to rehabilitate police barracks what it will come to mean is that it will come to about N1 million per barracks, you will agree with me that such

an effort will have no impact at all. That is why the decision is that you concentrate your resources on specific barracks so that you achieve the maximum effect.

In other words the Army, Navy, Airforce and the Police have money within their budgetary allocation for this year for barracks maintenance and rehabilitation. Now, what we are doing is to pick barracks across the country and try to attend to part of the barracks with the resources that are available.

But again we are concentrating efforts and resources in specific locations, not all over the country. Again what we want to do is to systematically bring all the barracks to the required standard, but we do not have the resources to do all of them at the same time, so we make selections across the country.

**The defence minister has said that military commanders would be involved in the renovation of the various barracks. Since government is emphasising the reprofessionalisation of the military, won't that go contrary to government's effort in this direction?**

I think you are approaching it from the wrong perspective. A commander in any particular location is responsible for the welfare and upkeep of his troops with their families. That includes ensuring that the barracks is habitable. So if you do not involve him at the level of supervision, who else can supervise this work? Is it just the professionals who will come today and go away? He knows the minute details of what is wrong in those barracks. He has to certify that

# The U.S. is not on a

*Mallam Lawal Batagarawa is the Minister of State, for Defence, Army. In this interview with Hammeed M. Bello, our Senior reporter, he comments on renovations in the barracks, the 'downsizing' of the army, the Nigeria/U.S. military partnership, pensioners within the Nigerian army, the War College, and more. Excerpts.*

those weaknesses or defects in the barracks have been dealt with, and that is the involvement that the Minister of Defence is talking about. It is not that he (the commander) would be the one awarding contracts, supervising the contracts and satisfying the contractors. That is a professional job meant for architects and quantity surveyors and engineers. He is to ensure that things are done correctly to the satisfaction of his officers and men. That is the level to which he would be involved.

**Some two years ago when this administration came into power, one of the visions of the regime was to downsize the military to make it mobile and provide facilities for them. It seems as if this downsizing has been stopped. What is responsible for the stoppage sir?**

Well, you have supplied part of the answer yourself. You will agree with me that this government in each situation where it has committed itself to a particular activity, we normally study the situation based on the objective we want to achieve, and then our study is thoroughly analysed and then on the basis of the detailed knowledge we then go about meeting our objective. We are in the process of studying the components that will determine what is the optimum size of the military we require. What sort of equipment do we need to provide for that military? So this is not something that you will jump into. It is something that you have to study thoroughly, you know.

You have to take into account the training you require. You decide what is the optimum level of the military you require, then you straighten-out the hardware on the basis of that. Then you work out the training requirement on the basis of that also. It is when you do all this work and you have all the different components in perspective, that you begin to act.

Another issue that you have to take into consideration, which is something you know very well, is the fact

that the military is not like all human institutions. It is not something that is static; it is dynamic. Certain circumstances have changed between 1999 and today, and whatever we have to do we have to take them into consideration, and we are taking those factors that have changed into consideration to determine what we are doing.

**Nigeria and U.S. have a military partnership, which gave birth to Operation Focus Relief (Training for combat readiness). Nigerians do not understand this partnership. Some are even saying that Americans are on an espionage mission. What clarification can you make on this?**

Okay, first of all, there are a number of countries Nigeria has defence cooperation agreements with. United States of America is one, the Russian Republic is another. Others are South Africa, Iran and a number of others. We have military cooperation agreements with them. As a consequence of these military agreements, we have two programmes working with the U.S. One is Operation Focus Relief. Focus relief is targeted as follows: A number of nations are involved in the United Nations Peace Keeping Mission in Sierra Leone and Nigeria is one of them. The U.S. assists these countries involved in the peace-keeping mission in Sierra Leone with training and equipment. So, it is all the countries that are involved in the peace-keeping mission in Sierra Leone. Focus relief is targeted at all the countries participating in the peace-keeping mission in Sierra Leone. The Second is the M.P.R.I. programme.

**What is M.P.R.I.?**

M.P.R.I is: Military Professional Resource Incorporated. It is essentially a group of retired, responsible military officers of American origin who are employed by the government of U.S. to provide assistance to friendly countries like Nigeria that have military cooperation agreements with them. What do they do? It is a simple thing—we sit in Nigeria and look at our military and iden-

tify what are the weaknesses in our military establishment. The military and the Ministry of Defence would sit down and identify what are our areas of weaknesses. Then we sit with these military personnel from the United States who have served at a number of commands and staff posts.

We will ask them in what way we should deal with these specific problems. They assist us in those problems. The point is simple, we lead, and they support us. There is nothing like a spying mission. If we have professionals who have varied experience in Nigeria, we will use their services. The U.S officials participating in M.P.R.I. are paired with Nigerian military officers, and whatever they do, is carried out jointly. We don't allow the Americans to go into areas we consider sensitive to our security.

**I recall that the Nigerian Army has a reserve list which is supposed to be a list of officers who have been retired from the Army and some of them have seen battle, especially in Biafra. Why haven't we drawn from the pool of these veterans? Is there anything unique about the M.P.R.I. that we need to learn from?**

Well, first of all, let me start with the simplest position. You can always learn something new from another person. You learn everyday from your child. That is a fact of life. So, for every officer in the M.P. R. I. Programme, we have his Nigerian counterpart, both serving and retired in which case we are already tapping into the experience of some of our retired personnel as counterparts to those Americans.

Secondly, there is something unique about these people. First, technologically, they have an edge over us. Number two, in terms of management sciences, the American economy has developed management sciences to an art, and there is something we can learn from them in this regard. In information technology, we can learn something from them. We are also learning from the Nigerian veterans.



Defence Minister of State for Defence, Army

**What do you think the Americans stand to gain from the partnership?**

Well, first of all, let me start from peace-keeping operations. Everybody in the world has something to gain if the world is at peace. The economic activities of the world would flourish. We have seen the catastrophes in Somalia, in the war between Eritrea and Ethiopia, in the Middle East. Americans have an interest in peace returning to those areas just like anybody else. If there is peace in Nigeria, they will come and invest, and make profit.

**What is the cause of the delay in the payment of pensions? Why does the ministry default in payment as and when due?**

First of all, as you are aware, pensions in the last two years have been reviewed about three times. The increase in the amount of pension has gone up about 400 percent or more, about 600 percent, if I am correct. That has increased the volume of money we are to pay as pension. The second thing that has happened was that a lot of people who were entitled to pension, were not collecting pension because the previous amount was meagre. All of them have come back into the pension scheme because the money now is important to them. Those not in the system before, you are not aware of them because maybe they have died, or for





Interview

# spying mission

## — Batagarawa

whatever reason they are not there. Now that they have come, it will change your budgetary allocation making it inadequate. These twin problems are basically things that have created a backlog. The third issue is that there are a lot of people who are not entitled to pen-



Army, Mallam Lawal Batagarawa

mission but who are doing everything they can to ensure they get on to the pensioners' list. Because of the activities of these bad eggs, we have to be cautious so that due process of establishing who is entitled to pension is followed, and these massive increases that have taken place on the basis of the two things I have identified means that we have to make adjustments.

The budgetary system now is different from what it was before. This time, once you go to the National Assembly and they approve the budget, if you wish to change it, you have to take a supplementary appropriation bill to them, which has to go through due processes.

A combination of these factors is responsible for the delays. We hope that these problems would be solved between now and December and with effect from January 1, we should not have any problem with the pensions. We hope by then, we would have had our facts and figures ready.

**Sir, there has been this allegation that even the selection process to the War College has been so politicised that those who do not merit to be there have been admitted. What comment do you have on this?**

I do not comment on speculations. If you say it has been alleged, then what is the basis of the allegation? Unless you have certain specific cases on the basis

of which I can respond, I don't think I will respond to that question:

**In the 70s and early 80s when there was professionalism in the military, soldiers interacted among themselves in the officers' messes. Now the messes are deserted, ministers don't honour functions in the mess. What is responsible for these developments?**

Let's get our understanding correct. I will not say that going to the mess is what constitutes professionalism in the army. Number two, I don't know how many messes you have been to, that you can say with any degree of authority that officers are not going to the mess. Number three, it is not all functions by the military that the minister has to attend. A lot of functions conducted by the army are not even attended by the Chief of Staff or his principal staff officers. Let us not trivialize the issue of professionalism.

**The present administration is keen on reprofessionalising the military and the best way to achieve that is to train and retrain the military, and to equip it. What special training is the Army giving its men to keep them combat ready?**

From the day a young man enrolls in the Defence Academy his career pattern is worked out up to the time he will become a General. Okay, there are a minimum number of courses he has to attend. There are certain postings he must do, directing staff in training institutions and command. And these training facilities that have been allowed to run down are now being rehabilitated and upgraded, and that is the difference.

**There was a report that troops participating in the United Nations Peace Keeping Mission are in low morale, especially those from Ukraine, is the Nigerian troop having a similar experience? What is the cause?**

I have been in Sierra Leone and I found the morale of our officers and men very high.

**In relation to ex-Biafran soldiers who are agitating for absorption into the Nigerian Army, we don't know what your ministry is doing on that and what the**

**implications are for the Nigerian Army itself. What would happen if the army wish to reabsorb them?**

You have just been asking me about 'downsizing' the Nigeria Army and now you are asking me to reverse gear and go another way. Let's face it, the Biafran Army was involved in treason. To fight your country or against your country is treason, alright? These people were not staff of the Nigerian Army, so how do you reabsorb them? Reabsorbing means you are in before and you are being taken back. They were never in before, so how can they be reabsorbed? Unless you are saying that we should go and recruit the former Biafran Army into the Nigerian Army. That's a different ball game altogether. They cannot talk of reabsorption because they were never part of the Nigerian Army. Biafra is not Nigeria, Nigeria is Nigeria. So you can't reabsorb soldiers from another country into your own country.

**The government has been talking about transparency in public life for the nation to move forward. What effort is the Army making to ensure that there is transparency in all its activities?**

You see, transparency requires a number of things, but the most fundamental is that there must be checks and balances and we are complying in the Nigerian

Army with all the rules and regulations. There was a retreat for the military at Kaduna and Ibadan and we are going to go round all the military formations to do this retreat as part of the effort for the campaign for transparency and accountability. Also specific programmes are being worked out at different locations to deal with these issues.

**At the retreat in Ibadan, the president called upon the officers to open up so that government would tap from whatever complaints they may have and find out how to satisfy the rank and file of the military in terms of morale and so on. How was your experience in the course of the retreat?**

It was very beneficial, very educative and it was a good training ground for me.

**What measure is the Nigerian Army taking, especially with your leadership to ensure that the Army does not make any incursion into politics?**

We have agreed that one of the best ways to keep any mischief-maker in the military from making any incursion into politics is basically good government and you will agree with me that this government is providing that. Two, the press has always been involved in promoting extreme disharmony in the society in a fundamentally negative fashion. That provides the military boys the excuse they are looking for. So, the responsibility is not that of government alone. It is for all of us. What do we say about ourselves if mistakes are made, how do we approach the resolution of those mistakes?

In 1983, some people were openly calling for the

military to take over. The press was urging the military on. In 1993 when Chief Shonekan was the Head of State, some people were openly telling Sani Abacha to come and let the military finish what they have started, hand over to, Abiola and all that. The Press and other influential members of society can play their own part.

**Sir, would you support an Obasanjo/ Atiku ticket come 2003?**

You don't need to ask that question.

**For what reason sir?**

Look, let's get it right. First of all, why in the first place do we support Obasanjo? All the reasons that recommended Obasanjo to be supported by all Nigerians are still valid today, two years later. Added to that, you will testify that there is greater hope in the Nigerian system. In 1999, Niger Delta was a total no go area. It affected the important economic activities going on in Nigeria, especially the exploration of oil. The Niger Delta is peaceful today. There is no vandalisation of pipelines, no kidnapping of oil workers, economic activities are picking up in the place and express roads have been constructed.

Even in Abuja, today there is relative security and there is calm all over the country. In the year 2000, the economy grew, for the first time above the rate of population growth.

You can see electricity supply stabilizing in Abuja and it is the same all over. In some parts of Lagos, especially the industrial area, there is a continuous power supply for 22 hours non-stop. Proper light, not the mini-mini light (Laughs).

The cost of food items has gone up since the inception of this government and salaries have also gone up, so that people could afford various items. We should be happy about that. Out of your salary you can pay school fess comfortably. Most civil servants are even buying cars.

**(Cuts in) Tokunbo cars?**

Still, it is a car (laughs) no be car? Is it not better than walking over long distances? There is qualitative improvement in our lives in the past two years. Some people out of genuine ignorance have not articulated this. Some do so out of mischief, some out of dishonesty, but the truth of the matter is that the achievements are there on the ground for people to see. We wish to extend the borders of peace on the African continent. That is very important, we should never underestimate peace. This government has brought peace. It has brought greater security for life and property, and when you take all these together, you don't need to ask me whether I would support Obasanjo or not come 2003.

**Finally sir, what legacies would you like to leave for the Army?**

That is left for history to judge, not for me to say. One thing I would say is that I am prepared to give my best in order to improve the situation beyond the level at which I have met it.

**What sort of Army would you like to leave behind?**

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# Tales of a triumphant school teacher

By Yakubu Ozohu-Suleiman

He was born in 1942 in Okengwe, Kogi central. Sanni Anataku began his teaching career at the tender age of 19. From when he started, Sanni recounted that he was in the primary school as a teacher for a total of thirty-five years.

Of average height, Sanni is lame and uses clutches to get along. At 59, he shares his experience as a person and a teacher who struggled and indeed succeeded in capturing his reward here on earth.

"I began primary school in 1948 at the age of 6. In fact when I was in primary school, I had an accident while playing football. I used to play Centre-forward and at times, right wing for my football team. One day when we played a match with a neighbouring football team I had a clash with their backman who cleared me out and broke my right leg. It was unfortunate that such happened at a time when my community had not benefited from the benefits of advanced medical science. The local doctors who treated me did not do it well. That is why up till date it has affected my movement."

"After my primary school education I had to remain at home for 3 years because of the injury. By 1957 however, I got enrolled at the Anglican modern school in Ikare, Ondo state where I spent three years and by 1959, I left for government teachers college Okene from where I graduated

in 1960 as a grade III teacher. Born to a rich Cocoa farmer, Sanni began his first job in 1961 as a teacher at St. Peters primary school Ikuehi, Ihima in Kogi state with wages of a pound. As one of the brilliant students during his college years, he received a call from his former school to proceed for his grade II certificate. Sanni went forward and by 1963 he graduated. A grade II teacher's then was small when mentioned, but constituted an enormous amount of money at that time.

As a primary school teacher who was very familiar with pupils, before the age of 22, Sanni already had a vision of a place where he would have the freedom to give creative and better attention to people on his educational call. This indeed marked the beginning of his dream of establishing a school.

