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Hollis NACB-CFC boss



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'THE GREATEST WEAPON IS TRUTH' - SARDAUNA 1966

Hotline

NIGERIA'S INTERNATIONAL NEWSMAGAZINE

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Havoc

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Military Rule

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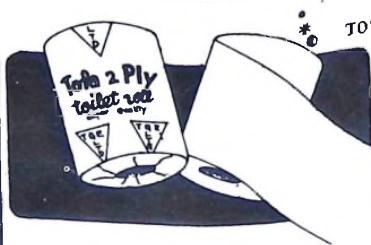


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FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

The Age of soldiers

War is the most pervasive phenomenon through out the world today, and therefore the most active forces among humanity are men and women of the military.

In the Persian Gulf, an array of prize military fighters are executing a war for material possession and elsewhere in the world soldiers are either terrorising civilians into placidity or fighting among themselves for the control of government.

In Nigeria, the military marked its twenty-first year in government on January 15 this year. It was a period of sober reflection as majority of Nigerians asked and answered the question: has there been any positive mark achieved by the soldiers in politics? As admitted by one of the pioneers of coup-making in Nigeria, retired Major-General Hassan Usman Katsina, the military had no business intervening in the political process because "coups are such that once you start them you cannot stop the trend".

Now that the trend is well into its early adulthood, it has become of great concern to government and individuals to seek the ideal political arrangement whereby military intervention will become an irrelevancy and an impossibility. Although President Ibrahim Babangida holds the civilised view that the military has no business being in power, and is perhaps doing more than anyone before him to retire them to the barracks and battlefields, grave doubts yet remain whether the civil population has yet overcome its weaknesses.

Our cover choice attempts an assessment of the performance of the military and the conclusions are not cheering. Military rule is forever an aberration, repugnant to the innate freedom of the human soul and the earlier it ends, the better. Plus another survey on those whom millions of electorates have come out to empower- the local government councils- and a sobering update on the exciting Gulf War, this edition promises to be an unforgettable read

Muhammad Hassan-Tom
Acting Editor.

BARBAR

RIGHT SONI WHICH STYLE DO YOU WANT?



THE OPEN-HAIR
STYLE.JUST GET ALL
THE BUGS OUT
OF MY HAIR.



ZUBAIR 91

THE
GREY
HAIRS?



YES AND.
THE
STUDENTS.
RADICALS.
LAWYERS.
EBONY
RUMOURS...

...INFLATION, THUGS, CRITICS, CORRUPTION,
TRIBALISM,
MIDDLE-MAN,
BUNKERERS,
VANDALS,
COURIERS.



BUT SON, BY THE TIME I DO THAT, YOU WILL
HAVE NO HAIR LEFT!



PARTICULARLY, WEED
OUT COUPISTS AND
KNOW-ALLS... JOURNA
LISTS, PROPHETS, AIDS,
RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS,
PROFITEERS ... THE LOT.



THAT'S RIGHT.
IT WILL BE AN OPEN-
ADMINISTRATION.

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Cover Design: S.B. Abubakar.

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Hotline

Havoc of Military Rule

Cover:
Twenty-five years ago when they first struck, the military juntas claimed they were on a cleansing mission. But, today, they need the strongest of detergents to cleanse themselves.

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Local Government Councils:

Recently, local government councils in the country were granted administrative and financial autonomy. The responsibility of managing primary education has also been transferred to them. What are the implications of this new development? Find out the details on:

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Summit:

While many Nigerians are calling for the scrapping of SAP, David Adelana, Chief Executive of NACB-CFC says it is the boldest decision ever taken in the history of the nation. And a lot more ...

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EXHIBIT at the 13TH

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— Reaffirm your product's marketability

Hotline Summit

Your column *Hotline Summit* which you started with a maiden extensive interview with Alhaji Adamu Ciroma, has become a very powerful and interesting read for every *Hotline* reader. As a regular *Hotline* reader myself, I look forward every month to reading the column. I was particularly happy with your interview with Mr. James Bawa Magaji which dealt with very controversial issues particularly on Kaduna State. I hope you will keep up this very educative column.

Daniel Ibrahim,
G.D.S.S. Kafanchan.

Sometimes, I feel, you like to keep your readers in suspense. I wonder what happened to your now popular *Hotline* summit in your edition 71. It was because of the summit column that I rushed to get myself a copy only to be disappointed to find that there was no Summit. I hope that it will not be the case in your next edition as I must confess that the column makes *Hotline* magazine more interesting.

Kabiratu Gambo (Miss),
Surulere, Lagos.

Nigerian security system

Your cover story in *Hotline* edition 71 really revealed a lot that is wrong with the Nigerian Security System. I was particular baffled with the fact that it is not only the police that is affected by this gross inefficiency, but all the other security agencies in the country. So it brings to light the gruesome reality that Nigerians are not safe in their own country. I hope the President will take particular notice of your report and do something about it.

Comfort David (Miss),
18, Etsu Road,
G.R.A. Kaduna.

I would want to conclude after reading your cover story in your edition 71, *Not Yet the Impregnable Nation*, that a perfect security system that'll make every

Nigerian feel protected will be a bridge too far until all Nigerians first consider themselves to be first of all Nigerians before becoming anything else.

Olusegun Olaosebikan,
CABS, Kad-Poly, Kaduna.

There is no nation that can bring out the best in its citizen if they live under the constant shadow of fear and insecurity. For any meaningful development, the atmosphere must be created in such a way that the individual feels he is part of a whole. This has not been the case with Nigeria, where there is a regular manifestations of disenchantment by



individuals of the insensitivity of leaders to their security from government agents and even from their own fellow citizens.

Mohammed Kudu Umar,
Bosso, Minna.

The country is now on transition to the Third Republic, and God help us if out of our own negligence, we make it fail again. The security system must be seen to be effective. And those who are easily corrupted must be flushed out of the system. The government must also make sure that citizens are catered for so as not to become disenchanted and consequently becoming rebels against society.

Idris Garba Gusi,
Biu, Borno State.

Cartoon

As a regular reader of your magazine, *Hotline* newsmagazine, I was very

happy to note in your last edition that you have added an innovation of a cartoon column to make it more interesting. This is something fine if you can keep it up because it is a comic relief from all the seriousness of the other stories contained in the magazine.

AbdulRazak Bawa
Command School
Kaduna

In Search Of The Right Figures

It is only a country like Nigeria that can exist, operate and even make plans without knowing the number of people included in such plans. Your article in edition 71 on the forthcoming national population census stated for October 1991, brought out the genius of the wonder country Nigeria, who has not, for the past thirty years been able to have a successful headcount to know the exact number of Nigerians in Nigeria. It is no wonder that "... this lack of reliable population data has hindered research and proper economic and social planning."

Tosin Cole (Miss),
Iponri, Lagos.

The history of headcount attempts in this country is the history of controversy. And as rightly contained in your article, *In Search of Right Figures*, the results of these attempts were rejected "... due to allegations of widespread cheating and other problems! It is because we have never been true to ourselves. Our claim to unity is nothing but hypocrisy. And we'll continue to fail until we start to deal with ourselves in truth and in faith. Now that the federal government is planning to see how the census is going to succeed, some people are already scheming how it would fail.

Samson Kolawole,
College of Education,
Ilorin.

Reactions to our stories, which must be brief and precise, should be sent to *Hotline* Letters, P.O. Box 1365, Kaduna. Letters are subject to editing.

Kontagora Tak

I send to you the greetings of peace, blessings and divine mercy as can be bestowed by the Creator and Nourisher of our earth, He, to whom is our ultimate return. It is also an opportunity to put on record my great appreciation of your grand humanitarian and philanthropic gestures, perhaps unequalled by any other person in contemporary Nigerian society. Indeed, it is your overwhelming interest in all spheres of human advancement which gives me cause today to state my clash of views with you on some vital issues concerning sports development in Nigeria.

To adequately explain the foreground of my positive contentions in this medium, I will have to state that, although I am a traditional title holder and publisher, these are roles I picked up much later in life, while sports has been a part of me since childhood. On similar grounds, you are commonly considered and referred to as the pillar of Sports in Africa, in justifiable appreciation of your solid and unceasing moral, mental and financial contributions to the upliftment of sports in the continent.

The fact is that, today, I intend to dwell a little on some recent and immediate past developments in Sports in which your contributions contradict your image and stance as objective patron and father of all within Nigerian sports' circles.

Mainly these areas are two. The Youth Sport Federation of Nigeria (YSFON) on the one hand and the Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN) on the other. Matters arising are on the presidential committee assigned to improve facilities in the various stadia in Nigeria preparatory to the country's hosting of the botched Junior World Soccer Competitions.

I start with YSFON. As the name depicts, YSFON is an association that was established to involve itself in the promotion of youth sports in Nigeria. Records available however reveal that, YSFON activities have all the while tended towards one direction - FOOTBALL. I crave your indulgence not to go into the long list of activities that sports entail.

I wish to however state that, as the pillar sustaining YSFON, it is assumed that at one time or another, you must have leafed through the pages of constitution to know if the laws governing it are being complied with or not. True to your repeated utterances in public on the need for honesty, probity and compliance with the rule of law, I personally do not see you as someone who would invo

YSFON activities quoted above. For instance, over the years YSFON has always claimed to be engaged in international football competitions, involving youth football clubs from this country. Why is it that these youth teams from Nigeria always win those international competitions? What magic wand does YSFON possess to succeed in each of the continental competitions by the Nigerian sides, even in far away places like Brazil?

Also, why is it that the Nigerian public are denied the opportunity to watch the matches on the Nigerian television screen. Even on commercial basis, the Chief has money to pay.

On the issue of the Sports Writers Association of Nigeria, SWAN which you, Chief M.K.O. Abiola, are much associated with, your assistance and guidance saw to the upliftment of the general activities and welfare of sports writers in Nigeria. That was when Mr. Lat Ogunmade of the Concord Newspapers was at the helm of the association's affairs.

With the last delegates conference of SWAN over, and the election of new leaders gone with it, it seems you have denied the association your patronage. Quite surprised I was, I must admit, when you were quoted as saying that, as far as you were concerned, SWAN had no leadership yet because as you assumed, the new leadership cannot be accepted for the mere fact that, its current president, Mallam Tony Mamah is not based in Lagos. In your estimation, Lagos harbours 70% of Sports Writers in Nigeria. Here I must confess, your statistics is wrong. While I would not like to dwell much on this issue of statistics, for I believe you know the adverse effect of estimating without vital instruments, at least, you are an accountant, a chartered one for that matter, I would obviously want to ask if in your mind, it is the representation of Lagos in SWAN leadership that informed your new position or the question of the North running the affairs of the association this time around? Are you not perhaps feeling uncomfortable and sad that, an Ogunmade from the South (a Yoruba and staff of Concord) was not re-elected?

Chief, I would want to ask you why the Ahmadu Bello Stadium in Kaduna remains closed with no sign of re-construction or re-novation going on after a Presidential directive to that effect? Despite the FIFA ban, the nation's president made a public pronouncement directing the presidential committee appointed by the government to prepare the country for the hosting of the Junior World Cup soccer competition, to continue with the job of re-

structuring and refurbishing of our various stadia. Several millions of naira were made available to the committee of which you are the chairman. Yet, nothing has been done in respect of Ahmadu Bello Stadium renovation.

I know that some of those stadia earmarked for renovation in some parts of the country have received proper attention. Why then has the Ahmadu Bello Stadium, Kaduna, the only formidable standard stadium the North can be proud of remains closed and forgotten, depriving thousands of Northerners an opportunity to comfortably watch standard soccer. We up North are doing our best within our limited resources to see that we contribute our quota to the development of Sports in Nigeria. However, we do it by following all laws governing Sports. When I was the Patron of YSFON in Kaduna, I was able to ensure that we prepared and presented an annual audited account. The first ever. This was not only aimed at abiding by law, but to set a path for YSFON leadership at the national level to follow. When this failed to work, I resigned in 1989. However, my enthusiasm and passion for youth soccer still, led to my founding what is now known as Federation of Youth Soccer Clubs, (FEYSOC), the same year (1989). A national association of youth soccer clubs, FEYSOC, is affiliated to the Nigeria Football Association (NFA) as required by law through the National Sports Commission. Governing FEYSOC, is a comprehensive constitution. The patrons and officers of the Federation have consistently adhered to the provisions of this constitution. Chief, these are my reservations about your recent activities in sports circles.

Once again, as you added another feather to your cap by championing the noble cause of reparations to Africa, I must express my appreciation to you on your magnanimous donation of N200,000 to the Ahmadu Bello University appeal fund at the last convocation of the university.

Lest I Forget

I heard a military governor saying that most civil servants are corrupt. But until he tells us the meaning of corruption, we will not understand whether it is limited to only civil servants.



Alhaji Hassan Sani Kontagora
Magajin Rafi

Funding of Political Parties

The announcement by the Federal government of its decision to hand off funding of the two political parties - the National Republican Convention (NRC) and the Social Democratic Party (SDP) - came as a surprise to most people considering the spate of reactions that came in its wake. Of great significance is that almost immediately after the announcement, the two parties took different stands. The NRC was of the view that withdrawing the funds to the parties is inevitable in the sense that it will give them complete and total autonomy which in turn will usher in true democracy. The SDP, on its part expressed shock at the decision describing it as "the best way to cripple the parties which the Government has so painstakingly nurtured".

In late October 1990, the Government made available N530,980,656 to the two parties to cover their expenses from September 1990 to September 1991. The parties had earlier in their memoranda to the Government requested for N2 billion. With the turn of events, it is largely that it is important for the parties to fend for themselves in order to establish their own independence. Also agreed that funding in the minds of objective political analysts may tantamount to Government control which may not augur well for the involvement of stable, dependable and reliable polity. But is the decision not a call to those with plenty of money to reverse the structure of the parties which to some extent has been different from the past?

The Government may argue that the parties needed to be seen as running their own business without Government interference but we may need answers to these questions. How does Government intend to monitor the effect of this decision on the politics of the present? Is it the right time to lift the ban on money politics at a timewhen the remaining vital elections have not been held? (The elections into the states legislative houses and the governorship seats are coming up this year). One is also inclined to ask what role there will be for the very poor in the society who are in the majority but become the minority once money "speaks"?

In attempting to find answers to these questions, it would become glaring that the Government should have continued funding the parties at least throughout the transition period because by withdrawing the funds, Government is giving licence to the moneyed

few to take over the two parties. Even with Government funding, politics is a very expensive exercise and we know from past experience that the greed of politicians was fuelled by their own expenditure in seeking office. And, since most of these older politicians (they are money-bags anyway) are banned from participating in politics until the end of the transition, the "Newbreed Politicians" would soon find out that their new determination to start from the beginning cannot be matched with the money of the older politicians. That of course is to say, by withdrawing from funding of the parties, the Government is creating problems for them and also giving them reasons for associating with the banned politicians, most of whom are only too willing to spend their money to get involved once again.

And again, the decision is obviously an invitation to the money bags to take over the parties because the two parties are still "toddlers" which cannot fend for themselves yet. Moreover, the announcement appears to contradict the well-known position of the Federal Government which does not want money bags to hijack the parties but at the same time now wants to hand off their funding at this crucial stage.

While recognising the need for Government to disengage from funding the parties, this should be gradual so that the parties could have time to adjust. This abrupt withdrawal an only lead to the collapse of the parties since they have no fundamental base to execute their programmes and, like Alhaji Mamma Ajana, the Kwara State chairman of the SDP said, "if the Government insists on having its way, the parties may have no alternative than to run to the money bags for survival". The notion in some quarters that the hijacking of the parties by money bags is impossible is a pipe-dream because the parties have not yet sufficiently established themselves.

The present administration has done a lot to lay the foundation for transfer of power to a democratically elected civilian administration. It should not let the effort be wasted. There is every need to reverse or at least modify the decision against government funding of the parties in order not to allow them, as SDP's National Publicity Secretary, Professor David Jomem said "to accept money from anywhere". If that is allowed to happen, we all know what it would mean.

Their Fingers Itch Too

Twenty-five years ago, they claimed to have been on a cleansing mission, but today, they need the strongest of detergent to cleanse themselves.

Adamu Ciroma claimed he is an ordinary citizen like any other Nigerian. So, he told *Hotline*. But, his distinguished career in the civil service and politics has placed him higher on personality scale than most other Nigerians. He was at various times administrative secretary to the late Premier of Northern Nigeria, Sir Ahmadu Bello, editor of *New Nigerian* newspaper, governor of the Central Bank, member of the Constituent Assembly, national secretary of a ruling political party at the centre, and then, minister of and minister for depending on which ministry he was serving at a particular time.

With this background, can Ciroma be called an ordinary Nigerian? Not very many people would share his view because, what most Nigerians whisper Ciroma voices aloud, when they bark Ciroma bites, where most Nigerians crawl Ciroma walks tall and gallantly too. It is therefore not surprising that, anywhere and at anytime Nigeria's numerous problems are tabled for discussion, Adamu Ciroma's views are usually respected.

Recently, one of Nigeria's problems

tabled for discussion and on which Ciroma held a very strong opinion is whether the reasons always advanced for military intervention in politics have been justified. Speaking to *Hotline* in September last year, Adamu Ciroma said that, despite its long gestation in politics, twenty-two years out of the nation's thirty-one years of political independence, military administrations have not proven to be a better alternative to civilian administration. According to him, the military coup makers accused first and second republic politicians of corruption, ten percentism, economic mismanagement, tribalism, ineptitude and insensitivities and therefore, the justification for overthrowing them. "Were these not the same reasons they gave for toppling themselves?", he asked. Ciroma reiterated that, if the military administrators were better than civilians, "there should have been no Orkar because there were Vatsa and Dimka".

Commentators on Nigerian politics agreed with Ciroma. According to them, the greatest problem of Nigeria has been and shall for a long time be the military. Until they cease to see

themselves as political gladiators and stop their power jostling in the civil society, and then, concentrate on perfecting their skills in military-civil, peace, unity and progress shall continue to elude Nigeria. They posited that, while the civilian politicians were still learning to comprehend the rudiments of democracy, the politicians-in-uniform backed by the usufruct instrument of coercion in their hands struck like lightning and dismantled structures already erected for an enduring polity. Before the January, 1966 military coup, the three regional leaders they said knew that no region could go it alone without the assistance of the others, therefore, their concerted efforts to make in-roads for their parties into one another's region. "The regional leaders at the time were already comprehending the virtues of tolerance of opposition, their political horizon was widening, they were already aggregating their interests though, at a slow pace, even they were paying themselves official visits. But, the military came and shattered everything," said one of the commentators.

How? The commentators averred that, if there was no coup in January, 1966 there would not have been a counter-coup in July of the same year. The execution of January coup according to them, gave a lot of food for thought. All those killed in the coup, apart from the



Military personnel: Are they ready for barrack life?

COVER STORY

premier of the North and the Prime Minister, like Chief Okoti-Eboh and Chief S.L. Akintola were either close associates of northern leaders or their parties were in alliance with the Northern People's Congress. Also, the military officers among those killed were mostly from the North. "It was therefore, not wrong if the northerners read regional meaning to the coup", said an analyst who spoke to *Hotline*. He further stated that, such perception led northern officers in the army to organise a counter-coup in July, 1966. All these, the analysts said, served as hydraulic oil that lubricated the wheel of tribalism and regionalism in Nigeria, the end product of which, was a 30-month civil war in 1967. A justification of this assertion was the speech of the April, 1990 coup leader, Major Gideon

in secrecy, rough estimates by analysts would not have fetched them such fortunes if their fingers did not itch like that of the civilians. One analyst told *Hotline* that, in actual fact, the military taught civilians how to loot public treasury. He pointed at some of the first and second republic politicians who led and have continued to lead a Spartan life. Mentioned are Ahmadu Bello who they said had every access to the treasury of the north but died without money in his bank account or any tangible asset; then, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Aminu Kano, Kashim Ibrahim, Akanu Ibiam, Dennis Osadebey, etc.

