

Flood: 3 pupils drown in Nnewi

JUSTIN OZUZU, *Nnewi*

TRAGEDY once again struck yesterday in Nnewi industrial community as three pupils said to be on their way to school along Bishop Uzodike Memorial Seminary, Umudim, got drowned in a flood shortly after a heavy downpour that lasted over six hours (7am-1pm), as a result of which movement and businesses were completely paralyzed.

An eyewitness told *Saturday Champion* that one of the pupils, while trying to cross over a gutter, accidentally slipped off into it and was immediately carried by the fast moving flood, a situation, he said equally trapped the duo while trying to save him from drowning.

On whether the trio were of the same parents, the source said he could not tell, since, according to him, he never knew them prior to the incident. He further described the twin menace of erosion and flooding in Nnewi as very provoking, saying that the issue of loss of lives and property to the twin menace has become a recurring decimal in Nnewi in particular and Anambra State in general.

According to him, traders in Nkwo Nnewi Ultra modern international market devoted the whole of yesterday in battling with the flood threatening to sack the entire business enclave, which, he said, has subjected the traders into untold hardship.

Unfortunately, the parents

of the said victims could not be reached before filing the report, as every effort to get in touch with them proved abortive.

Efforts by our correspondent

to reach the Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO in the state Mr. Emeka Chukkwuemeka, for his comment was unsuccessful.

Only few govs support po

MICHAEL OLANREWAJU, *Ilorin.*

INSPECTOR General of Police, Mike Okiro, yesterday, in Ilorin, Kwara state, decried state governors, who according to him, refused to assist the police formations in their states just because the Nigeria Police Force is a federal institution.

Okiro, who was in Ilorin to commission a set of Close Circuit Television (CTV) sets donated

by the state government, said only 'intelligent' governors would support the NPF and would similarly reap the reward in terms of investors coming to their states, since there would be relative security in such states.

"Only few governors, intelligent ones of course, know that though the police is a federal government institution, if there is security in the state, investors will come," Okiro told governor Bukola Saraki during a courtesy visit, adding:

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shelve planned strike