In 1964, at the age of 22, Sanni ventured into politics and indeed won election as a member of the house of representatives of the Okene Native Authority. As one who had always been interested in education, he gained his popularity and made his way into the Native Authority after organising a protest demonstration against the taxing of secondary school students.

He said, "The Native

Authority were taxing students the sum of 3 pounds, a sum which was very hard to come by. Meanwhile the government of the then Northern region had declared free education for students from poor backgrounds although they were to be recommended by the Native Authorities. But the Authorities would not listen. That was where I came in and during elections I

complex between 1980-1983.

Sanni considers himself as not just a teacher but an educationist because a formative part of his life was spent teaching and struggling to establish a secondary school. A struggle which yielded fruit at last.

An Anglican Christian and a monogamist with 8 children, Sanni was able to finance his primary and teachers college from the

When proceeding for University education, the young teacher made a personal commitment to establish a secondary school when he returned as a graduate. Said he "my dreams of having an educational institution began when I was a primary school teacher. During this period, you cannot establish a school unless you are a graduate else you have to get an expert adviser."

By 1985, about 6 years after my degree programme, I established an extra-mural class which I named Okengwe Continuing Education Centre. The Centre was retraining secondary school drop outs and others who were preparing for GCE and related examinations. The centre also served as a sales agent for the purchase of Jamb and GCE forms, including admission forms for overseas higher institutions."

"By 1990, I began a struggle to register the centre as an independent institution, that is a secondary school. I approached the Kogi state ministry of education where I was requested to furnish evidence of being in possession of minimum facilities to establish a secondary school."

In a sober reflection, albeit with gratitude to God for an accomplished goal, Sanni noted that he encountered a lot of difficulties from individuals, especially school principals who wrote petitions to the ministry of education to ruin his efforts.

Said he "it was a long struggle. I had to work hard to procure the required

facilities so that I will not fail myself and the ministry of education. In fact some enemies of progress even went ahead and influenced the mind of the Assistant Inspector of Education (AIE) in the ministry who was very crucial to the outcome of my application."

"But I was dogged and determined to lay a good example as a school teacher.

Eventually the ministry sent a team of 15 inspectors including the AIE who came to inspect the school compound, the library, classrooms, laboratory, teachers etc.

"Eventually, the team wrote it's report and my school was approved. So in 1996, my Continuing Education Centre was transformed into a Full fledged secondary school known as comprehensive secondary school, Idoma, Okene."

It was indeed a tough experience for a teacher whose income could rather be described as a mere wage that was hardly enough for even decent living. But determined to capture his reward on earth, Teacher Sanni combined his wages with income from the sale of admission forms and registration of students to finance his school which presently has a total of about 800 students.

As if that was not enough, Sanni has arranged with some U.K experts to computerise his school. With 60 computers on the standby, Sanni said, "come October, I will launch the first computerised secondary school in Kogi State."



Sanni S. Anataku contested and won."

Sanni's career as a teacher took him to the position of headmaster of a primary school in "Ege" near "Okengwe" where he was born. He did this until 1976 when he gained admission to Ahmadu Bello University to study library science education. By 1979, he graduated with a BSc/Ed library science, and a diploma in education. In his words "I came out with a second class lower in library science and a diploma in education. I proceeded for the National Service Programme. I served as a teacher at the Federal College of Education Okene. After my service, I got employment in two places at the same time: These were FCE, where I served and the Ajaokuta steel complex. I declined the offer at FCE and picked up that of Ajaokuta because the company was about 128.00 ahead of most other places in terms of remuneration."

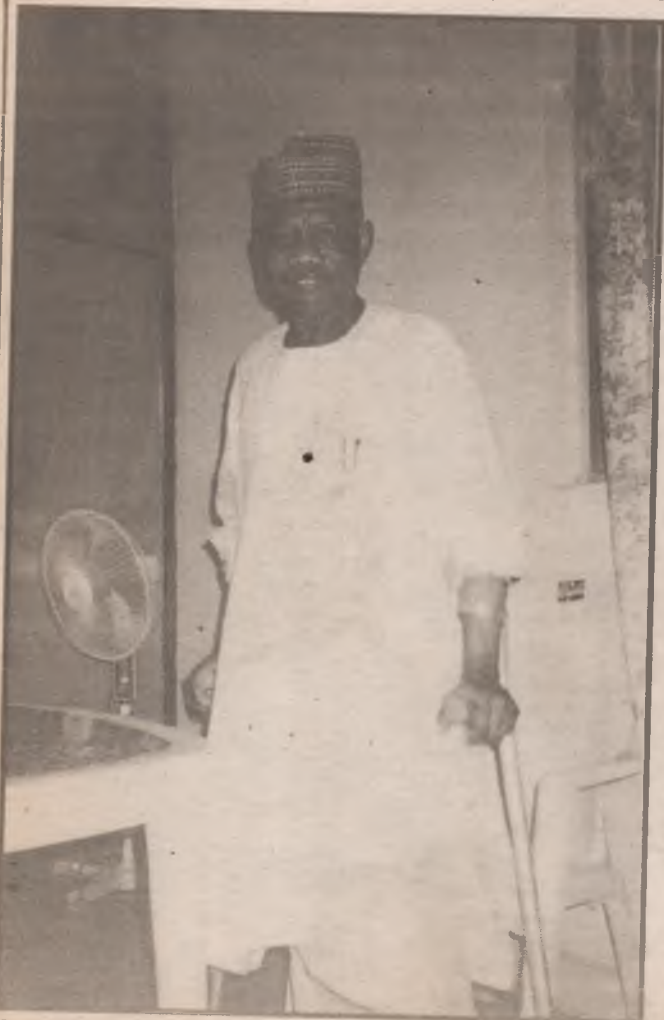
The only period which Sanni did not spend teaching since 1961 was the three years he spent as a staff of Ajaokuta steel

financial status of his father as a cocoa farmer.

Although he lost his father while he was at the primary school, the Cocoa farm nevertheless remained and served useful financial purposes. His mother who is still alive also contributed to funding his education. Besides, Sanni enjoyed his college days because he used to be paid some pounds and shillings as a student.



Pixs by Yakubu Ozohu-Suleiman



Sanni Anataku stands with his clutches

NEWS

**UBE tasks social mobilization workers**

The social mobilization officers of the Universal Basic Education (UBE) programme have converged in Makurdi to learn the various techniques involved in stimulating community participation and empowerment as essential ingredients for the smooth take-off of the scheme.

This was the focus of a one-day national workshop titled: "Master trainers workshop for UBE social mobilization workers." Presenting a paper titled: "Sustaining the UBE programme momentum, the role of social mobilization officers," Dr. Musa Moda, UBE's Director of Social Mobilisation, said social mobilisation officers should always see themselves in the position of king-makers rather than being kings; have a

greater sense of responsibility to the people they serve, accept criticisms; control their emotions and be disciplined as ingredients for the success of UBE.

Dr. Moda who stated that UBE's nine-year target of compulsory free education for the Nigerian child will be a success if the programme



Prof. Borisade

gets the nod of the executive and legislative arms of government, has qualified teachers for each subject, and effective supervision and inspection of schools among others must be done. He said a good social mobilizer should be able to set good examples, be honest, dependable, have friends of all classes and always identify local mobilisers in every community.

Nigerians have been urged to rally round the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in the country to fight the war against drug trafficking to ensure that the country is drug free.

Speaking during his welcome address at the first annual summit for principal officers of NDLEA, Lagos zone, held at the Murtala Muhammad

**Nigerians urged to support NDLEA**

From Shakirat Abdulmajeed, in Lagos

Airport, Lagos, Alhaji Dan Bura, the zonal commandant declared that the involvement of all and sundry would rid the country of the drug menace and maintain a crime free society.

Alhaji Dan Bura who was represented by Mrs. Chizobia

Chine, explained that the summit was initiated by the Chairman and Chief



Gov Bola Tinubu

Executive of NDLEA, Alhaji Bello Lafajai in his resolve to professionalise the agency and stressed the need for training and retraining of officers and men of the agency to meet the new challenges in the narcotics fight.

He remarked that a successful career could only be sustained by every staff through a well planned programme in which all staffers were expected to acquire new skills to broaden and update their knowledge to meet the new challenge.

**Oputa Panel: ACF to make statement over IBB soon**

The Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF), will make appropriate statement over the summoning of past military heads of state of Northern origin by the Oputa Panel at the appropriate time, according to one of its leaders, General Abdullahi Shelleng (rtd) recently in

Minna.

At a press briefing with state correspondents in Minna, the ACF leader responded that the body has not deliberated on the Oputa summons on Babangida, he dismissed the insinuation that the



Gen. Ibrahim Babangida

silence of ACF was a tactical endorsement of former President Ibrahim Babangida's presidential ambition in 2003. While advising the rumour-mongers not to drag the body into problems, he said that the rumour had no basis whatsoever.

He further said that the body was a non-political organization and will not dabble into politics. "The main concern of ACF was to bring back the North into the mainstream of national life, banish the raging discontent in the region, put her on equal footing with her counterparts economically in the country."

**6,000 apply for prison job in Benue**

Over 6,000 applicants have sought to be recruited into the Nigerian Prison Service. Only 75 vacancies were however, allocated to the state, the state Prisons Controller, Mr. Joshua Penzin has disclosed.

He said this while speaking to Daily Trust in his

office, on the recent recruitment exercise in the prisons headquarters, Makurdi.

He commended the peaceful conduct of the applicants during the exercise, the controller appealed to the Federal Government to create more job opportunities to alleviate the suffering of graduates roaming the streets of the state capital.

The controller who appealed for patience among the applicants as the recruitment is a continued exercise, said it is however unconnected with the understaffing of the department as a result of transfer or exorc

of convicts from police to prison services.

Mr. Penzin said that the only way criminal activities could be reduced in the society is to create opportunities that will engage the youths who form the bulk of applicants in the labour market.



Gov George Akume

**Collapsed bridge claims two lives in Jigawa**

Tragedy occurred as two people lost their lives in an attempt to swim across River Bunga in Jigawa State after the collapse of the bridge at Gwaram.

The first victim was a trader from the old Gwaram town who, after selling his wares at the market in the town left for new Gwaram town. On reaching the collapsed bridge, he was charged N100 by the owners of the ferry boat on duty, but he decided to pay N50 for his wares to be ferried while he swam to save N50.

On reaching the middle of the river, the tides were so strong that it dragged him a way, his corps was later

found at Shira town in Bauchi State.

The second victim also was coming from the same market according to an eye witness, Abdullahi Abubakar Blue Fagam who said the victim was so impatient that he could not wait for the ferry boat to come back and decided to jump into the river after which he never resurfaced again.

Confirming the incidents, the legislator representing Fagam constituency in the state House of Assembly, Alhaji Yusuf Adamu Jar Yanta, said it was a tragic situation, adding that his people are now cut off from the rest of the state.

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## NEWS

## Adamawa spends N244m on pension, gratuity

The Adamawa State government has expended about N244 million on the payment of pensions and gratuities to 5,821 pensioners in the state.

The state Commissioner for Establishment and Pension Matters, Mr. John Shas, who disclosed this to journalists in Yola last week, said the money was released by the government during the last quarter.

He also revealed that the government has spent over N63.7 million on the pensioners following the upward review of pension rates by 150 percent and 30 percent approved by the government.

On the problem of delay

often witnessed in the payment of pension, the commissioner attributed it to lack of funds. "Pension payment lies on the availability of



Gov Boni Haruna

funds. If there is no fund, then there would be a delay in the payment of pension," he said.

Mr. Shas further disclosed that 178 staff who had applied for retirement from the state civil service within the last three months have now received government's approval.

Similarly, he said his ministry had approved the payment of death benefit to the relatives of 128 civil servants. The commissioner also announced that government would be releasing over N7.5 million monthly to help in the payment of local government pensioners in the state.

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, in Yola

The Director-General of the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN), Mr. Eddie Iroh, has stated that the FRCN plans to deploy correspondents to every local government area in the country.

Mr. Iroh made the



Mr. Eddie Iroh

## FRCN to post correspondents to local government areas

By Hassan Idris

statement last week at a seminar on effective communication to enhance productivity at local government level, held at the National Universities Commission (NUC), Abuja.

According to him, FRCN has a correspondent in every state who monitors the pulse of development and democracy for its news and programmes and would have at least one correspondent in every local government area in the federation.

He added that they would not be ordinary reporters but trained community-based

agents, and activists for democracy and development.

He commended President Obasanjo's government which has shown considerable goodwill and political capacity in helping to realize this dream, especially with the soon-to-be-established FM stations in every state capital of the nation.

"The information society so touted about may not be here for us yet given our level of development, but it goes without saying that information and communication have become so central to our lives," he said.

## NASS won't pass any bill on ID card - Maitama Yusuf

From Bala Mohamed Nasir, in Dutse

The National Assembly would not pass any bill legalizing the use of national identify card in future elections in the country.

Senator Bello Maitama Yusuf made this assertion to newsmen at his country home in Gwaram, Jigawa State at the weekend. The Senator representing Jigawa South-East, maintained that Senate, particularly would not adopt the move as announced after the last

federal executive council meeting.

He said if Northern Senators should allow the bill to be passed, then they have betrayed their people. Senator Maitama further said that they are fighting against the use of ID card in future elections because a lot of electorate in the North would not find it easy to vote with it due to the level of literacy in the region.

"This is denying them their right to vote in disguise," he said. He also opined that the House of Representatives would also reject the bill when submitted as he believed, the Northern representatives would also stand against it.

It would be recalled that the federal executive council has adopted the use of the national ID card in all subsequent elections in the country at its meeting last week.

## ACF appoints Mohammed Haruna committee member

From Kashim Sule, in Minna

The former Chief Press Secretary to General Abubakar Abdulsalami (rt), Mallam Mohammed Haruna, has been appointed into the advisory council committee of Arewa Consultative Forum.

Mall. Mohammed was a former acting Editor of *New Nigerian* newspapers and at one time, its Managing Director, before he left to

establish, along with others, the defunct *Citizen* magazine based in Kaduna.

His appointment to the body was announced by Maj.-Gen. Abdullahi Shelleng (rt) last week, when he led a delegation to Government House, Minna.

The appointment, according to the leader of the delegation, arose in

order to accommodate various shades of opinions, prominent citizens and opinion leaders from the state, in order to put their wisdom at the benefit of their people.

The advisory council committee is one of the four committees created by ACF for easy administration and mobilization of the people of the North.



# NATIONAL BUSINESS AND TECHNICAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD (NABTEB)

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, IKPOBA-HILL, P.M.B. 1747, BENIN CITY, EDO STATE-NIGERIA

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e-mail: [govboard@nabtebhq.org](mailto:govboard@nabtebhq.org)

## PRE-QUALIFICATION TENDER NOTICE

### 1.0 Introduction

NABTEB intends to construct the following structures at its National Headquarters in Benin City

- 1.1 Two (2) Office Blocks
- 1.2 Library Complex
- 1.3 Cafeteria
- 1.4 External Works

### 2.0 Pre-Qualification

Interested Firms/Companies should submit pre-qualification documents containing the following information.

