

One killed as workers attack LG boss

From Fidelis Mac-Leva, Jalingo

ANGRY workers of Ibi Local Government Area of Taraba State protesting what they called unjustifiable slashing of their salaries Wednesday attacked the chairman, Yakubu Agbaizo, who narrowly escaped death.

Daily Trust gathered that during the attack which took place at the council secretariat, one person was killed in a scuffle with the chairman's security aides while three others sustained serious injuries and were taken to hospital.

The chairman, according to a witness, was scurried away by his security staff and taken to the police area command in neighbouring Wukari for safety.

His official vehicles, a Prado jeep, as well as the official vehicle attached to his Personal Assistant were badly smashed by the angry workers during the attack. The local government lodge was also torched by the aggrieved work-

ers who wielded dangerous weapons.

Although the immediate cause of the attack was not known at press time, *Daily Trust* gathered that the workers were angry over a previous directive by the council chairman to produce their appointment letters and passport photographs as a precondition for getting their October salaries.

The aggrieved staff were also said to have accused the chairman of slashing their salaries in previous months without justification.

Taraba State Police Public Relations Officer Sani Babaina confirmed the attack but said the command was yet to get a detailed report on the matter. "We are still awaiting a report from the DPO of Ibi Local Government and as soon as it is ready I will give you further details on the attack", Babaina told our correspondent on phone. Efforts to get the chairman failed as his mobile phone was unreachable.