

## FROM THE STATES

A 25 year-old graduate of Computer Science from the Olabisi Onabanjo University, Adewale Arije has been sentenced to 52 years for forgery and fraud by Justice Olubunmi Oyewole of the Ikeja High Court for defrauding an American Company of the sum of N16 million.

Arije a.k.a Ola Rhodes was in 2007 reported to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission EFCC for his scams by an agent of the American Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI Mr. Fortner Robert who doubles as the prosecution witness during the trial.

In perpetrating his nefarious act, the convict dubiously assumed to be a staff of WESCO Corporation of

## Advance Fee Fraud: Boy Earns 52 Years Imprisonment

United States and using such fictitious status ordered for 3 cartons which contains 49 packets of KTV RAM and on each packet containing 25 pieces including an Inkjet print cartridges at a cost price of N16m to be supplied by Communication Supply Corporation of Virginia via credit application.

The FBI agent equally revealed that the convict later sent the goods through United Kingdom to Barsmak Services Nigeria Ltd and

Stories by Paschal Agbada and Willson Uchendu

### LAGOS

later collected it as Ola Rhodes.

Arije was found guilty of obtaining goods under false pretences and also such goods were asked to be recovered from him by the EFCC by the court.

## Impending Ban On 'Ogogoro' Local Gin Frightens Ijaw Leaders

The Ijaw community in Benue State has been thrown into a state of anxiety following plans by the Benue State House of Assembly to pass a bill prohibiting the sale of local gin 'ogogoro' in the state.

The community's anxiety has even been reinforced by the fact that as soon as the bill was put up for public hearing in Makurdi the police started harassing sellers and chasing them out of their market stalls.

Following this development, Ijaw leaders in the state had written a letter to the Governor of the State,

### BENUE

Gabriel Suswan asking him to call the law enforcement agents to order as the bill has not yet been passed into law.

The Ijaw leaders using the name Izon Otu Tubo Tua Ogbo Association-Benue State branch, had stated in the letter that was signed by the president Chief Embimowei Oronabofa, secretary-Miambi Anthony and the vice president Chief Collins Assaisai, that "after the public hearing in

Makurdi on June 4, the premises of Chief Collins Assaisai was raided by the police in the state'.

Meanwhile, part of the anxiety expressed by the Ijaw group was that they were never invited for the public hearing as should have been done by the State House of Assembly.

However, the Ijaw leaders asked the Governor to try and extend the time frame before the bill is passed and even after so that sellers would have time to adjust to the new development and hopefully find some other businesses to engage in.

## Bini High Chief, Bob Izua Kidnapped

A well-known Bini High Chief and business mogul/transporter, Chief John Osamede Adun (a.k.a Bob Izua) was at the weekend kidnapped by over 14 armed men dressed in army camouflage suspected to be a Niger Delta Militant group.

Beam Checks gathered that Bob Izua was kidnapped at about 2.am at his private guest house located at Ekpenede Street, Benin-city Saturday. The gun wielding abductors stormed the club with a Hilux jeep and an 18 seater bus and

took the business mogul after shooting sporadically on the air for minutes in order to probably scare people away. On the process, one of his aids was hit by the bullet and he was said to be receiving treatment at an undisclosed hospital.

The Benin High Chief it was learnt became prone to attack after police orderlies attached to him were withdrawn.

Efforts by this publication to reach the state Police Commissioner, Mr. Danlami Yar'Adua proved abortive but the

### EDO

State Public Relations Officer, PPRO Peter Ogboi disclosed that the incidence did happen.

Meanwhile Edo state government has described as baseless the rumour that the state government master minded the abduction. Reacting to the development, the state Deputy Governor, Dr. Pius Odubu expressed shock over the abduction and gave the government readiness to help in praying for the release of the abducted High Chief.

## Raid On NURTW Leader Kills 2 In Ibadan

A bloody raid by armed men suspected to be assassins at the compound of the Deputy Chairman of the National Union of Road Transport Workers, NURTW, Oyo State branch, Mr. Lateef Salako a.k.a Elewe Omo at the weekend claimed the lives of 2 security men as well as wounding three children.

The gun brawl which was said to have lasted for over 30 minutes met

### OYO

a brick wall as the assassins could not gain entry into Elewe Omo's house, a frustrating condition which forced them to embark on a shooting spree on both doors and windows.

Reacting to the incidence, Elewe Omo told reporters that when he started hearing gunshots in front of his house, he "was confused and did

not know what to do.

I only managed to make calls to the police for their intervention.

Nobody could come out as the men were shooting sporadically and at everywhere".

It would be recalled that amidst the assassination attempt there is an age long squabbles of supremacy battle between Elewe Omo and his boss Alhaji Lateef Akinsol popularly called Tokyo.

## Education In Africa Needs Change

Prof. Therese Mungahshalo Tchombe of the University of Buea in the Camerouns has advocated for a change in the educational curriculum and pattern in Africa.

Delivering a lecture at the Faculty of Education, University of Jos, Plateau State on the theme "Entrepreneurship Education and National Development", Prof. Tchombe stated that education in Africa strictly requires broadening of scope to include international economic relations and other

structurally relevant courses that can respond to the needs of Africa's social and economic development. She stressed that education was strictly tied to economic enhancement and thus needs to be structured to play a vital role in the overall development of the continent.

According to her, "Education must as of necessity address the leadership question in Africa without which progress in national development will be stagnant. With this in mind,

### PLATEAU

therefore, even the call for educational expansion being advocated does not provide solutions to all social problems because many graduates do not find jobs after their university education.

"In some cases the education received does not prepare them adequately for the job market and does not equip them with the skills and knowledge to create jobs," Tchombe ascertained.



Gov Akpabio

## Akwa Ibom Allots 95 Cars to Doctors

### AKWA IBOM

The Government of Akwa Ibom State has started the distribution of 95 Toyota Corolla cars to medical doctors as their utility vehicles in other to aid them in delivering health care services in the state.

Making his speech while distributing the brand new cars, the Permanent Secretary State Hospital Management Board, Dr. Valentine Attah also added that the State Government would soon take delivery of an additional 200 new cars which would be distribution to doctors in the same vein.

He said; "We shall soon take delivery of additional fleet in two

weeks so that our 230 medical doctors and consultants will also be given a vehicle each. He told the doctors to take their jobs more seriously as to "whom much is given, much is also expected".

He equally stressed the determination of the State Government led by Obong Godswill Akpabio to continue to enhance the working conditions of doctors in the state as well as the provision of adequate drugs and health facilities to the state's 45 hospitals and about 285 primary health care centres.

## Anti-Tobacco Campaign Hots Up

### OGUN

A group in Lagos that goes by the name Environmental Rights Action (ERA) has pressured Government to take the campaign against tobacco a notch more serious by making sure that the National Tobacco.

Bill is passed into law and that subsequently, all tobacco packs should be made to carry warnings and risks involved covering up to 65 percent of the whole pack.

The group made this ascertions at a press briefing in Lagos to mark this year's World No

Tobacco Day which had the theme... "Tobacco Health Warnings".

According to the group's programme coordinator Mr. Akinbode Oluwafemi, the reason for their campaign is that research has shown that an estimated 6.5 million Nigerians are an death row as a result of tobacco addiction. He thus sensitized government to stop being cosmetic about anti-tobacco campaigns.