- 2.1 Certificate of Incorporation of the Company with the Corporate Affairs Commission (Nigeria)
- 2.2 Full details of Company's profile showing available manpower with list of key professional staff.
- 2.3 List of equipment owned by the Company
- 2.4 Company's track record of verifiable major jobs executed within the last 5 years with relevant photo-copies of certificates of completion thereto
- 2.5 Company's financial details and Audited Accounts for the last 3 years.
- 2.6 Evidence of Registration as a Contractor with NABTEB and Federal/any State Government
- 2.7 Bank Reference

### 3.0 Submission of Pre-Qualification Documents

3.1 Pre-qualification tender information should be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked Pre-Qualification Tender at the top left corner of the envelope and addressed to:

The Secretary

Tenders Board

NABTEB Headquarters

Ikpoba Hill P.M.B. 1747, Benin City

3.2 This shall be personally dropped in a Tender's Box in the Office of the Director (Administration), Block A, room A114, National Business and Technical Examinations Board, Ikpoba Hill, Benin City, or by post within 6 weeks from the date of this publication with non-refundable (processing) fee of N25,000.00 (twenty thousand Naira) only.

3.3 Please Note

- 4.0 Only qualified firms/companies shall be shortlisted and invited to a competitive tender bidding for the said project.
- 4.1 Qualified companies will be required to pay a non-refundable fee of N250,000.00 (two hundred and fifty thousand Naira) only, in bank draft, to obtain the full tender documents
- 4.2 that submission of pre-qualification as aforementioned does not guarantee inclusion in the bid list

Secretary, Tenders Board,  
NABTEB, Ikpoba Hill, Benin City.

# INSIDE POLITICS

## Sokoto PDP under attack from govt

The Sokoto State government has described the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the state as a poor loser, following criticisms of the Bafarawa administration by the PDP.

This view was expressed by the state commissioner for information, youths, sports and culture, Alhaji Tahir Mai'akwai Gwadabawa, while reacting to criticisms of Governor Bafarawa's administration by the PDP chairman in the state, Alhaji Abubakar Shehu Tambuwal.

He told *Daily Trust* in an interview that, there was nothing new in what the PDP chairman has been saying. "He is only recycling his oft repeated statements in order to be relevant," he said.

The commissioner argued that the structures, put in place by the Bafarawa administration were established to provide

From Kabir Dogon-Daji, in Sokoto

succour to the people, adding that the state government doesn't discriminate in matters that affect the well-being of the citizenry.

He further maintained that most of the over N7 billion road projects being



Governor Bafarawa of Sokoto State

executed by the administration were sited in PDP controlled local government areas.

"I wonder why the PDP chairman is condemning the laudable projects executed by the administration," he said.

Alhaji Tahir, said the Bafarawa administration has performed wonderfully well especially, in the areas of health, education, road network and agriculture.

"Believe me sincerely, before we came in all our hospitals, schools and roads were in shambles, but now go and see what we have done so far," he maintained.

According to him, the Bafarawa administration would not relent in its efforts at salvaging the hopes of the commonman, adding that the government would do everything humanly possible to justify the confidence reposed on it by the electorate.

## Abeokuta South AD suspends chairman

The Alliance for Democracy (AD) in Abeokuta south local government of Ogun State has passed a vote of no confidence on its chairman, Mr. Tunde Coker, for alleged financial misappropriation and biased administration.

The letter containing the resolution titled: "Vote of No Confidence," which was dated August 14, 2001 and a copy of which was made available to *Daily Trust* accused the suspended chairman of holding meetings with some unknown groups without clearance from the executive.

Partly of the letter reads, "this is to inform you that the executive members of the Abeokuta South Chapter of the Alliance for Democracy have today on August 14, 2001, passed a vote of no confidence on you because of the dramatic change in your leadership style in running the affairs of the party for the past five months which has led to the present near collapse of the party in

From Olumide Bajulaiye, in Abeokuta

the local government.

"Consequently, you are hereby advised to step aside forthwith as the chairman of AD in Abeokuta south local government in the interest of our great party," the letter advised.

Among other allegations levelled against Mr. Coker are refusal to tender the sum of N20,000 sent by Senator Chief Femi

Okunromu in the month of June for office maintenance, including his refusal to render account of the money spent for late Chief M. K. O. Abiola's Fidu in July.

Mr. Tunde Coker who was removed by a simple majority has been replaced by the vice chairman, Alhaji Hassan Satoke pending the outcome of an investigation ordered by the state branch of the party.

## Edo lawmaker awards scholarship to indigent students

The chief whip of the Edo State House of Assembly, representing Etsako West II constituency, Alhaji Lukman Muhammad has awarded various scholarship to 120 indigent students of his constituency.

Beneficiaries of the scholarship scheme are children of the less privileged whose parents cannot afford to send them to school because of the high cost of education.

From Shehu Abubakar, in Benin

Similarly, the lawmaker has promised to organise islamic classes for muslim students in Edo State, since Islamic religious knowledge is not taught in public schools in the State.

Announcing the scholarship awards in Jatu, Mr. Mohammed called on all well-meaning Nigerians to assist in the education of the children of the less privileged, as according to him the best way to eradicating poverty is through education and self dependence for the youths in the country.

Speaking at the scholarship award ceremony, the speaker of the Edo State House of Assembly, Mr. Matthew Egbadon described Mr. Muhammad as a mature politician who is always willing to fight for the interest of his people.

"He is one of the lawmakers I so much respect. He makes the House very lively with his positive contributions. I sincerely congratulate the entire people of his constituency for having a man like Mr. Muhammad," the speaker said.

In an interview with *Daily Trust* after he ceremony, Mr. Muhammad promised not to relent in his fight to make life more meaningful for the voiceless and the dawn-trodden in the society.

## Bayelsa lawmaker loses N1.5m to driver

An Alliance for Democracy (AD) lawmaker in the Bayelsa State House of Assembly, Mr. Bemoye Pogonyo at the weekend in Yenagoa allegedly lost the sum of N1.5 million and his official car to his driver.

*Daily Trust* gathered that, the lawmaker who represents Brass constituency II had asked his driver, an indigene of Abua/Oual local government of Rivers State, to go to the bank and cash a cheque for the said amount in Port-Harcourt.

It was learnt that the driver successfully withdrew the N1.5 million before noon of the said day, and

From Wisdom-Uduak Patrick, Port Harcourt

disappeared with both the money and the car.

The lawmaker had ordered the withdrawal of the N1.5 million to enable him transact a business deal in Yenagoa.

It was learnt that, the run-away driver later abandoned the car at a spot close to the private residence of the legislator at Ndoki Estate in Port Harcourt without the money in it.

The lawmaker told *Daily Trust* in Yenagoa that he had reported the incident to the police at Ekeki police station, while the police said they have intensified efforts to arrest the fleeing driver.



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13 August, 2001.

## CHANGE IN THE RESUMPTION DATE OF THE HOUSE

Members of the House of Representatives are hereby informed that the resumption of the House for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session, which was previously scheduled for Wednesday 22 August, 2001 has been rescheduled for Tuesday 28 August 2001.

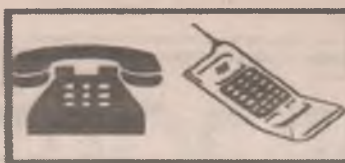
This is to notify Honourable Members of this change in the date of resumption of the House. They are therefore requested to re-convene at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 28 August 2001 for the commencement of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of this Assembly. please.

**Signed:**

**YEMI OGUNYOMI**



# I.T. WORLD



## Information technology is key area in Nigeria – Alhaji Abdullahi

The Director-General of Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), Alhaji Abubakar Abdullahi, has stated that information technology remains one of the key areas in the country and that the council has so many other viable projects in this regards.

Alhaji Abdullahi made the statement while receiving the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) Industrial Development Officer, Dr. Vinachianachi, in his office in Abuja, recently.

Apart from information technology, RMRDC needed technical expertise on its efforts to locally fabricate a pharmaceutical grade kaolin plant, and another plant for processing and production of cassava chips, which have not been successful, he said.

In response, the visiting UNIDO officer stated that UNIDO has planned to provide industrial development support

Stories by Hassan Idris

through the establishment of a network with research institutes in Nigeria.

Dr. Vinachiarachi added that the programme was aimed at establishing the network in collaboration with the centre for the study of African Economy in Oxford University.

He called for the support and participation of RMRDC for an industrial raw materials inventory to be conducted in Nigeria.



Alhaji Abubakar Abdullahi, Director-General, (RMRDC)

He commended RMRDC for its various activities in research and development (R & D) such as food processing, edible oil, soya and cassava and remarked that his team would like to benefit from the council's R & D findings.

Also present at the meeting were Dr. Mans Sodlbom of UNIDO, Dr. Ajani and Dr. Daniel Ayo, Director, Science and Technology Data Bank of RMRDC and Mr. Okoyo of the Ministry of Industry.

The Airspace Manager for the country's number one airport, Murtala Mohammed International Airport, Lagos, Mr. Adwunmi Adeola Owosekun, has said that the country's airspace is safe and domestic and foreign technology has a vital role to play.

Mr. Owosekun informed newsmen, at his office recently, that the establishment of the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), which is responsible for the management of the country's airspace, has improved smooth operation of flights throughout Nigerian airspace.

He said: "We have almost 100 per cent reliability of our equipment and we have been receiving commendations from

## NAMA assures airspace safety with IT equipment

the users, especially the pilots.

According to him, with the establishment of the Air Traffic Control Centre (ATCC) in the country, very soon there would be much improvement in air traffic devices.

He stressed that personnel were trained to handle ATCC and very soon the new quality service would take off.

In another development, the Airspace Managers in the Northern Region were called to strive for excellence. The call was made by the regional Airspace Manager (North), Mr. S. Owolabi Akerele, at the Airspace Management Services (ASMS) meeting held at Kaduna

recently.

According to him, it was the responsibility of the managers to ensure efficient and quality service to airlines and the public.

He added that there should be improved staff welfare, especially in the areas of bus service, television, video, satellite viewing, seminars, workshops and improved public relations.

He also stated that sanitation should not be neglected in any way and other facilities including offices, equipment and staff image should be given special consideration.

## Engage only CPN registered professionals – expert

An expert in Information Technology (IT) and the Chairman, Computer Association of Nigeria, Mr. Afolabi Thompson, has warned that only professionals that have registered with the Computer Professional Registration Council of Nigerian (CPN) can be engaged in IT

departments.

He told *Daily Trust*, last week, in a chat at his office in Abuja, that employers of I.T. personnel should get acquainted with some of the provisions of the CPN.

It was established by decree No. 49 of 1993, having legal entity and charged with the control and supervision of the computing profession

in Nigeria, he said.

Mr. Thompson revealed at the CPN meeting held recently, that the council observed that many organisations and companies in the country have invested heavily in information technology projects and CPN observed that these projects usually took a long time to be implemented.

In most cases, according to him such projects ended up as failures, because

properly registered computer professionals have not been given ample opportunity to work in the computer departments in the country.

He added that in the present era of Internet and computer fraud, government has a responsibility to protect the interests and investments of organisations that operate in Nigeria.

He warned that in the interest of public and private organisations in Nigeria, only computer professionals that were duly registered should be employed to do I.T. jobs.

He advised organisations that already have unregistered computer professionals to insist that they get registered within the period of six months, stressing that organisations who hire or retain unregistered computer professionals does so at their own risk.

Mr. Thompson further disclosed that the CPN would be publishing copies of registered members annually to be forwarded to the federal and state governments including other organisations that employ computer professionals.

"That is for your information and necessary actions, kindly ensure that your organisations comply with this directive," he said.



Afolabi Thompson, Chairman COAN, Abuja.

## Legal and ethical issues on information communication technology convergence (3)

Legal issues

Public awareness of legal issues on (ICT) is unfortunately at a very low level. The lack of awareness was also a consequence of the belief that law does not really affect the general public other than in exceptional cases such as sale of property, dismissal from employment or a criminal offence. These views are misleading and underestimate the number of legal issues, which arise in our everyday life.

Protection of Intellectual Property rights (IRP)

The modern information communication technology is based on intensive research and development activities, which requires a lot of financial outlay. A successful research leads to an invention. An invention is new idea, which permits the practical solution of a specific problem in the field of technology. An inventor is protected through the Intellectual Property system.

There are moral and ethical persuasions why the creator of an intellectual property should enjoy protection over his intangible product of the mind. The general philosophy underlying the provision of those rights is to protect them from false attribution, distortion, copying and

By Paul Ojeogwu

degrading treatments. In addition, it is assumed that in arriving at an invention, the inventor has put in a lot of resources in terms of time and money. The protection provided will afford him reasonable time to exploit his invention in order to recover his financial outlay and make some profits. This is achieved through the intellectual property system.

Intellectual Property includes copyrights, designs and such allied subjects. It is a right conferred by statute on an individual or corporate body with respect to the product of his or her intellect, guaranteeing the exclusive control of the exploitation of that property.

Patents characteristically protect inventions. Most of the modern information communication technology are components of inventions in their own rights. These are computer hardware, software, telephone, fax etc and are subject matter for protection under the patent system. In Nigeria that protections offered under the Patent and Design Acts Copy 344 f the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1990. Unfortunately, most of these technologies are foreign oriented and therefore they

first seek protection in their respective countries.

On the other hand, copyright deals primarily with literary, artistic and musical works, broadcast etc, all pieces of information in one form or the other are protected under the copyright laws. Until recently, software claim protection under copyright. The relevant law in Nigeria is the Copyright Law Cap. 68 Laws of the Federation 1990.

Defamation

A lot of legal issues could arise with respect to advances made in the Information Communication technology. Using the Internet as an illustration, we are aware that the Internet knows no boundary, as there is absolute freedom of publication. If a defamatory publication is made in the Internet, and it is accessed in Nigeria, the legal issue of jurisdiction to handle the impending litigation to redress the defamatory publication may constitute a problem, as it may not be easy to determine the country that has jurisdiction or the law that governs the litigation. Laws differ from country to country, as what may be lawful in Nigeria may be unlawful in Russia, but both countries access information from the Internet. These are some

mundane legal problems that may arise to which law may not easily provide an answer because technology is more dynamic and moves faster than law.

Piracy

It is also important to mention the issue of piracy. Copyright laws has made provisions for the protection of musical works and authors but with modern information technology, these works could be copied and the musician or the author gets little or no returns for his intellectual works.

Ethical issue

The legal and ethical issues appear close. The ethical issues touch on the morality, culture, tradition, and religious beliefs of a given society. The Internet is a free zone where all sorts of publications are made. Obscene publications may be made on the Internet and it will be morally wrong for the youths and children to access them. These are issues no one can control. Probably there is need for stakeholders to use technology to block access to unwanted publications to protect the ethical values and norms of the society.

Recommendations

The issue of piracy is a global one, therefore there is need for international

cooperation to address it and Nigeria should be actively involved.

