

Robbery: MASSOB disagrees with police over killings

Emmanuel Obe, Awka

THE Movemnet for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra on Wednesday disagreed with police claims on the death of four persons in a robbery incident in Onitsha on Tuesday.

The police had claimed that it shot four members of the gang that struck at 20B Ifeka Street, Off Sokoto Road in the commercial hub of the state. The police added that one of the deceased was a member of a local vigilance group.

But MASSOB, at a news conference in the city by its Director of Information, Mr. Uchenna Madu, and its Onitsha Regional Dircetor, Mr. Vincent Ilo, said the police were not telling the truth.

It said while it lost two of its members (Philip Uba and Abel Obeka) to the gang, it also killed two of the gunmen.

Madu and Ilo told journalists that Uba and Obeka were among its members

that actually confronted the robbers.

The group added that Uba, whom the Police referred to as a vigilance group member was the first person that rushed to the scene but was shot by the bandits.

It said, "The actual thing that happened was that MASSOB security men who are saddled with the responsibility of providing security for Igbo traders noticed that there was robbery going on at Ifeka St. They went there though unarmed and the deceased held one of the robbers but was shot by another robber.

"Apart from the deceased, Philip Uba, MASSOB also lost another member by name, Abel Obeka, during the robbery attack because our security men went there and confronted them before they shot two of our men.

"When they shot two of our men, MASSOB members went after them and luck ran out of two of the suspects as our members got one of them and lynched him while another one escaped with severe injuries through

Nwangele River and was later confirmed dead at Fegge.

"The rifles recovered from the robbers were handed over to the police by MASSOB members and it beats my imagination that Nigeria police could be playing politics with the death of our two members who were trying to protect their Igbo brothers"

Election trial

**Akinwale Aboluwade,
Ibadan**

GOVERNOR Abiola Ajimobi of Oyo State will on Thursday (today) know his fate as the Election Petitions Tribunal sitting in Ibadan gives judgement in the petition challenging his victory in the April election by the Peoples Democratic Party.

Ajimobi, who contested the election on the platform of the Action Congress of Nigeria, was dragged before the tribunal by the PDP in the state on allegation of having dual-citizenship.

The tribunal after