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## Three arrested as police, NURTW factions clash in Ogun

By Ademola Oni, Abeokuta

Friday, 18 Jun 2010

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The Station Road area of Ijebu Igbo, Ijebu North Local Government of Ogun State was on Thursday thrown into confusion as factional members of the state council of the National Union of Road Transport Workers engaged in a violent clash.

Three people were, however, arrested at 11am by the police as they attempted to escape on motorcycles around the local government secretariat.

They are currently being held at the headquarters of the state police command in Eleweran, Abeokuta.

One person was feared dead while several others were reportedly injured in the clash, in which the factions engaged the riot policemen sent to quell the mayhem in a shootout.

While the state police command claimed that only one commercial motorcycle operator (okada) was injured in the clash, some residents of the town, who claimed to have witnessed the bloody fracas, said one person was killed while another was still in a critical condition.

Our correspondent learnt that confusion broke out around 8am at the Obada Motor Park as NURTW members engaged in a violent confrontation.

The clash, which was said to have been preceded by a power tussle between the factions, degenerated, as the booming of guns threw the area into pandemonium and residents fled in different directions.

"Actually, nobody knew anything was going to happen; though there had been some animosity among some people in the park over the leadership of the union in the place (park)," said the source, who craved anonymity.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state command, Mr. Olumuyiwa Adejobi, denied that the riot policemen, who were sent to area to restore order, killed some of the rioters.

He stated that three of the suspected rioters were arrested.

He said, "Nobody was killed; only one okada man was hit by a stray bullet. He has been treated and discharged.

"Those we have arrested and are now being interrogated at Eleweran will help us to establish if the hoodlums were sent or hired to cause the crisis; and who are the leaders of the factions.

"They will soon be arraigned anyway."

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- The issue that was reported by the policemen was void. Thank God am at Obada Station yesterday. Two people died why others were injured including I over the battle of National Chairman NURTW Ijebu Igbo branch by the two faction. Even the police ran away when the battle started. Where did they get their information? Please Ijebu Igbo an insecurity town which thieves and other criminal cases recorded on daily basis even the FCMB and Intercontinental branch in the town have close down until further

Posted by: Michael , on Friday, June 18, 2010

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