



President Goodluck Jonathan (m), his wife, Patience and Ethiopian Minister of Water and Energy, Mr. Alemayehu Tegen at the Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa yesterday.

## Suswam: Benue police

BEN UKEJI, Abuja

THE West African Examination Council (WAEC) certificate scandal, allegedly involving Governor Gabriel Suswam of Benue State has taken a new dimension as the Abuja office of a national daily, *The Nation*, was yesterday invaded by policemen from the Benue State command in search of officials of *National Life*, which had earlier published the story.

According to an eye-witness account, the invasion which was at the annex office located along the Umaru Musa Yar'Adua road, was massive as the policemen came with a staff of the media house, whom they had earlier arrested in Makurdi over the publication.

It was gathered from the staff that the stern looking police detectives alleged that they were acting on a complaint from the Governor after which they arrested the Head of Printing Unit, Mr. Daniel Olutayo and subsequently dragged him to the Lugbe Police Station,

Abuja. Eff The A the is: as th Abuja, what Police detain Or first p identi for th that f Life N story: in cer Tl its las that forge he is offic: Chide sacke misc persc said c O Mr. C his printi news Makl T arres

## Gunmen kill ANPP governorship candidate, 6 others

AHMED MARI, Maiduguri

BARELY two weeks after he emerged the governorship candidate of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) in Borno State, Alhaji Fanami Gubio and six others were yesterday shot dead by unknown gunmen.

Confirming the killings to newsmen on telephone, the Borno State Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Mohammed Jinjiri Abubakar said seven people were shot dead and several others injured. He said the police is on top of the situation and advised the public not to panic.

An eye witness told *Saturday Champion* that the gunmen came on motorcycle and may have trailed the Gubio and his entourage from the mosque after Jum'at service, and immediately the candidate alighted from his car in front of his family House at Lawan Bukar, Ward Maiduguri, the state capital the gunmen open fire killing him instantly and six others.

The eye witness who pleaded anonymity, further disclosed that after killing the people, the gunmen fired sporadically into the air to scare people away and later escaped unchallenged, adding that

the incident happened at about 3:30pm.

Others shot dead are a junior brother of the Borno State Governor who was the former chairman of Ngala Local Government Area, Alhaji Goni Sheriff, two security officers attached to him and three other stalwarts of the ANPP.

Borno State Governor Alhaji Ali Modu Sheriff who arrived the Government House amidst tight security shortly after the killings stayed for only two minutes before driving out. He was visibly shaken and completely devastated by the incident and could not even speak to newsmen.

As at the time of filing this report, residents of Maiduguri were thrown into confusion as people were seen rushing home to avoid harassment by security agents.

It would be recalled that serial killings in Maiduguri started in June last year when the suspected members of Islamic sect, Boko Haram embarked on revenge killings following the death of their leader Alhaji Mohammed Yusuf.

Despite the deployment of security personnel to Maiduguri the killings had been on the increase.

Former chairman of Borno State

ANPP, Alhaji Awana Ngala was killed in a similar manner.

Meanwhile the corpses of those killed have been deposited at the Maiduguri Teaching Hospital mortuary while those injured are receiving treatment at the hospital.

Also, recently, four suspected Boko Haram gunmen attacked the Church of Christ in Nigeria (COCIN), Gomari, in Maiduguri, killing a police constable, Amos Tangurda. Akila Solomon, the security guard of the church, sustained gunshot injuries.

The attacks, lasted for five minutes before the armed men fled in a car to the neighbouring community of Bulunkutu, four kilometres south of the Maiduguri International Airport.

Confirming the attack then, the Police Commissioner, Alhaji Abubakar, said: "We lost one of our police constables after four

suspected gunmen attacked this church in Gomari ward near the airport. The two policemen guarding the church could not resist the firing powers of the assassins when Tangurda fell to the ground and lost his gun to the outlawed suspected Boko Haram sect members last night at about 7.15 p.m."

Reacting to the killings, President Goodluck Jonathan ordered security agents to fish out the killers adding that the era of do-or-die politics is over.

In a statement by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Mr. Ima Niboro, the President who is on a state visit to Addis Ababa, for a meeting of African Union (A.U.) condemned the killings.

He condoled with the government and people of Borno State over the dastardly act.

## Mandela leaves hospital

Anti-apartheid icon, Nelson Mandela, was discharged from a South African hospital yesterday after treatment for an acute respiratory infection, the nation's surgeon general said.

The 92-year-old former

president of South Africa, left the hospital in a motorcade that included an ambulance in the middle.