James Bawa Magaji, a politician and National Republican Convention stalwart in Kaduna state buttressed this point, when he said, "I always feel amazed anytime I see people like Alhaji

Yahaya Gusau and Alhaji Isa Kaita driving themselves. Despite the positions they have held as ministers, one would expect them to ride in flashy expensive cars but I always see them in their 504 station wagon or at best, 505 saloon. They live in modestly furnished houses. I think they are shining examples for others in their public and private life". Magaji also told *Hotline* that, "in the military there are those worse than Umaru Dikko". He observed that, it is not surprising to see a military man who could not afford a Volkswagen Beetle before, to turn a super-millionaire overnight and ride a Mercedes V-boot simply because, he fell into a gang of coup plotters and participated actively. The danger in this, Magaji contended, is the erosion of "the strength and capability of our



Nzeogwu: He started it.

Orkar which was laden with tribal and sectional sentiments and in every respect, a revelation that all is not well within the military.

In terms of corrupt practices in office, military leaders are said to be worse gluttons than the civilians. Not only a few of them have been accused of misappropriating public funds entrusted to them. Today, many of the executive mansions sprawling in Nigerian cities, towns and villages and the most expensive cars on the roads are owned by retired and serving military officers. In the cities like Lagos and Kaduna, they have their colonies. Though, their emoluments are shrouded



Vatsa, Orkar: And they copied.



Ciroma: Military rule not a better alternative.



Magaji: Worse Umaru Dikkos are in the military

COVER STORY



Salihu: In search of newbreed soldiers.



Jemibewon: Coups impair democratic rule.

military personnel in war-time especially when very young officers are given political positions. "People who Nigeria was fortunate to train when the going was good; it is these same people being appointed to political offices", he said. adding that, in case of any emergency, people like that whom the nation could rely upon to give effective command, it would be discovered that their capability has been eroded through political appointments.

No less a person than, retired General Domkat Bali, one time chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff justified Magaji's position. In an interview with *Champion* newspaper in early 1987, Bali said he felt sad about the decline in discipline among military officers. He attributed such decline in discipline to the craze for wealth. According to Bali, it is puzzling how military officers



Bali: How they got their money is puzzling.

particularly the junior ones got the money with which they buy expensive cars. As one analyst posited, what we have today as soldiers are business merchants in uniform, "I don't think most of them can cope with the rigours of the battle field".

Retired Major-General David Jemibewon told *Quality*, September 8, 1988 that, the reason why some military officers detest coup is that, while military personnel continue to train themselves, they disallow politicians to go through the processes of training and, of trial and error. In the army he asserted, "it is the man who stages coup, who takes what he wants, . . . who he wants to work with." He is not necessarily the best or the most efficient man. Thus, certain people in the army become displeased, unhappy, dissatisfied," Jemibewon revealed. The nation's President and commander-in-chief of the armed forces, General Ibrahim Babangida is no less worried about this unhealthy development. He has, for the past three years, been drumming it into the ears of his men and officers that their rightful place in the society is the barracks. Efforts are being made by him in this regard. More barracks are under construction to accommodate all military officers. The logic behind this move is to, if not isolate at least, insulate them from the civil society. The on-going re-organisation in the armed forces which include retirement of some senior officers and other ranks who had served between 15 and 18 years, and the

establishment of the Armed Force Consultative Assembly AFCA in 1988 is part of Babangida's programme of returning the military to the barracks permanently for good. Even, MAMSER has been drafted in, to inculcate the virtues of professional excellence in the minds of soldiers. Two years ago, MAMSER launched 'Operation Service Alert' in military barracks, a twin sister of "Operation Service Excellence" for civil servants.

Analysts observed that, more still remains to be done towards re-orienting the political behaviour of military men. They expressed the view that military officers appointed to political offices, particularly governors, who were recently found to have turned public treasuries into private banks should have been tried publicly and if found guilty, sent to the goal and not just retiring them into opulence. "No lesson could be learned from such action", an analyst observed. One other analyst enthused: "In Nigeria, to embezzle is different from to misappropriate public funds".

Military personnel are also accused of arrogant disregard for laws of the land. They do not obey even simple traffic regulations. Police traffic wardens are said to be "the wives of military personnel" because they are always at their mercy when there are traffic hold-ups. In some cases, delay in passing military vehicles, according to watchers of military behaviours, earn traffic wardens a slap or two "to teach them lesson". But, no traffic warden was ready to comment on this issue for fear of reprisal. Also, at some Police Force headquarters visited by *Holine* mum was the answer when some officers were also asked for their comments. However, the case of a GOC who ordered that a court registrar be beaten, and arrested and detained in 1989 because, he (the court registrar) had the audacity to ask the GOC to appear in person before administering an oath in respect of a land dispute, is now a reference point anytime the issue of military personnel disregard for laws of the land is being discussed.

By Mohammed Momah Otu

The Military in Nation-building

Since the coup of January 1966, the military has been at the helm of political affairs for the greater part of the Nigeria's post-colonial existence. And the various factors that brought each military regime into politics have justified the ascension of each government but this may also be the basis for some people to want to say that none of the military regimes ever have been able to solve the numerous problems that have beset the nation. It is however justifiable to also note that they haven't all been bad. And in the last analysis, the military has been able to serve as the "mainstay for national... and social progress"

The most strikingly positive feature of military regimes in Nigeria in the past 25 years, is decisiveness. This is a contrasting deviation from the footdragging and indecisive civilian administrations which had also dragged the nation deep into crisis on each occasion. For instance, the decisiveness of the military was seen in play during the Yakubu Gowon administration when in 1967, the country was almost on the brink of total disintegration as a result of the dissatisfaction that greeted the promulgation of Decree 34 in May 1966 under the then Head of State General Aguiyi Ironsi advocating for a unitary system for the country. Gowon, in order to arrest the situation, introduced a new administrative programme that resulted in the creation of States in order to enhance national stability and allay the fears of the minorities. On the 27th of May 1967, he announced the creation of 12 States.

After the Gowon regime was toppled in 1975 in a bloodless coup, the new military administration of General Murtala Ramat Mohammed which assumed office on June 29, 1975, immediately created more states. The new States were created in February 3, 1976 thus bringing the total number of states

to 19.

The administration carried out other commendable administrative programmes soon after its inception. It created more local government councils throughout the federation. It constituted a new constitution drafting committee composed of elected representatives and individuals representing special interests to prepare a new draft constitution. And in pursuance of its programme of returning the country to civil rule, a Federal Electoral Commission was appointed to conduct elections



Yakubu Gowon



Murtala Mohammed



Olusegun Obasanjo



Mohammadu Buhari

But not long after these bold moves, General Murtala was brutally assassinated on February 13, 1976 in a bloody coup attempt. And his second in Command, General Olusegun

Obasanjo continued with the policies of his predecessor. And one of the structural changes that took place during his reign was the change in the land use system. In order to make an effective and productive use of land to enhance economic and social transformation, Decree No 6 of 1978 was promulgated which was also known as the Land Use Decree. The Decree provides that the "right of members of the Community to use land and enjoy its fruits be ensured, protected and preserved by the State or Local Government..." The Decree further made provision for the establishment in each state of land use and allocation committee on matters connected with the management of lands.

It was under the military regime of General Murtala Mohammed that a panel under Mr. Justice Akinola Aguda, was set up to look into the agitation for a new Federal Capital because Lagos was found to be no longer suitable as there was no land for the purposes of expansion. Consequently, the area known as Abuja became the Federal Capital Territory when on February 4, 1976, the Decree No 4 proclaiming it was enacted. By the Decree, Abuja ceased to be a part of the State from which it was carved and fell under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. The Federal Capital Development Authority was created to oversee the execution of the project.

Under retired General Gowon in 1972, the Federal Military government promulgated the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree NO. 4 of 1972, otherwise known as the Indigenisation Decree. The Decree which finally came to force on April 1, 1974 had the objectives of creating better opportunities for indigenous Nigerian business men to maximise local retention of profits, and to raise the level of intermediate and capital goods.

When the civilian regime of the Second Republic was brought to an end on 31st December, 1983 majority of the civilian population were happy at the demise of an administration which had come to be regarded in many quarters as the worst ever witnessed. The military regime was warmly welcomed because

it was considered to be a regime that could bring sanity back to the society by guaranteeing security of life and property.

It would be remembered that the local government issue which was reviewed and reorganised by the Murtala/Obasanjo regime was almost immediately bastardised by the civilian regime that succeeded it. Quite a large number of new local governments were created during this period. And when the General Muhammadu Buhari regime took over, it immediately reverted to the number of local governments in existence by September, 1979. This the administration did by making adequate and reasonable explanation to the people as regards its decision to abolish these local government councils.

Again, the decisive nature of military government, was seen in play in April 1984. As a result of the increasing number of smuggling and trading in Nigeria's currency outside the country which increases the degree of inflation within the country, the Buhari government decided to change the country's currency. At first, the government was beset with series of problems, but it was no doubt hailed by the people as an expression of a decisive and purposeful leadership. This was particularly so when viewed against the fact that the same policy was discussed under the civilian regime of Shagari, but nothing happened as the law-makers could not arrive at a consensus.

The military regime of Buhari exhibited a characteristic that instilled sanity in an otherwise disorderly society where corruption and public unaccountability reigned supreme. Perhaps, the Buhari/Idiagbon's high handedness was what the country needed, and it succeeded to a very high degree. The most practical step taken to show the administration's determination to rid the society of these vices was the promulgation of Decree No. 2 of 1984, otherwise known as the Recovery of Public Property (Special Military Tribunals) Decree. The Decree guaranteed long prison terms for persons found guilty of abuse of office. And it was for the first

time that severe punishment was instituted as a deterrence to others.

In furtherance of its pursuits of discipline in the Nigerian society which was of course the basis for the advancement, economic, and otherwise of the nation, the administration introduced the War Against Indiscipline, WAI, which was launched in March 1984. The noble objectives of the WAI included the instilling in the minds of the citizenry basic discipline and gearing them up to a sense of nationhood, patriotism and, mobilising their minds towards "..... noble ideals of national consciousness, and above all, discipline".

The Babangida administration took over from the Buhari/Idiagbon regime in a palace coup in 1985. The administration has since embarked on some policies, some of which were effectively hailed by the people while others did not go well with them. The regime however should be commended to have dared to carry out such policies which it believes will in the long run, be beneficial to all.

While the regimes before it were unable, out of fear of reaction from the people, to embark upon or even to make pronouncements on fundamental economic and political questions, the Babangida administration boldly went on to making and even implementing. Aiming at achieving national economic recovery and self-reliance, it introduced the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP).

The Structural Adjustment Programme was introduced with the noble objectives of restructuring and diversifying the production base of the economy in order to reduce dependence on the oil sector and on imports; to achieve a fiscal and balance of payment viability, to lay the basis for the sustenance of growth with minimum inflation, to lessen productive investments in, and improve the efficiency of the Public sector.

The Administration further created specific institutions to pursue the objectives of the Structural Adjustment Programme. These institutions include the

Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) and the Directorate for Mass Mobilisation for Social Justice, Self Reliance and Economic Recovery (MAMSER).

The Babangida administration also vigorously pursued its transition to civil rule programme by educating the people on the need for a change in their political awareness towards making the Third Republic a reality. In the process, it banned some politicians it regarded as old hands, and introduced instead, the politics of the 'Newbreed'.

When the ban on partisan politics was lifted however, the government was baffled to realise that the people had still not learned enough, and it was forced to



President Ibrahim Babangida

disband the numerous political associations that were registered. In their place, two new parties were formed - National Republican Convention, NRC, and Social Democratic Party, SDP. And for the first time under any administration, elections were held (December 8, 1990) under an atmosphere that reduced election malpractices to a minimum.

It must be conceded that no matter how we want to look at it, the average Nigerian citizen has a greater trust in the ability of the military to secure his security and that of the nation than he has in the ability of any civilian government to achieve same. And he has more hopes also in the ability of the military to carry out policies, especially policies that will be beneficial to the people, with quick military precision instead of the feet-dragging bureaucratic red-tapism that is custom to the civilian regimes.

By Danjuma Bawa

Local Government Councils Only Half-Baked

Following a recent survey, it was discovered that most local government councils may be in danger of being run by mediocres.

By now, the local council administrators elected December 8, 1990, the first of such administrators to be elected on party-basis in the political history of Nigeria, will be one month old in office. Early last month the swearing-in of local government council chairmen and councillors was successfully concluded in the 21 states of the federation and Abuja. As the critical bedrock upon which a stable and viable Third Republic may be constructed, the concluded local elections have a significance to the survival of the democracy that is impending in 1992.

The whole world now looks up to the local governments for a performance that will mark a clear departure from the past of ineptitude, corruption and petty squabbling to a new dawn of service, commitment and grassroots democratic representation. But does the world not lay too much hope on the so far unproven calibre of men who have been put on these stools? Will it be fair to task these 'newbreed' with the twain charge of improving the living conditions of their people and living up to the task of grassroots democratic leadership?

In the first place, most of the newly elected council chairmen and councillors are mainly youths between the ages of 21-35, usually with no previous experience of public office or in fact, any sort

of responsibility. Indeed, a sizeable percentage are school certificate holders or even secondary school drop-outs. Here, it is obvious that the National Electoral Commission, NEC, did not take the pain to enforce the minimum qualification requirements as stipulated in the new Constitution inaugurated by govern-



The Open ballot system of election, December 8 1990

ment in 1989. Thus, some reasonable percentage of these local council administrators are either completely illiterate or barely half-illiterate, with all the consequences that such a situation will inflict on national unity and continually unbalanced development, as some officials are not as educated and therefore capable, as others. Even the education-

ally disadvantaged states in the north cannot any longer plead a reasonable cause for entrusting the barely educated with the rigorous task of leadership; having, beyond doubt, sufficient numbers of graduates and highly experienced people to man such strategic positions.

Corruption and mismanagement have been the bane of the Nigerian political system and these appear most rampant under democratically elected civilian regimes. Elected civilian administrators at all the three-tiers of government have tended to see public offices as a quick means of helping themselves and their own. The electorates themselves and the general society do not help

matters either, and public officers often succumb to the lures and blackmail of their fellow men to indulge in using their offices for their selfish interests. With the calibre of newbreed local government administrators sworn-in last year, the possibility that mismanagement and corruption will be even more exuberant and wanton is almost a reality. Most of these newbreed politicians have no real money of their own and can thus be carried away by the reckless search for money to accumulate. Two factors make this an easy possibility.

The 1991 budget speech contained a package which gives increased autonomy to the local government councils. Local governments now receive more from the federation account (15%) and are entirely self-accounting. The man-

NEC, did not take the pain to enforce the minimum qualification requirements as stipulated in the new Constitution inaugurated by government in 1989.



Vice President Augustus Aikhomu

agement of primary schools has also been shifted completely to the concern of the local governments.

Secondly, the influence of money on political fortunes does not appear to be on the wane and it is logical for the newly elected incumbent local government administrators to use the privileges of their position to secure public money for their future political purposes. Observers sound many other pessimistic notes largely bordering on the immaturity of this new crop of leaders.

But as if all these risks are not real, government this week announced the law empowering elected local government executives and councillors to



Prof. Humphrey Nwosu, Chairman of NEC

"appoint their own secretaries". This function hitherto resided with the state governments through the ministries of local government and state civil service commissions. As a radical move from the former practice, it is the strongest sign that the federal military government is intent on establishing the local government system on an autonomous foundation. Together with the self-accounting system, direct revenue receipts from federal government and the new role of primary school management, the scenario for a fairly independent local government system is in place.

Yet, it must also be cause for concern, say some observers, that the last hope for sanity and applied experience coming from the appointment of seasoned administrators as local government secretaries, has been laid to rest. The local government council administrators now have the right to nominate their own secretaries, a situation that will overplay politics to the detriment of continuity of programmes and services in the community. Even more ominous is the possible loss of all level headedness and mature conduct in local council politics especially where the so-called youthful new breed dominate.

Only recently, Ambassador Babagana Kiagibe national Chairman of the Social Democratic Party, SDP which controls the greater number of local governments nationwide said that in his estimation "the local governments are still tied to the apron-strings".

And the greatest tragedy of the political transition will be the instalment of the incompetent and the mediocre. For, the tasks at hand, especially the development of local government areas, require only the best brains and

minds. A situation where the elected are no better educated, experienced and exposed than the electorate cannot aid the cause of such tasks. Why, for instance, has no local government council even in the northern states come out against the recent scrapping of diploma and certificate courses at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, when it is only through such programmes that local government workers obtain higher training? Now that the ABU diploma programmes which serve all the northern states are cancelled, where do they plan to send people for junior and intermediate education? Also knowing fully the effects of such a move by government on their people, why have they not made a whimper of protest? Local governments in the south can have no cause to grumble as the effect of such a move will not affect their plans. Nine out of the ten states in the south own universities exclusively for the training

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of their indigenes, and the federal government recently gave generous grants to these universities the type of which are found in any northern states. If those at the helm of affairs at the local government cannot see through these imbalances and contradictory government policies which were announced almost the same time, what hope is there really that the Third Republic as represented by the local government leaders, is off to a new start?

*By Muhammad-Hassan Tom
with Adamu Abdullahi, and
Mohammed Momoh Otu.*

Before The Light Dims

1976 witnessed a major reform in Local Governments administration in the country. Between then and 1988, the funding and control of primary schools were made the responsibility of both the State and local governments. It was the time when Local Government Authorities responsibilities to the primary schools were variously executed under the appointed sole administrators and the elected civilian chairmen.

The period also witnessed a downward trend in the quality of learning in primary schools. Teachers' patience was outrageously strained through denial of entitlements, nonpayment of salaries not to talk of promotions that never came. Hence, efficiency plummeted giving way for proliferation of privately owned schools that turned out to respond positively to the yearning and aspirations of the frustrated parents. The desire to salvage the bedrock of education as exemplified by the primary schools led to the constitution of the first National Commission for Primary Education at federal level and second the Primary Schools Management Board at the state level. The latter came into being in 1988 as a welfare and quality control agent for all the parties directly involved in the provision of basic education.

The Primary Schools Management Board wholly took over the payment and promotion of teachers among other things. If this move did not eradicate the cliff-top bottlenecks "at least" it had immeasurably reduced them to the barest minimum so much that some public schools now rub shoulders with private ones in the area of qualitative learning.

Perhaps, the fears expressed by most head teachers and teachers of primary schools at the wake of federal government's announcement of handing over of primary schools affairs to local government authorities might not be bereft of justifications. After all, they are living witnesses to the educational and occupational hazards that

characterised their lot even when administration of primary schools was the concern of both the local governments as well as the state governments.

Haruna Mallory Idris, Headteacher of Babel Primary School, Zaria couldn't conceal his anxiety about the impending "doomsday". According to him (and going by experience) the administration of primary schools by local government authority is certainly going to end in disaster. This is in spite of direct allocations to the third-tier of



Idris: All may not go down well.

government from the federal government since such funds, if not misappropriated, could simply be diverted into other concerns of the local government. Past experiences have shown that money allocated to local government for education which was to be argued by locally generated revenues almost always never got to the schools.

While agreeing that schools are in pathetic state of disrepair and they need extra funds and prudent management, the Kaduna Local Government Chairman, Alhaji Rabiu Bako would not concur that the funds allocated by federal government is inadequate. With such funds and internally generated ones, the falling standard of education could be salvaged through the provision of required learning resources, because any new problem confronted at the initial stage could be attacked through well articulated programme of action.

One that the administration of local government innovation through Education Administration then had its own local government authority of his position. NPEC and PSMB, was a significant role for the government does not really be up and coming of the task ahead.

The announced allocation to the local government from the federal pitance considering the placed on the shoulders of government executives which according to Mallam Ibrahima Idris, chairman, Mallam Ibrahima Idris, includes total primary health care program, percent budgetary allocation is not new, the chairman opined, part of last year's budget announcement and it did not see the local government anywhere. Now, with additional responsibilities, the problems governments are left to grapple with should only be left in the imagination. Probed further, the chairman expressed hope that the though uphill as it were, would performed if only the federal government ensures the steady disbursement of funds to the local governments.

