

③ One killed, houses razed in renewed communal strife

From Uja Emmanuel,
Makurdi

ONE person was yesterday killed and many houses destroyed in renewed fighting between Mbaivur and Mbasombo communities in Gwer East Local Government Area, Benue State.

A victim of the bloody crisis who fled to Makurdi, Terhemba Tyover, told *The Nation* that the fresh fighting was as a result of an attempt to burry five victims of previous attacks in the area.

Tyover said: "One person was killed on his farm and the family of the dead demanded that those who killed the person be produced.

"Unable to produce the perpetrators after the time frame given had elapsed even when the police were involved, the Mbaivur people went on a reprisal attack.

"It was during the reprisal

attacks on Tuesday morning that houses were set ablaze and a market square was also razed down.

One person was reported killed during yesterday's fighting.

Contacted, Benue State Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, SP Catherine Anene, confirmed the incident, stating that several houses were burnt but there was no casualty.

She said policemen have been swiftly despatched to the area to maintain peace and order.

President General, Masev Development Association, MDA, Prof. Vtalis Tarhule, condemned the renewed communal crisis in a statement last night, frowning at the unwillingness of both parties to embrace peace.