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COVID BILLIONAIRE ENTERPRISE DISENTANGLED

The questionable COVID-19 testing at the Kotoka International Airport (KIA) has exposed a blatant rip-off of state institutions to the tune US\$ 1.4 million by the questionable Frontier Health Services Limited in less than 20 days that President Akufo Addo announced that international travellers to Ghana will be mandated to test for COVID-19.

During President Akufo Addo's COVID-19 update a few days ago, he announced that so far, some 10,000 people have been subjected to the mandatory COVID-19 test at the KIA.

Importantly, each traveller was forced to cough up US\$ 150 for the test. That accrued a total of US\$1.5 million. However out of this amount, the Ghana Airport Company Limited, the Ghana Health Services and the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research whose resources and staff were used to set up the testing at the airport, received a paltry US\$110,000, while Frontier Health Services, owned by the shady Ni-

gerian billionaire, Benedict Peters took home US\$ 1.4 million.

Investigations by Whatsup reveal that out of the US\$150 charged each traveller for the test, Noguchi gets a pal-

try US\$4, Ghana Airport Company gets US\$4 while the Ghana Health Service receives only US\$3. The entire process of setting up Frontier Health Services questionable manner in which the Akufo Addo handed the company the contract without any proper

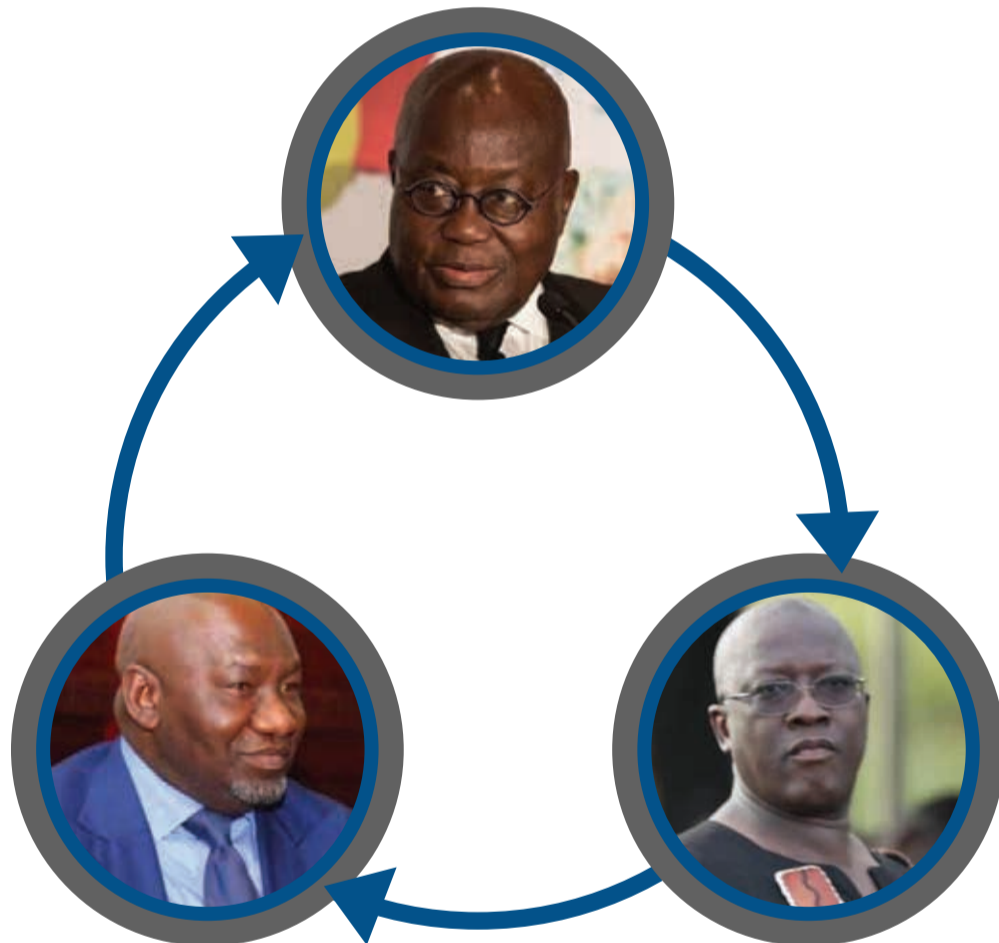
procurement processes or tender raises serious question of cronyism, to which civil society groups such as IMANI Africa has raised red flags. For instance, despite having no track record,

