

Customs Seize Senator's Multi-million Dollar Furniture

Contributed by Jonathan Elendu
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The Nigerian Customs Service has seized furniture valued at over one million dollars belonging to Sen. Lee Maeba. According to very reliable sources, Sen. Maeba has been "running all over the place, making frantic calls for somebody who can help him retrieve his furniture from the Customs."

Maeba's seized furniture is supposed to be used in his huge mansion in Port Harcourt. The Rivers Senator had boasted that his mansion, which boasts of six living rooms, "will be a challenge to anybody." The mansion, which is designed like the American President's residence, The White House, is supposed to be an all white building and the interior décor is supposed to be all white, including furniture.

Elendureports.com has been investigating the 42 year old senator's source of wealth. Maeba, who is the Chairman, Senate Committee on Petroleum (Upstream) claimed to have been a very wealthy man before coming to the Senate in 1999. However, our investigations suggest that the senator may have exaggerated his wealth. For instance, the senator lived in a very modest bungalow in a lower middle class area of Port Harcourt until recently.

According to a friend of the senator who did not want to be named in this story, "Lee did not have money before he became a senator. Yes, he was the vice chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) but that was not a position that required money. It was after he became a senator and Peter Odili became governor of Rivers State that Lee started seeing real money."

The senator's construction company is said to have handled a lot of contracts during the Odili regime. The company also worked for the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC).

When Shell Petroleum Development Company decided to pull out of Ogoni land, Sen. Maeba, went into negotiations with a Chinese company to take over Shell's place. The senator did not mind that his committee in the senate oversees that sector of the economy. This reporter was also informed by various sources that Sen. Lee Maeba was also awarded an oil block. We are yet to independently confirm this.

A Port Harcourt based lawyer who was interviewed for this story said: "It is illegal for the senator to use his position to do business. Which ever way you look at it, the senator is using his position to enrich himself. It is against the code of conduct for public officials. If actually the senator got an oil block and tried to bring an oil exploration company to Nigeria then he should be chatting with the code of conduct bureau and the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC). It is unfortunate that our law makers break the laws more than any other segment of the society."

UPDATE:

Elendureports.com investigation has just revealed that the seized furniture of Sen. Lee Maeba is in Port Harcourt. According to our sources, the 2 40ft containers contain "totally banned items";

Our investigations further revealed that the senator tried to make a deal with top Customs officials in Port Harcourt. According to very reliable sources, the Customs officials demanded the sum of N10,000,000 per container from Sen. Lee Maeba.

The Senator told the Customs officials that rather than pay them the N20,000,000 he would contact the Senate President, David Mark. According to a source with knowledge of the negotiations, Lee Maeba claimed that he was very close to Sen. David Mark and he would prevail on the senate president to intercede with the minister whose ministry oversees the Customs.

Email: jonathan@elendureports.com.