

# Inspector killed as soldiers, policemen clash in Adamawa

Austin Ajayi | Yola

**T**HE police headquarters in Yola, Adamawa State, was turned to a battlefield from Tuesday night till the early hours of Wednesday as some soldiers in 12 trucks invaded the formation, shooting sporadically. The incident, it was gathered, led to the death of a police inspector, Jacob Daniel.

Commissioner of Police in Adamawa State, Afolabi Babatola, while condemning

the attack, warned policemen against reprisal.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Suleiman Yahaya Nguroje, in a statement, said "the commissioner of police strongly condemned the recent clash between police and military men at Target Junction in Yola North Local Government Area, which resulted in an exchange of gunfire, as well as the brutal attack on the police facility and killing of Inspector Jacob Daniel.

"The CP has ordered an immediate investigation into

the matter with a view to ensuring peace and justice.

"CP Afolabi Babatola warned that attack on all security officers in line of duty would no longer be tolerated under whatever guise."

Babatola also reiterated the commitment of the command to the protection of lives and property, just as he stressed that it is vital to work with other sister security agencies in protecting the fundamental rights of security operatives in order to enable them advance their mandate of serving and pro-

tecting the citizens better.

The police boss appealed for calm, adding that the top management of both agencies are doing everything possible to address the situation.

When contacted, the Brigade Commander, 23 Armoured Brigade, Brigadier-General Gambo Mohammed, said one of his men was shot by policemen and hidden by them, and they (soldiers) went to rescue their own."

However, a senior police officer told the *Nigerian Tribune* that the said soldier, who was in mufti at the time

of the attack, was rushed to Modibbo Adama University Teaching Hospital, Yola, where he is currently receiving treatment.

He said the injured army officer was not hidden as claimed by the army.

Meanwhile, Governor Ahmadu Fintiri has called on security personnel to have mutual respect and tolerance for one another, just as he urged residents of the state to remain calm and go about their normal businesses.

The governor described Tuesday night's gunshots in

Yola as unfortunate.

While regretting the incident that led to the clash and death of a policeman, Governor Fintiri said government is on top of the situation, as he appealed to both parties to exercise restraint.

He urged all security personnel on special assignment to remain at their duty posts and conduct themselves with high sense of maturity.

"I am concerned that such acrimony could have lasting consequences on the hard earned peace we have been able to build over the years."