na on July 21, 2020, and received its certificate to commence business the same day. Its parent company, Healthcare Solutions Services Limited was also incorporated in the same fast-tracked manner on June 3, 2020.

The companies were immediately given the contract to start testing for COVID-19 at Ghana's international airport, despite having no track record and also the fact that its testing protocol which the company claims it is the "novel and first of its kind worldwide" has not been clinically approved to be used on human.

Policy think-tank IMANI Africa queries: "...The Department of Virology has gone ahead to work with Frontiers Healthcare without any institutional review. What is going on here?"

"The Health Institutions & Facilities Act of 2011 (Act 829) is very clear about the prerequisite for delivering clinical and biomedical laboratory services in this



try US\$4, Ghana Airport Company gets US\$4 while the Ghana Health Service receives only US\$3.

The entire process of setting up Frontier Health Services questionable manner in which the Akufo Addo handed the company the contract without any proper

it was clear that Frontier Health Services was purposely set up to fleece the state and travellers in the guise of COVID-19 testing at KIA, Whatsup News investigations gathered.

Frontier Health Services (with registration number CS1144092020) was incorporated in Gha-

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country: a company and its facilities have to be licensed by HEFRA – the Health Facilities Regulatory Agency of Ghana. Our checks reveal that at the time that Professor Ampofo oversaw the supposed validation processes for Frontiers Healthcare to begin making money, these approvals had not been secured.”

Incidentally, the point man at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR) who facilitated the entire deal to hand over the contract to charge each traveller to Ghana US\$ 150 each in the guise of a mandatory COVID-19 test, is a cousin to President Akufo Addo-Professor William Kwabena Ampofo.

Professor Ampofo is the Coordinator of the National Laboratory for COVID 19 Testing at Noguchi. This publication has obtained an August 27, 2020 letter addressed to Prof. Ampofo, from Frontier Healthcare Services “requesting for COVID-19 testing support at Kotoka International Airport”. The letter was



signed by Dr. Emmanuel Acquaye, a Director at Frontier Healthcare Services.

When contacted via telephone for elaboration on the mysterious circumstance of his company's juicy contract from the Akufo Addo administration, Dr. Acquaye, a preacher and the Head Pastor for the Baastona Branch of Action Chapel International swerved Whatsup News, after he had given this publication an appointment to meet.

Meanwhile, investigations by Whatsup News has established that Incidentally, Benedict Peters is the hidden owner of Frontier Healthcare Services and he is a close friend to President Akufo



Addo.

Mr. Peters who is smeared with several allegations of corruption, criminal conspiracy, bribery, diversion of funds and money laundering, used a series of shell corporations registered in notorious tax havens such as Panama and Dominica to set up Frontier Health Services which conveniently secured the COVID-19 testing contract.

Billionaire Peters is said to be one of the individuals who reportedly conspired with former Nigerian Minister of Petroleum, Mrs. Diezani Alison-Maudeke, to misappropriate crude oil funds.

After being on the

radar of the Nigerian Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC), Peters went into self-exile and made Ghana his base.

Further investigations reveal that Frontier Health Services is owned 100% by Healthcare Solutions Limited, a company which is in turn owned 100% by The Peters Family Company Limited.

Funds from Ghana's COVID-19 tests are channelled to the notorious tax havens through the First Atlantic Bank and the bank based in Ghana. The majority shareholder of First Atlantic Bank, Kaderi Nominees Ltd, which is in turned owned by AITEO, described as the largest indigenous oil-producing firm in Nigeria by output.

