

# One killed as Naval men storm Kirikiri Prisons

**S**OME armed Naval ratings yesterday stormed the Kirikiri Prisons in Lagos, and engaged prison guards in an exchange of gunfire.

One person, said to be a teacher at the Prison Primary School and identified by police as Mr Osubaniro, was killed in the clash.

Another report said, however, that three persons were shot dead in the fracas.

Four other teachers from the same school were also abducted by the Naval

By Jude Isiguzo

Personnel.

The incident immediately raised fresh worries about the actual role of the military in a democracy.

*The Nation* gathered that trouble started when a Naval rating wanted to make a call within the prison vicinity.

It was also gathered that an alarmed prison guard challenged him not to make the call there as it was a breach of security in the area, but the Naval man refused, insisting on making the call.

But when the prison guard stood his ground and moved to stop the rating from violating official regulations, the rating reportedly went into the nearby Naval barracks which shares the same fence with the prison, to inform his colleagues that he was attacked by prison guards.

*The Nation* learnt that many infuriated Naval ratings subsequently stormed the prison premises.

The sources said the heavily armed men seized the guards, took over the

medium and maximum prisons and the school, and unleashed violence on the thinly-armed guards. There were gunshots and by standers fled for their dear lives.

An eyewitness said it was during the shooting by the Naval men that the school teacher was killed.

However, unconfirmed reports said that two other persons, a man and a woman, who were passers-by were also killed during the clash.

Confirming the incident to *The Nation*, the Police

Area Commander in-charge of Area 'B' Command, Mr Femi Oyeleye, an Assistant Commissioner said the situation had been brought under control.

Oyeleye, confirmed one dead and four person kidnapped.

He said policemen were patrolling the area to avoid any jail break.

According to him, a pistol belonging to the Nigerian Prison Service seized from one of the guards by the Naval men, has been recovered.