There is need to develop alternative technology to select information to protect national ethical values and norms.

There is also need for law reform to catch up with new and emerging technologies, specifically in information, communication technology.

Awareness should be created on the positive aspects of information technology as it relates to ethics – infact there should be ethical re-orientation.

Conclusion

In conclusion therefore, one can assert that Nigeria is moving in the right direction with the infrastructures already put in place though slowly and steadily. It is however expected that a more pungent and proactive strategy should be adopted. For instance, in the nearest future, Nigeria should join the league of net providers of information technology as against being a net user of information technology. There is need therefore to invest on research and development in this area.

Ojeogwu is of the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAO), Abuja



# I.T. WORLD



## Computer Developers Aiming to Exterminate the Mouse

Controlling a computer has been largely defined over the years by the humble keyboard and mouse. Now, researchers are turning their attention to new kinds of controllers, including eye movements, voice commands and even brain waves.

"One of the questions we in the industry struggle with every day is how we can make computers easier to use," said Tim Bajarin, president of Creative Strategies Inc., a consulting firm in Silicon Valley. "Not everybody is keyboard-centric. You have to look at alternative methods of getting computers into the hands of more people."

Experts say keyboards and mice force users to adapt to the technology, not the other way around.

Tomorrow's interfaces, several of which will be shown at the annual Siggraph conference in Los Angeles this week, are more about adapting technology to humans by incorporating body movements articulated in everyday life.

It is a trend toward natural or organic interfaces that, because of past limits in processing power, has remained in the realm of science fiction until very recently.

"We may think the keyboard and mouse are perfectly fine," said Mk Haley, chairwoman of Siggraph's Emerging Technologies program

Stories by Umaru Mu'azu with Agency Report

and a researcher at Walt Disney Imagineering Research & Development Inc. in Glendale. "The next generation may think, 'Why do keyboard and mouse when you can just have brain implants?'"

Although direct brain-to-machine connection is one of the Holy Grails of the movement toward natural interfaces, researchers also are looking to exploit speech and language recognition, hand gestures, body shifting, eye movements and even emotional reactions as ways for users to interact with technology.

Many of these concepts, however, are unlikely to land in consumers' hands any time soon for a host of factors, including high cost, limited applications and technical constraints. Indeed, many of them will end up in the Darwinian dustbin of failed attempts that harbors such items as the Nintendo game glove or Microsoft's Bob, a computer-generated "helper" meant to guide new users through Windows.

In the meantime, learning what works and what doesn't will require some bizarre experimentation.

Consider one experiment that connects a lamprey eel brain to a wheel contraption. Shining a light on the contraption sends signals to the eel brain, which in

turn emits nerve impulses back to the wheel, causing it to rotate toward the light. That research, to be presented at Siggraph by Northwestern University neurobiologist Sandro Mussa-Ivaldi, gives an early glimpse of controlling computers by thoughts.

Today, the technology is used as an experimental tool for disabled people to move objects and, in the case of biological implants, their own limbs.

Brain waves are just one of several avenues for interacting with a computer. A meditation chamber to be demonstrated at Siggraph combines vital signs and brain wave patterns to create a relaxing virtual environment. One possibility is building a system that detects when a person is about to wake up and then turns on the stereo, brews a cup of coffee and draws



Bill Gate,

the blinds.

Our understanding of brain waves remains crude, however. Though numerous efforts are underway to map brain signals with physical responses, the promise of this particular interface is furthest away of all technologies.

Closer to reality are interfaces that rely on the sense of touch, or haptics. Take the sensingChair, developed by researchers at Purdue University. Sitters lean in the chair to control a virtual car in a driving simulation. Leaning forward will cause the car to accelerate. Leaning back will apply brakes. Leaning left will cause the car to turn left. Users can literally drive by the seat of their pants.

Although the chair isn't suitable for editing a document,

it's more intuitive than a mouse or arrow keys navigating around a three-dimensional virtual environment, said David Ebert, associate professor of engineering at Purdue, who worked with colleague Hong Tan to develop the application for the chair.

Another touch-based device is the haptic pen. Equipped with a sensor that detects molecular-level changes, the pen can be programmed to "feel" the difference between two substances, such as oil and water. In the Siggraph demonstration, the pen lets holders glide through oil, but resists when it hits water. Imagine a scalpel that will cut only cancerous tissue, but stops at healthy tissue.

"Humans have five senses, but touching is very intuitive,"

said Takuya Nojima, the University of Tokyo researcher who developed the device. "We are psychologists as much as we are engineers. The field is psychophysics, and it helps us understand how people interact with technology. In our case, we wanted to understand the exact building blocks of sensation. What does it mean to feel something?"

One project that combines the sense of touch, sight and speech is a system that picks up keywords in conversations and pulls pictures from the Internet that relate to those keywords. A dozen or so pictures float on a touch-sensitive screen the size of a window on a train. Touching an image will pull up additional information about the image. As the conversation flows, the program picks up additional keywords and pulls up more images.

## US builds mega computer

The supercomputer cluster will be used to model car crashes

Forget supercomputers. The US Government is building an incredibly powerful computer.

Next year it hopes to throw the switch on a massive distributed computing system, dubbed the Teragrid, that can carry out over 13 trillion calculations per second.

Four US supercomputer centres are collaborating to create the machine that will employ over 3,000 separate

processors.

Scientists are keen to use the computational cluster to study the most complex problems in science such as the origins of the Universe, the causes of cancer and global weather patterns.

The US National Science Foundation is spending \$53 million (£37.3 million) to create a computer called Teragrid that will meld supercomputers at four locations into one giant, number crunching machine.

Once complete the Teragrid, or distributed terascale facility (DTF), will be the most powerful distributed computing system ever created, and will be capable of carrying out

13.6 trillion floating point operations, essentially calculations, per second.

The NSF estimates that it would take one person with a calculator about 10 million years to tabulate the number of calculations the proposed grid could complete in a single second.

Each of the four sites participating in the DTF project will operate a Linux cluster, which will work with two existing clusters, already in use at the NCSA, to make up the Teragrid.

In a clustered computer, many relatively low-powered processors are harnessed together to make a more powerful machine. Scientific problems are split up and the parts of the machine work on them individually.

The four labs collaborating to create the Teragrid are: National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC) at the University of California Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago; California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

The DTF will boast some 600 terabytes of data storage, the equivalent of 146 million full-length novels, and is due to be in service in 2002.

The clustered supercomputer will be used to study problems in biology, genomics, astronomy and do realistic simulations of such diverse events as car crashes and the way that proteins fold to deepen our understanding of these subjects.

Once complete the DTF will beat the previous most powerful supercomputer in terms of calculations per second. The IBM ASCI Whitesystem at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is capable of 7.2 teraflops, almost half the capability of the DTF when it is running flat out.

"This will be the largest, most comprehensive infrastructure ever deployed for open scientific research," said Dan Reed, director of NCSA.

In total the clustered supercomputer will use over 3,300 Intel processors and data will be shuttled between the four sites via a dedicated optical network that runs at 40 gigabits per second.

## Internet Tips: Double up with internet connection sharing

Share an Internet connection between two PCs, simple blog updates.

So you have two PCs? They'll be more useful if they're networked, letting you share printers, hard disks, and Internet connections. There are multiple ways to double up your Internet link.

All computers connected to the Internet are identified by a unique IP address, a four-part number such as 209.1.23.30 (the address of PC World's Web server). Static IP addresses are often assigned to servers and to cable and DSL connections. They must be entered into your computer's network settings by hand, and they remain unchanged every time you go onto the Internet.

Dynamic IP addresses are used by most dial-up ISPs and are dispensed by a DHCP (Dynamic Host Control Protocol) server that assigns a different address to your computer every time you connect. To see your Windows 9x or Me system's current IP address, choose Start, Run and enter winipcfg. For Windows NT or 2000, enter the command ipconfig.

A router forwards, or routes, TCP/IP data packets between your network and the Internet. One great new feature of Windows 98 SE was its Internet Connection Sharing option. ICS is essentially a simple router and DHCP server

that dispenses the TCP/IP address a PC may require to connect to the Internet (see FIGURE 1).

Another ICS component, NAT (Network Address Translation), works with the DHCP server to assign local machines nonunique addresses from a reserved address range (the most common is 192.168.0.x) and routes incoming and outgoing packets between the networks appropriately. Outside your shared connection, all packets appear to be heading toward a single computer that uses the ISP-assigned IP address. But on your side of the NAT server, the individual computers

have distinct addresses, such as 192.168.0.1 or 192.168.0.2.

ICS works fine for many but not all home networks. In Windows 98 SE, ICS has virtually no interface, so if something goes wrong, the simplest fix may be to uninstall and then reinstall ICS. To uninstall, launch Control Panel's Add/Remove Programs applet, choose Windows Setup, double-click Internet Tools in the Components window, uncheck Internet Connection Sharing, and then click OK twice.

ICS has other drawbacks as well. If the ICS host system crashes, every machine on the network loses its connection.

Sharing a cable or DSL connection may require two ethernet adapters in the host system, and figuring out which one connects to what can be confusing. One alternative is to switch to a separate hardware router or home gateway.

Web logs, or blogs, are diary-like snippets of HTML that make it easy to update a Web site. Pyra Labs' free Blogger authoring tool lets you create blog entries at Pyra's Web site. You do need to know your way around your site's FTP paths and file structure, but Blogger makes blog updates as simple to arrange as an e-mail message.



President George W. Bush, of America.

## Worm writer arrested in England

Scotland Yard and the FBI teamed up to nab the man suspected of creating the W32-Leave.worm.

A British man has been arrested on charges that he created and released the W32-Leave.worm, Scotland Yard says.

The man was arrested on July 23, and has been released from custody although the investigation is still ongoing.

In a joint investigation with the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, Scotland Yard (also known as the Metropolitan Police) arrested the 24-year-old man under the U.K.'s Computer Misuse Act 1990, confirms a Metropolitan Police spokesperson.

"We cannot comment too

much as he has only been arrested at this stage after a search warrant was issued. He



Tony Blair, Prime Minister of Britain

was released and is to return to a London police station in September either for further questioning or to be charged," the spokesperson says.

Under U.K. law the man's name was not made public, though the Met Police spokesperson confirms that he is believed to have created the W32-Leave.worm.

The W32-Leave.worm, which was reported by the FBI's National Infrastructure Protection Center in June, when it issued a warning, reportedly helps hackers break into computers. A hacker could then steal or delete files, or use the computer to commit other hacks or launch denial of service attacks.

According to the NIPC

warning, the worm affects only those computers that have been infected previously with another virus called the SubSeven Trojan. The worm and virus work together to complete control of the target machine, the NIPC says.

The worm was deemed a low risk by antivirus software companies such as Trend Micro.

"We don't know of too many cases of the worm infecting systems," says Trend Micro spokesperson Penny Brennan. Trend Micro did not deem the worm destructive because it does not cause damage to infected systems, instead creating a backdoor for hackers to gain access to infected systems.

# Features

## The making of the first Sardana of Ribadu

By Usman Garba Santuraki

History was made on August 17<sup>th</sup> 2001, when the first Sardana ever produced in Adamawa emirate was turbaned. The Sardana is Alhaji Abubakar Bobboi Jijiwa the current Director of Finance and Administration "Voice of Nigeria" who was turbaned as Sardana Ribadu by the District Head of Ribadu which has the tacit approval of his Royal Highness, the Lamido of Adamawa Dr. (Alh) Aliyu Mustapha. Really the title of Sardana is usually given to a person who has become a shelter for his people and protector of his community.

It is highly appreciable when in a generation there emerges a crop of talented individuals who by virtue of Divine providence are favourably disposed with rare qualities of excellence, service to humanity, and above all, selfless service especially to one's community. The man turbaned falls in the category that bequeathed a legacy of goodwill and love to his people.

These qualities started manifesting in this young man right from his school days at Fufore Central Primary

School and later in the University of Maiduguri where he studied and obtained a Degree in Accountancy. Though an accountant by Profession, the new Sardana of Ribadu is famous as a journalist.

Immediately after his one year mandatory service at the Nigeria Mining Corporation Jos, his next port of call was the New Nigerian Newspapers Ltd. where he served briefly at the Accounts Department before becoming a member of the Editorial Board of the New Nigerian and later became a columnist with Sunday New Nigeria with his column known then as "Round up." He also had a stint with the News Agency of Nigeria as Director of Finance and Administration.

In 1986, in his quest to serve his people he was appointed as the Secretary to Fufore Local Government and became the General Manager of Gongola later Adamawa Broadcasting Corporation between 1989-1992. Due to the

remarkable achievements recorded by this young man in 1995, he was appointed as the Adamawa state Commissioner of Finance by the Mustapha Ismail's Administration. Obviously it is in realisation of his rare managerial capability that the successive administrations of

Adamawa State found him really very useful in manning the affairs of the State finances. It is to his credit in the history of the State to have maintained this portfolio since 1995 to have served three different administrators of the Adamawa State namely Police Commissioner

Mustapha Ismail, Navy Capt. Kalu Igboamagh, and Lt. Col. Ahmadu G. Hussaini respectively.

The new Sardana of Ribadu Alhaji Abubakar B. Jijiwa is a true Nigerian, a posture he has often displayed through consistently reaching across all ethnic barriers, religious, racial and even geographical boundaries. He is a detribalised person who socialises with people across board and identifies with individuals based on their merit and not affiliation, and he is always ready to hold frank discussions and sacrifice all personal issues for greater national development.

One of the striking things that makes the New Sardana of Ribadu a colossus of a sort is his consistency in the pursuit of issues against all odds. He hates talking with two sides of the mouth. He prefers to tell you his stand instead of making promises that he cannot redeem. If there is a problem that he can handle, he does not hesitate to combat the problem forthwith. If it is something that he can-

not handle, he will never mince words in telling you straight away that he cannot tackle the problem.

Looking at the new Sardana of Ribadu's antecedents as a public officer, and as one who loves his people, it greatly shows and portrays him as a man who believes in nothing but service. His contributions in bettering the lots of the people in his community and in an official capacity are eloquent testimonies that the Sardana of Ribadu loves his people greatly. His open door policy coupled with his energetic disposition are clear indications that the Sardana of Ribadu is familiar with the noble concepts of hardwork and human relations and with this additional responsibility placed on his shoulders by both the Lamido of Adamawa and District Head of Ribadu he is quite equal to the task. Allay ya taya Sardana riko-Amin.

By Usman Garba Santuraki (Yerima Betti) writes from P.O. Box 747, Jimeta-Yola North local Govt. Adamawa State.