Doctors are happy with his recovery and he will continue to receive treatment at home, said V.J. Ramlakan, the surgeon general.

"We may recall that he suffered from tuberculosis and has had previous respiratory infections," Ramlakan said. "He is also not as mobile as before. And over the last few years, has had to be assisted with movement."

Ramlakan said Mandela handles the "difficulties of old age with the greatest of graces."

Mandela was flown to a Johannesburg hospital on Wednesday from Cape Town, where he was on vacation.

Reports that he was hospitalized sparked concerns worldwide.

South African officials urged citizens to be calm, saying that Mandela "suffers from ailments common to people of his age."

"Medically there is no need to panic," said Kgalema Motlanthe, the deputy president. "Mandela suffers from ... conditions that have developed over years. We may recall that he has suffered from tuberculosis whilst on Robben Island and has had previous respiratory infections."

Mandela was imprisoned for decades at Robben Island off the coast of Cape Town.

In recent times, the former president rarely makes public appearances. His last appearance was at the closing ceremonies of the World Cup in South Africa. He recently released a new memoir, "Conversations With Myself."

The Nobel Peace Prize laureate spent 27 years in prison after being convicted of sabotage and attempts to overthrow the government under South Africa's former apartheid regime.

He was released in 1990 and served as president four years later.

## Collins was a progressive –Obanikoro

TITUS ELEWEKE

NIGERIAN Ambassador to Ghana, Senator Musiliu Obanikoro has described the late Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) National Youth Leader, Otunba Muiyiwa Collins as a go-getter and a fair minded person who believed so much in collective agreement.

Senator Obanikoro who spoke with *Saturday Champion* yesterday at the burial of Collins said Lagos State PDP has lost a progressive minded person who believed so much in true democratic principle and fairness.

Obanikoro, who said he flew in from Ghana yesterday purposely for the burial of the late Collins, said the party will miss

his robust and articulate ideas in Lagos politics and called on his family members to make sure they do not allow his legacies to die with him.

"Muiyiwa to me was a brother, political associate and progressive influence in Lagos State politics. We have lost a man that was principled. He was a gentle man, very fair minded person. He was very tolerant of opposing views and Lagos politics will miss him."

"He is a go-getter member of the PDP in Lagos. He is one of the progressive influences in the Lagos politics."

"I came all the way from Ghana for the purpose of Muiyiwa's burial and I want to pay him my last respect."

"He is a true democrat and one

person who so much believed in fair play and had worked all his life for the progressive. He must be remembered for his fair mindedness and progressive nature," he said.

According to Obanikoro, life is all about death and life, adding that late Collins came and did well for himself, Nigeria and the family before bowing to the law of nature.

He advised the family members to make sure that the legacies Muiyiwa Collins stood and died for do not die with him.

He admonished the family to take heart because life is all about life and death stressing that now that he is dead, some body must take over from him to move the family to next level.

## 4 killed in Bayelsa boat mishap

TRAGEDY struck in Bayelsa State on Thursday as a 12-passenger boat conveying people to Nembe community capsized and killed four persons while two others are missing.

The boat mishap which occurred as indigenes of the community were travelling home to participate in the ongoing voters' registration exercise taking place across the country.

Although there are conflicting figures on the numbers of casualties in the mishap, some indigenes who spoke to our correspondent on telephone said, three people lost their lives in the accident while others said two persons died and

two corpses recovered.

The mishap occurred along Bassagbiri/Nembe waterways in Nembe Local Government Area after loading from Ogbia jetty.

The locally made boat is suspected to have carried indigenes and non-indigenes to Nembe town before the sad incident occurred.

Identities of the drowned persons and those rescued were not made public as at press time.

The boat, a reliable source told our correspondent took off from Bassagbiri jetty in Ogbia Local Government Area to Nembe at about 3:00pm before the incident.

The cause of the mishap may not be unconnected to over

speeding by the speed boat riders.

An indigene of Nembe Mr. Allagoo who spoke to our correspondent attributed the mishap to over speeding and near recklessness of the boat operators.

Allagoo who decried the non use of passenger life jackets by sea travellers in the state called on speed boat operators to ensure that, passengers are kitted with live protective wears to reduce carnage.

Contacted on the incident, Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Emmakpai Egwuevon, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) said he was not aware of the mishap and had left the city for an official engagement.

Izu MEB

A, Osita Janu conc Dem West J rulin sele the on t disq appi Nati I Sen: high the prim distr sub: Nati (INE Asse

an c Izur can elec issu fron its c

accl defi can 2, 2 sen him the elec

Izu

Th ar in (C TI 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. Al 1. 2. 3. 4. Al fo