Similarly, the Zaria local government chairman, Alhaji Amiyau Suleiman hinged the successful execution of tasks on availability of funds. Himself a former teacher, he agreed that provision of qualitative education is not and should not be taken for granted. The arrangement in the pipeline is intended to place schools' administration at the threshold of the grassroots people so as to ensure efficiency borne out of collective monitoring through apparent

accessibility of the local government policymakers to the grassroots. Funds from the federal government, however, should be in consonance with teaching staff strength of each local government. Regular payment of entitlements and regular promotion of teachers should be ensured and based on merit. Unnecessary politicisation should be avoided bearing in mind that an executive, once elected, is a representative of all irrespective of political or ideological leaning. The Nigeria Union of Teachers, NUT, the official mouthpiece of teachers and the Parent Teachers Association should be co-opted into decision making process.

Alhaji Yakubu Abdulrahim Yusuf, Chairman, Okene Local Government Area in Kwara State said that primary education management has always been the responsibility of the local governments since the colonial era until the introduction of universal compulsory primary education (UPE) in 1974. Before then, he said, discipline was ensured in schools, pupils were well-behaved, teachers took their jobs very seriously as they did not only report promptly at schools, they prepared their lessons before going to classes to teach. In his words, "then, the quality of education at primary school level was high because, there were inspectors of schools who visited regularly to enforce standards and discipline erring teachers". Since the transfer of primary education management to the various states ministries of education according to Yusuf, the whole system collapsed as it became increasingly difficult to maintain standards and discipline among teachers. "Tell me how many primary school leavers can write letters today because I know that, in the 60s and early 70s, primary four pupils had good command of written and spoken English?" he asked, emphasising that, "what we have as secondary schools today are not even better than what we used to have as primary schools"

Commending Babangida's government for handing over the management of primary education once



Yusuf: Quality of education will improve

again to local governments, Alhaji Yusuf said God knew what He was doing when He ordered human life in three stages: the formative years, the adolescent stage and adulthood, each stage unique in itself and requiring specific agent for its growth and development. The formative stage in a child's life, he asserted, is the most important and critical and whatever character trait the child imbibes at this stage determines his relevance or otherwise to the society at the two other stages. Thus, the home becomes the most important agent that moulds the child's character in his formative years.

Based on this analogy, Alhaji Yusuf told *Hotline* that, since there are three tiers of government - local, state and federal - and three systems of education - primary, secondary and tertiary - the local government is in a better position than any other level of government to handle primary education management which is the formative stage of the



Sule: Brian works better when the stomach is not grumbling.

national's education system. Moreso, the local governments are closest to the grassroots than the state and federal governments. He averred that, "the people can now design education structures suitable to their socio-cultural realities within the general guidelines, by themselves, to be implemented by themselves for the good of their siblings. It will encourage competition and healthy rivalry among the local governments."

Making a plea on behalf of his other colleagues, Alhaji Yusuf called on the federal government to increase the share of local government from the federal account from 15 percent to between 20 and 25 percent if the recent granting of administrative and financial autonomy to local governments is to be meaningful. "Let it be a practical thing and not just theory", he stated reiterating that, "if this is done, primary school teachers will have no problem again in terms of payment of their salaries and allowances. There is need for adequate funding".

Speaking to *Hotline* later, Mallam AbdulSalam Sule, councillor for education in Okene local government who walked into the chairman's office during the interview January 24 demanding for teachers' salaries said he wanted to avoid unnecessary delay in payment of salaries; to convince the federal government that they are equal to the task and responsibility entrusted to them; and thirdly, "the brain works better when the stomach is not grumbling" therefore, he wouldn't like the teachers to go to classes with empty stomachs for such will impair effective teaching.

Mallam Sule advocated for an increase in revenue allocation to the local governments from the federal account "if the transfer of primary education responsibility to local governments is not to go the way of other populist programmes of the past". According to him, Nigerian communities are more of rural settlements, many of them without primary schools, therefore, the children have to trek several kilometres to attend

EDUCATION

schools. Citing Okene local government area as example, Sule said there was the need to open new primary schools at Achoze, Arugu, Iyasa and many other villages where none were existent. He stated further that the education of the nomadic fulanis on how to raise their herds of cattle in conformity with modern techniques and schools for their children were the responsibility of the local government despite the existence of a commission for that purpose. "We provide them veterinary doctors and give free medical treatments to the sick nomads and the money for these comes from allocation to education", Sule disclosed.

Okene local government council is already working out the logistic of involving the local community, parents and schools in raising additional revenue to supplement federal government's efforts such as fund raising through the Parents-Teachers Associations (PTAs), proceeds from the sales of monthly craft submitted by pupils, encouraging each school to establish farms and calling on old pupils to form old pupils associations.

Mallam Zubair Abubakar Isah, a teacher at Okene Secondary School said primary education is the foundation upon which other structures of a nation's education system are erected. If the foundation is defective, he conjured, the structures will sooner or later give away "even if they are steel walls".

Isah shared the opinion that funding of primary education should not be left to the federal government alone. Rather, since the home which is the most potent force that influences a child's character at his formative years has now been involved in shaping the child's educational career at the formative stage, "everything now depends on the preparedness of the parents to contribute their quota to raising the standard of education at primary school level". He advised old pupils to come to the aid of their various primary schools by organising themselves into old pupils associations through which they can launch appeal funds for physical and social development of their alma mater. Community and ward heads should be

involved in the running of schools through schools-community relations committees. Isah further advised adding that, local government councils should as a matter of urgency set up "books procurement committees" to buy books direct from publishers and resell to pupils at subsidised rates, "at least, at fares lower than market prices and still make profits".

Another school teacher, Mallam Yusuf Salau while analysing the N9,588 billion allocated to local governments from the federal account this fiscal year averred that, it is a mockery to expect local councils to manage primary education effectively from the allocation. Hear Salau: "I contend that no L.G. will get less than N15 million. If a local government is to manage primary education from N15 million, it is a mockery considering the fact that education always take the greatest share of most budgets. Education cannot take more than 30 percent because there are other contending sectors like health, agriculture, and so forth. If education should take say N4.5 million, this is certainly not adequate for physical development, refurbishing of dilapidated structures, procurement of stationery and payment of teachers salaries and allowances. In Okene L.G. alone, there are 18 wards each with at least 5 primary schools in need of new classroom blocks".

Salau further argued that, to build a new block of classrooms going by prevailing cost of building materials will cost about N10,000.00 which



Titus: Need for cooperation among all levels of government.

means not less than N1.5 million will be required for physical development at all primary schools in the local government area. Going by the new minimum wage Isah contended that, an average primary school teacher will now earn about N450.00 per month as salary and in Okene L.G.A., there are about 1,500 primary school teachers which means at least, N600,000 is required monthly to pay salaries not to talk of allowances, and he quizzed "Multiply that amount N600,000 by 12 months. Do not bother about the allowances". Salau therefore advocated for a new revenue allocation formula in this order-federal government 45%, state governments 25% (because they are more of supervisors than actual physical developers) and Local Governments 30%.

On the legal implications of the administrative and financial autonomy recently granted local governments vis-a-vis transfer of primary education management to them, Mr Titus Ajina, an Ilorin-based legal practitioner told *Hotline* that, the pros and cons must have been weighed and possible areas of conflict between local and state governments in the third republic explored. What is however required of all parties is tolerance of opposing views, crisis management techniques, respect for the nation's constitution and due process of the law, and most importantly, the preparedness of the courts to give proper interpretations of the law in the event of conflict between two levels of governments.

Titus who is of the Redemption Chambers and also the Kwara state legal adviser of National Republican Convention (NRC) argued that, with the constant military intervention in the nation's body politic, it is difficult for Nigerians to learn the rudiments of democracy and constitutionality or otherwise of individual or corporate actions. "What we have been having and even right now" he said "is guided democracy by the military because a decree can annul provisions of the constitution any time".

By Mohammed M. Otu in Kwara and Sola Lawal in Kaduna.

15th Anniversary Of Peugeot Automobile Nigeria Limited, Chairman's Anniversary Statement

I am greatly delighted to have the opportunity of the 15th Anniversary of the Company to congratulate our technical partners, Automobiles Peugeot, France and the Management of PAN for the tremendous industrial challenges they have borne over the years. There has been an onerous responsibility which has been discharged creditably. Our technical partners have at all times exposed us to the technological intricacies of the industry and have always supported us technically in our industrialisation drive. Our staff

have over the years benefited immensely from first class technical training in Automobiles Peugeot's home factories. I thank them for these services and look forward to greater cooperation in the future.

Our local development and production of automotive components and parts, both in-plant, have grown over the years. Our current achievement of 30% is solid and new achievable targets have been set by ourselves for the next 5 years. This target of 65% is reasonable in the light of existing industrial infrastructure, locally available

of our tooling workshop and machining operations. In 1990 we have spent an additional N12 million while our budget for 1991 envisages an expenditure of N45 million. We now press in-plant more than 250 parts, assemble Peugeot engines for installation in our cars, manufacture tools every month for our press shop and machine our engine flywheels, brake drums and brake discs. We have, in addition, a network of about 60 local/local (components) spread throughout Nigeria contributing in no small measure to our out-plant industrialisation efforts.

I must conclude by thanking the general work-force for their loyalty and dedicated service to the Company. Without their steadfastness and readiness to learn new work methods and technology, it could not have been possible to achieve much.

The Company's training programme is highly rated and is currently enabling Nigerians to receive 12,000 man days training in various aspects of manufacturing and after-sales service and maintenance.

I sincerely look forward to more fruitful years of sustained industrial growth and contribution to our national wellbeing.



*Alhaji Umaru S. Ndanusa
Chairman, PAN*

industrial raw materials especially iron and steel products and petrochemicals and availability of investable funds. This target is in consonance with our objective of producing a Nigerian car. Over N10 million was spent in 1989 for the development



15 Years of PAN: The Journey So Far

On 20th December, 1990, Nigeria's leading vehicle manufacturing company, Peugeot Automobile Nigeria Limited, other wise known as PAN celebrated its fifteenth year

anniversary. On the afternoon of this day, PAN's premises was thrown into a frenzy of activities as the Company's staff both senior and junior converged to celebrate 15 years of PAN in the Country.

occasion to review some historical aspects and also fundamental aspects of our industrial and commercial activities".

Historical Perspective:

The initiative to establish a vehicle



*AVM Mohammed Yahaya (Rtd)
Minister of Industries*

However, beyond the traditional clinching of glasses, eating and presentation of awards to deserving staff that such an occasion is always associated with, it was also an occasion for assessing the Company's performance in the last 15 years and the renewal of strategies toward attaining its set objectives. According to the Managing Director of the Company, Mr. P.M. Fauconnier "this is the



*Athaji Umaru S. Ndanusa
Chairman*



Leadership by example... The Managing Director leading Management Staff during a dinner party at the end of the activities marking the 15th-year anniversary

distributors to enhance efficiency and productivity-. Currently, every Peugeot car sold is guaranteed for one year or 60,000 km, which comes first as a further testimony of quality assurance.

Export Drive:

The Federal Government has given top priority to the export of non-oil commodities in its efforts to diversify its sources of foreign exchange and avoid being dependent on a single commodity (oil) which can be vulnerable. To create a favourable environment for export by removing certain hardships being experienced by companies like PAN. That is, exempting imported constituents of exported goods completely from import duties. In the case of PAN, this would generate a 3.5% reduction of cost which represents a significant incentive in export trade where the general difference in price-spread is around 5% between competitors. Other factors militating against export include punitive tariffs amongst member countries within the ECOWAS and long delays in refunding customs duty drawback.

In spite of all these constraints, it is encouraging to note that PAN is currently engaged in expanding its

export sales. This measure involves the restructuring and restaffing of the export department in the commercial division and is already in progress.

Manpower Development:

In PAN, training is a fundamental part of manpower development. All categories of staff undergo one form of training or another, either in Nigeria or abroad. Between 1978 and 1990, a total of 141 senior staff were sent overseas for training (an average of 12 senior staff per year). In 1987 alone, 514 intermediate staff received professional training to assemble cars compete by themselves. In 1988, 31 staff were trained as engine assemblers while 16 machinists were given intensive training to equip them with adequate skills for machining engine parts.

Each year, 1200 man days general staff training are undertaken. In 1990, 14 staff attended various advanced technical and management course abroad in pursuance of the company's industrialisation programme mainly with Automobiles Peugeot France.

Nigeriansation Policy:

At its inception in 1975, PAN had 81 expatriates in its employment

since then, many Nigerians of the middle management have been trained by the company for eventual take-over of some key management positions in conformity with the Nigerianisation policy. In 1990, there were only 61 expatriates left in the company's employment or 1% of the total work force. Such experts are placed on approved temporary expatriate quota by the Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs in conjunction with the Federal Ministry of Industries.

Future Plans/Challenges:

PAN plans to intensify efforts toward realising its local content integration programme by committing much of its investible funds into local content sourcing. It also plans to intensify efforts in its export promotion drive.

Other challenges to be addressed in the near future are in the areas of increasing its products competitiveness through the constant search for reduction of cost, (including overheads and financial charges) and, improving its network of commercial skills in order to reach more markets and improve sales efficiency within an ever increasingly competitive environment.

SPOTLIGHT ON PAN



Fleet of Peugeot Vehicles produced by PAN

to 75% or more is unrealistic at the present level of technical infrastructure available in the country. For a high local contents to be viable, it will necessary to have production figure of at least 100,000 cars per year but, PAN at present is producing ten times less than this figure.

Quality Control:

In conformity with the contract of confidence between PAN and users of its products, parts supplied are thoroughly inspected and those found to be below standard are

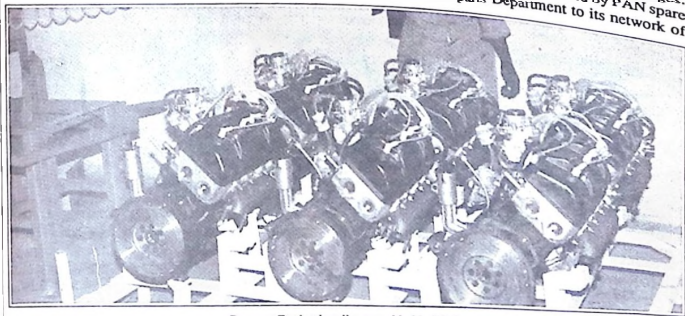
rejected. In 1986, 4.4% of loads delivered were rejected; 1987, 11.5%; 1988 5.6% 1989 6.5% and within the first five months of 1990 6.6% of loads delivered were rejected.

After-Sales Service:

In order to ensure that every Peugeot vehicle owner has easy access to adequate service facilities where ever he or she may be and at the cheapest cost possible, PAN feeds its network of over 200 accredited garages located throughout the country with

adequate supply of genuine spare parts from its central spare parts warehouse in Kaduna. It is obligatory for every PAN distributor to operate and maintain a functional service/ repair garage.

The after sales department offers various tailored-to-suit tuition-free training for all categories of staff. Instructors in conjunction with technical field staff monitor with training performances of trainees at their respective distributor garages. Special tools are sold by PAN spare parts Department to its network of



Peugeot Engine locally assembled in PAN

SPOTLIGHT ON PAN

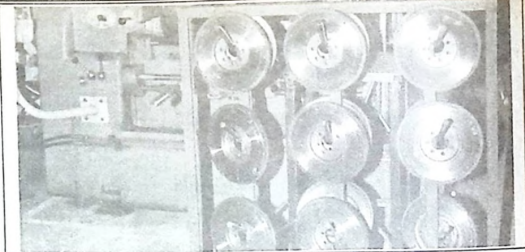
PEUGEOT COUNTRY" because, Peugeot vehicles account for about 70% of intra and inter-city travels, which means that seven out ten vehicles plying our roads today are Peugeot cars"

Local Content Sourcing:

Over the years, PAN has been investing million of Naira in the development of its vehicle components locally. This is in pursuance of the Federal Government's objective and the aspirations of Nigerians to see the emergence of a **NIGERIAN-MADE** car.

In last four years, PAN has intensified its local content drive. In 1987, it attained 10% local content integration and projects that, this will rise to 46% by 1993.

There are two outlets created toward realising these goal. They are the in-plant and out-plant both of which are meant to lay for Nigeria, a solid foundation of a strong Automobile Industry based on the development of all basic techniques



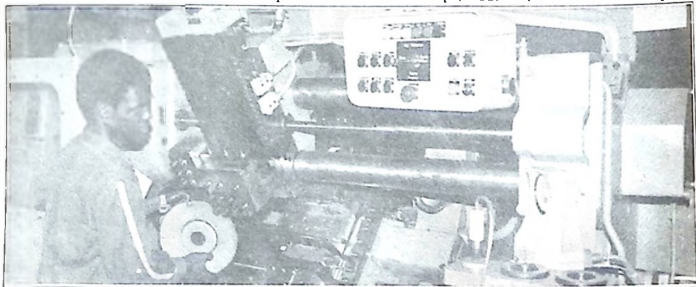
Locally produced Fly-Wheel

found in any industrialised country. Through the in-plant scheme, PAN has evolved techniques for stamping and machining. It now assembles Peugeot engines in-plant, machines its own engine fly-wheels brake drums and disks, and manufactures tools every month for its press shop. The press shop is capable of pressing all parts requiring press machines of up to 120 tons and presses more than 250 different parts. In order to develop further the capability for in-plant local content manufacture, PAN is currently engaged in series of projects aimed at expanding both the press and machine shops,

through the purchase of more presses and machine tool equipment worth up to eighty million Naira (N80 million).

Through the out-plant programme, over 50 suppliers spread all over the country supply PAN with 560 different items which include paints, glasses, evaporators, stamp parts, harnesses, pedal system, front grills, tyres, seat cover, frames chemicals, aluminium cast parts, carpets, batteries, exhaust pipes, fuel tank radiators, clutches, seat belt, alternators, headlamps etc.

It is appropriate however to point out that, local content development



Machining of Fly-Wheel in process

SPOTLIGHT ON PAN



Staff members helping themselves to a sumptuous meal at the reception organised to commemorate 15 years of PAN

gradual decline in the annual car production figures occasioned essentially by the global economic recession. Thus, in 1989, it produced only 5,900 cars. The global decline in economic activity and Nigeria in particular, also had a corresponding down-turn in sales figures.

This problem is further compounded by some of government's economic and industrial policies such as the high tariff on completely knocked down (CKD) parts, allowing the importation of fully built-up cars

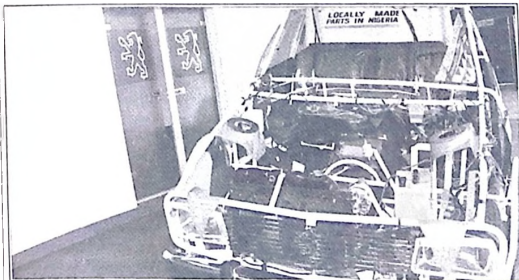
particularly used cars at relatively low tariff, and the high interest rates on loans charged by banks. Though, the future looks bright for PAN in the years ahead, these challenges needed to be addressed for increase in production and product competitiveness through viable means of cost reduction relative to overheads and financial charges. Expressing support for the call to ameliorate the unhealthy situation, PAN's 15th year anniversary called on the Federal Government to ban the importation of cars into the country and to reduce the tariff on

CKDs to cover all locally assembled cars in order to give more production to assembly plants in the country.

Speaking in a similar vein, the PAN Junior staff union through its chairman, Comrade John Asegh not only appealed to the Federal Government to patronise made-in-Nigeria cars but to also place a total ban on importation of second-hand vehicles known as TOKUNBO (The Ghost) because individual motor companies that import them do not have facilities for after-sales-service. The union also called on the

government to reduce drastically the tariff on completely knocked down (CKD) parts and "review seriously the high lending rates by banks in Nigeria for the survival of our industries".

Weathering the storms, PAN can boast of having produced over 460,000 Peugeot vehicles since its inception. PAN management proudly refer to Nigeria as "A



A skeleton-like 504 saloon car completely manufactured with local components

SPOTLIGHT ON PAN



Mr. Michel Monsuy
General Manager, Industrial Division

products of the plants; (e) to serve as an avenue for transfer of technology by providing on-the-job training to Nigerian workers, technicians and managers who would eventually develop technologies usable in many aspects of economic life of the country; and (f) to create employment opportunities for Nigerians by developing an industrial network of suppliers who would contribute to the establishment of basic technologies in the field of machining stamping, manufacturing of plastic parts, etc.

