

Hoodlums kill policeman

John Ameh, Onitsha

HOODLUMS suspected to be members of the Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra have reportedly murdered another policeman in Onitsha, Anambra State.

Investigations by our correspondent, on Monday, showed that the suspects abducted the police sergeant in Fegge, a MASSOB stronghold, on Sunday before he was killed.

The latest addition to the casualties in the Onitsha crisis came barely one week after the same group abducted three policemen and a retired operative of the State Security Service in the city.

One of the victims in the first attack was an assistant superintendent of police, who along with others were reportedly tortured before they were released.

Police account said the sergeant's motorcycle developed a mechanical fault in the crowded suburb and he took it to a technician to work on it.

It was learnt that while he was at the technician's shop, his attackers sighted and abducted him.

The acting Commissioner of Police, Anambra State Command, Mr. Haruna John, confirmed the incident on Monday.

John said by the time a rescue team sent to the area arrived, the policeman had been murdered.

He said the killing took

place on Silas/Works Road and that his men recovered one double-barreled gun, a pistol and two police shoes from the scene of the attack.

According to John, some persons were arrested in the area for interrogation.

It will be recalled that while giving a situation report on Onitsha on Thursday last week, John had admitted that MASSOB members were resisting the order to flush them out of the city.

"They are now our problem. They have resorted to guerrilla tactics, laying ambush for our men and at-

tacking them at will.

"We have flushed out members of the Nigeria Association of Road Transport Owners from motor parks; that is why the police are now in charge of the parks, but MASSOB people refuse to leave," he said.

Some observers, however, said other miscreants with criminal motives might be hiding under the cover of MASSOB to perpetrate evil.

John said the police were now left with the option of arresting landlords and other residents of Onitsha who provided accommodation for hoodlums.

Fake doctor arrested in Abuja

Senan John Murray, Abuja

THE Police in Abuja are now interrogating a fake medical doctor identified as Victor Abraham.

Abraham was alleged to have been duping desperate patients in the Accident and Emergency Unit of the National Hospital, Abuja.

Abraham's latest victim was a patient's relative identified as Mr. Ndubuisi Igah who lost N65, 000 to the man.

"Abraham was arrested last week after allegedly duping a patient's relative of the sum of N65, 000 under the pretext of procuring six pints of blood and drugs for the treatment of

the patient," a statement by the hospital's Assistant Director, Information Service, Mallam Yahaya Ozi Sadiq, said on Monday.

The fake doctor was spotted by security operatives in the hospital who found his movement suspicious.

The statement added that the fake doctor had been handed over to the Federal Capital Territory Police Command, while security measures had been stepped up in the hospital.

"The security unit has been mandated to enforce the regulation restricting patients' relations' visits to the authorised visiting hours of 4pm to 6pm daily," the statement added.