

Arrest Fake Currency Printer

Technology To Stop Counterfeits, Claims Accused

made what it described as a landmark breakthrough in crime prevention as its operatives swooped on a syndicate of fake currency counter-

ABIA

feiters at Aba.

In addition to smashing the syndicate, the com-

mand made some recoveries from the men behind the act.

One Young Nwaneri, who is said to be the managing director of the

press allegedly involved in the counterfeit printing was arrested and brought to Umuahia.

The 55-year-old man, a native of Owerri Nkworji, told reporters, he started printing in Umuahia in the 70s before relocating to Aba.

He disclosed that he dropped out of the University of Liberia Medical School in 1977, when he felt he had a vocation to preach the gospel, but did not establish a church.

"I went into imitation of money late last year, when I picked a counterfeit currency and had inner compelling inspiration to bring out something excellent than the one I picked.

John Ahmadu, the Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG), in charge of the zone, told reporters in Umuahia that a team of the zone's detectives stormed the syndicate's hideout and upon the execution of search warrant there, recovered several items and machines suspected to be used in the printing of the counterfeit naira notes.

Items recovered include naira notes at various stages of printing, security foils with CBN marks printed on them and cut to sizes, printing machines, computer sets and computer diskettes and stamps.

NACOMYO Advises Govt, Youth On Security

NIGERIA

BY OLUWATOSIN AYENI

THE Federal Government has been advised to desist from harassment and persecution of Muslim missionaries, philanthropists and preachers in the name of fighting terrorism. According to the National Council of Muslim Youth Organisation (NACOMYO), the series of "wrongful arrests" is impacting negatively on the propagation of Islam in the country.

The organisation, said its National President, Moh'd Lawal Maidoki, discovered after a tour of some states of in the country, that government's crackdown on religious preachers appeared one-sided.

The Secretary General of the world tourism body, Francesco Frangialli, described 2006 as "another year of good growth," even as he stressed that despite global problems, such as terrorism, health scare (Avian flu) and rising oil prices the sector has increasingly witnessed upward growth.

INTERNATIONAL

receipts was 800 million, measuring a growth rate of 5.5 percent. With the 842 million receipts, the good news is that if the projection of UNTWTO is anything to go by, 2007 is expected to witness continued growth in the sector, said the report.

2006 at 4.5 percent, a figure far exceeding the long term projection of 4.1 percent.

Since recording international tourist arrival receipts of 760 million in 2004, the first in over a decade, tourism growth has been on the upsurge.

In 2005, for example, international tourist arrival

One Killed In Osun By-Election

OSUN

(AC) in ward 11 but reportedly served as the agent of the ANPP candidate in Ward 9. His remains have been deposited at Rainbow Hospital, behind Baptist High School, Iree.

The state secretary of PDP, Yinka Adejo, who claimed that two of his vehicles were damaged by the hoodlums, confirmed that there was a clash between some factions of ANPP and that of the PDP.

Besides, over six ballot boxes were reportedly destroyed while about 10 were reportedly carted

away by hoodlums. The candidate contesting the election under the platform of All Nigerian Peoples Party (ANPP), Dejo Bello, a retired Assistant Commissioner of Police has been declared wanted for by the state police command.

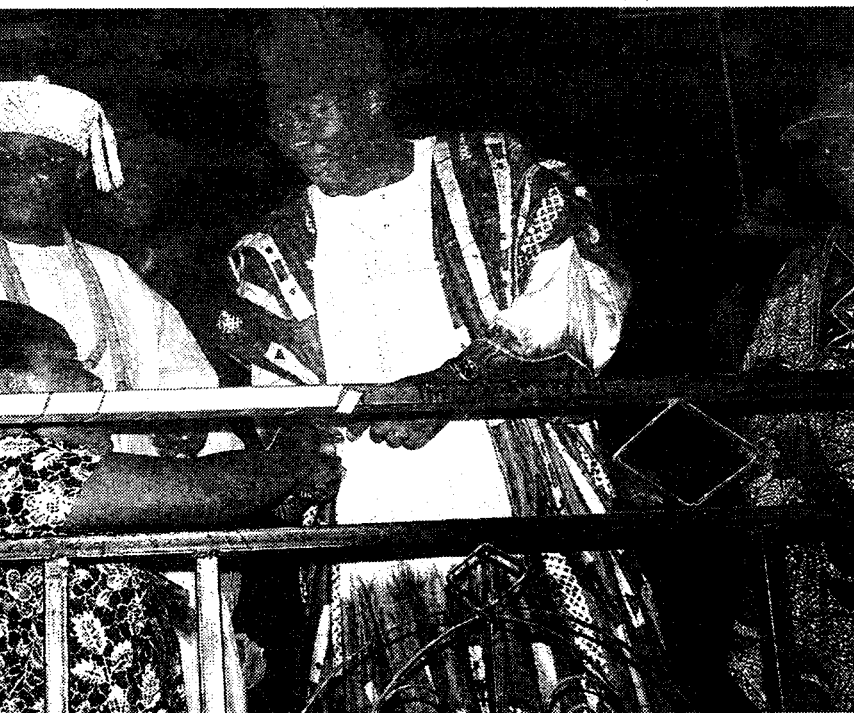
Three candidates, Ayankola Ayansoji of Alliance for Democracy (AD), Bello and Kayode Idowu of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) were cleared to vie for the position, which became vacant due to the death last December, of Oluranti Alabi representing the constituency in the House of Representatives.