How far have these objectives

been realised? To answer this question requires first of all, an insight into the type of management structure drawn to achieve the objectives.

Management Structure:

The organisation chart of PAN is well structured to enhance efficient and effective operations. At the apex of the pyramidal chart is a Board of Directors headed by a

Chairman. The board is charged with the responsibility of formulating policy guidelines for implementation by the general management team. The general management team which oversees the day to day activities of the Company is headed by a Managing Director, assisted by a Deputy Managing Director. There are four General managers who run the affairs of the company's Finance, and Personnel and Administration Division. Directly attached to the office of the Managing Director are the Company Secretary/Legal



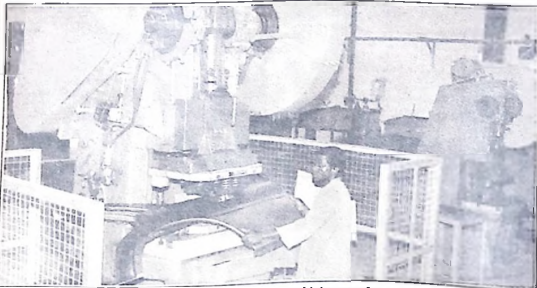
Mrs. Lami Tumaka
Public Relations Manager

Adviser and four other functional Departments: (1) Internal Audit, (2) Corporate planning, (3) Data Processing and (4) Public Relations.

Like a human society, any organisation, be it economic or otherwise, is dynamic and as such must respond always to new circumstances and new economic conditions. It was the response to realities that made PAN to recently shuffle its staff at various levels to allow for renewed motivations and new ideas. Thus, PAN's organisation chart is not rigid.

Achievements:

Since its establishment, PAN has consistently intensified efforts toward realising its objectives. In its first ten months of operation (March - December, 1975), PAN recorded a production figure of 2,600 cars. Its annual car production figure increased steadily reaching an all-time record of 59,500 cars produced in 1981. However there was a



Stamping part locally for use in vehicle manufacturing

SPOTLIGHT ON PAN



*Mr. P. M. Fauconnier
Managing Director*

which was a mark of acceptability, it was therefore no surprise when on May, 1971 Automobile Peugeot of France; proposal was selected out of those tendered by 16 various vehicles manufacturers.

December 15, 1972 marked a water-shed in the of Peugeot Automobile Nigeria Limited, PAN. It was on this day that PAN was incorporated as a limited liability Company with an authorised share



*Engr. S. M. Zwu
Deputy Managing Director*

assembly plant in Nigeria was taken by the then Federal Military Government in the early part of 1960. The idea was however concretised on October 6, 1969 when the government invited 16 reputable vehicle manufacturers in the world to submit a proposal for the establishment of vehicle assembly plant in the country.

Twelve years before the initiative was taken, 1957 to be precise, Peugeot cars made their first entry into Nigeria when about 100 units of the Peugeot 403 model were imported into the country by individuals. These cars soon became very popular due to their legendary reliability and suitability to Nigerian road conditions. The demand for Peugeot cars in Nigeria rose sharply again in the 1960s with the further introduction into the country of the Peugeot 404 model. With the high demand for Peugeot products

capital of three million Naira. Twenty-seven months only after incorporation, the assembly plant was commissioned by the then Head of State, General Yakubu Gowon on March 14th, 1975 though PAN commenced full operations on March 2, 1975.

Set Objectives:

PAN at inception, had as its objectives the following amongst others: (a) to Chart a course for Nigeria's industrialisation in the area of assembling and

manufacturing of automobile vehicles; (b) to engage in the local assembly or production of cars suitable to Nigeria's physical environment and climatic conditions; (c) to articulate a definite and viable policy on local contents development and reduce over-dependence on imports in auto-industry and thereby, help conserve foreign exchange for the country; (d) to produce and distribute vehicle spare parts and accessories to supplement the



The Managing Director (PAN), addressing staff during reception.

A Legion of Forgotten Heroes

The story behind the commemoration of the Fallen Heroes Day, January 15.

Soldiers stormed the small town one fine day in 1967. All the men and young lads disappeared into the woods and building ceilings. But Shaibu Enejo did not run. He was conscripted and taken for a six months training at the depot. By the time the training was over, Shaibu was sure he was a born soldier, and not the baker that he was. He bravely went to the war front.

But his career was cut short in a trench when an enemy bomb landed on his face. He lost his eyes, nose and teeth but he lived. For months he was fed intravenously. He came out of the hospital at the end of the civil war and was deployed to the blind centre where with his 'half card' colleagues, he played music and was learning various crafts till they were finally discharged from the army.

Today, Shaibu is a living corpse, a burden and nuisance to his family and community. He is a man without eyes, nose, teeth and livelihood. He lived in squalor and frustration, often falling into terrible fits of temper tantrums, during which time he hits out at any body close by, curses and expletives issuing forth from his mouth. Patrick, his cousin has one wish. It is, "We only pray that God should take his life. He is better dead than living"

This is the typical post-war life of some of those who fought Nigeria's Civil War between 1967-70. Those whom Festus Iyayi in his award winning book, *Heroes*, wrote "take all the dirt and the ambushes and the bullets and their lives". They are the hapless soldiers who had to put their lives on the line fighting wars that arose "from the greed of few men"; wars which were investments "in blood and destruction by those at the helm of affairs with the

expectation of profit". Yet at end of such wars it was always the generals who wrote accounts of them, taking all the credits, showing how "they were the heroes of the war...that they single handedly fought and won the war".

The real heroes of the wars are the dead, the maimed, those who went to the various war fronts and fortunately came back unscathed but whose services were later dispensed with.



Legionnaire: Relic of a soldier



*Lt. General Salihu Ibrahim:
Chief of Army Staff..*

The heroes are the bereaved families who yielded their sons to the wars and coups. After the sacrifices what has the country done in appreciation?

On 15th January of every year since the civil war, the country pauses in memory of its fallen heroes. Statues of unknown soldiers are raised. Emblems are launched. Wreaths are laid and prayers are said for the souls of the departed. The concept of the unknown soldier, former Army image maker Colonel Fred Chijuka, once said "is to remind us of fellow Nigerians who fought during the first and second world wars, to remind us of our brothers who died during the counter coup, civil war etc". It is also to tell us about the "futility of war; to remind us that we don't have to shed blood because of personal interest and search for power". Wreaths, whose history dates back to centuries are usually bestowed as a mark of honour and "its circular shape" is said to signify continuing life; but continuing life for whom? If for the dead, then the significance pales into ridicule.

Contrary to popular belief that the armed forces are well catered for and "remunerated" especially in terms of retirement benefits, the benefits actually paid to armed forces personnel are no different from what is paid to civil servants. Yet no degree of patriotism can any man express for his country greater than to stake his life for the continuous existence of that country. He willed to die so that his country may not be wiped off, that his fellow country men might live on in peace.

But after all these sacrifices, these men of fervent practical patriotism are discarded like used rags fit only for the lowliest recognition.

From the early days when the regions now collectively called Nigeria were amalgamated and the first World War broke out, the colonial master told Nigerians that they had to help fight his war, the men from Niger area did not hesitate. They fought, they killed, died and lived. When next the turbulence sweeping across Europe erupted into another European tribal war, European colonies including Nigeria, were

persuaded that another world war had broken out. It was time again to take up arms to fight for the British Kingdom and Nigeria by extension.

Those men who bravely withstood the murk and mortars of those wars later formed the nucleus of what became the Nigerian Armed Forces. Any time there were subsequent fictions that deserved armed attention, the men were called up to do battle. In the Congo, Ghana independence war, the first Nigerian coup, the civil war, Lebanon, the Maitatsine riots and now ECOMOG. Nigerian's armed men had always answered the call.

During the Nigerian civil war, the population of the army which was under 10,000, ballooned to over 250,000 at the end of it. Tens of thousands died in the battles. An equal estimates returned with missing limbs and various deformities.

Sportsmen win laurels and glories for the country and instantly are transformed into millionaires. But for the soldiers it is not so. Those who died in active services are remembered by statues and pinnacles that are paid to their survivors. This payment is usually not even up to five percent of the deceased's net future income. And so the human life value is lost for the family forever. There are hundreds of bereaved families who have experienced permanently declining standard of living as a result of their human losses, compensation paid having gone into funeral expenses.

So many ex-soldiers roam the streets that the Nigeria Legion office in Kaduna can claim that there are 250,000 such men in Kaduna state alone. They are all looking for jobs, no matter how menial. Some of them not able to bear the harsh realities take to vices like armed robbery. It would smack of insensitivity if the authority claims it does not know this.

The authority might claim to have paid gratuity to some of these men. Others got no farthing because they did not serve the required number of years. Majority of this category of unpaid ex-soldiers say they were discharged not by their consent but on grounds of what the



Crippled by war

authority calls medical problems.

It is however very true that some of them were paid off and they could have resettled themselves with the money. It is also true that these men were inadequately prepared for a life out of uniform. Many of them came out of the barracks with Mammy market life still ingrained on their consciences. Six or nine months of rehabilitation is grossly inadequate to restore a mind which took years of systematic indoctrination into military ways.

A corporal discharged last December at Jaji in Kaduna revealed that at the Armed Forces Rehabilitation Centre at Oshodi in Lagos, apart from being taught a trade that might differ from what one had in mind, the rest time is devoted to rhetorics. According to him, while he was there, lamentations filled his mind. He felt betrayed, when he had thought he was a professional soldier. "It was nonsense. How can I be a trader when I am a trained soldier. If I knew I would not have joined the army", the man regretted. He is still waiting for his pension of N200 to commence. Meanwhile he has spent the gratuity he received.

Rehabilitation programmes for eventual retirement should ideally start some five years before the actual retirement or discharge. Then it could be reinforced by shorter ones as the person nears retirement. Serving men who see their colleagues discharged unprepared note the agony they go

through.

President Ibrahim Babangida must have received reports of these grumblings. The recent announcement to step up better resettlement policy should sound as good music to soldiers.

Though a highly placed source in the military said that the general wretchedness of ex-soldiers is a reflection of the army itself in terms of remunerations and well being, he failed to see that the same cannot be said of the officer corps.

The army should monitor its ex-servicemen. It was discovered that the esprit de corps amongst soldiers disappears immediately one is discharged. Loans for farm, houses and business could be procured for these men.

With that the army can keep track of its ex-men. This will also make them retain some discipline of soldiering, knowing that they are still responsible to the army in some way.

Benefits to deceased's families should not end with the bulk payment that is presently the case. What about sponsorships for one or two dependents. This way the armed forces can hope to recruit more willing Nigerians. In spite of the economic down turn, only the ignorant ones and of course children of officers join the forces. And those who do, only aspire to the spoils of successful coups.

Availability of medical facilities to disabled soldiers is another way the authority can help alleviate the sufferings of war veterans. So long as there are strong nations, so would a country like Nigeria continue to have an armed forces. Soldiers are manufactured not in factories, they are Nigerians. Those saddled with the unpalatable duty of defending the country should not be a disgruntled lot.

The Nigeria Legion is an organisation that sprouted with good intentions for its members. Government can get involved directly. After all the present leadership is military. If war veterans are neglected now in a military dispensation, what will happen in a civilian regime?

By Tony Inwalele

The Gulf in Crisis

The Gulf war enters its second week and the world is no more certain of the end and consequences of the great conflict than it was on August 2, 1990.

On January 16, the world woke up to be greeted by the news that the 28-nation US-led Multinational forces had launched their first attack on Iraq. The United Nations Organisation had previously passed a resolution mandating the use of force to make Iraq withdraw from Kuwait by the 15th of January deadline. That United Nations' deadline for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait expired at 5 am on the 16th of January 1991. And at 1 am Nigerian time, the move for the annihilation of Iraq began with bombardment by about 100 Allied Cruise Missiles and 18,000 tons of bombs in the first few hours involving 1,300 aircrafts.

The power of this attack, according to the British News Agency was about one and a half times the power of the Atomic bomb dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima during the Second World War in 1945, and twice as much as the combined forces of air raids over the German city of Dresden during the same war.

The war machines employed are some of the latest awesome machinery ever assembled and equipped with the most sophisticated electronic gadgetry ever used in a single battle.

Since then, the allied forces have been carrying out these aerial raids on the cities of Iraq on a regular daily basis. They have rained hundreds of thousands of tons of explosives from their awesome collection of arsenals on strategic targets in Iraq. These targets include The Baghdad Central Railway Station, the Baghdad International Airport, its television and radio stations, the Central Communication building, Council of Ministers building, major highways and some military targets. Those military targets reportedly affected by these incessant bombardments are the Iraqi nuclear, chemical

and biological weapons facilities, its air bases, defence headquarters, and its Scud missile batteries in Western Iraq. Because of the superior fire-power of



Saddam Hussein of Iraq



George Bush of USA



King Fahd of Saudi Arabia

the allied forces and their constant sorties which include the use of low altitude, night flying Tornados GR-1 fighter bombers which have been dropping dozens of the dreaded JP 233 airfield bombs on Iraq, it had seemingly recorded series of successes and losses which have been controversial.

But just when the Allied forces thought they had incapacitated the war machines of Iraq, the Arab nation reciprocated and changed the nature of the war which was hitherto thought an easy war with victory for the Multinational forces assured. Though Iraq's missile bases have been allegedly significantly destroyed, it was able to use its mobile pads to launch a number of its Scud Missiles at Israel just as Iraqi leader, President Saddam Hussein had promised before the commencement of the war. The SCUD missiles, carrying conventional war heads, hit the Israeli cities of Tel-Aviv and Haifa resulting in some destruction of life and property. Other missiles were launched at the Saudi cities of Dhahran and Riyadh, though, they were successfully intercepted by the American Patriot anti-missile - but one of them hit a Japanese oil refinery.

The Iraqi Missile attack on Israel created an unanticipated anxiety on the side of the Allied forces because of what might happen to the alliance in case of an Israeli retaliation. Israeli retaliation, it was feared, might turn the war into an Arab-Israeli conflict. And to prevent this from happening, the relationship between the United States and Israel was further cemented when the Israelis agreed to put their security under America. A lot of America's wonder missile - the Patriot, were immediately shipped and stationed in Israel to help prevent further Iraqi Missiles from hitting targets in Israel.

Since the Iraqi missile strike on Israel and Saudi Arabia, the allied forces have intensified their aerial bombardment of Iraq in order to seek and destroy as much of its mobile missile sites, so as to limit its capability to strike at any further targets.

The Iraqi strongman has so far remained undaunted by the intensified

War without Warrant

In a manner resembling the genesis of the first world war that took off rather casually in the then obscure region that today answers the name Yugoslavia, the Iraq-US Allied war or, better still Saddam-Bush war, threatens to consume the whole globe. August 2, 1990, bully big brother Saddam Hussein deprived Kuwait of her right to self determination. The United States of America got miffed. Partly for economic consideration and partly to forestall the emergence of an Arab-based super-power that could pose threat to America's self-appointed position of global police officer, its government smartly courted United Nation's mandate for its course. The result was the hastily handed down ultimatum that gave the world little or no time to explore all possible peaceful alternatives to the war.

A clear understanding of the Gulf Crisis requires going into the history of the UNO, the Middle East itself and USA Oil is money and the greatest percentage of it is located in the Gulf. The United States of America would stop at nothing to protect any oil-rich state that makes available to it the essential commodity at a cheaper rate, be such nation located in the Gulf, the Sahara desert or the forest region. This was or is the safety valve that keeps Kuwaiti-American friendship going.

The UNO on its part is the prostitute that falls head-long for the smartest and

bombardment of Baghdad and Kuwait by allied forces, and continues to taunt them by pronouncements after pronouncements over Baghdad Radio that much of the victories claimed by the Multinational forces were false and that Iraq remains as strong as ever. He was reported to have said that "this will not be a picnic war for the Americans". This is perhaps a strategy to stretch the allied forces to their limits, while conserving his own forces for a deadly strike at the right time. He further claimed that much of Iraqi fire power is still intact. It

the highest bidder. Dr. Enwere Dike of the Department of Economics, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria was of the view that although Saddam Hussein could be faulted for invading Kuwait but he certainly had a point when he claimed he would not comply with UNO's quit order. After all Israel invaded South



Man at war with himself.

Lebanon, the West Bank and other places without the slightest respect for UNO's resolutions the most celebrated of which were nos. 242 and 328 passed in respect of the Palestinians' home land. United States went for Panama, plucked its popular ruler to be tried on U.S soil. Granada, Libya and Nicaragua live to nurse wounds inflicted by the global policeman.

The motive of the US-led allied forces is purely economic. The situation would have been different if Kuwait had

was also reported that Iraq outline what will determine its use of chemical weapon which it considers as its ultimate ace, if allied ground forces should invade its territory.

To show the rest of the world that he is really a hard nut to crack, Saddam, launched another missile attack on Israel. In this second SCUD missile attack which also carried conventional war heads, the cities of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv and some other parts of Israel recorded considerable devastation. Here again, Israel was restrained from

merely been a banana producing country. The allied forces are not representing the collective will of all the member-nations of the UNO. The two key forces are the USA and Britain. Syria's participation on the side of the allied forces, in the don's opinion, is simply to spite Iraq. Egypt, on the other hand, is paying back favour done it by the US and a calculated attempt at courting more.

If leaders concerned have been less

selfish, a round table diplomatic jaw-jaw would have averted the war but Israel, the lecturer opined, is scared stiff by the mere thought of diplomacy in ending the crisis, since that would mean relinquishing the already annexed Golan Heights, West Bank and East Jerusalem among others.

Ironically, the two principal characters in the imbroglio are heroes. Saddam is so within the context of Arab-Palestinian Liberation. He is the emerging Nasser. Bush's heroism lies within the context of world policing- the powerful and obedient sibling of the UNO.

However, the impending global catastrophe, if it ever comes to be, is not going to leave the world the same way it had met it. It would bring in its wake, the reconstruction of the world geography.

retaliating in order not to change the course of the war.

By this second attack, it was believed among analysts of the Gulf war that President Saddam Hussein is playing a game to draw Israel into the war in order to break the alliance of the Multinational forces, and cause the Arabs to fight on his side.

Iraq also warned Turkey that it might be forced to hit it if it does not stop allowing its territory to be used as a base by Allied forces to launch attacks at Iraq. The Turkish government however

GULF WAR

And at the end, man, the ultimate architect of his misfortune would not be the same anymore. The big powers who think their birthright is to make others perpetually subservient should thread softly on this sloppy; slippery terrain.

Without really attempting to hold brief for Saddam, one should be fair in his judgment of the issue. Baghdad had a right to call the bluff of United States which came, not to hand the olive branch but to aggravate a sufficiently chaotic scene. Little wonder then that Iraq concludes that even withdrawal from Kuwait does not necessarily mean its safety from America that has amassed forces against it.

America's misadventure, in the opinion of Dr. Ejembi A. Unobe, an expert in political science and international relations at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria can be seen in the light of its (America's) deployment of forces to the Gulf even before United Nations' resolution mandating the use of force against Iraq. The UNO then seems to be protecting American interests in the Gulf. Otherwise, how does one comprehend announcements from both London and Washington that Britons and Americans the world over should be on their guard and avoid predominantly Muslim regions including a so-called "northern Nigeria". The question now is whether the war is theirs alone or one sanctioned by the UNO, a world body. Dr. Ejembi opined that if Saddam succeeds in forcing Israel into the crisis then the allied forces are done for and the roads will be paved for globalisation of the crisis. Like many others Dr.

maintained its stand on the issue and claimed it would strike back if attacked by Iraq. It was claimed by analysts that Turkey made this bold stand so as to enhance the acceptance of its application into the European Economic Community, EEC.

The war now enters its second week of what promises to be a long and protracted war, the ground infantry of both Iraq and the Allied forces are engaged in a confrontation to complement the aerial bombardment thus giving the war a new dimension.

Ejembi sees Saddam as a hero because it is high time somebody put America where it belongs in the world order.

Perhaps, above all the crisis calls into scrutiny the authenticity of UNO as a world body charged with the unenviable responsibility of protecting the rights of the people of the world. The five permanent members of the Security Council seem to hold the last card in deciding the fate of the citizenry of the world. Is it not time a little democratisation of power within the UNO is required? The League of Nations fumbled and dragged the world into the second world war and the UNO is threading the



P.M. John Major of Britain

path of ensuring the third genocide.

