

bureaucratic regulations and the sustenance of ongoing reforms of civil service", he said.

(SOS) message to President Obasanjo.

The deployment of the

While noting that Abia State is relatively calm, he urged

3 beheaded in land dispute

JIDE BAKARE, Ilorin

THE lingering boundary dispute between Offa and Erin-Ile communities in Kwara State heightened as three people were reportedly beheaded last Friday, just as the Kwara State police command yesterday declared a dusk to dawn curfew in the two warring communities.

KANO

A source close to the state police command told newsmen in Ilorin that the three deceased persons were beheaded by angry youths in Offa community.

The source regretted that police could not rescue the victims in view of the fierceness

of the milieu.

A statement issued by spokesman for the state police command, Mr. Gideon Marcus, a deputy superintendent, said the curfew would be from 6.00pm to 6.00am until further notice.

Noting that the curfew was part of fresh measures to restore public peace and order in the affected communities, the police authority also ordered that all persons should steer clear of the area now designated a "buffer zone" between the two towns.

The statement also stated that all public rallies and processions in the two towns have been banned.

A rally of the All Nigeria Peoples Party, scheduled to hold in Offa yesterday was cancelled as a result of the crisis.

Meanwhile, Kwara State governor, Dr Bukola Saraki, has directed the commissioner of police to increase the number of police personnel on ground at the troubled area for effective control.

Group expresses shock at sack of presidential aides

TONY AILEMEN, Yola

TURAKI Vanguard has discribed as "shocking" the recent mass sacking of Vice President Atiku Abubakar's personal aides by presidency.

Reacting to the action, the group's National Director Media and Public Affairs, Chief Eze Chukwuemeka Eze said although the Vice President was informed about the action earlier, the number of his aides sacked were far more than they expected.

"We are aware that Vice President Atiku Abubakar was informed that some of his aides will be relieved of their appointments but the number of those sacked was more than what we expected."

He disclosed that the Vanguard was however not surprised about the action, saying that the organization was fully aware of the moves as far back as 2005 to drastically reduce the Vice President's aides.