

Two injured in building collapse

TWO persons were injured when a building collapsed in Somolu, Lagos yesterday.

Those injured in the two-storey building at 15 Bashorun Street, were identified as Ifesinachi Enese, a lawyer and Ese Henry, an engineer.

It was the fourth building to collapse in the metropolis in the last two months.

One of the buildings had collapsed on Lagos Island, while the other two caved in at Maryland and Ikorodu.

Pastor Ndubuisi Okoli, the oldest tenant in the house, blamed the incident on the landlord, whom, he said, did not repair the house in the last 12 years.

Okoli said that tenants had been maintaining the building because the landlord refused to do it.

Six killed in attack on Cameroonian gendarmes

By Kunle Johnson, Calabar

ABOUT six Cameroon gendarmes were killed while unspecified numbers of others sustained varied degrees of injuries during an attack by suspected militants last Monday in Cross Rivers State.

It was gathered that the attack which occurred in the evening at Archibong, Akwa and Amoto towns in the shores of Nigeria, was perpetrated by militants believed to be from Bakassi Peninsula.

The cause of the attack was not known as at press time. But it was leant that it might not be unconnected with agitation by groups and people in the area against the hand-over of the territory to Cameroun.

Nigeria is billed to hand over the peninsula and its resources to Cameroun on August 18.

Some inhabitants and groups within the territory claim that the planned handover was not in their interest as they wish to remain in their land as Nigerians.

Reports say the development has caused anxiety among residents, forcing them to flee into Cross River State, through Ikang, which has been designated as the new abode of the Bakassi people.

NTSC

15 feared dead in Enugu communal clash

•House raises panel

ABOUT 15 persons are feared dead in a clash over land between the people of Uwenu and Uwani, in Akiyi-Umuluokpa community, Enugu State.

Umuluokpa is the administrative headquarters of Uzo-Uwani Local Government.

Schools and colleges in the strife-torn community have been shut down; many people have fled following the escalating crisis.

The member representing Uzo-Uwani Constituency in House of Assembly, Hon. Anthony Chigbo, said

From Chris Oji, Enugu

Umuluokpa was on fire.

He urged his colleagues to intervene immediately.

Chigbo said that properties worth millions of naira were lost.

He said he saw about seven bodies taken from Umulokpa to Bishop Shanahan Hospital, Nsukka. The dead were taken to the mortuary.

Disturbed by the alarming violence, the House has raised a committee to investigate the clash.

The Speaker, Hon. Eugene Odoh, called on the police and other security operatives to beef up security in the area.

He appealed to the police command to relocate the Divisional Police Officer to the local government head-

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quarters at Umulokpa as in other areas.

Odoh said the movement



•The wife of Imo State Governor, Mrs Chioma Ohakim presenting an award to the widow of former Senate President, Mrs Vivienne Enwerem for her contribution to women's development in Owerri, the state capital.

Family of slain Igwes seek joined in Mbadinuju's s

From Adimike George, Onitsha

Inspector General of Police (IG), Mr. Mike Okiro and two others.

In the application, counsel Chuka Obele Chuka, prayed that the family comprising Vincent, the brother of late Barnabas Igwe and the three orphans of the Igwes-Nnenna, Barnabas (junior) and Somadina Igwe - should be joined in the suit.

They have evidence against the applicant that would help the court in arriving at an unbiased judgement, he said.

When the matter came up for hearing on May 30, 2008, the court did not sit as the trial Judge, Justice P. F. Olayiwola, was absent.

Mbadinuju's counsel, Afam Emejulu, who refused all entreaties by his colleagues and the Court Registrar to take another date, argued that

Igwe's counsel, Obele, has no *locus standi* to take a date as the application made by the family has not been granted by the court.

But in a 22-point affidavit filed in support of the motion, Vincent Igwe, younger brother to the slain lawyer, averred that he is the complainant in the murder Charge No: MO/1C/2006 against the applicant, Mbadinuju, for allegedly killing his brother Barnabas and his pregnant wife, Amaka in 2002.

He said his late brother "survived long enough to make a dying declaration to me of the above facts and how the assailants taunted them as they were being tortured, telling them that they were being killed in that manner as a lesson for fighting the applicant, who was the then governor of Anambra State."

Igwe also said when

Mbadinuju returned from "exile in 2005", in an attempt to cover up his tracks, he hired some police officers to go after his ex-Commissioner for Works, Prince Kenneth Emeakayi, to permanently destroy any evidence linking him to the incident.

According to him, Mbadinuju did not know that the policemen were recording their encounter, which made it possible for the police to charge him before a Jabi Magistrate Court

APGA faction Assembly to

A FACTION of the All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA) in Anambra wants the House of Assembly to probe contracts awarded by Governor