

Eyo festival shifted for GCE

By Miriam Ndiakanwu

THE popular Lagos Eyo festival earlier slated for October 2 by Oba Riiwanu Akiolu 1, has been postponed indefinitely by the government.

Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr Opeyemi Bamidele, and his Home Affairs and Culture counterpart, Mr. Babatunde Balogun, said the postponement was to enable over 15,000 students write their General Certificate in Education (GCE) papers.

Bamidele said Governor Babatunde Fashola advised the Oba and the Oniru of Iru land to work out a new date and advise government accordingly.

Two dead in cult clash

By Miriam Ndiakanwu

TWO people were feared dead and one injured at Jakande Estate, Mile Two, Lagos, yesterday when suspected members of a cult group allegedly attacked members of a rival group.

The incident, which occurred at a drinking spot in the estate by 9 pm, has caused fears among the residents and patrons of the bar.

It was gathered that the suspected cult members arrived at the bar and began to shoot at an opponent, who was reportedly sharing drinks with some friends.

Tokyo raises alarm over 29 bodies thrown into river

• 10 suspects arraigned

THE bodies of 29 members of the Oyo State chapter of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) killed last week, have been thrown into Asejire River, the Chairman, Lateef Akinsola, aka Tokyo, alleged yesterday.

They were killed in a clash with a rival faction in Ibadan, the state capital.

Tokyo alleged that the bodies were dumped into the river on the order of a senior government official.

Two bodies have been recovered; others are still being searched for by members of the union.

The river is the source of water to the residents of Ibadan and environs, being the only dam supplying water to Ibadan.

Tokyo, who narrowly escaped death on the night of the attack, said the bodies were thrown into the river to avoid a declaration of emergency in the state.

In a petition signed by his counsel and the immediate past Commissioner for Jus-

From Oseheye Okwuofu and Blsi Oladele, Ibadan

tice, Mr Michael Lana.

Tokyo said the bullet-riddled bodies of two of his men were dumped into the river in the midnight of Wednesday, the day the Olomi, Ibadan state secretariat of the union was attacked.

The petition reads: "According to information gathered by our client, on the instruction of Governor Alao-Akala of Oyo State, the police and Eleweomo went to throw the (bodies of the) 29 men slaughtered by your men and Eleweomo's men on the midnight attack of September 15, into the Asejire River for the sole purpose of avoiding a declaration of emergency in Oyo State."

"Over the weekend, two of the 29 bodies have been

recovered at the bank of Asejire River, riddled with bullet wounds as loyalists of Tokyo. This means that 27 innocent people and two men who were Tokyo's loyalists were murdered by Governor Alao-Akala, the Police and Eleweomo."

Reacting to a letter by the Police Commissioner Adisa Bolanta on September 18, Tokyo's counsel, whose petition was signed by Victor Adewole Esq., said: "We have not failed to note your admission that one of your APCs (Armoured Personnel Carriers) with a detachment of formidable team of policemen, was indeed on alert, placed under the Olomi/Academy bridge of Ibadan at a time Eleweomo and his men attacked Alhaji Akinsola and his loyalists on the mid-

night of September 15.

"From your said admission, it is a surprise then that the 'formidable team of policemen' attached to the APC could not maintain order and/or prevent the massacre committed by the sacked NURTW Chairman, Eleweomo, and his men last Wednesday.

"Please, be informed that there is copious evidence that your men and Eleweomo's men are behind the September 15 midnight attack on Tokyo and his men at the NURTW Secretariat, Olomi, Ibadan, and at the appropriate time, the evidence will be revealed to the appropriate authority and the court."

The Police Command yesterday arraigned in court 10 suspects arrested during the clash.

No fewer than 20 persons were reportedly killed in the clash in which over 80

vehicles were vandalised.

The arraignment came as Tokyo allegedly failed to report yesterday at the Eleyele, Ibadan headquarters of the police command for a meeting with Commissioner Baba Bolanta.

But he sent his lawyer, who informed the police commissioner that Tokyo was indisposed.

The 10 suspects were arraigned before Chief Magistrate Shakratu Badrudeen in Ibadan on a five-count charge of felony, illegal possession of arms, attempted arson and public disturbances.

The suspects are Hassan Fakorede (45), Ismaila Raheem (30), Mojeed Amsat, (32), Akem Balogun (27), Sumoila Idowu (25), Abideen Oladimeji (25), Lukumon Adebayo (35), Sunday Adeleke (30), Sefiu Ramon (23) and Azeez Sakiru (25).

They were granted bail by the magistrate after defence counsel, Mr Adeleke Bakare, applied for their bail.

Alao-Akala admits tough race ahead

From Blsi Oladele, Ibadan

OYO State Governor Adebayo Alao-Akala yesterday vowed to seek a second term.

He admitted that the contest would be tough but expressed confidence that God would help him and the party to win.

The governor expressed

