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## Countryman

EFCC: I WILL STEP ON TOES  
— MRS WAZIRI



## Bloody clash between police, NSCDC averted

Bloody clash that could have resulted into several deaths of the Police and anti-vandal team of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) Lagos state was at the weekend averted by diplomacy and threat.

*Daily Champion* gathered that the averted clash was to take place at the scene of petroleum product adulteration at Costain in Mainland local government area of the state last Thursday when men of the Area 'C' Police command allegedly arrived to demand the forceful release of some oil thieves arrested by the state NSCDC.

We further learnt that the NSCDC on tip-off allegedly stormed under bridge, Costain where it rounded up seven people as well as impounded a fully loaded Conoil petrol tanker with registration number: XX 692 KJA and other items for allegedly mixing petroleum products with chemicals for illicit sale to the public.

Confirming the development to newsmen yesterday, the state commandant of the NSCDC, Mr. Nathaniel Ubong who paraded the suspects before reporters explained that the corps has the mandate to secure lives and property and mount surveillance to protect government installations.

He recalled that his men were almost prevented from carrying out their duty on the said day when the Police from Area 'C' arrived the scene of arrest and demand that his men release the accused to them, "They asked that we shouldn't have arrested the people without intimating them of the operation. "We told them that we are not mandated or instructed by the constitution establishing our outfit to always involve the Police before carrying out our operations. It was like my explanation to them was not convincing enough as they attempted to force their way. It was when I threatened to inform the Commissioner of Police, Marvel Akpoyibo that they quitted the scene for us to effect the arrest," he narrated.

Ubong described the adulteration act and the attempt by the Police to get the perpetrators off the hook as unpatriotic attempt that shouldn't be encouraged by any right thinking individual and group, disclosing that though further investigation was still on, "The Minister for Interior Affairs, Maj. Gen. Godwin Abbey (Rtd) is already aware of the operation."



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