

Eight feared killed in Osun communal clash

From Toba Adedeji,
Osogbo

THE communal clash between Ilobu community in Irepodun Local Government Area and Ifon, headquarters of Orolu Local Government Area of Osun State assumed a dangerous dimension yesterday.

Eight people were reportedly killed with the warring communities shooting the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) and three other policemen from Ilobu station during patrol.

Their van was also razed by arsonists, who alleged

The Nation observed that both communities suffered collateral damages in burnt houses and vandalized properties.

Scores of security operatives were sighted on Ojutu Bridge and residents were seen fleeing the troubled communities through Okini communities.

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) members, numbering about 30, were evacuated from the communities by security operatives.

Spokesperson of the Osun State Police Command,

Yemisi Opalola, who confirmed the gun injuries inflicted on the DPO and three others, said the injured men were are responding to treatment.

The Secretary, Board of Trustees of Ifon-Orolu community, Prince Jide Akinyooye, told reporters in Osogbo that four people were killed in their community and houses were razed.

He blamed security operatives for refusing to deploy their men in the town following last month's imposition of curfew by the state government.

He alleged: "Four indigenes of Ifon were killed. They (Ilobu) started the attack on our people last (Wednesday) night. Only 13 policemen were mobilised yesterday. It is so unfortunate that properties were destroyed during the attack. They were distributing guns to attack us."

But the *Jagun* of Ilobu, Chief Adegoke Ogunsola, countered the claim.