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White Paper on UNN report

NDILI FOUND

GUILTY

Nine professors freed of all blames

From **KASSIDY UCHENDU, Nsukka.**

THE former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Professor Frank Ndili has been found guilty on almost all the charges levelled against him by the nine professors who sought for his removal.

The nine professors had among other things accused the former vice-chancellor of financial mismanagement, abuse of office and dictatorial tendencies in running the affairs of the institution.



• Frank Ndili

And following the accusations and counter accusations, the Federal Military Government in October 1984 appointed a visitation panel headed by a Rivers State High Court Judge, Justice Robert Okara to inquire into the affairs of the institution from 1981 to 1984.

The federal government White Paper on the report, threw more light into the reasons why the former vice-chancellor was removed from office.

The release of the White Paper was announced by the present Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Chimere Ikoku after an extraordinary meeting of the university senate held on Monday.

The 40-page White Paper found former vice-chancellor, Prof. Ndili guilty while the nine professors who had petitioned against his style of administration were exonerated on all the counter allegations made against them by Prof. Ndili.

According to the findings of the panel which were accepted by the Visitor, President Ibrahim Babangida, it was

irregular for Prof. Ndili to have diverted the university exchange programme funds for the purchase of a Mercedes Benz saloon car without the knowledge of the institution or the bursar who should have counter signed the cheque.

The White Paper also held that it was improper for Prof. Ndili to have set out to buy for himself a Mercedes Benz car or for the university in spite of the federal government ban on the use of Mercedes Benz cars as official vehicles.

The panel held that it was unbecoming of Prof. Ndili to have kept the transaction of the sale of the Mercedes Benz car at the institution's London Office secret to the Governing Council to enable it sell the car to the highest bidder.

The panel also found that the story of the purchase of a Volvo car from the joint account of Prof. and Mrs Ndili for Mrs Ndili was not true.

It also contended that Prof. Ndili also abused his office by awarding contract of above N10,000 allowed him by law when he awarded a contract for N128,000 without reference to



• Justice Okara

the tenders board for the purchase of an X-ray equipment.

Other irregularities discovered by the panel against Prof. Ndili included the failure of the task forces he set up to render accounts after executing their assignments.

Prof. Ndili was also said to have exceeded his powers when he went ahead to purchase solar energy equipment to the tune of N800,000.

Upholding these findings as were recommended by the panel, the Visitor, President Ibrahim Babangida directed as follows:

★ That the double Estacode allowance collected by Prof. Ndili be recovered from him.

★ That the university council should investigate the contract award by Prof. Ndili for the electrification of the Faculty of Art to the tune of N750,000 without reference to the tenders board.

★ That an audit inquiry should be set up into overseas account of all university's staff and any one found guilty of misconduct to be made to refund the amount so embezzled.

Also a special investigation panel has been directed by the president to probe the purchase of a Volvo car by Mrs Ndili from an overseas joint account of the couple.

The White Paper further directed that the Mercedes Benz car purchased by Prof. Ndili be taken over by the conference visitors unit (CVU) of the federal government and appropriate naira reparation made to the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

Highlights

- ★ UNN Council to investigate contract awards.
- ★ Audit inquiry into UNN staff over-sea's accounts.
- ★ Special panel to probe the purchase of Volvo car from Professor/Mrs Ndili's over-sea's joint account.
- ★ Mercedes Benz cars purchased by Professor Ndili to be taken over by the Conference Visitors Unit (CVU)

Teach for c

QUORANIC teacher Ali Bukar now serving year jail term for traffic offence, on Tuesday appeared before the Justice Akinola tribunal for review of those convicted under the act. Bukar told the panel he was further ne by his deteriorating condition since his arrest.

He said that although he had been receiving attention in prison, his condition has not improved. The quoranic teacher said that although his wife was arrested the same day he was later released, he was in his imprisonment and the other members of his family, whom he is a resident at Maiduguri State.

He told the tribunal that he was found on his arrival from Arabia was an accused gifts and his staying nine months stay a teacher in Saudi Arabia. Yusuf Bukar, who appealed for clemency, interpreter was told to know his fate from the Military Government course.

The tribunal also considered the cases of Umar Mohammed, Ali Ibrahim Yahay Mohammed Zakari, whom were also convicted (Exchange Control Sabotage) Tribunal currency trafficking. Umaru Ahmadu who was convicted

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