S.A. Ekwo (Esquire), an Ahmadu Bello University Private law lecturer in an interview with *Hotline* observed that the United Nations' resolutions are devoid of enforceability hence compliance by member nations is only a matter of convention. The university teacher agreed that Iraq had contravened international law but it beats his imagination "seeing America committing the same

Unconcerned by the United States' allegations against Iraq on the contravention of the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war, Saddam continues to parade captured Allied airmen on the screen of Baghdad television. Reports had it that the paraded pilots were looking tortured and were made, under duress, to denounce the war and America's participation.

And as the war rages on, and its machines of destruction are continuously being unleashed on mankind, new events are unfolding by the hour thus

offence with additional impudence". In Ekwo's understanding, America had pulled Saudi Arabia along so as to conceal its (America's) economic motive. It is just the same economic interest that prompted Saddam to invade Kuwait.

Said Ekwo: "our sensibility should be divested of reading religions undertone into the crisis at hand. God needs nobody to fight his war for him. It is an act he can perform himself."

Efforts made to get religious bodies in Kaduna to comment were fruitless as the officers of Jama'atu Nasril Islam, the Christian Association of Nigeria and the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs would not talk on the Gulf war.

However, the position of Jama'atu Nasril Islam on the war in the Gulf is clearly stated in the communique issued 23rd December, 1990 after the meeting of the Central Executive Council held at Sokoto. According to the communique, the Western Powers simply cashed in on the conflict in the Gulf to further their selfish motive.

In his reactions the Dean Faculty of Social Sciences Federal College of Education, Kontagora Alhaji Mohammed Kudu, was of the view that US had run foul of the dictates of international law by positioning troops in a sovereign region. The West was motivated more by economic interest than by desire to liberate Kuwait". The Dean who said Saddam is almost a hero believed that linking the Palestinians problem with the war is purely a tactical attempt by Saddam to win sympathy and support of the Arabs.

By Sola Lawal

giving it a new look each day, the Allied forces were reported to have made what looked like a headway into Kuwait when in the second week of the war, it captured a Kuwaiti Island - Qurah Island, off the coast of Kuwait.

But the fact remains that the war, which is taking a new dimension, is gradually becoming a global war. And it is assumed that in no time, the whole world would have been part of it thus widening its scope and hastening Armageddon.

By Danjuma Bawa

Motors

FELICITATIONS

The Chairman/Managing Director and entire staff of **ASD Motors, Kaduna** wish to congratulate the Board of Directors, Management and entire staff of **Peugeot Automobile Nigeria Limited (PAN)** on their fifteenth year anniversary.



Alhaji Umaru Ndanusa:
Chairman, PAN



Alhaji Sani Dauda:
*Chairman/Managing Director,
ASD Motors*



Mr. P. M. Fauconnier:
Managing Director, PAN

We appreciate your contributions towards providing majority of Nigerians cheap, efficient and reliable cars.

Management.
ASD Motors,
2 Block 15 Makera Road,
P.O.Box 6652,
Kaduna South, Kaduna.
Tel: (062) 214491, 232195.

Dr O. Agunloye Speaks On FRSC

On the 19th of December 1990 and on the occasion of the Federal Road Safety Commission's 2nd Consultative Assembly On Road Safety (C.A.R.S.), held at Lugard Hall, Kaduna Dr Olu Agunloye exploited the opportunity provided by the Hotline crew to bare his mind on a number of wide-ranging issues.

Hotline: How satisfied is FRSC with public response as regards your programme.

Agunloye: It has been very encouraging. The public see us as a friend. They even come to our rescue whenever we run into problems on the highway... like harassment from heady drivers. There is inadequate information on our activities but we are acceptable to the public. For a body with 85% staff and budget of N20 million annually, we've not been doing badly.

Hotline: What have you got to say to insinuations that the composition of your commission does not reflect federal character.

Agunloye: Quota system is a necessary yardstick in recruiting marshals into the fold. However the current seeming lopsidedness is traceable to the manner of inception of the commission. Federal Road Safety Commission is an offshoot of the 1976 disbanded Oyo State Safety Corps which was considered then more developed than any in the country. Take-off team was drawn from Oyo State marshals and they were seconded to various states to train officers and take charge. The whole country is divided into six zones of 3-4 states, each headed by Zonal Commander. The six of them were drawn from various parts of the country. Apart from them, each state is controlled by a sector commander who should not necessarily come from the respective state. The seven departments at the Head Quarters are headed by officers from different states like Kano, Ogun, Akwa Ibom, Bendel, Ondo and so on. The development of individual sectors also relies on the support and contribution of the state government. For instance our first FRSC building is in Bauchi state due to the government's assistance.

Hotline: How would you react to suggestions that your men should carry guns for security and efficiency.

Agunloye: The marshals don't need guns. Carrying guns would rub us of the civil image, public acceptance and cooperation that we cherish so much. Apart from this, such act would open us to attacks from the armed robbers. Even though, on one occasion or the other we have met with some robbers on the run, our charge is not specifically chasing armed robbers all about; the police takes care of that.

Hotline: What is your relationship with the police like.

Agunloye: All along it has been very cordial except for some pockets of cases where lawless police officers think they are above the law and that we are usurping their power.

Hotline: What is the frequency of corruption among your men.

Agunloye: My men are not different from other Nigerians out there. All we try to do is making corruption unattractive to them by making them realise that corruption would rub the commission of the public confidence we are enjoying. But dismissal awaits any corrupt officer.

Hotline: Let us know something about the Commission's mode of operation.

Agunloye: We mostly persuade, appeal or advise motorists on the highway on the need for observing speed limit and

other highway codes. We do engage in arresting erring motorists and impounding unsafe vehicles.

Hotline: What happens after such arrest.

Agunloye: We charge them to special court allotted us in each state. These courts set aside two days a week to hear cases of road offenders. Guilty offenders are fined and the money to be paid into specified bank accounts. In default of this, they may go to jail.

Hotline: What becomes of such fines paid.

Agunloye: Fines paid through Courts are government money. It's government money and the FRSC has nothing to do with it.

Hotline: Apart from appealing to drivers what else do you do in execution of your commissions task.

Agunloye: The general public are lectured on the various aspects of road usage and safety. Such mass education incorporates information concerning observations of traffic codes, pedestrian crossing of the highways, cattle rearing and parking on highways for prayers by the road side.

Hotline: How would you assess the success of the FRSC?

Agunloye: We are essentially into social science field unlike the natural sciences where an experiment may not only be observed but repeated. At the FRSC, we are dealing with a



Dr. Agunloye with Governor A. T. Ayuba of Kaduna State.

condition of reckless motoring developed over the past thirty years. We are also dealing with bad roads and generally dilapidated vehicles. We do not expect to eradicate road accidents in a year, so we are concentrating on greater public penetration spaced over a long period of educational drive. Last year we reduced road accidents by 13% saving N1.5 billion of national resources and also manlives. We have the public mandate as demonstrated by encouragement from a wide spectrum of society. We are determined to succeed.

Hotline: What are some of your programmes in operation?

Agunloye: We are working hard to raise people's consciousness. We have introduced a new foolproof computerised driving licence scheme. We are taking over the vehicle investigation duty and introducing basic requirements. These are brake, suspension, safety devices, shock absorbers and car lighting etc. Now, motorists risk forfeiture of their driving licence and vehicles where any wrongs are detected.

ONE YEAR OF C

GROUP CAPTAIN ABUBAKAR SALIHU

(A Development Approach)

ASSUMPTION OF DUTY:

Group Captain Abubakar Salihu arrived Yola on Tuesday 3rd January, 1990 and after the usual reception, tour of establishments, Government projects, courtesy calls on traditional rulers and the handing-over ceremony, an insight into his approach to issues and development came in his maiden broadcast to the people of the State on the 5th of January, 1990.

In the address, he acknowledged that virtually every sector of the economy of Gongola State required priority attention. He however emphasized that his development blueprint would be to transform the rural areas with village communities being the central focus. To realise this dream of integrating the rural dweller into the mainstream of the development of the State, Group Captain Salihu harped on the provision of potable water, Rural health facilities, Electricity to rural areas and a pep to activities of Better Life programme as areas of immediate attention. Education was later to be added to this list when after his tour of Local Governments the Governor saw the deplorable condition of schools and himself described Education in the State as "pitiful and in shambles".

WATER: AS A KEY STONE

Group Captain Abubakar Salihu has repeated what has now become his popular maxim that "you can not deny even an enemy water let alone a brethren so to provide water to citizens must be seen as a basic and natural phenomenon".

First, to attract his attention was the very erratic and inadequate supply of water in Yola the State Capital. It is an irony that Gongola State — traversed with numerous rivers, streams and lakes could not provide enough potable water for its citizens, not even in the State Capital. The Governor had reiterated that water supply formed one of the strongest commitments of the Military regime through, which both health care-delivery and the people's living standards could be enhanced. It is in fact a legacy Group Captain Abubakar Salihu would like to bequeath at the end of his tenure.

It was therefore no surprise that the very first assessment tour embarked upon by the Governor in the State Capital was to the Jimeta Water Treatment Plant. What he saw

during the tour culminated in the formation of a Water and Sewerage Board. The Governor's Office had earlier appointed an Administrator, thus scrapping the old Water and Sewerage Utilities Board. From the start of his assumption of duty, the focus was on improvement in the water supply in Yola and Jimeta municipalities. This has been realised with the installation of overhead tanks, high and low pressure chemical pumps.

When the water Agency was set up with Alhaji H. T. M. (Major General) as its Sole Director, Group Captain Abubakar Salihu's contribution bearing was to be felt in the State ever before since the formation of the State. Apart from National Government assisted Water projects, Group Captain Salihu's water projects as part of the Government's effort to improve the Governor had provided 100 million naira in the past year for the provision of water, improvement in the procurement of spare parts for the Water Agency.



BIODATA: Born in Arewa Dandi Local Government, Sokoto State, Group Captain Salihu joined the Nigerian Army in 1964 and was commissioned as a Major in 1971. He attended the National Defence College, Local and International courses. His assignments include the Nigeria

SUPPLEMENT ON GONGOLA STATE

funds to several rural communities and installations visited either through the Water Agency or DFRI. The Government also approved an agreement between the Water Agency and M/S Conrod (Nig) Ltd. for the reactivation of abandoned boreholes drilled during the Second Republic. The project costs one million, two hundred and fifty thousand, eight hundred and thirty naira, twelve kobo (N1,259,830.12). The Government also ordered 50 submersible pumps to support the exercise.

WATER & SANITATION PROGRAMMES:

During the period under review Water and Sanitation Department in an effort to achieve its objectives of providing potable water to the rural areas carried the following operations:-

- (a) Drilled 240 boreholes.
- (b) Sunk 25 ponds.
- (c) constructed 3 springs and work is on progress on one and;
- (d) constructed 10 V.I.P. (ventilated improved pit latrine).

The state Government provided N1.5 million in addition to manpower. All boreholes were constructed by direct labour.

Efforts are being made to double the production in no distant future.

After assessing the condition of the ailing Jimeta water treatment plant, Governor Salihu immediately release the sum of one hundred and sixty-nine thousand naira (N169,000.00) to the state water agency to produce directly from the United Kingdom essential spare parts for reactivation of water pumping machinery at the Jimeta treatment Plant. To boost water supply from the treatment plant to the highlevel tank for on-ward distribution to the Jimeta metropolis, seven (7) highlift water pumps were reactivated along with 2 chemical pumps.

Similarly, to boost supply from source (intake), four (4) low-lift pumps were reactivated; and these when added to the number

of pumps providing skeletal services prior to purchase of the spares, bring to seven(7) the number of active pumps at the low-lift pumping level.

As a mark of concern for residents of the state's housing estate at Bekaji comprising of mainly of civil servants, Governor Salihu directed that two

(2) boreholes be drilled in the estate to ease the perennial water problem at the estate. One of the boreholes has already been drilled by the state's water organisation in consistency with government's direct labour policy. This first borehole was found to have reasonable yield, and from all indications it is helping in alleviating problems hitherto faced by residents of the housing estate. Arrangements have been completed to commence drilling of the second borehole after drilling a borehole at Upper Karewa.

The sum of one hundred and seventy thousand naira (N170,000.00) was expended on drilling of the first borehole.

The Governor's attention in respect of ensuring adequate water supply is not confined to the state capital alone, but extends to major towns in the state facing water problems. At Ibi water treatment plant, a new HLP Cummins Engine has been installed and another had been ordered for following a complete breakdown of the former engines used.

The new Cummins engines and overhauling of the old Cummins will cost Six hundred and Sixty-two thousand naira N663,000) Ganye water supply had been in shambles before the inception of Governor Salihu's administration. With the coming of the Governor, efforts were sustained at resuscitating the water supply system in the area. All the dilapidated plants have been over-



Governor Salihu operating a hand pump

hauled, and a 15 Kilowatt submersible pump was procured and installed. Likewise, a new monolift STI lister prime over was purchased and installed at water works. The sum of three hundred thousand naira (N300,000.00) was expended by Govern-

RURAL WATER SUPPLY

ment on putting the water works to working order. Marked improvement has since been realised in terms of the water supply situation to Ganye town and environs as a result of these works.

In consistency with the present Federal Military administration's commitment in ensuring that essential amenities reach rural communities with a view to visibly improve the respective standards of living of the citizenry, Governor Salihu released money for restoration of water supply to various communities/Communal institutions. Some of these beneficiaries include; improvement of water distribution network at Michika (N100,000.00 released), water supply to GSS, Bali etcetera. As a deliberate effort to ensure improved water supply in all rural Communities in the state Governor Abubakar Salihu, approved for the state water organisation to enter into agreement with a contractor M/S CONRED(LTD) for the reactivation of some abandoned boreholes drilled by the company in various communities state-wide hitherto unpaid at a total cost of One million, two hundred and fifty-nine thousand, eight hundred and thirty naira twelve kobo (N1,259,830.12).

MAINTEN. OF WATER SERVICES:

In adherence to the laudable maintenance culture policy of the present military administration, encouragement has continued to come to the state water Department in supporting efforts towards maintenance of existing water supply facilities. These facilities include; Fourteen (14) urban water supply schemes, Sixteen (16) Semi-urban, and nineteen (19) village/rural schemes which include ninety-nine (99) boreholes. Spares of various shapes and sizes are being considered for order by the state government at an estimated cost of two-million, Six-hundred and thirty-two thousand, eight hundred and thirty naira (N2,632,830) to boost existing operation of water services in Gongola. Water treatment chemical (Alum) worth N108,000.00) has been ordered for.



The Governor inspecting a borehole at Michika General Hospital

SUPPLEMENT ON GONGOLA STATE

Gongola State Executive Council



Adaji Mahmoma Hamid
Commissioner, Information & Culture



Alhaji Shua'ibu Gird
Commissioner of Finance



Alhaji Saidu Mallki
Commissioner, Works & Transport



Alhaji Modibo Ciroma
Commissioner of Agriculture



Alhaji Yusuf Aliyu
Commissioner of Justice & Attorney General



Mrs. Zainab Abubakar
Commissioner of Health



Mr. Henry Niyo
Commissioner, Commerce & Industry



Mr. Emmanuel Bovoa
Commissioner of Education



Mrs. Celestine Daudu
Commissioner, Social Development, Youth & Sports



Mr. Amama Riki
Commissioner, Land and Survey



Alhaji Mohammed Tanko
Sole Administrator, Gongola Water.

INTERNATIONAL WATER REHABILITATION FUND PROJECT

The National Water Rehabilitation Fund Project is a World Bank assisted project which aims to cater for the rehabilitation of existing water supply facilities in the state. The project is supported by a loan under federal government guarantee for rehabilitation amounting to ten million, sixteen thousand dollars (\$10,016,000) plus estimated works to cost two million six hundred and forty-five thousand dollars (\$2,645,000). Seven (7) towns in Gongola State fall under the priority water schemes to be rehabilitated, namely, Jimeta, Yola, Takum, Gembu, Mayo-Belwa, Numan and Guyuk.

PLANNED PROJECTS:

During his one year in office Governor

Abubakar Salihu's vigorous drive at the provide water to all parts of the State, said the State Governments engagement of both local and foreign participation in water supply programmes in Gongola State 1/2 projects being covered include the Greater Yola Water Supply programmes consisting of an Internal Loan component of twenty-two million naira (22,000,000.00), overhauling of equipment at the Jimeta and Ibi Water Treatment Plants, production of a master plan of Water potentials of the whole State and the coverage of parts of Gongola State by the Infrastructural Development Fund Project and the National Water Rehabilitation Fund Project.

ADMINISTRATION/MOBILISATION DEPARTMENT:

This Department undertook many programmes during the period under review as follows:

(a) **Staff Training:** A total of 19 (nineteen) Senior and Junior staff were sent on various courses, seminars and workshops at total cost of N15,000.00.

(b) **Mobilization:**

(i) Over 510 Community Development Association (CDAs) were formed during the period.

(ii) In order to enhance the mobilization of the entire communities of Gongola State, 21 motor cycles were bought at a total of N329,112.00 in conjunction with the Local governments.

(iii) The Annual Rural Development Day was organised in the State capital and at

Local Government levels on the 7th of February, 1990. On this Day Rural Development Agencies reviewed what they have been able to do to the rural populace and made new pledges to improve the standard of life in the rural areas within the limited resources at their disposal. The agencies also called on the rural population to contribute effectively to the effort being made for the overall development of their areas. A number of exhibitions and demonstrations were made during the day. The Rural Development Day was organized at a cost of N120,000.00 here in the State capital only. The Local Governments handled the cost of the celebrations at their levels.

(iv) **Better Life for Rural Dwellers:** The Better Life Programme was loosely attached to DFRRRI from the period when the former



Gongola State Computer Centre commissioned by the Governor

Chairperson Mrs Isa Mohammed left in January, 1990 and April when Mrs Abubakar Salihi took over the leadership of the programme. During this transition period:

(a) DFRRRI assisted the Better Life Programme in organizing and Financing the 2nd Lagos Better Life Fair in March, 1990, at cost of N358,738.00.

(b) DFRRRI also assisted Better Life Programme by building a market stall at Koma at cost of N40,000.00.

(c) DFRRRI contributed the sum of N100,000 towards building the motherless babies home opposite Federal Secretariat.

(v) **Publications and Posters:** In order to feed the public with the much needed information on DFRRRI activities and to draw their attention to the benefits accruing from our programmes, hand books and posters are being printed at total cost of N400,000.00.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

Rural Feeder Road Phase II: The Phase II Rural Feeder Roads started in 1989 during the last quarter, and about 60% of it was completed and inspected by a Presidential Inspection Team in July, 1990. A target of 1,728 Kilometres of rural roads was as-

signed to Gongola State, out of which a total 1,213 Kilometres were inspected and accepted by the Federal Government. Accepted by the Federal Government. Completed other 400 Kilometres have been completed by the end of November, 1990. This was achieved at a total cost of N12,000.00. The State Government contributed manpower and machinery.

There are some special road Projects that are being handled through DFRRRI.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION:

This Directorate during the period under review completed Serti and Imbru/Nghal-rural electrification in Gashaka and Numan Local Government Areas respectively. Lissam and rafin Kada electrification projects have reached 98% and 80% completion respectively. These projects are completed in Takum and Wukari Local Govern-

ment Areas in that order; and they will all be completed by end of December, 1990. The Federal DFRRRI contributed the sum of N2.5 million towards the projects while the State Government contributed manpower and materials. The State Government also gave financial backing of N1.83 million for the

completion of the projects.

RURAL HOUSING PROGRAMME:

Under this Programme a block of student's hostel has been completed at Jalingo College of Agriculture at the cost of N100,000.00.

Adequate raw materials have been identified for production of local building materials in Gombi, Mubi, Zing, Song and Hong LGAs. Efforts are being made to develop them.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME:

There has been no much Agricultural activities during the period under consideration due to lack of funds. No money came from the DFRRRI Headquarters neither was there anything released by the state government. However, the Agric Department was able to maintain the existing 11 tree crop nurseries and five palm oil seedling nurseries across the state. In addition to these, Rabbit multiplication centre at Numan, Goat multiplication centre at Demsa, Sheep multiplication centre at Gombi and Fish hatchery at Yola were maintained at cost of N118,422.00.

