

# 2 dead as policeman, soldier clash in Nasarawa

From Umar Muhammed, Lafia

**A** violent confrontation in Agyaragu, Obi Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, has left one soldier and one civilian dead, following an altercation involving a police officer and a military personnel.

An eyewitness, Joseph Jonathan, said the deceased soldier, who was in mufti, intervened in a fight between civilians and a police officer on duty.

He said in the ensuing chaos, the police officer allegedly stabbed the soldier, leading to his death.

According to Jonathan, the soldier's relatives reacted to the incident by attacking the nearby police station, which they subsequently set ablaze.

Shortly after, the police anti-kidnapping unit arrived at the scene in an attempt to restore order. During this process, it is alleged that officers from the unit opened fire, resulting in the deaths of four civilians.

The Police Public

Relations Officer (PPRO) in Nasarawa, DSP Ranham Nansel, confirmed the incident, stating that only two fatalities occurred, with two others receiving medical treatment.

Nansel said the altercation began when the soldier, who had reportedly returned home from Borno State, was involved in a fight at the Agyaragu market, where he allegedly stabbed a police special constable.

He said the constable then reportedly retaliated by stabbing the soldier.

"The soldier died while

receiving treatment," he said.

Nansel said police were able to repel the subsequent attack by the soldier's relatives on the police station.

He noted that the Commissioner of Police, Umar Shehu-Nadada, visited the scene to investigate the circumstances surrounding the soldier's death.

He added normalcy has since been restored in the area, and a manhunt is underway for those involved in the attack on the police station.