Alhaji Abubakar Bobboi Jijiwa

## We need autonomous state transport agencies – Malle

By Abdullahi Dutse in Gombe

### Interview

Look at the transport sector in Britain. Up to this moment the issue of transportation is really government business and it invests a lot in business and communication. These are two vital issues of economic growth in any organisation or in any community. But it is not good to say that government should solely and entirely monopolise the running of transport organisations. Government should invest heavily in transportation, but they should put their hands off the management. Let there be autonomy in every state transport agency and you will see the difference. The workers should not be employees of the state government. Let them be employees of the company, whereby productivity will be the watchword, and therefore mismanagement will not be there, or it will be minimised. People will be paid according to what they put in. In this case that kind of business will flourish whether it is the individual or government. But where the hands of government are tied to the transport organisation, definitely it is bound to fail because it is supposed to be a profit oriented venture in addition to being a social service to the people, therefore you cannot take a civil servants to run it 100% and expect it to function well.

If you look at other lines like Edo line for instance, it is performing wonderfully because though it is a government organisation, the government is

not running it directly and it operates purely on a company basis. They pay remittance to the government. The government is making profit monetary wise and it is also

say it is in a transitional period now. When I came to this organisation sometime in March or April, 2000, basically the fleet was not in existence. There were only three vehicles on the road with the majority of the vehicles in the park either grounded or even scrapped. Now with the coming of this regime of Alhaji

fleet now has risen to about forty vehicles in all. Every time you find that 90% of them are on the road.

The Governor has also agreed to an extension of autonomy to the Gombe Line. It has now attained the status of a company or rather a corporation, that is to say it is autonomous. The running has changed from what it used to be. With the present status we have been able to engage officers on a casual basis which has improved the output because even government employees have now changed their attitude to work as they must work hard to move this place forward otherwise the place may decline. The autonomy brought life to the line just as the increment to the fleet did. New workers were found and of course we embarked on orientation programmes. We try to re-orient every worker in the line so that he will understand why he is here and he should do as he is duty bound.

You can see that now this place has turned into the most flourishing transport Agency in the northern part of this country. I am not blowing my trumpet but people can see it practically.

Though many factors contributed to this success but the sole one is the state government interest in the people and those that pass through the state.

How do you find this organisation now? Are you independent of the state government?

We've not received even ten kobo from government to run this place. However it is the

government that purchased the Toyota buses for us and we have started paying. We remit N2m monthly for the payment of these buses and we've not failed even for one month till now.

How much have you paid so far?

Well, we've paid for nine months that is about eighteen million naira. So we're really going to make it from the look of things. By the middle of next year we will be able to pay up the whole debt, while the remittance into the government coffers will be their dividend for investing in this place.

What future do you see for the line sir?

Well, I predict a bright future. That is what I see for Gombe line. Not because I am here as I will not be here all the time, but given the type of foundation, this regime is putting here for the transport corporation we don't expect any negative result. I also believe that every other administration will realise the significance of this corporation.

What is the scope of your coverage now?

Now we cover the northern part of the country only. This is because the big buses we have refurbished may not be able to make long journeys to Port-Harcourt, Lagos or Calabar, but if the government will purchase these newly introduced 1418 buses, then we shall be able to travel up to other parts of the country. But as for now we go to Abuja, Kaduna Maiduguri, Yola, Jos, Sokoto and other locations in the North.



Alh. Abdulkadir Mohammed Malle, General Manager, Gombe state transport service

getting the best service to the people.

But when you consider some of the state transport agencies being run solely by government you find that they have almost all collapsed.

What is the case with Gombe line, it used to be wholly owned by the state government

Well in the case of Gombe state transport service, we will

Abubakar Habu Hashidu, he paid direct attention to the transport sector for the vital role it plays in the community. So he personally directed that the scrapped and grounded vehicles should be refurbished, about 13 of them, they also bought new ones and added to the fleet about 20 more of them. Shuttle transport buses were also added to the line. So you see that the

Alhaji Abdulkadir Mohammed Malle is the General Manager of the Gombe State Transport Service, which is popularly known as Gombe line. He recently spoke to our Gombe correspondent, Abdullahi Dutse Excerpts:

Sir how has the recent scrapping of the Federal mass transit scheme affected the mass transit system in the country?

Let me first stress the point that FUMTA is really a Federal Government agency that was supposed to facilitate the movement of people nation wide which was the brain behind the establishment of the state mass transport service. In addition it has gone a long way in providing solace to the transport agencies by providing movement at an affordable price and of course loan of these vehicles and even the provision of spare-parts. Also the new spare parts from FUMTA are no longer available due to the recent scrapping of the FUMTA.

Does this mean that mass transport agencies now have to pay higher to get the spare parts they need to maintain their vehicles?

Really they will pay higher and not only paying higher, they may not even get the genuine spare parts in the open market, while FUMTA was importing and buying from new spare parts manufacturers.

The private ownership of Transport agencies is flourishing and generally it yield so much. When it comes to public ownership, you find that the services are poorly operated, what is responsible for this?

Actually, the running of transport businesses has always been the business of government.





# Arts & Entertainment



## Arundhati Roy, India's award-winning female novelist

Arundhati Roy burst on to the Indian national stage from nowhere in 1997. A dropout architecture student and one-time aerobics instructor, she had turned her hand to writing a novel. It was *The God Of Small Things*, and it earned her one of India's biggest ever advances before going on to win the Booker prize and sell six million copies. The rebellious outsider -southern and female -had trumped the coterie of men who dominate India's literary world, and the reward was an insatiable international fascination. She found herself cast in the role of Indian national mascot, adored and feted for her global success.

Four years later, there have been no more novels, and the now 39-year-old darling of India's middle class has become a painful thorn in its side, writing a series of savage critiques of India's development -its nuclear tests, its huge dam-construction projects and its cringing obeisance to western corporate power. These are home truths that powerful interests in India do not want to hear, and Roy has made herself many enemies. Irritated by her criticisms and the publicity they invariably attract in the west, the Indian establishment has set about trying to cut this awkward rebel down to size. Recently, Roy faced a contempt of court charge before the Indian Supreme Court -her first appearance in the drawn-out case was four months ago. Her alleged crime is to have attended a demonstration against the court's decision last autumn to give the go-ahead to the country's most controversial dam project, the Sardar Sarovar in the Narmada valley, central India. Roy is accused of inciting violence and attacking a court official. Ludicrous though, many aspects of the case appear to be the lawyers Roy consulted advised her to plead guilty and apologise. When she refused, none would risk his career to represent her. Undeterred, she wrote her own affidavit and defiantly had it published in a mass-circulation magazine on the day of her first court appearance, much to the fury of the court, which has threatened further proceedings. Roy risks a six-month jail sentence.

How did the writer of an intensely lyrical novel become a committed activist with an analytical prose worthy of a barrister? What induced her to swap her status as Delhi's most-favoured dinner party guest for night marches and sit-ins at the damsites, and even, possibly, jail? Why did the whimsical chronicler of "small things" -the beetles and creeping, lush greenery of Kerala -turn to fighting big things such as nuclear bombs, dams, the Indian state and globalisation? Roy comes down four flights of stairs to open the door to her apartment block. Here, where she writes and spends most of her day, she has none of the small army of servants considered necessary by middle-class Delhi. Her flat is surrounded by the contradictions of Indian development, which she analyses in her essays: a comfortable suburb of New Delhi, where cows rummage in the rubbish piled up in the open gutters, and where a man has set up shop in the shade of a tree, ironing the neighbourhood's washing. Probably earning in a day just enough to buy a drink in the new, empty, air-conditioned coffee shop. Roy hates the "writer-activist" label with which she is saddled -it reminds her of sofa-bed." She

*Arundhati Roy achieved worldwide success as a Booker Prize-winning novelist. But she has given up the glory trail to become India's most prominent activist, campaigning against nuclear tests and the dams that threaten the homes and livelihoods of millions. She tells Madeleine Bunting why she now risks jail*

writes what she sees, she says, and she sees no great distinction between fiction and non-fiction; and all she does is keep her "aching eyes open". She refers me to an address on writing that she gave earlier this year in the US: "In the midst of putative peace, a writer can, like I did, be unfortunate enough to stumble on a silent war. The trouble is that once you see it, you can't unsee it. And once you've seen it, keeping quiet, saying nothing, becomes as political an act as speak-



Arundhati Roy

ing out." She stumbled on a silent war in 1998, after a giddy year of international celebrity which, she admits, she enjoyed "immensely" but she knew, in the end, that the "good manners and hygiene" would kill her. What anchored her as she spun around the globe was home, and she resisted the temptations of emigration. "I'm not the sort of person who can buy a life." She came to see fame much like a tin can trailing noisily behind her wherever she went: eventually, it would drop off and she would then write some "worstellers" and eat mangoes in the moonlight. But the prospect of such leisure vanished as she returned home to look at her country with new eyes: India was jubilant at its first nuclear test, and Roy penned *The End of Imagination*, a furious attack on this symbol of national pride. The title was misplaced. However, because what then captured her imagination, and has done ever since, was that the biggest mass non-violent movement since Indian independence -the campaign against the

Narmada valley dams -was then on the brink of victory. Happiness for her, she says, might be going to the market and choosing glass beads after weeks of late nights drafting an affidavit, or just lying on the floor all day with friends under a ceiling fan in the Delhi summer. Even gossiping with friends about relationships as the police move in to break up a demonstration at a dam site. These are what Roy describes as the "small delights" of her life, a source of the strength that has seen her through the turbulence of her meteoric rise to global fame and, now, the anxiety of the court cases. She describes her friends as "extraordinary people" for dealing with her sudden fame and money, and managing to maintain the "democratic nature of our friendships". None of them had money before, now she gives hers away. "And I know that it is as sophisticated an act to receive as to give it". She has probably made enough from the one novel to live on for the rest of her life; she eschewed more, refusing to sell the film rights, arguing democratically that six million readers had their

own version of the film in their heads and she didn't want a single film-maker to replace them all. Roy admits there is a great struggle between political engagement -the demos, the preparations for the court cases -and her desire to concentrate on her writing. Her enthusiasm for the latter is undiminished: "I think writing is such a beautiful thing to play with all the time -having your hands in that stuff. I use it to live my life in the most public and the private way, and I love all different kinds of writing: a novel, an affidavit, a letter. Writing leads me through my life, and I trust my writing so much more than anything else about myself." In the immediate aftermath of the Booker Prize, she said she would never write another novel - she objected to the way people treated her like "a factory". Now, she says, she will know instinctively when it is time to write and will be ruthless about applying herself to it. It is Roy's passion for writing that stiffened her resolve not to take the lawyers' advice and apologise to the Supreme Court, and she describes a poignantly revealing dream she had before the last hearing: "I had been sentenced to prison, but that was not the fear. The only way I could live out the sentence and be released was to learn not to form an opinion about anything. There was a sort of big play - ground with a dazzling dance

performance, and I was unable to watch it because I was struggling not to have an opinion about it." She is more afraid of not being able to speak her mind than she is of prison, but she is also well aware that is a ghastly choice, one, that she would much prefer not to be facing. For now, she feels a judge's hammer hangs over her every word. "It's never what it appears to be. It's much more a slow grinding down -of a writer in one way, of a lawyer or an activist in another. It's not about whether you go to jail, but how you have to adjust yourself to survive, and that's the issue -the fatigue, the complete fatigue in the end." This is the Indian state's version of the country's tradition of non-violence, she adds with wry resignation. But she also well knows that the same establishment can be vicious and violent. It is dark when we finish talking, and the apartment block is silent. She offers me a lift back to my guesthouse and as we leave, the back alley is deserted and Roy seems all of a sudden terrifyingly vulnerable. She is nonchalant, however. We get hopelessly lost in a suburb of New Delhi, going around in circles while she entertains me with anecdotes of being a judge at the Cannes film festival last year. I ask if she sees herself becoming a standard-bearer in the anti-globalisation movement? "Only if I can say something simple, something complicated and something magical," she says, her eyes gleaming with mischief. Culled from *The Guardian* weekend.

## PMAN crisis to be resolved soon

The crisis rocking the Performing Musicians Association of Nigeria in the national and State levels will soon be resolved going by the words of the Lagos State PMAN Chairman, Sir Sikiru Ayinde Kolotiti. Kolotiti who said that Nigerians should not blame himself or the National President of

communities across the nation are presently going through conflicts, saying that PMAN should not be singled out for condemnation. Kolotiti who is a fuji singer stated, however, that he has been working hard to ensure that the cleavages in the Lagos PMAN is resolved amicably. Said he, "We have

been making personal contacts. It's good for musicians to have mutual understanding irrespective of religious and tribal backgrounds." He, therefore, called on Nigerian musicians nation wide to resolve their differences in order to ensure that their interests are protected, saying,

been making personal contacts. It's good for musicians to have mutual understanding irrespective of religious and tribal backgrounds." He, therefore, called on Nigerian musicians nation wide to resolve their differences in order to ensure that their interests are protected, saying,

Oguchukwu's *The Black Mistake* very readily qualifies to be called a novel. Like every other novel, it tells a sustained story, a product of the authors imagination which is nurtured by his experience, be it from his readings or from the persons, objects and places, he has come in contact with. A not-too-careful reader of *The Black Mistake* easily traces the imaginative work of the author to his Isunjaba hometown ecological background, characterised by tree shaded village squares to which people are still summoned by the village 'ekwe' (drum) for such traditional and social events as the 'Okorosh' (masquerade) ceremony. But, beyond this ecological background, the author's imagination has been greatly nurtured by current scenes of the Nigerian and world macro-society. These are scenes of dirty and deadly politics, where people believe in the end justifying the means - even when these means include: ritual killing of fellow human beings for power and wealth; establishment of and resort to questionable and deceitful religious practices reminiscent of the *Long Juju* of

## Uncovering the Black Mistake

the colonial days called 'Omenuko' - whose intelligence and intrigues kept the colonial masters on the alert, until the day they had to 'beg' him to step aside from the political scene without any sustainable case against him. Nwana's 'Omenuko' could be said to have taken the form of the tortoise, 'Mbe' who begins and ends *The Black Mistake*.  
Book title: *The Black Mistake*  
Author: B. Nnorom Oguchukwu  
Publisher: Fasmen Communications, Okigwe-Nigeria  
Reviewer: Evaristus O. Anyaehie,  
Arochukwu in the pre and early colonial period including women and child abuse; rigging of elections and readiness to mortgage one's conscience for money and social protection. Beyond the above common heritage, *The Black Mistake* calls to mind such novels as George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, where animals play the roles of men and reflect various categories of psychological and sociological human make-up, as well as concepts of political governance. Also evoked are Chinua Achebe's *Things fall Apart* and *Arrow of God* which focus on cultural events of the Igbo expressed in a form of expression that has been acclaimed as authentic and appropriate. Finally, *The Black Mistake* makes one think of Pita Nwana's *Omenuko*, the classic Igbo novel that is dominated by the central character - a warrant chief in