AITEO is owned by Benedict Peters whose net worth is said to be around US\$3 billion, making him the 5th richest man in Nigeria. Investigations confirming the relationship of First Atlantic Bank revealed that the website domain name of Frontier Health Services was purchased by First Atlantic Bank on August 27, 2020 through an offshore company based in PANAMA.



RE-ARRANGED FACE OF JUBILEE HOUSE GALAMSEY KINGPIN SURFACES



Pictures of battered face of Presidential Staffer and known facilitator of illegal miners Charles Cromwell Bissue, has gone viral, following his violent fight with the Member of Parliament for Tarkwa-Nsuem Constituency, George Mireku Duker.

The picture seen by Whatsup News shows a re-structured face of Charles Bissue from professionally placed punches left hooks to his head by George Mireku Duker during their physical altercation at the Kingston Hotel in Takoradi-Western Region. One of Bissue's eyes have totally closed from the badly swollen face and lips.

The fight broke out between the two during a meeting of executives of

the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP).

"He was coming to me as he shouted, 'I will beat you!' So my chairman was even asking me to get up because Bissue was coming to me. Lo and behold! Bissue came to me and threw a blow at me and in defence, I also threw one at him but my finger went into his mouth and he chewed it," Mireku told the media in an interview monitored by Whatsup News.

"I had a deep cut at the middle finger of my right hand. I later went to the Jemimah Hospital for some treatment," he said.

The two are believed to be bitter enemies following reports that Charles Bissue has been sponsoring an independent parliamen-

tary candidate to unseat Mireku Duker from the Tarkwa-Nsuem constituency.

Mireku Duker also received serious injuries from the fight, as an out-punched Bissue employed his canine teeth to the fingers of the stunned MP as a last resort.

Narrating his side of the story, Mireku Duker said: "So at the meeting, I made the same complaint that there is an independent candidate in Tarkwa who is being supported by some regional executives so we should trash the issue here. After my presentation, I went to sit down. But before the meeting came to an end, Lord Commey asked Bissue to react to the issue I raised in three min-

utes."

He continued: Bissue went for the microphone and said I used to be his friend but I visited him at his office one day and told him that he should not believe the President and allow people to do galamsey or illegal mining."

Incidentally, these are two top appointees of the Akufo Addo administration who are at the centre of two major scandals in the administration.

Charles Bissue was caught on tape almost two years ago, receiving a huge payout for reportedly facilitating illegal gold mining activities, even though he was the Secretary to the inter-ministerial committee set up by President Akufo Addo to clamp down on illegal mining activities locally known as "Galamsey".

On the other hand, Mireku Duker is the Chairman of the Board of the Minerals Income Investment Fund (MIIF) which has controversially hatched a scheme that will funnel Ghana's mining royalties to Agyapa Royalties, a company registered in a notorious tax haven, and a company whose private shareholders have remained a mystery till date.



"OVERHYPED" PEACE FM BEGS NDC TO RETURN



Despite Company Limited, the owners of Twi-speaking Peace FM had is all remorse as it begs the National Democratic Congress (NDC) to rescind its decision not to feature on the radio station's flagship morning show, Kokrokoo hosted by Kwame Sefa-Kayi.

The bad blood between the main opposition party and Peace FM stemmed from complaints by NDC communicators that the radio station was biased against them and was giving favours to the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP).

The Communications Officer for the NDC, Sammy Gyamfi, had recently posted on social media that his party has boycotted peace FM.

In a widely circulating twitter message, Sammy Gyamfi described Peace FM's Kokrokoo programme as "overhyped" and that the NDC feel no qualms in refusing to appear on the show which they had boycotted in May 2020.

"For the records, the NDC has never and will never beg to appear on Peace FM's Kookrokoo. The Comm. Bureau that I lead, does not intend to ever return to that show. The NDC brand

is far greater than that overhyped platform. Our boycott still stands. Ignore the lies. #Baako-Lied," Sammy Gyamfi wrote on twitter on September 19, 2020.

