

Four killed as NDLEA, area boys clash in Kano

**Mustapha Salihu,
Mike Odiegwu and
Emmanuel Addeh**

THERE was pandemonium in Kano metropolis on Wednesday when a clash ensued between officials of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency and some miscreants, popularly called *Yandabas*.

Four persons were feared dead in the confrontation.

However, there was no official confirmation of the casualty figure as at the time of filing this report.

According to an eyewitness account, trouble started when officials of the NDLEA went to search all the known hideouts of the hoodlums.

The action of the armed anti-narcotic personnel, it was learnt, was part of the activities to mark the United States Anti-Drug Week which begins on every June 26 of the year.

However, the intention of the narcotic officials snowballed into a full scale battle when some of

the suspected drug dealers and addicts attacked the operatives as soon as they sighted them.

The Commissioner, Kano State Police Command, Alhaji Ibrahim Chafe, who was travelling to a neighbouring town, met the hoodlums unleashing havoc along the BUK road and reportedly called for a police reinforcement.

The confrontation which lasted for about 30 minutes, left innocent passers-by injured. A journalist was also stabbed with a knife.

The police spokesman in the state, Mr. Baba Mohammed, could not be reached for comments.

Meanwhile, the NDLEA has blamed the increasing use of illicit drugs on unabated cultivation of Indian hemp farms in many states across the country.

Also, the agency's commander in Kwara State, Mr. Nse-Jack Nnam, has disclosed that no fewer than 36 suspected drug traffickers have been arrested by the state command.