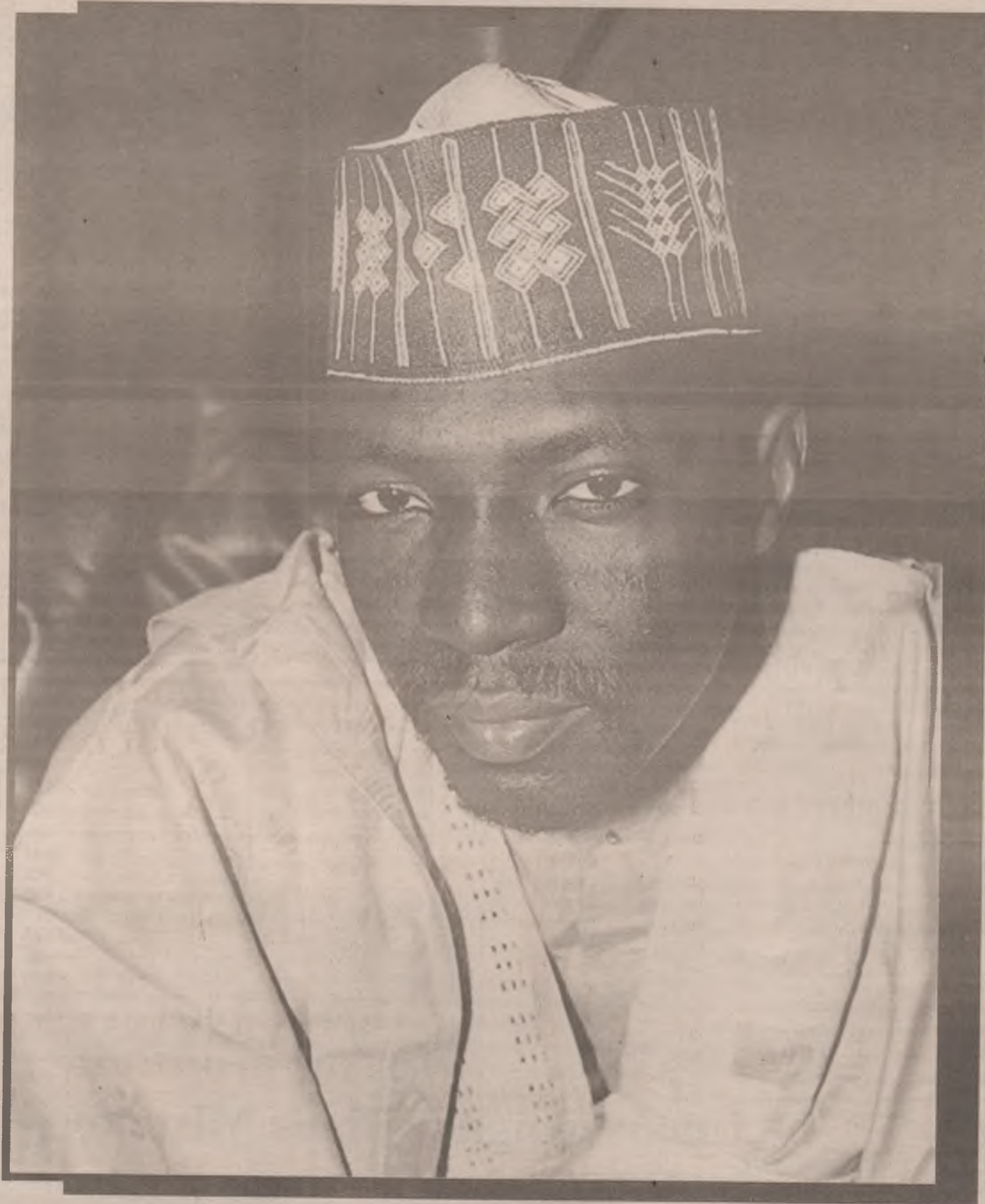
the colonial days called 'Omenuko' - whose intelligence and intrigues kept the colonial masters on the alert, until the day they had to 'beg' him to step aside from the political scene without any sustainable case against him. Nwana's 'Omenuko' could be said to have taken the form of the tortoise, 'Mbe' who begins and ends *The Black Mistake*.  
The novel stands out on its own for the masterly way the author has depicted the life styles of the various animals who take on recognisable and lasting identities in styles of thinking, speaking and acting which correspond with human social and psychological types. Next are the even bolder steps taken by the author to "force" the English language to express Igbo modes of thinking - here the

author can be said to have taken on more licence than Chinua Achebe. This is manifest in the following excerpts:  
Page 14, Mbe to his wife Ali "I have not tested what your fire killed for the past two marked days"  
Page 15, In the language of narration itself: "To many, they had not seen the head of this meeting..."  
Page 51, Mbe to Ali on the fate of king Lion "He brought down on himself the hungry fire that ate his head"  
Unlike Achebe's and Pita Nwana's novels, *The Black Mistake* does not make any apologies for the ills of the society or preach morality to the reader. It presents the raw facts of killings and treachery and allows the reader to work out conclusions from the turn of events, as those who believe in violence end up as victims of same. The novel has, as a central theme, the search for an illusive union marred by the human ills associated with the struggle for leadership that capitalises on

"if there is any problem in the entertainment industry there is no way they wont be affected. The chairman enjoined musicians to resister en masse with the Association, saying that practitioners who are unregistered are not working in the interest of the PMAN. He disclosed that Lagos PMAN will be organising musical jamborees henceforth in order to uplift the economic situation of their members. unending divisions of a once-united kingdom. The very first chapter captioned 'The Animal Blame' shows the assembly of the animals - land, air, and sea-who express their desire to unite against human beings and establish a kingdom of animals - an 'Iduudom' where no animal would be oppressed. This lofty ideal is ridiculed by 'Mbe' - the cynical tortoise - who considers animals as still unenlightened enough for self-rule. The second chapter, captioned 'The Great Asunder', reveals the divisive forces among the animals that soon 'lead' to what could be termed a civil war - the 'Agadama War.' The rest of the novel shows the rise and fall of distinguished aspirants to the coveted leadership position in a society where terror and anarchy reign. In all these, Mbe features as the key character and the motive force of every event, up till the end when he openly contests the leadership position with the elephant - a tussle that led to the death of the elephant and Mbe's self destruction. *The Black Mistake* is a pleasant but highly symbolic novel that exposes the absurdity of human greed and quest for power.

# Appreciation of Birthday Good wishes

**H**is Excellency the Executive Governor of Kaduna State Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi Celebrated his 45th Birthday on August 8th 2001. A large number of his friends, political associates, and well-wishers sent in or put up messages of Congratulations through letters, Birthday Cards, Telephone Calls, Newspaper advertisements, Radio and Television Spot announcements.

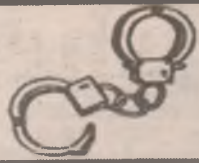


**Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi**  
*Executive Governor of Kaduna State*

2. While every effort has been made to acknowledge these messages on an individual basis, His Excellency wishes to use this medium to collectively thank all those who have shared with him the joy and happiness of that occasion.

3. May the abundant blessings of Almighty Allah be with us now and in the coming years, amen.

**ALHAJI ISA ISMAILA,**  
*Private Secretary to the Executive Governor.*



# Crime & Punishment



## Assassins murder bizman in Katsina

The brutal murder of a local busissman, Malam Rabi'u Isa of Jakata village, Batagarawa local government area of Katsina State last week has left residents of the village and the police puzzled over the motive behind the heinous crime as the unknown assailants allegedly told their victim that they simply come to kill him even when he offered them N1 million which they refused to take.

Aged 34, the deceased is survived by two wives and a number of children and was an up-coming entrepreneur whose major business was selling of wristwatches.

According to his cousin, Malam Muntari Ya'u Sha'iskawa of the Ministry of Women Affairs, the deceased heard some noise within his compound and came out to check but was pounced upon by two persons who allegedly told him they came to kill him even as he pleaded with them to spare his life and offered them about N1 million which they rejected.

Speaking to *Daily Trust*, the cousin further disclosed that the senior wife of the late

From Abdu Labaran and Hassan A. Karofi, in Katsina

Malam Rabi'u, on hearing what sounded like an argument and the agitated voice of her husband also came out of her room to find out what was going-on but the killers ordered her back into her room.

When the commotion eventually quietened, the second wife came out to find her husband slumped against the wall dead with his belly slashed open with several knife cuts on his body.

Malam Sha'iskawa also disclosed that a few hours before the murder, Malam Rabi'u owned 15 commercial motorcycles popularly called 'EXPRESS' in Katsina also had about N1 million with him which he had planned to take to Kano early next day to purchase wristwatches.

The Police Commissioner of the Katsina State Command, Alhaji Suleiman D. Fakai confirmed the incident but added that his men were yet to make any arrest in connection with the murder although he assured that it was being investigated

vigourously.

In a related development, a gang of 10 has killed one Alhaji Salisu Rabiumake and snatched N2 million from one Alhaji Lawal Maiwake in Maska town, Funtua local government area of Katsina, on Wednesday, August 8.

Confirming the story, the Katsina State Commissioner of Police alhaji Sulaiman Dauda Fakai disclosed that Alhaji Rabi'u Maska the (deceased) had heard some commotion in the house of his neighbour, Alhaji Lawal Maiwake and came to investigate upon which he stumbled on the robbers. The police arrived and found three empty shells of ammunition. No arrest have also been made.

Meanwhile, the Katsina State Police Command has arrested four separate sets of criminals with items stolen from various parts of the state, the commissioner of the police disclosed during a process briefing in Katsina.

He disclosed that on August 11, one suspected criminal, Kabir Mauri of Sha'iskawa Quarters and his two others were arrested following a report of shop breaking.

The police also arrested two suspects, Mr. Vincent Criode and Melford Okonkwo who were caught on March 3 this year with 11 bundles of NEPA cables meant for the electrification project at Mailafiya village in Faskari local government area.

In yet another arrest, two person, Paul Simon and Harrison Gomik, from Plateau State, were arrested on June 26 in connection with the theft of eight solar energy panels from Niger Republic.

Their case has been

transferred to the Interpol, the Commissioner further disclosed.

The fourth arrest, according to Alhaji Fakai, is of one Augustine Igwe, a member of a robbery gang who attacked and robbed the Katsina residence of the former Provost of Isa Kaita College of Education, Dutsin Ma, Dr. Kabir Ahmed. (Among the items recovered from the arrested armed robbers are N40,000, five thousand (US) dollars, two locally made pistol and one pump action gun with many rounds of cartridges and live



Mr. Musiliu Smith, IGP of Police. Ammunitions all concealed in the boot of a Toyota Carina with Registration number KAAG 98 DTF used for the robbery.

## Shari'a: Ex-NOA boss gets 40 lashes

There was a large crowd at the Upper Shari'a Court (II) Sokoto to witness the administering of 40 lashes on the former National Director of the National Orientation Agency, Alhaji Muhammad Jabi Shuni and the Accountant, Alhaji Isa Abdullahi.

Alhaji Shuni and the accountant Malam Abdullahi were sentenced to 40 lashes each at the weekend in addition to a fine of N9,000 each.

A staff of the Upper Shari'a Court who pleaded anonymity told *Daily Trust* when the punishment was both convicts agreed it was inline with the Shari'a legal code under section 178 of

From Abdulhah Abdulsalami, in Sokoto

the penal code.

He said that the two were found guilty of conspiracy and cheating.

It would be recalled that the two convicts, Alhaji Muhammad Jabi Shuni and

an Accountant, Alhaji Isa Abdullahi were brought to court three months ago for allegedly embezzling the N185,555.54k belonging to Umaru Aliyu Durbwa being his two year pension entitlement as former staff of the agency.

## Undergraduate, three others arrested over burglary

An undergraduate of the Delta State University, Abraka, and three others have been arrested by the police in Delta in connection with various cases of burglary, the state police commissioner, Mr. John Ahmadu, has said.

Parading the suspects before newsmen at the police headquarters, recently, Ahmadu said the suspects were arrested in their hideout at Enerhen village, near

Warri

He said that during interrogation, the suspects confessed to have been responsible for most of the burglaries in the area.

He said that when their hideout was searched, various house breaking instruments and stolen items were recovered.

Among stolen items recovered were television sets, compact disc, video players, generators, single-barrel gun

and some female shoes.

For house-breaking instruments, the police boss listed axes of various types, cutlasses, knives, iron-cutters clubs, adjustable spanners and saws among others.

He stated that the suspects would be charged to court at the end of investigations.

The suspects are: Kevwe Erusete (undergraduate), Omoizo Uzoh, Ewoma Uzoh and Ajiri Omion.



A cross section of senior police officers at the Presidential Retreat held at Louis Edet House, Abuja yesterday. 18-08-2001. Pix: Kennedy Ogbonedge

## Zone two police map out new strategy

Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG) zone II, Mr. Sunday Ehindero has disclosed that the zone will soon evolve new strategies that will mobilise men and give them focus.

Mr. Ehindero disclosed this at a courtesy call on the state Chief Executive, Chief

From Olumide Bajulaiye, Abeokuta

Olusegun Osoba at his Oke Mosan office.

His words: "I want to promise you that we will evolve new strategies that will mobilise our men and give them focus. We will educate them on the best way we can get support from the public and get intelligent information from them."

"The type of force we want is that which takes about care, to make people feel as if policemen are people who must serve."

Speaking earlier at the state police headquarters, the AIG advised policemen to discharge their duty efficiently.

According to the AIG, they should perform their duty in a way that will not jeopardise their life.

It is only when you are alive that you can perform your duty," he advised.

Speaking on the need for every policeman to be honest, Ehindero said the type of policemen needed by the present democratic dispensation are the transparent ones adding that any policeman on road block duty expected to be honest.

While soliciting for assistance of Ogun State Government he listed problems of communication, transportation some of the problems militating against the effectiveness of the force.

## Court convicts two girls for prostitution

Two girls, Chinyere Okon and Stella Uzo, have been sentenced to one year imprisonment with an option of N1,500 fine each by an Abuja Upper Area Court for prostitution.

The prosecutor, Mr. Andrew Zakari, had told the court that the two girls were arrested on August 16, by a team of policemen while they were soliciting for men.

Zakari said that Chinyere, 24 of Idu village and Stella, also 24 of Suleja in Niger State, were arrested at zone 4 in Abuja at about 1:00 a.m. They both pleaded guilty to the charge.

Chinyere, who claimed to be an indigene of Ebonyi State, told the court that she is a student of Hope

Computer Training School, Karmo and that her inability to pay the monthly fees of N1,500 drove her into prostitution.

She said that she did not have anybody to assist her after her primary school education and was compelled to engage in prostitution to make ends meet.

In her own plea, Stella said she went into prostitution on the advice of a friend after her hair dressing saloon business collapsed.

Passing judgement on the two ladies, the presiding judge, Malam Aliyu Abdulrahman, warned that they would not enjoy an option of fine the next time they were brought to court.

# Abuja News

## FG owns 23,297 houses in Abuja - report

Only 23,297 of the entire houses in the Federal Capital Territory belong to the Federal Government. This is in contrast to the over 300,000 applications for the allocation of government houses within the territory.

This is part of the revelations that emerged from the interim report of the inter-ministerial committee on verification of government houses in Abuja which was submitted to the Head of Civil Service of the Federation, Alhaji Mahmud Yayale Ahmed, on Thursday.

