

the Federal High Court, Abuja ... yesterday

PHOTO: ABAYOMI FAYESE

## Two feared dead as police raid suspected MASSOB hide-out

**T**wo persons were feared dead yesterday while 69 were arrested during a raid carried out by a joint police/military special squad in the Silas Works Road, Feggee Onitsha, in Anambra State.

The deceased persons were suspected to have been members of the Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB).

The clash was disclosed by the Acting Commissioner of Police,

- Recover two bombs, ammunition
- Arrest 69 persons

*From Uzoma Nzeagwu, Awka*

for the state, Mr. John Haruna who briefed newsmen on the latest developments in the face-off between security agents and MASSOB in Onitsha. He said that one live rocket propelled bomb and one expended home-made bomb were also recovered from the group.

The police chief said that about four police

officers had been declared missing in separate instances within Onitsha, expressing the belief that hoodlums suspected to be MASSOB members could have kidnapped them.

Haruna who also vowed to take over all motor parks in the state soon, said he had already scheduled a meeting today with leaders of National Association of Road Transport Owners (NARTO) and the

National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) by 10.00am and 2.00p.m. respectively at the police command headquarters, Awka, to tell them to quit all parks immediately.

According to him, police authorities had received constant reports on the dangerous activities of miscreants who molested and harassed residents on Silas Works Road, where the special joint squad launched attacks about 10.00a.m.

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6.7.00

Agoro faulted the Feder-

Research and Development Agency (NASRDA) for its versial jet.

## Police raid MASSOB hide-out

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yesterday.

He said items recovered included two pump action guns, ammunition, two double barrel guns, assorted cartridges, one live bomb, one detonated local made bomb and one AK 47 rifle. He remarked that the AK 47 was suspected to have been

stolen from a sergeant allegedly kidnapped by the group three months ago.

"In March, two police officers in separate instances were attacked and taken to unknown destinations. Just two days ago, an inspector serving at Ogidiji was also kidnapped", he said, adding that no stone would be left unturned until the policemen were recovered "dead or alive."

He emphasised that the police were also embarking on a joint operation with the military to weed out all manner of touts in motor parks, and gave assurance that before the end of the week, all motor parks in the state would have come under government control.

Meanwhile, the commanding officer of police anti bomb squad, (ASP) Manasseh Awanyah said the two bombs which were discovered yesterday at the scene of operation, critically injured some policemen.

"The live bomb is a 75 mm rocket propelled bomb and might have been used during the war but was dug out for use by MASSOB. The other is an improved explosive device (locally made bomb) also used by the group", the police officer who is in charge of Anambra, Enugu and Ebonyi added.

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