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WAYNE Rooney, England's final Group B game against tomorrow, said Goran Eriksson.

The 20-year-old striker, sidelined for six weeks after breaking his leg, played the last half of Thursday's 2-0 win over Trinidad & Tobago and was sharp in training.

"He is a fantastic player, that type of player between strikers, which we need Eriksson." The manager said he can play 60 minutes so if it goes well, then it is better than he could do. ITV Sports

Police post burnt down in Onitsha

A POLICE station, in the suburb of Onitsha, Anambra, was at the weekend, burnt down by miscreants suspected to be members of the Movement for the Actualisation of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB).

The police station, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) learnt, was set ablaze at 12 mid night on Friday by suspected MASSOB members, protesting police's raid of their base at the nearby Akpaka forest reserve.

Owerri road, the major exit to Imo and some South-South states blockaded since three days ago, is yet to re-open.

Commuters are now re-routed to avoid the hoodlums before they enter the commercial city of Onitsha in Anambra.

The Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG), Zone 9, Mr. Adewole Ajakaiye, has moved to woo traditional rulers and church leaders in Onitsha to intervene in the latest face-off between MASSOB and the police.

The AIG had visited Obi of Onitsha, Igwe Alfred Achebe and the Catholic Bishop Of Onitsha, Most Reverend Valerian Okeke at the weekend in what Ajakaiye said was part of community policing.

Ajakaiye said the losses recorded by the police in the clash was part of the professional hazard.

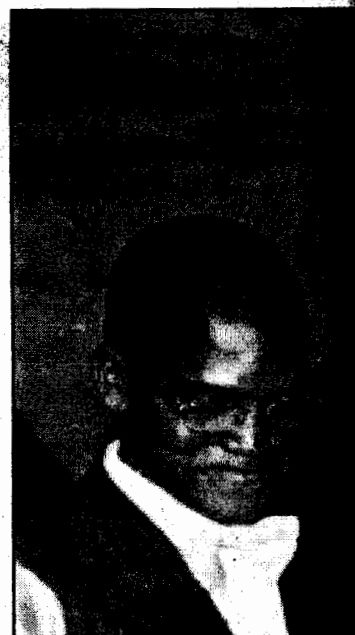
He said they had reached a critical stage where they had to involve the opinion leaders because "it is now a psychological war."

The AIG said he had temporarily relocated to Onitsha to ensure that peace was returned to the commercial city.

Obi of Onitsha had lamented that crisis had taken toll in the economy of Onitsha and Anambra in general.

He said there was no effort to nip MASSOB in the bud because if that had been done, "we will not be experiencing the crisis today."

MASSOB on Friday grounded two police vehicles including the Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) worth several millions of naira and a Tata truck.



Representative of Minister of (middle) and Director, Port management by West Africa Inst

Safety: B pilots

AN expert from Boeing Company, the aircraft manufacturing giant in the U.S, has advised pilots to always adhere to safety standards at take-off and landing.

Mr. David Campbell, flight operations engineer and representative of Boeing in Nigeria, who spoke at a flight operations seminar in Lagos at the weekend, said pilots should reduce aircraft thrust during take-off and landing.

Campbell said there was need for aviators to improve their performance in each stage of flight operations, in order to comply with set

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