

•L-R: President of Association of National Accountants of Nigeria (ANAN), Alhaji Sakirudeen Tunji Labode; 2nd Vice President, Alhaji Shehu Usman Ladan and Acting Registrar, Mr. Sunday Ekune during induction of new members held at Ibom Hall, Babangida Avenue, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State yesterday.

# 10 killed in gun battle in Bayelsa

From FEMI FOLARANMI,  
Yenagoa

The Bayelsa State Police Command averted another tragedy on Tuesday as suspected militants opened fire on police patrol teams along the Oporoma/Oyoma waterways in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of the state.

In the gun duel, 10 gunmen were killed and their boat sunk by the police.

Suspected militants had killed 11 policemen on April 6 while on official duty at Azuzuama, in the same local government area.

According to reports, the attack carried out by 10 gunmen met with a fierce resistance from armed police team in gunboats.

Checks indicated that Mr. Tonye Ebitibituwa who recently resumed as the Commissioner of Police in Bayelsa State had embarked

on a week-long familiarization tour of formations under the command.

In order to forestall any ugly incident during Ebitibituwa tour, the Command had deployed patrol teams with gunboats to notorious areas.

According to a statement by the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Alex Akhigbe said the gunboats were attacked at

Oporoma/ Onyoma waterways.

He said in the ensuing gun battle, police superior fire killed the 10 gunmen while their boat was sunk.

"Gunboats deployed to beef up security in Twon Brass, Akassa, Okpoama and Southern Ijaw area of the state were attacked between Oporoma/Oyoma waterways on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at about

19.30hrs, by a boat with about 10 armed men believed to be notorious sea pirates who have been terrorizing our waterways.

"In the ensuing gun battle, some of the pirates were feared dead, others jumped into the water while their boats were sunk. What would have turned out to be another calamity was averted due to the alertness of the patrol team, and the pre-

paredness of the Bayelsa State Police Command to deal with sea piracy, armed robbery and other crimes in the state.

"Members of the public are advised to go about their normal duties as police are on top of the situation. No stone will be left unturned in our quest to deal with all criminal elements in the state," the PPRO said in the statement.

## Tribunal cancels census in 43 areas in Southern Ijaw

The census tribunal yesterday invalidated the 2006 enumeration figures in 43 areas in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, as declared by the National Population Commission (NPC), ordering a recount in those areas.

The Census Tribunal 'A' Chairman, Mr. Abraham Yisa, who gave the order while

delivering judgment, said the order was based on the failure of the NPC to disprove claims of non-enumeration in the areas by the complainant.

According to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), the areas include Obeleli, Azezebiri, Aguobiri, Lobia, Tamazo, Azuzuama, Ezetu I and II, Ogboinbiri, Amassoma, Otuan, Oporoma,

Ologbobiri, Korokorosei, Ekowe, Peremabiri, Diebu, Kuluama, Opuama, Ofonibiri, Enewari and Gbarain.

Others are: Ukparatubu, Okigbene, Bolou-Aguobiri, Agidigbene, Luduon, Kaiyanbiri, Foropa, Ekeni, Ikibiri II, Tebidaba, Opuaduno, Oweibogbene, Bekeregbene, Bazighagbene, Agoligbene, Odogugbene, Apatamigbene, Okpotuwari, Zion Kiri, Numagbene and Ologboboro.

issues regarding non-enumeration and inclusion of the areas in its EA map.

He said instead, the respondent based its arguments on failure of the complainant to specify the enumeration materials that were not sufficient during the exercise.

According to him, pleadings were not required in evidence but a concise statement of facts in issue.

Yisa said: "The tribunal

denied in the ability of Mr. Parkinson Macmanuel to deliver on his mandate, the governor said there were challenges within the government generally and the ministry of Science Technology and Manpower Development and urged him to rise to the challenge.

## ACN to police: Your investigation into Rivers crisis one-sided

The Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) has urged the police to be more circumspect and avoid being partisan in their ongoing investigation into the crisis in Rivers State, if the outcome of the investigation is to be acceptable to Nigerians.

In a statement issued in Oro, Kwara State, yesterday by its National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, the party said the fact that only the security aides of Governor Chibuike Amaechi had been invited to Abuja for questioning by the police leadership, and also the fact that only the majority leader of the Sstate House of Assembly, Chidi Lloyd, had been declared wanted, had provided an insight into the thinking of the

## Police parade pastor for defiling two