The verification exercise which started three months ago, was part of government's effort on options to provide suitable accommodation for the teeming population of civil servants in Abuja.

Receiving the report, the Head of Service, Alhaji Yayale Ahmed, noted that with the peculiarity on Abuja city, government started from the scratch without private sector involvement in housing, which made the task very difficult to accomplish.

Alhaji Yayale however, restated government's commitment to genuinely tackle the problem, pointing out that it was his responsibility to look into the welfare of civil servants by working to alleviate the problem.

"We will make available this information to the highest level of government and together, we'll devise means and strategies to achieve what is humanly achievable in terms of

## AEPB warms up to a cleaner FCT

The Abuja Environmental Protection Agency (AEPB), will soon get some special equipment to help it take more care of garbage in the Federal Capital Territory.

AEPB director, Engineer Mohammed Yahaya, told newsmen in his office last week that the FCT minister had directed the provision of the equipment which he said, was worth N400m.

Among the equipment expected by AEPB are five refuse compacting trucks, two street sweepers, four tippers, four tractors and three water tankers. He said delivery of the equipment was expected in the next six months.

He also said some roll-on-roll-off machines were being expected to serve in high-density areas for the evacuation of refuse.

Engineer Mohammed Yahaya assured people living in the Federal Capital Territory that the AEPB would not relent in its efforts to beautify Abuja.

He pointed out that no

By Austine Odo

providing some welfare for the ordinary civil servant in Abuja and all over the country," he assured.

The Head of Service pointed out that it was government's resolve to make civil servants the first port of call and the main constituency, whose welfare would continue to engage priority attention.

He said the 5,000 housing units about to be constructed in the FCT was one of the various ways of cooperation between government and the private sector to provide as many houses as possible.

"There are many more that are coming. We will always try to harmonise so that we will have a single focus. We'll encourage the private sector to come in, if we have houses in abundance, certainly, the cost will come down," he said.

Earlier, the chairman of the inter-ministerial committee noted that



Yayale Ahmed, Head of Service

enumeration was till going on in Maraba but that the committee decided to submit the interim report because of its urgent need. He said available data on Federal Government houses in Abuja was being computerised to assist the office of the Head of Service in having the full list and location of all Federal Government houses in Abuja.

He said the 5,000 housing units about to be constructed in the FCT was one of the various ways of cooperation between government and the private sector to provide as many houses as possible.

Ministry of Information and National Orientation, Professor Jerry Gana, has expressed concern over the slow pace of work on the dualisation of the Nyanya/Keffi road, a contract awarded to Setraco Construction Company five months ago.

Speaking recently in Abuja, the minister said he was sad with the manner the contractor handling the "sensitive" project was going about the job, saying that five months after the award of the contract at the cost of N10.9 billion, there was no visible action to demonstrate that serious work had begun on the project.

Gana who was visibly angry over the issue, said government would not fold its arms and watch individuals or groups of persons sabotage her efforts, adding that such unpatriotic citizens would not go

The National Council of Women Societies (NCWS) last week in Abuja held a seminar to find ways of curbing the involvement of youth in crises.

The new president of the NCWS, Dr. Bolere Ketebu-Nwokefor, revealed at the seminar, plans to constitute a forum of elder women, which will be charged with the offering the nation regular advice on unity and peace.

She described the seminar as timely and urged participants to carry the resolutions arrived at, back to their various communities.

Ketebu-Nwokefor urged women in the country to participate fully in politics,

## NCWS hols seminar on crisis management

By Emmanuel Ande



Aisha Ismail

so that the colonial, tradition of voting only men into positions of authority would change.

Participants include Mrs. Onikep-Oshodi, Ambassador Judith Attah, Chief Mrs. Josephine Eneh and Dr. Koripamo-Agury who was the facilitator, among others.

It was sponsored by the Shell Petroleum Development company and drew participants from the media, legal profession and politics.

## Dualisation of Nyanya-Keffi road worries minister

By Emmanuel Ande

unpunished.

He disclosed that government would re-asses the performance of the firm (Setraco) handling the project and that if the contractor did not improve units performance, it may lose the job.

Some residents who spoke to *Daily Trust*, maintained that the company lacks the technology and manpower to handle such a sensitive project. They added that all the machines and equipment used by the company were outdated.

Mr. Daniel Musa, an employee of the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) told *Daily Trust* that the only way government could address the accident prone road (Nyanya/Keffi road) and the persistent traffic jams was to retrieve the contract from Setraco and re-award it to a competent company for quick and

effective work.

He said that the project is too important to allow an incompetent company to be play with, at the expense of people's lives.

Mr. John Okeke, a trader in Nyanya, said government should put local politics and sentiments aside when it comes to issues that touch the lives of the people and take actions that could free the masses from their problems.

He blamed the Minister of Works and Housing, Chief Tony Anenih, for misadvising government on the choice of Setraco to handle the project, an action he described as a coup against the masses.

"For the Minister of Works and Housing, Chief Tony Anenih, to misadvise government to award such a sensitive project to an incompetent local firm is unfair to the masses of this country," he lamented.

A reliable source in the

office of Minister of Works and Housing hinted that Julius Berger Construction Company was initially slated for the project, but that Anenih insisted on the choice of Setraco.

## UniAbuja law students praise NBA

By Emmanuel Ande

The Law Students Association of the University of Abuja has expressed gratitude to the Nigerian Bar Association over the recent conferment of Senior Advocate of Nigeria on Chief Gani Fawehimi.

A statement signed by the Public Relations Officer of the association, Mr. Seun Adejo, said before the conferment, Gani was the senior advocate of the masses and that many people had benefited from his campaign for democracy and the rule of law.

"The Nigerian society has been built and conscientized on your role even before this time. Your principles and goals will be our stepping stones to carryout the same objective, the annals of history and the foundation of building tomorrow will be our motto to follow.

"We also commend you on your contribution to the development of legal education and the administration of criminal justice in seeking quick dispensation of justice in all its ramifications."

The association further urged other colleagues to emulate the good virtues, focus and consistency of Gani.



Job seekers wait for employment forms at the premises of the Federal Civil Service Commission headquarters in Abuja - what hopes does the new democratic dispensation provide? Pix: Kennedy Egbonodje

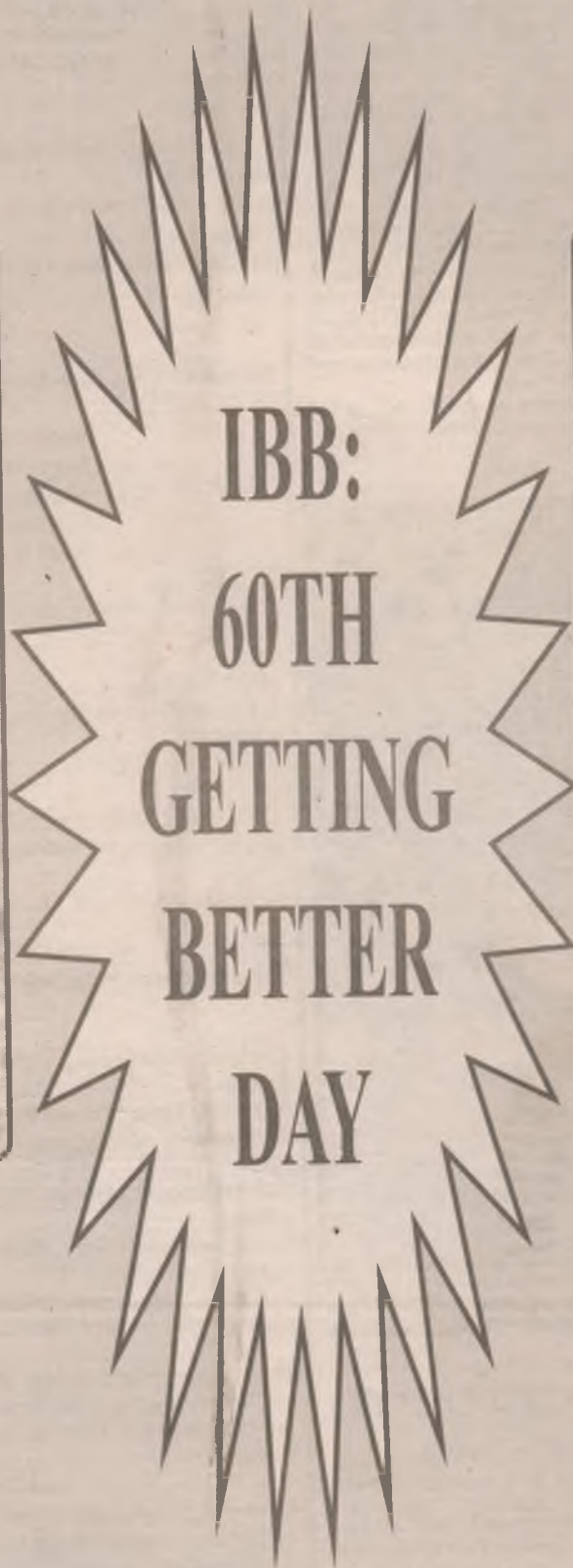
# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*By this day  
(August 17, 1941)  
you were just like any  
other little boy with a  
vision that you glorified  
in your mind, the ideal  
that you enthroned in your  
heart. This you built your  
life, this you become*

*The Chairman Northern  
Community, Rivers State  
Alh. Ali M. Kwande  
congratulates you on your  
60th birthday.*

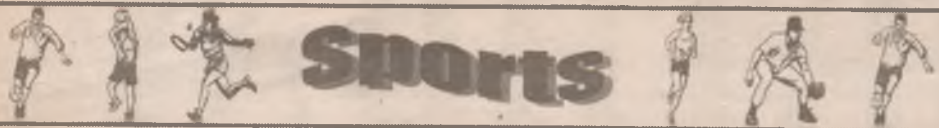


*Alh. Ali Kwande*



*Gen. I.B. Babangida  
Former President Fed.  
Republic of Nigeria*

*Alh. Ali Muhammed Kwande  
Chairman, Northern Community, Rivers State  
49 Bonny Street Port Harcourt.  
Tel: 084-231487*



## Bayern back on track

Bayern Munich moved to fourth in the Bundesliga while Borussia Dortmund set a new record of four straight wins without conceding a goal.

In France, Monaco score their first goals but only managed a draw against Paris St Germain.

In Holland, PSV Eindhoven come back from two goals down to draw with Groningen as they begin their title defence, while in Portugal Sporting crashed to a 3-0 defeat.

Borussia Dortmund set a Bundesliga record on Saturday, winning their fourth straight match of the season without conceding a goal.

They remain top of the league after an easy 2-0 triumph over Hansa Rostock.

Czech international Tomas Rosicky put Dortmund ahead in Rostock with his second goal of the season in the fourth minute.

He also set up the second, scored by Sunday Oliseh, with a well-placed corner in the 13th minute.

Bayern Munich, recovering from a poor start, won their second match of the season 2-0 to move to fourth place.

They defeated newly-promoted St. Pauli thanks to first-half goals from Ciriaco Sforza and Elber.

Kaiserslautern, also unbeaten in four matches, led 3-0 against Hamburg HS before holding off a late rally by the hosts to win 3-2.

Bayer Leverkusen held onto third place with a 3-3 draw with 2001 runners-up Schalke 04.

Stuttgart netted four against newly-promoted Nuremberg for their third defeat of the season.

Viorel Ganea scored twice for

## Salas joins Juventus

Chilean striker Marcelo Salas will join Juventus from Lazio in a swap deal involving Darko Kovacevic.

Juve's official website reported that the striker has agreed to join the Turin-based club, ending months of speculation regarding his future.

Juve are reported to have paid £8.2m plus Serbian striker Kovacevic.

The 26-year-old Salas has been bought as a replacement for Filippo Inzaghi, who joined AC Milan in July.

Juve already have striker's David Trezeguet and Alessandro Del Piero but with Salas arriving coach Marcello Lippi has the option of playing Del Piero in the midfield role vacated by Zinedine Zidane.

Salas joined Lazio for £12m from River Plate in 1998 and had a turbulent three years with the Serie A club.

Last year, Lazio tried to sell Salas to Parma and towards the end of last season he was offered to Valencia as makeweight in a swap deal involving Kily Gonzalez.

## Zidane promises to perform

Zinedine Zidane has been under the microscope since he joined Real Madrid, for record \$66-million fee last month, but the French international midfielder insists he will be ready when it matters.

The pressure on Zidane since the transfer has been intense as fans of the Spanish club look to him to provide a quick return on the enormous investment.

Although his recent displays for Real in friendlies have been disappointing, his performance in France's 1-0 victory over Denmark on Wednesday was more familiar to fans of the two-time world player of the year.

"It was a good start, especially in the first half," said the Frenchman, who stayed on throughout the 90 minutes on the game.

"Even when we're not feeling too well, as was sometimes the case today, it is essential to win this kind of matches early in the season," he added. "As far as

Stuttgart, with Jens Todt and Adhemar getting the others.

Wolfsburg, winless since 12 May, managed to avoid a defeat at home with a goal from Dorinel Munteanu in the 67th minute to earn a 1-1 draw against Freiburg. 1860 Munich picked up their first three points of the season with a 3-1 win over Werder Bremen.

Daniel Borimirov, Paul Agostino and Markus Schroth all scored for 1860 Munich, while Bremen's Andreas Herzog scored a penalty for the home side.

**France**  
RC Lens recorded a fourth successive victory to move clear at the top of the French league.

El Hadji Diouf's goal after 40 minutes gave them a 1-0 victory over Metz.

They are three points ahead of second-placed Olympique Lyon and 11 points ahead clear of defending champions Nantes.

They went down to their third defeat out of four matches, losing 2-1 to Bastia.

Lyon, who crushed En Avant Guingamp 3-0, are second, three points behind Lens.

Shabani Nonda and Ludovic Giuly scored Monaco's first goals of the season but they were not enough to give Didier Deschamps' team victory against Paris St Germain.

PSG captain Frederic Dehu scored a fantastic overhead volley and Brazil's Aloisio also hit the target to earn the Parisians a hard-fought 2-2 draw.

Meanwhile, Marseille are still winless after going down 1-0 to Intertoto Cup finalists

Troyes.

Tiny Sochaux held his own against Lorient, and led at half-time with two goals. But Lorient's Jean-Claude Darcheville scored twice in the second half, and the game ended in a 2-2 draw.

Rennes beat Bordeaux 1-0 thanks to a goal by Olivier Monterrubio in the 68th minute.

**Holland**  
Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven salvaged a 2-2 draw as they opened their defence against Groningen.

PSV trailed 2-0 with 20 minutes to go, but goals from Yugoslav youngster Mateja Kezman and new signing John Vennegoor levelled the match.

Newly-promoted Den Bosch held Heerenveen to a 0-0 draw and NAC Breda beat Utrecht 1-0 with a 73rd-minute Glenn Salmon goal.

**Portugal**  
Belenenses crushed 10-man Sporting Lisbon 3-0 on Saturday to win their first local derby at home in 10 seasons.