In the area of tree crops, and root stocks at total of 136,638 fruits tree seedlings and

roots stocks were produced and distributed to farmers. The sum of N97,259.00 was realised from the sells of the seedlings.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROSPECTS OF THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

(JANUARY — DECEMBER 1990)

Since the assumption of office by Group Captain Abubakar Salihi as the military Governor of Gongola State a year ago, the emphasis has been on the completion of priority projects in the State which were either abandoned or suspended as a result of lack of funds coupled with other obnoxious-logic problems.

CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION: ROAD CONSTRUCTION:

Major among the roads under construction are:

(i) Lafia — Karim Lamido Road: — Work on this project was suspended for lack of fund prior to the assumption of office by the incumbent Governor. However, funds was made available during the year under review and the liabilities of N4,000,000.00 on the project was liquidated. Another sum of N15 million was released to the contractor M/ S.A.E.A. (Nig) Ltd to clear all further accumulated debts, re-mobilise and pursue to completion. Still on the Karim Lamido — Lafia Project, its consultants M/S A.E.A. were paid their outstanding bill up to November, 1990 of N429,000.00

(ii) Yola Dual Carriageway: This project was at 45% completion when the present military governor came to office. Additional work which include the new Numan Round-About and extension to Numan Bypass is measured at 90% stage of completion as all the culverts are already completed. The liabilities of N3.4 million on the project have been fully liquidated and subsequent certificates of Valuation settled regularly.

(iii) Ganye — Jada Road: The dangerous washout that threatened a major bridge at Mbulo received the prompt attention of the government for release of fund and prompt repairs.

(iv) Yola International Hotel and Song Comprehensive Health Centre: A parking lot for Yola International Hotel and also roads and drainages for Song Comprehensive Health Centre were embarked upon and completed within the period at the cost of N46,500.00 and N43,000.00 respectively.

(v) Mubi Township Roads: The sum of N637,000.00 has now been paid out to ARC Construction Company to settle its long outstanding liabilities on Mubi Township Road, construction and the balance of

SUPPLEMENT ON GONGOLA STATE

N300,000.00 is scheduled for payment in January, 1991.

(vi) Yola Airport:- Plans are underway to install a VOR landing equipment at the Yola Airport in order to facilitate the easy landing take-off of Aircrafts especially during bad weather period. To this end, the sum of N170,000.00 has been made available to build and equip the VOR. Work is already in progress on the project which is being executed through Direct Labour. Already, a Generating Plant has been purchased. This work is expected to be completed during the first quarter of 1991.

BUILDING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION:

(i) New Government House:- Assessment report that progress of work so far attained is 99% stage of completion. As at November, 1990, the total amount certified as payment of liabilities to the Contractor was N3,609.72.

(ii) State Secretariat:- On assumption into office, Governor Abubakar Salihu pursued this project and work on the two blocks earmarked are at 90% stage of completion.

(i) The layout of the Transformer Room was re-designed with new electrical fittings. Work is 95% completed only awaiting connection to the main Transformer. All fixers have been completed. While work is going on the external painting.

(ii) The idea of control sewage system which has not been very effective anywhere in this country is modernised and changed to "pump-to-discharge" system which is easy to control and maintain.

The project has now attained 90% with regard to blocks 1/1 and 3/1 earmarked for completion by the end of December, 1990.

(iii) Yola Modern Abattoir: Tremendous achievement was made on the Yola Modern Abattoir.

(iv) Political Party Offices:- By the end of November, 1990, 2 No. Political Party Secretariats in twelve (12) Local government Areas each have been officially handed over to the Ministry of Works and Transport. The Local Government Areas are Jalingo, Ganye, Wukari, Mubi, Song, Michika, Numan, Zing, Yola, Gombi, Bali, Takum, Mayo Belwa, Hong and Maiha attained practical completion stage but due to minor discrepancies are being rectified. However, four (4) Local Government Areas namely, Yarro, Gashaka, Karim Lamido and Fufere are yet to attain practical completion. Assessment of the situation in these areas reveal that all materials and labour required have been mobilised to site.

(v) Malamre Senior Staff Quarters:- This Administration within the year under review took a bold step towards revocation and re-awarding of contract for the construction of 60 No. Residential Quarters at Malamre. at the contract sum of N1,182,271.50 in 1981 and the end of 1986 only 43 were completed, leaving 17 uncompleted. Since then, all effort to get the contractors complete the uncompleted buildings proved abortive. Government was therefore compelled to revoke the contract and reawarded same to 17 No. Contractors to complete them and progress.

(vi) Gongola Guest House Kaduna:- Work on this project which dragged for so long was taken up seriously by Governor Abubakar Salihu within this one year. For much delay and changes in prices of building items, the contract was revised in 30th May, 1990 from N986,519.85 to N2,230,657.44.

(vii) Renovation of 8 No. Gongola State Landed Properties in Kaduna: Contract worth N1.46 Million has been awarded to various contractors for the fencing and renovation of these properties. This step is necessary to provide Security and to avoid encroachment on the State Government's Landed property at Kaduna. Work is progressing steadily and stage of completion is 45%.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE DIVISION:

In order to practicalise the present administration's emphasis on Maintenance culture, funds were released to this Division within the one year of Group Captain Abubakar Salihu's one year in office. The achievements can be rationalised in sections as below:

(i) General Repairs/Renovation of Government Residential Quarters:

The sum of N1,143,269.45 has been expended on the repairs and renovation of Residential Staff Quarters, Offices and Staff Development Institute Numan. Such repairs and renovation is on a continuous process as the problem develops from time to time. These repairs covered 112 quarters.

(ii) Commissioners' Quarters: During the year, the Government has made available the sum of N491,365.40 for the renovation of 9 No. Commissioners' Quarters. Work is



The Governor inspecting the layout of Federal Housing Unit

currently going as expected.

(iii) Lamido's Palace: The Division was engaged in the completion of two New Reception Lounges and general renovation for the existing facilities in the Lamido's palace. The total sum of N185,000.00 was expended on the exercise.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DIVISION:

(i) On assumption of office as the Military Governor of Gongola State, Group Captain Abubakar Salihu directed the reactivation and standardisation of the State Mechanical Workshop to include the responsibility of Maintenance and fuelling of all Government Vehicles. Since then, the Workshop has been rendering skeletal services. Within this period, the Workshop has been able to repair and maintain 427 vehicles. It also succeeded in pouring 218,500 litres of diesel and petrol at the total cost of N129,340.20.

(ii) Vehicle Inspection Unit: With the introduction of the new National Drivers Licence, the Unit has so far processed 3,920 Driving Licences as renewal and issued 9,650 road Worthiness Certificates. There were 289 reported cases of road accidents with 112 death and 252 injuries. The total of N11,104.00 was realised as revenue by the Unit during the year.

ELECTRICAL DIVISION:

(i) This Division is responsible for the general maintenance and supply of electricity to the rural populace. In this direction therefore, the division has continued to operate and maintain Nineteen (19 No.) Isolated Diesel Power Stations all over the State. During the year, the electricity project in Serti Town was completed and connected to the Army Plant. The Ministry continues with its supply of fuel to that Station.

(ii) The supply of electricity to Mayo Belwa Comprehensive Health Centre has continued to receive the attention of the government. The overhauling of the Gasket Kit and a battery charger were made for the upkeep of the 117KVA Lister Generator Set at the

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cost of N3,800.00. With the release of N119,964.00, the centre has been connected to the Rural Electrification Power Line and a Lister Standby generating plant has also been installed during the year.

(iii) Local Government Headquarters (LGHQ) Projects was vigorously pursued by the Government for the Federal Government to link all the Local Government Headquarters with the National Grid. In this direction, Nine (9) Project Units whose contracts were revoked during the second quarters of the year were re-awarded by the Federal Government. Four (4) other Local Government Headquarters have been added to the phase 1 project. These towns include:

- (a) Jada - Gnaye Inter Township connection.
- (b) Mararaba - Kunini - Lau Intertownship connection.
- (c) Zing - Jalingo Intertownship connection.

The contractors have since mobilised materials on site.

(iv) The Government has also waded into the electrification of the following towns being handled by DFREI:-

- (a) Electrification of Lissam (Takum Local Government Area), Work has attained 85% completion.
- (b) Electrification of Rafin Kada (Wukari Local Government Area), Work has attained 85% completion.
- (c) Electrification of Imburu-Ngalang (Numan Local Government Area), Work has attained 85% completion.

(v) New Government House: A new 505 KVA Rolls Royce Stand-By Generator Set was supplied and installed at the New Government House.

(vi) Air Conditioning: A total of 161 No. of Air Conditioners consisting of 70 No. Window types and 91 No. Split window types were supplied and installed in the New Government House by the Hamz International (Nig) Limited. The company has been fully paid.

(vii) Old Government House (J.12): With the increase in load due to additional structures the 89KVA Lister Standby Generator Set for the Government House could no longer serve its purpose. It was replaced with a brand New 175KVA Rolls Royce set.

GONGOLA STATE URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (GSUPDA):

(a) Housing and Office Accommodation: To reduce the problem of shortage of office accommodation being faced by the Authority particularly at the Zonal Offices, the Au-

thority embarked and completed the construction of its Wukari Zonal Office within the first quarters of the year at the cost of N198,974.56. Electrical work on the office was completed at the cost of N40,000.00. Two duplex blocks of houses were also completed at Song by Direct Labour at the cost of N59,648.00.

(b) The Authority also completed the construction of a fence and gate house at its Headquarters in Yola by Direct Labour at the cost of N50,000.00.

(c) The Authority spent over N101,575.00 on the maintenance of its houses, at Bekaji and the Local Governments and to comply with the policy of better accommodation for citizens of this Country the Military Governor, Group Captain Abubakar Salihu pursued and achieved the taking-over of the abandoned Bajabure Federal Housing Estate.

(e) Community Health:

(i) Working in collaboration with the Task Force Committee on Environmental Sanitation, the Health Division of the Authority within the period under review collected and disposed of a total of 19,539 metric tonnes of refuse within the State Capital alone.

(ii) 11,864 Residential houses and 4,093 business premises were inspected by the Authority's Health Workers.

(iii) The Health division realised about N14,670.00 as revenue within the year for the provision of Services like the approval of building plans, issuance of food permits and vector control services.

(f) Township Roads:

(i) During the period under review, an area of 3,200 square metres of asphaltic concrete roads were repaired while another 4,711 square metres of damaged portions on surface roads including the one leading to Army Barracks, Ahmadu Bello Way, Police Round-about and others within the State Capital were repaired.

(ii) Similarly, 6,730 metres length of laterite roads were rehabilitated at areas like Federal Government Girls College, Karewa Extension, Jambutu, Malame and others.

(g) Street Lights: The Authority continues with the maintenance of all street lights in the State Capital and those broken down are reactivated.

(h) Engineering: (i) Vehicles and Plants - In order to perform its functions effectively,

Group Captain Abubakar Salihu released some N300,000.00 for repairs and reactivation of all broken down vehicles of the Authority. Among them are the reactivation of the Authority's Grader at the cost of N54,000.00, repairs of two of its tippers at N69,000.00, Toyota Bus N38,000.00 and Fiat Truck N20,000.00.

(ii) Drainage: - In order to ensure free flow of liquid waste and check flooding in the State Capital, the Authority embarked on the construction of a number of culverts and ditches; a total of 10 culverts were constructed at places like Jambutu, Malame Quarters, Karewa G.R.A. and in front of the Headquarters of the Authority at a cost of about N45,000.00.

(iii) Uncompleted Projects - At the Jimeta New Cemetery an additional 10 hectares of land were cleared within the year bringing the total area so far cleared to 50 hectares. Earthworks on Zungem and Dougirei G.R.A have reached 70% stage of completion.

(iv) Other Achievements: The Authority generated over N593,496 as revenue within the year. The town planning division of the Authority approved 437 building permits and has completed the base Map for Urban renewal in Girei. The Authority also worked out a new arrangement with willing members of the public aimed at providing permanent and modern cornershops in strategic positions in the state capital.

Gongola Infrastructural Development Fund (IDF) Project:



The Governor commissioning the new Fire Service Station in Gondokoro

i) Project Implementation Unit - This Unit is responsible for the implementation of the Civil works i.e roads, drainages and solid waste management including improvement of water supply in high density areas of our townships as follows:

ii) Improvement of Water Supply - Within the year, the Consultants, evaluation of the contractors submission, along with the negotiating tender was accordingly sent to the World Bank for review. The approval for the award of the contract during the year was re-

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ceived.

(iii) Roads, Drainages and Solid Waste Management.

During the year, the bid document which were submitted by consultants were collected by the prequalified contractors and manufacturers/suppliers. The draft Terms of Reference was also submitted for super-
vision in respect of the Civil Works and the same has been reviewed.

(iv) Rating and Valuation Unit- Following



Governor Salihu inspecting some exhibitions by the state DFRR

the take off the seven Zonal Offices in the Project towns and posting of both Senior and Junior Staff 330 proposals and objections were registered and treated accordingly. The compilation of the final valuation List is currently being carried out by the Consultants. Also, arrangements have been completed to design and procure the receipts booklets and documents to ensure effective computerisation.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE: ACTIVITIES IN 1990

From the inception of the military Governor's tenure of office one year ago, the Ministry of Agriculture felt a revitalization in its activities and institutional developments and policy which brought about increase in food production in the state. Such activities included the following:-

LIVESTOCK SERVICES DIVISION

Following the release of the sum of N30,000 to the ministry, the Gwagum grazing reserve in Guyuk Local Government Area was re-surveyed and demarcated. This exercise has contributed in great measure in settling the persistent disputes between the cattle rearers and the farmers in the area. Other areas that were surveyed and demarcated during his period included the Koko and Laguma grazing reserves in Zing Local Government Areas. In addition, Livestock population census and forage reconnaissance survey as being carried out at Guyaku and Mayo-Kam grazing reserves in preparation for the settlement of Nomadic cattle rearers in the state. This is being done in

conjunction with the National Livestock Production division (NLPD) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture.

The period also saw the general reactivation and the renovation of the poultry farm in Yola. The main office block and the poultry houses were also completed. The generator plant was repaired and put into use. With the general renovation of the poultry farm, the Division recorded 35,728 No. eggs production which were sold to the public thereby

generating a revenue of
N24,392.00

IRRIGATION SERVICES DIVISION

For the first time since the inception of the programme in the state, 1450 Units of 2" / 3" portable water pumps worth N8.2 million were ordered and when received in two weeks time, they will be distributed to peasant farmers to further boost the programme.

The division under this period compiled and analysed River water levels for water resources development in the state. It is hoped that a hydrological year book will be produced when all data have been collected.

This exercise is done for proper land-use planning. Under the period, soil and water analysis were carried out in conjunction with the Upper Benue River Basin Development Authority. Over 30 organisations and individuals have so far benefited from the exercise.

Building maintenance received attention as the Ministry's buildings were renovated making them fit for habitation. Over N50,000 have so far been expended under this programme during the period.

FORESTRY DIVISION

In the effort to curb desertification in the state, 1.5m seedlings of assorted species were raised in nurseries located in all Local Government Areas. Seedling were distributed to the public for successful Tree Planting in desert and erosion prone Local Government Areas of Michika, Maiha, Hong, Gombi, Song, Guyuk and Sardeama. Over 110 hectares of tree plantations were established and fencing of the plantations to protect them from animal damage is in progress. The Cottage Industry was patronised by many individuals and organisations for whom different kinds of furniture were made. Wildlife Unit, an arm of the Forestry Division, has four (4) projects under its care. These are:

Guntii Game Reserve Development

This is the largest project and of top priority. Little progress was made during the past one year on the development of this unmarked potential Game Reserve due to lack of funds. However, requests for funds have been sent to International organisations and governments for assistance.

Development of other game reserves

These (apart from No. 1 above) are Kambari, Kashimbilla and Ibi Game Reserves. Intensive protection was carried out in all the game reserves to protect the game from poachers.

Development of zoos

The concrete wall fencing of the zoo and the provision of pipe borne water to all the existing cages for the animals which were demanded as the priorities of the zoo at moment are still lacking.

Wildlife Management and control.

This project is concerned with the management protection and control of wild animals in and outside the game reserves statewide. Extension services were embarked upon by game staff to enlighten the general populace about the advantages of Wildlife.

In the Fisheries sector:

- 100 copies of Fisheries Regulations gazette were printed at the cost of eight hundred and ten naira (N810.00)
- 4.5 tonnes of assorted fish feeds were purchased by the section valued at the sum of eight thousand seven hundred Naira (N8,700.00).
- Reactivation of seven (7) broken down outboard engines, two (2) old dug out canoes, one (1) new dug out canoe all at the cost of N29,000.00 which was released to the section by the Ministry of Finance.
- About 581 Fishermen were issued with fishing licence while the sum of N26,457.00 was realized as revenue from the issuance of the licence.

The sum of N104,388.80 was realized as revenue during the period of report of report.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION:

As part of the Division's efforts to reduce the menace of field crop pests during the outgoing year, about 5,865 litres of assorted chemicals was used for the control of grasshoppers, army worm locusts, cotton leaf rollers etc. Similarly, about 4,475 litres of fenthrin and queleatob was used for the actual control of the endemic quelea birds and locust outbreaks in Numan and Guyuk, respectively. A total of 80 flight hours was used for the aerial control operation with about 60% kill recorded.

No seed Multiplication was carried out during the year due to lack of funds. About 54.8

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metric tones of assorted improved seeds worth about N180,000.00 was however, procured from the National seed service, Jos and Zaria and were distributed to farmers in all the Local Government Areas of the State. Our proposal for Tree Crop development could not be carried out for lack of funds. Remarkable achievement has, however, been made in vegetable production at the Jimeta Vegetable garden. Total allocation made for Vegetable Production was N2,500.00. A total of N3,381.50 was realized as revenue from the sale of different Vegetables and fruits.

The Division has been able to recover about 82% of the N500,000.00 loan secured from the Highland Bank in 1989 for on-lending to Civil Servants.

MECHANICAL SERVICES DIVISION

One of the major problems identified is lack of adequate source of power to carry out farm operations such as field cultivation, seed planting, weeding and the harvesting of farm produce. In view of the fact that both the large and small scale farmers are unable to acquire the relevant farm equipment because of their prohibitive cost, the Government has heightened the activities of the Tractor Hiring Unit of ministry of Agriculture as follows:

- (i) Purchase of 10 No. Farmwell Tractors and associated implements at a total cost of N5,407,698.75.
- (ii) Purchase of 3 unit Fiat 80.66N tractors with ploughs at the total cost of N1,188,570.00
- (iii) Purchase of 100 unit 3 disc ploughs at the total cost of N3,850,000.00
- (iv) The sum of two million, five hundred and forty three thousand naira N2,543,000.00 was expended for the purchase of sundry items such as tyres, tubes, fuel, lubricant etc. to facilitate the activities. During the period under review, veterinary division recorded 14 out-breaks of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP). This involved 1416 cattle out of which 56 died. At same period 2 outbreaks of blackquarter were recorded. These involved 106 cattle with 2 deaths. Two cases of Haemorrhagic Septicaemia were reported. This involved 167 cattle and 6 deaths. During the period preventive measures were taken against preventable diseases of livestock such as rinderpest, CBPP, black quarter, anthrax, haemorrhagic Septicaemia, rabies, paste de petite newmann, Newcastle disease and others. The vaccination figures for the period is xx 1,150,364. A total of 451034 animals were treated.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES MANAGEMENT BOARD IN 1990

The Ministry of Health is charged with the responsibility of both curative and preventive health care delivery of the entire state. The construction, furnishing and equipping of all hospitals, health centres and Clinics are carried out by the ministry of Health. Also the Ministry runs two important Medical institutions as a means of providing the essential manpower requirement for the achievement of health for all by the year 2000. These two institutions are the school of Nursing and Midwifery, Yola and the School of Health Technology Mubi.

