

## EFCC Refutes APC's Claim Of Corruption, Challenges Shehu To Provide Evidence

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission has denied the allegations by the spokesperson of the All Progressives Congress Presidential Campaign Organisation, Garba Shehu of alleged corruption and insensitivity to staff welfare.

Addressing the media in Abuja yesterday, the spokesperson of the EFCC, Wilson Uwujaren, challenged Shehu and any staff of the commission, who has evidence to

## One killed, 8 injured as Ex-militants Protest Against Dickson

BY OSA OKHOMINA, Yenagoa

One person suspected to be an ex-militant was yesterday feared dead while eight others sustained serious injuries following a clash with armed policemen in Bayelsa State during a protest march against the state governor, Hon Seriake Dickson over his alleged plan to hijack the multimillion oil pipeline surveillance contract from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to oil bearing communities in the state.

The protest by the ex-militants,

including some sympathiser groups such as the Physically Challenged Persons, started at about 6am at the Tombia-Etegwe roundabout with travellers stranded and commercial activities brought to a halt.

The arrival of combatant policemen from the state police headquarters and the shooting of tear gas canister into the crowd of ex-militant youths led to a rowdy and violent confrontation between the Police and the agitated youths.

While the angry ex-militant youths reportedly fought back by vandalising the truck of the police

team with pebbles and demobilising the truck with burning tyres, the armed policemen descended on them with batons and butt of the rifle.

Over nine vehicles were vandalised in the ensued melee with markets and business outlets, including the popular Camp Murphy Relaxation spot vandalised.

LEADERSHIP Weekend gathered that the arrival of heavy reinforcement from the State Police Command and the intervention of some members of the Presidential Amnesty Implementation Commit-

tee calmed the frayed nerves of the ex-militant youths.

It was gathered that one John Opotobo, an ex-militant youth from Southern Ijaw local government area of the state was killed in the fracas while many others sustained various degrees of injuries.

The state police public relations officer, Butswat Ansim denied the killing of one of the protesting ex-militant youths saying that "the police only shot tear gas canisters to disperse them. The police did not shoot live cartridges."

Butswat confirmed that six of

## 3 Feared Dead As Fire Razes Mile 12 Market In Lagos