

# One killed, another injured in Osogbo bomb explosion

**A**N explosion yesterday rocked the Osun State Secretariat, Abere, leaving one person dead.

Another person was seriously injured in the blast which happened about 11.40 a.m., at the premises of the Ministry of Water Resources.

The incident followed the explosion of a Peugeot 505 saloon car with registration number Ondo AL 850 NND.

Three persons were said to be inside the car when the tragedy occurred. One

**From Wale Folarin,  
Osogbo**

of them was blown into pieces. The other was injured in the eye. The third person was said to have sustained minor injury.

It was learnt that the one with minor injury took the other who sustained eye injury to the hospital, and disappeared. Their identities and mission to the secretariat was unknown at press time yesterday.

The vehicle was mangled while workers at the secretariat ran helter-skelter for dear life. Security

operatives later cordoned off the area, while men of the bomb disposal unit combed the area for the explosive. The state Police commissioner, Alhaji Sulaiman Fakai, who confirmed the incident said that the vehicle was parked at the premises of the Ministry of Water Resources with the three men inside it.

According to him, the men were about to off-load the explosive from the vehicle when the explosion occurred.

Fakai said one of the men

was killed, another one seriously injured, while the third took to his heels and has not been located.

He said the injured was receiving treatment at an undisclosed hospital.

Reacting to the incident, the state Deputy Governor Erelu Olusola Obada described it as unpleasant, adding, those behind it would be unmasked.

According to her, it was unfortunate that the peace that the state was enjoying was disturbed by the incident. She said she was not sure if the incident had po-

litical undertone.

"I will not say for now that it is political until the police concluded their investigations but it is a new dimension because we have witnessed violence, burning of houses and now explosion in the state after the last elections," she said, adding that the government would ensure security of lives and property in the state.

Also reacting to the incident, the Action Congress (AC) governorship candidate, Alhaji Rauf Aregbesola said that the

incident has taken the state back to the Abacha era. "It is condemnable, atrocious and criminal".

He urged security agents to investigate the identity of those involved, their activities in the last three months, motives and likely sponsors.

Aregbesola, who expressed confidence in the ability of the police to unravel the mystery, also admonished the state government not to use the incident as another opportunity to clamp down on the opposition parties in the state.