STAFF WELFARE:

In order to get qualified manpower both the Ministry of Health and Health Services Management Board pursue continuous training programmes within the state, and in other parts of the Federation as well as abroad, for all categories of its staff.

A total sum of N192,176 was utilised for workshops, seminars and training of staff within the state.

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

The 46 projects scattered throughout the state reactivated in 1986, came to a standstill

soon after. Out of these projects two(2) comprehensive health centres namely at Song and Mayo-Belwa, as well as five (5) primary Health Centres at Rafin-Soja, Hong, Gulak, Baissa and Karim-Lamido have been completed at the end of 1990. Also completed and commissioned by the President on 3rd October, 1990 is the comprehensive Health Centre at Song.

Commissioning of two primary Health Centres at Rafin-Soja in Wukari Local Government area, Gulak in Michika Local government Area, took place on 22nd and 29th December, 1990 respectively. The state Executive council has approved the purchase of Hospital Equipment worth over N42 Million. Arrangement for the award of contracts has reached an advanced stage.

The following funds were released to the various Hospital for repairs of buildings, vehicles and general maintenance:-

- (i) Gembu General Hospital N73,000.00
- (ii) Repairs of Numan Health office (storm damage) N50,000.00
- (iii) School of Health Technology, Mubi

Health office and General Hospital N20,000.00
(iv) Bali General Hospital N20,000.00
TASK FORCE ON FAKE DRUGS: This body had gone round many Local government Areas and made some seizures of drugs sold by non-licensed chemists.

NURSING DIVISION: The construction of the permanent site of the school of Nursing and Midwifery complex in Yola is being reactivated. The building is to be completed in phases.

The state came 4th position in the Federation in the Nursing final qualifying examination for 1990, while it came 6th position in the Federation in the Midwifery final qualifying examination 1990.

PREVENTIVE DIVISION: The Division is the largest in the Ministry. It co-ordinates the activities to the field Nutrition Unit, Epidemiology unit, Leprosy control, Health Offices and Health centres.

CONTROL OF EPIDEMICS: The Ministry handled outbreaks of cere-brosplinal meningitis (CSM) at Jalingo, Ganye and Fufere Local Government Areas in February and March, 1990. In May 1990, 1,000,000 doses of CSM vaccines were ordered for and since then, an intensive vaccination campaign against CSM has been going on in most of



The Governor in one of the markets in the State

the Local Government Areas.

In July, 1990 an outbreak of bloody diarrhea from Michika and Mubi Local Government Areas was promptly brought under control by the state' Epidemiology Unit. The sum of N50,000.00 was released for the control measures.

Another outbreak of disease suspected to be Yellow fever was recorded first in Michika and subsequently in Hong Local Government Area in October, 1990. A total sum of N1,415,000.00 was promptly released by Government to control the disease. This amount was used for the purchase of vaccines, ped-o-Jets and payment of staff allowances. The total number of people vaccinated so far is 751,452 cerebrosplinal menin-



Rafin Soja Health Clinic being commissioned by Gov. Salihu

gins (CSM) and 351,750 people against yellow fever. The immunization exercise is a continuous exercise.

GUINEA WORM: A state wide active case search by the Task Force on Guinea worm revealed 338 cases, affecting a total of 61 villages in twelve (12) Local Government Areas. Also an inventory of safe and un-safe water sources in the affected villages was carried out. The state Government released the sum of N50,000.00 for health education, purchase of filters and drugs towards the control of the disease.

ESSENTIAL DRUGS PROGRAMME: Gongola State is one of the four states involved in the essential drugs programme. The over all objective of the programme is to support the federal Government of Nigeria's plan under the new National Essential drugs policy to ensure that the public has access to a sustainable supply of safe, effective and affordable drugs. Arrangements have reached an advanced stage to fully implement the programme by October, 1991.

HEALTH SERVICES MANAGEMENT BOARD:

This is a parastatal of the ministry of health. It is responsible for the running of the specialist hospital Yola, 15 general Hospitals and two comprehensive health centres in the State. From January to date 1990 a total sum of N6,609,497.00 was released by government for the purchase of drugs, dressing, laboratory reagents, ect.

Despite the limited resources, the board has been able to reactive some medical equipment such as autoclaves, sterilizer, blood banks, and other damaged hospital equipment in some Hospitals. Also Machinery for repair of damaged Hospital equipment was purchased at the cost of about N34,000.00 for the state medical stores where damaged equipment was dumped over the years while the technicians stayed idle.

There has been appreciable achievement in the area of staff development as all allowances of 19 doctors under going post-graduate training in and outside Nigeria have been

paid for 1990. Also 121 Nurses and 70 Administrative staff have been sponsored for various courses.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH AND SPORTS

This ministry is charged with the responsibilities of Social Welfare,

Community Development, Youth and Sports.

Organisation: For the effective implementation of its functions, the ministry is structured into four (4) Directorates keeping with the new civil service reforms. The four Directorates are as follows:-

- (i) Directorates of personnel and Finance
- (ii) Social Welfare Directorates
- (iii) Youth Development Directorates
- (iv) Community Development Directorate.

Capital Project: The only major capital project under the ministry is sports complex. There has been no physical progress on this project. However machinery has been put in motion to reactivate the project. It is hoped that by next year the project will have been reactivated.

Social Welfare Directorate.

The main functions of the Social Welfare Division of the Ministry of Social Development, Youth and Sports is to examine the socio-political problems that confront the children, the delinquents, disabled, family welfare and counselling including other related problems with the aim of providing lasting solutions to the problems.

During the Period under review, the sum of N62,000.00 was released for the renovation of some Remand Home complexes and vocational centres for the Blind under disrepair.

The military governor gave every encouragement to proceed with the establishment of a State asylum in Yola. Presently the site plan of the centre is being completed by Ministry of Land and Survey so as to enable Ministry of works and Transport to also complete the drawing plans for take-off of the project immediately.

Other Programmes: These services for which budgetary allocations were made include:-

- (i) The sum of N100,000 to off-set part of outstanding Remand Home Food bills owed to various contractors.
- (ii) The sum of N10,000.00 being balance for social and recreational amenities for the

Remand Homes;

(iii) The sum of N115,000.00 to provide for direct feeding and up-keep of the inmates of the 7 Remand Homes in the State.

(iv) the sum of N98,850.00 for the purchase of working materials i.e. cotton waste, (Rama) fibre, hest/whirling, etc. for the training of the handicapped such as the Blind, the cripple, etc in handicrafts in the 6 centres available in the State; and

(v) Social Welfare National Day/Weeks Celebrations such as International women's Day, Family Week and Disabled Week for which a total sum of N16,000.00 was released.

Special Programmes: Presently a total number of 21 mentally ill persons roaming the streets of the metropolis have been apprehended and confined by the Nigerian Council of Traditional Medicine Practitioners Gongola State Branch on behalf of the State government. Since the take-off of the programme in September, 1990, the State government has expended the sum of N17,000.00 to date for their up-keep. Presently a borehole is being provided at the temporary site at Kem in Guyuk Local Government Area.

Youth Development Directorate: The programmes of the Youth Division are aimed at the mobilisation of Youths so as to make them contribute effectively in National Development. Some of these programmes of activities are oriented towards the inculcation of virtues of patriotism, discipline, selfless service, honesty and good leadership. **Children and Youth Day Celebration 20th-28th May, 1990:** The objective of this year's celebration is to remind all Nigerians of their responsibility towards the well-being of young people. It is also meant to honour our children through special festivities. At the state level the celebration included visits to places of interest in and around Yola by children and Youths selected from all the Local Government areas, a football match as well as a visit to the children's Ward of Yola Specialist Hospital.

Fifty Youths also represented the state at the 3rd National Youths Festival in Ilorin Kwara State.

State/National Youth Campaign: Twenty youths participated in the National Youth Camps held in Lagos, and Jos in April and November, 1990 respectively.

Youth Employment Scheme: In an efforts to reduce unemployment among the youths and to complement the efforts of the N.D.E., thirty seven youths and youth Development officers have been trained at both the Na-

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tional workshop on "Train-The-Trainer" scheme in Ibadan and Yola respectively.

National Youth Award Scheme: This programme serves as a machinery for implementing the National Youth Policy. In November this year, the Division sent ten youths to participate in a series of qualifying activities at the citizenship and leadership Training Centre Shere Hills Jos for the Presidential and Governor's Awards.

Youth Caucus Gongola State Youth Council: Twenty-one youth Caucus Chairmen from all the Local Government Areas have been selected to form the Gongola State Youth Council (a youth body that is to meet with the State Governor (s) and Mr. President with a view to evolve probable solutions to youth problems.

Gongola State Sports Council

Established by Edict No. 3 of 1976, the Sports Council is committed to promoting, encouraging, developing, coordinating and controlling Amateur Sports in the State. The board of the council is headed by Alhaji Ibrahim O. Waziri as Chairman, four defunct members, representative of the Army, Police, NYSC, Prisons, State Ministries of Education, Justice and Social Development Youth and Sports. The Director of Sports in person of Miss Margaret Nzombato is the Executive Head of the Council with Mallam Abubakar H. Sani as the Secretary.

For effective sporting coordination in the grassroots, the State is divided into eight (8) zones:-

- (i) Yola and Fuforo forming Zone 1 with Headquarters at Yola.
- (ii) Mubi, Michika and Maiha zone with the headquarters at Mubi.
- (iii) Numan, Karim Lamido and Guyuk with the Headquarters at Numan.
- (iv) Jalingo, Yorro and Bali zone 4 with the headquarters at Jalingo.
- (v) Wukari and Takum zone V with the headquarters at Wukari.
- (vi) Ganye, Zing and Mayo-Belwa zone vi with headquarter at Ganye.
- (vii) Sardauna and Sahaka forming zone 6 with the headquarters at Gembu.
- (viii) Hong, Song and Gombi forming zone VIII with headquarters at Gombi.

There is insufficient office accommodation that staff are so crowded to the extent that some sit under trees during office hours. All the vehicles of the Council are grounded and the Council have had to charter vehicles always for any function within and outside the state however the governor approved funds for repairs of some of the broken down vehicles. The Council does not possess even

a single field of its own for any sporting event. There is no Gymnasium, Pitch, Track or camping venue for its activities. The one office accommodation in the zonal headquarters provided by the Local Governments is just unworkable.

For 1990 year, the Council launched a N40 million sports development appeal fund to contact prominent indigenes of the state and some companies to donate sporting equipment and provide facilities. Donations both in cash and kind have been received.

There are up to 20 sporting associations in the State Sports Council. Prominent ones being Athletics, Football, Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Wrestling, Judo, Boxing, Weight Lifting. Others include Taekwondo, Swimming, Gymnastic, Cycling, Squash Racket, Badminton, Chess, Polo and Cricket.

The 4th Annual Inter-Local Government Areas Primary Schools Athletics Competition was successfully organised and all the then 17 Local Government Areas participated.

Gongola State also participated in the Senior U-20 Open Athletics Championship held in Port-Harcour from 1st - 3rd May, 1990 and won one gold and Silver medals.

The State also participated in the Mobil Athletics Championship (Nigeria Track and Field) which was held in Lagos.

The State also participated in the zonal Milo Marathon Race where 3 athletes and one official represented the State. During the finals of the Milo marathon Race at Lagos, 3 athletes and one accompanying official represented the State. One of the athletes was placed 53 out of over 1,000 participants.

Gongola State also participated in two Youth Sports Federation of Nigeria (FEYSOC) National Soccer Competition i.e. Felix Egogo Memorial Cup competition for U-12 boys at Katsina-Ala 20th -28th January, 1990 and the Oba of Benin 17th -24th March, 1990. The U-12 football team of Numan represented the country in the International competition scheduled for Norway in August, 1990.

The State Division I and II football league was successfully organised by State Football Association and Amfani Babes Football Club of Wukari emerged the winners of State Division I and represented the State in

the National Soccer league preliminaries at Maiduguri centre.

The Association organised the 1st Jemeta Metropolitan Inter-Primary Schools Gymnastic Championship from 5th - 6th April, 1990. A total of seven primary schools participated.

The State participated in the Coca-Cola Table Tennis Festival held in Lagos from 18th -24th February, 1990. In the team event they qualified for quarter finals by beating Bauchi, Kano and Federal Capital Territory. The State was finally placed 6th out of 22 States including Abuja after being eliminated by Ondo State in the quarter finals.

The State also participated in the prestigious Bourmivita Open which has gone international. In the singles event Billy Opere of Gongola State beat G. Taimo a professional from West Germany and lost to the eventual champion Atanda Musa also a professional. T. Peters of Gongola won the first match and lost to No. 1 seed from Ghana 1 - 2.

In the Elephant Cement open held at Abeokuta from 6th to 9th June, 1990. The state contingent performed up to quarter-finals where they lost. Table Tennis has a bright future if they maintain and improve



The Governor receiving a gift from the Chief of Mubi, Alh. Isa Ahmadu on a visit to the area

on their current standard.

In the men's doubles Billy Opere/s. Tonolt and Theodores Peter/T. Maye both lost in the quarter finals. The State participated in the 3rd Oluyole Open Championship held at Ibadan on the 21st - 28th October 1990 and in the team event the State was placed 3rd out of 21 States and Abuja.

Two players were invited to the National Camp in preparation for the next year all African Games holding in Cairo Egypt.

Gongola State also participated in the National U-14 badminton championships held in Lagos. They were eliminated in the quarter-finals in the doubles.

The State participated in the zonal badminton championship comprising Bauchi, Borno and Gongola. It was placed 2nd out of the 3 States.

Towards A Better World

This earth is hell. To be shut off from the presence of the Creator - this I believe is the real hell. Today mankind languishes in the furnace and torment of hell under the dark cloak of materialism. This is the real hell. Man is supposed to be God's ambassador on earth, with the freewill and power to do what is creatively right. But man has prostituted his ambassadorship for transient, materialistic pursuits. Man has corrupted and exploited the earth by nations and individuals alike. Thus, within the circumference of the earth there abounds an endless chasm of human darkness, through which hell is evoked. Hell is darkness, darkness is materialism. Materialism is the absence of light. Man has lost his divinity for vain honour, inordinate pride, and indulgences for his bodily pleasure.

Man by his insatiable evil and misery has unleashed and horrified the earth with wars and warfares, tyranny, aggression, and rebellion, which are all a result of his intellectuality. Hence today, this planet is being plunged into hell, darkness and eternal suffering.

There has been no single instance in this century in which there have been respite from undue murder and agony. Never to enjoy, never to share in unity the bounty which the glorious and merciful Lord bestowed on mankind. Thus it seems mankind is saddled with a endless train of torment, without any ray of hope, nor light to irradiate his path on earth. What a horrible torment and punishment indeed. What a prison house has man created for himself. Man is hell bent today on the total destruction of his environment.

Religion which is supposed to guide, direct, and give man the light has been displaced, and misappropriated. From the past and to this day, great humanitarian ideals has been annunciated, of general disarmament, arbitration in international disputes through the agency of the United Nations and the need to charge humanity with freedom. And to secure as cheaply as possible the great

est happiness to the greatest number of people. But we have failed woefully in implementing these humanitarian ideals; and putting them into practical and effective orientation.

Thus in the light of the foregoing, it is pertinent to declare that as we progress towards the twenty first century new ways of life and living are deemed of the utmost and ultimate importance for mankind, if man is to avert total destruction and if possible extinction from the planes of this earth. But first and foremost we have to start our survival orientation from the foreground of daily living. As the new century begins to make its impact felt a universal spirit of unity must be spread abroad, unimpeded by separativeness, cleavages, rigidity and inhibitions.

When we are able to establish this fact as a reality on earth, this happy situation, a new world feeling will be aroused on a wider scope and perspective than heretofore, so we should use our heart in loving mankind, and loving God thus. Remember that only from the heart can stream forth those lines of action and intelligent activities which can link and bind us all together as one. Created and loved alike by the One.

Today the planet mother Earth is in disarray. The wild life, the oceans, seas, land, and nature reserves are being ravished, and destroyed, while pollutions, chemical and nuclear weapons are great threats to our survival. We have exploited the earth of its vast and abundance resources, yet we are not thankful:

... Lo, for the duteous is achievement of Gardens enclosed and vineyards, and maidens for companions, and a full cup.

There hear they never vain discourse nor lying. Requital from thy Lord; a gift in payment Lord of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between them. The Beneficent, with whom none can converse".

Qur'an (LXXXVIII 31-37).

In these words quoted from the Holy Quran, mankind can clearly realise that which is real and true, and those things which must perforce enhance truth both within his own life, and within humanity as a whole.

But mankind has left the earth in pain, fever and violent destruction all resulting from our ignorance. There is no where more atrocities of every type and kind is committed more than in the so-called advanced nations of the earth. Still goodwill must be fostered. Thus right human relationship must be cultivated and applied on a wider and general scale. Love has its place in the human heart and its significance cannot be over emphasised. It shall bring to fore the much cherished and symphonic principle of divine sharing and co-operation, based on a new law of international economic strategies. Thus we shall come to realise the most simple of facts: that all wealth worth having is our own individuality blending and fusing with the whole and the One. The present pervading evils of materialism, that material wealth and properties represents true wealth must be demystified, because it is false, base, nebulous and an illusion. The riches of the individual or of a nation shouldn't be accepted; assessed nor considered as the all surpassing reality, the ultimate aim and purpose of living in the world. The reality of life resides within our inner-selves. The material wealth of individuals and nations should be invested in the upliftment and education of mankind. Whilst millions are suffering from starvation, famine, mass unemployment, ill health, poor housing conditions, low standard of living, fear, drudgery, lack of good sanitation and essential commodities, vast sums of money are being spent on the non-essentials.

Mankind can however triumph and pass onwards and forwards inspite of apparent failures and the destruction of past civilisations. Yet the new civilisation of truth must come. "Points of crisis" are of proven usefulness in calling forth the power of a race, a nation or a people. And the call had gone out to mankind more than 1,400 years ago.

By H.M. Balogun



I am Not An IMF Agent - Adelana

Mr. David Adegbeji Adelana, 44, is the Chief Executive of NACB Consultancy and Finance Company Limited, a subsidiary of Nigeria Agricultural and Cooperative Bank headquartered in Kaduna. Meeting him for the first time, one gets the picture of a simple, quiet and easy-going gentleman. But, when he is engaged in discussions on Nigeria's multifarious problems particularly, as they relate to the on-going economic reforms and the banking industry (which is his speciality), the words that tumble from his mouth are as weighty as they are controversial. When he spoke to *Deputy Editor, Mohammed Momoh Otu* in his Dendo Road office on Sunday, January 13, *Senior Staff Writer, Danjuma Bawa* who was part of the interview team could not hide his admiration for Adelana's intelligence and brilliance on the way back to the office as he described him as "a human volcano".

When many Nigerians are calling for the scrapping of the Structural Adjustment Programm, SAP, Adelana insists that SAP is the boldest and most courageous decision ever taken by any government in Nigeria. He opines that, given the opportunity, he will fix the exchange rate of the Naira against the dollar at N15 to \$1.00. He says more. Have a good read.

Hotline: As a banker and also the chairman of the Kaduna branch of the Chartered Institute of Bankers, we'll like you to react to the allegation that banks are responsible for the inability to get a realistic value of the Naira against other currencies.

Adelana: The truth of the matter is that, there is no such thing

as a realistic value of the Naira. You'll remember that there was a time when the Naira to the dollar was one to one. At that time, some people said a realistic value will be about 3.5 to 1, to some the Naira should be five to one. Some people came out and said, yes, 3.5 to 1 will be a realistic value. When it went to 8-1, then they said maybe 5 or 6 will be a realistic value. When it went higher than that... You see everybody has his own ideas of what is a realistic value. But there is no yardstick to measure what a realistic value is and what a realistic value is not. There are very many yardsticks, but let me tell you the one which is widely accepted as most useful way of determining the realistic value of any currency. The value of a currency or of any commodity is determined by forces of the demand and the supply. Whether it is a currency, whether it is food, whether it is clothe or anything else. So, if the demand for dollars in Nigeria rises, and the supply of dollar does not rise, the value of Naira will fall, and that value is the realistic value in view of the demand and supply of dollars in Nigerian market. Nobody controls the

black market, there is no law, no government that controls it. But the value rises and falls in accordance with the quantity of dollars that is available in the black market. And the demand of people who want to buy dollars in the black market - its called parallel market now - but its still the same thing. So, I believe that the search for a realistic value of the Naira is a vain search; there will never be a realistic value. The value will continue to fluctuate, because even the dollar fluctuates. The same thing with the value of the Naira in Nigeria. It is not the banks that determine the value of the Naira in Nigeria, it is those people who use the Naira to buy dollars or for any other purpose.

