

Five Die As Youth, Security Men Clash In Yola

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At least five people were feared dead and several others injured when armed youth clashed with security operatives in Ngurore, a suburb of Yola, the Adamawa State capital.

A police source in the area said the fracas broke out when operatives believed to be from the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) chased some suspected drug barons into the town.

According to the source, in an attempt to prevent the arrest of the suspects, the youth barricaded the road leading into the town thereby causing traffic jam for more than four hours.

This, the source added, led to a serious clash between the youth and the security operatives, which claimed at least five lives.

When our correspondent visited the town, burnt tyres littered

the major streets. But commercial and social activities that were paralysed in the wake of the crisis have started picking up.

Those apprehended during the riot have been transferred to the State Criminal Investigations Department (SCID) headquarters in Yola for interrogation.

When contacted, the Acting Commander of the NDLEA in the state, Mr I.K. Peter, said his men

were not responsible for the clash.

"As the officer in charge of operations of the command, I never ordered any patrol or raid along the Yola - Ngurore road.

"So for someone somewhere to insinuate that NDLEA operatives chased suspected drug carriers to Ngurore and sparked off the riot there is completely false and baseless," he added.