FROM SEUN ADEOYE, OSOGBO

AT least one person was feared dead and two officials of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) were yesterday hospitalised as a result of the violence that erupted during a by-election organised to fill the vacant position of Ifelodun/Odo-Otin/Boripe federal constituency in the National assembly.

The name of the victim who died in Iree was given as Abdullahi Taofeek, by family members.

He was said to be the youth leader of Action Congress



and the Alake of Egbaland, Oba Adedotun Gbadebo congratulating Miss Iyabo Ade-
no won a brand new Nissan Sunny at the Local Government rally held to round off
tour of Abeokuta South Local Government at the Ake Palace Ground... at the weekend

Tourism Records Growth

CRIME NOTES

BY ALEX OLISE AND ODITA SUNDAY

AKWA IBOM

KILLED: SUSPECTED daredevil robbers, recently, attacked one of the branches of an old generation bank, killing five persons and escaped with a huge sum of money. The robbers, numbering 30, had stormed the bank armed with sophisticated weapons.

BAYELSA

KIDNAPPING: THERE is growing fear among oil workers in the state over the upsurge in cases of abduction of expatriates by unknown persons, who demand ransom after such operation. The state and federal government is yet to find solution to the problem.

EDO

ROBBERY: THE state police command is still searching for ways of ending the series of armed banditry rocking the city. Passengers travelling through the state are now gripped with fear over possible attack from the bandits.

IMO

RESCUED: A bank manager, who was recently abducted, has been rescued by the police in the state. The bank official was recently attacked by robbers, who shot and left him inside his official car before a team of policemen arrived at the scene and set him free.

ABUJA

FIRE: THE Nigerian Police, in its efforts to clean the image of the force, recently disengaged no fewer than 10,672 officers and men, across the 36 state commands. Majority of the affected officers were alleged to have joined the force with fake credentials, while others were dismissed due to old age and criminal records.

OSUN

ARRESTED: THREE persons have been arrested by the police in connection with the recent murder of a young man during a political clash in the state capital, Oshogbo. At least 20 persons were injured during the fracas.

LAGOS

ARRESTED: ON January 24, at about 2:30am, a team of anti-robbery policemen attached to SCID Panti, while acting on a tip-off, arrested three suspected armed robbers, namely: Olatunbosun Oreage, alias Dudu; Tunde Adio and Michael Osemene, alias Omoiyama at Mallam Ghana Street, Idi-Araba, Surulere while they were perfecting plans to carry out a robbery attack in a shopping complex at Lawanson, Surulere. Two locally made single barrel guns, 17 live cartridges and assorted charms were recovered from them. Suspects confessed to several robbery operations in the past within Lagos metropolis.

FATAL MOTOR ACCIDENT: ON January 26, at about 2:30pm, a report was received at Bariga Police Station that the yet-to-be identified driver of a commercial Volkswagen mini-bus, with Reg. No. XG 704 KJA ran over six-year-old Tawakalitu Mustapha of No. 2, Adesina Street, Bariga. The victim died on the way to the hospital.

FIRE INCIDENT: ON January 26, at about 2:27am, a report was received at Bode Thomas Police Station that there was fire outbreak at No. 98, Tafawa Balewa Crescent, Surulere. The fire was put out by a team of policemen and fire fighters. Cause of fire and value of property destroyed are yet-to-be ascertained. No life was lost.

BANK ROBBERY: ARMED robbers in Lagos, again, went berserk last Thursday as they invaded the Apapa branch of a bank and carted away millions of naira. The robbers, numbering about 50, arrived at the bank premises at about 12 midnight. Residents around the area had sleepless night sequel to the robbers' sporadic shooting. A police source said the manner of shooting and the sound of the weapons showed that the robbers used hi-tech rifles. Two of the robbers were however felled by police bullet.

DISAVOWED: MEMBERS of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in Lagos State, usually employed as agents of violence during election, have said they would no longer be used for such