Hotline: OK, you are now saying that banks are wrongly accused, and people are still saying that banks are bidding unnecessarily very high rates at the foreign exchange market
Adelana: OK. You see, the banks are in the foreign exchange market to make a profit. If I know that somebody is prepared to buy a bag of rice from me for N300, then if I am in the market buying rice, and somebody offers to sell for me at N250, I'll buy because I know there is somebody who is prepared to buy a bag of rice from me for N300, which means, I'll gain N50. But if that person says he is going to sell it to me for N350, I will not buy because I am in it to make a profit. So, why will a bank bid high if they know that customers will not buy at such a high price. The underlying problem is that, the customer who wants to use that foreign exchange to import one commodity or the other is prepared to buy it at that price. When you get to a price which the customer feels is too high

for him, he will leave it with the bank, the bank can go and bid high, collect the foreign exchange, put it in its vaults and nobody will buy it because it is too high. Now, what I am saying is that, the customer is prepared to buy at such a high price because the foreign exchange is not available. If there was plenty of it available, the customer too will know that, if he doesn't get it from one bank, he will get it from another one and he'll bid at a lower price, because the customer too who wants to buy from the bank also would want to make a profit. And if he knows that there is a price at which that customer will not make a profit because it is too high for him, and if it reaches that price, he'll not buy. So you see, that is how supply and demand works. Now, to say the banks manipulate supply and demand, it is a misunderstanding. You cannot manipulate the supply and demand of a commodity you do not control. You can only manipulate supply and demand if you're the sole controller or the major controller of that commodity in the market. And the banks are not the major controller of foreign exchange in the market, it is the Central Bank; may be up to 90% of the foreign exchange earned in this country, is earned by the government from the sale of Petroleum. So they are the controllers, the government is the controller of foreign exchange, and it is the one that can determine what the price of foreign exchange should be in this country by the quantity they decide to make available for sale. Again, from the point of view of the government, the quantity they make available depends on the quantity they earn. If there is a Gulf war, and the price of oil goes to 65 dollars per barrel as some people say it would then, more foreign exchange will flow to the government. It would be able to make more foreign exchange available to the banks, and the price will fall. And if the government earns more foreign exchange, and by policy, decides that they are not going to put it in the market, then the price of the dollar will not fall. So you see, it is only the government, through the Central Bank, that can manipulate the price of foreign exchange in Nigeria. No bank can do it.

Hotline: Going by that, can the fixing of exchange rate be done with administrative fiat as some people are suggesting? Do you subscribe to this argument?

Adelana: The government is the sole controller of foreign exchange in the country. So they can by administrative fiat, say okay, one dollar is one Naira, and that will be by law so that anybody who sells it above that will go to jail for a hundred years. It has been done before, it did not succeed. The reason is simple, if the rate is fixed at what economists call the market rate - that is the rate at which the supply meets the demand there will be no problem. It will be the same thing as if they did not fix the rate by administrative fiat. But if they fix the rate at below the market price, what will happen is that the demand for foreign exchange in Nigeria will be higher than its supply. Now when the demand is higher, it means that there will be people out there who are prepared to pay a higher price. So there will be a scramble for it. Some people will bribe their bank managers to make sure they get allocation because it is not sufficient. Others will go and try to bribe the

Governor of the Central Bank, there will be struggle for it by any means. So what will then happen is that a few people who are close to power, will be the ones that will get the foreign exchange. And they will resell it to those people outside scrambling to get it. We have done it before, if you control the price of any commodity and you fix control price below the market price, what will happen is that the demand for it will be higher than its supply. Therefore there will be a scramble for it. Only a few privileged people will get it, and those few privileged people will be tempted to use that position to sell it to those people who wait for it outside. Even if let us assume that the price is fixed and the formula is arrived at by which it will be distributed equally, what will happen is this - every company will apply, even those that don't need foreign exchange, everybody can give a reason for needing foreign exchange. Then those who get this foreign exchange will now decide - now, I have got 1 Million dollars allocated to me, I bought it at one to one Naira, so he has spent one million Naira to collect 1 million dollars from the Central Bank. There are people waiting for him saying please this 1 million Naira, sell it for me, I'll give you at least 10 Naira for one. You see, that

SAP was the boldest economic move ever made in the history of this country.



is what economists call a distortion in the market. So you want him to use it for one thing but because another thing which you don't want him to use it for is more profitable, he is tempted to use it for that. So, that is what is wrong with fixing the price of foreign exchange or any other thing by administrative fiat.

Hotline: We'll like you to appraise SAP as a policy to bail the country out of her economic predicament.

Adelana: Yes, most Nigerians do not realise that SAP was the boldest economic move ever made in the history of this country. At any rate, as at the time those decisions were taken, the alternatives left to us were very few. In fact I do not think we had any alternatives but.....SAP. The problem has been that all along no government was bold enough to take it not because economists did not advocate it, but because no government was prepared to face the political consequences of SAP. There is no government that can implement those measures anywhere in the World that will not become unpopular. And the government, at the time it took those decisions, knew it was going to become unpopular. To have gone ahead and taken it because it thought it was the right thing to do, was an act of courage on the part of the government. So, as far as that is concerned, it was a very bold move.

The reason why it is an act of courage is that, it is unlikely that the good effect of SAP is going to be fully felt within the life of this administration. It is another administration that will claim the credit. It is during the time of successive administrations that most of the benefits will begin to accrue for the nation. And it is that administration that will claim credit for it. It is that administration that'll say it is our policy that has brought about the improvement in the economy. In Nigeria, we are used to quick-fix, the improvement must come immediately, it is not like that, even life is not like that. The most lasting things have to be dealt with slowly, you have to climb gradually to the top; those who zoomed to the top, always fall suddenly from the top. And that is what has been happening to our economy. We pursue those policies that are short term, that will produce results immediately so that everybody will say I did it. But when it comes to planning for such things that will produce results over a long period but which we have to pay for now, everybody shies away. That is what this government has done. Right now, we have an economy that is much more export oriented than it ever was. Right now, we have an economy in which wheat production has the capability to compete favourably against foreign imports. We didn't have



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that before. Right now, we have an economy in which agriculture is a lot more profitable than it ever was. There was a time when no one will put his money into agriculture. Right now, anybody that has money is putting it into agriculture and if you can do it properly it's going to be profitable. All those are the results of SAP, but the full result has not been felt, because it is not something that will bring money if you just sit down in your house; You now have to go and farm, it is only when you farm and farm properly that you will reap the result of SAP. So I am not saying that the execution of the programme is perfect; there have been problems-dilly-dally-ing-there have been areas in which they have not pursued it to its logical conclusion. SAP is a policy in the right direction. It is demanding that we work now and earn later, much, much later and any government that is courageous enough to insinuate it, must be commended.

Hotline: With your expert knowledge could you let us into those areas you think the government should have gone ahead no matter the political consequence since it will benefit the country in future?

Adelana: I have a feeling workers are going to lynch me if they heard me say this (laughter). But there is still a lot of subsidy in the economy. The price of oil is still greatly

subsidised. We still pay about 1/10th of what Americans are paying today for oil. And America was an oil producer long before Nigeria. So, the oil is still very, very subsidised in Nigeria, and that means that oil is still being misused. Maybe I should explain that. You see the way you use a commodity depends on the price you pay for it. If a car cost only N5, people will buy it and when it gets spoilt, they go and buy another one. If it costs only N50, it is the same thing, but now that a car cost 150,000 Naira, when somebody buys a car, he takes very good care of it. So you see, the price of a commodity determines its usage. Now, when oil was much more cheaper in Nigeria, people did not even think about the price of petrol. Now, people consider the price of petrol before they determine whether to take a journey or not. To fill your tank now is about N30, if you were filling it with N800, there are journeys people will not take again, there are many journeys people will count unnecessary.

Yet, it is a very valuable commodity that is being used. In the U.S., you'll fill the tank with about N300, therefore, you will not use it the same way as somebody who is filling it with only N30. So that is why I say that it is being misused. So, the subsidy issue has not been pursued to its logical conclusion. Then there are still too many restrictions in the economy-ban this, ban that- it's not conducive with the tenet of SAP. The idea is that Nigerians are regarded as reasonable people therefore, give them the freedom to operate within broad lands and they are versatile enough to make the economy move. America is one of the freest countries in the world. Freedom and the growth of business have been proven to go together just as the disintegration of those countries that decided to control all their business by government as proved in the year that has just gone. So, these are two areas, not pursuing subsidies up to their maximum, still using bans and other things.

Thirdly, I mentioned agriculture as one of the gains of SAP. The gains would have been greater if sufficient attention has been put to ensuring that the inputs to agriculture were available easily to farmers. Whatever anybody may say, there is a lot of propaganda as far as agriculture is concerned. The government is spending so and so billions in the procurement of fertilizer. The fact is that, I am not just a banker, I am a farmer. And as at last year, I still bought fertilizer for as much as N45. Now, if I had to buy like that, the peasant farmers around me had to come and beg me to give them one or two bags of fertilizer at the price at which I bought it. That is the reality on the farm today, it need not be so. And it can be tackled because you see SAP has made agricultural production profitable. But it is not a profit you just go to the farm, grab it and come back home. You got to work for it, you need some tools to work for it, we need to make those tools available, but we have not succeeded in doing so, and the fact that the propagandists want to make us believe that we have succeeded is not helping matters. These are areas that have made a very good policy not to work as fast as it could have worked.

Hotline: The government seem sto believe that there is no

alternative to SAP, and a lot of people are of the view that SAP IS DOCTORED BY THE IMF and the World Bank. And at a point in time, that was in '89, the regional representative of the world bank and the IMF representative in Africa at the 25th Anniversary of the African Development Bank, said IMF does not tell governments of beneficiary nations the social consequences of SAP, the main concern is the economic aspect. This means these two bodies are aware that such things will generate all these problems, but they are not bothered. Can you divorce economic from the social life of the people? You talk as if you are an IMF agent.

Adelana: No, you cannot divorce economic from the social life the people. But you see we use a number of terms that have very wide meanings. For example the talk that there is no alternative to SAP. What really does that mean? Let's take it for its ordinary meaning of course that is true, because we all agreed that the structure of our economy was wrong. It was import dependent, we did not want an economy that was import dependent. We would prefer to have an economy that is export oriented. So we said, that structure was wrong and we needed to adjust the structure to the one that we wanted it to be. So in that sense, there is no alternative to SAP. But of course, those people who say there is alternative to SAP do not really mean that we should not adjust our economy. What they are saying is that the instruments being used to adjust it now are not ideal, that we could use other instruments. There are other ways to adjust our economy different from the way we are adjusting it now. Because there is no one now who is in doubt that the economy is being adjusted, the point is, could we have adjusted it in an easier, less painful way? Well you see, I am not an IMF agent, I am a freeborn, fully patriotic Nigerian, I have never attended an IMF conference, I have no dealings whatsoever with the IMF. I schooled in Nigeria, every thing, I studied here in Nigeria, so there is no way you can call me an IMF agent and I fully believe in the Structural Adjustment Programme. So those who say that it is a dictate of the IMF, surely are not talking about me and there are many people like me in the country today who believe in SAP without having anything whatsoever to do with the IMF. You know the expression I have given today has nothing to do with the IMF.

Hotline: It seems there is this consensus among bankers to defend the policy very well. Because of the huge profit they make annually, the banks wouldn't want the programme to be abandoned, they want it to continue.

Adelana: No, I don't accept it because, that is giving the impression that bankers are not patriotic Nigerians or that bankers are less patriotic than other group of Nigerians, it's not true. Bankers like profits, there is no Nigerian that does not like profits, even the worker, if he sees a business that will give him a high profit, he will go and do that business. Before the Structural Adjustment Programme, banks were making profits. And I can assure you, if today, the government was to say 1 dollar is now to be sold for 1 Naira, banks will make even more profit because the big reduction in supply and the big increase in demand, will simply make bankers

comfortable.

Hotline: Apart from the ones you have just stated, what do you think are the other effects of proliferation of banks? And also the recent government directives that before you get the licence, you have to pay a fee which has been increased from N50,000 to N250,000 for merchants banks.

Adelana: I am an advocate of deregulation and I support deregulation anytime, anywhere. So, I am in favour of a situation in which the decision to open a bank or not will be based on whether the new bank will be able to make a profit or not. You see, a time is coming when the banking field will be so full that it will not pay a person who has his money to put in opening a bank. Or when the risk of not making profit in banking will be so great that an entrepreneur will prefer to put his money into some other kind of business. When that time comes, government will not need to regulate the proliferation of banks. People who have their money will simply not put it into banking any more. As long as we have not reached that stage, as long as new banks can come in and make profits within a year or two, as long as that situation exists, it means that the economy is under-banked. It means that there

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is room for more banks and the economy is such that it is prepared to reward those who put their money into the business of banking. So, let us have more banks. As for the increase in share capital of the banks, I support that, because you see the more banks we have, the more difficult it becomes for the Central Bank to be in full control, because you can control 30 people more than you can control 500 people. So, when the control becomes more difficult, the chances of failures and problems could then increase. And one way to reduce the chances of these failures is to ensure that those people who want to put their money into banking, put a lot of money into it. At that time, people were not encouraged to put their money into banking because they were not sure that they could make the profit in time. They felt that they'll probably make more profit by putting it into trading or some other kind of business. But today, people know that banking is profitable and people who have money, will like to put their money where it is profitable. So, there is now a need for more banks, it is time to raise the share capital level of banks so as to increase their solidity, the strength, that they can fall back upon if a problem were to arise. But beyond that, I don't think the government should interfere.

Hotline: There's this argument that it's not as if Nigeria is under-banked but that the banks are under-branched.

Adelana: Well, the president of the Chartered Institute of Bankers said that, and he has a point that maybe the banks should be encouraged to have more branches. I agree that the banks should be encouraged to have more branches. But encouraged is the word not forced. And it depends on what criterion you want to use to determine whether Nigeria is under-banked or not. The criterion I am using is this - if I have a hundred million today and I invest it in starting a bank, is it still possible to make a profit? If it is, then Nigeria is not yet under-banked, if Nigeria becomes under-banked, it will be a dicey affair.

Hotline: How viable are the community banks?

Adelana: We are just starting so, I really don't know how viable they will be. However, as an idea, it's a good one, and I believe that it is one of the ways of solving the under-branching problem that you raised earlier because these ones will be in the rural areas. And I think it will not be easy to make them succeed, let's be quite frank. The business of banking requires some training over a period of time. There are very few bankers who, in their careers have made very bad decisions that resulted in losses for their banks. You see, those banks being big banks were able to take those losses as part of the trainings of those bankers until they become astute to



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determine which projects will fail, which ones will not. The community banks will have that same problems and if there are many of them at the same time, I foresee that there may be a few cases of problems or some of them actually going bankrupt.

Hotline: There is this issue of deregulation of interest rate on loans. At that time, banks were charging as high as 35%. But now in the budget speech of Mr. President, he said it should be pegged at - I think 14%. Do you think it is ideal for the government: to do this?

Adelana: I don't think the government pegged the interest rate. What they are pegging is the rediscount rate which is the rate at which government will lend to banks, you know sometimes too banks run short of money and they run to the Central Bank to borrow money - that is the rate. That rate affects the final rate at which the banks give out their money because, that is the cost of the money to them so they know the administrative charges and how much it will cost them to give it out, so if the government lowers that rate, you expect also the rate that the banks charge to fall. I don't think the government is going away from deregulation there.

Hotline: The government has decided to establish a National

Agricultural Land Development Authority and this is aimed at probably coordinating all the farms in the states and in the local governments. How workable do you think this will be?

Adelana: Yes, let's start by some clear statements, it has been proven over and over again that government cannot farm, they will supply the resources and in the end abandon the farms. Farming is not a government activity, it is a private activity done by individuals who have a love of farming, a zeal for hardwork and a capacity to take care of minute details of the agricultural process. From the setting up of the NALDA, to the goal of making farm land available to the farmers - there is a long, difficult hill to climb. So are we going to identify people who can make the NALDA work in such a way that land will be made available for farmers? And are we going to put them there and keep them there only if they make land available to farmers, and remove them if they don't? It is possible for it and there are enough Nigerians who are zealous to make land available for farming and if the structure is such that it is those kind of Nigerians that are given the duty. It will be done. If not, it will be one more OFN and whatever else that we have had before.

Hotline: One would think that your organisation being an agricultural consultancy and finance company should be involved in this task.

Adelana: I am not sure I will advocate that. This is a consulting unit of the NACB. The NACB is basically a bank, its duties are well laid out. NACB is not an Agricultural Land Development Authority. And if for example, we are to be saddled with that duty, we'll have to start from the scratch.

Hotline: Let us go personal now. We would like to know you beyond Mr David Adegbeji Adelana by telling us a little about yourself.

Adelana: I was born in Lagos, on the 6th of June, 1947. I grew up in the North in Jos. I attended Baptist Day School in Jos until 1958, when I left for Lagos where I spent some months from there to Ondo and finally to Ibadan where I completed my primary school. I went to Government College Ibadan from 1961—1965. I started my HSC there, but then I left in 1966 for the University of Ibadan where I studied Agriculture and got the BSc in Agriculture in 1970. I've always wanted to farm, I studied Agriculture because I've always wanted to farm. When I left the University, I decided that I did not want to take up government job, that I wanted to farm. But then it was not easy for a young man just leaving University to just start farming. I first joined a company-Urban Nigerian Rubber Estate in a village-Urban-near Calabar - now Cross River State. I worked there for one year as an Assistant Manager on the Rubber Plantation. Then I resigned at the end of a year to go and join the Farm settlement. If you know about the farm settlement scheme, it was a scheme for school leavers to take agriculture as a profession. It was only Primary School Leavers then that were there. I was the only graduate and I think I am the only graduate that ever voluntarily joined the farm settlement as a settler. I did my MSc at University of Ibadan in 1973-75 lectured for one year at College of Technology, Port Harcourt. I am married with five Children.

APPRECIATION

MAY ALLAH BLESS ALL

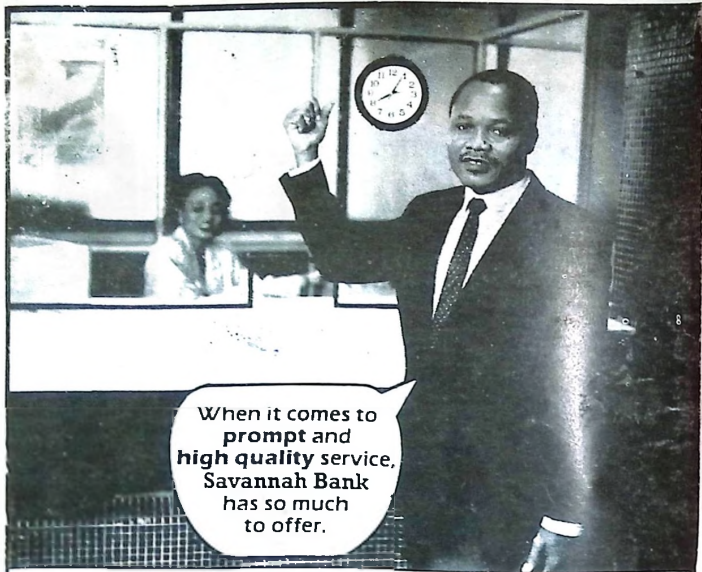
The Magajin Rafin Kontagora, Alhaji Hassan Sani, the Tukuran Kontagora, Alhaji Abubakar Sule and the entire Tukuran family do hereby thank all those who in their respective ways, have extended sympathy and paid condolence on the death of one of our illustrious brothers, who died on 24th December, 1990.



Jibril Babangida Sani Kontagora

May Allah in His infinite mercy bless all and grant the deceased eternal mercy. Ameen

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