

reporters about security actions to be taken by the

the results from the measures we put in place to

atives had weakened the capacity of kidnappers in

would be complemented with an integration pro-

motorcycle operators to comply with the policy,"

operations across the

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Boundary dispute between two communities in North Ibie, Etsako East Local Government Area of Edo State, has allegedly claimed no fewer than seven lives.

The land dispute, which is between Itsukwi and Imi-

Communal Dispute Allegedly Claims Seven Lives In Edo

akebu communities, snowballed into a bloody crisis on Friday, December 28, when youths from one of the villages barricaded the road from Okpella to North Ibie, preventing motorists and passengers from accessing it.

Following the development, the police were dis-

patched to the area to help maintain law and order but the youths allegedly opened fire on the police, injuring one officer who was rushed to the hospital.

Reports had it that a team of police was deployed to the area to effect arrest but the youths

opened fire on the police and the police responded and, in the process, five persons were killed, including a police officer, while many others sustained serious injuries.

The lingering crisis over the boundary has been on for a very long time but it suddenly degenerated into

a bloody confrontation resulting in several fatalities.

The Edo State Police spokesman, Chidi Nwabuzor, however, disputed the figure, insisting that no life was lost during the communal crisis.

Nwabuzor said that a policeman sustained injury during the encounter and

was currently receiving treatment at the care unit of Irrua Specialist Hospital.

The police spokesman said investigation was ongoing, adding that police were determined to arrest the perpetrators of the mayhem and bring them to justice.

projects such as improve-

A source close to the Nige-

He added: "You