

treatment for children at the state hospital, Adeoyo, Ibadan, sponsored by the state government.

Soldiers deployed in Offa, Erin-Ile

Doyin Adebunsi, Ilorin

MILITARY personnel from Sobi Barracks, Ilorin, Kwara State, have been deployed in the troubled Offa and Erin-Ile communities to assist the police restore law and order to the area.

The area had been embroiled in crisis since Tuesday, last week, over boundary dispute, which had claimed four lives and property worth millions of naira.

Over 10 people were also said to have sustained varying degree of injuries in the crisis.

In a statement on Sunday by the Special Assistant on Media and Communications to the Governor, Mr. Nurudeen Imam-Abdullah, the government also expressed its determination to set up a judicial panel of enquiry to unravel the immediate and remote causes of the crisis and suggest permanent solution.

In addition, the Governor, Dr. Bukola Saraki, has summoned stakeholders from the two communities to a meeting on Monday (today) at the Government House as part of measures to address the issue.

The government, according to the statement, vowed to invoke relevant sections of the constitution to deal with any threat to public peace in any part of the state.

The crisis worsened on Friday when three people were reportedly beheaded at Offa by rampaging youths.

The youths had allegedly vandalised two cars in the convoy of the Commissioner of Police, Kwara State Command, Alhaji Bukar Maina,

and the official car of the Chief of Staff to the Governor, Alhaji Cook Olododo, on Thursday during an on-the-spot assessment of the situation in the area.

Meanwhile, the House of Assembly and a former military administrator of Bauchi and Osun states, Chief Theophilus Bamigboye,

have appealed to the warring communities to embrace peace and work towards the development of the areas.

The assembly, which made the call in a motion on the floor of the house on Friday, equally called on the National Boundary Commission to address the incessant boundary dispute between the communities.

Moving the motion, the Majority Leader, Mr. Ishola Balogun Fulani, said it was unfortunate that the crisis was coming at a time when the state was just recovering from the crisis that engulfed the state during the 2003 polls.