

Police, MASSOB clash in Onitsha

• 7 killed, armoured vehicle burnt

Members of the Nigerian community insisted, however, that CNN must air a rejoinder to the programme.

We want CNN to live up to its responsibility as a responsible member of the mainstream American media, by airing a rejoinder of the above programme. The rejoinder should be designed to present a balanced picture of the Nigerian American community and also clear CNN's obviously portrayed bias against Nigerian Americans.

Either that, or the Nigerian American community shall have no choice but embark on other options to showcase CNN's less than honourable, and racist motives disparaging a section of the larger Nigerian/American community, the statement warned.

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This came amidst clash between members of the movement and National Association of Road Transport Owners (NARTO), which brought to a stand still economic activities and vehicular movement around Upper Iwaka and Owerrri Road.

No fewer than 18 members of the movement were arrested and four rifles among which were two double barrels, one pump action and one single-barrel gun recovered in the two

separate operations carried out by the police at Alpkala Forest Reserve and Npikpa Layout, Okpoko.

The battle against MASSOB, which started Thursday night, according to the Police Area Commander, Onitsha, Mr Mathew Uyanwa saw some policemen receiving minor injuries.

Uyanwa, an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), who led the operation with Awika Area Commander Umar Gwadebe, also an ACP, said the operation was successful at Alpkala Forest Reserve, where they raided and cleared MASSOB members, arrested some of them, recovered rifles and other dangerous weapons and charms.

Saturday *Champion* however learnt that the Npikpa operation failed as the police team ran into MASSOB members. As the police attempted an escape, MASSOB boyschad a field day destroying the vehicles, including the APC, worth several millions of Naira and brought from Mopol Unit Five, Benin, for the purpose of this crackdown.

In a swift reaction, MASSOB Area Two Administrator, Onitsha, Comrade Edeson Samud alleged that Police killed seven MASSOB members in the latest dampdown.

He said that they (MASSOB) were holding meeting at Alpkala Forest Reserve when Police came with 30 buses, two Armoured vehicles, eight saloon Peugeot cars and began to shoot indiscriminately as well as arresting passers-by and MASSOB members. In the process, said Edeson, seven of their members

were allegedly shot and killed.

He alleged that there is an attempt to exterminate Igbo Youths as this type of thing does not happen in the North and West, even as he called on the United Nations and the International Community to intervene in the latest dampdown on MASSOB.

Attempts by the MASSOB to take over Upper Iwaka Motor Parks Friday morning resulted in a clash between them and NARTO, which resisted them.

Those who were coming into Onitsha and going out were stranded for several hours as vehicular movements were stopped and bonfires were made on the expressway.

The Police in the last three weeks have engaged MASSOB in a protracted battle to dampdown on them but MASSOB has resisted and remain irrepressible.

Ibadan agog as Glo gives out cars, generators

Lucky winners in the Ibadan draw of the *Glo Jumbo Offer*, otherwise called "180 cars in 180 days" Thursday carted home prizes ranging from Kia Picanto cars to 5KVA power generating sets and cash.

The winners who emerged in the draws held in Ibadan, Oyo State capital, a fortnight ago, were overjoyed with the second national carrier for fulfilling its promise to its subscribers. Six subscribers each received a Kia Picanto saloon car, six went home with a 5KVA generating set each while 48 others who won cash prizes of N25,000

themselves politically.

In his own brief comment former governor of old Anambra State, Chief CC Onoh cautioned that if the north insists on promoting the president in 2007, the nation would be thrown into needless unpalatable situation.

Hailling the coming together of *Ndigbo* to take a position on the 2007 presidency, chairman of All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) Chief Victor Umeh said the summit was a proof that the people of the zone were ready to work together.

He said the position of *Ndigbo* was in conformity with that of his zoned its presidential slot to the southeast.

He urged Igbo politicians who are nursing presidential ambition to come to the party and realize their ambition instead by being frustrated at the last moment by other parties.

Restating the need for *Ndigbo* to work together, Commodore Ukwue and Chief Bob Ogburnu charged the people of the zone to borrow a leaf from political practice in the southeast in the past and work together.

He said: "Let us move on in these trying days again to show

each received their money.

Speaking after the keys to a Kia Picanto were handed over to her at the D'Rovans Hotel, venue of the presentation, Chief (Mrs.) Cecilia Lajuwoni from Igbetoko in Onodo State, said she was taken aback when she kept receiving calls from people who claimed to be staff of Globacom informing her that she had won a car. "I knew I did not partake in any lucky dip and I was alive to the fact that 419-ers flock round the country seeking whom to defraud, so, each time the calls came, I cursed them before hanging up on them."

Madam Lajuwoni who was also won a Kia Picanto showered encomiums on Globacom, which she described as the precursor of better things in the telecommunications industry in Nigeria.

Anambra forwards list of erosion sites to FG

State Government has forwarded the list of erosion sites to the Federal Government for funding or repair.

The list, which has 10 erosion sites, was forwarded to the Federal Government by the State Government through the Ministry of Lands, Survey and Survey, Mr. D. O. Okeke, who is the State Minister for Lands, Survey and Survey.

The list of erosion sites, which includes the following: 1. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 2. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 3. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 4. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 5. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 6. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 7. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 8. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 9. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government, 10. Erosion at the junction of the road between the State Government and the Federal Government.