

# Police arrest 6 customs officers

LUKKEY ABAWURU

## •Over death of traders

**P**OLICE in Lagos have arrested six customs officials who allegedly shot and killed two traders and wounded several others while escorting a vehicle carrying seized contraband textile materials to Seme border for destruction.

*Daily Champion* learnt that the customs officials were arrested on Independence day and are currently being detained at the Homicide Section of State Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Panti, Yaba.

An eyewitness said one of deceased traders identified as Lima Abbas died instantly while his colleague died on his way to hospital for urgent medical attention.

However, one of the survivors, identified as Kabila Hassan is lying critically at the emergency ward of Lagos University Teaching Hospital, LUTH.

The witness said both deceased and survivors were doing their normal business at the border when the officials opened fire on them.

According to him, the customs officials shot aimlessly, apparently to scare people from attacking them and stealing the textiles.

But a senior police officer at the homicide section told our correspondent that one Usman Abdulkadir, said to have fired the shot that killed the late traders have made useful statement.

The officer said that the police are hunting for the driver that drove the vehicle that conveyed the contraband to Seme border to get first hand information from him on why the customs men opened fire on innocent people.

However, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Olubode Ojajuni, however, confirmed the incident but declined comment on how and why the customs men shot the people.

Also at the Customs office at Ikeja its Public Relations Officer, Mr. Chike Ngige confirmed the incident but noted that the deceased were hoodlums who hid under the bales of the textiles

materials to loot and steal.

He stated that hoodlums confronted the people conveying the trucks resulting to the incident.

Ngige noted that about 6 trucks of textile materials were conveyed to Seme border for burning, saying the incident occurred when the last one was being conveyed to the place.

