

Extraordinary.



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Government Notice No. 147

FULL TEXT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE ACTING PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

I have tonight been advised by the Council of Ministers that they had come to the unanimous decision voluntarily to hand over the administration of the country to the Armed Forces of the Republic with immediate effect.

All Ministers are assured of their personal safety by the new administration.

I will now call upon the General Officer Commanding, Major-General Aguiyi-Ironsi, to make a statement to the nation on the policy of the new administration.

It is my fervent hope that the new administration will ensure the peace and stability of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and that all citizens will give them their full co-operation.

Government Notice No. 148

FULL TEXT OF THE SPEECH OF MAJOR-GENERAL J. T. U. AGUIYI-IRONSI, THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING THE NIGERIAN ARMY

The Government of the Federation of Nigeria having ceased to function, the Nigerian Armed Forces have been invited to form an Interim Military Government for the purposes of maintaining law and order, and of maintaining essential services.

2. This invitation has been accepted, and I, General J. T. U. Aguiyi-Ironsi, the General Officer Commanding the Nigerian Army, have been formally invested with authority as Head of the Federation Military Government, and Supreme Commander of the Nigerian Armed Forces.

SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN PARTS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Federation Military Government hereby decrees :—

- (a) the suspension of the provisions of the Constitution of the Federation relating to the office of President, the establishment of Parliament, and of the office of Prime Minister ;
- (b) the suspension of the provisions of the Constitutions of the Regions relating to the establishment of the offices of Regional Governors, Regional Premiers and Executive Councils, and Regional Legislatures.

APPOINTMENT OF REGIONAL MILITARY GOVERNORS

The Federation Military Government further decrees :—

- (a) that there shall be appointed a Military Governor in each Region of the Federation, who shall be directly responsible to the Federation Military Government for the good government of the Region ;
- (b) the appointment as Adviser to the Military Governor of the Region, of the last person to hold the office of Governor of the Region under the suspended provisions of the Constitution.

THE JUDICIARY, THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE POLICE

The Federation Military Government further decrees :—

- (a) that the Chief Justice and all other holders of judicial appointments within the Federation shall continue in their appointments, and that the judiciary generally shall continue to function under their existing statutes ;
- (b) that all holders of appointments in the Civil Service of the Federation and of the Regions shall continue to hold their appointments and to carry out their duties in the normal way, and that similarly the Nigeria Police Force and the Nigeria Special Constabulary shall continue to exercise their functions in the normal way ;
- (c) that all Local Government Police Forces and Native Authority Police Forces shall be placed under the overall command of the Inspector-General.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

The Federation Military Government announces, in connection with the internal affairs of the Federation :—

- (a) that it is determined to suppress the current disorders in the Western Region and in the Tiv area of the Northern Region ;
- (b) that it will declare Martial Law in any area of the Federation in which disturbances continue ;
- (c) that it is its intention to maintain law and order in the Federation until such time as a new Constitution for the Federation, prepared in accordance with the wishes of the people, is brought into being.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

The Federation Military Government announces, in connection with the external affairs of the country :—

- (a) that it is desirous of maintaining the existing diplomatic relations with other States ; and
- (b) that it is its intention to honour all treaty obligations and all financial agreements and obligations entered into by the previous Government.

CITIZENS TO CO-OPERATE

The Federation Military Government calls upon all citizens of the Federation to extend their full co-operation to the Government in the urgent task of restoring law and order in the present crisis, and to continue in their normal occupations.

Government Notice No. 149

PRESS STATEMENT

1. The Federal Military Government of Nigeria has taken over the administration of the country.
2. The functions of the Federal Military Government will be exercised by a Supreme Military Council the details of which will be announced later.

3. The Permanent Secretaries in charge of Federal Ministries will continue in their office carrying out the normal functions of Government and they shall be directly responsible to the Federal Military Government when constituted.

4. In the Regions, there will be Military Governments under a Military Governor assisted by an adviser who is the last person to hold the office of Regional Governor. The normal functions of Government in each Region will be carried on by the Permanent Secretaries in the Regions, and they will be directly responsible to the Military Governments there.

5. The Regional Military Governments are directly responsible to the Head of the Federal Military Government and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria.

6. Public Corporations and other statutory bodies, such as local governments, will continue to function under their appropriate Ministries.

7. All existing laws, regulations, orders and official instructions remain in force, wherever applicable, until either modified or abrogated by the Federal Military Government.

MAJOR-GENERAL J. T. U. AGUIYI-IRONSI,
*Head of the Federal Military Government,
Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces,
Federal Republic of Nigeria*

17th January 1966.

Government Notice No. 150

DIRECTIVE No. 1

ABSENCE OF CERTAIN MILITARY OFFICERS FROM THEIR POSTS

The Head of the Federal Military Government, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, hereby:

(i) directs that all military officers who have left their posts must return thereto and resume their normal duties immediately; and

(ii) decrees that failure to comply with these directions will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Army Act 1960.

MAJOR-GENERAL J. T. U. AGUIYI-IRONSI,
*Head of the Federal Military Government,
Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces,
Federal Republic of Nigeria*

17th January 1966.

Government Notice No. 151

APPOINTMENT OF MILITARY GOVERNORS

The Head of the Federal Military Government, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, has appointed the following as Military Governors with effect from the 18th of January, 1966:—

NORTHERN NIGERIA
Major Hassan Usman Katsina

EASTERN NIGERIA
Lt.-Col. Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu

WESTERN NIGERIA
Lt.-Col. Francis Adekunle Fajuyi

MID-WESTERN NIGERIA
Lt.-Col. David Akpode Ejoor

Government Notice No. 152

CHANGES IN CIVIL SERVICE NOMENCLATURE

The Head of the Federal Military Government, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, has approved changes in nomenclature of the following offices with effect from the 16th of January, 1966 :—

<i>Old Title</i>	<i>New Title</i>
Secretary to the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers	Secretary to the Federal Military Government, Head of the Civil Service, c/o Cabinet Office, Lagos.
Secretary to the President	Principal Secretary, State House, Lagos.
Secretary to the Premier, Northern Region, Kaduna	Secretary to the Military Government, Northern Nigeria, Kaduna.
Chief Secretary to the Premier, Eastern Region, Enugu	Secretary to the Military Government, Eastern Nigeria, Enugu.
Secretary to the Premier and Executive Council, Western Region, Ibadan	Secretary to the Military Government, Western Nigeria, Ibadan.
Secretary to the Premier and Executive Council, Mid-Western Region, Benin City	Secretary to the Military Government, Mid-Western Nigeria, Benin City.

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