

Five die in soldiers, youths clash in Jos

Jude Owuamanam, Jos

TENSION enveloped Filling Ball area of Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State as hundreds of youths on Wednesday clashed with youths of the area after soldiers beat up a young man.

Unconfirmed reports said that five people were killed by the soldiers. But the Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Mohammed Larema, denied this.

The soldiers were deployed in the area in the aftermath of the November 28 crisis which engulfed parts of the state.

The development caused fear for the residents of the area as traders quickly closed their shops for fear of reprisal.

Our correspondent gathered that the soldiers stationed at Filling Ball had arrested a youth at about 11.30pm and detained

him till 6am before releasing him.

The young man was said to have left the security men and mobilised his friends who invaded the security post and set it ablaze.

His action prompted security personnel to arrest some of the youths. This infuriated their

friends who engaged the security men in a battle.

Eye witness said that as the youths hurled stones and other dangerous weapons at the soldiers, they reacted by throwing canisters of tear gas.

The soldiers were said to have had a hard time tackling the rampaging youths who

referred to them as infidels.

Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Mohammed Larema, who confirmed the incident, said it was only a mere fracas and that there was no casualty.

He added that the situation had been brought under control.

ASUU flays FG's technical committee, says

Mike Odiegwu, Calabar

THE Academic Staff Union of Universities, University of Calabar branch, has described the technical committee set up by the Federal Government to review the 2008 Renegotiated Agreement as a deliberate ploy to worsen the education sector.

The body called on stakeholders in education to use whatever means they deemed fit to persuade the

government to implement the renegotiated agreement of December 2008 and save the nation from another prolonged strike in the universities.

The Federal Government had in 2008, set up a renegotiating team led by Mr. Gamaliel Onosode, to review an agreement it entered with ASUU during the administration of Olusegun Obasanjo and to evolve a new workable agreement.

Onosode, in what was

expected to be the panacea to incessant university strikes, had on behalf of the government entered into a new pact with ASUU which was called a renegotiated agreement.

But instead of the government to sign and implement the fresh agreement, ASUU said the government had set up another committee to further review the agreement.

ASUU in a statement