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Obi, police, SSS, others meet over Onitsha crisis

John Ameh, Onitsha

ANAMBRA State Governor, Mr. Peter Obi, held another security meeting on Wednesday with "stakeholders" in Awka, the state capital.

Wednesday's meeting was the second in less than one week since the violence in Onitsha started.

The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Force Criminal Investigations Department, Abuja, Mr. Ogbonna Onovo; the DIG Operations, Mr. Mike Okiro; and the Assistant In-

spector-General of Police, Zone '9', Umuahia, Mr. Ade Ajakaiye, were among those who reportedly attended the meeting, which was held behind closed doors, at the Government House.

Also in attendance at the meeting, which Obi said was part of the ongoing efforts to resolve the Onitsha violence, were officers of the 302 Artillery Regiment, Onitsha, the State Security Service and para-military organisations.

At least 12 lives have been reported lost to the cri-

sis, which was sparked off on Thursday last week by disagreements between suspected members of the National Association of Road Transport Owners and the Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra.

It was not clear what additional security measures would be introduced by the meeting, which began at about 4.30pm, and was still in progress as at the time of filing this report.

However, the Chief Press Secretary to Obi, Mr. Mike

Udah, confirmed to our correspondent that "all efforts are basically aimed at improving security, looking at the current development in Onitsha.

Udah, who spoke on the telephone with our correspondent, said that though "there has been relative calm between Tuesday and today (Wednesday)", the government might still want to introduce more measures.

"It is expected that after the meeting, additional security measures will probably be announced."