Belenenses opened the scoring in the 17th minute with a shot from outside the area by midfielder Joao Neca. The ball hit Sporting's defender Andre Cruz and wrongfooted goalkeeper Nelson Pereira.

Two mistakes by the Sporting defence allowed Belenenses to go 3-0 up. The first came after 31 minutes when unmarked Brazilian striker Marcao scored with a header.

Neca sealed the win in the 62nd minute when he also found himself unmarked inside the penalty area.



In form: Sunday Oliseh of Borussia Dortmund celebrates his goal against Shakhtar Donetsk during the first leg third qualifier of the 2001-2002 UEFA Champions League. He was on target again on Saturday against Hansa Rostock.

I'm concerned, I felt better and better as the match went on."

"But of course, in two weeks, for the start of the competitive season, I will be much better," he insisted.

Zidane's passing was not as incisive as it usually is and he seemed to tire a little towards the end, but easily outclassed his Danish counter-parts.

"I had asked him to stay on until the final whistle and did not have to replace him. He was extremely consistent and he tried hard," said Roger Lemerre.

The French manager hinted last week that Zidane's move to Real was a gamble in the season before a World Cup.

Zidane took a new dimension in Italy can he improve by 30 or 40 percent at Real? I don't think so," he said.

But Real fans hope so and they were angry at his absence from their team's 2-1 home defeat against Inter Milan on Tues-

day.

Zidane, who hopes to shine both in the league Champions League and later in the World Cup, asked for a little patience at the start to such a long season.

He said earlier this week he was feeling the strain of moving to the world's most prestigious and successful soccer club.

"I would have liked to have more rest, especially mentally," he said on Monday.

"In Madrid, there is a lot of pressure but I care to play football and it won't last or life will become impossible," he added.

Asked about the lacklustre start to his Real career, Zidane admitted he was far from his best.

"Physically, I'm at about 60 percent of my potential and that's normal," he said. "I'm setting in and there is no cohesion yet with Raul and (Luis) Figo but it will work out gradually, I'm not worried."



## FIRST NATIONAL SEMINAR ON ECONOMIC CRIMES

The Federal Government, and major regulators and operators, of the economy, is organizing the First National Seminar on Economic Crimes. The major stakeholders, including regulators and operators of the economy, include:-

- Central Bank of Nigeria
- Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation
- Securities and Exchange Commission
- Office of the Senior Special Assistant on Drugs and Financial Crimes
- National Assembly
- Judiciary
- National Drug Law Enforcement Agency
- National Insurance Commission
- Nigerian Police
- Nigeria Labour Congress
- Federal Ministry of Finance
- Federal Ministry of Justice

### SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

- Identifying and exchanging the nature, pattern, and manifestation of economic crimes in Nigeria.
- Sensitising participants of the adverse implications of these crimes on sustainable development
- Generating ideas and developing strategies for the effective prevention and control of these crimes.

### THEME

Economic Crimes: A threat to sustainable National Development

### SUB-THEMES

- Economic Crimes and the Financial Sector
- Legal and Regulatory Framework in Combating Crimes
- Vandalization of Public Utilities and its Consequences
- Government and Society in the Fight Against Economic Crimes
- Need for Corporation in Economic Crime Management

### SPEAKER

**Dr. Ibrahim Y. Lame**  
Former Senior Special Assistant to the President on Drugs and

**Hon. Justice Mustapha M.**

Chairman, Independent Corrupt Practices Commission  
**Dr. Shamsuddeen Usman**,  
Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria

**Mr. Jackson Gaius - Obaseki**,  
Group Managing Director, Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation

**Mrs. A.J. Ojomo**,  
Assistance Inspector - General of Police

**Mr. Paul Saley**,  
Country Representatives, United National Drug Control Program  
**Mr. Tochukwu Onwugbutor**,

**Ambassador F. Jetter**,  
US Ambassador to Nigeria  
**Prof. Jerry Gana**,  
Hon. Minister of Information and National Orientation  
**Prof. U. Birai**  
University of Abuja, Abuja

### TOPIC

1. An Overview of Economic Crimes in Nigeria

Financial Crimes

2. Corruption and Looting of Public Funds:

**Akanbi**

Nigeria's Perspective

3. Financial Malpractices in the Banking and other financial institutions

4. Vandalization and Abuse of Infrastructure

5. Advance Fee Fraud and Nigeria's Image

6. Money Laundering and Transnational Crimes

Nationals Drug Control Program

7. Adequacy of Legislation, Enforcement, SAN

and Sanctions in combating Economic crimes

8. International Cooperation in combating Economic Crimes

9. Ethics, Culture, and Professionalism as Catalyst to a corrupt-free society

10. The Need for Political Will: The Action of Government as a Necessary Reflection on its Intention to Combat Economic Crimes

### FACILITATORS

Resource persons and coordinators are drawn from both within and outside the country, including top government officials, chief executives of government organizations and parastatals, security and intelligence services, academia, e.t.c.

### PARTICIPANTS

The target audience include government ministries, parastatals, states, local government, FCT; regulators, operators banking and other financial Institutions; academia, the organized private sector, e.t.c.

**Participation Fee:** N20,000.00 per participant

**Venue:** Conference Hall, ECOWAS Secretariat, Asokoro, Abuja

**Date:** Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2001

**Time:** 9.am Daily

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Member, Planning Committee

PLANNING COMMITTEE



# SPORTS



## Nigeria, Ghana, 5 others clash in Rugby tourney

Nigeria and Ghana will rekindle their aged-old sports rivalry at the Abuja Sheraton International Rugby Tournament scheduled for October 25-28.

The Championship which is intended to prepare the participants for the 8th African Games in 2003 will attract other competitors from Togo, Benin, and Niger Republics, Burkina Faso and Uganda.

Already, the Nigeria Rugby Football Association has initiated a two-pronged attack in preparation for the tournament even as 14 teams are to slug it out in the event.

The 14 local teams participating in the Abuja championships are British

Nomads, Kaduna, Kano, Jos, Abuja, Lagos, Ecoll, Eko Islanders, Young Lions, Racing, Hawksters, Elfs, Shell and Barbarians.

Besides, the tournament will also mark the launch of the National League of the Abuja Sheraton International Tournament which would adequately shape the Nigeria teams for the African Olympics in Abuja.

Meanwhile, Nigeria has been admitted into the International Rugby Board as the 93rd Rugby playing nation

in the world. The admission qualifies her to play in the various Rugby World Championships organised by the world body.

Rugby which is 190 years old is relatively unknown in the West African sub-region and in Nigeria even though some Nigerians have featured prominently for England. Players such as Martin Offia, Victor Ebogu, and Ade Adebayo have worn the red rose embroidered jersey for England in the last 10 years.



Mario Yepes of Colombia, left, and Santiago Salazar of Peru fight for the ball during a World Cup qualifying match in Bogota on Thursday. Peru beat Colombia 1-0.

## Athletes protest possible exclusion from National Sports Festival

Some Athletes at the weekend protested at the National Stadium

in Lagos against the decision of the Ministry of Sports and Social Development to make

next year's National Sports Festival, billed for Edo state, a "closed one". NAN re-

ported placard carrying athletes as saying that the decision would prevent those who had participated in the festival twice from taking part, thus restricting it to Junior athletes alone and jeopardising their jobs.

"We want next year's National Sports Festival to be an open one or we will lose our jobs." "Sports Ministry, help us to be gainfully employed," and "All Nigerian athletes are qualified to participate in National Sports Festivals," some of the placards said.

Are Feyisetan, a disabled Weightlifter said that the festival should be made compulsory for all Nigerian athletes in order to allow those who are home-based the opportunity to

compete against their foreign-based compatriots.

"It is only by so doing that the home-based athletes will be exposed and develop their talents. It will also enable the country to discover athletes who are better than the foreign-based ones," he said.

Peter John from Jigawa State said that a closed National Sports Festival would lower the standard of the competition. Tope Balogun, also a disabled athlete urged the government to reverse its decision, adding "if the festival is made a closed one, our jobs will be lost as no state government will be prepared to keep an athlete who is of no use."

## NIS trains NFA staff

By Patrick Andrew

To achieve maximum administrative and technical efficiency, staff of the NFA are henceforth to embark on freshers' courses at the Nigeria Institute of Sports (NIS).

The refresher course designed to expose the staff to the various rudimentary and advanced management technique are direct response to the demands of running a blossoming soccer federation, according to NFA scribe, Tijani Yusuf.

Yusuf said that Nigeria has attained a status that requires shrewd technical and administrative proficiency in response to the dynamics of a growing enterprise, noting the NFA was now being focussed on efficiency and competence of its personnel.

Consequently, Yusuf said

technical and administrative techniques would equip them with the tools crucial for success in addition to placing them at par with their counterparts elsewhere.

Besides, Yusuf said sound knowledge of modern techniques would allow qualified staff to be placed squarely in their specialised areas to make for high performance in response to the demands of the job.

Already, he said, placing square pegs in round holes has begun with the recent internal reshufflement, stressing that it was effected to reposition all staff for efficiency and high performance.

Meanwhile, three national coaches have begun their training programmes in

Holland. Coaches Stephen Keshi of the Super Eagles flame, Musa Abdullahi and Emmanuel Osigwe of the Golden Eaglets jetted out the Holland last Friday where they began a three-week course.

The course would keep them abreast with the modern coaching techniques and especially gear them up for

the World Cup championships in Trinidad and Tobago next month for the Eaglets and the Nations and World Cups for the Super Eagles next year.

Chief coach Amodu Shuaibu would proceed on similar course later shortly after the October 7 duel with Phillipe Troussiers' led Nippon squad in England.

## CAF puts Senegal at bottom of the pile

CAF's seeding system for the 16 teams participating at the Nations Cup in Mali next year has thrown up the possibility that three countries that have qualified for the World Cup could be drawn in the same group.

Cameroon, Nigeria and Senegal could play each other in the group stage, meaning at least one of them would fail to qualify for the quarter-finals.

It may lead some to question CAF's seeding policy.

The Confederation of African football has organised the 16 nations at Mali 2002 into four tiers of four teams.

The draw is due to take place on September 8 in Bamako.

One team from each tier will go into each of the four groups.

Mali, as host, and reigning champions Cameroon are among the four top seeded teams.

The remaining 14 countries are divided according to their results in the 1996, 1998 and 2000 African Nations' Cups.

Seven points are awarded to the winner, five to the runner-up, three to the semi-finalists, two for teams which get to the quarter-finals and one point to those who go out in the first round.

These points are then multiplied by three if gained at CAN 2000, two at CAN '98 and one if awarded for performances at the 1996 Nation's Cup.

That puts Mali, Cameroon, South Africa and Egypt into the top tier, Tunisia, Nigeria, DR Congo and Ghana into the second, Burkina Faso, Algeria, Zambia and Cote d'Ivoire into the third and Morocco, Senegal, Togo and Liberia into the fourth.

which leaves no room for discretion, means that while three teams who have qualified for the World Cup could find themselves in the same group, Mali, DR Congo, Burkina Faso and Togo could also be drawn together.

These countries have failed to make an impression in recent years, but two would be guaranteed of making it into the last eight.

The seeding system is subject to approval by the Mali 2002 organising committee on September 6.



Issah Hayatou

## Turaki boosts Jigawa Stars with N63 million

From Bala Mohammed Nasir, in Dutse

The Jigawa State Governor Alhaji Ibrahim Saminu Turaki, has approved the sum of N63 million for the state's team, Jigawa Golden Stars for next year's soccer season.

Speaking to newsmen in his office, the Special Adviser to the governor on sports, Alhaji Yusuf Sale Dunari, said the fund approved was for various purposes as they relate to next soccer season. He added that part of the money would be spent on contracting a foreign coach for the team.

the state is hiring two players from abroad to play in the team come 2003 soccer season. The foreign coach is to be provided with accommodation and a vehicle, Alhaji Dunari said.

Apart from all these, the remaining balance from the approved amount, will be for sign on fees for the next soccer season and the balance for last year.

Others, according to Dunari, are transfer fees, purchase of equipment for training

and expenditure for home and away matches to be incurred during the season.



Alhaji Ibrahim Saminu Turaki



Sandrine Testud of France serves during her 6-0, 6-2 loss to Serena Williams in quarter-final tennis action at the Rogers AT&T Cup in Toronto on Friday.

**UNITED NIGERIA DEVELOPMENT FORUM (UNDF)**  
 NATIONAL SEMINAR  
**THE IMPERATIVES OF  
 UNITY, PEACE & JUSTICE  
 IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
 Date: 28 - 29th August, 2001  
 Time: 9:00Am Prompt (Daily)  
 Venue: Africa Palace Hall, Int. Women Centre,  
 Abuja (Opata Centre)  
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## Nigeria Open 100 golfers chase N5m

About 100 professional golfers will vie for \$500,000 (N5m) when the 29th Nigeria Open Golf Championship tees off on November 19, 2001 at the prestigious IBB International Golf Course, Abuja.

The golfers mostly foreign professionals are expected to do 18 holes with the eventual winner carting home \$82,000.

The prize money for all categories of winners have been upped by 100 per cent deliberately to qualify the Nigerians Open Championship for listing on the US professional Golf Association (PGA) and other European towns, according to the Chairman of the organising committee, Otunba Olusola Adekanola.

Otunba Adekanola disclosed that the one-week golf fiesta would attract quality participation noting that a mini championship will be organised to weed out those with relative proficiency in the game.

Accordingly he said only the first 35 Nigerian professionals who advanced from the mini-tournament will book places in the main fiesta.

Adekanola said the organisers have resolved to seek alternative funding this years for the championship because the government failed to provide the needed funds last year resulting in the failure to hold the fiesta.

"We have resolved to raise N100m to organise the championship." In this vein, two Gala Nights have been scheduled for Abuja and Lagos on 25th September and 13th October, 2001 respectively. His Excellency, the Vice-President, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar, has graciously accepted to be our Special Guest of Honour at the occasion."

The Committee Chairman further said that part of the fund would be raised from joint sponsors of drinks, some holes and the green even as he solicited

By Patrick Andrew

for corporate organisations to take full advantage of the clout the championship offers to reach out with their products.

According to him key holes like one and 18 and the greens will attract fees of between N1m to N2m.

The 1997 edition of the

championship attracted 156 golfers drawn from 18 countries, while the following year, 170 golfers from 28 countries took part. The 1998 fiesta attracted golfers from 20 countries. Ricardo Gonzales, J. Comtero and Skold Johan were the winners in the last three editions.



Tiger Woods tees off on the sixth hole during the second round of the 83rd PGA Championship on Friday. The tournament is being played at the Atlanta Athletic Club in Duluth, Georgia.



Super Eagles and Paris Saint Germain's playmaker, Augustine Okocha, right, vies with Marcello Trapasso of Sochaux during their division one soccer match at the Parc des Princes Stadium in Paris, Saturday, Aug. 11, 2001.

### Strands of Fate: written & illustrated by Bulama Mustapha



To be continued (2)