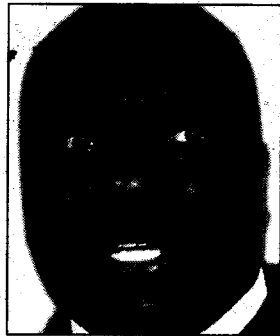


# Ibori's aide, seven others declared wanted



• Ibori

**M**R Kingsley Orereh, an aide to former Governor James Ibori of Delta State and seven others have been declared wanted over the bloody clash in Ekpan, a suburb of Warri.

Governor Emmanuel Uduaghan has imposed a curfew on the town and directed that those behind the clash be arrested.

Orereh was Special Assistant to Ibori on Community Affairs.

At least three persons were shot and several others injured when trouble broke out in the restive Urhobo community on Saturday.

Community sources traced the violence to scramble for control of lucrative business deals in

From Shola O'neil, Warri

the community.

Also declared wanted is a prominent traditional title holder, Mr. Newton Agbofodoh. Others are Waidi Bello, Clement Amada, Eric Ojonta, Vincent Akpovotor and Newton Agbofodoh.

Agbofodoh, son of the late regent of Ekpan, Chief Cyril Agbofodoh, is the Oloridama of the community. He was recently released from a two-year detention over the alleged murder of one Mr. Godwin Itegu.

Uduaghan, ordered security agents to arrest them or declare them wanted to stem the tide of violence in Ekpan.

But the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Hezekiah Dimka, told *The Nation* on

the telephone yesterday that he was not aware that anybody had been declared wanted in connection with the disturbance.

It was gathered that supporters of Newton were rejoicing over his release when trouble broke out between them and their opponents, allegedly led by Amada.

Agbofodoh and Amada had been arrested. It was gathered that they were arrested by the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Ekpan Police Station, who acted swiftly to contain the violence.

But Orereh was said to have absconded.

A source in the community said the son of the former regent was at the station for protection from the marauding gangs of the opposition. But when

the state government's directive reached the station; he was immediately put behind bars.

The government also declared a dusk-to-dawn curfew on the area. Police have taken up positions in strategic locations as part of the 24-hour surveillance in the community.

Normalcy had returned to the area at the time of this report yesterday. Battle-ready policemen still took position in strategic locations in the community to wade off trouble makers.