

# Four feared dead in Oshodi clash

**F**our persons were feared dead on Friday when rival factions of the National Union of Road Transport Workers in the Oshodi area of Lagos State.

The clash, which disrupted trading in the area, was alleged to be the result of a tussle for supremacy between the factions. *Saturday Punch* learnt that as early as 6.30am, a group which was headed by the slain former NURTW state chairman, Saula Saka, resisted an alleged attempt by their opponents to seize control of the garages in Oshodi.

A teenager was said to have died when a detachment of policemen arrived to stop the clash and started shooting. Deputy spokesman of the state police command, Mr. Olumide Jimoh, confirmed the clash, saying the police had taken control of the area.

## IP chief

**Harcourt.** When we got wind of his release, we sent our men to pick him up from there."

But the source did not speak on whether a ransom was paid to secure the release of the Agip official. He said, "I can confirm that Dienne is hale and hearty but you can understand the trauma of being kidnapped and taken away against your wish."

**Sesan Olufowobi  
and Mudiaga Affe**

Meanwhile, the state Governor, Mr. Babatunde Fashola, SAN, on Thursday inaugurated a 12-member tribunal of enquiry headed by Justice Dolapo Akinsanya (rtd) to probe the current structure, role and operations of the union. The tribunal is also expected to look into the circumstances leading to Saka's death last month.

## Kalu's illness stalls trial

**T**he resumed trial of the immediate past governor of Abia State, Chief Orji Kalu, was on Friday stalled because the accused was reportedly ill and hospitalised in a private hospital outside Abuja.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that Kalu's lawyer, Mr. Solo Akuma, SAN, informed the court that his client was absent because of ill-health and subsequently applied for adjournment. The prosecution counsel, Mr. Rotimi Jacobs, was in court with his team.

Justice Binta Murtala-Nyako adjourned the case till March 11. Akuma told journalists shortly after the court's sitting that Kalu was suffering from fever and high blood pressure but would be available for trial on the adjourned date.