However, in a desperate move to quell the impasse, Whatsup News has intercepted a letter written to the NDC today, September 23, 2020, begging the party to return as a permanent panellist on Peace FM.

"..In recent times, there has been a misunderstanding between us and the NDC in relation to the panelling of the discussion of the Kokrokoo show. Management of Despite

Media acknowledges responsibility for whatever misunderstanding that has arisen between us and the NDC in recent times," the Despite Company said in admission to NDC's accusations.

The letter signed by the Managing Director of Despite then went ahead to extend the olive branch to the NDC, saying: "We, therefore, urge the NDC to let sleeping dogs lie and allow harmony to reign and return to the Kokrokoo show. As agents and stakeholders of development, we may agree to disagree all for the sake of Ghana our motherland."



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GOV'T EXTENDS FREE WATER PACKAGE



The Akufo Addo administration has announced the extension of its free water package to consumers, in what the government claims is a relief package for the distress caused by the COVID-19 outbreak in Ghana.

The extension will last till the end of the year, in what critics sense as a subtle political campaign gimmick

by the governing party which is headed for a high-stake elections against its arch-rival, the National Democratic Congress (NDC).

The letter announcing the extension of free water was signed by Cecilia Abena-Dapaah, the Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources.

According to the letter, the extension was done "to enable Ghanaian consumers with the

protocols especially the washing of hands under running water, to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic."

Following the first case of COVID-19 outbreak in Ghana mid-March 2020, President Akufo Addo announced that his government will absorb the water bill of all Ghanaians from April to June 2020. However, after June, the government extended the

freebie further.

However, consumers have complained that since the supposed free water supply, Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL) had suddenly started rationing water.

The latest announcement of interruption in water supply was announced about a week ago, when the GWCL announced that parts of Accra will face rationing.



STRANEK IN PAPER WAR WITH SPECIAL PROSECUTOR OVER AGYAPA DIRTY DEAL

Governance think tank, Strategic Thinkers Network (STRANEK) has asked for the removal of the Special Prosecutor, Martin Alamisi Amidu for his incompetence.

STRANEK is particular about the show of disinterest by the SP in the unfolding scandal of the Agyapa Minerals Royalties.

In what can be described as a paper war between the Office of the Special Prosecutor (OSP) and STRANEK, Nii Tetteh Tetteh, the think tank's Executive Director, in a letter, describes Mr. Amidu as "childish" and "petty" among other uncomplimentary words.

STRANEK's letter also dangles question marks on Amidu's astuteness as an investigator of the Agyapa deal, pointing out that vibes from the SP indicate that he has taken a compromised stance to absolve the so-called Agyapa Saka-wa Mafia with a probe that the SP has started.

The whole anger from STRANEK had been sparked by Amidu's when he replied the think tank's petition to probe the Agyapa deal in intemperate language.

Among others, the SP had called STRANEK's peti-



tion "opportunistic," "populist" and supposedly replete with "mere speculations."

This is after Mr. Amidu had indicated in the same reply letter that his office has already started an investigation into the Agyapa deal and has, as part of the probe, written to Parliament.

STRANEK points out that Amidu could have just informed it of his office's commencement of investigations in simple officialese without the needless insults that the think tank says is totally unbecoming of the Special Prosecutor.

"We, at STRANEK-AFRICA, find it petty of a Special Prosecutor to describe a petition sent to you in good faith and in the interest of

the people of Ghana as an opportunistic and populist enterprise. It is difficult to understand the depth of your anger at an organisation petitioning your office to investigate what seems to be a deal fraught with illegality, secrecy and conflict of interest issues. If nothing at all, our petition should give you a sense of direction as to the kind of questions that Ghanaians want answers to," STRANEK fired back.

"It is our duty as citizens of Ghana to assist in fighting corruption and protecting the public purse. STRANEK-Africa is not in any form of competition with you to "take credit for" any processes as childishy captured in your response,

neither do we intend to start one. We will continue to go high when you go low. The fight against corruption cannot be a one-man affair. It requires a collective effort."

