



CSU Fresno
Dept. of Criminology
Newsletter XXXV

December 2009



Global News



Nigeria is among the top ten countries in the world as the origin of fraudulent emails (scams), which typically offer the recipient large amounts of money under various pretenses. You can review hundreds of variations of such email solicitations at:

<http://www.snopes.com/crime/fraud/nigeria.asp>

or at:

<http://fraudgallery.com/>

The fraud is generally called the “Nigerian Fraud” or the 419 Fraud, since Nigeria has been the source of such scams for many decades, first with snail mail letters, then via fax, and today over the Internet. The number 419 is actually the statute number for fraud in the Nigerian penal code. While there are also many fraudulent emails that are purported to originate in other African countries, most are nevertheless the work of organized gangs and crime families in Lagos, Nigeria.

For the longest time the Nigerian government was not only reluctant to follow up on these scams within their own borders, but also colluded with or benefitted from them. Before his death in 1998, Sani Abacha, the former de facto president and general over the Nigerian military, had been asked by the U.S. State Department to take some action against the large number of financial frauds being committed out of Nigeria. Gen. Abacha retorted that if the victims had not been so greedy for large amounts of money, they would not have fallen for the scams. In essence he blamed the victims and declined to take action against the perpetrators from Lagos, Nigeria.

With the world wide use of the Internet in business and commerce, Nigerian criminals are now also placing merchandise orders on line with fraudulent payment schemes.

Nigeria again appears to be the worst in that offense category and one businessman in the United Kingdom commented on line that he never makes transactions with persons in Nigeria. He also indicated that he considered Ghana to be a close second in the fraudulent payment schemes.

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NIGERIAN FRAUD...



<http://www.efccnigeria.org/>

The current Nigerian government, in contrast to prior administrations, is making a concerted effort through the ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION (EFCC) and with the assistance of Microsoft, to combat fraudulent emails and financial scams originating from Nigeria,

The duty of the EFCC originates from the Nigerian Establishment Act of 21 December 2007, which empowers and mandates the EFCC to do the following:

Prevent, investigate, prosecute and penalize economic and financial crimes, and “enforcing the provisions of other laws and regulations relating to economic and financial crimes,” including Money Laundering, Advance Fee Fraud, Financial Malpractices in Banks, and related offenses.

PROJECT EAGLE CLAW

This project is part of a new initiative to combat financial fraud in Nigeria. Current efforts have already resulted in the taking down of 800 email addresses used for various scams. The operation is expected to be fully functional by May 2010, at which time the government hopes to be able to take down 5,000 fraudulent email addresses per month. Nigeria is intent on improving its global image and removing that country from the world’s top ten worst offenders list.

Other countries in the Top Ten List for fraudulent emails are:

- Bosnia
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Egypt
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Israel
- Malaysia

Off-Campus Criminology B.S. Degree Program

Two new classes will begin this February. Students needing to enroll should contact Dr. Schweizer via email for permission numbers (haralds@csufresno.edu). These numbers can be used only once to register for a particular class on line through the website of the Division of Continuing and Global Education.

The upcoming courses are as follows:

Crim 113 Forensics in C.J. taught by Ms. Deliah Heredia

Meets from 1800-2200 on the following

Mondays: Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, Mar 1, 8, 15, 22

Meets from 0800-1430 on the following

Saturdays: Feb 6, March 6

No textbook is required.

Crim 174 Ethnic and Gender Issues taught by Dr. E. Hughes

Meets from 1800-2200 on the following

Wednesdays: Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3, 10,

17, 24. Also meets from 0800-1430 on the

following **Saturdays:** Feb 20, March 20

Reading material will be made available digitally.

Off-Campus Criminology

M.S. Degree Program

The current graduate program cohort is making excellent progress and will finish its degree requirements this summer. The three remaining courses, meeting dates, faculty, and text requirements, are as follows:

Crim 270T The Intelligence Function taught by Dr. Ryan (kjryan@csufresno.edu)

Jan 15/16; 29/30 Feb 12/13; 26/27

The required text is:

Jackson, Brian, ed., *Domestic Intelligence in a Free Society* (Santa Monica, CA: Rand, 2009),

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG804.pdf

The book can be downloaded free in the adobe format or may be purchased online through Rand.

