

Nasarawa 3

WEEKLY TRUST

Saturday, February 9, 2013

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Al-Makura: Govt determined to stop militias in Nasarawa

....As police confirm 3 killed in Thursday clash

Solomon Chung with agency reports

GOVERNOR Umaru Tanko Al-Makura of Nasarawa State has said he is determined to eliminate activities of ethnic militias fuelling recurring crises in the state.

He gave the indication at an emergency security council meeting held yesterday in Lafia following the skirmish that erupted in Kwandere, his place of birth on Thursday.

The governor also expressed

government's resolve to implement the white paper on the crisis that engulfed Assakio in Lafia Local Government Area in June, 2012.

"I want the implementation of the white paper on the Assakio crisis in total, getting names of people who are linked with this circle of insurgency across," he said.

According to Al-Makura, the action is necessary to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of the communal clashes alongside their sponsors and those arrested with

weapons.

"We are going to fully implement the proscription of 'Ombatse' (an ethnic militia group)," Al-Makura said.

He gave assurance that government would invoke certain instruments to "stamp out this menace once and for all."

Meanwhile, the State Police Command yesterday confirmed that three persons were killed with scores of others injured in Thursday clashes in Kwandere.

The Police Public Relations

Officer for the command, Mr. Michael Ada, who made the confirmation, said the skirmish erupted when some youths in the area went on rampage and unleashed mayhem on residents.

The police spokesman, however, explained that the crisis was promptly brought under control by security agents deployed to the area, saying six persons had been arrested while One AK 47 with 16 rounds of live ammunitions recovered.