The hot worded reply from STRANEK was signed by Nii Tetteh Tetteh, Executive Director and Emmanuel Osei, Director of Policy and Political Affairs.

The think tank served notice that it will continue to play its watchdog role and that no amount of insults from anyone will stop it from serving the public interest.

Meanwhile, Law expert at large, Prof. Kwaku Azar, has chided the Special Prosecutor for starting the paper war with STRANEK, saying Alamisi's actions are likely to discourage public participation in the fight against corruption.

In a write-up, Prof. Azar points out that Alamisi's barking ways will discourage others who wish to come forward with helpful information that can help with investigation into corruption from doing so.

A good prosecutor should always welcome leads, information or complaints from the public, even if it turns out that they are not helpful, useful or redundant.



GHANAIANS IN THE DIASPORA CALL FOR A SCRAPING OF THE AGYAPA DIRTY DEAL

A group of Ghanaian professionals in the diaspora have called on the Akufo-Addo government to abandon the Agyapa Mineral Royalties mortgaging deal, saying it does not hold any advantage for Ghana.

The grouping under a common banner, "Action-4Change," has adopted a stance against what has been variously described as "dirty," "stinking," and "sakawa" fraudulent deal after members had heard from a former Deputy Secretary of the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP)'s California branch, Solomon Owusu.

Mr. Owusu, who is an expert in mining based in Denver, Colorado, had explained the Agyapa deal to the Ghanaians in the diaspora in a virtual meeting through a cyber platform, zoom. He made it clear, that the deal, which is so opaque that even Parliamentarians do not know its exact nature is purposed to put royalties from Ghana's mineral resources into the clutches of the Akufo-Addo family and their friends.



According to Dr. Owusu, the aim is that when Akufo-Addo is kicked out of power, his family and a few friends will still be in a position to control Ghana's mineral royalties for at least 15 more years.

"If the deal is 100% owned by the Ghana government as they claimed, why did they register it at a tax haven as a private company to prevent future investigations? Why have they not disclosed the board of directors of the Agyapa company, if it is publicly owned? Why didn't they advertise the various positions, including the consultants and

CEO for other qualified Ghanaians to apply but they just picked certain family members and friends", Solomon Owusu questioned.

Participants in the meeting included Ghanaians domiciled in the USA, Canada, UK, Australia, Holland, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Republic of Ireland, and others.

Apparently, they had heard about the noises going on back at home about the Agyapa Mineral Royalties deal but did not have first-hand information on it and so invit-

ed the expert to educate.

The deal entails the Akufo-Addo government, collateralizing royalty inflows of the Mineral Incomes Investment Fund (MIIF) for US\$500,000,000 in exchange for giving away 49% of the inflows for 15 years to private investors.

The deal had raised eyebrows from the get-go because of a conspiracy of issues around it: the Akufo-Addo government has been so obscurantist about the deal that even the Minority MPs in Parliament had to stage a walkout during its passage on account of its opacity.

As part of the secrecy, the directors of the SPV which is to be a company are not known. Also, for reasons that have refused to make sense to anybody, the SPV/company has been incorporated in a tax haven in the UK (Jersey), even though tax havens are known to be places where people who want to hide financial information, including criminal bosses, route their money.



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PARLIAMENT RESUMES OCTOBER 7TH

Parliament is resuming sitting on October 7th, 2020 after it went on recess in April.

A notice from the Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Prof. Mike Ocquaye said the resumption will officially kick off at 10 o'clock on the 7th of October.

"In pursuance of the Standing Order 37 of the Parliament of Ghana,



I Professor Aaron Michael Ocquaye, Speaker of Parliament. hereby give notice that the third meeting of the fourth session of the seventh Parliament of the Fourth Republic shall commence on Wednesday the 7th of October, 2020 at ten o'clock in the forenoon at Parliament House, Accra."


the notice is dated the 23rd of September, 2020.

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