2. MBA 211 Management Information Systems taught by Dr. T. Wielicki* (tomaszw@csufresno.edu)

Mar 12/13; 26/27; Apr 9/10; 23/24

Reading material will be made available online.

3. Crim 295 Controversial Issues in Crime taught by Dr. Muscat - May 28/29; June 4/5; 18/19 July 9/10

*I am pleased to announce that Dr. T. Wielicki has agreed to teach the downtown program graduate course in Management Information Systems. Dr. Wielicki is a professor in the CSU Fresno Department of Computer Information Systems and Decision Sciences, which is part of the Craig School of Business, and an internationally recognized expert on Information Systems.



Dr. Thomasz Wielicki



WILL THERE BE ANOTHER OFF CAMPUS GRADUATE COHORT?

The current graduate cohort will be preparing for their comprehensive examination this summer and complete degree requirements by fall 2010. The viability of another graduate cohort program after the current one completes its studies, is being examined. Part of this examination is an assessment of past experiences with the application process and feedback from students currently completing their graduate coursework.

Government employees holding a four year degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher who are interested in joining a subsequent graduate cohort should email a statement of interest to Dr. Schweizer (haralds@csufresno.edu).

GENDARMERIE



Burkina Faso

<http://www.gouvernement.gov.bf/>

The April 2009 Issue of this Newsletter showed a badge of the Haute-Volta Gendarmerie. Haute Volta (Upper Volta) later became the Republic of Burkina Faso. The October 2009 issue of this newsletter then profiled **Palingwinde Yves Oedraogo**, a CSU Fresno graduate student in International Relations, from Burkina Faso. A very interesting aspect of BF is that while BF is among the poorest nations in the world, the country is relatively stable and has had no terrorist incidents or groups operating within its borders. The president of the country, **Blaise Compaoré**, has been in office without interruption since 15 October 1987.



Above: The current badge of the Gendarmerie in Burkina Faso.

As part of his class assignment in the Comparative Criminal Justice course taught by Dr. Schweizer, Palingwinde Yves Oedraogo gave a class presentation about his country and its police. Yves' presentation helped students recognize that countries in Africa cannot simply be

“lumped” together when describing their political, economic and social characteristics. His class presentation also provided some levity when the subject of “car jackings” came up. Asked if he knew what the term “car jacking” meant, Yves indicated that he did, and when asked where he learned this, he answered “here.”



*PALINGWINDE YVES OEDRAOGO
(Class presentation)*

The structure of Law Enforcement in B.F. is similar to that of France, the former colonial power in Burkina Faso. The two main agencies are the Gendarmerie, which comes under the military, and the Police Nationale.



www.police.bf

Some municipalities also have their own separate city police, but they have limited jurisdiction and primarily deal with order maintenance and enforcement of city codes, similar to municipal police in Italy, South Africa, France, and Brazil.

BURKINA FASO...



In addition to these police forces, there is also a „Forest Police“ which is responsible for the enforcement of laws as they pertain to poaching, environmental protection, and arson in non-populated areas, and a **Customs** police, which is considered to be very corrupt. Of all these forces, the Gendarmerie has the most stringent entry requirements and also has a better reputation than the **Police Nationale**.

GENDARMERIE BURKINA FASO



*Center: Capitaine R. Elisée Ouedraogo
(Yves' father)*



*In a recent development, females are now also permitted to join the Gendarmerie
(Photos courtesy of P. Yves Oedraogo)*

EMPLOYMENT AND INTERSHIPS



<http://www.atf.gov/careers/index.htm>

The careers website of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives maintains updated information on agency job opportunities. If you are a student at Fresno State with a high GPA and interested in an **internship with ATFE**, contact Dr. Schweizer (haralds@csufresno.edu)

Security Officer Part Time

Requirements: HS, valid DL
Min one yr law enf or gaming security experience preferred
www.chuckchansigold.com

The Schweizer Family wishes the Criminology Newsletter Readers



A Happy New Year 2010

