

2 MOPOL, NURTW boss killed in Osun clash

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TWO Mobile policemen and a driver were yesterday killed in Osun State during a bloody clash between anti-riot policemen and members of the Nigerian Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) at Ora-Igbomina in Ifedayo Local Government of the state.

The two deceased policemen were among the policemen posted to the border town between Osun State and Kwara

State.

Also killed was the chairman of the local branch of the NURTW simply identified as Chief Sajemo.

It was gathered that the two unidentified policemen lost their lives in a reprisal attack when one of the rampaging anti-riot policemen shot the NURTW boss on his head and left him dead in his pool of blood.

Daily Champion gathered that trouble started early in the morning when a commercial

driver refused to give money allegedly demanded by the policemen posted to the border town which led to a hot argument between the two parties.

It was learnt that the policemen detained the driver and his vehicle at the border town until he agreed to settle him with N20 bribe. But when the information filtered to the NURTW officials at the motor park, the chairman of the union with some of his members went to the scene of the incident to

plead with the mobile policemen to bail out his member.

It was gathered that while the negotiation was going on, one of the policemen at the scene allegedly fired his gun which blew off the head of the NURTW boss and left him dead on the spot.

On seeing the killing of their leader, the NURTW members present at the scene went to town to mobilise their members who led a reprisal attack and killed two of the policemen.

The situation became bloody as the policemen also sent for reinforcement from other neighbouring towns.

As at 2.00pm yesterday, the whole community has been deserted as the residents flee the town to avoid possible arrest by the police and also for their safety.

Similarly, transporters to and from Abuja who plied the road yesterday had an hectic time as the police blocked all the entry points to the town.

The state police command spokesman, Clement Akinola (ASP) confirmed the incident but said that the situation was under control.

The traditional ruler of the community, Oba Oladoye Idowu described the incident as unfortunate and appealed to the two warring groups to sheath their swords and allow peace to reign.

Senator raises hope on Adada State

SEN. Ayogu Eze, Chairman, Senate Committee on Information, said in Nsukka that the proposed Adada State from the present Enugu State might be created before the 2011 general elections.

The lawmaker, who represents Enugu North Senatorial District, stated this during an interactive meeting of political stakeholders and traditional rulers in the area.

He said the area had met all constitutional requirements for state creation, adding: "Out of five requests from the South East, Adada scored the highest in a vote conducted at the National Assembly.

"The request from Enugu State for the creation of Adada State is homogeneous and has

no internal opposition as against other requests from the zone."

He said the National Assembly Constitutional Review Committee report was the only thing being awaited before the announcement of creation of Adada.

"This report will be included in the new constitution for the new approved states to give them legal backing.

"It is expected that the constitution review committee will conclude and submit its report by next year," he said.

In a remark, the Chairman of PEP in Enugu State, Mr. Vita Abba, commended the National Assembly members from the zone for their relentless effort to ensure the creation of Adada

State.

Abba said that PEP chairmen in the South East had approved the quest for the creation of Adada State to make up for the deficit in the geo-political zone.

"PDP chairmen in the South East have given me their blessings for the creation of Adada to complete states in the zone," he said.

In a comment, a frontline advocate for the creation of the state, Igwe Charles Abangwu, applauded the administration of President Umaru Yar'Adua in its efforts to give Nigerians democracy dividends.

Abangwu urged Nigerians to continue praying for the president's speedy recovery for him to continue his good work.