

Five feared dead in Edo varsity cults' clash

FIVE students of the Edo State-owned Ambrose Alli

University, (AAU) Ekpoma, and a senior official of one of the security agencies were feared killed yesterday in a renewed campus violence.

It was gathered that the fight between *Black Axe* and *Eiye* confraternities led to a free-for-all in the early hours of yesterday.

Echoes of guns reverberated in the university town, which is located

*From Hendrix Oliomogbe,
Benin City*

some 90 kilometres North of Benin City, the state capital.

Although the clash reportedly took place in the town

far away from the main campus on the Benin-Auchi

Expressway Road, students were too panic-stricken to go to classes the morning after. The social life was also paral-

ysed.

On the line from his base in Ekpoma were the school's

Public Relations Officer, Mr. Chris Adamaigbo, denied

that six people died in the mayhem, but admitted that there was a clash between the cult groups.

According to him, the authorities were yet to determine the number of dead students while the injured ones are receiving treatment at the nearby Irrua Specialist Hospital.

"Some reports had it that three students died but we are yet to verify it as the corpses have not been seen. There was a clash," he said.

Edo State Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Bala Hassan, said a detachment of fully armed policemen have been deployed to Ekpoma.

Hassan disclosed that five persons arrested are telling the law enforcement agents what their role was in the crisis.