

Leader, house of representatives, during a press briefing on the leadership tussle in the House of Representatives in Abuja, on Monday.

# 1 stabbed, 5 injured as traders go on the rampage over MASSOB activities

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**B**USINESS activities at Ugwuagba Obosi Old Motor Car Parts market in Idemili Local Government Area of Anambra State were disturbed following the efforts of angry traders to stop Movement for the Actualisation of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) from invading the market, resulting in war with the group as a trader was stabbed, with five others sus-

taining various of injury.

**Nigerian Tribune** gathered that trouble started when some MASSOB members stormed the market and wanted to collect a levy from a trader for off-loading his wares in the market, which the trader refused.

In the process, the trader was stabbed and N400,000 he kept in his office was allegedly taken away by the MASSOB members.

As soon as they made away with the money, the traders shut the market, mobilised

and turned into a mob, barricaded the Onitsha/Owerri Road and made bonfires.

They headed for MASSOB security office at Awada and that of Mgbemena Street, where they destroyed properties estimated to be millions of naira.

Vehicular movement was diverted to Obosi by-pass, prompting residents to flee.

According to a trader in the market who pleaded anonymity, five persons sustained various degrees of injury during the riot, as there was a stampede when the trader was stabbed.

Reacting to the incident,

Uwazuruike, who gave the order through his Director of Information, Uchenna Madu, expressed dissatisfaction over the incident and apologised to the traders.

He warned that MASSOB would not hesitate to deal ruthlessly with any member who dragged the image of the movement through the mud.

Also reacting, one of the MASSOB members (name withdrawn) narrated that the problem started when the members of the Association of Igbo Youth (AIYO) overtook the market, allegedly disturbing and extorting money from traders.

es detention of women babies