



Federal Ministry of Justice

DAILY NEWSPAPERS REVIEW THURSDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2019

LAWYER CHALLENGES AGF ON ALLEGED \$30,000 BRIBE TO ONNOGHEN - SUN PG.4&5

A senior lawyer, Mr. Joe Agi (SAN), has challenged the Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of the Federation (AGF), Mallam Abubakar Malami, to come up with evidence to support his claim that \$30,000 traced to the account of the suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Walter Onnoghen, was a bribe to compromise the trial on the alleged \$3.18 billion Paris Club fraud. In a statement yesterday in Abuja, Agi alleged that the AGF and those he described as a cabal have been after him because he exposed and secured the refund of the fraudulent deduction of \$3.18 billion from local governments' account by the Federal Government as part of the Paris Club refund.

WHY I PAID \$30,000 INTO ONNOGHEN'S ACCOUNT – SAN - DAILY TRUST PG.3, PUNCH PG.7

Mr Joe Agi, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria has opened up on the \$30,000 he deposited in the account of the suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria Justice Walter Onnoghen. Mr Agi in a statement explained that though he convinced the suspended CJN to open the said domiciliary account with the Standard Chartered Bank ten years ago with initial deposit of \$30,000, but insisted that the said deposit was never a bribe to the CJN.

BURATAI: WE'LL TREAT ELECTORAL SABOTEURS AS ENEMIES OF STATE - DAILY TRUST PG.1&6, NATION PG.1&6, SUN PG.4

“The Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Lieutenant General Tukur Yusuf Buratai yesterday said those seeking to undermine the forthcoming general elections would be treated as enemies of Nigeria. This is coming on the heels of remarks by President Muhammadu Buhari that he had instructed the military and the police to deal ruthlessly with ballot box snatchers and thugs.

WE ARE NOT TAPPING TELEPHONE LINES OF CITIZENS - DSS - DAILY TRUST PG.3, PUNCH PG.36

The Department of State Services (DSS) yesterday said it does not tap or eavesdrop on private conversations of citizens and residents. A statement from DSS spokesperson Peter Afunanya denied the allegation leveled against the service by a political group. “Recently, the agency has come under the focus of uninformed critics and unpatriotic commentators most of who feed the public with fake news and hate speeches against it,” he said.

ARMY ARRESTS 4 TRAFFICKERS, RESCUES 14 KIDS IN KOGI - DAILY TRUST PG.10, NATION PG.5

Soldiers have arrested four suspected human traffickers and rescued 14 children in Lokoja, Kogi State. The suspects were said to have taken their victims from Plateau State and were heading for Ekpoma in Edo State when they were intercepted by the soldiers. The spokesman of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Nneka Aniagoh, gave the names of the suspects as Evelyn Jerry, 27; Stephen Rebecca, 30 and Richard Patrick, 38.

COURT OF APPEAL FAILS TO HEAR ONNOGHEN’S SUITS - NATION PG.45, THISDAY PG.6,

THE Court of Appeal in Abuja has postponed its planned hearing of the three appeals filed by the suspended Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), Justice Walter Onnoghen, to February 27. It was the third time, in one month, that the court will postpone hearing in the appeals filed against the decisions of the Code of Conduct Tribunal (CCT), before which the suspended CJN is standing trial for alleged breach of code of conduct for public officers. Justice Onnoghen is, by his first appeal, challenging the jurisdiction of the CCT to hear the charge against him, being a serving judicial officer.

WE'VE COMPLETED CARD READERS' CONFIGURATION 100 PER CENT, SAYS INEC - NATION PG.8, DAILY TRUST PG.3, PUNCH PG.2, THISDAY PG.1&8

THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has completed 100 per cent the configuration of the Smart Cards Readers (SCRs), which will be used for voters' accreditation for elections on Saturday and March 9, its chairman, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, said yesterday. Yakubu, who stated this while updating the media and observers on the preparedness of the commission for the polls, said the deployment of voting materials to the 774 local government areas will be completed today. THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has completed 100 per cent the configuration of the Smart Cards Readers (SCRs), which will be used for voters' accreditation for elections on Saturday and March 9, its chairman, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, said yesterday.

TINUBU: BUHARI DIDN'T ORDER SHOOT ON SIGHT - NATION PG.7

By law, we should continue to energise our people. It depends on our resources. Because the Electoral Act allows us to continue to campaign and ask us to stop campaigning only 24 hours before the actual election. And once INEC changed the election date to February 23, they have given us the opening to campaign and energise our people. If you have a garden and you don't nourish it with water, the grass will remain dormant. We don't want our party to remain dormant. This is ability of the leadership to convert adversity to opportunity and prosperity and that's it; that's what we must do.

BODY BAG THREAT: ICC MAY PROSECUTE EL-RUFAl, SAYS FALANA - PUNCH PG.39

Human rights lawyer, Mr Femi Falana (SAN), says Kaduna State Governor, Mallam Nasir El-Rufai, risks being prosecuted by the International Criminal Court over his "body bag" comment. The lawyer said the only thing that could save El-Rufai from being picked up and prosecuted by the ICC was for none of the foreign election observers in the country to be killed.