

ACROSS THE NATION

NIGER-DELTA

Wazobia dance explosion: Eneh, Okoro, Oddiah shortlisted for eviction

THREE families, the Oddiah, Okoro and Eneh, of the contest while others simply prove their talents in their chosen dance category of "Wa", "Zo" or "Bia". The "Wa" dance, is basically the predominant traditional dance of the Yorubas from the Western zone of the country. It was interestingly staged by the Eneh, Okemiri, Opuwari and the Francis Families from the North and South-Eastern parts of the country in its true and original forms. The "Zo" dance; which is cut out for the people from the Northern parts of the country was professionally performed by the Okoro family, from the South-Eastern and the Ebhohon family from the South-South geopolitical zone of the country. The Bem and Okpanachi families from the Northern parts of the country, the Olaniran family from the South-West and the Oddiah family from the South-South featured the typical Ibo "Bia" dance

of the people from the south eastern parts of the country. On the evening, the crowd was so big, hard day's job. It was worthy to note that the various beautiful costumes were designed by the family members themselves. That in no small way shows the creative ability of each family unit in the contest. Also of great encouragement is the creative dance standard award to Ukalina Celine Opuwari from the Owerri regional selection of the Malta dance academy. The show gets hotter with more exciting and thrilling action, creative dances and stupendous fun and suspense on the dance floor. Now it is the auspicious time to guess the first family to bow out of the contest. Could it be the Eneh family? or the Okoros? or Oddiahs? Just keep your answer close to your heart until the performance, and final verdict by the judges to night on the favourite TV family dance reality show, Malta Dance

Ijaw leader begs Keyamo to forgive brother

THE Co-ordinator of Ijaw Monitoring Group (IMG) Comrade Joseph Evah has appealed to Lagos-based lawyer.

bosom friend Festus should give the glory to Almighty God and forgive his brother now that Lucky has publicly repented."

back as the biblical prodigal son and forgive him.

Dokubo seeks establishment of devt commission

By Kenneth Ehigiator

LEADER of the Niger Delta People Volunteer Force, Alhaji Mujahid Asari Dokubo, has canvassed cre-

not even given back bench, but are totally driven away with scorn and insults by the very people who claim that all was well and fine with the Niger Delta when most of us

an end in the region. Until these government officials are made to surrender a greater percentage of these derivation funds to the people of the oil bearing communities

ta and Imo States."

Dokubo proposed that managers of the commissions should nominated by the oil bearing communities, and not as political appointees by er, Mr. Jacob Oshiomogho paid him a courtesy call.

The Ovie said the stations and posts should be spread across Afliki, Alegbor, Ubrete and Ugbomro, all of which lack any form of police presence for now.

He further appealed to the IG through the CP to let Uvwie Local Government Area Police Division remain under the Ughelli Area Command rather than place it under the Warri Area Command.

In an welcome address read by chief Tuesday Onoge, the President General of Uvwie General Improvement Union, UGIU, commended Mr. Oshiomogho's efforts at ensuring that his kingdom is peaceful and crime-free.

Warri crisis: Itsekiri hold memorials

By Emma Amaize

WARRI—ITSEKIRI nation recently held a memorial church service in honour of all Itsekiri sons who died in the seven-year Warri crisis. The event took place five years after the end of hostilities even as it awarded scholarships worth N500,000 to 10 children who lost their fathers during the Ijaw/Itsekiri war.

The memorial service held at the Rewane Villa was organised by Itsekiri in the Diaspora under the aegis of Warri Community in Great Britain and Ireland (WCU), as the body started a weekend school in Great Britain and Ireland for the teaching of the It-

sekiri Language.

According to the President of WCU, Dr. Afodemije Lori "we must peacefully and painstakingly review how we were caught unprepared and unawares, gasping for the oxygen of hope and life just as we must also contemplate the roles that these named and unnamed heroes and others played in shoring up our physical defensive lines at the expense of their lives," adding that "we must restore the years that the locusts have eaten, that is, why we have committed ourselves to providing material and financial assistance to our people in Iweland."

Dr. Lori said the school had become imperative as Itsekiri Language "is the only vehicle for transferring the culture, emotional and mental essence of the people," noting that its idea would have a ripple effect in the hearts of all Itsekiri.

The scholarship award ranges from nursery, primary, secondary to tertiary institutions, while some outstanding and living heroes were also be accorded their

due recognition.

Amongst the fallen heroes listed are Messrs Ogodobiri Akumagba, Jaja Samuel Okoro, Odonghanro Edema, John Aturene. Others are Emmanuel Jologho, Happy Utieyin, John Neburagho and Tony Orru, respectively.

In his sermon at the occasion, Rev. (Dr) Jackson Iretefoju charged the people to always remember God as the creator of all and no human being can attempt to exterminate God's children from the face of the earth and succeed, stating also that the battle for the survival of Iweland was fought by God and not with the power of anybody.

Police kill 3 robbers

By Austin Ogwuda

ASABA—THREE armed robbery suspects were gunned down, Friday, in Asaba while raiding the Abraka mar-

ket located on the Asaba Benin highway in Asaba.

Vanguard gathered that during the operation motorists plying the road had to abandon the vehicles and fled following fierce gun battle between them and the police, while preventing them