

Electoral violence: 7 killed in Benue

GODWIN AKOR, *Makurdi*

AS violence continued to trail the April 14 election in Benue State, three chieftains of the Action Congress (AC), Chief Audu Ogbeh,

wins in landslide

as well as Ikot Ekpene/Obot Akara local governments) were not declared due to attached on the election officials while election was also suspended in Eastern Obolo Local government due to crisis.

•Ogbeh, Ayu, Iornem react

Senator Iyorchia Ayu and Senator David Iornem, have said that there were no elections in most parts of the state.

The three political juggernauts said in a statement they issued on Sunday that the election was a "charade and a mockery of the electoral process".

According to them, In Ado and Agatu local governments, two persons were killed while in Buruku, five were murdered.

Ogbeh, Ayu and Iornem also disclosed in the statement made available to *Daily Champion* that "a special assistant to the state governor was allegedly caught with 14 ballot boxes".

They contended that around the remaining areas, seizing of ballot boxes and stuffing were the order of the day while perceived AC supporters were forcibly denied voting.

The trio said that there were

no result sheets in most places for accurate tabulation of results and alleged further that "now, at the collating centers, all agents are kept away except PDP members".

They maintained that based on the above details, the election in Benue State should be cancelled.

They added that the overbearing use of troops for the election has totally made the exercise a forceful one as security agents were being to ensure the continuation of the present administration in power.